

the Epistle

First Presbyterian Church, Wadesboro, North Carolina 28170

September 2011

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Dear Friends in Wadesboro:

One day my humans bought a new car. Actually, it was a minivan. I heard them telling everyone that they bought this minivan for me. When I got my first look at it, I saw that it had some nice seats up front, with a big open space in back and windows all around. I thought I was going to have all of that open space for myself. No such luck.

Before I could jump in through the big side door and take a stroll around, the humans were ushering me into a wire crate, just big enough for me to stand up in. What do they mean, they bought this vehicle for me? What's the use in having all of that space, if I have to be shut up in a crate?

Next thing I knew, we were going down the highway. The humans were talking to each other and to me, and every now and then one of them would rub my ears or give me a dog cookie. Okay, so I wasn't miserable. Still, why couldn't I get out of that crate and hang my head out the window?

I took a nap for a while, and when I woke up the minivan was coming to a stop at the top of a mountain. The humans opened my crate, slipped on my leash — then we were off. We went through the woods for a little ways, then we went swooping through a huge meadow and up the side of another mountain.

I couldn't believe it! The grass was as tall as I am. There were deer tracks underfoot, huge birds soaring overhead, and hundreds

of delicious aromas all around. It was totally unlike anything I had experienced in Charlotte. For the next few hours, I got to explore that wonderful countryside, stopping occasionally to take a sip from a stream or to stand and sniff the breeze. I heard the humans tell each other that they were getting their pleasure just from watching me have a great day.

By the time we got back to the minivan, we had covered a lot of miles. The soft cushion in my crate looked pretty good. I slept all the way back home.

When we arrived at our house, my buddy, Jake the cat, saw me jumping out of the crate. "I sure wouldn't let them put *me* in a wire crate inside of a moving metal box," he said. "I like my freedom too much for that."

I guess Jake hasn't learned what I did up on the mountain: Sometimes what looks like a loss of freedom is really the passport to more freedom than we ever dreamed possible.

Yours truly,



Editor's Note: The paw print above belongs to Lacey, a 50-pound, reddish gold dog who owns two humans, C. W. and Leslie Stacks. She is a Vizsla, a Hungarian breed, and she was born to hunt and run and enjoy life.

SESSION

The next stated meeting of Session will be Sunday, September 11, after Worship. Minutes are posted on the bulletin board.

MEMBER CARE NOTES



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Men's Breakfast - September 11, 8:00 AM.

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

The church directory proof has been approved and is finally being printed.

HOT DOG/ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Many members and guests enjoyed our annual late summer hot dog and ice cream social on Sunday, August 21st. Jim Boylin, Ross Huntley, Alice Grimes, and Jeanne Price donated and served the hot dogs and all the trimmings, but the real treat was the homemade ice cream provided by at least seven different church families. An offering of \$160 was received which will be donated to First Presbyterian's general fund. Thanks to all for an enjoyable experience.

FALL FUN NIGHT

We are looking forward to another fun-filled evening in October at the home of Brenda and Jim Morgan, as they plan to host another Fall Fun Night at their home. The date will be announced later.

ANNUAL FISH FRY

On Sunday, October 30th, the Session will host our annual Fish Fry with the help of Emily and Emmett Patterson and the other great fishermen and cooks in our First Presbyterian family! Mark your calendars now and plan to attend this unique event.



MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS

To the Music Fund in Memory of Ann Beck by
Frances Vernon
Doug & Pat Vernon Thompson

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Honor your friend or loved one with a contribution to First Presbyterian Women of the Church.

WORSHIP NOTES/ CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SACRAMENT OF LORD'S SUPPER



Do this in
Remembrance of Me.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed during morning worship on Sunday, September 4th.

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

On Sunday, September 4 – that's Labor Day weekend – a special event will take place during the Church School hour. The Nursery will meet as usual, but all other ages will gather in the Fellowship Hall for an activity-filled morning. We will have fun while learning more about the Bible, our church, and each other. Bring yourself and your sense of humor!



Our 2011-2012 Church School Year begins on Sunday, September 11. In addition to new study materials, we will have a new class – for children ages 3 and 4. Join us for a new year of learning and fellowship.

YOUTH CONFERENCE

Our Youth report that they had a grand time at Montreat this summer. Their fundraising efforts garnered \$1,235 to help defray their expenses to attend the Youth Conference in July.



NOTES FROM JANICE



All the Music sung and played here is a gift, O God, from you

For as long as we have prayed here, we've been blessed by music, too.

By your Spirit, each musician finds new depths of faith to share.

Music is a gift you've given and becomes our thankful prayer.

(Carolyn Winfrey Gillette in *Songs of Grace*)

Our Handbell Choir will resume rehearsals on September 7 at 6:00 PM. New music, new ideas! We will miss our bass bells player, Thomas Huntley, who is now a student at UNCG. We need two people to cover those bells. Come and try ringing bells with us! It's fun!

The Chancel Choir rehearsals also begin on September 7 at 7:00 PM. We have openings for all voice ranges. Come, join us! We will be learning new anthems and very soon beginning work on our Christmas Cantata.

