There's a mighty lot of interestin' stuff going on at church this month.

And that's not all I have to say about that....

The Gospel according to Forrest Gump, led by Austin Carty
7: An Experimental Mutiny Against Excess, led by Rev. Dolly Jacobs
Unglued by Lysa Terkeurst, led by Wendy Duncan
Chasing Francis, A Pilgrim’s Tale by Ian Morgan Cron, led by Rev. Frank Dew
FIRST CHURCH
PEOPLE

Birth
Congratulations to Eric & Suzy Townsend on the birth of their son, Joshua Ryder Townsend, on November 5, 2013. Joshua has a sister, Abigail, 3 years old.

Baptisms
On November 17, 2013, the Sacrament of Baptism was administered to Andrew Lloyd Barham, son of Kenneth and Sissy Barham.

On December 15, 2013, the Sacrament of Baptism was administered to:
Charlotte Irene Freeze, daughter of Thomas & Catherine Freeze
Bailey Elizabeth Stearns, daughter of Dennis & Pam Stearns
Henry Crocker Driscoll, son of T.J. & Claire Driscoll
Robert Gray Lomax, son of Fred & Amanda Lomax.

Sympathy
Sympathy to friends and family of FPC member Mary Lane Spencer, who died October 10, 2013.

Sympathy to FPC member Fred Lopp upon the death of his daughter Jennifer Marie Lopp Pate on November 20, 2013.

Sympathy to FPC member Greg Bradley upon the death of his mother, Magdalene Schoone Bradley, on November 26, 2013.

Sympathy to friends and family of FPC member Roselyn Miller Powell, who died December 4, 2013.

Sympathy to friends and family of FPC member Elizabeth Sellars Farmer, who died December 10, 2013.

Sympathy to friends and family of FPC member Adelaide Fortune Holderness, who died December 14, 2013.

Sympathy to FPC members Dottie Blanchard and Jeff Reichard upon the death of her brother and his uncle George W. Reichard Jr. on December 15, 2013.


Sympathy to FPC member Bob Nolan upon the death of his brother Barry Nolan, who died December 20, 2013.


Sympathy to FPC member Jim Slaughter upon the death of his father, Freeman Cluff Slaughter, on December 23, 2013.

Sympathy to FPC member Jack T. Warmath, who died December 27, 2013.

Sympathy to FPC member Cathy Batts and senior pastor Sid Batts upon the death of her mother and his mother-in-law, Doris Jean Lyerly Armstrong, on December 31, 2013.

Sympathy to FPC members Dottie Blanchard and Jeff Reichard upon the death of her brother and his uncle George W. Reichard Jr. on December 15, 2013.

Sympathy to FPC member Bob Nolan upon the death of his brother Barry Nolan, who died December 20, 2013.


Sympathy to FPC member Jim Slaughter upon the death of his father, Freeman Cluff Slaughter, on December 23, 2013.

Sympathy to FPC member Jack T. Warmath, who died December 27, 2013.

Sympathy to FPC member Cathy Batts and senior pastor Sid Batts upon the death of her mother and his mother-in-law, Doris Jean Lyerly Armstrong, on December 31, 2013.

Know someone who is ready to Explore FPC?
Anyone interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian should attend Explore FPC.

Explore FPC includes:
- Continental breakfast
- Getting to know you & us, led by the Associate Pastor for Discipleship.
- Campus tour led by FPC docent.
- Presbyterian 101 led by one of our PC(USA) pastors.
- Where do I go from here? Connect with a new member shepherd, learn about meeting members and pastors at our new-member dinners, and make connections with ministry opportunities.

Upcoming dates are:
- February 1
- April 5
- May 3
- May 31

All classes meet 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Currie Library. Sign up & request child care: Stephenie Sanders, ssanders@fpcgreensboro.org or 478-4735.

CONNECT WITH FPC ON SOCIAL MEDIA

SHARE YOUR LIFE EVENTS WITH FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Births, Adoptions
Address, Phone or Email Changes
Stephenie Sanders, 478-4735
ssanders@fpcgreensboro.org

Medical Issues, Crises, Deaths
Ann Hopping, 478-4709
ahopping@fpcgreensboro.org

Cover image is from Forrest Gump, a film directed by Robert Zemeckis and starring Tom Hanks, based on the book by Winston Groom. Copyright © 1994 by Paramount Pictures. All Rights Reserved.
Dear Friends,

I delight in reading the year’s highlights, top news stories, and the “top whatever” at the end of each year. In that spirit, here are mine for 2013 at FPC (in random order):

- Transition! Transition! Transition!
- Renovation! Renovation! Renovation!
- 15,600 meals served at Hot Dish & Hope
- Grateful hearts for the ministry of Peggy Matthews, David Partington and Scott Brown
- Session’s decision to “do it right” and extend the capital campaign after news of asbestos and other renovation impediments
- Temple worship and Temple Emanuel’s welcome
- Our partnership with Step Up, whose ministry produced 302 graduates
- FPC’s flexible, positive spirit during our “holy chaos.”
- Sabbatical – with terrific colleagues not missing a beat
- Fulfilling the “Amazing” capital campaign’s first goal: retiring our debt
- Growing Deeper, Wider and more Tech Savvy initiative
- Children’s outreach to Africa through the Crayons Matter project
- The astute work of the Project Review Committee overseeing the renovation
- FPC doctors bringing their surgical skills for a weeklong Honduras mission
- Our partnership with Wheels for Hope, Habitat for Humanity, & Faith Action
- The funding for and establishment of the Cynthia Price Residency program
- 1,800 Christmas Eve worshipers off-site at Canterbury Chapel

