

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHARLOTTE

Grateful for the past, committed to the future

Two hundred years ago, Charlotte's town commissioners set aside a plot of land for a community church. The church was to be a place of worship and belonging for its members, and a source of blessing and outreach to Charlotte. In this way, since the founding, First Presbyterian Church has embodied what Jesus called the greatest commandment: "To love the Lord your God with all of your heart, your soul, your strength, and your mind, and to love your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27). We have selected this scripture to be the foundation of our Bicentennial year.

Grateful for our past and committed to our future, throughout this Bicentennial year we will host a variety of events that both celebrate our history and point us forward in faith. While we will, of course, have to be flexible, many events have been planned to make this year special. The dates can be found to the right. Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend. A Bicentennial page is being added to the website which will house information on upcoming Bicentennial events as well as videos from members of our congregation, and fun First Facts and stories about church history.

As I consider where our church has been, I am overwhelmed by God's providence at work in our life together as a congregation. And, as the old hymn says, I have "bright hope for tomorrow" because I trust that God will continue to provide ways we can be For Christ in the Heart of Charlotte.

I am excited to connect with you throughout this year's celebrations –



Pen Peery
Senior Pastor

Kickoff Sunday, Coffee with Katie, *January 31, 9-10 a.m., Zoom* – A conversation with Katie Crowe and Anna Dickson. | Register at bit.ly/CoffeewithKatie

Kickoff Sunday, Guest Preacher, *January 31, 11 a.m., Livestream or TV* – The Rev. Dr. Katie Crowe* will be preaching.

The Intersection of Church and Trade: Coming Together to Serve Christ in the Heart of Charlotte, *February 21, 5-6 p.m., Zoom* – A conversation with The Rev. Dr. William P. Wood and Hugh McColl moderated by Dale Mullenix, with Liz Clasen-Kelly participating. | Registration will be available at firstpres-charlotte.org

Willard Lecture, *March 14, 5-6:30 p.m., webinar* – This year's featured speaker is David Brooks, a NY Times columnist and cultural commentator. | Registration will be available at firstpres-charlotte.org

Global Mission Sunday, *April 11, 11 a.m., Livestream or TV* – Guest preacher, The Rev. Dr. Brian Blount, President of Union Presbyterian Seminary.

Youth Sunday and Confirmation Recognition, *April 18, 11 a.m., Livestream or TV* – FPC youth will lead the worship service and we will celebrate confirmands.

Guest Preacher, *April 25, Livestream or TV* – The Rev. Dr. Ernie Thompson* will be preaching.

Congregational Fellowship Event, *May 22, 6-7:30 p.m., Former Church Manse* | Registration will be available at firstpres-charlotte.org

Celebration Sunday, Worship, *September 12, 11 a.m.*

Celebration Sunday, Luncheon on the Lawn, *September 12, 12:15 p.m.*

A Conversation with Lois Stickell, *September 16, 6-7:30 p.m., Queen's University* – Join us for a program and book signing with FPC Book Author, Lois Stickell.

Guest Preacher, *September 26* – The Rev. Dr. Christopher Edmonston* will be preaching. There will be a front lawn fellowship event following 11:00 a.m. worship.

Restoring Balance and Healing Divides, *October 17, 5-6:30 p.m.* – Bicentennial Speaker: Edgar Villanueva is an author and nationally recognized expert on social justice philanthropy. | Registration will be available at firstpres-charlotte.org

Guest Preacher, *November 7* – The Rev. Dr. Mary Katherine Robinson* will be preaching. There will be a front lawn fellowship event following 11:00 a.m. worship.

* denotes former Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church

Please share these dates with former members. All are welcome.
Registration will be available a few weeks prior to each event.