



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



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

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STEEPLE VIEWS



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

STEEPLE VIEWS

First Presbyterian Church

July, 2009

Martinsville, Virginia

From My Perspective Within The Kingdom

On May 24th, I preached a sermon entitled On Behalf of Others, which was based on Jesus' final prayer on behalf of his disciples as found in the Gospel of John, the seventeenth chapter. I do not preach old sermons; however, four church members told me that a portion of the sermon should be reproduced in the newsletter for those who were unable to be in church on that particular Sunday. Therefore, I have agreed to follow up on their request. Here is an excerpt from that sermon:

“In the latter half of the eleventh verse; Jesus prays for us saying, “Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.” Jesus prayed then and he prays now that his disciples would be united. While Jesus prayed for God to protect and strengthen his disciples because they were in the world, at the same time, Jesus knew that some of the greatest threats to the community of faith would come from within the body of Christ. Therefore, Jesus prays for us, yearns for us, to be one in the Lord.

“We have had our share of problems in our church over the past several years. There have been disagreements about whether to have a contemporary service and, if so, where it should take place; we didn't all see “eye-to-eye” on where to place the grand piano in the sanctuary; and, of course, there were a lot of problems as they pertained to personalities and conflicts within the youth ministry program – to name a few. While Christians can and do disagree over matters, the key is to do so while remaining agreeable and civil to one another. However, we have seen some people leave the church or became less active in terms of their involvement; some have ignored and even have refused to speak to others; there has been a growing level of negativity; and, complaining abounds. All the while, Jesus prays continuously that we may be one. “I would like to suggest a pastoral solution to the problem. I propose that we take a good hard look at Jesus, and that we then “go and do likewise.” In other words, since Jesus prays for us, we need to pray for each other, on behalf of others – especially those with whom we disagree. Rather than avoid someone or complain to others about a particular person or situation, how much more Christ-like it is to pray to be united with that person or to lift up a frustrating situation to the Lord and seek God's will and guidance. After all, Jesus not only models praying on behalf of others for us, he also models sacrificial love for us in that he would soon go to Calvary on our behalf. At the very least, we, too, are called to pray for others, who differ from us, and to reach out to them in godly love. What a different place this could be if we opt to pray and love more instead of complaining so much... “Jesus is praying for us, pulling for us to be strong and to work together to be one in the Lord. Jesus prays for us. By the grace of God, and with some hard work on our part, may we do everything possible to see that Jesus' prayer is answered...” I offer these words once again in the hope that all of us will both hear and do the Word of the Lord. May the peace of the Lord our God abound in this place and within all of God's people – all to the glory of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit!

In Christ's love,
Randy



Happy Birthday in July to

- 2 William Seamon
- 3 Andrea Lawhon, Sarah
Toothman
- 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
- 14 Randy Stevens
- 15 Dick Pilson, Kimberly Seamon, Jim
Stegall
- 17 Jerri DeVault
- 18 Duke Ferrell, Buck Kester, Ashby
Pinkard
- 19 Lee Eden
- 20 Nancy Betz, Gloria Rhodes
- 21 Bill Brown, Connie Garrett, Sienna
King
- 22 Chuck Marshall, Lil Wall, Jessica
Showalter
- 23 Carl Bishop, Anne Lackey, Chris
Beeler
- 25 Teri Ferguson
- 26 Tommy Martin
- 27 Melissa Renz, Laura Stevens
- 29 Bill Franck
- 31 Capers Zentmeyer, Laura Chiudioni

AUGUST

- 1 David Chittum, Anne Peterson
- 2 Lynne Beeler, Allan Miller
- 3 Marge Dunn, Libby Goldstein
- 4 Liz Goldstein
- 5 Ruth Garland, Bob Richeson
- 6 Ann Crouch, Bunny O'Neal, Eliza-
beth Chapman
- 8 Elizabeth Clark
- 9 Liz Ferrell
- 10 Frances Bledsoe
- 11 Melissa Wingfield
- 12 Beth Lawson, Carrie Buffkin

Congratulations to Will and Rebecca Stone on the birth of their daughter, Ivey Eleanor Stone, May 28, 2009, in Atlanta, Georgia. Bill and Cathy Stone are the proud grandparents!

Sympathy of the congregation is extended to David, Donna, and Josh King on the death of Donna's mother, Thelma Brubaker, June 14, 2009, in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

Sympathy of the congregation is extended to Denny and Rhonda Casey on the death of Denny's mother, Mrs. Ruth Moody Casey, June 12, 2009.

Sympathy of the congregation is extended to Frank Pickett and family on the death of his brother, E. C. Pickett, in June, 2009, in Durham, North Carolina.

Sympathy of the congregation is extended to Bud, Laura and Carrie Buffkin on the death of Bud's uncle, Arthur Buffkin, June 21, 2009, in Martinsville.

