

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MORGANTON, NORTH CAROLINA

100 Silver Creek Road
Morganton, North Carolina 28655
828-437-1811
www.fpcmorganton.org



A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
Organized Prior to 1797



Reverend Dr. Wanda Neely, Transitional Pastor
Reverend Adam C. Bowling, Associate Pastor
Reverend Lynn Webber, Parish Associate
Mr. Robert A. Smith, Director of Music

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
August 12, 2018

*Please stand, in body or in spirit.

Bold-type indicates congregational reading or singing.

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

As We Gather . . . "The letter to the Ephesians insists that we are members of the same body, and therefore we have a responsibility toward one another. And that applies as much to the way we speak to and about one another as to any other facet of life."

Alan Brehm, *The Waking Dreamer*

Prelude

"Variations on 'Hyfrydol'"

Charles Callahan

Welcome and Announcements

Please pass the black friendship pad found at the end of the pew, with both guests and members filling in their information. Then pass the pad back to its starting point, noting names and welcoming those near you.

***Call to Worship**

O magnify the Lord with me; let us exalt God's name together.

Look to God with joy, and never be ashamed.

O taste and see that the Lord is good.

Happy are those who take refuge in God.

Psalm 34

***Opening Hymn of Praise #366 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"**

***Prayer of the Day**

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

We are grateful for our Savior's love, Father, and pray that we may be controlled by that same love.

Forgive us when we give in to bitterness and unkind feelings toward others. Fill us with your Spirit; that we may sincerely love and forgive one another in the same way that we are loved and forgiven by Christ our Savior.

Hear us now, as we continue to confess, in the silence of our hearts...

***Time of Silent Prayer**

***Sung Prayer #753** **“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”** (verse 1) Prayer of St. Francis
Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred let me bring your love. Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there’s doubt, true faith in you.

***Assurance of Pardon**
Hear the Good News: In Christ we are forgiven; our sins are redeemed.
We can declare with confidence: We are forgiven!

***Sung Response #753** **“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”** (verse 3) Prayer of St. Francis
Make me a channel of your peace. It is in par-don-ing that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we’re born to eternal life.

***Passing of the Peace**
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.
Please say “The peace of Christ be with you” to those around you, and then greet everyone, especially those whom you do not know.

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

Time for Children
Children fifth grade and under are invited to the chancel steps for the Time for Children. Younger children are welcome to bring adults with them. Afterward, children five years old and under will be escorted to Children’s Church, or they may return to sit with their parents.

Prayer for Illumination (unison) Elder Lynn Garrett
**Nourish us with your Word, O God,
That we may be strengthened by your grace
And know we are redeemed by your steadfast love. Amen.**

First Lesson Colossians 3:12-14 Pew Bible NT, p. 246
“The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**”

Second Lesson Ephesians 4:25-5:2 Pew Bible NT, p. 237
“The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**”

Sermon “Practice, Practice, Practice” Rev. Dr. Wanda Neely

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Invitation to Discipleship
If you would like to speak with someone about becoming a Christian, church membership, or a special prayer request, please speak with a pastor or usher.

***Hymn of Response #445** **“God, How Can We Forgive”**

Prayers of the People, Ending with The Lord’s Prayer (using “sins” and “sin”) Marny Pritchard
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Service of Giving

Music at the Offering

“Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”

Words: Rosamond E. Herklots

Music: Kentucky Harmony

***Doxology#300**

“We Are One in the Spirit” (verse 4)

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:
And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious God, with hearts of joy, we bring these gifts, that you kingdom may be served through their use. Help us always to give generously from what little or much we have. For we know you are filled with joy when we give from our hearts. Amen.

WE GO IN GOD’S NAME

***Hymn of Sending #541**

“God Be With You Till We Meet Again”

Randolph

***Charge and Blessing**

You Lord, are in this week;
Your presence already fills it.
Your Lord, walk with us;
Your presence guides us.
Ahead of us, behind us, with us:
You show us the way.

***Postlude**

“Choral Prelude on ‘Hyfrydol’ ”

Ralph V. Williams

Summer Sunday Social

Please join others for a brief time of fellowship and refreshments in the breezeway. As you exit the sanctuary, the breezeway is on your right.

