

# First Church Life

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First ARP Church of Rock Hill

## June 2017



***“Gear up”* for the MOST exciting  
week of summer!**

Vacation Bible School

June 26-30

**\*Check out page 4 for ways that YOU can be part of the fun!\***



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Congratulations to...

**Scott and Miriam Forster**  
on the baptism of their children

**Conrad Scott**

and

**Emily Robin**

Sunday, April 30, 2017

# Pastor's Message

Philip Bunch, Associate Pastor

## *Change . . . in the church!?*

Have no fear, brothers and sisters! I'm not talking about changes in theology or changes in worship or changes even in carpet color or scheduled programs. However, I do want to write this month and highlight a few of the changes that are happening around First ARP. And I think that they represent the hard work and dedication of our leadership and members.

One of the biggest changes that is beginning to happen was featured in [last month's newsletter](#): *our capital improvements*. During these summer months, you will see ongoing repairs and improvements all around our church, from gym renovation to HVAC work to bathroom remodeling. Our leadership has worked tremendously hard to provide a good path forward for this work, and I commend them! Let us rejoice in God's faithfulness to take care of His people and to provide for our work, here at FARP.

Beyond this, however, I'd like to highlight a few of the other changes or improvements that you've begun to see around the church. One of the big ones is a complete upgrade and overhaul to our sanctuary audio and video equipment, though you may not see it unless you receive our service recordings or subscribe to our sermon podcast. And through God's goodness, a generous benefactor has provided for all of these upgrades at no cost to the church! We now have reliable overflow available anywhere in the church. We upgraded the assisted listening devices for any who may need help hearing during our services (available at the sound cabinet). We have completely redone our video feed with a sharp and clear picture to benefit those homebound members who receive recordings of our service. And did I mention . . . we have podcasts of our sermons so that you can enjoy them, even if you are out of town . . . and from anywhere! (available for: [iTunes/Android](#))

Another important update is our website ([firstarp.org](http://firstarp.org)). If you have not visited the site in a while, then I encourage you to spend some time browsing around! You'll find helpful links to everything from [what we believe](#) to our [leadership makeup](#) to what we believe about [public worship](#) to [sermon archives](#) to [VBS registration](#) to [online giving opportunities](#) to all the [ways in which we are connected](#).

We have also been trying to update and improve our communication across all areas of our church life. We have a newly revamped digital newsletter that allows us to better connect our ministries. We are continuing to connect and resource our ministries so that our leadership *can equip the saints* [that's all of us] *for the work of ministry* ([Eph. 4:12](#)). If you'd like to help in any of these important things, please feel free to contact the office for more information ([AdministrativeAssistant@firstarp.org](mailto:AdministrativeAssistant@firstarp.org) // 803.327.2009).

~Philip

Christian sympathy is extended to the family of

**Ray Marston**

at his death on May 1, 2017

*"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." -Psalm 116:15*



# June Birthdays



**1**

West Kellett

**2**

Juli Gasque

Lainey Nowicki

**4**

Rachel Crawford

Jack Hicklin

**5**

Brad Brakefield

Anastasia Brooks

Stephanie Brooks

**7**

Melissa Robbins

**8**

Debbie Brault

Ryan Tinker

**9**

Wayne Gardner

Will Hamilton

Taylor Madsen

**10**

Peggy Tucker

**12**

Hanah Rhoad

**13**

Mac Aycock

Terri Looper

**15**

Connie Kiser

**16**

Susanna Ahl

Chad Helms

**17**

John Heinsohn

Megan Sanders

**18**

Joanne Mauldin

**19**

Robert Alexander

Joanne Vaughan

**20**

Melissa Leighton

Jamie McCallister

Bennie Moore

**22**

George Coxhead

Scott Ledford

**23**

Howard Kellett

Mark Neely

**25**

Valerie Heinsohn

**27**

Juliette Leach

**30**

Allison Fleischer

Tim Kiser

Patrick Robinson





# Vacation Bible School

June 26-30, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.



*The countdown is on for the most exciting week of the summer!*

Gear up for an imaginative, amazing week! At **Maker Fun Factory VBS** kids will discover not only that God made them the way they are, but for a specific purpose too! This week will be filled with incredible Bible learning experiences that kids will see, hear, touch, and even taste.