The Cherub Choir rehearses on Sundays at 9:45 AM. They are learning new songs and singing songs that they enjoy. Dock is bringing his guitar to help with accompaniment.

Rehearsal Times:

Handbell Choir: Wednesdays at 6:00 PM

Chancel Choir: Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

Cherub Choir: Sundays at 9:45 AM

MISSION

ANSON CRISIS MINISTRY NEEDS

September is the month that we are to provide Anson Crisis Ministry with grits and oatmeal. These items may be left in the provided container as you enter the church.

FOOD PANTRY: WACOM

September Food Pantry:

Set-Up – September 9th 4:00 PM

Distribution – September 10th 8:30-10:00 AM

YARD SALE FOR MISSIONS

Saturday, October 1st

The next fundraiser sponsored by the Mission Committee will be the Yard Sale to be held on Saturday, October 1st. Begin to collect the items that you would like to donate for the Yard Sale. Items need to be in good condition.

We will need volunteers to help with set-up of the items to sell and as many trucks as possible to haul leftover items to the Anson Crisis Ministry. Begin planning now on how you can contribute to make our Yard Sale a success.

CROPWALK

Sunday, October 16th, 2:00 PM

The Mission Ministry is responsible for planning this year's CROPWalk. See Frank Trexler, Robin Trexler, and Kaye Ratliff to volunteer to help.

More details will be available soon.

See him to sign up to walk or make a donation.



OFFERINGS

The **\$2 Per Family** offering for the **Mission Fund** will be taken on Sunday, September 4th, during the worship service.

The **10¢-A-Meal** offering will be taken on Sunday, September 25th, during the worship service. **10¢ a Meal, 30¢ a day, \$2.10 a week, \$9.00 a month**



"Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of my brothers, you have done it unto me." - Matthew 25:40

PROPERTY/FINANCE/ ADMINISTRATION

PROPERTY NOTES

Last month, we had an unusually high water bill for the church building. On a couple of Mondays, two different toilets were found to be running water. In an effort to help reduce our water bill, please check to make sure that toilets have filled with water and are not still running water before you leave the restroom on Sunday morning.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Each week, we need \$3,264.00 to meet budget for the General Account. Below is a list of the amounts we have received in past weeks:

July 3	\$1,878.00	Aug. 7	\$2,236.00
July 10	\$2,295.00	Aug. 14	\$2,028.35
July 17	\$2,476.55	Aug. 21	\$2,026.50
July 24	\$1,718.50		
July 31	\$1,843.00		

\$26,112.00 was needed for this period and we received \$16,501.90 – shortage of \$9,610.10. Shortage since January 1, 2011 is \$38,041.79.



FLOWER CALENDAR

September 4	OPEN
September 11	OPEN
September 18	Frances Vernon
September 25	OPEN

(You have the option of using the silk flower arrangement for a donation of \$25 to the Mission Fund or you can make arrangements to have fresh flowers delivered from a florist. Call the Church Office for details.)

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

September 4	Anne & Luke Hyatt
September 11	Jeanne & James Price
September 18	Ross Huntley & Ginger Trexler
September 25	Pam Vernon & Bob Stowe

ACOLYTE/GREETER SCHEDULE

September 4	Tripp Trexler
September 11	Grace Morgan
September 18	Dylan Trexler
September 25	Emma Trexler

OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Serving the Church in the Office of Elder

“Pick out from among you...[those]...of good repute, full of the Spirit, and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty.” (Acts 6:3)

The Officer Nominating Committee seeks suggestions from the congregation for nominations to the Session. There are many talented, qualified people in this church, and your help is needed in identifying them. Scripture and our Book of Order advise us that:

1. Elders should be persons of faith, dedication, and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel, both within the church and in the world. An Elder should exercise leadership, government, and discipline, and have responsibilities for the life of a particular church as well as the church-at-large.
2. An Elder should regularly attend public worship at First Presbyterian Church and participate in its activities, be of service to the church, financially support its ministry, and demonstrate Christian living in his or her daily life.

PLEASE SUBMIT NAMES to the committee on or before *Sunday, September 18, 2011*, by placing this card in the offering plate or giving it to the Church Office. Please note: By submitting a name, you are not automatically nominating that person, but suggesting that the Nominating Committee consider him or her.

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For Elder: _____

Comments on the nominee that might be helpful to the committee:

USHER SCHEDULE

September 4

Ashe Ratliff
John Edwards
Danny Deese
Eddie Huntley

September 11

Glenn Trexler
Bob Stowe
Jerry Ridenhour
Foyle Hightower

September 18

Hugh Wallace
Jim Strayhorn
Alex McLeod
Bryan Trexler

September 25

Luke Hyatt
Calvin Catoe
Ashe Ratliff
John Edwards

Note: Ushers need to be at church by 10:45 AM. If you cannot usher, it is your responsibility to get a replacement.



*First Day of Autumn
September 23*

Happy Labor Day!

*(Church Office will be closed on Monday,
September 5th.)*

First Presbyterian Church

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Wadesboro NC 28170

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