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Darlington Presbyterian Church
311 Pearl Street
Darlington, SC 29532

Website: Darlingtonpres.org

Facebook.com/Darlingtonpres.org

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THE GOOD NEWS



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2026

Welcome to "Good News at DPC," our new church newsletter!

In John 1:35–39, when two disciples started following Jesus, He turned and asked, "What do you seek?" When they asked where He was staying, Jesus simply replied, "Come and see." That invitation is still at the heart of what we do as a church.

We invite you to come and see what Jesus is doing at DPC: in worship, fellowship, mission and service, in learning, in prayer, and in the everyday moments when God's people encourage one another. There are many good and exciting things happening in our church family, and this newsletter is a way to share them with you.
Through "Good Things at DPC," we hope to:

- Keep everyone informed about upcoming programs, ministries, and activities
- Celebrate stories of faith, service, and fellowship
- Encourage one another as we grow in Christ
- Help every member feel connected to the life of our church

We are excited about God's work among us! Whether you have been part of DPC for many years or are just beginning to explore, we hope you will come and see and join us. Your input matters. If you have feedback, ideas, announcements, or stories to share, please give them to Edie Park, our church secretary. Your suggestions will help make this newsletter a meaningful resource for our whole church family. **Remember that the 20th of each month will be the deadline for submissions to the next month's edition,** so please be sure to get any committee or church information to us!

Come and see—there are good things happening at DPC!

In Christ's Grace,
Kevin, Lead Pastor

7 Things We Should All Do as Members of Christ's Body by Sam Rainer

Stewardship is a good time to consider the meaning of church membership and to recommit ourselves to the covenant we made with God and one another. I came across this article by Sam Rainer who is the president of Church Answers (churchanswers.com).

Almost two decades ago, a church member asked me a straightforward question: "What things should we all do all the time?" This person understood individual calling and spiritual gifts, which can vary with each believer. He wanted to know the timeless expectations of every church member that never change. Simple question. But a challenge to answer. I landed on these seven expectations that I now teach at every membership class in my church.

1. Worship: Saying "Yes" to God. Worship isn't just singing on Sundays. It's a posture of surrender to God's will. True worship happens when we seek God Himself, not just what He gives. That means laying down personal preferences, engaging with your church family regularly, and keeping your focus on His glory. Weekly worship isn't a ritual to check off. It's spiritual nourishment that strengthens your walk with Christ.

2. Grow: Making Disciples Who Make Disciples. A Christian belongs to Christ; a disciple follows Him daily. Spiritual growth happens best in community, not isolation. The most effective way to grow deeper in your faith—and help others grow—is by being part of a group. Whether it's a Sunday school class, Bible study, or life group, these smaller circles provide the encouragement and accountability we all need.

See the Story: Join Our Visual Team

Want to get involved behind the scenes at Darlington Presbyterian Church? Our Visual Team is looking for volunteers to help bring worship to life!

From the camera shots that help our online audience experience worship to the lyrics and graphics you see on the screens, our team plays an important part in creating a meaningful worship experience. We use ProPresenter to display lyrics, Scripture, sermon slides, announcements, and other visuals throughout the service.

And you don't have to be a tech expert to get started! No experience is required. If you're interested in cameras, video, technology, graphics, or just want to learn something new, we'll provide the training and help you get comfortable.

Students, young adults, and adults are all welcome! This is a great opportunity to learn real-world skills, serve your church, and be part of the team behind the scenes.

You may not always see the Visual Team, but what we do helps people see, hear, and experience the message of worship.

Ready to learn something new and serve in a creative way? Come join us and help tell the story!





Stewardship Events

A Stewardship Luncheon will be held on Sunday, October 25, following worship in te McCown Building. We will have a special meal and program and hope everyone will plan to attend!

Our annual Officers' Breakfast will be held on Sunday, November 1, at 8:30am in the McCown Building.

3. Serve: Reaching Outward Beyond Yourself. Jesus came "not to be served but to serve" (Mark 10:45). Following His example means using your gifts to meet needs inside and outside the church. Service isn't about finding the perfect role for yourself; it's about filling the gaps where help is needed. Look for opportunities, take initiative, invite others to join you, and remember—the ultimate goal of serving is to share the good news of Jesus.

