

JULY

2026 Spire



LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Church,

As you receive this newsletter, our nation will be mere days away from recognizing its 250th Birthday/ As you are already well aware, too, this July 4th, the fireworks will be bigger and brighter; the patriotic tunes louder and more deeply resonant; and phrases such as "God Bless America" will be uttered with even more emphasis than ever before.

I know I will be joining in such celebrations in my own way, giving thanks particularly for the saints past and still present who continue to call the US to follow its "better angels" so that the values of life, liberty, and justice can be enjoyed by everyone, no matter their creed, color, gender, or country of origin. Still, as a Christian and as a pastor, the 4th of July is often a little tricky for me, too; my feelings of that sort are summed up well by our denomination's statement about Independence Day, which can be found at this website:

<https://centernet.pcusa.org/ministries/worship/churchcalendar/independence-day/>:

Independence Day can be tricky to navigate because, as Christians, our primary allegiance is to our Sovereign God. As instructed by scripture (1 Timothy 2:1-3), we pray for our leaders and are good citizens of our country insofar as its policies and practices cohere with the Reign of Christ. When nations abuse their God-given power, however, we are to call them to accountability to the Reign of God as preached by Christ. Many people died to ensure that we have the freedom to do this in our sanctuaries, too, and we do not want to minimize the sacrifices that have enabled our freedom, but the primary sacrifice we honor is that of Jesus Christ.

This statement raises questions with no one right answer, such as:

- How do we be good citizens of our town, state, and nation and be of the kingdom of God?
- How do we understand the separation of church and state, and the impact of any religious faith on public life?
- How do we faithfully celebrate the good of our journey—as a nation or as a church—while also confessing where we have fallen short and still need to improve upon the values we proclaim?

Such questions seem especially pertinent to me as the USA turns 250 years old. The deep sense of division and unrest in our politics, the growing tide of what many Christian scholars and sociologists have called Christian Nationalism (a toxic twisting of Christian belief and practice that asserts, among other things, that the USA is blessed above all others by God, and is, therefore, always pure and right in its actions), and the struggles of our fellow citizens to afford basic necessities all contribute to the importance of asking and wrestling with answers to the above questions.

So that is what we are going to do to some extent as we move through July. On July 5th, during our hymn sing, which will include the hymns "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" and "America the Beautiful," you'll hear me bring up this topic again. One of the submissions for "This Is Our Story," later in July, included a request to explore "Christian Nationalism" and its dangers. And as we come into another election season this fall, there will be other opportunities to wrestle together in finding the most faithful way to be both faithful Christians and patriotic citizens of a nation we love and for which we are grateful to call home. May we celebrate this home's birthday with joy! And may we hold fast to the One who deserves our loyalty and fidelity far more than any nation—the God who creates, saves, and sustains.

The Lord Bless and Keep You,
Rev. Ben



WORSHIP NEWS

Throughout July, scriptures and hymns in worship come courtesy of the congregation! Of course, this is always the case when we celebrate our annual summer worship tradition: "This is Our Story!" a tradition we have been celebrating for 8 years! The tradition began when Rev. Acton arrived as pastor in June of 2018. His first four sermons were based on the scriptures that had shaped him the most, offered as a way for the congregation to get to know its new pastor. In the 4 weeks that followed, Rev. Acton invited submissions of favorite hymns and scriptures from the congregation, so that he could get to know the church and so that all could learn more about the words of faith that have shaped First Presbyterian Church of Garner's journey following Christ. Read on to see what has been suggested and what is planned so far, and remember, we will continue this series into August!

MONTH AT A GLANCE

This is our Story!

July 5th This is Our Story: Summer Hymn Sing!

Texts: Psalm 96; 1 Timothy 2:1-6a

Hymns: My Country 'Tis of Thee; O Beautiful, For Spacious Skies; plus the hymns shouted out during worship!

July 12th This is Our Story: God Is With Us

Holy Communion

Texts: Romans 8:28-39; Deuteronomy 31:6

Hymns: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God, I Danced in the Morning

July 19th This is Our Story: God Guides Us

Texts: Psalm 23; Mark 12:13-17

Hymns: Morning Has Broken; Battle Hymn of the Republic; Precious Lord, Take My hand

July 26th This is Our Story: God Calls Us

Texts: 1 Samuel 3:1-10; Philippians 4:8-9

Hymns: Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us; Others; Here I am Lord

August Hymns will include: Amazing Grace; Lord, Just A Closer Walk With Thee; Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine; When We All get to Heaven—and more!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF GARNER

The Word that Guides Us!

