



*Join us for a cup
of coffee every Sunday
morning in the kitchen
before Church School*



Presbyterian Web Sites:

Presbytery of the Peaks: www.peakspresbytery.org

Synod of the Mid-Atlantic: www.synatlantic.org

Presbyterian Church (USA): www.pcusa.org

Pby. Disaster Assistance: www.pcusa.org/pda/

Presbyterian Today: www.pcusa.org/pcusa/today

Pby. News Service: www.pcusa.org/pcusa/brief.hem

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sarahfpcoffice@gmail.com

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STEEPLEVIEWS

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Our Mission is to:

Share God's love, embrace our neighbors, nurture each other.

STEEPLE VIEWS

First Presbyterian Church

May 2013

Martinsville, Virginia

FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

We're going on a trip!

When I was younger, we would often play a memory type game at camp or youth group called, "I'm going on a trip." The first person would start and say, "I'm going on a trip, and I'm bringing a bathing suit," for example. The next person would repeat the first phrase, and say "bathing suit" and then add another item. The last person in the circle had to name all the items for all the people. No wonder those suitcases get so heavy! There is also a very funny commercial for a diaper brand, that's lately been on TV showing a new first-time mom packing a whole living room full of stuff onto a stroller for a trip out with her baby. The next scene, labeled "second child" has the same mom wearing the baby inside a child carrier, grabbing a diaper and a handful of Cheerios and walking out the door. (As a mom of two now, I definitely resonate with this.)

At the beginning of this interim period of ministry, we talked about this time as a journey – "we're going on a trip." And perhaps at this stage of the journey, we may be like the voice from the back seat that asks "ARE WE THERE YET?" Perhaps this is a good time to pause and consider our trip, to look around and take inventory of ourselves and the baggage we're carrying along with us. Do we feel loaded down by burdens: trying to hold on to the things of our past, overloaded with worries for the future, guarding and protecting ourselves against every risk or danger the uncertainty the journey may bring our way? Perhaps it's the darned cuteness of my children, but I've learned to greet my journey of parenthood now as more of adventure and welcome each new bend in the road with curiosity and joy. I've learned that I can't carry everything in the diaper bag to solve every problem or fix every boo-boo.

So, I invite you to journey on, we're on this road together. Through the sustaining power of the Holy Spirit, we're given strength for the journey, and in Christ we know someone who shares our burdens. As we continue on this road, care for each other, pray for those who are called to serve in special ways, and pray too for the Pastor who will come and join us on the next stage of this journey of faith.

Session Workshop



The next Session training/planning workshop is scheduled for the **weekend of Friday, June 28, beginning at 6:00 p.m.** and will continue through **Sunday, June 30, at 5:00 p.m.** All current Elders and all Elders-Elect will be in attendance. In addition to the ongoing leadership training, the Session will plan events for the 2013-2014 Church Program Year. Members of the congregation are welcome to come and observe at any time during this weekend event.

The Session of First Presbyterian Church Martinsville, VA 2012-2013

Nancy Baker	Laura Buffkin
Duke Ferrell	Lang Mauck
JoAnne Sanders	Cathy Stone

Forrest Truitt

Elders rotating off (September 2013)
Laura Buffkin, Duke Ferrell, Forrest Truitt

Newly Elected Elders

Chris Beeler	Pearl Minter
Nancy Moore	Virginia Truitt

At a congregational meeting, the following members were elected to the **Pastor Nominating Committee**:

Bob Davis	Billy Kirby
Nancy Davis	Bonnie Price
Jerri DeVault	Chris Wingfield
Cindy Edgerton	

Special Sundays in May

Sunday, May 12 – Youth Sunday. Join as we welcome and celebrate the gifts of our young people through their leadership of worship at the 11:00 service. Our graduating high school seniors, Claire Adkins, Michael Mason, Ben Pinkston, Jacob Wingfield, and Virginia Zentmeyer will share reflections.