4. Give: Honoring God with Your Offering. Generosity is a tangible way to express worship. Every gift matters to God, not just the large ones. Giving isn't about guilt but gratitude, recognizing that everything we have comes from Him. Sacrificial giving goes beyond convenience. It changes the way you live and guards your heart against greed. When you give through your church, you're investing in God's mission and uniting with others for the cause of Christ.

5. Pray: Prioritizing God's Will Through Prayer. Prayer is more than presenting requests. The purpose of prayer is to align your heart with God's. Jesus taught His disciples to pray with a focus on God's name, kingdom, and will. As you make prayer a daily habit, you'll find it connects every part of the Christian life: it fuels evangelism, deepens unity, and shapes decisions. Pray alone and with others. Pray for your church's leaders, ministries, and mission. Prayer keeps your priorities anchored in God's purposes.

6. Seek Unity: Keeping the Main Thing the Main Thing. Unity doesn't mean uniformity. The point is not about everyone looking or acting the same. Instead, it's about being bound together by God's Word and mission. That often requires setting aside personal preferences for the sake of the gospel. Jesus' command to "do to others as you would like them to do to you" (Luke 6:31) applies inside the church too. A unified church is a powerful witness to a divided world.

7. Sacrifice: Putting Others Before Yourself. Sacrifice is the glue that holds all the other expectations together. Romans 12:1 calls believers to be "a living and holy sacrifice." That means surrendering time and resources for God's mission. Healthy churches are built by members willing to put others first, give up personal comfort, and work together as one body for the sake of Christ.

-- Kevin

Family Focus

by Kelly Hayes

If you are a parent, you are the leader of our church's most important discipleship group. The most important group isn't youth group or a Sunday School class. Those things make an impact and can be powerful, but your kids' influential, most lasting, most life-shaping group is your family. And that means that parents are our church's most essential teachers and leaders.

Parents show their kids what to value in life. How to speak. What relationships should look like. What to spend time doing. When to say yes and when to say no. What love looks like. How to serve. Parents shape their kids. Parents are leaders for their small groups. Day in and day out.

Studies, like Handing Down the Faith by Smith and Adamczyk, show that one of the crucial ways that parents actually shape their kids is by talking about faith with them at home. The Center for Bible Engagement found that when people interact with Scripture four or more times a week, it starts to make a huge difference in how they think, act, and speak. More sharing the faith and more serving others. Less loneliness, lying, fear, and hiding. In other words, regularly hearing God speak through his Word changes people to be more like Him.

You shall teach [God's commands] diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. -Deuteronomy 6:7-9

Church Committees

Church Committees will meet on Monday, October 19, at 6:30pm. Supper will be served at 6pm and a nursery will be provided. Please contact your committee moderator or the church office if you will be unable to attend.

RightNow Media

In a digital world, having access to video Bible-studies, Christian kids-shows, songs, and other digital-discipleship tools can help you and your family follow Jesus. So sign up (for FREE) to access thousands of biblical resources on your phone, tablet, smart-TV, or computer through RightNowMedia! To register on your phone, simply text DPC to 49775. Or visit darlingtonpres.org and click the RightNowMedia button on the homepage.