WITH RESPIRATORY ILLNESSES PREVALENT, MASKS ARE OPTIONAL BUT WELCOME AT ANY GATHERING.

YOU CAN ALSO ATTEND ONLINE VIA FACEBOOK: [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FIRSTPRESBYTERIANCHURCHOFGARNER](https://www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofgarner)

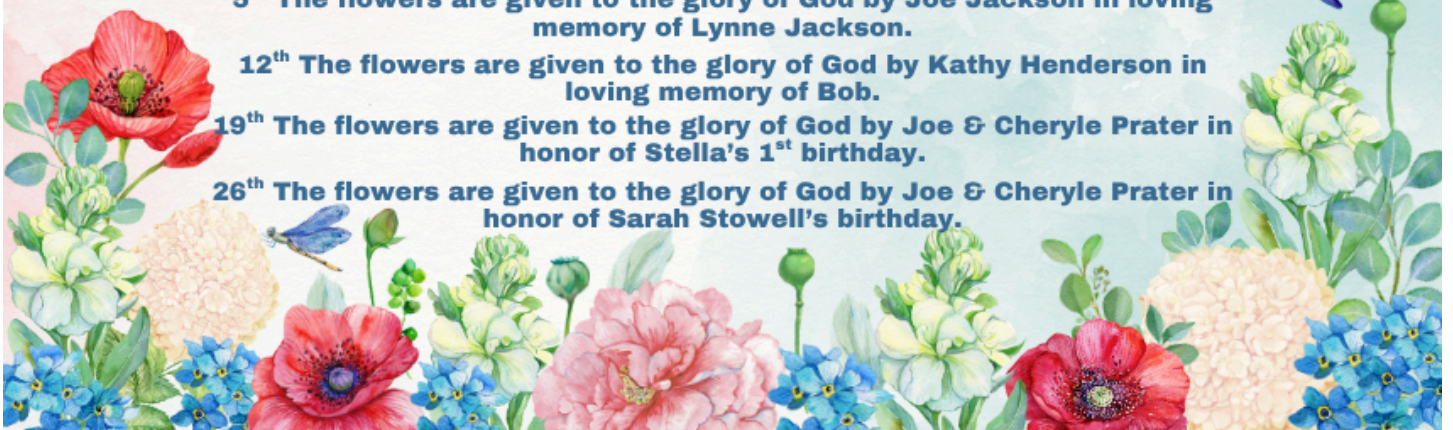
JULY FLOWERS

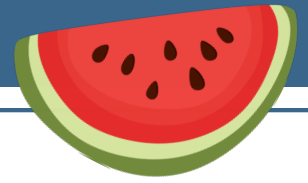
5th The flowers are given to the glory of God by Joe Jackson in loving memory of Lynne Jackson.

12th The flowers are given to the glory of God by Kathy Henderson in loving memory of Bob.

19th The flowers are given to the glory of God by Joe & Cheryle Prater in honor of Stella's 1st birthday.

26th The flowers are given to the glory of God by Joe & Cheryle Prater in honor of Sarah Stowell's birthday.





THE PAPER TRAIL

In May, we talked about the importance of recycling plastic products, and last month we pointed out the importance of reducing the amount of clothing we buy and donating the clothing we already have but are no longer wearing for reuse. This keeps the clothing no longer in use out of our landfills. This month, we are looking at why it's important to recycle paper and paperboard (e.g., cardboard and posterboard).

The boom in online shopping, takeout food, and the use of disposable takeaway cups has made paper packaging and board the most widely produced types of paper in the world. In 2024, these paper products represented almost two-thirds of the global paper production. The two largest paper-producing countries that year were China and the United States. While paper production in the United States has been declining in recent decades, production in China has soared, reaching a high of 140 million metric tons in 2024. This was roughly twice the output of the U.S. that year (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paper_recycling).

