ICHTHUS
February 2018

February 2018

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A Publication of
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Reflections in the Water: Sharing Our Faith



"…the man who…begged him that he might be with him. But Jesus refused, and said to him, 'Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you.' And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed." —Mark 5:18-20

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love;
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true,
It satisfies my longings as nothing else will do.
—Arabella K. Hankey. 1866

What is your story? This February, I am looking forward to begin work with other adult leaders as we begin a new confirmation class. The confirmation class for 7th graders and up will give our young adults the opportunity to share and reflect upon their personal story of faith and relationship with God in preparation for public profession of faith. Each Sunday during Lent we will meet prior to Presbyterian Youth Connection at 4:00 p.m. The activities will involve community mission work and one or more field trips to explore the practice of faith in greater detail. The confirmation schedule will culminate with their public profession of faith on Easter Sunday. Our primary task will be exploring our personal journey of faith and learning to share its story.

Sharing personal stories was a large part of the continuing education event on spiritual direction I attended recently. It was an intensive four day experience with fourteen hour days spending much time within a small learning group sharing personal and often deeply sensitive stories from our lives. You can imagine the awkwardness of sharing your personal experiences with people who are almost strangers. It can be an intense and tense encounter. At one point our group merged with some new members. Someone invited me to share something about myself. Or she tried to invite me. Her words came out awkwardly because she was trying to be considerate. She couldn't quite come out with the words: *tell me about yourself*. A friend, who knew me well, stepped in to interpret for her: "Joe. She wants to know…'Hey man, what's your deal?'" Ensuing laughter broke the potentially tense moment for her. We meet new people all the time and want to know "what's your deal? who are you? Will you let down your guard and share your story?"

Such an exchange of self requires mutual trust. Sharing our story upfront is risky business with a stranger. I may feel cautious, hesitant, distant, and, worst of all, suspicious and fearful. A safe and respectful and loving community is essential to opening ourselves to one another. At our leadership retreat, our church officers were invited to share one of their favorite Bible stories and why they were drawn to that particular story. It was a rich moment for our small group. I learned new things about church members who I thought I already knew well.

Are you willing to share your story as well? Do you feel safe enough in your church to be your authentic self and not remain someone behind a mask? It is my hope for confirmation to inspire our kids to be true to themselves, equip them as saints in faith that they may grow in confidence as disciples of Christ with the support of those who love them most.

As we begin to observe a holy Lent, I ask you to share your faith and gifts with them in their crucial days of formation to come.

Pastor Joe



Prayerful Support for
Bernice Johnson at Meadowview
Alice Narron at Meadowview
Shirley Williams at Meadowview
Tom Barbour at Meadowview
Eleanor "Nor" Bell at Barbour Court
Bill Leist in Colfax
Ellen Rogers in Raleigh
Martha Rogers in Richmond
Mary Alice Thomas in Charlotte
Marie Atkins
Ruth Daniel
Debbie Henderson
Barbara Hess
Debbie Jacobs
Tom Johnson
Shannon Kimball
Walt Lassiter at Rex.
Tony Lester
Miriam Lore
Earl Marett
Ralph Mosley (Dot Ellmore's brother)
Benny Pope
Chap Ragland
Peter Russell
Linda Stephenson
Nelson Vaughn
Betty Welch
Linda Wells
William Wells
Lucy Worley at Springbrook, Clayton
Al Worsham
Bob Worsham
Hilda Worsham
Rebecca Ziady
Joseph Hester, Sr.

Christian sympathy to Greg and Joyce Knoll on the death of Greg's father, Edward Knoll, on January 24, 2018.

Congratulations to Harold Langdon and Karen Brown who were married on December 31, 2017.

memorials & gifts

In Memory of Ted Wells
Donors: Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Johnson; Dr. and Mrs. Roger Horne.

Transfiguration: In All His Glory

On the Sunday before Ash Wednesday, many Christian churches celebrate the Transfiguration of Our Lord. After telling his shocked, uncomprehending disciples that he would die and rise again, Jesus took Peter, James , and John up a mountain. Suddenly Jesus appeared to be glowing. "He was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white (Matthew 17:2, NRSV).



Moses and Elijah appeared, and a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him (Matthew 17:5).

Jesus' disciples fell to the ground, overcome by fear. But Jesus touched them, told them not to be afraid, and led them down the mountain.

The disciples witnessed firsthand the glory and Godhood of Jesus, who would soon die for the sins of the world and rise again to give us life.

