



THE UPDATE

June 2022

The Pastor's Pen

"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants, nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth."- I Corinthians 3:6-7

Dear FPPC family,

It is good to see some new faces in our midst on the Lord's Day in worship. These are tough times for the church, so it is encouraging to see new folks amongst us and finding their place in our particular body of Christ.

As I thought about this little spurt of growth, the above words came to mind from the apostle Paul about who is ultimately responsible for the growth. It is God! Only God gives the growth, but we must never forget that the divine appointed means for attaining the growth is his sons and daughters planting the seeds of the gospel in word and deed amongst our friends, family, neighbors and co-workers. The Lord has promised us in His Word that if we plant seeds of the gospel in people's lives that His Word will not return to us void.

In light of the above verse, my exhortation to us all is threefold: First, ask God to give us a heart for the lost and those who have wandered from the fold. Second, ask God to give us the courage to plant seeds in their lives, trusting that the Holy Spirit will give us the words to say. Third, ask that God would give us the wherewithal to understand that it is our duty to plant the seeds, and it is God's job to bring those seeds into fruition.

"Do the work of an evangelist!" -II Timothy 4:5

"The harvest is plentiful and the workers are few. Let us therefore ask the Lord of the Harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." - Matthew 9: 37-38

Blessings,

Pastor Scott

JUNE PREACHING SCHEDULE: A YEAR IN THE BIBLE

June 5- Guest preacher Judy Kennedy

June 12- Philemon v.8-21 "An Appeal on the Basis of Love"

June 19- II Kings 22: 1-20 "The Book of the Law and the Prophetess"

June 26- Luke 8:4-18 "Parable of the Sower"

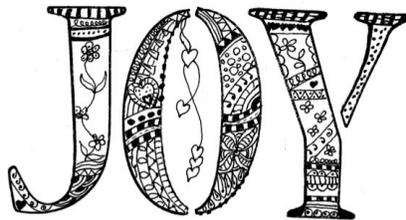
NEWS AND TIDBITS

Online

<https://www.forestparkpres.org> Check it out! Forest Park Presbyterian Church website. Up to date information online. Links to past Sunday sermons and weekly Word of Encouragement. This online mission is a work in progress!

Forest Park Presbyterian Church channel on youtube.com Our Sunday services are available to see online and live streaming. They are archived and you can go back to watch our services at your convenience. You can also subscribe to the channel. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQ6HozKk70sDOhIjSMJg14g/featured>

"JOY" Luncheon The JOY fellowship of Forest Park Church met on May 19 for a covered dish lunch. A program was given by Chan Austin of the Statesville Police Department. This was very informative and was enjoyed by all. About twenty-two of our group including caregivers were in attendance. Everyone was excited about the large group sharing in the wonderful fellowship and food and presentation by Chan Austin. There are a couple of programs for our group "in the works", so be looking at your calendar and posters placed around the Sunday school building and in the narthex for future gatherings. You can also check online at forestparkpres.org. The next meeting will be June 15 and we will be enjoying a hymn sing! "Blessed be the tie that binds. "



The Missions Committee is excited to announce that Forest Park will be working to transition more of our **Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes** this year to the new "Build Your ShoeboxOnline!" program. This allows each of us to select items for our shoeboxes but eliminates many of the logistical problems that Samaritan's Purse has had to solve in the past. The online cost is \$25 per shoebox, which includes the \$9 for shipping. More details will be coming soon, but in the meantime, please reach out to Doug Griffith if you have any questions.



Mwandi Sponsors: If you are interested in writing to your student please get the letter and a picture to me by the end of June. If you send a picture they ask that the background be very neutral and not reflective of our American lifestyle. Thank you, Kathy Hoover

THANK YOU!