Recycling of paper has several important benefits: It saves wastepaper from accumulating in our homes and producing methane as it breaks down. Because paper fiber contains carbon (originally absorbed by the tree from which it was produced), recycling keeps the carbon locked up for longer and out of the atmosphere.

In 2019 alone, about 110 million metric tons of paper products were disposed of in the United States. Of that, 56% ended up in landfills, 38% was recycled, and the rest was incinerated. Roughly one-quarter of municipal solid waste was paper products. Landfilling paper products led to an estimated \$4 billion in lost economic value.

In addition, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has found that recycling causes 35% less water pollution and 74% less air pollution than making new paper. Paper-producing pulp mills can be sources of both air and water pollution, especially if they are producing bleached pulp. Modern mills produce considerably less pollution than those of a few decades ago. Recycling paper provides an alternative fiber for papermaking.

In Wake County, all types of paper are acceptable for recycling except foil-backed paper. You do not need to remove staples or the film in envelopes covering your address. Paper smaller than the palm of your hand should be disposed of in regular trash.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

PLEASE HELP GEORGIA MORRISON CELEBRATE HER

103rd Birthday

BY SENDING HER A MESSAGE ON THE 22ND!

Happy Birthday



1st Wilda Prince
2nd Helen Losada
10th Tammy Oelke
12th Sandy Lee
15th Henry Woodcock
16th Jim Blue
21st Paul Pedziwiatr
22nd Georgia Morrison (103rd Birthday!)
22nd Megan Snapp
26th Thomas Oriel
26th Nathan Snapp
28th Allen Hodge

Happy
ANNIVERSARY

28th Tim and Melissa Miley
31st Charles and Roxann Porter



THANKS BE TO GOD

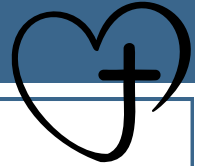
Each month, we share thanks for the ways God is working in, through, and among us. This month, we offer gratitude for:

- **To the Session and Buildings and Grounds elders, Parks Icenhour, and David Pease** for their continued stewardship of our spaces for fellowship, learning, worship, and administration. Two AC repairs over a 6 week period is impressive!
- **Mission Ministry team and volunteers** who assisted with the Taco Wednesday Meal on June 17 as part of Able to Serve's Bible Camp. Volunteers included: Lucy Paradies; Jane and Neal Knabe; Susie Wollersheim; Christy, Chris, and Noah Turpin; Kevin and Deb Wallace; Sibyl and Paul Pedziwiatr; Kathy and Jim Blue, Nancy Waldrep and her granddaughter Avery; Jerry and Zadabell Page; and Nate and Ben Acton.
- **8 years (as of June 21!) of shared ministry** between First Presbyterian Church of Garner, NC, and Rev. Ben Acton
- **David Pease** for serving as Worship Leader on June 28th while rev. Acton was on vacation
- **Mission Ministry and the Deacons** for organizing an Ice Cream Social on June 28, during which we learned more about the mission of Wake County Read and Feed and how our church could be a partner in the future.
- **ALL Worship volunteers** (liturgists, the leaders of our "Young At Heart" messages, our music leaders, and AV operators), Bible Study Leaders, fellowship coordinators, and the many anonymous servants who show and share God's blessings to us.
- **ALL who serve in humble, unseen, ongoing ways.** Your contributions mean so much to so many!

Prayer: Lord, without your presence, we are scattered and bewildered. Without your love received and shared, we are directionless and without purpose. Hear then our gratitude for your never-ending presence and your enduring love we know through Christ. Amen,

Please call or email Rev Acton at pastor@firstpresbyterianchurchgarner.com to share!

PRAYER LIST



MEMBERS

Georgia Morrison, Edith Conyers, John Watkins, Anne Hopkins, Rose Gurkin, Carl Miller, Rosemary Carmichael, Jean Smith, Ruby Miller-Ousley, Barbara Turpin, Andy Cook, Bruce and Gloria Oelke, Trish and Dave Holmes, Audrey Oelke, Judy Hudson, Peggy Wilkins, Mary Jo Atkinson, Sandy Lee, Helen Losada, Tonya Boykin, Martha Long, Bettie Hamilton, Dee Foster, Melissa Miley, Kay Carroll, Kathy Henderson, Wanda vanDoornewaald