- Backpack Beginnings
- A balanced budget
- Lesson and Carols at First Baptist
- Sabbatical preachers Ross, Brooks, Peeples and Cleveland
- Lana Burske stepping forth in leadership in both preschools
- “If I Could Ask God One Question” series
- The choir’s All Saints Day concert at Canterbury Chapel
- Advent Contemplative Services
- “Big John’s” retirement party
- Installing a water purification system in Camp Canip, Cuba
- Welcoming Nick Demuynck to our Youth Ministry team
- 89 new members
- The 21-Day Prayer challenge
- Middle School’s outreach, Christmas Shoebox
- The faithful work of CE’s administrative assistant, Ann Thornlow (retired in December)
- Receiving $9,666,326.17 toward our pledged $14.3 million for renovation
- Hosting the Thanksgiving Day community lunch
- The hard work and leadership of our staff in working out the transition details
- FPC’s outstanding member-artists’ work in Just 52 Thoughts
- Children’s Choir Musical and Youth Choir Variety Show
- Community Service Group produced and distributed $40,500 worth of handcrafted items to children and families in need
- FPC Jobs mentored countless people through employment transitions

Of course, that’s not all. I have failed to mention other significant events from the past year. Most of all, I am deeply thankful for the movement of God’s spirit among us and for the privilege to be the church in this time and place.

Looking ahead, 2014 will see us in our renovated space and, symbolically, we will begin a new era. In the meantime, we are moving forward discovering ways that we can be the hands of Christ in Greensboro and taking a spiritual journey that is growing us deeper.

Blessings in the New Year!

[Signature]
Coming up at Currie Library Book Club:

January 13    February 10    March 10    April 14

The book club meets in the library 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. and is open to everyone.

Currie Library News

LOCATION: First floor of Shetler Building
HOURS: Mon-Thurs, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Friday, 9 a.m.-noon, Sunday, 9-10:20 a.m.
CONTACT: Nancy Fuller, 478-4731 or nfuller@fpcgreensboro.org

GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY
In memory of
- Gloria Cowan: Snowflakes Fall, given by Jack, Holly and Martha Godwin, grandchildren of Nancy and Mike Godwin;
- Elizabeth Sellars Farmer: Stations of the Heart: Parting with a Son, given by Melinda and Jim Ogburn;
- Adelaide Holderness: A Stubborn Sweetness and Other Stories for the Christmas Season and The Spiritual Life of Dying People, given by Bob and Jean Rapp;
- Ann Coleman Setzer: ABC Dinosaurs and Each Kindness, given by Agape Class.

CHECK IT OUT:
- Stations of the Heart is by Duke Divinity School faculty member Richard Lischer. He writes a poignant love story of a father and his dying son and the hope and blessing of saying good-bye.
- A Stubborn Sweetness by Katherine Paterson is filled with stories of real-life people finding hope, courage and faith amid life’s circumstances.
- The Spiritual Lives of Dying People offers inspiring stories of hope and courage from people who confronted death in their own way and find strength in their faith.
- Each Kindness and ABC Dinosaurs are special children’s books with which to remember Ann Setzer since for years she enjoyed working in the FPC Weekday Preschool. Each Kindness sends a powerful message about kindness. ABC Dinosaurs by the American Museum of Natural History is about most young children’s favorite subject!
- The New Presbyterian Hymnal 2013 is the perfect book with which to honor David Partington upon his retirement from the FPC staff. David was on the committee for our current Hymnal (1990) and has spoken many times of his work on that committee. David is an accomplished musician and was Music Director at FPC Winston-Salem before he attended Union Theological Seminary in Richmond. Look for David in our own FPC choir in a few months as he may be back at FPC as a choir member!
- Snowflakes Fall is a beautiful children’s book by author Patricia MacLachlan. The illustrations help convey the message that no two snowflakes, or children, are the same, but all are beautiful. Random House Publishers made a donation to the Sandy Hook School Support Fund with the publication of this book.

Second book club starts this spring

Another Currie Library Book Club will be launched in March! It will meet the second Tuesdays of the month at 1:30 p.m. in the library.

The club is being organized by Brenda Frost and especially welcomes Presbyterian Women members who are unable to attend the Monday morning book club. It is open to anyone!

Meeting dates this spring are March 11, April 8 and May 13. For information, contact Nancy Fuller or Brenda Frost.

In honor of
- William Harrison Stewart, IV (born November 1, 2013): Ask Mr. Bear and Spot Goes to School, given by Deb and Jim Staton;
- David Partington: New Presbyterian Hymnal 2013, given Carol and Bob Stevens.
Frequently when I read Holy Scripture either devotionally or for content I get stopped. When that happens it is as though the Holy Spirit is saying “Pay attention to this, David!”

Sometimes, when that happens, it takes your breath away and you simply have to stop, get centered and ponder the verse or the passage that has been God’s word to you in that moment.

I’ll share one such story about a moment when I got stopped, many years ago, that led to memorizing a short psalm, tucking it away in my heart, and sharing it with others when I sense that they are living with anxiety about some particular concern.

In May of 1975 I was about to embark on my journey to Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Va., where I would be prepared for ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament and as a Teaching Elder in the Presbyterian tradition.

I was anxious. There were still many things to wrap up before our family of five moved to Richmond. Our family had been preparing for the move for over a year and step by step I closed down my life in Winston-Salem. I had conducted my last concerts as the Conductor of the Winston-Salem Chorale and the Choral Director at the North Carolina School of the Arts.

