

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, April 9

9:15 Officers Meeting
9:30 Coffee Fellowship
10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Morning Worship
6:00 Easter Cantata
7:00 Joint Officer Meeting

Monday, April 10

6:30 Trail Life

Tuesday, April 11

11:30 Lunch Bunch

Thursday, April 13

7:00 Maundy Thursday Service at Oak Ridge ARP

Friday, April 14

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, April 15

1:00 Easter Egg Hunt

Volunteers

Nursery

Toddlers

Greeters (F)

(S)

Elders

Captain

Co Captain

Ushers

April 9

Holly Rivers

Shannon Mohr

Wayne & Debbie Dickson

Phil & Sarah Baer

April

Frank Brackett

Buddy Lever

David Mohr

Keith Jaillette

Steve Willis

Mike Scruggs

April 16

Kelly Sims

Stacey Pegram

Mike & Past Scruggs

Butch & Dell Ghent

May

Butch Ghent

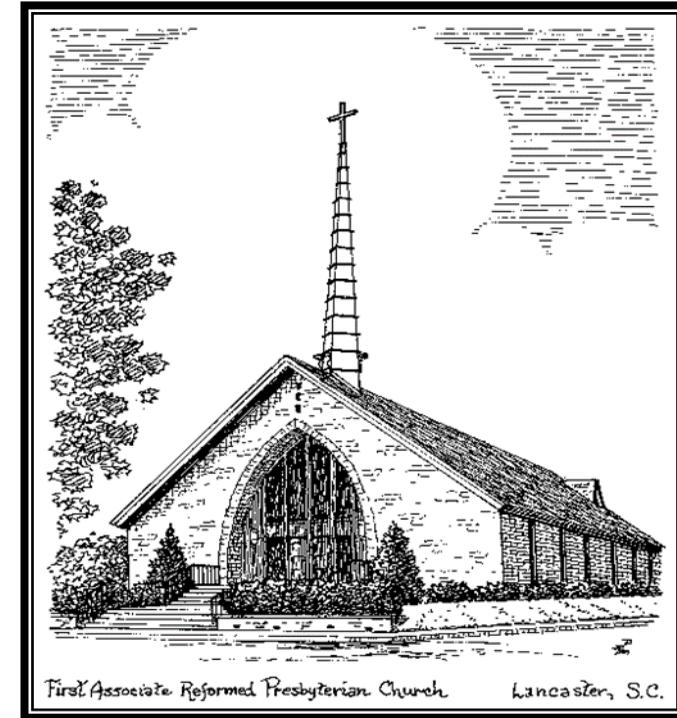
David Pokopac

Keith Jaillette

Debbie Dickson

Benny Brazell

Sal Estrada



Staff and Officers

Staff

Pastor- Dr. Kyle E. Sims

Intern/Youth- Mr. Jordan Bernard

Choir Director- Dr. Kristen Wunderlich

Organist- Mrs. Amy Jones

Secretary- Mrs. Stacy Pokopac

Elders

Butch Ghent (2017)

David Pokopac (2017)

Ed Ogburn (2018)

Richard Crawford (2018)

Frank Brackett (2019)

Buddy Lever (2019)

Deacons

Sam Prete (2017)

Lathan Rivers (2017)

Debbie Dickson (2018)

Keith Jaillette (2018)

Debby Hegler (2019)

Dave Mohr (2019)

An Associate Reformed Family Serving God, Lancaster, and the World

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First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

Lancaster, SC

April 9, 2017

Worship

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Welcome

Dr. Kyle E. Sims

Prelude

Organist

Announcements

Dr. Kyle E. Sims

Choral Introit

Chancel Choir

“Hosanna, Blessed Is He”

ENTERING WORSHIP

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 68:3-5

But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God; they shall be jubilant with joy! Sing to God, sing praises to His name; lift up a song to Him who rides through the deserts; His name is the LORD; exult before Him! Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in His holy habitation.