MEMBERS' FAMILIES

Michael Register (Losada's grandson), Jim Cole (Trish Holmes), Aleena Conner (Jeanne Conner), Wes Smith (Sandy Lee's Brother-in-law), Charlie Merritt (Emily Lee's cousin), Candice Davis (Cheryle Prater), Linda Register (Cheryle Prater), Pat Cook (Andy Cook), Pat Ballew (Reggie Foster), Vio Tapu (Regina Alexander), Sandra Wilkins Luther (Peggy Wilkins' sister-in-law), Cheryl Weber (Jeanne Conner's sister), Jonah Ekoule (Komivi Ekoule's father), Rebekah Brewer (Trish and David Holmes' daughter), Chris Chao (Jeanne Conner), Bob Dickerson (Amy Conner's father), Betty Mitchell (Harold Bagwell's sister), Lynn Hobby (Ann Bagwell's sister-in-law), Donna Smith (Sandy Lee), Eric Lee (David Pease's son-in-law), Richard Lee (Bill Lee's brother), Todd Lee (Sandy Lee), Lennon Fisher (Parks & Lorrie Icenhour's niece), Reagan Bagwell (Ann Bagwell's grandson), Lucy Noles (Nancy Waldrop's sister-in-law), Martha Morgan (Emily Lee's sister), Kristin Shulby (Mary Minor Shulby), Barbara Wilkins (Linda Monroe's sister), Keeley Ray (Cheryle Prater's niece), Gary Foust (Regina Ekoule), Kristin, Brooklyn Hunt (Mary Minor Shulby), Mike Carmichael (Rosemary Carmichael's son), Kaye Ratliff (Reggie Foster's cousin), David Taylor (Carrie Dixon-Cash's uncle), Al Knabe (Neal Knabe's father), Kimberly Collins (Bonnie Bowling's niece), Paul vanDoornewaald (Wanda vanDoornewaald), Nancy Light (Carrie Dixon-Cash)

MEMBERS' FRIENDS

Bruce and Myra McNellie (Jeanne Conner), The Barry's (Bill and Emily Lee), Ann Myhre (Peggy Wilkins), Jerry Godwin (Connie Boykin), Betty Peterson (Deb Wallace), Julie Prevoznik (Reggie & Dee Foster), Kenneth Ennis (Donna Gould), Pete & Pam Harris (Emily Lee), Joyce Blackwood, John Ryan & family (The Lee family), Nancy Whalen (Kathy Blue), Whitney Wolfgang (The Oriel family), Kathy Schumacher (Nancy Waldrop), Bruce Carper (David Pease), Beth Catlette (Donna Gould), Nikki Little (Kian Miley), Richard Guy (Kevin Wallace), Barbara Porter (Regina Alexander), Marvin and Suzi Perkins, Steve and Debbie Woliki, Cynthia Sanders (Ruby Miller-Ousley), Edward Pistola (Komivi Ekoule), Jim Johnson (Sandy Lee), Steve Cicci (Kathy Blue)

FOR THE WORLD

Neighbors near and far affected by storms, flooding, and fire; War and loss of innocent life in Israel and Gaza; Victims of gun violence across our nation; War in Ukraine; refugees; the food-insecure and economically vulnerable and all affected by the rise of food costs; the mentally, physically, and spiritually overwhelmed; renewal for creation, the ill, dying, and grieving

FAITH FORMATION

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL - SUMMER SESSION

The Adult Sunday School class will be using the summer edition of The Present Word Bible Study throughout the summer months. This summer quarter introduces women and men in the Bible who heard God's call, responded in faith, and spread the good news through their words and deeds. Our Adult Sunday School class meets every Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m. for enriching discussion and fellowship. Don't miss this opportunity to grow in faith together! For more information, please contact Karen Lovering or Mike Koenig.

IDA JOY BIBLE STUDY

Please join us on July 14th at 10am in the Ogburn classroom, where we will be studying Herodias and her impact on Christianity, especially to women, even today. We hope you will join us as we continue this wonderful, insightful journey into the lives of the women of the Bible and how their stories still influence us today! (All ages are welcome) The women truly have a beautiful tapestry to share, and it is exciting to see how we can apply this to our everyday walk with God. Ida Joy meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 10am in the Ogburn classroom. It is a wonderful time spent together as Christian women, discovering these women and ourselves! All you have to do is sit back and listen as Regina Alexander leads you in this very special study!



WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY IS ON SUMMER BREAK

The Wednesday Night Bible Study Group will begin its summer break in June and resume in September. Join us in the fall on Zoom each Wednesday night at 7:30 for lively discussion and meaningful fellowship. For more information, please contact Karen Lovering or Mike Koenig.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

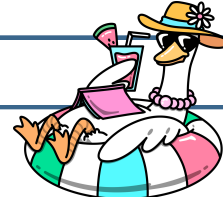
The Thursday Morning Bible Study Group is on its summer break stay tuned for its return in a few months.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PRAYER SHAWLS

The Prayer Shawl Ministry gave its first shawl in December 2007. Since then, many hands have come together to knit and crochet shawls. Heartfelt thanks are expressed to those who make the shawls and help send warm wishes and prayers to those who receive them. On June 21, a prayer shawl was given to Patsy Cash, aunt of Chris Cash (Carrie Dixon-Cash's husband), for the loss of her husband. A prayer shawl was also given to Bonita Eisele, a friend of Donna and Harry Gould, for the loss of her husband.



LILLIE CIRCLE

During the last year, our circle has been blessed with many opportunities to serve our church and community, study God's Word, support each other in prayer and fellowship, and, of course, HAVE FUN! We are on "summer break" until September 14. For information about Lillie Circle, please contact Sibyl Pedziwiatr at 919-539-0874 (text or call) or email sunnydays4ever87@gmail.com.



hello
SUMMER



FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle will take a break from monthly meetings during the summer and reconvene in September. We will be helping with sides for Faith Fest on July 19th. Jane Knabe will hold the annual planning meeting sometime in August or September. Details will be provided in a future Spire. If you would like more information about our activities or joining us when we gather back in September, please contact Jane Knabe at jrknabe66@gmail.com or 919.389.0462 (cell).

MEN OF THE CHURCH

No Men's Breakfast in July...See you in August!



MISSION MINISTRIES

GARNER AREA MINISTRIES

**Suggested "Item of the Month":
Canned pasta (ravioli, beefaroni, spaghetti & meatballs)**



The following items are often in short supply at the GAM Food Pantry:

Cereal, Peanut Butter, Grape or Strawberry Jam, Boxed Pasta, Canned Pasta (i.e. Ravioli, Spaghetti & Meatballs), Boxed Macaroni & Cheese, Tomato Sauce, Diced Tomatoes, Canned Corn/Peas/Green Beans, Tomato Soup/Chicken Noodle Soup, Saltines, Pork and Beans, Canned Beans (i.e., pintos, blackeye peas), Instant Mashed Potatoes, Rice/Rice Mixes, Non-perishable meat products (beef stew, tuna, chicken, Vienna sausage), Breakfast items (cereal, protein bars, fruit bars), Canned Meat/Fish (Chicken, Beef Stew, Tuna), Hamburger Helper, Canned Fruit, Bottled Water, Toilet Paper.

All donations are appreciated!

TWO CENTS A MEAL



Collected on the last Sunday of each month, the Two Cents-a-Meal offering invites the congregation to prayerfully contribute a few cents at each meal to help alleviate hunger and poverty. Participation in Two Cents-a-Meal is a commitment to share with others in response to Jesus' command, "You give them something to eat." The contribution of two cents (or more) per person at each meal reminds us of others' needs and our call as Christians to respond to their hunger. The money collected is dedicated during the morning worship service and then distributed by the Ida Joy Bible Study Group to hunger initiatives, including Garner Area Ministries and the World Hunger Fund.

Seats & feet

BOXERS, UNDERWEAR & SOCKS



FOR H.O.P.E

Homeless Outreach Providing Encouragement

At **Faith Fest**, we will be collecting **new boxers for men, colored underwear for women, and socks** for the guests at H.O.P.E. During the summer months, typically donations at H.O.P.E. decline with people traveling, vacationing, etc. Let's help meet the ongoing needs and fill the closet this summer, providing essential dignities **for the guests at H.O.P.E.**

MISSION MINISTRIES

Thank you again...

