



The Vision of the Congregation: We see ourselves as the embracing arms of Jesus Christ for each other, for the community and for the world.

First Presbyterian Church
Thirteenth Sunday
after Pentecost
August 23, 2015

<p>SHARE the amazing love of God</p>	<p>REFLECT the light of Jesus Christ</p>	<p>LIVE and serve joyfully in the Spirit's power</p>
757.397.3622	515 COURT STREET, PORTSMOUTH, VA 23704	WWW.FPCPORTS.ORG

Coming Events

Sunday, August 23
9:30 Coffee and Danish
9:50 Children's music
10:00 Sunday school
11:00 Worship

Sunday, August 30
9:30 Coffee and Danish
9:50 Children's music
10:00 Sunday school
11:00 Worship

Sunday, September 6
9:30 Breakfast
9:50 Children's music
10:00 Sunday school
11:00 Worship with the
Lord's Supper

Tuesday, September 8
10:30 Women's' Circle

Sunday, September 13
9:30 Breakfast
9:50 Children's music
10:00 Sunday school
11:00 Worship,
**including receiving gifts
for \$6 a backpack**
12:00 Hospitality

Sunday, September 20
9:30 Breakfast
9:50 Children's music
10:00 Sunday school
11:00 Worship

Sunday, September 27
9:30 Breakfast
9:50 Children's music
10:00 Sunday school
11:00 Worship

*Reminder: The Court St.
and King St. doors will be
locked during worship.
Please enter through the
sanctuary during worship.*



****Please rise in body
and spirit.***

Made One by Christ

*** Welcome and Call to Worship**

People of God, whom will you serve?

As for this house, we will serve the Lord.

Where else can we turn?

To whom can we go?

Jesus alone has the words of eternal life.

Let us worship God.

News for the Good of the Church

Prelude "Prelude" Peeters

Choral Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

*** Hymn #26 "Earth and All Stars!"**

Clothed by Christ

Corporate Prayer of Confession

It is only by the power of God that we are able to stand against evil. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed Your way. You call us to love and serve You, yet we choose false and empty idols. You call us to new life in Christ, yet we turn aside and fall back in fear. Forgive us, God of grace. Give us, by Your word and spirit, the wisdom and strength to love and serve You faithfully, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Now stand firm in your faith, covered by the saving grace of God and ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

Sharing of Christ's Peace

*** Song of Praise, Hymn #453 "Open Your Ears, O Faithful People"**

Sharing Christ's Promise

Time with Children

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading Isaiah 41: 10, 13 page 621

*** Hymn #76 "Do Not Be Afraid"**

Second Reading Revelation 21: 1 - 4 page 1085

Sermon "Living Above Sea Level" The Rev. Dr. Nancy Hayes

Pastoral Prayer

A Life of Blessing

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Musical Offering "Alleluia Round" arr. Richard Proulx

*** Doxology Hymn #606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

*** 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.**

A Life of Blessedness

*** Hymn #687 "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"**

*** Charge and Benediction**

Benediction Response Hymn #80 "You Shall Go Out with Joy"

A Blessing in Music

"Voluntary"

Stanley

Revelation 21:1-4

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

The New Heaven and the New Earth

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

*"See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be His peoples,
and God Himself will be with them;
4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away."*

The Vision of the Congregation: We see ourselves as the embracing arms of Jesus Christ for each other, for the community, and for the world.

Welcome to our visitors!

We hope that you find our congregation a welcoming one.
Your presence enriches our worship of God.

The flowers in the sanctuary today, given by the Griffins,
are in honor of Richard Griffin's birthday.

The theme for the upcoming Women's Circle Bible Study is ***Come to the Waters*** by Judy Fletcher. Water plays a central role in the stories of scripture from creation through Revelation. Passages throughout the Bible will be used for the study. The workbook includes pictures to color as a focus for meditation. The Bible Study group meets at 10:30 AM on the first Tuesday of the month for study and then enjoys lunch together. (September is an exception with the meeting on **Tuesday, September 8.**) Bring a sandwich. Chips, pickles, dessert will be provided.

