

McCarter Presbyterian Church is an inclusive community of faith, gathered and empowered by the Spirit of God. We declare that our mission is to proclaim and exhibit, by word and deed, the grace, mercy and love of God as revealed and made known by our Lord Jesus Christ.



The Rev. Dr. Rachel Matthews

Greetings!

The past month and a half has been a whirlwind for me. I have met many wonderful and interesting people here at McCarter. For those of you who I haven't met yet I would like to introduce myself. I was ordained back in 1989 as a Minister of Word and Sacrament, currently known as a Teaching Elder in the PC (USA). I graduated from Union Theological Seminary and the Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, Virginia. I practiced pastoral ministry in Arkansas and Virginia and have gone on to become what people these days call a bi-vocational minister. My work here at McCarter is part-time. I have another job as a pastoral counselor and play therapist.

McCarter

Messenger



am married to a Rev. Matt Matthews, pastor at St. Giles Presbyterian Church, and we have three wonderful young men, 17, 19 and 23. I enjoy long walks, digging in the dirt, watching flowers grow, curling up with an exciting mystery or going to the movies with my husband.

I am primarily at McCarter on Thursdays and Sundays. Come join me on Thursdays at 10:30am for a Bible study I am leading called Come to the Waters. And, I would love to come visit those of you who are not able to worship with us Sunday or join us Thursday mornings. Please call me and set up an appointment. I will gladly drive over and bring a smile.

Looking ahead into March are the following calendar events:

Every Thursday at 10:30am Bible Study
March 13 at noon Ronald McDonald House
March 20 at 10:30am Palm Sunday
March 20 at noon - Session Meeting
March 24 at 6pm - Maundy Thursday Communion service
March 27 at 10:30am Easter Sunday

Page 1

McCarter Presbyterian Church
Called Session Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2016

Moderator Rachel Matthews called the meeting to order with a quorum of Elders – Jack Perry, Danny McClure, Darrell Privatte and Dan Rigby in attendance along with Carolyn Greene and Andrew McAllister. A motion was made by Dan Rigby and seconded by Jack Perry to approve adding the additional \$4,500 recommended by the Wells Fargo trustees of the Della Padgett Foundation to our original request in order to offset our projected 2016 budget shortfall. This additional money was approved to be requested to cover the church's liability insurance premium, the per capita tax to Foothills Presbytery and additional outreach to charities. This brings our total request for 2016 to an even \$100,000. After brief discussion, it was approved by voice vote.

Session Minutes January 17, 2016

The session met at McCarter at 4:30 p.m. Present were Jack Perry, Dan Rigby, Carter Berry, Danny McClure, Darrell Privatte and Rachel Matthews, moderator.

Reflections

Updates were given on our shut-ins and sick.

Old Business

Rachel spoke about the need to put the SWOT Analysis Summary into action and challenged each elder to study how through actions under their committees they might begin to change Threats into Opportunities and Weaknesses into Strengths. The analysis was reviewed and it was noted that we have already had some successes with Rachel as our new Pastor and encouragement from the Della Padgett Foundation.

New Business

By acclamation it was approved that Andrew McAllister would be approved as Treasurer and that Dan Rigby would be approved as Clerk of Session for 2016.

Also after receiving approval from Foothills Presbytery and Session acclamation it was agreed to leave the unfilled class of 2018 elder position open for now, thereby reducing the number of serving elders from 6 to 5 for 2016. Accordingly, the congregation members who were in the 6th Under Shepherd group were divided among the 5 serving elders and added to their groups. Additionally, Elder Committee assignments were redone as follows:

Building & Grounds – Jack Perry with Jim Greene, Earl Kalback, Charles Houston and Dan Rigby assisting

Budget & Finance – Dan Rigby, with Andrew McAllister, Carter Berry, Betty Kunz and Carolyn Greene assisting

Education, Family & Fellowship – Darrell Privatte, with Jan Privatte assisting

Witness & Service – Carter Berry, with Mandy Turner, Joy Burger and Jan Privatte assisting

Worship – Danny McClure, with Duane Lonkey assisting.