***Congregational Introit**

Song Supplement #9 verse 2

“At the Cross”

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jonas Myrin, Matt Armstrong & Matt Redman

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***Prayer of Adoration**

***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, for ever. Amen.

***Hymn**

Red Trinity Hymnal #235

“All Glory, Laud , and Honor”

** congregation stands*

Financials

April 2, 2017	
Attendance	76
General Fund	\$5,362
Total GF Contributions This Month	\$5,362
Average Monthly Budget Requirement	\$18,126
Missions Fund	\$51

General Fund	March	YTD
Contributions	\$20,252	\$61,476
Expenditures	\$22,961	\$65,292
Difference	(\$2,709)	(\$3,816)
Missions Support		
Contributions	\$502	\$1,628
Expenditures	\$40	\$6,561
Congregational Care Fund		
Contributions	\$10	\$297
Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Memorial Fund		
Contributions	\$0	\$50
Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Month end balance	\$1,972	

AUTOMATIC DRAFT Are you ready to take a step of faith? Sign up for a monthly draft of your giving. It is a serious commitment to set up your tithe to come out every month, but we are called to give from our first fruits. This is a tool to help you be faithful and regular in your giving to Christ and His church. For more information see Sam Huey.

**REMEMBER YOUR
CHURCH IN
YOUR ESTATE
PLANNING OR
YOUR WILL.**

This week between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday is often referred to as “holy week”. For many denominations, it is a high holy week that is the culmination of the Lenten season. It is suppose to be a time where we give up things so that they can help us appreciate the sacrifices of Christ. On one hand, the logic makes sense to do something like this to emphasize Christ's redeeming work on the cross and rising from the dead.

On the other hand, there is a danger to overemphasizing one Sunday over another. In my opinion, this is the more powerful argument. We are not to emphasize the death and resurrection of Jesus just once a year. It should be at the center of our daily existence. Each Lord's Day is a celebration of Christ's Advent, Death, and Resurrection. This is because we live united in Christ each moment of our lives. He is the vine we are the branches (John 15). We are permanently united to Christ by His death and resurrection (Romans 6:1-11).

I have no problem with special services that emphasize the passion of Christ during this season, but we should avoid the error of thinking these Sundays are more special than other Sundays. This thinking will be evident in most churches by comparing attendance on April 16 to the attendance on April 23.

It is not the special emphasizing of Christ's death that is a problem. It is the compartmentalizing of the central core of the Gospel that must be avoided. It is the same issue we have with Christmas Carols in July that we have with Resurrection Hymns in December. Is not “Up from the Grave, He Arose” just as appropriate in December as springtime? And is not “O Come, O Come, Emanuel” not as appropriate in July as December?

The point is not about doing away with seasons. It is about not letting the seasons shift our thinking away from the Gospel. Our faith is an everyday faith. We have an everyday faith for the whole of the Gospel and for all of Christ's work. If you think you should never miss an Easter Sunday unless you had really no other option, then why would you not consider every Sunday just as special? Remember that God has given us one day in *seven* to worship and remember all Christ has done for us.

Dr. Kyle E. Sims
Pastor

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Holy Father, forgive us. Though You should guide us, we inform ourselves. Though You should rule us, we control ourselves. Though You should fulfill us, we console ourselves. For we think Your truth too high, Your will too hard, Your power to remote, Your love too free. But they are not! And without them, we are of all people most miserable. Heal our confused mind with Your word, heal our divided will with Your law, heal our troubled conscience with Your love, heal our anxious hearts with Your presence, all for the sake of Your Son, who loved us and gave Himself for us. Amen.

Assurance Of Pardon

Romans 5:6-9

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God.

Hymn

Red Trinity Hymnal #164

“O For a Thousand Tongues To Sing”

*Confession 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.

***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.

Tithes and Offerings

Choral Anthem

Chancel Choir

“Prepare Ye the Way”

***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.

MEANS OF GRACE

***Psalm**

Blue ARP Psalter#118D

“Now Open the Gates”

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Children’s Sermon

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading

Pew Bible Page 903

John 17:20-26

Sermon

Dr. Kyle E. Sims

“A Prayer For You, the Church”

Prayer of Application

Thursday, April 13, 2017 - John 17:17

To be sanctified is to be set apart. We are to be set apart by the Word of God for it is Truth. Pilate asked, “What is truth?” (John 18:38) Jesus tells us what is truth and where it can be found: in God, specifically in His word. Are you being set apart from the world? Is it by the power of God’s truth? Is it by the truth that can be found in His Word?

Friday, April 14, 2017 - John 17:18

We are here for a purpose, just as Jesus sent His disciples into the world. He has sent you into the world for the purpose of glorifying Him in this world. We glorify God when we are changed by the gospel and are like a city on hill or stars that shine in the dark night. We are to stand out because we are Christians, not by trying to show off our differences, but in our simple humble obedience to the Truth of God in the Word of God by the power of God. Do people see Jesus in you?