I was heading toward my last Sunday as the Director of Music (organist/choirmaster) at First Presbyterian Church in Winston-Salem. Many things were falling into place. Jim, a friend who was the CEO at WXII television, had offered us a space in their building where we could store our furniture for three years. However we still had not sold our home.

On a particular day when I just needed to be quiet and get centered I went into the chapel at First Presbyterian Church in Winston-Salem and began to read some of the Psalms. As I read Psalm 131 I got stopped and a wonderful perfect peace (Shalom Shalom) came over me.

Psalm 131 is a Song of Quiet Trust. There are only three verses in Psalm 131.

I read it in the Revised Standard Version.

1 O Lord, my heart is not lifted up,
my eyes are not raised too high;
I do not occupy myself with things
too great and too marvelous for me.
2 But I have calmed and quieted my soul,
like a weaned child with its mother;
my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.
3 O Israel, hope in the Lord
from this time on and forevermore.

It was the words “I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me. But I have calmed and quieted my soul” that stopped me that morning in the chapel. It was as though a big yellow high-lighter had swished over them.

From that moment on the anxiety about the move to Richmond lessened. Our home did sell. All of the other exiting pieces came together and in June we moved to Richmond to begin our new life in that lovely city.

The “getting stopped” happened about 38 years ago. Psalm 131 remains resident in my soul and I remain deeply grateful for that moment when God used those words to “quiet and calm my soul.”

Rev. David Partington recently retired from FPC’s staff.

FPC’s Adult Education ministry is leading a challenge to read the Bible in a year. Suggested reading plans are available outside Mullin Life Center. The Adult Ed page at fpcgreensboro.org will point you to online resources, and you can check out staff translation picks on Pinterest.
Sunday, January 12
Confirmands (8th Grade) and Mentors meet on 3rd floor shelter for first meeting.

Currie Library is open 9-10:30 a.m.
Four worship services each Sunday: The Temple worship service meets at 8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. in Temple Emanuel. Rejoice! meets at 10:45 a.m. in the Life Center. Sid Batts preaches.

Second Grade Milestone class begins – 9:30 a.m., Corl 303. Taste the Bread, Touch the Water. Children and parents learn about the sacraments of baptism and communion.

Fourth Grade Milestone class begins – 9:30 a.m., Corl 304. Getting to Know My Bible. This grade receives a Student Bible during the Rejoice! service. Family brunch before worship.

Church school classes meet at 9:30 a.m.:  
- Agape Class in Memorial Chapel. Neil Dunnavant leads “How the Bible was Formed and the Issue of Sacred Text.”
- Commitment Class, Blair Hagan Room (Memorial 100). Bible study using the Common Lectionary.
- Faith Matters, Memorial 202. A class designed to explore how our faith speaks to our daily lives.
- Homebuilders class, Memorial 200. Kerygma study of Matthew led by Doug Key.
- Seekers Class, Vaughn Conference Room (Shetler 214). The Gospel of John, led by Gerard Davidson.
- The Travelers Class, Memorial 304. “The Theology of Forrest Gump,” led by Austin Carty. We will use important scenes from the classic film as entry points into discussing key ideas about Christian faith, doctrine, and life.
- Young Men’s Bible Class, Memorial 101, Redhead Hall. Sam Simpson teaches.

Young adults lunch - All young adults (singles/couples in their 20s and 30s) are invited to join Austin Carty, our Adult Ed Intern, for lunch following 10:45 a.m. worship. Meet outside the Life Center on Greene Street.

Youth Choir for high school and middle school – 11:45 a.m. in Memorial 303.

New Creation Book Study – A study of Chasing Francis, A Pilgrim’s Tale by Ian Morgan Cron begins today, led by Frank Dew. Blair Hagan Room, 3:30 p.m.

Kids Disciple Club – 4-6 p.m. Airbound Trampoline Park, $10. Complete waiver online: http://airboundtrampolinelastpark.com/greensboro/

Middle School Youth Group – 5:30 p.m., Mullin Life Center.

Monday, January 13
Ron Bauer leads a Watercolor Class in Shetler 106, Mondays, 9-11 a.m. The only cost is for your painting supplies. Call Dolly Jennings at 854-2663 to learn more.

GIFT in the Morning – Currie Library, 9:15 a.m. This Growing In Faith Together (GIFT) group is for women with preschool and elementary-age children. Dolly Jacobs, Associate Pastor of Discipleship, leads. Child care is provided with a reservation. Study of the Gospel of Mark. Contact Ashley Winton, 697-8562 or mwintontriadrr.com

Functional Fitness – Exercise class for older adults meets at 10:30 a.m. in Memorial 304. People who have Silver Sneakers through United Healthcare and Blue Cross Blue Shield attend free; otherwise $3/class. For more info, contact FPC members Carol Sellars, 288-2077, or Martha Sharpless, 282-0397.

Currie Library Book Club – Meets 10:30 a.m. in the library. Our book will be Caleb’s Crossing by Geraldine Brooks. For more information, contact Sara Stuart, 545-9440, or Nancy Fuller, 478-4731. A second book club, meeting on Tuesdays, begins March 12.

Presbyterian Women Circles – Two Presbyterian Women circle groups meet at 10:30 a.m.: Mary and Martha Circle meets in the Blair Hagan Room, Memorial 100; Rachel Circle meets in Memorial 202.

Centering Prayer – Rev. Frank Dew, pastor of New Creation, leads a Centering Prayer group on Mondays, 12-12:30 p.m. in Shetler 109. FPC members are invited.