Transfiguration of Our Lord
February 11, 2018

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Anita Liverman for obtaining door bell sign.
Harold Allen for maintenance on emergency lights.
Camille Boone and Prayer Shawl participants who make such a powerful impact on those they serve.
Diane Dockery for writing cards to acknowledge memorial gifts to donors and family members.
Kenny Duncan for repairs to the kitchen drawers.
Greg Bell for recording our worship services every Sunday.
Evans Horne for driving to the coast for fresh oysters for our annual Oyster Roast.
Greg Knoll and Betsy Olive for their work with Habitat for Humanity.
Mary and Gene Miller for transporting our Yes We Can donations to the SAM Food Closet at Centenary UMC.

HIGHLIGHTS of January Session

- The congregation approved the Terms of Call for the pastor for 2018.
- Approved the 2018 budget and approved calling a congregational meeting to share the budget on Sunday, January 28, 2018.
- The congregation approved the following officers:

Elders: Tony Lester (to fill an unexpired term in the Class of 2018)
Stan Coats (Class of 2020)
Nichole Booker (Class of 2020)
Evans Horne (Class of 2020)
Deacons: Jake Jacobs (to fill an unexpired term in the Class of 2018)
Judy Daniels (to fill an unexpired term in the Class of 2019)
Nan Jones (Class of 2020)
Emila Anaruma (Class of 2020)

If you have items you wish to bring before Session, contact an elder or Debbie Jacobs, Clerk.

—Debbie Jacobs

Dear Members of First Presbyterian Church, Smithfield

Thank you so very much for all the love and support you continue to share with me! I am touched by the outreach you do regularly with visitations, cards, weekend meals, and more!

I've also been blessed meeting some of you and the pastor. I recently received a pocket prayer shawl which I'm loving. How unique and comforting.

Joyfully and gratefully I appreciate what you're doing for all of us at the SECU Hospice House.

Blessings,

Vicky Vanderford

Communications and Technology News



As we begin a new year, it is important for the church to have your correct contact information!! If your phone, email or mailing address has changed, please let Debbie Jacobs and the church office know so that we may keep our records current. There have been several changes in our membership information since the pictorial directory was printed.

If you are not receiving the eNews on Thursdays or Dial My Calls information, please contact Debbie Jacobs.

—Debbie Jacobs

The Property Box
Be a Good Steward

Please do not leave the kitchen until the dishwasher has finished its cycles. A cycle is only 90 seconds. Once the cycle has finished, put away the dishes and make sure to turn off the dishwasher. Otherwise, we are paying to keep the water inside the dishwasher hot until someone notices the dishwasher is still on. That has sometimes taken several days. Be a good steward of our resources.

Please do not take equipment from the workroom without approval from the staff.

If you use the he folding machine or the CD copier, please shut it off before you leave. If the Xerox copier becomes jammed, please inform a staff member. It is not good for the machine to churn overnight.

Thank you!
The Property Team

2018 Offering Envelopes in Fellowship Hall



Some people have not yet picked up their giving envelopes. They are still in the fellowship hall. Please write your name on the removable label and place it in the envelope on the table.

It's not too late to be assigned giving envelopes. Just indicate your desire to be assigned a box on the legal pad next to the envelopes. Your envelopes will be there the following Sunday.

If you have questions, contact Beth Daniel, Receiving Treasurer.

—Beth Daniel

Any of These Yours?



Green, size small, Shoreline raincoat
One silver bangle bracelet
One large, shiny green fabric button
One dangle clip earring, gold with blue stone
One yellow utility knife
One gray Kershaw utility knife
One narrow blue women's scarf with fringe
One yellow and black men's Everlast work glove
One large black man's glove
One black, silver beaded bracelet
One silver with black stone and bead earring
One girls' blue, black, and ivory bracelet with dolphins