Saturday, April 15, 2017 - John 17:19

Jesus is not asking you to go anywhere He has not gone. He has set himself apart. He has lived the life that He has asked us to follow. He has lived for God in a world that hates God. We must follow the God-man Jesus! We must live with a trust in Jesus Christ and with our hope being in him. We must strive to follow Jesus with our whole heart, mind, body, and strength. We must set ourselves apart from the world as the Bible shows us and live for the glory of Jesus.

Devotions

Monday, April 10, 2017 - John 17:13

Jesus' plan is about to come to its consummation. He has taught the disciples and shown them the power of God. He is about to leave them, which is the whole point of His preparing them. He is wanting them to understand so that they might have the joy within themselves that Jesus has. How can we have joy in the awful world of sickness, death, decay, betrayal, and misery? It is not in others or the things of this world. It is in the power of the cross and the power of the resurrection.

Tuesday, April 11, 2017 - John 17:14

The message of Jesus is not what the world wants to hear. It hates Jesus and it hates Jesus' people. The world hates you if you identify with Jesus and seek to follow his law. We can never think that the world is getting better. Our only hope is in Jesus who died to free us from the Fallen World. This world loves what it loves. It loves its ways. It deals with life from a fallen, broken, hurtful spirit. It does not want to change and it refuses the very help that Jesus came to give. It is not simply a lack of education. It is a heart hardened to God and His salvation.

Wednesday, April 12, 2017 - John 17:15-16

Jesus knows that the world in which He is leaving His people is not going to love them. Why not just take them with Him? It would be for their good, but this was not His plan for His people or His church. We are here to fulfill the purpose that He has for us. We are here while He is in heaven, but He is working to protect us from Satan and his world. Although this world is tough, we survive by the grace of God and His almighty protection. We are not of this world.

RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

***Hymn**

Red Trinity Hymnal #237

"Ride On, Ride On In Majesty!"

***Free Offer of the Gospel**

***Benediction**

LEAVING WORSHIP

***Congregational Response**

Song Supplement #1 verse 1

"Benediction"

Words and Music by Stuart Townsend and Keith Getty

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***The Greeting of the Congregation**

Taking the Gospel To the World

Mark 8:35

For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.

Sermon Notes

Text: John 17:20-26

Title: “A Prayer For You, the Church”

Prayer Emphasis

- God will use our church to reach out to the world around us and that we might see people come out of the world and live for Jesus.
- The health of our older membership will continue to hold strong for the years to come.
- The spiritual health of our younger membership that they will grow into leadership and workers in Christ Church.
- Our elected officials:
 - Their work at all levels of government
 - The Lord to bless our leaders
- Those who are struggling in this world with depression, anger, and hatred. Help them find that the Gospel can transform us into the image of God.
- Those that persecute us:
 - Our actions would glorify God
 - The truth would be known.
- Our members who are sick and injured.
- Our young people who come throughout the week:
 - They will come on Sunday mornings
 - They will be saved
- The seeds sown in our Child Evangelism Fellowship children will sprout into faith.
- Pray for our Sister churches:
 - Hill City- Rock Hill, SC- Pastor: Rev. Daniel Wells
 - Hope- Pearland, TX- Pastor: Rev. Gentry McColm

Prayer Requests

First ARP

Bradford Nims -Presbyterian Home- Florence
 Carol Nims- Hospital
 Carlyle & Mott Henley
 Clara Nell Robinson
 Erin Tindal
 Gene Hunter
 George Mason
 Harold Allen- Lungs and Heart
 I. W. Caskey - Recovery at Home
 James Caskey
 Mary Brown Parks-Morningside
 Mary Ella Jordan
 Miranda Bohler- Cousin's Death
 Nancy Ogburn- Back Issues
 Pat McEachern
 Sally Lloyd
 Sheryl Huey
 Tom Strickland

Missionaries

Mark & Natalie Witte-Spain
 Phil & Sarah Baer-Wycliffe
 Rebekah Carson-Germany

Church Planters

Ben Carver- Shem Creek
 Ian Wise-Pageland
 Matt Awtrey-Exploratory Work in Irmo
 Rob Turner- Arsenal Hill