- ♥ Thank you to Karen Smith for volunteering to make our communion bread! If anyone else would like to help, please contact Nan Weatherman.
- ♥ Dear Forest Park Presbyterian Church, “Do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers.” Ephesians 1:16. We truly appreciate your donation to Power Cross and covet your prayers for the children & tying we serve daily! Thank you. Jeff, Natalie, & the Power Cross team

Community Prayer Box Update—Thank you to PrintCrafters for beautiful signs for our community prayer box. We shared the news of this community outreach in the Statesville Record and Landmark, Saturday, May 21.



Keep in Our Prayers

Recent hospitalizations: Becky Gregory and Joan Harrelson

Neighbor request to pray for their son who is waiting to hear about pastoring his first church.

Beautiful Garden View!



Tiny House Project Our church has participated in a program to house homeless veterans at 5th St Ministries. They worked with Purple Heart Homes to install two tiny houses for one veteran each, located directly behind 5th St. Shelter. The veteran can live there 2 years, at which time they should have completed the veteran's program of employment training and have become able to move into their own housing. 5th St. has a 95% success rate for the veterans who have lived in their renovated house on Wilson Lee Blvd. The veterans can eat all meals at 5th St. and they will participate in the program at the Shelter.

Forest Park furnished all the living, kitchen, bath and bedroom items with generous donations from members and the Women of the Church. The Landmark Church of Christ furnished the bed, living room couch and blinds. Purple Heart Homes furnished the kitchen appliances, kitchen table and chairs. We also furnished all paper and cleaning products, toiletries, and will stock the kitchen right before move in date.

This joint effort worked perfectly! The homes are almost complete. This will be a great home for people who have been homeless and have served our country. Now they can live in nice, secure homes and have a second chance at life. Thank you to all who made donations of money and/or items. Forest Park always comes through in big ways!



Session Minutes April 28, 2022 6:30 pm

A stated meeting of the session of Forest Park Presbyterian Church was held in the fellowship hall on April 28, 2022. Elders present were Laurel Andrews, Tommy Chipman, Johnny Hoover, Keith Owens, Rick Rhyne, Nell Shull, DeNeil Suarez, Nan Weatherman, and Dan Winslow. Pastor Scott Jeffreys was also present. Doug Griffith, Beth Lail, and Phil Lail were absent. Pastor Scott opened with prayer.

Tommy made a motion to approve the docket; Keith seconded, and the docket was approved. Tommy also made a motion to approve the minutes from March 24; Nan seconded, and the motion passed.

Scott presented a devotion reflecting on his Easter message of God being near us through Christ. He encouraged us to be intentional about sharing our faith and inviting people to church.

Committee Reports There were no reports from Stewardship and Commitment, Personnel, Christian Education, Worship, or Nominating committees.

Property- (Johnny) The area outside covering the grill is finished. The wooded area and grounds were cleaned before Easter Sunday. New swing seats were installed in the playground and the area was cleaned. Also, there is new sand in the sandbox. The fellowship hall will be painted by Bobby Styers. Future jobs needed include: grading and redoing the sidewalk from the Sanctuary, replacing the stoop on the west side, replacing the bottom of doors destroyed by squirrels, replacing the doors in the Narthex that are difficult to open and close (using something other than wood), repairing wrought iron and countertops in the Education Building, and finding another option for cooling the kitchen instead of a window unit. We may need to have a fundraiser for these projects.

Mission- (Laurel) The prayer box has been installed and supplies have been ordered. Joe Tomlin is going to make signs. Laurel is going to submit a story to the Statesville Record and Landmark. She will check the box daily and Scott suggested that the committee start praying for the requests. Also, good progress has been made on the church webpage and the services can be watched live on YouTube. There is a newsletter link on the webpage for people as well. We are hoping to cut back on the number of mailings required. Please give updates for the newsletter to Laurel or Ann

New Business The fellowship dinner will be on May 22. Care Team # 5 will provide the food and the entertainment will be music by Scott and friends. Nan asked about the women of the church doing a fundraiser for fellowship hall improvements. This will have to wait since Property/Grounds needs to do one first.

Pastor Scott adjourned the meeting and closed with prayer.

Respectfully, DeNeil Suarez