Sympathy of the congregation is extended to Catherine Bridges and family on the death of her mother, Jettie Eanes Sink, June 23, 2009, in Bassett.

In Memoriam

Catherine B. "Katie" Jones
Died June 24, 2009

Sympathy of the congregation is extended to Gary and Cathy Nelson on the death of Cathy's mother, Katie Jones, in Martinsville. Katie, a member of First Presbyterian since November 19 2006, joined the Church Triumphant on June 24, 2009.

The Tempo "Our Musical Pulse"

Chancel Choir

We are in the "Summer Stretch," of our choir year. If you are interested in singing with the Chancel Choir this summer or becoming a regular member, please make that interest known.

Our summer rehearsal schedule includes some rehearsal relaxation time in July. The Chancel Choir will resume Wednesday evening rehearsals on August 5, 12, 19, and 26.

The Chancel Choir will be in the choir loft for each of our 11:00 services this summer. That means the choir will have pre-service rehearsals each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. On July 5, 12, and 19, the pre-service rehearsals will begin 30 minutes earlier at 10:00 a.m.

There are three "Solo Sundays" in our "Summer Stretch" schedule-June 14, July 26, and August 16. In June you heard Janet Fentress play handbells. On July 26, Beth Chapman will sing and on August 16, a Women's Quartet will sing. We appreciate these musicians sharing with us in worship this summer.

Three instrumentalist soloists have played or will play as a part of the accompaniment for Chancel Choir anthems. We heard Elizabeth Clark, Violinist, on June 7. Maggie Pilson will play Flute on July 5, and August 30. Erik Stegall will play Trombone on July 19.

Henry Reed Service

On Saturday morning, June 13, the Chancel Choir participated in a Memorial Service for Henry Reed. On that Saturday the Adult Music Director was on vacation and Sandra Ford conducted the choir. In addition, Sandra was in charge of the choir in the Morning Service on June 14. We appreciate Sandra and her multiple contributions through the years to the music program here at First Presbyterian.

The ministry of the Chancel Choir is

appreciated in services like this. It is my understanding that Henry sang in the choir for 50 years before he retired several years ago. There are persons in our choir who haven't quite made 50 years yet, but they are still working on it and faithfully serve from week to week.

Sanctuary Ringers

The Sanctuary Ringers are not rehearsing this Summer. There is a possibility that this choir will combine with a choir in Roanoke for a Workshop before the Fall schedule resumes in September.

We will have one, perhaps two, positions open for new members this coming year. If you are interested in ringing with the choir, please contact Bob Chapman.



Children and Youth Music News

Dear Friends,

I truly hope that you are enjoying summer and all the delights the Lord has provided. Hopefully your summer plans include something musical. There are so many opportunities around. Check out the *Eastern Music Festival* in Greensboro which offers a full slate of musical treats. The quality is superb and the price is so reasonable. There is nothing like live music to enrich our musical souls.

Music Together continues each week during the summer at our regular time on Tuesday, 11:00 am. This group is such fun and just enjoy being with each other, that they don't want to take a break. We will not meet on Tuesday, July 21st or July 28th, but other than that, we are a go!!

In August, I am starting two music drama camps! I am very excited about this!!

August 3rd through the 7th will be a great time for 3rd through 7th grade. We will be using a wonderful program that will inspire our children and be a great learning experience as well. We will present our performance on Friday!!

Beginning August 10th and going through the 14th, it will be the kindergarten through 2nd grades' turn. We are going to present an Opera, the title of which is *The Three Piggy Opera*, which is a blast. It is not operatic in the sense of the Met, but we will be making the music, the

sets, the props and presenting our performance on Friday.

Our members have the priority for signing up and I encourage you to do so ASAP. I will be opening this up to friends of the church as well!! Please use the blank below to sign your child up!!

I suspect that most of you parents are not thinking about fall plans yet, but I am! I want to try out a new schedule that has just a few tweaks to it. Here is what I am suggesting:

Monday 2:40 to 4:30 Orff-Kodaly

I & II for children in grades 1 through 5. The activities include singing, working on plays, handbells, games, crafts and all sorts of musical activities. The van will pick up Carlisle students just as we did last year. I need additional help each week, so please volunteer if you can. It is a lot of fun!!

Tuesday 11:00 Music Together

This class will meet at the same time as last year. This is a nationally recognized research based program for children from infancy through 3 and a half years and a parent or caregiver. The activities include singing, rhythmic fun, dancing, mime and fellowship for all. This is very popular in the community, but church members always have first priority.

12:00-1:30 Kindermusik I for the Young Child for ages 4 and 5

This is a nationally recognized 2-year curriculum which includes games, instruments, mime, drama, note reading, sight singing and lots of fun.

