

THE UPDATE

Forest Park Presbyterian Church

November, 2011

A Word From Our Pastor

Dear Church Family,

On behalf of the session our Stewardship and Commitment committee has recently begun the process of reviewing and updating our church rolls. I am grateful for their newly launched endeavor, and it is a task that is long overdue. Right now, the discrepancy between the number of people listed on our church rolls and our average worship attendance is large. Our average worship attendance is about 100 people; the number of people we have on our active rolls is 236, our inactive rolls 55, and our baptized rolls 60, for a grand total of 351 adherents. As you can see the gap is huge.

One responsibility of the session is to review the rolls annually for the purpose of maintaining the integrity of the meaning of membership, and for calling people to live faithfully into the vows they made when they joined the church.

As the committee goes about its work, I pray that you would take the time to review and renew the commitment that you made to Jesus Christ when you joined Forest Park Presbyterian Church. I would also ask that you respect the decisions that this committee will have to make in order to bring our rolls up to date. Right now the rolls are in such disarray that the committee will, in some sense, have to declare what the membership rolls really are. Currently, we do not know the location of many persons now on the list, or whether or not these people have ever been removed from the rolls in past. Please know that homebound, sick, and shut in folks will not be removed from our rolls. This project is much more about dealing with people who have moved away, joined other churches, or simply choose not to participate in the life and worship of God in our church.

Now is a good time to be about this project because our Book of Order (Pt. II of our constitution) got a completely new rewrite this year. One of the things that got removed from it was the category of "inactive member." The reason this classification was removed, to put it bluntly, is because it is oxymoron. How can a person be inactive and their membership mean anything? If a person is a true member, then he or she will participate in the life and worship of the church. Our goal as a church is to build disciples of Jesus Christ, and having a category of "inactive membership" is self-defeating and does not help in that endeavor. There are some things in the new Book of Order that are problematic and serious, but this is not one of them. I support the new classification system.

As you consider your own commitment to Jesus Christ in the life of Forest Park Presbyterian Church I encourage you to do so in light of how our constitution defines faithful membership. *A faithful member is one who bears witness to God's love and grace and who promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's church. Such involvement includes: (1) proclaiming the good news in word and deed (2) taking part in the common life and worship of the congregation (3) lifting up one another in prayer, mutual concern, and active support (4) studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life (5) supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time, and talents (6) responding to God's activity in the world through service to others (7) living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life (8) participating in the governing responsibilities of the church (9) reviewing and evaluating the integrity of one's membership and considering ways one's participation in the life of the church may become more meaningful.*

Blessings,
Scott

- Nov. 6 Sermon "Two Hearts Worlds Apart" Jonah 4
- Nov. 13 Sermon Rev. Stephen Moss, Guest Preacher
- Nov. 20 Sermon "An Introduction to the Gospel of Luke" Luke 1:1-4
- Nov. 27 "The Announcement of John's Birth" Luke 1:5-25



Parables Bible Study—Monday Evenings 7:00 p.m.

<u>Facilitator</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Parable</u>	<u>Matthew</u>	<u>Mark</u>	<u>Luke</u>
Marshall	07-Nov	Unmerciful servant	18:23-34		
		Sheep and goats	25:31-46		
Staples	14-Nov	The Woman in Simon's House			7: 36-48
		Moneylender			7:41-43
Marshall	21-Nov	Good Samaritan			10:30-37
Staples		Rich Fool			12:16-21



A Continued Appreciation for Our Young People

- Caron Chambers** Caron will graduate from Mitchell this spring. She has spent the last four summers working with the YMCA Youth Programs. In the fall of 2012, Caron hopes to enter either UNC-Charlotte or UNC-Greensboro and continue her work to become a physical education teacher.
- Sarah Crawford** Sarah will graduate in June. She is a participant in the “VPAC” (Visual and Performing Arts Center) at Mitchell College. She plans to continue in this program for one more year. Sarah sings regularly in the church choir.
- Katie Crawford** If you attend any football games at Statesville High School, you will see Katie, the “Drum Major” of the Statesville High Marching Band. She is also in the “VPAC” program. She has two more years at Mitchell. Katie also sings in the church choir.
- Thomas Dotson** Thomas is a senior at Statesville High School this year. He plays soccer on the varsity team at Statesville. Thomas hopes to continue his education in the field of sports journalism.
- Bethany Jeffreys** Bethany is a junior at Statesville High School. She plays on the varsity girls tennis team and plays quite well. If you read the sports section of the Record and Landmark, her name is often in the wins column.
- Parks Thompson** Parks is a senior at Statesville High School. He is ranked #6 in all the high schools in NC in men’s tennis. He is #1 at Statesville High School. Parks hopes to attend George Mason University or UNC-Greensboro and seek a degree in marketing.
- Wilson Rogers** Wilson is a junior at Statesville High School. After high school he hopes to go to NC State. He has his eyes set on an engineering degree. When asked to comment on the summer mission project the youth did this past July, Wilson said, “It was eye opening.”
- Harrison Rashley** Harrison is a sophomore at Statesville High School. His academics are high, and his math ability can outshine any of us. Harrison is mastering the art of “fencing.” He travels each week for lessons in Burke County.
- Emma Rogers** Emma finishes her work at the American Renaissance Middle School this year. She has participated in soccer and basketball. Emma is the quiet one, but most observant. When a young person needs a friend, Emma is the one to whom they go.

