

Laurinburg Presbyterian Church

600 West Church St. Laurinburg, NC 28352

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 7, 2014



Founded 1859

Dr. Neal Carter, Pastor

Dr. José Rivera, Director of Music

Mr. Sean McDonald, Organist

Rev. Lyndsey McCall, Director of Christian Education

Supported Missionaries

Tim and Marta Carriker

Christopher McReynolds

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

September 7, 2014

Eleven o'clock

God of mercy, grant that the Word you speak this day may take root in our hearts, and bear fruit to your honor and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please sign the Friendship Pad found at the end of the pew, print your information and then return the pad to its starting point.*

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Prelude-Toccata

Pierne

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 149 (responsive)

One: Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.

All: Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre. Praise the Lord!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

*HYMN 478 *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, we confess the blindness that is not even aware of sinning; the pride that dares not admit that it is wrong; the selfishness that can see nothing but its own will; the righteousness that knows no fault; the callousness that has ceased to care; the defiance that does not regret its own sins; the evasion that always tries to make excuses; the coldness of heart that is too hardened to repent. God, we are sinners; be merciful to us. Amen. *Silent Prayer*

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends believe the good news of the gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 579

**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.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

for all children

3rd GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION

Jack Herr, Sarah Beth McLaurin, Garrett Sellers

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS (Responsive Prayer)

One: We give thanks, O God for the splendor of your creation and the amazing beauty of our world.

All: We thank you, Lord.

One: For the wonder of life, for minds to think and hearts to love and hands to serve.

All: We thank you, Lord.

One: For parents and grandparents, for teachers, for friends, for all in this community who help our children grow and learn to love whatever is just and true and good.

All: We thank you, Lord.

One: For the gift of the children in our family of faith and in our community; for the blessing and joy of caring for them and bringing them up in the faith.

All: We thank you, Lord.

One: Direct us, O Lord, in all our ways.

All: Guide us and help us, O Lord.

One: In the homes of this congregation may there be calm strength and patient wisdom to bring up our children.

All: Guide us and help us, O Lord.

One: In our schools as we offer children the quality and varieties of education and other services they need to participate fully in the creation of a just and peaceful society.

All: Guide us and help us, O Lord.

One: In giving our ideas, talents and support to our schools and to our school board and legislative bodies who are responsible for children, so that we may ensure quality education for all.

All: Guide us and help us, O Lord.

One: In finding ways to assist teachers and administrators and staff of our schools so that they may be renewed continually in their chosen vocation to help all our children develop their gifts fully.

All: Guide us and help us, O Lord.

One: With the vision to learn, may our children and young people be inspired and mentored to grow in wisdom and in truth.

All: Loving God, as we begin a new school year, may we all be open to learn more about your creation and what we can do to make it a good place for all. May our students be willing to make new friends and be with old friends. In all that we say and do this school year, we know you will be with us every step of the way, to guide us, to give us understanding and strength, to pick us up if we fall, and to help us to make new beginnings. We promise we will do all we can to find ways to serve you and all whom you have made and love. Amen.

Children three years old - 5th grade, please meet your teachers at the back of the sanctuary to go to Sunday School.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 13:8-14; NT pg. 162

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 16:13-20; NT pg. 18

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Blest Be the Tie that Binds

Neal Carter

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from The Confession of 1967)

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. The new life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace. Amen.

*HYMN 438

Blest Be the Tie that Binds

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Give Me Jesus

Patterson

*DEDICATION HYMN 592

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Loving God, we give joyously today and dedicate this offering to your work. By your grace, we are inspired to share your glorious love with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Increase our talents and offerings so that your name is exalted with unending praise. Blessed is your name!

*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 for-give 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.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN 302

I Danced in the Morning

*All Sunday School teachers and Youth Advisors
please come forward during the singing of the hymn.*

SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING FOR 2014-2015

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND YOUTH ADVISORS

LEADER: "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." I Corin.12:4-7

CONGREGATION: We are grateful to God for those in our congregation who have heard the call to teach and to lead in our Christian Nurture and Education Program. We offer them our support, our prayers, and our gratitude.

TEACHERS/ADVISORS: We believe that all children are a gift of God and a gift to the community. We believe that children depend upon adults for safety, security, and nurture. To these ends we commit ourselves.

CHILDREN: We are thankful for teachers who love us and want to help us grow. We thank them for teaching us about Jesus.

CONGREGATION: Bless, O Lord, those who teach and nurture our children. Give them your strength and your peace that they may teach and nurture with conviction, imagination, love and patience.