## **“Giving Gears”**

### ***Give VBS your leftover materials!***

We can use cardboard boxes, cans, pool noodles (10), leftover spray paint (any color), wrenches, dryer vent tubing, cardboard tubes, pegboard, aluminum pie plates, paint buckets, concrete mix, rope lights, zip ties, tennis balls (10), straws, plastic spoons, Legos (big & small), peg board, small paper plates, 1 inch Styrofoam balls, black plastic tablecloths, Lowe's, Home Depot, or Walmart Gift Cards

**Look in the Connector for  
“Giving Gears!”**

Registration for children and volunteers is OPEN and available online and in the connector. There are many opportunities for all ages to serve! Classes will be offered for ages 3 - 5th grade, and nursery will be available for children of volunteers. Invite friends and neighbors to join us for this wonderful week discovering how we are each uniquely created by God for a purpose!

Register online by clicking the link below:

**<https://vbspro.events/p/events/firstarp>**

**or see the display in the connector for more information**

# Mission News



## Mission Update from Michael & Laura Cochran

These past several months have brought lots of changes for our missionary journey, and we are excited to share with you about all the ways the Lord is working in our lives! Late last year the board of World Witness approved a field change for us from Spain to the United Kingdom. During the last several years, the Lord has raised up six

families who are faithfully serving in Spain, and it became clear that He was calling us to serve elsewhere. We are thrilled to share about the growing partnership between the ARP Church and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in England and Wales (EPCEW), a small British denomination with a big vision for the Gospel in the UK. It is our great privilege to work alongside EPCEW to see new churches planted in England and Wales.

Initially we will be serving at Naunton Lane Presbyterian Church in Cheltenham, England, where Michael will have the opportunity to preach, teach, and minister in a British context and be mentored by the pastor and elders there. After a period of training, we will work with EPCEW to determine a location to begin the work of church planting. We are amazed at the opportunities the Lord has placed before us, and we are encouraged and excited about the work that is going on in the UK and how we will get to be a part of it.

We recently completed four weeks of cross-cultural missions training, which was a wonderful time of preparation. By the Lord's grace, we have raised 94% of our needed support, which means we need only \$415 more a month in pledged support to leave for the field! Please pray that the Lord would raise up our remaining monthly support quickly so that we can begin the visa process. We are aiming to be on the field, Lord willing, by the end of the summer! Thank you for your prayers and the support of your church. We are so grateful for your partnership as we work to expand the Kingdom of God in England and Wales!

## Mission Team Prayer Partners

Prayer is the most essential preparation for each of us as we seek to do God's work, at home or abroad. As we prepare to send mission teams this summer to Appalachia, the Palmer Home for Children, and Spain, we want each short term missionary to be paired with a "Prayer Partner." This partner is someone who will pray for them now while they are planning and preparing, and daily while they are on the mission trip.

**Please contact Beverly Simpson ([bevsimpson@comporium.net](mailto:bevsimpson@comporium.net))  
or Connie Kiser ([ChristianEducationDirector@firstarp.org](mailto:ChristianEducationDirector@firstarp.org))**

**if you are willing to serve as a prayer partner for one of our teams.**



**Remaining First ARP**  
**Host Weeks for 2017**

August 20-27  
November 12-19

Our guests arrived May 28 and will be staying with us until June 4.

Volunteers are still needed. Please contact:

-**Timmy Marshall:** 910-262-1254 or [charles.timothy.marshall@gmail.com](mailto:charles.timothy.marshall@gmail.com)

-**George Coxhead:** 704-807-3321 or [coxhead\\_george@nlvmail.com](mailto:coxhead_george@nlvmail.com)

-**Polly Wingate:** 803-487-6589 or [pgwingate@gmail.com](mailto:pgwingate@gmail.com)

This is the easiest volunteer job you will ever have. Your help is needed and will be appreciated by the Family Promise Committee and by the guests.



***Thank You From***  
***United International Ministries***

Greetings friends! As the current scholastic year comes to a close, I want to personally thank you for your continued support and service.

First ARP has a history of hosting dinners once a year for the international students of Winthrop University. This act of hospitality facilitates the connection between the nations and Christian families who can positively impact the lives of these precious people.

I wish I could share the numerous testimonies from students who have greatly benefitted from your investment in the kingdom. Most of these students have never witnessed biblical hospitality. We have been given an opportunity to be salt and light to the world right here in our own city. It is an honor to serve alongside you in this beautiful endeavor.

I cannot express the tremendous love the Lord has placed in my heart for these students. It has been such a blessing to see some of the families in your church body invest in these valued lives by inviting them into their homes for meals, coffee, family gathering, game nights, and so much more. This hospitality has had a significant impression on the students, and for some, it has forever changed their lives.

