

Worship and Music

When we moved to Durham in 1963, finding a Presbyterian church to attend that had worship with theological integrity, and good music and educational programs for adults and children was a high priority for us. The Welcome Wagon Woman, who came to our home to welcome us to Durham, suggested First Presbyterian Church. We found all of these elements present when we became members along with many other positive qualities.

Worship is the heart of the Christian community and central to a faithful Christian life. Since we joined, we have been grateful for accomplished preachers who have opened the Biblical texts in their sermons for the congregation and prepared members for the work of social justice ministry in the community. Over the years, our church has rediscovered the rich Reformed heritage in worship and modified the worship service in meaningful ways.

Congregational singing and music have been important components of worship for Presbyterians since the 1700s. Our ministers of music have enhanced the preaching of the word with carefully selected music by choirs, organ, and other musical instruments. We have been fortunate to have had many educated, talented preachers, teachers, and musicians to lead worship and the music and education programs at First Presbyterian Church through its history. Our four children were active participants in the Sunday school, youth groups, and youth choirs which were meaningful experiences for them. Excellence in worship and music are among the reasons we have continued to be active members.

Presbyterian Church members are charged to support the work of the church with sufficient financial resources to provide appropriate salaries for the clergy and music staff as well as support staff. We hope everyone will join us in giving generously to the Annual Stewardship Campaign so that our worship and music programs will continue at the high standard we have experience.

Jane and Henderson Rourk

