

# SENIORS MINISTRY MESSENGER

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### Verse for 2021: Isaiah 40:31

They who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles; They shall run and not be weary; They shall walk and not faint.



### From the Heart of Pastor Bryan Bult

One of the joys of ministering to and with seniors is witnessing sweet fellowship among the generations in the body of Christ. I am delighted by two instances: recently, a group of young professional ladies reached out with cards and gifts to some homebound seniors, sparking connections that will endure after COVID passes. Second, at February's Spaghetti Soiree, our MS and HS youth spent an elegant evening becoming acquainted with more seasoned believers. Some exchanged addresses with their new 'pen pals', and have mutually encouraged one another with letters. I rejoice to see my own children's lives interconnecting with their new friends. I'm so glad I'm a part of the (multi-generational) family of God, aren't you?

## Apr/May/June 2021

### Seniors Ministry Staff

Rev. Bryan Bult ..... Assoc. Minister to Seniors  
Janet B. Altman ..... Seniors Ministry Coord.

### Spring Gatherings

#### April

- 6 Seniors Ministry Session Committee
- 10 Encouragers' Breakfast
- 13 Encouragers' Steering Committee
- 16 Lifelong Learning Seminar - MEDICARE
- 21 Barnabas Ministry Prayer & Note Writing
- 22 Encouragers' April in Paris Luncheon
- 26 CIA Steering Committee

#### May

- 1 Encouragers' Breakfast
- 4 Seniors Ministry Session Committee
- 11 Encouragers' Steering Committee
- 13 Encouragers' Picnic in the Park
- 19 Barnabas Ministry Prayer & Note Writing
- 21 Lifelong Learning Seminar - Elder Law Panel
- 24 CIA Steering Committee

#### June

- 1 Seniors Ministry Session Committee
- 5 Encouragers' Breakfast
- 8 Encouragers' Steering Committee
- 16 Barnabas Ministry Prayer & Note Writing
- 17 Encouragers' Trivia Games & Snacks
- 28 CIA Steering Committee







### Spring Seminars

On March 5, we offered Seminar #1 in our spring series. We heard from Mr. Chris Hadley of the Better Business Bureau. Several attendees have already benefited from information they received from Mr. Hadley.

There will be two additional seminars this spring. Each seminar will begin with a light breakfast at 9:30 AM followed by a presentation and Q & A until 11:30 AM.

### Seminar #2 Medicare Overview

Friday, April 16  
9:30 - 11:30 AM  
Presenter Crystal K. Strong  
SC Dept on Aging

### Seminar #3 Advance Directives & Estate Planning

Friday May 21  
9:30 - 11:30 AM  
Presenters Panel of Attorneys



## CATAWBA PRESBYTERY SENIOR CONNECT DAY

### A Day Retreat for Senior Adults

On March 19, First Presbyterian hosted Senior Connect Day. Dr. Mark Ross brought two messages on "Our Timeless Means of Grace." Here is a synopsis of his messages.

Question 88 of the Westminster Shorter Catechism asks: "What are the outward and ordinary means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of redemption?" The answer is: "The outward and ordinary means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of redemption are his ordinances, especially the Word, sacraments, and prayer, all which are made effectual to the elect for salvation." This answer tells us that every commandment given to us by Jesus Christ is a means by which Christ works in our lives, to fulfill in us His gracious purposes. Among these many commandments, those which pertain to the Word of God, the sacraments, and prayer are the ones which are most fundamental to our life and growth in grace. In the Word, Christ speaks to us by the Holy Spirit, and His promises to us are confirmed by the sacraments.

In prayer we are brought near to speak to Christ so that in asking, we receive, in seeking, we find, and in knocking, the door is opened to us. What a blessed communion with Christ is given to us in the timeless means of grace!

If you were unable to attend Senior Connect Day, recordings of Dr. Ross' messages are available upon request.



### Interviews

First Presbyterian's SeniorConnect Podcast (not to be confused with Catawba Presbytery's Senior Connect Day) is recorded monthly. The two most recent episodes feature interviews with Charlton Law (February) and Randy Folks (March). If you have questions about accessing these recordings, please contact Janet Altman at (803) 799-9062, Ext. 550.

### A Prize Will Be Awarded

In the first edition of the Messenger, there was not space for a Crossword. This quarter we have made room. The first person to notify Janet that he/she has successfully completed the Crossword will receive a prize.



## Holy Week Services

### No Sunday School on Easter Sunday

March 28	Palm Sunday Regular Schedule
April 1	Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM Communion
April 2	Good Friday 12:15 PM Service
April 4	Easter Sunday 7:00 AM Worship 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM Worship 6:00 PM Worship



## Highlights of the Third Annual Spaghetti Soiree

In the words of Dr. Robert Belding: "The ultimate privilege is to be born into a Christian home. There you learn that you are created in God's image to serve as his representative in this world. Once you realize who you are and why you are here, it is not difficult to develop Christian life goals. Since we are all sinners in need of God's saving grace, accomplishing our life goals requires a quantitative strategy if we want to be successful and finish strong in life. The Bible is the best guide for developing life strategies."