Please know your involvement has and is making an eternal difference. I am full of gratitude for you all. May the Lord richly bless your obedience to His call on your lives.

Loving the nations for His glory,  
*Ginger Duncan*

# Graduate Recognition

*"Give careful thought to the  
paths for your feet and be  
steadfast in all your ways."  
Proverbs 4:26*

## High School Graduates

*Ethan Daniel Barkley*  
**Northwestern High School**  
*will attend Clemson University*

*Sarah Hunter Donahue*  
**Palmer Home School**  
*will attend Northeast Mississippi Community College*

*Hannah Elizabeth McKinney*  
**Northwestern High School**  
*will attend the University of South Carolina (Columbia)  
and pursue a major in Pre-Pharmacy and minor in Music*

*Roddey Lee Smith*  
**South Pointe High School**  
*will attend Clemson University and pursue a major in Engineering*

## College Graduates



*Mary Campbell Kellett*  
**University of South Carolina**  
*Bachelor of Arts*

*Rachel Michelle Lyon*  
**Winthrop University**  
*Bachelor of Science in Family & Consumer Sciences*

*Megan Madsen*  
**Coker College**  
*Master of Education*

*William Charles Robbins*  
**Francis Marion University**  
*Bachelor of Business Administration in Business Marketing & Human Resource Management*

*Ryan Bradly Simpson*  
**Duke University**  
*Master of Arts in Bioethics & Science Policy, concentration in Genomics*



# Welcome New Members

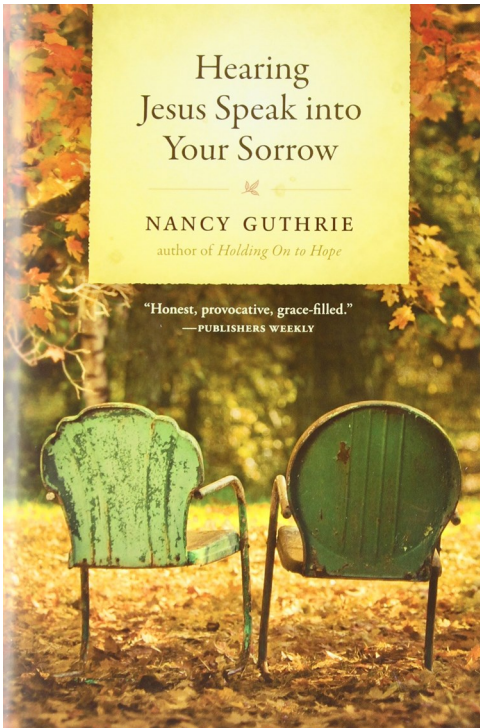
**Kevin and Bonnie Lloyd** are most recently from Tampa, FL, but over the years they have lived in several interesting places, including Africa and the Middle East. Kevin (an architect and construction manager) and Bonnie (an artist and writer) have three grown children and four grandchildren who live in NC and in Washington, DC. When they're not kayaking or working in their garden, Kevin and Bonnie are off exploring one of the many beautiful points of interest in the Carolinas and beyond.



**Frank Robards** was born in Augusta, GA but moved to Rock Hill when he was 6 so he grew up here. He went to The Citadel for undergrad finishing in 1981 and graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1984. After law school, he served in the US Navy and then practiced law in Columbia, SC. In 1996 he moved back to Rock Hill. He has worked in trust and wealth management in the banking industry for the past 21 years. He continued his Navy career as a reserve officer and retired as a Captain in 2015 after 33 years of service including 4 tours of active duty. He is married to Lisa, and they have 2 children, Walker who will be attending The Citadel this fall, and Caroline, a rising sophomore at RHHS. He enjoys spending time with his family, going to the mountains and beach, and playing golf and reading.



# Women's Summer Bible Study



First ARP Women's Ministries invites you to join in their summer bible study:

## ***Hearing Jesus Speak into Your Sorrow*** By Nancy Guthrie

The study will meet Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. beginning June 14 and ending July 19. June 14 session will meet in the Faith Room.

Cost is \$12.

Contact Kathy Barron to  
reserve a book:  
803-980-0925 or  
mkhbarron@gmail.com

***Come when you can and be  
sure to invite others!***

## Summer Play Dates

### Dates

June 22  
July 6  
July 20  
August 3  
August 17

Mothers with babies and toddlers please join for a time for play and fellowship with friends!