PW Luncheon – noon in the Life Center, with a 12:30 p.m. presentation. Sitting Pretty: A History of the Furniture Industry in North Carolina, 1700 to the Present presented by Dr. Kenneth Zogry, historian and museum consultant. Dr. Zogry is both a public and an academic historian. Lunch is $.8; there is no charge for the presentation, which is open to the public.

RSVP to 478-4747 or reservations@fpcgreensboro.org. This project is made possible by a grant from the North Carolina Humanities Council, a statewide nonprofit and affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities: "

The Book of Matthew – Rev. Frank Dew leads this study on the book of Matthew, 1 p.m., Mondays in the Blair Hagan Room.


Session meeting – 5:30 p.m., Redhead Hall.

Tuesday, January 14
Sid’s 2x4 Bible Study Breakfast – Mullin Life Center, 7:30 a.m. Senior Pastor Sid Batts leads. Each session is a stand-alone class focusing on the Scripture passage that will be the basis of Sunday’s sermon. Between 35 and 50 men gather for instruction and discussion facilitated by a PowerPoint presentation. Breakfast includes ham and sausage biscuits for $.4. No reservation required.

FPC JOBS – 8:30 a.m. in the Scout Room, located under the Chapel, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Anyone dealing with the effects of losing a job is welcome.

Help stock the clothing closet – 10:30 a.m. to noon. Now that cold weather is here, the Closet needs winter coats, gloves, hats and scarves, and there is an ongoing need for men’s and ladies pants and casual shoes. Season-appropriate clothes donations can be dropped off at the church office anytime. Contact Teri Hammer, twhammer8@triad.rr.com, to volunteer.
Ongoing Weekly Events

**Sundays:** Currie Library is open 9 to 10:20 a.m. / Adult Church School meets at 9:30 a.m. in various locations / Young adults Lunch: meet outside the Life Center on Greene Street after 10:45 a.m. worship services.

**Mondays:** Watercolor class, 9 a.m., Shetler 106 / Gift in the Morning, 9:15 a.m. in Currie Library / Functional Fitness, 10:30 a.m., Memorial 304 / Centering Prayer noon-12:30 p.m., Shetler 109 / Westminster Ringers 4:15 p.m., Memorial 201.

**Tuesdays:** FPC Jobs, 8:30 a.m., Scout Room / Walking Group, 10:15 a.m. outside Redhead Hall / Help stock the clothing closet – 10:30 a.m. to noon, Paisley House / Hot Dish & Hope, 6 p.m., MLC / Coventry Ringers 5:45 p.m., Smith 300 / Step Up Life Skills Classes, 6 p.m., Paisley House / Gift in the Evening, 6:45 p.m. in members’ homes / Young Adult Bible Study, Shetler 214, 7 p.m.

**Wednesdays:** Men’s Bible Study, 7 a.m., Shetler 206. Contact Trip Adams, 856-9919 / Wednesday Morning Men’s Fellowship, 7:30 a.m., Blair Hagan Room. Contact Wil Couuter, 282-9426 / Wednesday Morning Women’s Bible Study, 7:30 a.m., Currie Library. Contact Betsy Harrington, 855-7766 / Currie Library Story Times at 9:30, 10, 10:30 & 11 a.m., open to all preschool children / Community Service Group, 10 a.m. in Redhead Hall / “Joyful Noise” Musical Experience, Memorial 304 at 4:30 p.m. / Cherub Choir at 4:30 p.m. in Memorial 303 / Credo Choir, 5:15 p.m., Memorial 303 / Canticle Choir, 6 p.m., Memorial 303 / Chancel Choir 6:30 p.m. rehearsal in Memorial 304. Contact Anne Albert, 478-4711 or aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org, to learn more.

**Thursdays:** Prayer Partners at Panera on Lawndale, 7:15 a.m. / FPC Jobs, 8:30 a.m., Scout Room / Friendship Day, 9:30 a.m., MLC (stay for lunch, $6) / Preschool Chapel Service, Memorial Chapel, 9:45 a.m. / Functional Fitness, 10:30 a.m., Memorial 304 / Step Up Job Friends Support, 6:40 p.m., Paisley House Hot Dish & Hope, 6 p.m., MLC.

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**January**

**Coventry Ringers** – Advanced handbell choir meets in Memorial 201 at 5:45 p.m.

**Hot Dish & Hope** – 6 p.m., Mullin Life Center. Share in the ministry that puts our faith into action as we serve dinner and a “measure of hope” to individuals and families in need. To volunteer or learn more, contact Sheron Sumner, sksumm@bellsouth.net, or visit www.fpcgreensboro.org/hotdish.

**Gift in the Evening** – Growing In Faith Together, a Bible study for professional women in their 20s, 30s & early 40s. Meets in members’ homes, 6:45 p.m. Contact Aimee Scotton, acscotton@co.randolph.nc.us, for more.

**Young Adult Bible Study** – Designed with the understanding that hectic lives may make it difficult to commit to a weekly Bible study, this group offers an atmosphere where FPC’s young adults can, at their availability, come to meet, discuss and grow with other FPC young adults. This discussion-oriented study presents a new topic each week, so if you ever miss a week or two, you won’t have to “play catch-up.” Join Austin Carty, our Adult Ed Intern, in Shetler 214 at 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 15**

Men’s Bible Study – 7 a.m., Shetler 206, invites all men. Contact Trip Adams, 856-9919 or tripann@bellsouth.net.