The flower arrangement in the chancel is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Margaret Susan “Sue” Edwards Jones by her family.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Guests

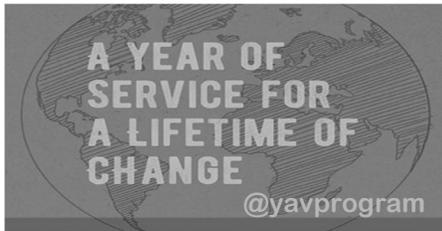
Welcome! We are delighted you are worshiping with us. Please come to the visitors table located in the narthex Welcome Center and staffed by one of our members. We would love for you to consider becoming a member of our church family. Please feel free to speak with the pastors about this or any other questions.

Nursery

Nursery opens at 9:30 AM and is provided for infants and toddlers during the education hour and the worship service. Please see an usher for directions to the nursery.

About The Lord's Prayer

This summer in worship, we are using an updated version of The Lord's Prayer, as suggested by the Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (USA). One of the hallmarks of the Reformation was liturgy in the vernacular, the common language of the people of God. Yet when we pray the prayer Jesus taught, many of us continue to use language of another era, the Tudor dynasty. The Lord's Prayer is found in both gospels of Matthew and Luke. In the original Greek, those writers use two different words, translated "debts" and "trespasses," but both meaning "to sin." So the word "sins" presents the prayer in language used by all traditions and translations, which today's worshippers can learn and understand.



Young Adult Volunteer Special Offering for Molly Franklin

I want to share my plans for the next year with y'all. I have accepted a position as a Young Adult Volunteer through our denomination PCUSA in New Orleans, Louisiana. This program is basically PCUSA's version of the PeaceCorps but with a much bigger faith component. I'll be working with a non-profit organization called Mid-City Ministries where I will be tutoring underprivileged youth and planning events for them. I'll also be partnering with a local PCUSA church in town called Lakeview Presbyterian where I will facilitate mission and outreach opportunities for their congregation to serve in. I'll spend the entire year living with 6 other Young Adult Volunteers and we will spend the year growing closer to God through our service and also through our intentional daily devotions and weekly bible studies together. I am so excited for this new opportunity while also so overwhelmed with gratitude for my First Pres Morganton family. It is only with the love, prayer, and support that you all have given and graciously continue giving to me that I am able to go on this adventure of service. Thank you for all of your prayers, love, and support. I'll miss you all!—Molly Franklin

Note: As Molly's congregation, we have a remaining \$875 to raise as shared funding with the Mission Agency of the Presbyterian Church (USA). You may give donations in the offering plate or to the church office. Checks may be made to First Presbyterian church and marked "For Molly Franklin, YAV."

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, August 12

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:55 AM Worship Service & Commissioning
of Molly Franklin
12:00 PM Summer Sunday Social!

Monday, August 13

10:00 AM Mind, Body, Spirit Class

Tuesday, August 14

7:00 AM Men's Breakfast

Tuesday, August 14, cont.

9:00 AM Soup Kitchen
1:30 PM Staff Meeting

Wednesday, August 15

5:30 PM Simple Meal
6:00 PM Bible Study—Led by Jan Krouskop

Thursday, August 16

6:00 PM Session Meeting

SUNDAY LEADERS

Today, August 12

Bus Driver: Tom Kilgore
Greeters: Mary and Bob Hewat
Penina and Henry Ramseur
Nursery: Maggie McKinney
Visitors Table: Linda Wilson
Usher Captains: Scott Coley, Hugh Lowe
Sunday Social: Presbyterian Women

Next Sunday, August 19

Bus Driver: Scott Davis
Greeters: George Baily, Mary Lou McDaniel
Nursery: Amanda Peck
Visitors Table: Linda Wilson
Usher Captains: Dick Peck, John Port
Sunday Social: Nanette and Charles Marranta

Leadership

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation
Rev. Dr. Wanda Neely, Transitional Pastor
Rev. Adam C. Bowling, Associate Pastor
Rev. Lynn Webber, Parish Associate
Mr. Robert A. Smith, Director of Music
The Session

Class of 2019

Elders

Ken Corn
Hugh Lowe
William Mode
Olivia Redman
Jean VanNoppen
Louis Vinay

Deacons

Lori Conway
Judy Gaskill
Dennis McGill
Tamra Starnes
Caitie Thompson

Class of 2020

Elders

John Gantt
Eric LeGoullon
Helen Sheppard
Doug Veazey
Anne Wilson

Deacons

Ann Bergelin
Scott Davis
Kelly Hawkins
Richard Turner

Class of 2021

Elders

Laura Aycock
Casey Kilgore
Jean Hawes
Tommy McDaniel
Lisa Roller

Deacons

Teresa Carpenter
Marny Pritchard
Edwin Ware
Will Wilson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fresh Garden Vegetables

This summer, we have placed a table in the narthex Welcome Center for the sharing of fresh garden vegetables. Please take for your use or share with others who may not have access to fresh produce. If you have a garden, you are invited to bring from your bounty to share. We thank Dick Peck, our master gardener, assisted by Susan Vernon and Roy Garrett, for their labors in producing a bountiful harvest that is serving so many.

