

# Volunteers

## Nursery

## Toddlers

**Greeters** (F)  
(S)

## Elders

## Captain

## Co Captain

## Ushers

### April 30

Dell Ghent  
Susan Prete  
Phillip & Stacey Pegram  
Joe & Debby Hegler

### April

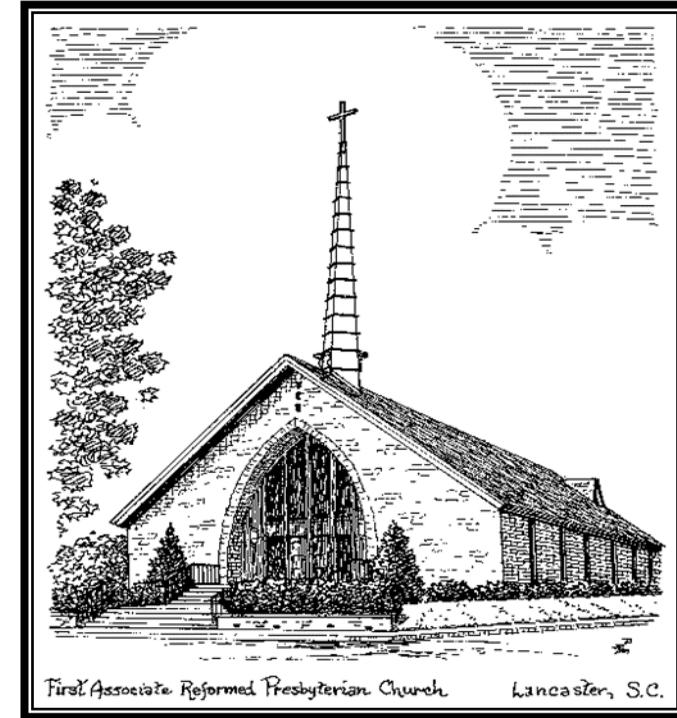
Frank Brackett  
Buddy Lever  
David Mohr  
Keith Jaillette  
Steve Willis  
Mike Scruggs

### May 7

Kimberly Hefner  
Kimberly Hefner  
Steve Willis/ Ed Ogburn  
Mike & Susan Cauthen

### 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)

# First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

April 30, 2017

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

701 North Main Street, Lancaster SC 29720/ PO Box 864, Lancaster, SC 29721

803.285.1578

firstarplancaster.org

# Worship

## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

**Prelude**  
**Welcome and Announcements**

Organist  
Dr. Kyle E. Sims

## ENTERING WORSHIP

### **\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 75:1 We give thanks to you, O God; we give thanks, for Your name is near. We recount Your wondrous deeds.

### **\*Hymn**

*“At the Cross”*

Song Supplement #9

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jonas Myrin, Matt Armstrong & Matt Redman  
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### **\*Invocation and 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.

*\*congregation stands*

# Financials

<b>April 23, 2017</b>	
Attendance	87
General Fund	\$3,302
Total GF Contributions This Month	\$15,221
Average Monthly Budget Requirement	\$18,126
Missions Fund	\$153
Congregational Care Fund	\$10



### **SUNDAY MORNING**

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

**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.

# This Week’s Schedule

## **Sunday, April 30**

9:15 Officer’s Meeting  
9:30 Coffee Fellowship  
10:00 Sunday School  
11:00 Morning Worship  
5:30 Youth

## **Wednesday, May 3**

5:55 Supper  
6:30 Classes  
7:30 Choir

## **Thursday, May 4**

8:30 Prayer Breakfast

## **Friday, May 5**

7:00 Youth Breakfast

# Pastor's Corner

April 30, 2017

*"...a bruised reed He will not break, and a faintly burning wick He will not quench;" - Isaiah 42:3 and Matthew 12:20*

For many of you in our congregation, you feel like the bruised reed or the faintly burning wick. The demands and circumstances of life have pushed you hard and you feel like one more thing will break you or you will be snuffed out. We have faced death, sickness, and problems at work and within our families. These cause us to be hard pressed on all sides. Where can we turn in our time of need? Where is the hope of those who find themselves weak and just hanging on? We have a promise, made in the Old Testament and repeated in the New Testament, that Jesus is who we can turn to in such times as these.