Men’s Fellowship – 7:30 a.m., Memorial 100, invites all men. Contact Wil Couuter at wcouuter@earthlink.net.

Women’s Bible Study – 7:30 a.m., Currie Library, invites all women. Contact Betsy Harrington at betsyharrington@triadrr.com.

Currie Library Story Times at 9:30, 10, 10:30 & 11 a.m., open to all preschool children.

Community Service Group meets in Redhead Hall at 10 a.m. for fellowship and a devotional while hand-crafting blankets, lap robes and more items to be distributed to people in need in our community and beyond. Open to all women: contact B.J. Williams, 288-8601; Hannah Britt, 288-9289; or Nancy Jewson, Well-Spring coordinator, 288-0333.

**Beth Moore Bible Study** – 4 p.m., Shetler 106. This fall’s study is A Woman’s Heart, God’s Dwelling Place by Beth Moore. This study about the Tabernacle continues through through March 26. Workbooks can be purchased at Lifeway bookstores. Contact Gail Kinser at 282-3325.

**Children’s Choirs** – The following children’s choirs meet on Wednesdays:
- The “Joyful Noise” Musical Experience (ages 2-3 and parents) at 4:30 p.m., Memorial 304;
- Cherub Choir (ages 4-preK), 4:30 p.m., Memorial 303;
- Credo Choir (grades K-1), 5:15 p.m., Memorial 303;
- Canticle Choir (grades 2-5), 6 p.m., Memorial 303.

**Dinner** – 5-6:15 p.m., Life Center. Fried chicken on the menu. Buffet is $6; salad, $5; children 6-12, $5; children 5 and younger, free. RSVP by noon on Tuesday by calling 478-4747 or e-mailing reservations@fpcgreensboro.org.

**Chancel Choir** – Our Chancel Choir welcomes new singers to its 6:30 p.m. rehearsal, Memorial 304.

**Thursday, January 16**

Presbyterian Prayer Partners – Senior high youth meet at 7 a.m. for prayer at Panera on Lawndale.

**FPC Jobs** – 8:30 a.m., Scout Room

**Friendship Day** – Ages 55 and older have fun, devotion and fellowship, 9:30 a.m. to noon in the Life Center. Stay for lunch, $6.

**Preschool Chapel Service** – Memorial 101, Redhead Hall at 9:45 a.m.

**Functional Fitness** – 10:30 a.m., Mem. 304.

**Hot Dish & Hope** – 6 p.m. in Mullin Life Center, every Tuesday and Thursday.

**Saturday, January 18**

Power to Corl and Memorial will be off from 6 a.m. until 5 p.m. for electrical work associated with the ongoing renovation.

**Sunday, January 19**

Baptism Sunday. The Temple worship service meets at 8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. in Temple Emanuel. Rejoice! meets at 10:45 a.m. in the Life Center. Dolly Jacobs preaches.

**Church School Classes** meet at 9:30 a.m.:
- “History of Israel in Bible Times,” led by Neil Dunnavant in Memorial 303.
- Agape Class in Memorial Chapel.
- “Vietnam and After,” led by Porter and Marty Halyburton.
- Commitment Class, Blair Hagan Room.
- Faith Matters, Memorial 202.
January

- **Homebuilders Class**, Memorial 200.
- **Seekers Class**, Shetler 214.
- **The Travelers Class**, Memorial 304.
  “The Theology of Forrest Gump,” led by Austin Carty.
- **Young Men’s Bible Class**, Redhead Hall. Erwin Fuller teaches.

**Middle School Youth Choir** meets in Memorial 303, 4:30 p.m.

**Middle School Youth Group** – 5:30 p.m., Mullin Life Center.

**Monday, January 20**

**MLK Holiday / Church offices closed**

When church offices are closed, reach a pastor by calling the main church number, 373-0445, and entering 1-2-3-4 when the voice greeting begins. Leave a message that includes your phone number and the pastor on call will be in touch with you.

**Hearts & Minds Circle** – meets at 10 a.m. in members’ homes.

**Deborah’s Dining and Discussion** meets noon, Wellspring.

**Tuesday, January 21**

**Weekday Preschool Priority Registration for Church Members**

for the 2014-2015 school year will be January 21-24. The Weekday Preschool is a nationally accredited half day preschool serving children ages 12 months through private kindergarten. If you would like a registration form, a tour, or more information, please contact Lana Burske, the Director, at 478-4770 or lburske@fpcgreensboro.org

**Ruth and Naomi’s Circle** – meets in Memorial 100 at 10:30 a.m.

**Wednesday, January 22**

**Beth Moore Bible Study** – 4 p.m., Shetler 106.

**Dinner** – 5-6:15 p.m., Life Center. Herbed crusted pork on the menu. Buffet is $6; salad $5; children 6-12, $5; children 5 and younger, free. RSVP by noon today by calling 478-4747 or e-mailing reservations@fpcgreensboro.org.

**Wednesday Dinner Speaker Series**

- 6:15 p.m., Redhead Hall. Frank Dew will speak on Greensboro Urban Ministry.

**Thursday, January 23**

**Navigating Together: Preteen & Teen Years** – Thursdays at 11:45 a.m., Currie Library. For parents of preteens or teens who are interested in discussing, encouraging, sharing and helping each other navigate these strange and wonderful years. We will discuss the book *Unglued* by Lysa Terkeurst. Contact Anne Chamblee at annechamblee@bellsouth.net or Wendy Duncan at wduncan@fpcgreensboro.org.