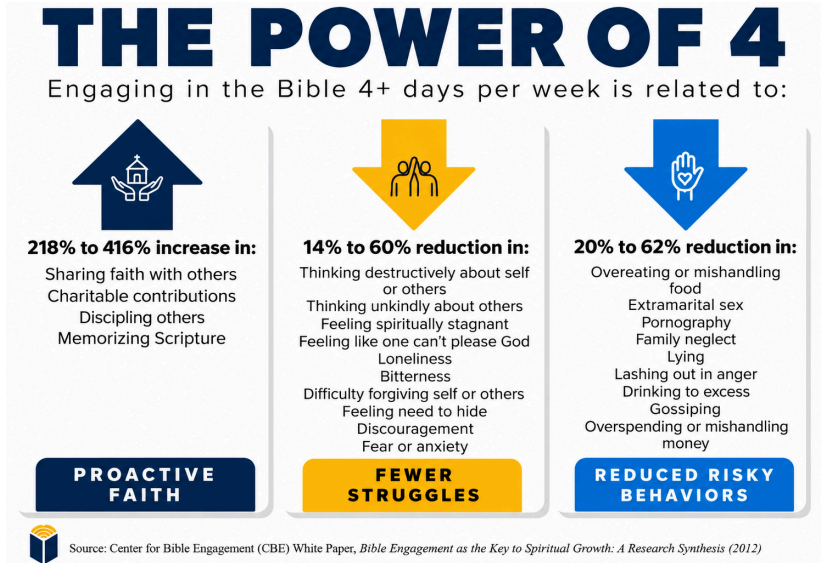
Help for At-Home Discipleship

Our church believes that "the spiritual nurture, instruction, and training of the children of the church are committed by God primarily to their parents." So, we are providing an at-home Bible guide that you can use to lead your family in a short time of daily devotion. It takes no preparation and is for all-ages. (And if you don't have kids at home, it is good for individuals and couples too). Just scan this QR code to find it online. A printed version is also included in the bulletin.

October Birthdays

1 Parker Hixson
1 Marc Sigmon
2 Phyllis Banks
2 Lem Benjamin
2 Mandy Dargan
3 Ray Lentz
5 William York
6 Jim Ivey
6 Linda Ray
7 Parrish Lambert
7 Clara Lowe
11 Sissy Carroll
12 Terry Anderson
12 Brenda Wise
13 John Bridgers
13 P.J. Lentz
14 Jessie Nicrone
14 Gracie Smith
14 William Stokes, Jr.
16 Tim Hess
16 Ann Ward
17 Jenny Fleming
18 Billy Stokes
19 Susan Quarles
21 Kim McLennan
21 Richard Milling
23 Rita Bagwell
24 Morgan Harrison
26 Richard Ingram
28 Grainger Howle
28 Jackson Scott
29 Vassey Bryant
29 Shaw Dargan, IV
29 Gabriel Orr
30 Eddie Stokes
31 Omie McClary





Parents, as leaders in your family, God commands you to diligently teach his Word to your kids. He has already given you a job as a discipleship-leader in your family. And this is an at-home, in-the-car, at-church, at-the-store, while-walking-the-dog, at-the-table, during-commercials, before-bed job.

Since you are the leaders of the most important discipleship group—your family—our church supports you with a curriculum. Our church produces a weekly at-home Bible-guide called Not-So Quiet Time. This simple guide can be used by families with kids of all ages to walk them through one chapter of the Bible each week. It also engages with the Shorter Catechism and includes a monthly memory-verse. You can access it digitally or on paper in each Sunday's bulletin. And, of course, you are more than welcome to use a different Bible study with your family if that works better for you.

But whichever Bible-study you use, it is essential to be feeding God's Word to your family daily.

Want help getting started with a daily Bible discussion in your home? I am happy to assist you. Worried that it won't be good enough or that you don't know enough? Just get started. God will work. You can trust Him.

Women in Ministry

Mary Scott

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort... who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God." - 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Dear Friends,

This scripture beautifully reminds us that God comforts us in our times of sorrow so that we, in turn, may comfort others.

Our church family is truly blessed to have Women in Ministry (WIM) Circles that faithfully provide bereavement meals for church members and their families. Through these acts of service, families experiencing loss are supported with love, prayer, and practical care during a difficult time.

To help meet this need long-term, we are inviting members of the congregation to join a Bereavement Meal Committee. Volunteers would be asked to provide a side dish, dessert, or other food item when a non-circled church member, or a member of their immediate family, passes away. Contributions might include sandwiches, deviled eggs, vegetables, salads, desserts, or other simple dishes.

This ministry means so much to grieving families. Time and again, we receive heartfelt notes, phone calls, and expressions of gratitude from those who have been touched by this gesture of love and support during one of life's most difficult seasons.

If you would be willing to serve in this meaningful way, please contact: Mary Scott at 843-307-1339 or Edie at the church office.

Thank you for prayerfully considering how you might be a part of this ministry of comfort, compassion, and care.

THE MOMCO

Love a Mom by Inviting Her to MomCo!

Our church has a group for discipling and encouraging moms called MomCo, and you can make a difference by inviting a co-worker, friend, child, or neighbor. This is a simple way for you to help connect moms (and families) to the church, and to love moms who are in need of Christ-centered support. The group meets during Church Family Night which means there are many family-benefits. Do you know moms that would love to join us for a meal that they don't have to cook or clean-up, a discipleship program for their kids, a great study for spouses, and a meaningful group to support them through motherhood? Take a moment to invite. You can make a difference.