Prayer List

Jeff Baker (Norma Halterman's brother-in-law), Betty Bartlett,
Kyle Craig (Kerry's cousin), Ronald Curry (Grace Yingling's son)
Jackie and Tyler Forsythe, Benjamin Gerlach (Pat Sparks' grandson),
the Goodwin family (neighbors of Cecilia and Alfred Fry),
Stephanie Green, Linda Hackworth,
Mildred Humphrey (Lane Pittman's mother), Joe Jennings,
Mark Leonard (Claudia Laughlin's brother),
Agnes McFadden, Bob Pomeroy, Jr. (Diane Griffin's brother),
Marina Reimann, Carl Rhodes, Georgie Stewart (David's mother),
the Winkler and Powell families,
Dorothy Wooldridge (friend of Carl Rhodes)

Everyone suffering with cancer and facing surgery

Our friends at home, especially

Margaret Glynn, Lanier Halterman, Frances Hardy,
AT and Nancy Mayo, Ann Michaluk, Sue Parker,
Lane Pittman, Burma and Leon Smith, Frances and Harvey Spiers,
Robert Westbrook, Patrice and Phil Winkler,
Joyce Wright, Grace and Harold Yingling

Leading in worship today

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Hayes
Mrs. Edna Broadhurst, Director of Music Ministries
Reader: Diane Griffin
Ushers: Gabrielle Furman, Jennifer Patgorski
Counters: David Culpepper, Oralie Wilhite

August Offerings

8/2	\$ 2,355.00	8/23	
8/9	\$ 3,432.00	8/30	
8/19	\$ 858.00	MTD	\$ 6,645.00

August Attendance

8/2	Worship	32	Sunday school	14
8/9	Worship	25	Sunday school	8
8/19	Worship	25	Sunday school	10
8/23	Worship		Sunday school	
8/30	Worship		Sunday school	

The church office will be open on Wednesdays only, from 10:00 – 1:30.
Please call the pastor at other times.

In order to prepare the bulletin in a timely manner, all notices should be sent to the pastor (pastor@fpcports.org) and the bulletin editor (rjrodriguesiii@yahoo.com) no later than noon Wednesday.

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Session

The Rev. Dr. Kerry Knox Westerwick, Moderator of Session
Karen Diggs, Class of 2015, Clerk of Session
Worship, led by Agnes McFadden and David Culpepper
Congregational Fellowship, led by Oralie Wilhite
Administration, Property and Finance, led by Paul Butler
Mission and Outreach, led by Jennifer Patgorski
Christian Formation, led by Gail Pittman

Members and friends of the congregation are encouraged to contact the appropriate elder with their comments and suggestions.

Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Kerry Knox Westerwick, Pastor	397-3622 ext. 202
Mrs. Edna Broadhurst, Director of Music Ministries	397-3622 ext. 203

<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Ministries</u>	
8/7 Makayla Winkler	8/9	
8/10 Mike Taylor	Sun. Sch. The Butlers, Karen Diggs	
8/11 Margaret Smith	Danish Diane Griffin	
8/12 Nancy Mayo	Grits Dan Swanson	
8/17 Carrie Griffin	PLBC Green Acres Presbyterian	
8/19 Grady Fitzwater	8/16	
8/21 Sylvia Stephenson	Sun. Sch. The Butlers, E. Broadhurst	
8/22 Emily Fay	Danish B. Bond, S. Stephenson	
8/23 Richard Griffin	Grits Dan Swanson	
8/28 Linda Hackworth	PLBC Green Acres Presbyterian	
8/29 Alice Simpson	8/23	
	Sun. Sch. The Butlers, Gail Pittman	
	Danish Raymond Rodrigues	
	Grits Dan Swanson	
	PLBC Lou & Oralie Wilhite	
	8/30	
	Sun. Sch. The Butlers, Gail Pittman	
	Danish Gail Pittman	
	Grits Dan Swanson	
	PLBC Green Acres Presbyterian	
<i>Missing a birthday?</i> Please contact: Church pastor@fpcports.org 397-3622 Bulletin Editor rjrodriguesiii@yahoo.com Newsletter Editor slp149@aol.com		Contact Us: 757-397-3622 www.fpcports.org info@fpcports.org  https://www.facebook.com/FPCPorts