Elder Greeters

11-06 Bob Crawford, John Moore, Mona Owens
 11-13 Johnny Hoover, Rosemary Rector, Nell Shull
 11-20 Joan Harrelson, Johnny Hoover, Elizabeth Rashley
 11-27 Phil Lail, Peggy Warlick, Nan Weatherman

Ushers

11-06 Deena Chambers, Joan Frickhoeffer, Keith Owens
 11-13 Dean Bentley, Sam Grady, Laura Thompson
 11-20 Mary Crawford, David Weatherman, Matt Weatherman
 11-27 Deena Chambers, Joan Frickhoeffer, Keith Owens



Fifth Street Ministries

Fifth Street Ministries November opportunities will be taking desserts and serving supper at Fifth Street Ministries' Soup Kitchen twice in November: Tuesday, Nov. 15 and Tuesday, November 29. Please let Jackie or Kathy know if you can help with either serving and/or baking!

Thanksgiving at Fifth Street

There are lots of opportunities for Forest Parkers to help make Thanksgiving a really special day at the shelter.

1. Bake a dessert or two to share with guests at Fifth Street. Our church is known at Fifth Street for furnishing wonderful desserts throughout the year and at Thanksgiving! Let's keep up that reputation!
2. Furnish a ham, turkey, or large cans of vegetables such as sweet potatoes, green beans, or corn.
3. We start cooking early in the week—if you have a little time to give, we can use extra hands for chopping, slicing, dicing, etc! We make sure lots of love and good fellowship are thrown in the pots!

Please let me know if you are able to help with any of the above. We will deliver the desserts on Wednesday, November 23 before lunch time. You can leave your items at the church or at my house (I have freezer room if you want to bake ahead!)

Note: Matt and Mark Tomlin and some of their friends help make the delivery. One of Matt's best friends likes to have turkeys to carry in! Please don't let him down!

New mailing address for Dr. Ralph and Margaret Hamilton is PO Box 444, Statesville, NC 28687



The JOY Fellowship (Just Older Youth) started off the fall season with a bang! Our September meeting was attended by a group of about 30 people who were entertained by Nancy Davis, Director of Public Affairs, for the city of Statesville. Nancy shared many stories including those pertaining to legendary events and characters of Iredell County. Her program was enjoyed by all.

In October we were pleased to have Joe Hudson to return to our group. Joe is with the Public Works Department of the city of Statesville and is also an author and columnist for the **Statesville Record and Landmark**. Joe shared personal viewpoints on many topics and presented a very entertaining program for our group.

Thanks again to Nancy and Joe for sharing their time and talents with us.

Dear Friends,

Thank you once again for your generous support to Cloverleaf's students and faculty. You continue to show Christ's love as you share with us.....Cloverleaf Elementary

Worship & Music Committee meeting Tuesday, November 1, 6:30 p.m. in Church Library

The Helping Hands Committee

Do you need something done around the house?

Let us help you!!

We have volunteers from the church with different talents who would love to help!

No cost to you - we want to help you - no job is too big or too small.

**Contact Kathy Hoover or Johnny Hoover
704-872-1648**

The following is a note received from a former guest at My Sister's House, a part of the services of Fifth Street Ministries. Our church is a supporter of Fifth Street, and it is important for us to realize how much the services are appreciated. My Sister's House is the shelter for battered women and children.

“To the staff of My Sister's House: Before I leave, I just want to say thank you so much to you all for the help you gave me. I came here a wreck! I feel much stronger now and am ready to deal with whatever life throws at me. You welcomed me and gave me time to work on myself, to understand what was happening to me. Most important you gave my children food and kept us safe. Thank you because you really cared, and God bless you all.”

Sara Suarez, Wilson Rogers, & Bethany Jeffreys were inducted into the National Beta Club—Oct. 16—Congratulations on your outstanding grades!



Does this mean we have a opening on the Tomlin pew?



**LOVEFEAST
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18
6 P.M.
MORE DETAILS COMING**





Rick Witherington
OFFICE HOURS

Monday & Friday
9:00 am—1:30 pm
Tuesday thru Thursday
9:00 am—5:00 pm
704-872-6482

Church Staff

Pastor

Rev Scott Jeffreys

revscott@forestparkpres.org

Secretary

Ann McGarr

office@forestparkpres.org

Music Director

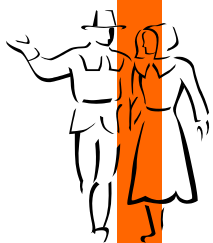
Sarah Griffith

sarah@forestparkpres.org

Organist/Web

Brad Rashley

brashley@forestparkpres.org



NOVEMBER B-DAYS

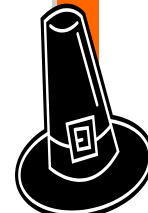
*If we are missing your birthday
or have your birthday listed in-
correctly, please contact the
church office at.....
704-872-6482.*

- 3 Doug Griffith
Sebastian Rashley
- 7 J. D. Dotson
- 8 Mary Crawford
- 9 Rachel Andrews
- 10 Bill Grady
- 11 Wakefield Bentley
- 15 Steve Wilson
- 20 Kim Vines
- 25 John Moore
- 29 Tanner Bentley
Bill Holland

PRAYER LIST

Please pray for all the members of the congregation and all those for whom you know prayers should be offered including:

- Nancy Best
- Nan Boulware
- Bob Crawford
- John Gregory
- Bill Holland
- Myrtle Johnson
- Frances Lankford
- Ginny Lavender
- Frances Marlin
- Marilyn Moore
- Debra Smith
- Mary Whitley
- Rick Witherington



Dear Friends of Forest Park,
Thank you for the wonderful gift — it was very thoughtful of you and very much appreciated.
Yours truly,
Marilyn Garneski



The Joint Circle Meeting (1, 2, & 3) will meet Tuesday, Nov. 8, 7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall with Circle #3 hosting the *Thank Offering Program*

Forest Park Presbyterian Church
1026 Davie Ave/P.O. Box 1222
Statesville, NC 28687