**Friday, January 24**

**Weekday Preschool Priority Registration for Church Members** for the 2014-2015 school year ends today.

**Second Annual Women’s Retreat** at Pinehurst, begins 4:30 p.m. today and continues through Sunday at noon.

**Sunday, January 26**

**Second Annual Women’s Retreat** ends, noon today.

The *Temple* worship service meets at 8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. in Temple Emanuel. **Rejoice!** meets at 10:45 a.m. in the Life Center. 3-5 p.m. Sid Batts preaches. Canticle Choir (Grades 2-5) sings in the 10:45 a.m. worship services.

**Church school classes** meet at 9:30 a.m.:
- **Agape Class** in Memorial Chapel.
  “Vietnam and After,” led by Porter and Marty Halyburton.
- **Commitment Class**, Blair Hagan Room.
- **Homebuilders class**, Memorial 200.
- **Seekers Class**, Shetler 214.
- **The Travelers Class**, Memorial 304.
  “The Theology of Forrest Gump,” led by Austin Carty.
- **Young Men’s Bible Class**, Redhead Hall, with a guest speaker.

**Youth Choir** for high school and middle school – 11:45 a.m. in Memorial 303.

**Youth Group Winter Kickoff Dinner** for youth & parents, 5:30-7 p.m. in Mullin Life Center. After dinner, youth will have youth group while parents meet with youth ministry leaders. Also, get info on this summer’s family mission trip to the Dominican Republic.

**Tuesday, January 28**

**Sid’s 2x4 Bible Study Breakfast for men** – Mullin Life Center, 7:30 a.m.

Senior Pastor Sid Batts leads. Breakfast includes ham and sausage biscuits for $4. No reservation required.

**Wednesday, January 29**

**Beth Moore Bible Study** – 4 p.m., Shetler 106.

**Dinner** – 5-6:15 p.m., Life Center. Herb crusted pork on the menu. Buffet is $6; salad $5; children 6-12, $5; children 5 and younger, free. RSVP by noon on Tuesday by calling 478-4747 or e-mailing reservations@fpcgreensboro.org.

**Wednesday Dinner Speaker Series**

- 6:15 p.m., Redhead Hall. Frank Dew will speak on Greensboro Urban Ministry.

**Thursday, January 30**

**Navigating Together: Preteen & Teen Years** – 11:45 a.m., Currie Library.

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**Join 55+ Travel for a special Valentine’s Dinner & Pops Concert**

**February 14, 2014**

- **Dinner** at Starmount Country Club at 5:30 p.m.
- **Pops Concert** at Westover Church at 8 p.m. “Sentimental Reasons” features John Pizzarelli, jazz guitarist and singer; and his wife, Jessica Molaskey, singer and Broadway actress.

- **Dinner $26; both dinner and Pops Concert $50.**

Contact Dolly Jennings, 854-2663 or jennings6871@bellsouth.net, for info, tickets and payment.
Saturday, February 1
Explore FPC – 9 a.m.-noon, Currie Library. Come and explore FPC and all we have to offer. Don’t forget to bring a friend. Contact Stephenie Sanders for sign-up and child care requests at 487-4735, or ssanders@fpcgreensboro.org.

Sunday, February 2
The Temple worship service meets at 8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 10:45 a.m. in Temple Emanuel. Rejoice! meets at 10:45 a.m. in the Life Center. Sid Batts preaches

Middle School Youth Choir meets in Memorial 303, 4:30pm

Wednesday, February 5
Dinner – 5-6:15 p.m., Life Center. Jambalaya on the menu. Buffet is $6; salad $5; children 6-12, $5; children 5 and younger, free. RSVP by noon on Tuesday by calling 478-4747 or e-mailing reservations@fpcgreensboro.org.

Friday, February 7
Middle School Ski Trip to Wolf Laurel Ski Resort begins today, ends Sunday, February 9.

Tuesday by calling 478-4747 or e-mailing reservations@fpcgreensboro.org.

“Classic Bible Stories in the Age of the i-Phone” – 6:30 p.m., every other Wednesday, Shetler 214. Contact Austin Carty (acarty@fpcgreensboro.org) for more information.

Wednesday, February 12
Dinner – 5-6:15 p.m., Life Center. Carved roast beef for Valentines Day. Buffet is $6; salad $5; children 6-12, $5; children 5 and younger, free. RSVP by noon on Tuesday by calling 478-4747 or e-mailing reservations@fpcgreensboro.org.

Friday, February 21
High School Ski Trip to Wolf Laurel Ski Resort begins today, ends Sunday, February 23.

Summer preview 2014
Mission trips and camps for children & youth

Save these dates! More information to come.

JUNE 14-21: High School Mission Trip, rising 9th-completed 12th
JUNE 15-21: Montreat Music & Worship Conference, rising 6th-12th
JUNE 18-21: Passport Camp, Lynchburg VA, rising 4th & 5th
JUNE 24-27: Middle School Mission Trip, rising 6th-8th
JULY 10-13: Middle School Leadership Conference, Massanette, Virginia, rising 7th-9th
JULY 14-17: Vacation Bible School & Kids Disciple Club, age 4 (by Sept. 1)-rising 5th
JULY 20-26: High School Montreat Conference, rising 9th-completed 12th
JULY 27-28: Middle School Mission Mania, rising 6th-8th
JULY 28-31: Music Camps (age 4 by Sept. 1-rising 5th)
AUGUST 3-4: Middle School Mission Mania, rising 6th-8th
AUGUST 9-15: Middle School, High School & Families to Dominican Republic, rising 6th-completed 12th
CAMP GRIER: Our Presbytery camp located in Old Fort, N.C. Please visit website (www.campgrier.org) for camp dates and ages.