Check the Lost and Found box in the workroom

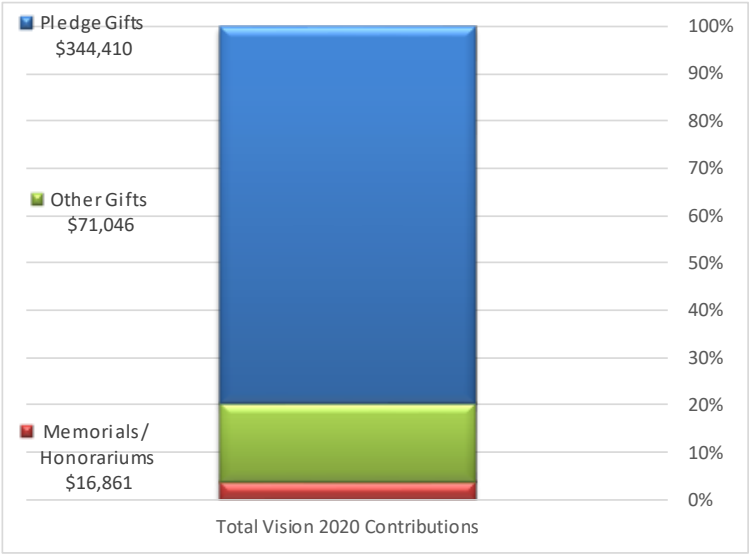
First Presbyterian Church
Operating Results January—December 2017
Actual vs. Budgeted

	Jan—Dec 2017 Actual	Jan—Dec 2017 Budgeted
Revenue		
General Offering	**303,604.25**	**272,823.00**
Disbursements		
Education Quadrant	**20,268.96**	**31,100.00**
Mission Outreach Quad.	**14,169.22**	**16,350.00**
Spirituality Quadrant	**150,919.28**	**156,323.00**
Stewardship Quadrant	**100,780.41**	**108,973.00**
Total Disbursements	**286,137.87**	**312,746.00**
Net Income / (Deficit)	**17,466.38**	**(39,923.00)**

General Offering includes $9,681.00 received for the Special Gift Fund in honor of the 125th Anniversary.

VISION 2020 Capital Campaign as of 12./31/2017

$ 344,410	**Pledge Gifts**
$ 16,861	**Memorial/Honorariums**
$ 71,046	**Other Gifts**
$ 432,317	**Total Vision 2020 Contributions**
$ 559,626	**Total VISION 2020 Commitments**
$ 867,097	**Mortgage Balance**



New Officers Ordained and Installed
Sunday, February 28, 2018

Elders
Class of 2020
Nichole Booker, Stan Coats, Evans Horne
Unexpired Term, Class of 2018
Tony Lester

Deacons
Class of 2020
Emelia Anaruma
Nan Jones
Unexpired Term, Class of 2018
Jake Jacobs
Unexpired Term, Class of 2019
Judy Daniels





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February 2018

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



First Presbyterian Church

Something for Everyone!





February 4
Souper Bowl of Caring

The youth will collect the Souper Bowl of Caring Offering following worship on Sunday, February 4. All money will go to the SAM Food Closet in Smithfield.



PYC Super Bowl Party
February 4, 2018
5:30 p.m.—Halftime

Come join us!

Confirmation Classes will meet each Sunday afternoon from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. on 2/18, 2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, and youth will be received as members on Easter Sunday 4/1.

2018 Oyster Roast

at the First Presbyterian Church of Smithfield, North Carolina



Half of all proceeds will be donated to The Miracle League of Johnston County

Remaining proceeds will support FPC's youth ministries

Fresh Topsail Cluster Oysters from the NC Coast!

Saturday, February 3, 2018 4:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church—215 S. Third Street
Smithfield, NC 27577

Eat in, carry-out, and drive thru

Tickets: $25 (includes around a peck of oysters)

Call 919-934-0995 or email fpcthigginson@gmail.com for tickets

For those who may not care for seafood, delicious homemade soups and chili will be available for a donation-no ticket required!

PYC Mission Day
Raleigh Youth Mission
Saturday, February 17

Our youth will spend a day in service through the Raleigh Youth Mission. **This event is open to students from grades 5 through 12!** We encourage 5th graders to join us for this activity—in addition to this being a meaningful day of service, it will also help acclimate these students into our vibrant PYC youth group.

Some of the details will not be known until closer to the date, but we will likely leave the church around 9:00 and return by 5:00. Lunch will be provided and the cost of this event will be covered by our budgeted youth funds. **Sign-up by contacting Todd no later than Sunday, February 11.**

Other ways the congregation can help:

- The Oak City Outreach is always in need of plastic grocery sacks. If you would like to donate some of yours, drop them by Todd's office before Feb. 17.
- If you are an adult interested in being a chaperone and/or driver, let Todd know by February 4.
- Pray for our young people and youth leaders!

Serving in Love



Ah, Valentine's Day. It is that season when the greeting card companies pad their pockets as we give cards, candy, and flowers to our loved ones as tokens of our affection. Does this observance have much to do with St. Valentine? His martyrdom does bring to mind the idea of love in the "head over heels" sense.

