

FIRST PRESS

VOLUME 37 | ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2025

First Presbyterian Church
Fayetteville N.C.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct 5** • Stephen Ministry
• Junior Usher Recognition
- Oct 6** • Women of the Church
• New Officer Training
• Engagement Committee
• Mission Committee
- Oct 7** • S.A.L.T. Breakfast at JK's
• Worship Committee
• C. E. Committee
- Oct 9** • Hannah Circle
- Oct 11** • Jubilate Deo Concert
- Oct 12** • Children Sing at 11 a.m. worship
• Trunk or Treat
- Oct 13** • Prayer Beyond the Emoji
- Oct 14** • Martha Circle
• Finance Committee
• Historical Tour Part 1
• Stated Deacons Meeting
- Oct 15** • Historical Tour Part 2
- Oct 19** • S.U.R.G.E. at Xscape Factor
- Oct 20** • Personnel Committee
• New Officer Training
- Oct 21** • S.A.L.T. Southern Supreme Trip
• 2026 Mission Committee
• Stated Session Meeting
- Oct 26** • Stewardship Breakfast
- Nov 9** • S.U.R.G.E. @ The Awakening Tour
- Nov 11** • Family Skate Party
- Nov 14** • S.A.L.T. trip to Rudy Theater

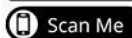


SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4
MEAL PACKING BEGINS AT 9 A.M.

**We've already changed lives —
let's keep pushing forward!**

Together we will pack another 25,000 meals to help fight hunger around the world. Each meal you pack provides hope and nourishment for children and families in need. Join us for this hands-on mission opportunity. Every pair of hands makes an impact — let's rise together!

All volunteers must register.



**Scan the QR Code or
visit bit.ly/FPCRAH**

Childcare will be provided for younger children. Elementary age and up are welcome to help with packing. To help with planning, please register for childcare by visiting bit.ly/RAHKids



A PASTORAL MESSAGE

from Dr. Mike Garrett

Stewardship – what does it bring to mind?

Probably an effort to encourage members of the church to give money so programs, ministries, and missions can continue for another year. If you are more institutionally minded, you might think of what is needed to pay salaries, maintain a large facility, and keep us warm in the winter and cool in the summer. You would be right. Stewardship is about providing resources that allows God's church do what God has called it to do.

But something important is missing in that definition of stewardship. It's practicing generosity with our lives because we've experienced God's generosity in our lives. We give to God because God has given to us. We've encountered a mercy that not only puts food on our table but eternity in our hearts. We've been accepted, forgiven, and blessed through Jesus Christ.

Stewardship is another word for a life that seeks to meet the needs of others because through Jesus Christ, God has met our deepest needs. It's allowing the love of God given to us to pass through us. That sort of generosity is both material and spiritual. It's as much about a grateful pouring out of our lives as it is opening of our wallets and pocketbooks.

As we think about our lives as Christian stewards during the month of October, how will you allow God's generosity to pass through your life? What faces come to mind? What causes pull at your heart? Let your generosity become tangible as you support and participate in the work of Jesus Christ through First Presbyterian Church.

Our stewardship theme this year is A Legacy of Generosity — A Future of Abundance, based on 2 Corinthians 9:11. More details about this emphasis can be found in this newsletter. The best way to prepare is by naming our gratitude for God's generosity to us. Then we'll know how we can be generous toward others. Allow me to share a prayer with you to guide us in the weeks ahead.

Gracious God, you have blessed us with the gift of life. Each day your generosity is showered on us in countless acts of mercy. May your generosity flow through us so that all people everywhere may know the richness of your love. Amen.

Sincerely,





225th Anniversary Worship & Celebration

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make our 225th Anniversary Worship and Celebration Luncheon such a wonderful success. From the planning and preparations to the many hands that served on the day itself, we are deeply grateful. Your time, energy, and love for this church family made the day truly memorable.

To God be the Glory!



STEWARDSHIP CORNER

A Legacy of Generosity — A Future of Abundance

As we celebrate our First Prez's 225th anniversary this year, we are reminded that we are part of something far larger than ourselves. Generations of our members have given of their time, talents, and treasures to build, nurture, and sustain this congregation. Because of these efforts, we have a strong foundation from which to continue serving our community and sharing the love of Christ.

This fall, we invite you to join us in writing the next chapter of that legacy as we launch our 2026 Stewardship Campaign.