Join 55+ Travel for Hidden Treasures of Imperial Russia
February 26, 2014

• Bus trip to North Carolina Museum of History, Raleigh
• Two outstanding exhibitions: “The Tsar’s Cabinet” and “Windows into Heaven”
• $50 per person includes Russian Tea, exhibitions, transportation and gratuities

for info, tickets and payment contact Marilyn Cotton-McMichael, 854-2614.
The Work and Worship of the Session
Monday, November 18, 2013

The stated monthly meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church was held on Monday, November 18, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. in Redhead Hall. Sid Batts served as moderator.

The meeting began with a responsive reading from Psalm 66, followed by the singing of the hymn, “Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven.”

Erwin Fuller was in attendance as a guest.

The Consent Agenda was approved as distributed.

- From the Clerk: Minutes of the October 21st meeting of the Session with one correction, New Business, strike Urban Ministry and insert the Guilford County Restaurant Association.
- From the Associate Pastor for Discipleship’s office: October attendance and membership reports.
- Visitor’s report letter to Session and visitor’s report

What’s Going Well? Those in attendance identified these items as going well:
- Sid’s article in Our State Magazine.
- Every volunteer slot for the Community Table has been filled.
- The success of the Stewardship Campaign.
- Urban Ministry food collection up the last two weeks.
- 3 new member families.

Communications: Ann Alexander stated that we can expect a lot of visitors with the reopening next year. Communications is developing a new logo and tag line for First Presbyterian Church that reflects our vision, personality and heart and is working with Bluezoom, a Greensboro based advertising/branding company.

Community and Regional Outreach: Mary Ellen Burke reported on the Presbytery Meeting held at Prospect Presbyterian Church in Mooresville, N.C., on November 9, 2013. Morning worship commenced with a brief history of Salem Presbytery followed by a meditation from God’s Word by Rev. Diane Givens-Moffett. Rev. Bill Hoyle from the Examination’s Committee presented Amanda Macquaire and Newton Cowan for Teaching Elder positions at Graham Presbyterian and Jamestown Presbyterian, respectively. After their sermons were delivered, both were approved for ordination and given the call by their respective church representative.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>January through October</th>
<th>Annual Budget</th>
<th>Where We Expected to Be through October</th>
<th>Where We Are through October</th>
<th>Better (Worse) than Expected</th>
<th>Where We Were Last Year</th>
<th>Better (Worse) than Last Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>$4,689,916</td>
<td>$3,399,400</td>
<td>$3,286,519</td>
<td>($112,882)</td>
<td>$3,986,505</td>
<td>($699,987)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>(4,689,916)</td>
<td>(3,931,170)</td>
<td>(3,964,961)</td>
<td>(33,791)</td>
<td>(4,548,340)</td>
<td>583,379</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>($531,770)</td>
<td>($678,443)</td>
<td>($146,673)</td>
<td>($561,835)</td>
<td>($116,607)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

We base the monthly budget on historical trends and estimates rather than simply taking 1/12 per month.

For the ten months ending October 31, 2013, we expected Expenses to exceed Revenues by $531,770.

Expenses actually exceeded Revenues by $678,443 which was worse than we expected through October 31, 2013 by $146,673.

Revenues were $112,882 below expected for the current period and $699,987 below Revenues in the prior year period.

Portion of Revenue above represented by:
Contributions & Gifts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Annual Budget</th>
<th>Where We Expected to Be through October</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pledge Gifts</td>
<td>$3,024,036</td>
<td>$2,100,576</td>
<td>$2,080,233</td>
<td>($20,342)</td>
<td>$2,382,225.29</td>
<td>($301,992)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Pledge Gifts</td>
<td>388,290</td>
<td>239,144</td>
<td>311,802</td>
<td>($107,342)</td>
<td>163,477</td>
<td>(31,675)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plate Offerings</td>
<td>36,000</td>
<td>28,865</td>
<td>31,142</td>
<td>($2,277)</td>
<td>29,776</td>
<td>(1,366)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Gifts</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10,810</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10,810</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Contributions &amp; Gifts</td>
<td>$3,448,326</td>
<td>$2,368,585</td>
<td>$2,253,988</td>
<td>($114,597)</td>
<td>$2,575,478</td>
<td>($321,490)</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Other Revenue</td>
<td>$1,241,590</td>
<td>$1,030,816</td>
<td>$1,032,531</td>
<td>$1,715</td>
<td>$1,411,028</td>
<td>($378,496)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue &amp; Support</td>
<td>$4,689,916</td>
<td>$3,399,400</td>
<td>$3,286,519</td>
<td>($112,882)</td>
<td>$3,986,505</td>
<td>($699,987)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pledges and Gifts represent the majority of our Revenue. For the ten months ending October 31, 2013

Pledge Gifts are $20,342 less than we expected and are $301,992 less than the same period last year.

Non-Pledge Gifts are $107,342 less than we expected in the current period and $31,675 less than received last year.

Plate Offerings are $2,277 more than we expected in the current period and $1,366 more than received last year.
Session meeting, continued

Scripture Reading: Bethany Duggins read John 7:53-8:11.

Faith Sharing: Jill Tourtellot shared her faith journey with Session members.

Human Resources Committee: Ginger Griffin reported that the Human Resources Committee has unanimously approved a motion to staff a Development Officer position. A search committee has been formed with Mindy Oakley as chair. The tasks associated with this position will be to coordinate giving efforts, planned giving, identify donors and talk to them about ways they can give in addition to being a peer of staff as well as someone who understands spiritual giving. At this time, Sid announced the retirement of David Partington at the end of 2013 after 8 years of faithful service.