Saint Valentine was a Roman priest when Emperor Claudias ruled and persecuted Christians and the Christian Church. The Roman emperors were bloodthirsty to expand their territory and power, so their military was especially important to them. Claudias believed that unmarried soldiers were superior to those attached to families—that they were less afraid to die, so he declared an edict that prohibited young people from marrying.

In those polygamous times, marriage was an especially virtuous sacrament to Christians, so Valentine secretly performed marriages. This defiance ultimately led to Valentine's death sentence (269 AD/CE): a 3-part execution that included a beating, a stoning, and decapitation. Don't ask me if this has anything to do with losing one's head in love!

It would be interesting to interview Valentine about his thoughts on our contemporary observances memorialized in his name. He might have something to say about how suffering is part of true love—and that it is worth dying for something you believe in.

One way to demonstrate our love for God is service—demonstrating a love in action for all people and especially those who are suffering. I am grateful that our youth connection is serving this month through the Raleigh Youth Mission and the Oak City Outreach. Our young people are sacrificing a Saturday in order to serve those in the margins. I cannot think of a better Valentine's Day gift for God.

Love,
Todd

For God so loVed the world
thAt he gave his
onLy
begottEn
SoN,
thaT whoever
belIeves
iN him should not perish
but havE everlasting life.

(John 3:16, NKJV)

Educational Quadrant

Kid's Page



A NEW COMMANDMENT

In John 13:34, Jesus offers important instructions for his followers.

Directions: Figure out the pattern in each vertical line of letters. Then add the next letter in the sequence to the blank underneath, completing John 13:14, NIV.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCD...

F L S Y   F K Y   X E I Q B V O   O J   F
H M T A   I L A   Y H K R D Y P   S M   G
J N U C   L M C   Z K M S F B Q   W P   H

"_ _ _ _   _ _ _   _ _ _ _ _ _ _.   _ _   _

E X M B   C L M B U   V F R   P L   V F R
F Y P C   F M P C X   W I S   Q M   W I S
G Z S D   I N S D A   X L T   R N   X L T

_ _ _ _   _ _ _ _ _   _ _ _,   _ _   _ _ _

A R J Q   C C S B   F K Y   X H L Q B Y I
E S M R   F G T C   I L A   Y J M R D A L
I T P S   I K U D   L M C   Z L N S F C O

_ _ _ _   _ _ _ _   _ _ _   _ _ _ _ _ _ _."

JOHN 13:34, NIV

Answer: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34, NIV



heart sandwich

Show your love by making someone this heartfelt snack on Valentine's Day.



What you need:

- 2 slices of bread
- 2 heart-shaped cookie cutters (one large, one small)
- Lunchmeat and cheese (or peanut butter and jelly)

What you do:

1. Cut a large heart out of each slice of bread.
2. Cut a small heart from the middle of one big heart.
3. With the small cookie cutter, make several heart shapes out of the meat and cheese. Place between the bread slices.
4. If you're using peanut butter and jelly, spread both onto the large, solid heart. Then place the slice with the small heart cutout on top.



St. Paul's *Episcopal Church will once* again host the Ash Wednesday Service at noon on March 1. Our pastor participates in this service. Please make plans to attend.

Ash Wednesday

ASH WEDNESDAY: Time to reflect and share our thanks, for this is the time that we remember the greatest sacrifice.

\

Once again FPC will host Midweek Lenten Services on Wednesdays at 12:15 in our sanctuary. The first service will be held on February 21. Worship leaders are members of Smithfield Area Ministries. These services bring in people from all over Smithfield and Johnston County.

We hope you will make plans to attend this year and bring a friend.

MIDWEEK
Lenten Services

February 21
Todd Higginson
Director of Youth Ministries, FPC

February 28
Lea Slaton
Pastor, Wilson's Mills Christian Church

March 7
Ben Wines
Pastor, Sharon Baptist Church

March 14
Vicki Parker Medlin
Pastor, First Freewill Baptist Church, Smithfield

March 21
Robert C. Walker-Smith
Pastor, First Missionary Baptist Church

March 28
TBA

Spirituality Quadrant

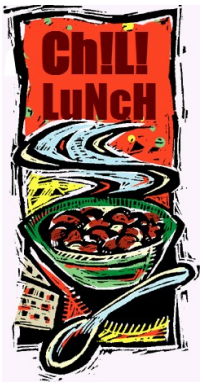


JOY CONNECTION

Hearts at JOY Connection

Please join us at noon on Thursday, February 1, for our monthly JOY Connection. After a delicious lunch provided by Eve Creech, Debbie Henderson, and Betsy Olive, we will hear a program by Felicia Williams. She has a PhD in Nursing and worked in the CCU at Wake Med for many years. She has been involved with Nursing Education administratively, working under the Vice President. She is very highly regarded as a caring and knowledgeable nurse. We are excited to have her.