Our theme this year is "A Legacy of Generosity — A Future of Abundance," rooted in the words of 2 Corinthians 9:11: "You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us will result in thanksgiving to God."

This verse reminds us that generosity is both a blessing and a calling. God enriches us, not simply for our own comfort, but so that we may be generous in every season and full of gratitude and praise. When we give faithfully, we help ensure that First Prez's ministry continues to touch lives, our worship continues to inspire, and our mission continues to reach those in need.

We will officially kick off our 2026 Stewardship Campaign on Sunday, October 26, with a Congregation Breakfast at 10:00 AM during the Sunday School hour. This will be a time of fellowship, reflection, and a time for us to share more about our theme and the opportunities ahead. We hope you will join us for this joyful time together.

As you prayerfully consider your pledge for 2026, we encourage you to reflect on how God has blessed you and how your giving can be an expression of gratitude and hope. Together, let's honor our 225-year legacy of generosity by sowing seeds of faith for an abundant future.

In Christ,

The Stewardship Committee

Brandon Hammond (Moderator), Drew Kramer (Vice Moderator), Ralph Huff, Rodney Baker, Lou Brooks, Paul Haddow-Green, Kimberly Hopkins

Stewardship Kick-Off Breakfast

October 26 at 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Start your day with hot biscuits, good company, and a joyful spirit.

Come for fellowship, reflection, and a sneak peek at all that's ahead.



SCAN ME

Please register by October 22.
To register online, scan the QR
Code or visit bit.ly/FPCBiscuits



Stay Connected with FPC!

There are so many ways to stay in touch and get involved:



Get the FPC App

Download
the FPC App

Explore
the RightNow Media App
and Website rightnowmedia.org



Right Now Media

Follow us

on Facebook: @1stPrez
& Instagram: @firstprezfay

Access

our Online Church Directory
bit.ly/FPCMembers

Visit our Website anytime - www.firstprez.com

Need help with any of the FPC online resources?

Contact Nichole at nichole@firstprez.com or call the church office.

WEDNESDAYS ARE BETTER TOGETHER



All In Fellowship meal with potluck sides, family & friends
Wednesdays - 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

The church will provide the main entree. You can bring a salad, side, dessert or bread that will serve 8 to 10 people or pay \$8 per adult (age 13+) and \$3 per child (age 5-12). The meal cap is \$20 per family. Childcare will be provided in the Nursery Wing during class, and rehearsal.

October 1
Lasagna

October 8
Chicken & mixed vegetables
from Hong Kong

October 15
Smothered Tenderloin

October 22
Fried Chicken

October 29
Meatloaf

After the meal, stay and take part in evening opportunities for all ages: Dr. Garrett's class "Managing Anxiety", Stretch & Scripture, Celebration Choir, and God's Little Creators for kids.

MAKE IT AWKWARD

At MomCo Meetups, you'll find real friends, real support, and a chance to breathe. From parenting and relationships to finances and faith, moms share life and lift each other up. You'll enjoy conversation (over food!), and encouragement while your little ones are with trained nursery caregivers.

It sounds too good to be true—
but it's not.

Meetup with us!

MomCo meets monthly on the 2nd
and 4th Sunday at 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
in Eller Hall.

October 12 & 26
November 9 & 23
December 7
January 11 & 25
February 8 & 22
March 8 & 22
April 12 & 26



s.a.l.t.
Seasoned Adults Learning Together

*Monthly Fellowship
Breakfast & Excursions*



**Breakfast at JK's Deli
October 7 at 8:30 a.m.**

Upcoming Trips

Tuesday, October 21 - Southern Supreme Fruitcake & More Tour

We'll depart from the church at 8:30 a.m. The only cost is lunch at Lizzie's Chill & Grill. Please RSVP to Sarah Cromartie (call or text 910-977-1813) by October 14.

Tuesday, November 14 - Christmas Show

S.A.L.T. is heading to the Rudy Theater in Selma on Friday, Nov. 14, for the 12:45 p.m. matinee. Tickets are \$20 per person—please pay the church office by Oct. 19 to reserve your seat. Dinner plans will be announced soon. For questions and to RSVP, contact Joann Pearce at 910-978-2930.



Scavenger Hunt Fun!



DAN FORREST'S

JUBILATE DEO

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RETURNS!

In celebration of First Presbyterian Church's 225th Anniversary, the Music Vision Team has invited the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra and community singers to join in the Jubilate Deo by Dan Forrest.

Enjoy the music of the Jubilate Deo Chorus and the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra as this powerful work once again fills the sanctuary with praise.

