

The First Edition

First Presbyterian Church, Ellerbe, NC

August 2024

www.pcanet.org
Church Website: www.ellerbepca.com

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From the Pastor:

“Making the Best Use of a Medical Leave”

Before I go any further, I want to thank our Ruling Elders for stepping in and performing all my ministry and administrative functions in my absence. Church life simply would not have continued without their labors. Second, I want to thank the Women in the Church for the special fellowship times they scheduled which seemed to really bring the congregation together. Third, I thank the Teaching and Ruling Elders who so ably filled the pulpit during the past eight weeks. I know you really enjoyed them. Now, inasmuch as the apostle Paul exhorts us to make good use of our time (Eph. 5:16), I want to explain how I have spent some of my time these last eight weeks.

First, I have seen doctors and counselors in an effort to deal with some health issues. I also enjoyed a refreshing week of relaxation in Alabama with family. I have done some reading. The apostle Paul is in a Roman prison cell, perhaps facing death and he instructs Timothy, “When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments” (2 Tim. 4:13 ESV). If Paul was still reading in a prison cell, I certainly needed to read during a medical leave. I have also done some reflecting – ways I have ministered well and ways I need to improve. I have also engaged in a bit of healthy introspection. David concludes Psalm 139 with these words, “Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!” (Ps. 139:23 ESV) As I have applied David’s words to my life, I have found areas of sin (none being scandalous) of which I need to repent. Along with my family, we have worshipped in other churches, seen how they worship, sat under sound preaching from a variety of men, and enjoyed rich fellowship. I have tried to help Ginny a bit more around the house. Finally, I have spent time with ministry colleagues who encouraged me greatly.

Those are some of the ways I have spent my time on medical leave. I feel much more refreshed and ready to get back to work. And I look forward to getting back in the groove of preparing sermons, worshipping with you all, pastoral visitation, and everything else ministry entails. I pray for the Lord’s blessing on our future together, just as he has blessed my time away.

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Stan

Church Officers:

Ruling Elders

- Austin Bryant
- Bill Carter, Elder Emeritus
- Tim Clark
- Rickie DeWitt
- Richard Smith
- Jimmy Wagers
- Tony Yates

Deacons:

- Patrick Bryant
- Tim Grotenhuis
- Chris Meacham
- Jesse McQueen
- Buck Smith
- Kevin Stivers
- Tommy White

WIC Officers

- Beth Meacham, President
- Ginny Layton, Vice-President
- Jan Stivers, Secretary
- Jane Carriker, Treasurer
- Barbara Wagers, Historian
- Chrystal Weatherly, Mission to the World Chair
- Lori Clark, Mission to North America Chair
- Sandra Futrell, Christian Growth Chair

From the Session

We are happy to report to our congregation that Mr. Layton will be returning to the pulpit Sunday, August 4, 2024. Our morning worship services have been well attended. We would like to thank all of you that make our worship services go smoothly, from the music, the bulletins, and other aspects of the service. The WIC recently hosted movie night with a hotdog supper before the movie, and a good time was had by all; thank you, WIC.

Session and Diaconate meetings are ongoing as usual. Ministers who have filled the pulpit during this time include the following:

- Chip McAulay from Lake Tillery Presbyterian Church PCA
- John Kinyon, who is a church planter for PCA, lives in Aberdeen
- Ministerial Candidate Timm Dazey.

A report from our most recent Stated Session Meeting on July 10 is as follows and Pastor John Kinyon moderated the meeting.

- The Diaconate and Session meetings in the previous month were read and approved. Richard Smith gave the treasurer's report. The prayer list was reviewed. Continued discussion was held on proposed Wednesday night services. We approved Mr. Layton's request for additional 2 weeks sick leave.

Under new business:

- Approval for the WIC to host a hotdog supper and movie night, July 26th.
- Approval for the WIC plans to support PCA Missions to the World for the Girls Home in Senegal, Africa, including extending the request to the congregation.
- Approved request from the WIC for support (defray expenses) for any ladies in our church to attend a Christian Discipleship Ministries Conference at Christ Covenant Church in Charlotte on January 31 and February 1, 2025.
- Approval for the Sunda School kick-off breakfast on Sunday, August 25 beginning at 9:00 am.

