

HEALTH CONCERNS

Donna Carmichael (Vertigo)
Deryel Clark (heart issues—resident at Spring Arbor of Greensboro)
Lucy Dillon (health issues)
Faye Hodges (resident at Kerner Ridge, Phone No. 336-817-5989)
Bernie Krecklow (resident at Brookdale Lawndale Park, 336-286-3432)
Judy Maxwell (hospitalized with health issues)
Fran McKinney (undergoing treatment for recurrence of cancer)
Millie Vernon (back home at 714 Madison Place Circle, Kernersville)
Rodgers White (health issues)
Ellen Watts (home recuperating from knee surgery revision on June 2)

Bolen Marie Spainhour (broken leg); Steve Martin (recurrence of cancer); Ron Smith (cancer); Carmen Spoon (dementia); Lila Bolen (cancer); Amy Ikerd (health issues); Marie Tuttle (breast cancer); Cindy Strickland (diabetes & health issues); Carol Carroll (health issues)
Budkey Dennis Perdue (ICU at Forsyth Medical Center in Winston-Salem); Heather Camp (health concerns); Deb McPherson (spots on lungs and liver); Richard Hedgecock (bone cancer)
Butler Dan Barber (pancreatic cancer)
Conrad Karen O'Dell (breast cancer)
Downing Steve Miller (Shari's brother—cancer)
Kerr Roger Kerr (Kerry's cousin—health issues); Kelly Kerr (Kerry's brother—Stage 4 prostate cancer); Marla Kerr-Lawson (Kerry's sister—dialysis)
Mattingly Lisa Tuttle (stage 4 emphysema)
Polinsky Chad Amond (nephew—primary progressive aphasia)
Roudabush Tim Roudabush (Dottie's son—was hospitalized with seizures—now home but still being monitored for seizures); Dottie's daughter-in-law's mother (bladder cancer)
G. Sharp James Swaim (Baptist hosp. with pneumonia)
S. Sharp Maria Gomes (friend of Spence & Paulo)
Tincher JoAngie Semonco (breast cancer—surg. 12/19)
Unknown Kara S. (cancer treatment—healing)

SPECIAL CONCERNS

Bolen Catherine Bolen (diagnosed with ALS)
S. Sharp Tyler Carter (nephew—safe travel home from Kosovo)
Vernon Prayers for family members

SYMPATHIES EXTENDED TO

Bolen The family of Peggy Lampley
Thach The family of Richard Kohl (who passed away Saturday, 7/1)



First Presbyterian Church

Telephone: (336) 993-7358 Fax: (336) 993-5526 www.fpckernersville.org

Rev. John Pruitt, Pastor

Jane Johnson, Secretary

Stan Stigall, Music Director

July 16, 2023—Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GATHERING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God's Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Open yourselves this day to receive the Word.

All: We have committed ourselves to follow the light. We come now to be instructed by God's law.

One: Minds set on the flesh are hostile to God. Let us, therefore, open ourselves to the Spirit.

All: We reach out for more than we can see and hear. We long to know Love's embrace deep within.

One: The Spirit of God raised Jesus from the dead. That spirit dwells in you and offers you new life.

All: We praise God, who saves us and gives us hope. God cares for the earth and for each one of us. Let us worship God!

*HYMN NO. 620

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"
(Psalm 103)

LAUDA ANIMA

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All-knowing God, we know you understand us more deeply than we understand ourselves. You know how much the cares of this life weigh us down. Our thoughts and actions are often very shortsighted. We take so much for granted, failing to value the wonder of life all around us, the gift of family and friends, the amazing reality of your Spirit dwelling in us. We want to be like good soil, receiving the seed of your word with understanding that nourishes roots of trust and joy. Free us from all that keeps us from bearing fruit for you.

(The prayer continues in a time of silent, personal confession.)

Amen.

RESPONSE

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. As disciples of Jesus, we have the opportunity to grow in understanding and in the joy of serving others in Christ's name. The Spirit of life sets us free from our narrow concerns to celebrate the good within and around us. Life is transformed by our new attitude of gratefulness. Friends, believe the good news...

All: *In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.*

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

(Please share a sign of peace with others.)

ANTHEM

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 126:1-6

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

SERMON

"Sowing Seeds"

Rev. John Pruitt

*You may stand in body or spirit.

SENDING

*HYMN NO. 171

"A Sower Came from Ancient Hills"

SEACHRIST

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

"The Apostles' Creed"

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN NO. 451

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

OPEN MY EYES

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Serving Today (Jul 16)

Greeters/Ushers: Lynda Self, Kae Mattingly

Serving Next Sunday (Jul 23)

Greeters/Ushers: Lynda Self, Kae Mattingly

*You may stand in body or spirit.