

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 Crutchfield** (brain lesions); 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—travelling a lot for his job)



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

October 1, 2023—World Communion Sunday

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GATHERING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, let us remember God's presence with us. Let us give ear to all that God would teach us.

All: Our ancestors have told us about God's might. They have celebrated God's wonderful deeds.

One: In the wilderness of Sinai, God provided water. Through the sea, God provided safe passage.

All: Yet the Israelites questioned God's presence. They needed assurance amid their doubts.

One: Our doubts can lead to honest searching. God welcomes questions that seek new truth.

All: We want to see God's larger picture. We are here to broaden the scope of our concern. Let us worship God!

*HYMN NO. 318

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

ST. PETER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We fear to approach you with our confession, holy God, for you may require changes in us that are costly. You ask us to have the mind of Christ, a mind free of pretense and self-interest. You challenge us to lay aside our advantages to go where you send us. We fear loss of security if we are obedient. It is hard to see ourselves as exploiters when we pursue advantages for our families. It is difficult to consider others when we feel like victims. We confess our need for you and our desire to find your purpose for us.

(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 accepts us in the midst of our struggles. There is encouragement in Christ, there is consolation from love, there is compassion, sympathy, and the opportunity to share in the Spirit. God blesses us as we gather in community, calling us to find our common mind in Christ Jesus. May we not only agree to do the work God places before us as a ministry of love, but let us do all we can to share our faith with a faithfulness stripped of pretense and conceit. 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 17:1-7

Matthew 21:23-32

SERMON

“A Choice to Make”

Rev. John Pruitt

SENDING

***HYMN NO. 630**

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

CRUSADERS’ HYMN

***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. 761**

“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

BEECHER

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Serving Today (Oct 1—Communion)

Greeters/Ushers: Dee Barham, Linda Volcek

Element Prep: Linda Volcek, Lynda Self

Assisting Elders: Rusty Sudderth, Ellen Watts,

Priscilla Henderson, Dee Barham

Serving Next Sunday (Oct 8)

Greeters/Ushers: Linda Volcek, Lorna Foster

*You may stand in body or spirit.