These changes were approved by acclamation.

Thank the Lord for those who treat their neighbors as themselves.

Christms gift	\$140.29
Check books for account	\$ 13.92
Samaritans purse	\$ 16.00
Postage for shoebox	\$ 7.00
Salvation Army	\$ 15.00
Christmas gift tree(2)	\$ 14.70
Thornwell children	\$ 75.00
JoyGift	\$ 75.00
Total	\$381.91

We had a balance of \$73.00 at the end of 2015.

Page 2



Presbyterian Women

Tempie Perry

It is once again time for the ladies of the church to meet for our monthly luncheon. Please join us at the church on Thursday, March 3rd following Bible Study. We will be going to the K & W Cafeteria. Hope you can join the blessed fellowship and fun. All ladies of the church are invited and bring a friend!

Report from Kelly Sunday School Class for Year 2015

Jack Perry, Treasurer

Each Sunday we put an offering in the plate. This was started long before I was a member. This offering is used throughout the year for cards, flowers, food, etc for members of our class.

For year 2015

Memorials \$ 25.00
Cards, flowers, food and



Education & Family Fellowship Committee

Darrell Privatte

We are off to an exciting start with lots of great plans and ideas for the coming months.

- Men's Breakfast
- Billy Graham Library
- Flat Rock Theater
- The Cove
- Cookouts at the church
- Guest Speakers/Meal

Please contact me if you have any suggestions, ideas, etc. This committee is here to serve and we welcome all thoughts and comments. We plan to schedule all events on the 4th Sunday of each month.

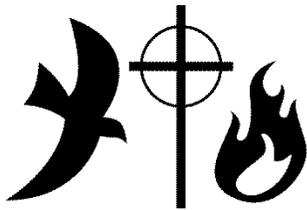
Our first new idea of sharing an act of kindness you witness or hear about has gotten off to a good start. Thank you to everyone for your contributions. Sometimes, it seems we are almost forced to focus on the negative that surrounds us. Have you ever noticed though that following a tragedy or any unpleasant life event, kindness, hope and goodness always comes shining through? And usually in a big way! Keep your eyes and ears open. Good things are going on all

around us. It's refreshing to be reminded and encouraging to see God's love at work!

Blessed is the man who can say that the boy he was would be proud of the man he is.

-J.F. Burshears

Page 3



WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Danny McClure

I know it's a little early; lots of stuff going on this month around here, and it's only March... We celebrate Easter this year in March, so there are lots of things to do. Easter Lilies will go on sale March 6th, and that will go on thru Sunday March 20th, Palm Sunday. You may use the order sheets in the bulletin, and drop it in the offering plate. Don't forget to fill out the space at the bottom "in honor of" or "in memory of". Maundy Thursday service will be on March 24th at 6 pm, so if you can make it, we'll see you there. Easter Sunday will be 3 days after that, on March 27th – be sure to wear your Easter colors. Even though it's a little earlier than usual, maybe the weather will help us out, so we will have flowers around the church to brighten things up, inside and outside.

(Next communion will come on April 3rd, and I know I'm jumping ahead some, but it will be here before you know it.)

The new Flower Chart is up for your review and at this time, it has many empty

Sundays. Please take time to check it out at your convenience and pick a Sunday you'd like to spruce up the sanctuary. Better yet, take more than one Sunday. If your Sunday flowers are for a special occasion, let us know ahead of time, and we'll mention it in the bulletin for that Sunday. With the coming of warmer weather (we hope) lots of people have nice yards and you will be able to share your lovely gardens with us.

Seems like I find myself going over this in my mind constantly, but we really do need additional people to serve as ushers each Sunday. Most Sundays we have our regulars doing it, but with vacations and illness catching us off guard (yes, that includes me also), the same people have filled in more than a couple of times in a row. Most people don't mind, but it's nice to have new faces. If you'd like to volunteer, just let Duane Lonkey or me know, and we'll take it from there.

