



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



First Presbyterian Church
1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, VA 24112

Address Service Requested

STEEPLEVIEWS
June 2012

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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*Our Mission is to:
Share God's love, embrace our neighbors, nurture each other.*

STEEPLE VIEWS

First Presbyterian Church

June 2012

Martinsville, Virginia

Youth Mission Week – June 17-22

Later this month, our youth are bringing mission home to Martinsville! Instead of traveling on a trip to do mission projects, we are going to do a whole week of local mission projects with partners including Citizens Against Family Violence, Grace Network, Edwards Adult Day Care Center, Habitat for Humanity and Community Storehouse. The week will begin with a commissioning on Sunday, June 17, during worship and we will work with local organizations each day of that week.

Chaperones and Adult Helpers Needed! If you are able to help by volunteering and supervising our youth, we can use you during the week! Our work days will be from about 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with a lunch break in the middle of the day. Please contact Jenny Spivey if you would like more information and can help out.

Traveling Day Camp - August 6-10

The Presbyterian Churches of Martinsville and Henry County are again sponsoring a Day Camp this summer in partnership with the Presbytery of the Peaks Camps and Conferences Committee. The Day Camp will run from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and it will be hosted this summer on the grounds of Forest Hills Presbyterian Church. Campers do not need to be members of a Presbyterian congregation – Day Camp is open to everyone!!

All Children entering grades 1-5 can enjoy this taste of camp to be held outdoors on our church grounds. Bible stories, worship, games, arts and crafts, singing, fellowship, making new friends, nature study, a cookout and much more will all be included in the Day Camp program! The theme for the week is “I Go Green.” A director and counselors will come from the Presbytery of the Peaks Camps & Conferences

Committee to run the program. The cost for the week is \$75. This covers all weekly costs; campers bring their own lunches. There are salmon-colored brochures with registration information available in the Church Office

Stewardship Committee Minute

Believing that good stewardship is an everyday, life-long response to God’s many gifts, the Stewardship Committee will use this space in *Steeple Views* to bring you reflections and personal testimonies of some of our own First Presbyterian stewards. If YOU have a personal testimony or story of faithful GIVING which you have witnessed in our church, please contact a member of the Stewardship Committee to share it with the congregation.

Stewardship committee members are: Forrest Truitt, Chris Beeler, Cindy Edgerton, David Garland, Judy King, Bill Manning, Mark Mason, Mary Ann McConnell, Henry Moore, Pearl Richardson Minter, Jim Stegall, and Lang Mauck.

Witness for Stewardship

Cindy Edgerton

I’ve been a member of this church since I was three years old when my parents moved to the area in the mid-1960s. Recently, I was at a social event and a group of us long-time church members were talking about the various pastors our church has had over the years. We laughed at how some pastors were great speakers and some not so much, but each left his mark in a positive way. The various youth leaders and music leaders over the years have also had their share of strengths and weaknesses. But to us, none of that mattered (other than to give us something to talk about at social events) because we are members of this church because of the people. For example, at the last stewardship meeting, I was overcome by the dedication and passion the committee members have for the betterment of First Presbyterian. It was impressive the amount of energy and time some

people put into the behind-the-scenes life of this church.

Yes, when I was three years old, I didn't choose my church family, but it has become my family, and so I'm always surprised to hear that someone has left the church because he or she is unhappy about how something was done or not done. Pastors will come and go and the programs will change, but it's the people of the church that is the church, and I love these people, the greetings, the support, the bonding. That is why I am a member of First Presbyterian Church of Martinsville.



Early Learning Intervention

The ELI (Early Learning Intervention) program was begun in 1992 as a mission outreach of our church. Printed on the front of every yearbook is the mission statement: "As part of its ongoing ministry in Martinsville, First Presbyterian Church began the Early Learning Intervention program (ELI). The program is designed to provide a Christian environment where pre-schoolers develop habits, concepts, and skills. The purpose of ELI is to encourage each child to grow at his or her own rate of development. The facilities and program have been planned to help the child grow spiritually, mentally, socially, and emotionally."

In the beginning, the program was offered two days a week from 1-3pm and was composed of at-risk 3 year old children. Later 4 year olds were also accepted. At the time there was only one Headstart class in the city schools and there were many at-risk children who were not being served by that program. The church had a vision to try to reach some of those children. The class was entirely funded by the church and transportation was provided for city children. County children were brought to the church by a family member. The first teacher was Linda Taylor who was also a teacher in the weekday school. The room was shared by a

weekday school class. Church volunteers were a key component to the program both as van drivers and in-class helpers. Sel Harris had a great deal to do with the start-up and continued as advisor as long as he was with the church.

In 1994, Linda Taylor moved away and JoAnne Sanders became the class teacher – a position she would hold through the last day of the program this year. Because of the completion of the church addition in 1996, the class acquired its own room and was expanded to three mornings a week. In addition to JoAnne there was also an aide and parents were asked to help in the classroom once a month along with the church volunteers.

An ELI Task Force committee was also a presence from the very beginning through this year. Most of the chairs of this committee served multiple years as did many of the members. Heading the Task Force over the years were Christine Fraser, Wendy Seamon, Betty Carol Lamm, Jean Williams, Myra Stegall, and Janet Fentress.