It is in these moments, where the world seems to be upside down and we have no control, that we need to turn to the one who says He will not break us or snuff us out in our weakness. Peter understood this. He had made bold promises and failed to keep them. He was restored by Jesus and wrote in 1 Peter 5:6-7 "Humble yourself, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you."

Jesus cares for you, His people. He will not break you or quench you in your weakness. His mighty hand is there to protect you, keep you, and uplift you. Christians, when you are weak, turn to the God who is stronger and who will keep you in your weakness.

Dr. Kyle E. Sims  
Pastor

## **\*Confession of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic\*\* and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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.

## **Hymn**

Red Trinity Hymnal #274

*"Thine Be the Glory"*

## **Tithes and Offerings**

## **Choral Offertory**

Chancel Choir

*"God Is So Good"*

\*\*universal

**\*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 #139B

*“Where Can I From Your Spirit Flee?”*

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Choral Anthem**

Chancel Choir

*“Come To the Tomb”*

**Children’s Sermon**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**Scripture Reading**

Pew Bible Page 949

Romans 15:1-7

**Sermon**

Dr. Kyle E. Sims

*“The Importance Of Harmony In the Church”*

**Prayer of Application**

RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

**\*Hymn**

Blue ARP Psalter #197

*“Christian Unity”*

**\*Free Offer of the Gospel**

Thursday, May 4, 2017- John 18:28-32

The hearing before the High Priest has been an easy one for the Jews as he is in on the plot. Now they have to convince the Roman governor. We see their outward show of holiness. They did not want to make themselves ceremonially unclean, yet at the same time they have murder in their hearts. The logic of their charge is lacking and Pilate knows it. He does not want to be bothered, but they press him because otherwise they can put no one to death. Jesus is going to die. He has not be captured or betrayed; He is willingly going to die for you and for me. All of this is part of God's saving plan.

Friday, May 5, 2017- John 18:33-36

In this interchange between Jesus and Pilate we see the truth that Jesus’ Kingdom is not of this world. This is why the church is not a military force. This is why we do not lead military crusades to conquer the world. We do not have Jihad as one of our core beliefs. Christ’s kingdom transcends this world. Have no doubt. Christ is King of this world, yet it is not a political kingdom. It is a spiritual kingdom. He could throw out the Romans and kill the false leaders, but He wins a more important battle on the Cross. He conquers sin and death for His people.

Saturday May 6, 2017- John 18:37-40

Pilate is a wise politician. He has Jesus admitting He is a king. However, Pilate knows that this charge is being fueled by the jealousy of the Jewish rulers. It is trumped up. He puts off Jesus by saying, "What is truth?" Pilate then goes to the Jews with a plan to let Jesus go and not cause any undo grief for himself. He says, “I find no guilt in Him.” He then offers to release Him as is the custom at the Passover, but they do not want Jesus set free. They choose Barabbas, so Pilate hands Jesus over to be crucified.

# Devotions

Monday, May 1, 2017- John 18:20-21

Jesus' teaching was open and public. The miracles He worked were not hidden; the people and leaders saw them. Jesus testified to them, "I have spoken openly to the world...taught in the synagogues and in the temple." He was saying that His teaching was not a secret. They did not have to ask Christ. They could have asked anyone who had been around and heard His teaching.

The teaching of Jesus is not secret today. It is given to the world in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. We proclaim it and give it to the world freely.

Tuesday, May 2, 2017- John 18:22-24

We see that Jesus is not getting a fair trial. Jesus has spoken the truth, but He is struck by one of the High Priest's officers. Jesus asks him a simple but direct question. "If what I said is true, why do you strike me?" This is a kangaroo court. The Jewish rulers and leaders want Jesus gone. They need Him out of the way because He is messing up their power and authority. We should always seek truth in dealing with all matters, especially those that are of importance. They rushed to judgment and missed seeing the Savior of the world.

Wednesday, May 3, 2017- John 18:25-27

The scene cuts back to Peter. He is close by, warming himself by a fire. When he is recognized, he denies Jesus a second time. Then one of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, sees him. Now if someone chopped off an ear of your relative, I think you would probably remember what he looks like. He asks, "Did I not see you in the Garden with Him?" Peter denies it. Then the rooster crowed. Poor Peter wanted to stay with Christ and follow Him all the way, even to death, but he could not go even as far as this point. Christ's words came true and Peter denied Him three times. Only Christ could go to the cross to be our Savior and Lord! Peter is restored in John 21:15-19. Know that we go not in our own strength, but only in and by the power of Christ.