At some point in the near future, I would like to have a calendar like the one they use for Meals on Wheels, so everyone would know which Sunday was there's. There is absolutely no experience required, and we will train anyone.

That's about it (whew) til Summer, but there's bound to be things going on in April, so we'll see you next month. Have a great Easter, ya'll!



Witness & Service Committee

Carter Berry

We will be providing the meal for Ronald McDonald House on March 13. The sign up sheet is in the Memorial Room.

During March we are collecting Ramen noodles, canned pasta, mac and cheese for United Ministries. There are baskets in the Memorial Room and a box in the vestibule for our collection.

Consider being a part of Meals on Wheels feeding our Neighbors living near our church. You may sign up on the calendar in the Memorial Room, or see Carter Berry for information.



Finance Committee

Andrew McAllister

Approximate Average Attendance 25

Checking Account	\$ 4,350.70
Money Market Account	\$ 15,001.90
Della Padgett Foundation	\$100,300.00
CD	\$ 26,596.15
Building Fund	\$ 17,303.13
Total	\$163,551.88

Because Ireland is called the Emerald Isle, those who celebrate St. Patrick’s Day will wear something green. Many will also decorate with shamrocks. Did you know that shamrocks are actually three-leaf (not four-leaf) clover plants. Legend has it that St. Patrick used the three leaves to teach about the Holy Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Holding up a shamrock, he challenged them, “Is this one leaf, or three?” Inevitably, people replied that it was both, prompting St. Patrick to draw the analogy that so, too, is God: one God in three Persons — the Holy Trinity.



Carter Berry 3/16
 Danny McClure 3/21



On March 17, many will celebrate the life of St. Patrick. He grew up in a Christian home in Britain, but wasn’t very religious until a major event changed his life. As a teen, he was captured and sold into slavery in Ireland, but escaped to Gaul (France) after six years. The years of enslavement strengthened his faith. He later wrote, “In that strange land [Ireland], the Lord opened my unbelieving eyes.” He was led by God’s voice to return to Ireland where he converted people to Christianity tribe by tribe.



Montie Burger
 Andrew McAllister
 Jean Lindsey
 Rachel Burt
 Eddie Sue Ware and her sister Bettie Landreth,
 Agnes Houston
 Bobby Brown
 Amy Herd (friend of Donna & Danny McClure)
 Rene Chambers (friend of Donna & Danny McClure)
 Shirley Smith (friend of Donna McClure)

The family of Don Gorsline (friend of Maureen McGregor)
Barbara Hamilton (sister of Agnes Houston)
Julie Powell (daughter of Rachel Burt)
Deryl McKinney (daughter of Christine Ferguson)
Shannon High (co-worker of Jan Privatte)
Jade Chambers (friend of Donna & Danny McClure)
Barbara Lollis (friend of Carole Browder)
Gina Fooshang (niece of Tempie)
Judy (friend of Carter Berry)
John and Judy Pew
Wanda & D.B McCauley (parents of Charlotte Rigby)

Page 5



Q. Why shouldn't you tell an Easter egg a good joke?

A. It might crack up!

Q. How does a rabbit keep his fur looking good?

A. With hare spray!

Q. What do Easter Bunny helpers get for making a basket?

A. Two points, just like anyone else.

Q. What do you get when you cross poison ivy with a four-leaf clover?

A. A rash of good luck.

Q. What do you call a bunny with a large brain?

A. An egghead.

Q. What do you call a rabbit with fleas?

A. Bugs Bunny!

Q. Why can't you borrow money from a leprechaun?

A. Because they're always a little short.

Q: What's Irish and stays out all night?

A: Paddy O'furniture!

Knock Knock Who's there?

Irish!

Irish Who?

Irish you a happy St. Patrick's Day!