Enough cannot be said of the wonderful service JoAnne gave to ELI. She worked many hours beyond those required, loved each child equally and made an impact on their lives forever. Thank you, JoAnne, from all the children you have helped over the years.

Janet Fentress



From the Mission Committee

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who helped with the Butterfly Trees this spring. We helped 7 families with 16 children. Each child received 4 gifts: a toy, shirt, shoes and pants. Each family also received a box of food. They were all very grateful!

Congratulations to our 2012 College Grads!

Eastern Virginia Medical School, Norfolk, VA
Ruth Garland Neary, Doctorate of Medicine
James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA
Christiana Potts Campbell, Masters of Arts in Teaching Elementary Education

Edward P. Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, Blacksburg, VA
Charles Caleb Hundley (grandson of Charles and Doris Marshall)

Virginia Tech

Marshall Groves Chaney, Masters in Instructional Design and Technology

Congratulations and best wishes to Pearl Richardson and Steve Minter on the occasion of their marriage on May 12, 2012, at the Historic Henry County Courthouse in Martinsville.

The Sacrament of Baptism was celebrated on Sunday, May 20, 2012, for George Hazlehurst Harris IV. George is the son of Haze and Elizabeth Harris.

Sympathy of the congregation is extended to Chuck and Doris Marshall and family on the death of Doris' sister, Shirley Decker Klimek, on May 21, 2012, in Catonsville, MD. Shirley was also the aunt of Gael Chaney and Peter Marshall.

A Note of Thanks from the Dunn Family!

H. L. and Brenda Dunn want to thank each and every person who has given money, prepared a meal, said a prayer or made a phone call to check on us. Also, we want to thank everyone who came out to the spaghetti dinner that was given to benefit us. We greatly appreciate everything so much. May God bless each one of you. Again, thank you so much.

Love,
H. L. and Brenda



Session Highlights

May 21, 2012

- Joe Reggin, Moderator, led the Session in an opening prayer.
- Minutes of the April 30, 2012 Session meeting were approved.
- The Financial Statement ending April 30, 2012 was received.
- Rusty Reaser's resignation as Parish Associate was received.
- Changes in Membership: The baptism of George Hazlehurst Harris IV, son of Haze and Elizabeth Harris on Sunday, May 20, 2012 was noted.
- The Session approved a motion that income produced as a result of Joe Reggin's consultant fees be split 55% to FPC and 45% to Joe.
- Changes to the Manual of Operations were approved in the area of employee benefits.
- The Session approved extending the temporary contract of the current Bookkeeper until July 15, so as to allow more time for analysis and refinement of the bookkeeping job description.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 16 – 20, 2012

9am – 12 noon



Vacation Bible School is just around the corner. Don't miss out on all the fun. Registration forms are in the pews at church or call Sarah. The theme this year is *Operation Overboard* and it's

all about under the ocean. This is a new program this year but most of the same elements from previous years will still be there – great Bible stories, exciting music, theme related snacks, fun games, crafty crafts, plus a discovery activity and Oogle (sorry Chadder).

Please consider being a helper even if only for a few days. Any questions? – ask Janet.



**Happy Birthday
in June to . . .**

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

And in July to.....

- 2 William Seamon
- 4 Ben Pinkston
- 5 Paul Cannaday, Sam Smith
- 6 Barbara Stanley
- 7 Clara Hartley
- 8 Dyer Pace
- 10 Mildred Bishop
- 12 Betty Carol Lamm, Betty Stanley, Heidi Pinkston
- 15 Dick Pilson, Kimberly Seamon, Jim Stegall

THE TEMPO

“Our Musical Pulse”

Chancel Choir

It is time for the Summer Stretch again. In the month of June, Betty Stanley will be singing on Sunday morning, June 10, and leading the chancel Choir on Sunday morning, June 17. Bob and Beth will be on a vacation during these two weeks in June.

In the month of July, July 8, we have an opening for a solo in the 11:00 a.m. service, either vocal or instrumental. Interested?

Thank you, Chancel Choir, for your loyalty and work during this past year.

Sanctuary Ringers

The Sanctuary Ringers have completed their finest year to date. We started with 12 ringers and completed the year with the same number. Each ringer made a wonderful contribution to the success of the choir by their loyalty and ringing skills.

On Sunday afternoon, June 3, the choir enjoyed an outing at the Chaney's lake home as they have done for years.

Aloha Betsy Haskins

We say “aloha” to our colleague, Betsy Haskins. Betsy has been in First Presbyterian Church all of her life and has served this congregation as Organist, Contemporary Music Leader, and Youth and Children's Music Leader. I would hesitate to estimate the number of lives her teaching has touched and the ministry she has shared with this congregation of worshippers through the years. Many of the families she touched were not a part of this church membership but she had a wonderful ministry to them through the years.

Our best wishes go to Betsy and her family. When her children were in town, they were a marvelous help to her and to the programs she presented in a most marvelous way. Thank you to the Haskins Family and may God's richest blessings continue to be with you throughout your lives of service.