H.O.P.E. is – Homeless Outreach Providing Encouragement

Although Pastor Ben shared words of thanks and acknowledgment during the announcements on Sunday, May 31, 2026, for everyone who participated in and contributed to our 5th Saturday Commitment on May 30, I would like to share a few additional words of thanks and comments regarding H.O.P.E.

First, I want to thank Christy Turpin for creating the SignUpGenius link that we used for the May 30 sign-up. I also want to thank all of our volunteers and everyone who contributed to the success of the day. What is our definition of success for that day? Simply this—being able to provide a hot, nutritious meal to everyone in attendance, have enough hands to serve and take care of all of our responsibilities. Not only were we able to accomplish that, but we were also blessed to have enough food for seconds for those who wanted more, and we successfully took care of our tasks. Thank you to all of those below who were a part of May 30...

Regina Alexander
Karen Lovering
Cleopatra & Alan Lacewell
Kathy Blue

Jerry Page
Nancy Waldrop
Joe Jackson
Lucy Paradies
Marsha Whittington

Lillie Circle
Sibyl & Paul Pedziwiatr
Henry Woodcock
Christy, Chris & Noah Turpin

Words of thanks can sometimes feel empty, but serving at H.O.P.E. and witnessing the day firsthand truly brings meaning and substance to those words. We were a blessing on May 30, and if you were there, you saw, felt, and knew what the blessing was and meant to each of those we served.

For those who may not be familiar with our 5th Saturday Commitment, this ministry involves **providing the meal, serving, cleaning up, and doing laundry from the shower area**. Since **2000**, FPCoG has faithfully committed to serving on every 5th Saturday at **H.O.P.E.**, located at Garner Methodist Church, 201 Methodist Drive (*near Papa John's on Vandora Springs Avenue*).

What We Provide / Need / Responsible for...

- **Lunch for approximately 100 hungry guests**
- **Volunteers to serve** (*extra hands are especially needed!*)
- **Clean Kitchen & Fellowship Hall – clean tables, breakdown tables/chairs, vacuum**
- **Assistance with laundry from the showers** (*we provide the supplies/laundry card – complete & return laundry to GUMC after finished*)

Our next 5th Saturday Commitment for H.O.P.E. is August 29.



Please continue to share what you have, no longer need, or want. There is always a need that can be met at H.O.P.E... Basically, everything is needed! Please place your donations in the H.O.P.E. Chest (*The H.O.P.E. Chest is found at the top stairwell landing near the Ogburn classroom*). Anytime you have donations of items of clothing, blankets, jackets, jeans, plastic grocery bags, etc., please consider placing them in the H.O.P.E. Chest. Your ongoing contributions make a big difference to this ministry --- H.O.P.E. is funded solely by donations!

Thank you all again for your hearts of service and for being such a wonderful reflection of God's love in action. If you have any questions regarding H.O.P.E., please contact **Julie Tedder at 919 622 2120**.

**FPCOG – MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR REMAINING
5TH SATURDAY COMMITMENTS AT H.O.P.E. IN 2026:
AUGUST 29 & OCTOBER 31**

"If you love me, feed my sheep."
John 21:15-19



MISSION MINISTRIES

"TACO TWEDNESDAY" AT ABLE TO SERVE – IT'S NOW A FAMILY TRADITION!

It wasn't feeding the five thousand with loaves and fishes, even though it felt a little bit like that! As we have in the past, FPCoG, led by the Missions Team and Pastor Ben Acton, served lunch to the happy, grateful, smiling faces of Able To Serve participants, staff, and volunteers for their ATS Bible Camp. A date change from July in 2025 to June 17th and a new location at Highland Baptist Church made the logistics a little different this year, but we still prepared to feed approximately 100 people at noon. The wonderful meal (and it happens to be ATS's 2nd favorite meal of their Bible Camp week – superseded only by the hamburger & hotdog final camp day cookout) was nacho chips, plenty of taco seasoned beef and taco seasoned chicken, shredded lettuce, black bean, chili beans, chopped onions, black olives, cheddar cheese, sour cream and salsa, lemonade, and soda. Ben offered the work crew a prayer, "Dear Lord, remind us that we are loved by you. Help us to live in a way that reveals your love to others." During the meal, Ben addressed the group of 92 participants, staff, and volunteers, saying how grateful we are to be partnered with Able to Serve, and concluded that all good things come from God, even tacos!