"Jubilate Deo brings to life the global aspect of the traditional Psalm 100 text, "O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands," by setting it in seven different languages and drawing from a wide spectrum of musical influences. Each movement combines characteristics of its language-group's musical culture. Then the finale unites many of the key themes and cultures from previous movements with other material, both old and new, as all the earth sings as one, "omnis terra, jubilate!"

—Dan Forrest

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 at 7:30 P.M.



Scan Me

Purchase your tickets online at
www.fayettevillesymphony.org/2025-2026-season/

TRUNK OR TREAT & ALL CHURCH COOK OUT

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 - 4:30 TO 6:30 P.M.

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Dress up, decorate, and collect candy

Inflatable slide & games for the kids

Best-decorated trunk contest – vote for your favorite!



GET INVOLVED

Volunteer to decorate a trunk
(scripture or kid-friendly themes)
or help with games

Trunks needed –
prizes for best-decorated

FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

Burgers & hot dogs grilled
by David's Mighty Men



CARNIVAL ROW

HOSTED BY YOUTH MINISTRY

Play basketball,
bowling, dunking booth,
and more!

Donations support youth trips/events
& Living Waters for the World.



REGISTER ONLINE
for dinner & to volunteer.



Scan the QR Code or visit
bit.ly/FPCTRUNKorTREAT

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION

KINGDOM KIDZ SCHEDULE

- Oct. 5
- Oct. 12 - Trunk or Treat
Carnival Row Fundraiser
Invite a friend and come support our youth!
- Oct. 26
- Nov. 2
- Nov. 9 - Ends @ 6pm
- Nov. 16
- Nov. 23 - Caroling at Heritage
- Nov. 30
- Dec. 7 - Family Christmas Party

Children sing during worship

Sunday, October 12 at 11 a.m.

GRACEFUL PRAISE PRESENTATION

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

DURING 11 A.M. WORSHIP

JUNIOR USHER RECOGNITION

Sunday, October 5
during 11 a.m. Worship

GOD'S LITTLE CREATORS

SPIRITUAL MOVEMENT & ART

Preschool & elementary kids—join us Wednesdays for a fun hour of creativity, motion, and Bible discovery. Through hands-on art projects, engaging Bible stories, and interactive movement, children will connect with God in playful and meaningful ways.

THIS CLASS ACCOMPANIES ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES.

Family Roller Skating night

Tuesday, November 11
4 to 5:30 p.m.

at Round-A Bout Skating Center 880 Elm St.

Grab your loved ones for an afternoon of skating, laughter & memories. All ages & skill levels welcome.

Lace up and roll with us!



SCAN ME

\$5 for skaters.

Adults not skating are free.

Register online at
bit.ly/FPCSkate

Children's Sunday School

Toddlers (Birth to 2): Room 128
(Downstairs in the Nursery Area)

Ages 3 to 5: Room 104
(Downstairs in the Nursery Area)

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade: Room 207
3rd - 5th Grade: Room 208

Join us as we learn about worshiping God with the following stories:

- The People Give God Thanks (Exodus 35)
- What Do the Stones Mean? (Joshua)
- You Shall Be My God (Ruth)
- David Brings the Ark to Jerusalem (2 Samuel 6)

YOUTH NEWS

S.U.R.G.E. CALENDAR

- Oct. 5 - Meet in Fellowship Hall
- Oct. 12 - Trunk or Treat (Carnival Row Fundraiser)
- Oct. 19 - Bring A Friend! Xscape Factor & Game Night
- Oct. 26 - Meet in Fellowship Hall
- Nov. 2 - THEME NIGHT: Inside Out
Dress as your favorite emotion & meet in Fellowship Hall.
- Nov. 9 - S.U.R.G.E. ends @ 6pm | The Awakening Tour



GAME NIGHT & XSCAPE FACTOR

BRING A FRIEND & GAME ON!!

Join us for a night of fun and fellowship.

**Xscape Factor,
Minute to Win It,
Trivia and more!**

Scan Me



Pizza & chips will be served.

Register online at
bit.ly/SURGEGameOn
or scan the QR Code.

Save the date



JOIN US FOR A

Friendsgiving LOCK-IN

Friday, November 21



Youth Sunday School - Ecclesiastes

Discover and define the meaning of life on Earth through a 7 week study on Ecclesiastes starting Oct 5th with Mr. Rodney and Ms. Tina.