Christian Education: Donna Chase was deferred until the end of the agenda.

Worship: Glenn Williamson reminded Session that communion will be served by intinction at 3 of the 4 Christmas Eve services to be held at Phillips Chapel, Canterbury School. 14 Elders are needed for each service and sign-up sheets are available tonight. There will be no child care and worship bags for children will be provided.

Project Review Committee: Ed Scott reviewed the issues surrounding the boiler room floor. New boilers, chillers, pumps, and electrical gear box are in place. Sutton-Kennerly, project engineers, provided a 3D model of the boiler room to be sure all the pieces would fit. The sanctuary abatement, framing of walls in Smith, and heating will be completed soon; the sewer lines at Elm and Greene Streets have been hooked up. He reported that the project is going extremely well and that we will be able to “see” changes in the next several months. Tim Millisor is going to lead tours of the sanctuary on Sunday, December 15.

Stewardship Committee: Nancy Abrams announced the supplemental Capital Campaign for the renovation project taking us into the future. Session needs to be in the forefront of giving to support the motion approved in September. She asked Session to extend their pledge for 2 years and then pledge cards were distributed.

First School: Lana Burske, interim director, stated that things were going great and that she loved meeting the teachers and students who are part of First School. Neil thanked Lana for her commitment and love of her work.

Prayers of the People: Neil led Session in intercessory prayer.

Finance Committee: Mike Krick reported through October total revenues are $112,882 below expected levels and total expenses are $33,791 above expected levels. Non-pledge gifts in the amount of $388,290 were budgeted for 2013. $131,802 has been collected through October which leaves $256,488 to be collected through the end of December.

Through October, salaries and benefits are over budget by approximately $40,000 or 1.4% of total Salaries and Benefits budgeted for the year. This variance resulted from greater than anticipated overtime being incurred by staff during the first 10 months of the year. It is not expected that this variance will be corrected during the last two months of the year. For the first 10 months of 2013, expenses exceeded revenues by approximately $678,000. Again, these are timing differences where expenses are paid before the budgeted revenues are collected. The church has used available cash sitting in various fund accounts to meet its short-term operating cash flow needs. It has also begun to draw on its bank line of credit. As of October 31, $69,000 has been drawn against the $1 million line of credit established for operating working capital needs.

New Business: Sid preached at the Temple for their Friday night Shabat service. He cited the article in Our State magazine and how it describes the long-standing relationship between FPC and the Temple. Rabbi Fred Guttmann is preaching this Sunday at FPC’s Temple Service with a reception following in their fellowship hall with special music and education about the symbols in the Temple.

Sid also said that people in our community need us as a spiritual home and we as a church will continue to focus our efforts on growing wider through Discipleship, deeper through Christian Education and tech savvy through our communications group. We are called to be the hands and feet of Christ in Greensboro.

David Kolosieke reported the net result of Commitment Sunday for 2014 as compared with last year’s commitment Sunday is a net increase in pledges received of $147,000.

Neil reminded Session that the 22nd Annual Winter Walk for Aids is scheduled for Sunday, December 8, and will meet at the Elliott Center at UNCG at 2 p.m.

Jill Tourtellot announced that StepUp Ministry honor cards are available again for holiday giving at a suggested $10 per card.

Prayers were requested for Lori Carter and Congregational Care with David Partington’s retirement.

Evening Prayer: Donna Chase led Session in the spiritual practice of prayer, citing the 5-minutes a day, 21-day prayer challenge. The meeting was adjourned following.

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Staton
Clerk of Session

SID’S 21-DAY PRAYER CHALLENGE

How about committing to 5 minutes of uninterrupted prayer for 21 consecutive days! Sid Batts is inviting First Presbyterians & friends to join in on this small-step approach to a deeper spiritual walk. How, when and where is up to you. And by the way, according to social scientists it takes 21 days to establish a habit. If you take the challenge, let Sid know at sbatts@fpcgreensboro.org.
Have you ever wondered how our church leadership is selected? As with everything Presbyterian, “decently and in order!” The Appointments and Nominating committees play a crucial role in this process.

The Appointments Committee has a variety of responsibilities. It presents a slate of nominees for the following year’s Nominating Committee, selects the chair and vice chair of church committees, proposes nominees for officers of the Session and the Corporation, ensures that every member of the Session serves on at least one committee, and presents a slate of nominees for the following year’s Appointments Committee. We are about to begin our work in January, and we are seeking your suggestions for the 2014-2015 Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee proposes a slate of Elders for election by the congregation as its leaders. The committee is comprised of 15 church members: seven Elders elected by the Session and eight at-large members elected by the congregation. It is essential to have a strong, representative Nominating Committee to recommend a slate of potential Elders that reflects the gender, age and experience in our congregation.

We need your suggestions by January 12. Drop your nominations for the Nominating Committee in boxes in Mullin Life Center, or send them to Stephenie Sanders (ssanders@fpcgreensboro.org or 478-4735) or Nancy Godwin (ngodwin1@gmail.com or 275-2221). Or you may get in touch with a member of the Appointments Committee.

If you or someone you know are interested in serving on any committees, please let us know! Committee service is a great way to gain experience and background for service as an Elder. Committees are: Worship, Congregational Care, Discipleship, Christian Education (now split into Adult, Youth and Children’s committees), Outreach, Human Resources, Finance, Property, and Hospitality.