It is with gratitude that FPCoG's Mission Team thanks all the congregation for its generosity in enabling us to provide this meal in support of Able to Serve's mission. As mentioned, this is now a family tradition as evidenced by the many hands related by blood and friendship who helped prepare and serve this meal, Pastor Ben Acton and son Nate Acton, Chris and Christy Turpin and son Noah Turpin, Neal and Jane Knabe and daughter Susie Knabe Wollersheim, Nancy Waldrop and her granddaughter Avery, Jerry Page and his granddaughter Zadabell Page, Kathy and Jim Blue, Sibyl and Paul Pedziawatr, Deb and Kevin Wallace, and Lucy Paradies.



COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

For 10 years, First Presbyterian Church of Garner has hosted a community service and learning group known as “Community Builders, Community Navigators.” Founded by Dr. Cleopatra Lacewell, when her oldest boys were part of the Boy Scout Troop meeting at FPCoG, CNCB has a long and rich record of serving Garner. CNCB pairs middle- and high school-aged youth “Builders” with adult “Navigators” to foster multigenerational learning and service to the community.



Past and ongoing projects include:



2021 Corona Relief Kits offering commonly needed items (snacks, non-perishable food, personal hygiene items) and notes of encouragement in an effort to let people know that, though we were in quarantine, we were not alone. The project was incredibly impactful and successful, resulting in a grant award of \$10,000 from Lead4Change, a national student leadership program.

The 2021 Social Justice Project, which was hosted in FPCoG’s sanctuary and featured community representatives from law enforcement, the media, the faith community, and the legal profession in a roundtable discussion of how to address the needs of the disadvantaged. The roundtable was organized, and the participants were recruited by the youth, which led to important conversations about how to build a more just and beloved community across economic and racial divides.



Christmas Town: An annual event in December that features local entertainment, food, games, and fellowship for all ages. A chance to get to know neighbors and celebrate the season!

Workshops that address financial literacy, environmental sustainability, and career education.

It has been far too long since we have had the opportunity to put CNCB front and center, but that will change on July 18th–19th. On July 18th, CNCB will have an Alumni Dinner in the church Fellowship Hall, and many of these past and present participants will join us for worship and Faith Fest on the 19th! During worship and Faith Fest, CNCB will take time to express their gratitude and share more about their mission and vision as they look to continue their efforts for the next 10 years to come!

CARE PACKAGES

Do you have a student or immediate family member in the military who would appreciate a little boost? FPCoG would like to offer your family member(s) a little “treat bag” (chips, candy, etc.) so they know that FPCoG is thinking of them and praying for them. Request forms will be in the narthex by mid-June.

Request forms **MUST** be returned to Stephanie or Melissa Miley by Sunday, July 19th to be fulfilled and ready for you to pick up. Your student’s or military person’s gift bag will be available for pickup at the church by August 2nd.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GARNER

503 Lakeside Dr.
Garner, NC 27529
Phone: 919-772-0727

Pastor:

pastor@firstpresbyterianchurchgarner.com

Admin Assistant:

administration@firstpresbyterianchurchgarner.com


Director of Music Ministries:

music@firstpresbyterianchurchgarner.com



FAITH FEST

• SUN
• JULY
• 19
2026
4-7pm



We are excited to hold our annual Faith Fest on Sunday, July 19th, 4-7pm. This one-night opportunity each summer offers children of God of all ages the chance to play, serve, and learn together. Our theme for Faith Fest 2026 is “Connections” and will help us see various ways our unity in Christ shares the message that, through God’s love, no one is alone.

Our time together will include:

Team Trivia, which will feature teams at each table in the fellowship hall, coming up with answers to questions in categories like “The Bible,” “Name That Hymn,” and “North Carolina History.” There will be prizes awarded after each round of play!



Cookout-Style Food and Fixins’ courtesy of Men of the Church grilling the hamburgers and hotdogs and Presbyterian Women providing the sides and desserts!

Mission Projects that will give us a gentle and hands-on way to serve others with encouragement, art, and hygiene items.

Words from Community Navigators, Community Builders about their 10 years of service and their continuing mission

ICE CREAM which never needs further description!



All ages are welcome! Friends are invited! Connections are encouraged!

Let us play, serve, eat, and learn together!