TEACHERS/ADVISORS: We believe that all youth are a gift from God and a gift to the community. We believe that our youth look to us for support, guidance, and direction on their exciting and challenging journey toward adulthood and toward spiritual maturity.

YOUTH: We are thankful for those teachers and advisors who care enough about us to stand with us week by week. And we thank them for their willingness to share their faith as we seek to shape our faith.

CONGREGATION: Bless, O Lord, the teachers and advisors of our youth. Strengthen their faith and their commitment by the gifts of your Spirit, that our youth may see your presence in them.

TEACHERS/ADVISORS: We believe that all adults are a gift from God and a gift to the community. We believe that Christian nurture and spiritual growth is an unending process and that learning is a lifelong adventure.

ADULTS: We are thankful for those teachers who give of their time and talents to help us to continue our growth in faith and to deepen our commitment to Jesus Christ.

CONGREGATION: Bless, O Lord, the teachers and leaders of our adults. Ground their lives in your life, center their wills in your will, and focus their spirits on your Spirit, that they may teach and lead with enthusiasm and conviction.

LEADER: We thank you, gracious God, for all those who have stepped forward to teach and to sponsor. Fill us all with your Spirit, that together we will help to build up the Body of Christ in this time and place.

ALL: May the grace of Jesus Christ be with us all. Amen.

*BENEDICTION CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: *PH 525 Here I Am, Lord refrain*
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.

*POSTLUDE

Toccata

Young

**All who are able may stand*

Welcome to everyone in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. May each of us know the presence of the risen Christ as we worship and feel the warmth and love of the community of Christ here today. If you are searching for a church home, we invite you to join us in the worship and work of Jesus Christ through the ministries of this congregation. If you would like to speak with Neal Carter or receive information about the life of this faith community, please call the church 276-0831, ext. 302.

Large print hymnals for today's worship service are available from the ushers. Childcare is provided for infants through 3 years of age in our nursery. Worshipers are encouraged to take advantage of childcare during worship.

Leading us in worship today, we thank Emma Wilkinson, Kevin Patterson, Bradley Barrington (saxophone) and Fabian Griffith (solo).

In lieu of flowers a donation will be made to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund in memory of Mary E. Crowell and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lee Davis by Frances and Hal Jernigan.

Deacons Meeting tonight Sunday, September at 5:30 pm

All Youth & Parents meet Tonight Sunday, Sept 7 at 5:45 pm

It's that time of year again when Jr. Youth, Middle and High School Youth Ministries start up once again. Please join us for a light supper followed by an informative and important meeting for all parents and youth of our 3 LPC Youth Groups tonight at 5:45 pm.

Monday, September 8 Presbyterian Women Salad Dinner at 6 pm

All women of the church are invited to attend. Please bring a salad to share. A bus will pick up the Scotia ladies at 5:30 pm and they will be our guests.

Chrismon Workshop starts Wednesday, September 10 at 4 pm

Anyone interested in working on Chrismon ornaments please meet in the Session Room on Wednesday September 10 at 4:00. Our goal is to have 24 Chrismons completed by November 5. We are asking for a donation of \$30.00 per kit this year. Checks should be made out to LPC with "Chrismon" written in the memo line. We will follow the same format as last year; come and work together on the ornaments, or if you prefer you can always take the kits home with you to work on them. Also if you would like to donate a Chrismon kit, but do not wish to put it together yourself, we will be glad to do it for you. Contact Lynn Mason or Emma McInnis if you have questions.

Joyful Singers & Ringers for grades 1st-8th Our rehearsals kick into full swing this Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 6:30 pm in room 219.

We will be playing chimes for the Hymnfest on September 28 and singing two songs in worship on October 5, so we have lots of excitement in store! New and experienced participants in Grades 1-8 are welcome. Please see Jaime (jam6ah@gmail.com or 258-8459) if you have any questions.

All 6th Graders are encouraged to join us for a Worship Orientation Class starting Sunday, September 21 at 11 am. This class will include the form of worship we follow, what it means to be a Presbyterian worshipping community, being part of Baptism and Communion and we will end our course with the participation in worship.

SEPTEMBER WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAMS

September 10: Puerto Rico Presentation

September 10 Menu: *Meat Loaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, green bean casserole, corn, tossed salad, tea, dessert*

Adults: \$7 children 12 and under 12: \$3.50

Sign up today on the friendship pad or contact the church office.

Reservations are needed by 1 pm on Wednesday afternoon.