—Sandy Perkinson



FPC's Team #37
Relay for Life Chili Lunch
following worship
Sunday, March 4, 2018
Sign up Sheet for Food will be available on February 18.

Help us fight cancer!! If you are interested in joining our team, please feel free to attend a planning meeting on February 15 at 6:00 p.m. in our fellowship hall. We will welcome you with open arms.

—Martha Taylor

Rich Man, Poor Man: Food for the Poor

The story of lobster is fascinating. It has become an expensive delicacy, a sign affluence, but why? I am always wary when I see a dinner fare on the menu followed by the words "market price." Duh. All food pricing is based on market price but this is a warning that you are definitely going to pay more. But like you, when it comes to lobster I do anyway because it is so delicious and fun to eat.



Here are few things that may or may not be true about lobsters:

They were so abundant that they were noted to pile up two feet high on the tide in New England during colonial times.

It was the food for prisoners and servants throughout New England and in Massachusetts laws were passed to limit the number of times a master could serve lobster to his servants during the week.

A five pound lobster was considered too small to process when lobsters were processed.

Lobster's popularity began to rise with the arrival of railroads because it could be bought cheaply and fed to unsuspecting passengers who did not know it was a poor man's food. But, non-New Englanders liked it. In fact, they liked it so much they wanted it when they were not on the train.

Lobster prices began to spike by the 1920s, but the depression ruined the market. By World War II demand had plummeted and it was back to processed meat which was fed by the can to American soldiers fighting around the world.

Today langouste is a meal of choice, elegant, a rarity and yes simply tasteful. "No, lobster is money. It's also delicious, of course, but lobster means an abandonment of thrift and signifies the use of coin for the pursuit of pleasure.

So what is the point! The story of lobster is the story of life. It is about how the poor survive, but also how society often gets it wrong when it devalues food for the poor. Perhaps unfortunately society too often affects how we perceive it.

Food for the poor – think about it - it is an intriguing statement. It can be affirmative as in let's give food for the poor. Or it can be derogatory – as in we don't eat that, only poor people eat that. Peasant foods are dishes relevant to a specific culture, made from accessible, inexpensive and less marketable ingredients. They are usually prepared and seasoned to make them tastier. They often are the staples in the diets of people who live in poverty. But peasant foods often involve detailed preparation by preparers who use resourcefulness and skills passed down from earlier generations. Ironically such dishes are often prized as ethnic foods by other cultures and by descendants of the native culture who continue to prize these ethnic dishes even when they could later afford "higher quality" food. Some poor mans food that we know include meatloaf, Salisbury steak, tacos, ratatouille, minestrone, gazpacho, low mein, sausage (think chacuterie).

When you reflect on our Hunger Sunday missions, you might revise your perception of food for the poor. As Mr. Luzer says "If the peer behavior around the product changes, so too does our appreciation of it. Lobster might seem to taste better to us *because* it is so expensive." Well, I'll just disagree with him about lobster, it tastes good because it is and always was good – just like shrimp, oysters, collards, turnip greens etc etc. What you think is food for the poor may wind up on an elegant menu of a Michelin rated restaurant for be the next "food craze." Remember our missions – Yes We Can and Pennies for Hunger.

—Tom Barwick

Mission Outreach Quadrant

Thanks for January Hospice Meal



Our church served another meal on January 14 for the families at the Hospice House, and they were again very appreciative! We would like to thank Dot Ellmore, Ann Huckenbeck, Debbie Jacobs, and Betsy Olive for their contributions in making the meal so successful.

—Frank and Lisa Deans

Looking Ahead at Hospice

The Mission Outreach Quadrant partners with the volunteers at Hospice House in Smithfield eight times a year to provide opportunities for our congregation to provide a meal to share our support and care to the families with loved ones at Hospice House and also the dedicated staff and volunteers.



- Special thanks to Betsy Olive and Eve Creech for providing lunch on Saturday, December 16.
- Our sincere thanks also to Lisa and Frank Deans for coordinating the January 14 meal; as well as Dot Ellmore, Ann Huckenbeck, Betsy Olive and Debbie Jacobs for their help with the meal.
- Our next meal will be Sunday, April 8, coordinated by Greg and Joyce Knoll. Please watch for a signup sheet in late March if you would like to help.