Sunday, May 19 – Pentecost Sunday. We will mark the liturgical celebration of Pentecost, fifty days following Easter, recalling the story from the Book of Acts of the gift of the Holy Spirit to Jesus' apostles and followers. At the 11:00 service, we will welcome into membership our two confirmands, Basil Boyd and Max Pinkston, who join through their profession of faith.

Mike Ware Needs Your Help.....

Mike is requesting that parents who may have taken Easter pics during the Easter Egg Hunt to share with him. He did not get too many snapshots so he is asking folks to e-mail a picture or two, or three to his e-mail mw_ware@comcast.net. You may also submit any other sots you would like to share. Also include pics from the different Care Groups and he requests that each Circle take a couple of pictures at one of their meetings and either forward to him via e-mail or let him know who has the images and he will find a way to copy or scan the images. Please help Mike keep up with his job here at the church!

Bible Study

A new Bible Study will begin on Sunday, April 28 at 6:00 p.m. and on Monday, April 29, at 10:00 a.m. This study will use the book *The Heart of Christianity*, written by Dr. Marcus Borg, as resource for study, reflection and discussion. Although reading this book is recommended, it is not required. Chapter one of this text will be the focus of discussion at our first meeting. Church members, friends and visitors are welcome at this study.

The **Family Study Group** will have their next meeting on Sunday, April 28, beginning at 7:30 p.m.



Happy Birthday in May to...

- 1 Logan Esarey, Janet Fentress
- 3 Carson Nease, Jerry

Bishop

- 5 Sonny Benfield, Amy Mason, Kellene Wotring
- 6 Kim Phillips
- 8 Bill Manning, Olivia Jessup
- 10 Sandra Shank,
- 11 Bonnie Price, Mandy Pritchett, Emily Beard
- 12 Pat Christenbury, Pearl Minter, Monica Stevens
- 14 Farrell Pace, Jon Tatum
- 15 David Reynolds
- 17 Heath Russell
- 19 Taylor Shank, Anne Banks Boyd
- 20 Colleen Dallas
- 22 Elizabeth Pritchett, Joanna Wood
- 27 Margaret Smith, Kent Williams, Virginia Seamon, Jacob Wingfield
- 29 Ed Linker, Clint Spivey

And in June to...

- 1 Cynthia Dobrinski, Gage Lawson, Reid Lawson
- 2 Suzanne Lacy, Cole Rothrock
- 3 Riley Wood
- 4 Laura Beth Gruettner, Pat Wilson
- 9 Susan Smith
- 10 Allyson Campbell, Cindy Edgerton
- 12 David King,
- 13 Eleanor Woody, Waid Lester
- 16 Ainsley Russell
- 17 Dyer Rothrock
- 18 Susan Pilson
- 20 Spencer DeBusk
- 22 Raven Adams
- 23 David Price, Harold Wells, Virginia Truitt, Basil Boyd
- 24 Denny Casey
- 26 Vicki Wells
- 27 Louis Judson
- 27 Steve DeBusk, Lynn Stegall, Clyde Hill
- 20 A. C. Wilson



Music Department

Cynthia Dobrinski

The **Chancel Choir** is still in need of singers. We welcome both short-term and long-term participants. The choir practices from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. You need not have a solo voice to be a choir participant—just come when you can and know that each person can make a difference in serving the Lord in this way.

The **GPS singers** will be singing one more time for the 11:00 a.m. service on Mother's Day. They have been busy learning music, having snacks, learning Bible stories, and making creative projects.

The **Sanctuary Ringers** will play for the 11:00 a.m. service on Pentecost Sunday. This will be their last time to play for worship before the summer break. We appreciate their hard work and the wonderful sound of bells that enhances our worship.

Singers are also needed for the **Praise Band** at the 8:30 a.m. worship service. Practices are Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.



Sympathy of the congregation... is extended to Ed and Jean Linker on the death of their sister-in-law, Mary Jane Auld Linker, on April 4, 2013, in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

...also, to the family of Ruth Arlene Florell on her death in Pinehurst, North Carolina. Ruth, a member of First Presbyterian since December 5, 1993, joined the Church Triumphant on April 3, 2013.