**Play Dates will meet in Robinson Hall from  
10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

# HARPs Trip

The HARPs will enjoy a day trip to  
**Pearl Fryar Topiary Garden**  
in Bishopville, South Carolina on  
Thursday, June 15

## Trip Itinerary

**8:45 a.m.** Meet at First ARP  
**9:00 a.m.** Leave the church for Bishopville  
**11:00 a.m.** Arrive at the Garden  
**12:15 p.m.** Leave the Garden for Mr. B's Seafood  
**12:30 p.m.** Lunch at Mr. B's Seafood  
**1:45 p.m.** Depart Mr. B's for McLeod Farms  
**2:15 p.m.** Arrive at McLeod Farms (enjoy ice cream,  
Mac's Pride produce, free museum, etc.)  
**3:00 p.m.** Depart for Rock Hill  
**4:15 p.m.** Arrive back at First ARP



Contact Spencer  
Anderson  
for more  
information:  
**803-328-5319**



Save the date for the  
next HARPs Luncheon:

**July 15 @ noon  
in Robinson Hall**

\*Lisa Carroll Jones will  
present *"What are you  
wearing?: Thoughts on  
Colossians 3:5-17"*

\*Sing-along of favorite  
hymns led by Kelly & Lisa  
Jones will follow the special  
speaker

\*Invite your friends!

# JUNE Calendar of Events

## **SATURDAY, June 3**

- Men's Breakfast  
7:00 a.m.

## **SUNDAY, June 4**

- Graduate Recognition Sunday  
Reception following 11:00 Worship
- Middle School Mission Project Meeting  
2:00 p.m.

## **TUESDAY, June 6**

- Presbytery & Synod Meeting  
ALL DAY, Bonclarken

## **WEDNESDAY, June 7**

- Synod Meeting  
ALL DAY, Bonclarken
- Youth Game Night  
7:00-8:30 p.m.

## **THURSDAY, June 8**

- Synod Meeting  
ALL DAY, Bonclarken

## **SATURDAY, June 10**

- Caregiver Bible Study  
9:30 a.m.

## **MONDAY, June 12**

- Jeanie Alexander Prayer Team  
9:30 a.m.

## **TUESDAY, June 13**

- Diaconate  
6:30 p.m.

## **WEDNESDAY, June 14**

- Women's Ministries Summer Study  
10:00 a.m., Faith Room

## **WEDNESDAY, June 21**

- Women's Ministries Summer Study  
10:00 a.m.

## **THURSDAY, June 22**

- Mothers With Babies Play Date  
10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Robinson Hall
- Just Joy Worship  
6:30 p.m. in Robinson Hall

## **SATURDAY, June 24**

- Women's Ministries Yard Sale

## **SUNDAY, June 25**

- Commissioning for Appalachia & Palmer  
Home Mission Trips  
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
- Appalachia Team Meeting  
2:00 p.m.

## **MONDAY, June 26**

- Middle School Mission Project  
8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Vacation Bible School  
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

## **TUESDAY, June 27**

- Middle School Mission Project  
8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Vacation Bible School  
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

## **WEDNESDAY, June 28**

- Middle School Mission Project  
8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Vacation Bible School  
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- Women's Ministries Summer Study  
10:00 a.m.

## **THURSDAY, June 29**

- Middle School Mission Project  
8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Vacation Bible School  
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

## **FRIDAY, June 30**

- Middle School Mission Project  
8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Vacation Bible School  
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

## Sunday

**9:00 a.m.** Worship

**10:00 a.m.** Sunday School

**11:00 a.m.** Worship

## Wednesday

Foundations for the Family  
**\*will resume September 6\***

**5:30 p.m.** Meal in Robinson Hall

**6:00 p.m.** Children's Choir

**6:30 p.m.** Adult Study

**7:15 p.m.** Adult Choir Practice

## Just Joy

**every 4th Thursday**

**6:30 p.m.** Worship Service  
geared toward special needs friends  
and families, but all are welcome to  
come and participate!

## Insiders Guide to First ARP

**Sundays in June— Faith Room**

**10:00 a.m.** Designed for newer  
members and visitors, but all are  
welcome to learn more about our  
church and the ARP Denomination.

If you have a picture or article you'd like to submit for  
newsletter consideration please email it to:

**[newsletter@firstarp.org](mailto:newsletter@firstarp.org)**

(The deadline is the 20th of each month. For example, the deadline for  
the July newsletter is June 20!)