Thank you for your continued support of this caring outreach.

—Greg and Joyce Knoll

Habitat Build Has Begun

On a cold January 6 morning, construction began on the Habitat House for the Morgan family. The foundation was not ready, so the walls were built in a neighborhood church parking lot. Joining other volunteers were Dot Ellmore, Greg Knoll, Teron Sloan, and John Taylor from FPC. Lunch was provided at Clayton First Baptist Church. Following lunch, Joe Hester participated in the dedication of the house.

In addition to Saturday workdays, there are numerous weekdays available. If you are interested and have not registered, you must do so. Each workday has a limited number of volunteers due to safety regulations and adequate supervision by the construction staff. Go to www.habitatwake.org/johnston-county-coalition to register. The website will indicate if the volunteer list is closed for each working and also if lunch will be provided. It is very important that volunteers be at the worksite by 8:00 a.m. Volunteers must be at least 16. The address of the worksite is 417 E. Hinton Street, Clayton. Parking is available at the Mt. Vernon Church parking lot on Lombard Street.

FPC will provide lunch on February 17 and possibly again on March 3. Sign-up sheets will be available in the narthex.

Please take a moment to check out the wonderful bulletin board in the fellowship hall that shows FPC's contributions to the house. Thanks go to Hubert Schmidt for the handsome Habitat bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

Contact Greg Knoll at gjknoll841@gmail.com or Betsy Olive at betsyolive@embarqmail.com if you have questions.

—Betsy Olive



Yes We Can. Yes We Did!

What a great way to begin our canned food drive for the month of January and the year 2018. You donated a total of 99 items!

Let's reach 100 or more in February, and then continue doing this well throughout the year.

Troop 95 News

In January, Troop 95 had a great start with some training in First Aid and a great campout at our home camp, Camp Tuscarora. We participated in Tuscarora's annual Freeze-O-Ree, and we became the 2018 Tuscarora Council Dodgeball Champions.

As always, Troop 95 thanks FPC for their generous support. We also ask you again to tell any middle or high schoolers who are interested in scouting about us. Direct them to our Senior Patrol Leader Davis Bells or our Scoutmaster Evans Horne.

—Davis Bell

Presbyterian Women Honor Anita Liverman

An Honorary Life Membership is presented to honor faithful service to the Presbyterian Women's organization and to the church.

Anita Liverman was honored during worship in January for serving this church as a deacon, a Sunday school teacher, a member of the handbell choir, a member of the Pastor Nominating Committee, as Sunday School Superintendent, a member of the Building Committee and the Design Committee for the new building, as co-chair of the Bereavement Meals Committee, as the head of the Columbarium committee, as well as being the person who cares for the Memorial Garden and other areas of our church grounds.

Additionally, in the community, she is a hospice volunteer, is involved with the Neuse Little Theatre, both as an actor and in choreography, costume and set design, serves on the Smithfield Appearance Commission, has served on the Boards for the Ava Gardner Museum and the Johnston County Arts Council. There are many other things that this person does so quietly that many never know who is responsible.



Anita was the 2016 recipient of the Francis Finch Hobart Award for Voluntary Service presented by the Johnston County Community Foundation. in affiliation with the North Caroline Community Foundation.

The pin Anita received has caring hands that represent women who seek to build an inclusive community of Presbyterian women, a leaf that represents growth of personal and corporate response to Jesus Christ as we nurture our faith, a dove that indicates our work for peace, and a cross by which our sins are forgiven. The overall design is a butterfly, a symbol of newness in Christ.

It was with joy that the Presbyterian Women honored Anita Liverman.

Meeting Needs



"My neighbor's material needs are my spiritual needs," said 19th Century theologian Israel Salanter. In other words, when someone else suffers hunger and poverty, when people endure a natural disaster and lack shelter, when another human being is sick or injured — in all such cases, God calls us to action. And God knows that whatever we do to meet those material needs will meet our spiritual needs at the same time.

It might be our spiritual need to expand our horizons into neighborhoods, cultures, or situations where we're uncomfortable. We might need to grow in love for people different from us. by serving others, we might find our own sagging spirits nurtured with a sense of well-being or even joy. And as we teach our to help, surely we'll notice others doing the same thing, and our spiritual need for renewed faith will be met.

—Heidi Mann

"Though our feelings come and go, God's love for us does not."

—C.S. Lewis