...and to Chip and Carolyn Lackey on the death of Carolyn's mother, Leota Pepper Loftin, April 13, in Martinsville.



Congratulations to Troy and Gwyndolyn Imler on the birth of their daughter, Scarlett Wren Imler, born April 11, 2013, in Kirkwood, MO. Proud grandmother is Patsy Stanley!

Congratulations to Brian and Jennifer Fentress on the birth of their son, August Conner Fentress, born April 21, 2013, in Raleigh, North Carolina. Ron and Janet Fentress are the proud grandparents!

Presbytery of the Peaks Presents Camp Peaks!

Camp Peaks Day Camp is coming **July 22-26**. First Presbyterian, along with Forrest Hills Presbyterian, is offering this exciting program in partnership with the Presbytery of the Peaks Camp Committee. The camp will be held at the Walsh Farm in Axton. Participants will meet at the church and be transported by bus to the farm each day. Day camp will run from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm Monday through Friday. All children entering grades 1-5 can enjoy this taste of camp. Bible stories, worship, games, arts and crafts, music, fellowship, making new friends, nature study, a cookout, field trips and much more will be included in the day camp program!

A director and counselors will come from the Presbytery of the Peaks Camps Committee to run the program. We will need volunteers to help each day.

The cost for the week is \$75. There are scholarships available if needed. Each camper is to bring a sack lunch each day. All drinks and snacks will be provided. (Including smores each afternoon!) Brochures are available in the church office. If you would like further information, or if you are able to volunteer, please contact JoAnne Sanders (340-6913).



The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the last Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. and beginning knitters are welcome! We have given away 35 shawls thus far and anyone can request one for family or friends. Please call Joan Montgomery if more information is needed.

Witness for Stewardship

Dear Friends,

You can't imagine how much Bill and I appreciate the love you have shown us over the past year. As many of you know, I fell over a heavy hassock in our bedroom last February and landed on the tip of my nose on the wood floor which caused severe brain injury. I had surgery at Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem last February. I will be in their care for the rest of my life. I am much better now, but this will be an ongoing condition for me.

The prayer shawl has been such a comfort to me! I wear it day and night, knowing that it was made with love, care and prayers. I feel God's arms holding me when I have it around my shoulders.

And thank you so much for the delicious meals prepared for us by *The Cooks Who Care* and Women of the Church. You are all angels sent from heaven. We are blessed to have these wonderful ministries in our church.

With Much Love,
Anne Peterson



Vacation Bible School
July 8 -12, 2013 9am-12 noon

Registration

Child's name _____
Parent's name _____
Address _____
Home Phone _____ Cell _____
Emergency Contact _____
Birth Date _____ School Grade _____
Home Church _____
Allergies or medical problems _____

Purchase C/D for \$5 _____

Weekday School

The school year is winding down, which means that there is a flurry of activity in the Weekday School! Eggs are incubating, caterpillars are morphing and tadpoles are growing indicating that Discovery Room is underway. This year we are fortunate to be visited by some cool animals. Miniature pigs, giant tortoises, chinchillas, lizards and birds are causing a great deal of excitement among the students and staff. Walt Anderson wants a mini pig after seeing one in Sarah's Office or a bearded dragon lizard cause they stick to your clothes...just ask him!! Art Show will take place on Thursday, May 9. This is always a fun time of fellowship as we show off the works of our budding artists. If you have a chance, take a peek in the fellowship hall on the afternoon before, or morning of, and see for yourself.

We are continuing open registration for the 2013-2014 school year at this time. Space is limited so I would encourage anyone who is interested in a space for next year to act fast! Our last day of school is Thursday, May 16. We have had a awesome year and will miss our friends who are moving on to kindergarten but, as usual, we look forward to the new crop to come. Working with these precious children each day puts a smile on our faces and we are all blessed to have them in our lives!

Happy Summer Everyone!
Melissa