In My Feelings Starts October 5th

We know that this time of the year, there's a lot of emotions for all of us for different reasons. Part of learning how to control emotions is learning what part they play in our lives and how we can engage with God as we experience different emotions. Jump into your feelings with us every Sunday at 4:30 p.m.



MISSION UPDATE

Local Relief Ministry - Meals to Families

Over the summer members of our Local Relief Ministry team delivered food boxes to families with children that attend Walker Spivey Elementary. Each family received cans of soup, canned meat, canned vegetables, pasta, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, mac and cheese, bread, potatoes, household goods, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and hand soap. Children's bedtime Bible Story books, prayer journals, and sweet treats were provided for the children.





Prayer:

BEYOND THE EMOJI

MONDAYS AT 7 P.M.

Growing Your Faith Through...

10/13

....**Music**

at Rodney & Tina Baker's Home

10/20

....**Literature**

at Daina & Wade Byrd's Home

10/27

....**Writing/Journaling**

at John McFadyen's Home

11/3

....**Serving**

location to be determined

11/10

....**Leadership**

at Dan McInnis' Home

11/17

....**Life Experiences**

at Ralph & Linda Huff's Home

Prayer Beyond the Emoji is a small group that meets in the homes of various members. For more information, call the church office 910 483-0121.

MISSION UPDATE:

Back to School Night at Walker Spivey

Local Relief wants to thank everyone for their generosity in purchasing school supplies for Walker Spivey children. We helped over 100 children with book bags and supplies. The children and moms were so appreciative. Your kindness makes a difference.



Thanks goes to this team for braving the 93 degree heat as we sat in front of the school greeting families. A special thank you to Rebecca Carthens, the Walker Spivey Elementary Social Worker, for lining up the families and spending time with us as we delivered the food to these families.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Myra Braxton | 14 Scott Fincher | 25 Alice Teele |
| 1 Victoria Datkuliak | 14 Maryn Hammond | 25 James Broadwell |
| 1 Anastasia Vann | 15 Amy Cook | 26 Victoria Moody |
| 1 Callie Moore | 15 Alan Hunter | 28 Evelyn Byrd |
| 3 Art Hooker | 15 Matt Helmke | 28 Tammy Watson |
| 3 Storie Smith | 15 Carolyn Herndon | 30 Patsy Markham |
| 4 Jennifer McFadyen Hammond | 15 Maria Fallon | 30 Salley Cromartie |
| 5 Marnie McBryde | 16 Kenneth Dwyer | 30 Cheyenne Campbell |
| 5 Mary Cox | 16 Anna Blue | 30 John Cameron MacKethan |
| 5 Earl Vaughan Jr. | 16 Henry Szopinski | 30 Will Boyette Jr. |
| 6 Carolyn Hill | 16 Amber Little | 31 Lauren Allred |
| 6 Jinnette Hathaway | 16 Sophia Wilson | 31 Jaxon Walworth |
| 7 Sonny Phinney | 17 Mayon Weeks Jr. | |
| 7 Calista Plyler | 17 Olivia Stiles | |
| 8 Eric Cotty | 17 Bob Leath | |
| 8 Briana Brown | 17 Will Deaton | |
| 8 Caroline Hasty | 17 Furman Robinson | |
| 9 Matthew DeSessa | 17 Melissa Cole | |
| 9 Michael Navejas | 18 Buzz Loyd Jr. | |
| 10 Callen Farnham | 19 Gregory Byrd | |
| 10 Margaret Furman | 19 Maggie Montero | |
| 10 Reid Furman II | 20 Joann Pearce | |
| 11 Nanelle Strong | 20 Berkley Stiles | |
| 11 Emily Davidson | 22 Gay Foster | |
| 12 Dianne Bryan | 22 Cameron Viverette | |
| 13 Alex Smith | 23 Larry Dobbins | |
| 13 Tom Brooks | 23 Austin Howle | |
| 13 Debi Butler | 24 Dan McInnis | |



Memorials

Ricky Huff

Debbie & LaMar Williams

Charlotte McLaurin

Ann & Buzz Loyd
Grace & Tommy Hall
Lorene & Milo McBryde

Edward McLaurin

Lorene & Milo McBryde

Rev. Earl Vaughan Sr.

Earl Vaughan, Jr.
Signe L. Blanton
Debra Chestnutt
Linda Adams
Dan & Sue Bollinger
Grace & Tommy Hall
Debbie & LaMar Williams
Joann Pearce
Ann Rowell