Please continue to be in prayer for Mr. Layton, and for our church family.

Respectfully, Jimmy Wagers, Clerk of Session.

WIC Update



The Women in the Church (WIC) quarterly meeting was held Tuesday, July 9 at 7:00 pm. Chrystal Weatherly, Chairman of Missions to the World (MTW) led the program about "Who is Missions to the World?" She shared worldwide statistics and information about church planting.

Chrystal showed a video about a MTW refuge for girls, Senegal Girls Home, in Africa. This home started small and has grown to provide shelter, education, and skills for girls at risk of being trafficked. The WIC voted to send a \$250 donation to this girls home. The congregation is invited to contribute to this donation through August 31, 2024. For complete information, visit www.mtw.org and search for "Senegal Girl's Home."

The second video Chrystal showed was about what can we do to be more mission minded. The third video featured PCA churches seeking to send one percent of their congregation to provide service for, and in, the mission field.

The PCA Christian Discipleship Ministries (CDM) *Made for More* Conference for women is at Christ Covenant in Charlotte on Friday, January 31 and Saturday, Feb 1, 2025. The Session will pay for the cost of girls and ladies to attend this conference. If you would like to attend, please contact WIC Secretary Jan Stivers by October 1 and she will register you. Her contact information is: kevinandjan90@gmail.com or 910-995-3975. For complete information about the conference, visit <https://women.pcacdm.org/made-for-more/>.

The WIC hosted a hotdog dinner on Friday, July 27 at 6:00 pm followed by the movie, *Running the Bases*. Forty-two people attended and we had a good time of Christian fellowship. Thanks to everyone who worked together to make this event possible.

Mark your calendars now for Homecoming which is Sunday, September 8 with a covered dish meal following the worship service.

Beth Meacham, *WIC President*



PRAYER LIST:

President and other national leaders, the Persecuted Church and Christians worldwide, pray for rain, Samuel Austin, Beverly Sears Barber, Christian Barrett, Daniel Brown, Austin5 Bryant, Neal Cadieu, Billy Carter, Mary Ellen Carter, Ted Carter, Vera Carter, Vergie Clark, Kevin Conner, Ronald Lee Cook, Kim Covington, Kevin Craven, Tony Craven, Alli Cundy, Cindy Daniels, Sharon DeWitt, Susan DeWitt, Scott Dunn, Ruby Dunn, Ellerbe First Responders, Fred Fletcher, Mark Futrell, Becky Henderson, Pete Herron, Ken Hill, Joy Housberg, Melanie Johnson, Bobby McCormick Family, Donna McCormick, Bill McFayden, Patsy Dunn McIntyre, Julia McIntosh, Lee McKenzie, Shannon McNeil, Diane Meacham, Peyton Monroe, Trevor Moss, Morgan North, Leo Poole, Sophia Potterfield, Doris Sears, Tina Sellers, Betty Smith, Jane Smith, Neil Smith, Mica Way, Amanda Watson, Hayley White, Jo Wilson, Curtis Wright, unspoken Requests



Happy Birthday August

- 1 Josh Chappell
- 1 Ginny Layton
- 1 Louise Lucas
- 2 Barbara McInnis
- 2 Catelyn Baldwin
- 6 Carolyn Wagers
- 8 Logan Moore
- 10 Molly Greene
- 13 Hannah Wall
- 13 Hayley Chavis
- 19 Jase Wagers
- 20 Rev. James Watson
- 24 Jackie Wright
- 28 Billy Ray Dunn

August Anniversaries



- 2 M/M Dale DeWitt
- 6 M/M James Watson
- 19 M/M John Sears, Jr.
- 29 M/M Jay Wagers

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
August 2024	Sunday School Assembly is in the sanctuary at 10:00 am, classes are at 10:15. Worship service is at 11:00 am Sunday			1	2	3
4	5	6	7 7:00 pm Deacon's Meeting	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 7:00 pm Session Meeting	22	23	24 Central Carolina Presbytery at Carolina PCA, Locust
25 9:00 am Sunday School kick-off breakfast	26	27	28	29	30	31