## **\*Benediction**

### LEAVING WORSHIP

#### **\*Congregational Response**

Song Supplement #1 verse 1

*"Benediction"*

*Words and Music by Stuart Townsend and Keith Getty*

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*CCLI License #399806*

#### **\*The Greeting of the Congregation**

#### **Taking the Gospel To the World**

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

# Sermon Notes

Text: Romans 15:1-7

Title: “The Importance Of Harmony In the Church”

# Prayer Emphasis

## **Andrew Brunson**

God will strengthen him and protect him

God will use him to witness for Christ in prison

God will have him released and returned to his family

## **Poor among us**

Help us to see the poor, the orphan, and the disadvantaged

Help us to share the Gospel with them

Help us to share our lives with them

## **Oneness of the church**

We will find our union together in Jesus

Our worldly divisions will melt away

Our disagreements would find unity by a common desire for God's will

We will have a true and active love for all who are Christ's people

## **Youth and Children**

We will be diligent to teach them the truth of the scriptures

We will encourage Family Worship in each of our homes.

We will ground these young lives on the gospel and in the Word.

## **Evangelism and Outreach**

We will love all who God brings through the doors of his church

We will look for opportunities to boldly share the Gospel with the lost

We will engage people over a long period of time with the Gospel (Ten List)

## **Sister Churches**

Iglesia Biblica Latinoamerican- Columbia, SC

Irmo Presbyterian Mission- Irmo, SC

# Prayer Requests

## First ARP

Carol Nims- Presbyterian Home- Florence  
 Carlyle & Mott Henley  
 Clara Nell Robinson  
 Erin Tindal  
 Family and Friends of Bradford Nims  
 Gene Hunter  
 George Mason  
 Harold Allen- Lungs and Heart  
 I. W. Caskey - Recovery at Home  
 James Caskey  
 Mary Brown Parks-Morningside  
 Mary Ella Jordan  
 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

## Military

Alex Coale- Japan  
 Dillon Coale- ROTC

## Friends & Family

Andrew Brunson- Prison in Turkey  
 Anne Nims  
 Charles and Annie Montgomery- Susan Prete's  
 Parents  
 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  
 Sara Semple- Recovery from Surgery

## Pregnancy

Shannon & Jeff Schrage  
 Shay & William Belk

# 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

- **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.
- **LUNCH BUNCH** We will meet at again at 11:30 Tuesday, May 9 at Wag-on Wheel.
- **CHURCH PICNIC** We will have our church picnic following the Worship service Sunday, May 21. Please bring your favorite side dish or dessert. Fried chicken and tea will be provided.
- **PROMOTION SUNDAY** We will recognize our graduates Sunday, May 28 during the Worship service.

**PRAYER LIST** If you, a friend, or family member are on our prayer list, please contact the church office with an update.

## 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.



**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>.

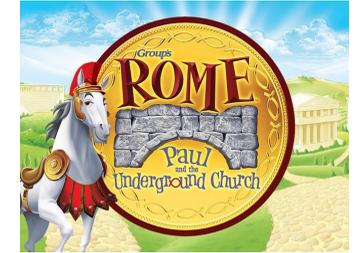
**WEDNESDAY FAMILY NIGHT** Join us for Supper at 5:55 followed by classes at 6:30. The cost is \$3 per person or \$10 per family. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board. **Please sign up or contact the church office by the Tuesday prior if you plan to eat.**



**THANKS** Please see the bulletin board for a letter of thanks from Ms. Gene Hunter.

**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



**VBS 2017** This year's VBS will be Sunday, June 11 through Thursday, June 15 from 5:30-8:15PM. Plan to bring your children as we join Paul and learn about the underground church in Rome. Dinner, Bible stories, crafts, and games will be included. Spread the word to family and friends. Online registration is available at <https://vbspro.events/p/events/firststarplancaster> or click on the link on our church website at [firststarplancaster.org](http://firststarplancaster.org). There is also a volunteer signup on the bulletin board. Pick your slot before your favorite is taken.

## *Condolences*

**CONDOLENCES** We offer our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Mr. Bradford Nims. He was a member of our church since 1978 and most recently resided at the Presbyterian home in Florence, SC. He passed away April 17, 2017. The flowers in the sanctuary last week and today are provided by the family in memory of Mr. Nims.