Dr. Belding referenced short-term missions trips he has



The Birthday Brigade continues to provide parties for our most senior members when they complete 95 or more trips around the sun. Parties include a cake, a card, a banner, party hats, balloons, singing, and lots of laughter! In February, we celebrated with Maynard Cusworth and John Walker. We will take the party to one member in May and two members in June.

made to provide medical care and share the Gospel. When a young man asked how one can participate in short-term missions trips if they lack the funding needed, Dr. Belding spoke of missions opportunities and financial assistance which are available for members of FPC and said: "First Presbyterian's missions opportunities provide a great strategy to fulfill the desire to be involved in God's work at any age."



## ENCOURAGERS

FELLOWSHIP | PRAYER | SERVICE  
Singles 50+ Years Old

### Fellowship

The Encouragers kicked off Spring with an Irish Tea in March and are planning an "April in Paris" luncheon. A Picnic in the Park is on the calendar for May and we will play Trivia Games in June. More details for each event will be provided in the near future.

### Prayer

Maria Van Zanen coordinates the Prayer Ministry of the Encouragers and sends out prayer requests/updates via email on the 1st and 15th of each month. If you are an Encourager and would like to add yourself or a family member to our Prayer List, please contact Maria at [maria.van.zanen@hotmail.com](mailto:maria.van.zanen@hotmail.com).

### Service

In February, the Encouragers delivered a box of candy, a Chick-fil-A gift card, and a greeting card to several families in the church. It was a way of expressing love for these families for whom we have been praying.

### 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

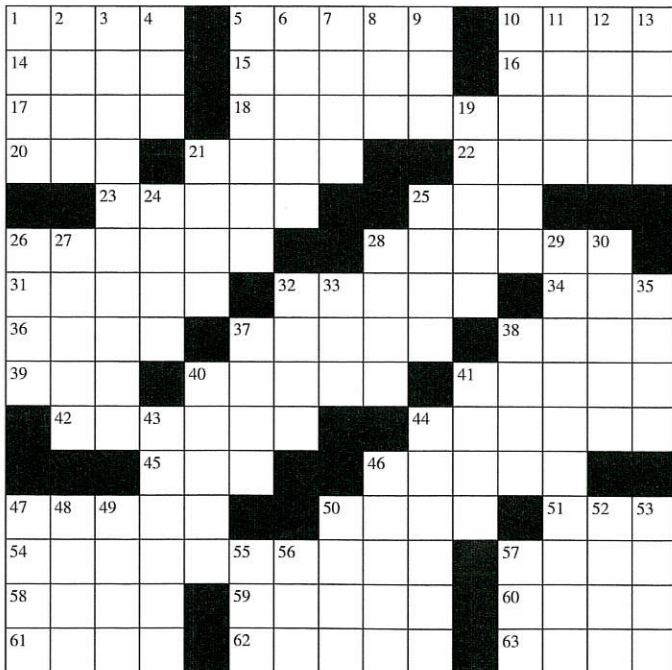






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## Crossword Puzzle



### ACROSS

1. Wraparound garment
5. Detection device
10. Talk
14. Help in a conspiracy
15. Public building
16. Penniless vagabond
17. Ocean phenomenon
18. Gymnastic stunts
20. Behold
21. Folk singer's son
22. Alleviates
23. Stretches of lowland
25. One who sleeps upside down
26. Gave one's 2 cents' worth
28. Explodes
31. Leans
32. Intimidate
34. \_\_\_ pedestal; lovingly honored
36. Narration
37. Wet
38. Burro's complaint
39. 2/7 and 5/7
40. Linger
41. Oyster lining
42. Rara avis
44. Woodworkers' machines
45. Period
46. Attention-getter in court
47. Without \_\_\_; unworried

### 50. Opposite of 37 Across

51. Mr. McKellen
54. Caused to go broke
57. Look at with desire
58. Elks' letters
59. Rib
60. "Get lost!"
61. 1492 or 1776
62. Penetrate
63. British submachine gun

### DOWN

1. Word of disgust
2. Acting aword
3. Confused completely
4. Nice time to visit Nice
5. Inviolable
6. Spoken tests
7. Infamous emperor
8. Crawling insect
9. Uncooked
10. Is dishonest
11. Garden shed items
12. Qualified
13. Pitch
19. Blood pumper
21. Beverages
24. Bet
25. Batter's stratagem
26. Bismarck, for one
27. Grand or upright
28. Working
29. Flambeau flame

30. Tempt into a dangerous situation
32. Rowboat
33. Atmosphere
35. Words of agreement
37. Wedded one
38. Lessen
40. Athlete from Michigan
41. Parishioners' area
43. Less illumined
44. Food storage room
46. Featherbrains
47. Ann Landers' sis
48. Poncho
49. Celebes ox
50. ERA, for one
52. \_\_\_ vera
53. Bright light gas
55. American Indian
56. Shirt pocket item
57. Govt. agcy. (1942-45)