Summer Sunday School for Children and Youth

Giovanni Santiago is teaching Summer Sunday School in room 212 to rising 1st grade through rising 6th grade students. Rising kindergarten and below will have Sunday school in the church nursery. Rising 7th grade and above can assist with the elementary Sunday school class or attend an adult Sunday school class.

Ice Cream Social and Crazy Hat Celebration

Join us at the Aycock Farm on Wednesday, August 22, 6:00 PM, as we celebrate Robert Smith's 20th anniversary as our Director of Music. We will mark this milestone with two activities Robert loves—trying different flavors of homemade ice cream and wearing crazy hats! Bring ice cream and/or toppings, lactose-free and sugar-free desserts, lawn chairs, and swimsuits and towels if you'd like to take a dip in the pool. Wear the most outlandish hat you can find—we will have a contest to declare a Crazy Hat Champion! So we can be sure to have enough, call the church office at 828-437-1811 to let us know what you're bringing. All are welcome, and Laura Aycock says it's fine if you need to drop off your ice cream contribution earlier in the day.

Blessing of the Backpacks

The return to school, starting a new grade with new teachers and students, even new schools, is a big deal for children and their families! We want children to know that their lives are important to the church. We also want them to hear that God is with them at school and that the church cares about what happens there. God and church are not “off to the side” or just a Sunday thing. So children and students of all ages, as well as teachers and staff, are encouraged to bring their backpacks for a special *Blessing of the Backpacks* during worship on Sunday, August 26. Each participant will receive a special “Blessings Tag” for their bag.

End-of-Summer Vesper Service

We will have a special time of worship on August 26, 5:00 PM, that includes a meditation for the end of summer and the sacrament of baptism. If you have not been baptized or you have a child who has not been baptized, please contact Rev. Dr. Wanda Neely, wanda@firstpresmorganton.org, to learn about receiving this sacrament.

Last Wednesday Summer Bible Study, Room 200

5:30 PM—Simple supper, such as deli sandwiches: \$5/person (adults & children)

Sign up on friendship pad or call church office by 10:00 AM Tuesdays.

6:00 PM—45-minute Bible study on text(s) for upcoming Sunday

August 15—Jan Krouskop, Ephesians 5:15-20

OUR CONGREGATION CARES

Congregational love and sympathy are extended to Rev. Adam and Erin Bowling and family at the death of Rev. Adam's great aunt, Florence Shelor, on August 5, 2018.

Prayer Concerns

Our Prayer Concerns list is dedicated to church members and their families and friends in need of prayer. Names will remain on this list for four weeks unless a new request is made by contacting the church staff.

Home

Wyatt Aiken
Sadie Hanger

Gayle Butler
Shannon Hodges

Lori Conway
Sandra Morton

Anne Ervin
Joseph Pritchard

Grace Ridge Health Care

Marty Brennehan
Betty Sasser

Millie Gordon
Boyd Smith

Mildred Plaster
Sam Tate

Eleanor Robb

Trinity Ridge

Joan Dickison

College Pines

Grace Swann

Extended Family and Friends

Bob Ledford, brother of Donna Benner; Tara Reynolds, sister of Holly Smith; Sally Riddle, mother of Jim Best; Missy Carrier, sister of Teresa Carpenter; Gene Pritchard, father of Joseph Pritchard; Judy Morelock, aunt of Greg Carpenter; Chelsea Welytok, friend of Jane Tate; Philip Hatcher, brother of Trey Hatcher

All are invited to sign the "We Care" card, located in the entrance area.

This card will be sent to an individual or family experiencing a special need or pastoral concern.

Prayer Requests

As a church family, it is important to remember each other in prayer during times of need.

If you have a prayer request for the church prayer chain, please email:

Rev. Dr. Wanda Neely (wanda@firstpresmorganton.org) or

Rev. Adam Bowling (adam@firstpresmorganton.org).

If you would like to participate in the prayer chain, contact the church office.

Other options:

Add the below prayer request to the Prayer Concerns list.

I would like the church staff to pray for the below prayer request.

Submitted by: _____

Please place in the offering plate or give to a staff member.