September 17: Report from General Assembly

(Rev. Laura Lupton & Rev. Deck Guess)

September 17 Menu: *Stewed chicken with mushroom gravy, brown rice casserole, green beans, glazed carrots, tossed salad, tea, dessert*

September 24: "What It Means to be Presbyterian."

with Presbytery of Coastal Carolina's Executive Presbyter Bill

Reinhold. September 24 Menu: *Boston Butt, pinto beans and rice, sweet potato casserole, collards, tossed salad, tea, dessert*

YOU ARE INVITED TO A SPECIAL EVENING AT LPC

Sunday, September 28 at 5 pm you are invited to an evening of music at our Hymn Festival featuring Chancel Choir, WhiteChapel Ringers, Children's Chimes and Brass, Organ, Piano, Flute, Saxophone, and Guitar. Nursery will be provided from 4:45 - 6:45.

Following the Festival, you are invited for dinner in the Fellow-

ship Hall. All proceeds will help fund our Senior High Youth Summer Mission Trip to Puerto Rico.

Join us for a GROW workshop Saturday October 4, 2014 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM. The day will include educational sessions, networking, lunch and visits to Laurinburg Community Gardens for hands-on demonstrations of season extension techniques.

- Connect with community gardeners from your region
- Expand your community garden leadership skills
- Learn about pollinators & growing an environmentally-friendly garden
- See season extension in action
- Earn the chance to apply for a mini-grant for your garden

The workshop begins at Laurinburg Presbyterian and finishes at Partners In Ministry, 12 Third Street, East Laurinburg. Cost is \$18 for non-NCCGP members, \$15 for NCCGP members Visit: www.nccgp.org or GROW-Laurinburg.eventbrite.com to register. No one will be turned away for a lack of funds, contact Sam Thompson for more info.

Recently discharged: Jim Sutherland, Bill Caudill; Continuing Concerns: Freida Parker (Catherine McLaurin's sister), Lucile Bridgeman, Susan Hardy, Ray McCormick, Creed Sellers, Frances Shannon, Sam Snowdon, Marty Sutherland, Flora Wells Scotia SNF: Edna Drake, Hewitt Fulton, Frances Hopkins, John Hudson, Virginia Johnson; Scotia Special Care: Anne Collins, Evelyn Crossley, Reba Essey, Frances Haupt; Assisted: Ervin and Ann Hill, Edna McKeithen, Mary Hafer; Scottish Pines: Thelma Morgan, Mary McDonald, Pauline Bruner; Prestwick: Lois Muse, Dooda Robertson; Morgan Center: Katherine Edmund

It's time to re-link your Harris Teeter VIC card to # 7357 to support our Presbyterian Church Childcare Center. The together in education program runs August through May each year and requires that you re-link your card each school year. Last school year we had 60 people linked and earned \$338.91 - please help us by re-linking your VIC card to #7357 next time you shop at HT.

The Session

Moderator: Neal Carter

Class of 2014

Clara Butler
Carolina Caddell
Wayne Freeman
Mary Hambright
David Herr
Wayne Hobbs
John Hudson
Greg Wood

Class of 2015

Jacque Britt
Beth Elliott
Craig Ellis
Allen McLaurin
Celeste McRae
Lynn Massey
Bill Purcell, II

Class of 2016

John Baker
David Harling
Bill Hill
Fred Mabry
Lynn Mason
Janet Norton
Maggie Ratcliffe

The Deaconate

Moderator: Kristen Anderson

Class of 2014

Tim Altman
Kristen Anderson
Stuart Carmichael
Robin Snead
Sammy Simmons
Anne Sprouse
Kathy Wright

Class of 2015

Pat Hix
Randy Miller
Kevin Patterson
Amy Sloop
Jamie Synan

Class of 2016

Denise Herr
Kim Liles
Richard Mabry
Kaye McMillan
Don Ohl
Jimmy Stubbs

Presbyterian Women

Moderator: Betsy Massey

Vice-Moderator: Carol Sellers

Secretary: Beverly Bowling

Treasurer: Delia Muse

Historian: Lucy Sojka

Staff — Office 910-276-0831

Pastor	Neal Carter x. 302	cell: 910-280-9688
Director of Christian Ed.	Lyndsey McCall x.303	cell: 919-656-2718
Director of Music	José Rivera x. 305	cell: 414-218-2822
Organist	Sean McDonald	cell: 910-373-1776
Office Manager	Lu Fowler x. 301	cell: 910-217-0657
Business Manager	LeGette McLean x. 304	cell: 910-280-0091
Child Care & Hut Director	Priscilla Graham x. 306	office: 276-1375 hut: 276-9159