

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)
Kae Mattingly (home recovering from a stroke)
Judy Maxwell (health issues)
Fran McKinney (undergoing treatment for recurrence of cancer)
Dottie Roudabush (at Summerstone Health & Rehab Cntr., 485 Veterans Way, Kernersville, Rm. #312)
Stan Stigall (recuperating from COVID)
Millie Vernon (health issues)
Ellen Watts (recuperating from COVID)
Rodgers White (health issues)

Bolen 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)
Bowman Stephanie Piraino (daughter—cancerous thyroid removed and undergoing treatment)
Budkey Killean Phillipp (injured right leg in hit-and-run motorcycle accident—leg completely turned around and knee will have to be rebuilt); Richard Hedgecock (bone cancer)
Butler Mary & Rodney Robinson (very sick with COVID); Dan Payne (cancer)
Downing Steve Miller (Shari's brother—cancer)
Kerr Roger Kerr (Kerry's cousin—health issues)
Mattingly Lisa Tuttle (stage 4 emphysema)
Murray George Murray (recovering at home from procedure to fix two subdural hematomas)
Polinsky Chad Amond (nephew—primary progressive aphasia)
Pruitt Julian Pruitt (John's father—rehab for medical issues)
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 Brenda Johnson (former choir director—assisted living in Walnut Cove); Larry Mabe (neighbor—cancer); Joyce Wyramon (neighbor—cancer)
S. Sharp Maria Gomes (friend of Spence & Paulo)
Tincher JoAngie Semonco (breast cancer—surg. 12/19)
Unknown Kara S. (cancer treatment—healing)
Watts Chandler Stewart (cousin—metastatic kidney cancer)

SPECIAL CONCERNS

Bolen Catherine Bolen (diagnosed with ALS)
Vernon Prayers for family members
Watts Kent Watts (Ellen's son—travelling mercies to and from the Dominican Republic)

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Ken & Val Haynes (traveled safely home to North Carolina)

SYMPATHIES EXTENDED TO

Bolen The family of Betty Sullivan; The family of Marie Spainhour
Kerr **The family of Kelly Kerr** (Kerry's brother— who passed on 9/7); **The family of Marla Kerr-Lawson** (Kerry's sister who passed on 9/10)



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

September 17, 2023—Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GATHERING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of God. Let us remember God's marvelous works.

All: Surely God has saved us in difficult times. How can we forget God's guiding hand?

One: When evil surrounds us and we have been wronged, God helps us turn the evil to good.

All: We need not be afraid whatever happens. We are in God's care wherever we go.

One: Sing the praises of God, our strength. Know that God is majestic and holy.

All: How great is God's mercy for all who worship! We sense among us God's kindness and patience. Let us worship God!

*HYMN NO. 2

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

ITALIAN HYMN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We bow before your judgment seat, O God. We have ranked our sisters and brothers by the faulty standards of our society to decide who is worthy of our attention. We have rejected those whom we dislike and have been harsh with those we think do not measure up. We have been quite willing to overlook our own faults as we look down on other people. O God, you have shown us a better way. Save us from the pain we inflict and help us to discover the blessing of forgiveness.

(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: God has pity on us and releases us from the debts we have accumulated. In the great design of the universe, we are equipped to receive this forgiveness only when we extend it to others. Jesus points us to unlimited willingness to forgive—seventy times seven. How amazing is God’s love for us, and God’s expectation of us! 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

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Exodus 14:19-31

Matthew 18:21-35

SERMON

“Forgiveness”

Rev. John Pruitt

SENDING

*HYMN NO. 444

“Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”

DETROIT

*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.

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

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

The Words of Invitation

The Prayer of Thanksgiving—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.

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of God’s Gifts

The Communion Prayer

*HYMN NO. 435

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

IN BABILONE

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Serving Today (Sep 17—Communion)

Greeters/Ushers: Tom Parker, Rusty Sudderth

Element Prep: Priscilla Henderson, Nancy Sharp

Assisting Elders: Nancy Sharp, Lynda Self, Mike Polinsky, Shari Downing

Serving Next Sunday (Sep 24)

Greeters/Ushers: Joy Lynn Budkey, Jim Ingram

*You may stand in body or spirit.

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