Friends & Family

Andrew Brunson- Prison in Turkey
 Anne Nims
 Chasity Aycoth- Sheryl Huey's Niece- Cancer
 Delphine Spinks- Geri Brazell's Sister
 Donna Bohler- Daniel Bohler's Mom
 Doris Hudson-Lorri Crawford's Mother
 Gentry McColm- Hope Church, TX- Cancer
 George Busch- Scots Kirk Presbyterian Church-
 Cancer
 Jane Aiken- Complications of MS
 JoAnn Byrd-Patricia Gardner's Mother
 John Boykin- Scruggs' Friend- Cancer
 John Christian Rozycki- Kristen Wunderlich's
 Nephew- Seizures
 Louise Carpenter- Debbie Dickson's Mom
 Mark Caskey- Dell Ghent's Brother- Recovery From
 Surgery
 Mary Ginty-Katey Powell's Mother
 Mary Musselwhite- Pat McEachern's Friend-
 Cancer
 Sandra Ginty- Katey Powell's Sister-In-Law

Pregnancy

Shannon & Jeff Schrage
 Shay & William Belk

Military

Alex Coale- Japan
 Dillon Coale- ROTC

Young Worshipers

During the worship service your youngest children should draw pictures of what they hear and see in the appropriate boxes, while older children ought to take written notes.

<p><u>Hymns and Music</u></p>	<p><u>Scripture and Sermon</u></p>
<p><u>Prayers</u></p>	<p><u>How Will I Obey God's Word?</u></p>

Announcements



UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

- **EASTER MUSIC PROGRAM** We will have our annual Easter Cantata tonight at 6:00PM. A reception in the Fellowship Hall will follow.
- **MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE** A special service will be held at 7:00PM April 13 at Oak Ridge ARP Church. Jordan Bernard will be preaching.
- **EASTER EGG HUNT** We will hold our annual Easter Egg Hunt from 1:00-2:30PM Saturday, April 15. Donations will be needed by today. A signup sheet for volunteers and supplies is on the bulletin board.
- **BONCLARKEN WORK WEEK** This year's volunteer work week will be held April 16-21. See Buddy Lever with any questions
- **NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER** We will host a prayer breakfast May 4 at 8:30AM in observance of this year's National Day of Prayer. Other area ARP churches are also invited to attend. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board.

VISITORS Welcome to Lancaster First



ARP. If you are a first time visitor, our ushers have a welcome packet for you. If you are a returning visitor, please fill out an attendance card from

the pew in front of you so we may have a record of your visit. Offering envelopes are also available for your convenience.

MAILBOXES Please remember to check the mailboxes in the hallway behind the choir loft. Church family and friends are using these to send birthday cards and get well wishes. A couple families still have Christmas cards in their boxes.



SUMMER AT BONCLARKEN Don't forget opportunities at Bonclarken this summer when planning your family's time. A schedule of events including Family Bible Conference, Camp Joy, Music Conference, and several other options is posted on the bulletin board. For more information or online registration visit <http://www.bonclarken.org/arpevents.html>.



CWM MEET AND GREET

First ARP Rock Hill will host the Catawba Women's Ministries Meet and Greet Saturday, April 29 from 9AM-

12:30PM. The event theme is "ARP Magazine" and editor Susan Tanner will be the speaker. Registration and a light breakfast begins at 9AM followed by a time to get to know other ARP's, have fun, and learn more about the ARP Magazine. The meeting will end with lunch served by the ladies of First ARP Rock Hill. There is no cost and all ladies are invited to attend. RSVP to administrativeassistant@firstarp.org or call the church at 803.327.2009. Give your name and the name of your church.

***If you would like to carpool to the event, please contact our church office.**

HOPE IN LANCASTER HOPE is currently seeking donations of healthy, non-perishable foods such as the following:

- *Spaghetti Sauce
- *Canned Potatoes
- *Grits *Cereal
- *Juice *Jiffy Mix
- *Instant Potatoes
- *Canned Tomatoes



WEDNESDAY FAMILY NIGHT Due to the holiday season, we will not meet April 12. Join us when Wednesday Family Night meetings resume April 19. Supper is at 5:55 followed by classes at 6:30. The cost is \$3 per person or \$10 per family. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board. **Please sign up or contact the church office by the Tuesday prior if you plan to eat.**



Are you praying for your Ten List?

Packets are available in the church office.

SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall Sundays at 9:30AM for coffee and fellowship. Sunday School starts at 10:00AM.