Music Ministry

Consider supporting our music ministry! Whether it be through participation or attendance at one of our special events, we welcome you! The Chancel Choir helps lead worship every Sunday morning and rehearses every Wednesday at 7:00pm. The next major event for the choir is our annual Christmas concert, scheduled for Sunday, December 20. Our Handbell Choir will also make an appearance in the Christmas concert. The Praise Team leads Wednesday evening devotionals and sings once a month during regular morning worship services. Our Youth and have the opportunity to join any of these ensembles as well as sing as their own group when necessary.

We have many opportunities for you all to get involved and we welcome ALL levels of ability!

Check out our Concert Series! October's concert, "Nothing Better", is set for the 25th at 4:00pm, will feature former students of Cole Davis from Coastal Carolina University. They will render a mix of traditional and contemporary music. Local artist, musician, and beloved DPC extended family member, Ann Dowling will present a visual art display.

Thank you, DPC, for your love and support!

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." –Matthew 5:16



Loyalty Day

Dr. Robert Howard, Guest Preacher

Sunday, October 11

Join us on Sunday, October 11, as we welcome to our pulpit the Rev. Dr. Robert Howard. Robert was born in Darlington and was a member of Darlington Presbyterian, where he heard and believed upon the Gospel of our Lord! He received his Bachelor's degree from Presbyterian College, his Masters of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary, and his Doctorate of Ministry from Gordon-Cornell Theological Seminary. Robert served as the Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Statesville, NC, and then as Pastor of Centre Presbyterian Church, Mooresville, NC, until his recent retirement. He currently serves as the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Central Carolinas, EPC.

Everyone is encouraged to invite friends and family members to this special homecoming service! Following the worship service, there will be a covered-dish dinner in the fellowship hall. Members are asked to bring their favorite dish, side item, or dessert (*please label your dish with your name*).

October 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Exercise Class - 11am (McCown Bldg) Bill's Bible Study (Library 5:30pm)	**2**	**3**
4 Communion *PB&J Sunday* Sunday School -9:45am Worship -11am Youth Group -5-7pm	**5** WIM Council – 5:30pm (McCown Bldg)	**6** Men's Prayer Breakfast –7am (Takis')	**7** Church Family Night -5:15pm Bible Study -6:15pm MomCo, Kids & Youth -6:15pm Praise Band Practice -6:15pm Chancel Choir -7pm	**8** Bill's Bible Study (Library 5:30pm)	**9**	**10** Circle 3 -10am (McCown Bldg) Circle 4 – 11am (Library)
11 **Loyalty Day** Sunday School -9:45am Worship -11am No Youth Group	**12**	**13** Men's Prayer Breakfast – 7am (Takis') Circle 1 –10am (McCown Bldg)	**14** Church Family Night -5:15pm Bible Study -6:15pm MomCo, Kids & Youth -6:15pm Praise Band Practice -6:15pm Chancel Choir -7pm	**15** Exercise Class - 11am (McCown Bldg) Bill's Bible Study (Library 5:30pm)	**16**	**17**
18 Sunday School -9:45am Worship -11am Confirmation Mini-Retreat 1-4pm (Purple Fish) Deacons -4:30pm (Library) Youth Group - 5-7pm (Home of John/Gail Milling)	**19** **Church Committees**	**20** Men's Prayer Breakfast -7am (Takis)	**21** Church Family Night -5:15pm Bible Study -6:15pm MomCo, Kids & Youth -6:15pm Praise Band Practice -6:15pm Chancel Choir -7pm	**22** Bill's Bible Study (Library 5:30pm)	**23**	**24**
25 Sunday School -9:45am Worship -11am Stewardship Luncheon -12pm Concert – 4pm (sanctuary) Youth Group – 5-7pm	**26** Session – 5:30pm (Library)	**27** Men's Prayer Breakfast - 7am (Takis')	**28** Church Family Night -5:15pm Bible Study -6:15pm MomCo, Kids & Youth -6:15pm Praise Band Practice -6:15pm Chancel Choir -7pm	**29**	**30**	**31**