2:40-4:00 Kindermusik II for the Young Child, for ages 5 and 6.

This is the continuation of the program discussed above. The children who have had Kindermusik I are ready for this program and others who have not had Kindermusik I may join as well.

I would like to have a **Middle School handbell group**. We can do this if we have a minimum of 6 dedicated ringers. Date and time will be arranged to suit the group's needs

Handbells for Highschoolers will meet on Sunday afternoon as we did this year. We would welcome new ringers who have a love of music and a strong commitment.

My first priority is to have groups which suit the majority of our church family's schedules. Please let me have feedback about the groups listed above and any other ideas you have.

You can call me at church, at home (632 3119) or email me at betsyhaskins@yahoo.com.

Have a blessed July!

Betsy

First Pres Summer Music Drama Camp

Grades 3 through 7 WAM will be our project for the week. Time is 9-12 noon.

Child's name _____

Parent's Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Grades Kindergarten through 2nd grade *Three Piggy Opera* Time is 9-12 noon

Child's Name _____

Parent's Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

There is a \$10 fee for non-members.

Want to help?? Come on down and let me know!!

STEEPLEVIEWS is published 12 times per year.
Editor: Patrice Newnam, Publisher: Sarah Altizer, Mailing Staff: volunteers

Lunch and Ice Cream Social

Please make plans to join your church family for lunch and ice cream after the 11:00 worship service on July 12, 2009. We need volunteers to make ice cream. We know there are members out there who make some *GOOD ICE CREAM*, and we always have good food and fellowship! Make your plans now to attend and RSVP to Sarah in the Church Office (632-3431) as to the number of people with you and if you are willing to make a batch of homemade ice cream! See you on July 12.



Bloodmobiles

I had just fallen asleep on a hot and humid midnight in Western Africa when my dear husband, Dr. Chuck Marshall, called saying he would send a car for me **NOW** to go to the mission hospital to give a pint of my blood! Well, it wasn't the first time I was asked to do this, and this lady was desperate after hemorrhaging profusely before she arrived at the hospital. Certainly I could not refuse even though my hometown primary physician had said I had already given enough over the years.

Here in Martinsville, things are orderly and planned on a regular schedule. God has provided enough of His life giving Blood to keep us 'going' as long as He gives us the Breath of Life to keep us on the earth, and sufficient to share some with another needy person. If you have ever received blood, or have a loved one who has needed it, you appreciate how important this is, and that no medicine modern science has been able to devise will replace the "Real Thing."

Our church has volunteered to sponsor a regular Bloodmobile every fourth Thursday at the Liberty Fair Mall (new loca-

tion), to be among the other charity groups responsible to staff their appointed day. If you are willing and able to donate, we will be glad to welcome you to be among our fellow donors such as David King and Smith Chaney. To keep the donors moving through the process, we need volunteers to fill 6 slots of service in 3-hour shifts once a month from 12:00 to 3:00 and 3:00 to 6:00 PM. They include (1) a receptionist who welcomes and registers each one; (2) a 'walker' who supports and encourages the donor during and after the giving, as directed by the charge nurse of the day; (3) a canteen person who seats the person comfortably for 10-15 minutes while checking the donor for excess bleeding or fainting, encourages and gives a soft drink and light snack; makes an appointment for another donation in no less than 58 days. *A staff nurse is available at all times to help and advise as needed.*

We thank and appreciate our faithful workers such as Connie Anderson, Nancy Betz, Patsy Stanley and especially thank Walter and Virginia Seamon, now retired, for their long, dedicated donated hours of service. But we don't expect you, or anyone, to always be available, so we need more of you to volunteer your willingness to be in a reserve 'pool' to be called upon periodically. Please leave your name and phone number at the church office, or contact Doris Marshall (638-2998) or cndmarsh@va.net



Help our Church to be an important, reliable local non-professional asset to the local chapter of the **American Red Cross** who provide this and other services through Volunteers like YOU!!

Doris Marshall

Session Highlights from June 15, 2009:

- Lang Mauck opened the meeting with a devotional and prayer
- Approved the following minutes for the Session: April 27, 2009
- (stated meeting), May 31, 2009 (called meeting), and June 7, 2009 (called meeting) and the congregational meeting June 14, 2009
- Noted with sadness the deaths of Henry Reed and Lyell Knighton on May 20, 2009
- Approved the resignations of Emily Parker (Class of 2009) and Doug Walsh (Class of 2010) from the Session
- Elected Bill Kirby and Lang Mauck to serve as commissioners at the Presbytery of the Peaks meeting on Saturday, July 25, 2009
- Discussed the financial situation of the church along with the needs of the church and the next staff position (the latter will be addressed further at a meeting of the Session with Nancy Dawson, the General Presbyter of the Presbytery of the Peaks on Sunday, June 28, from 4:00-9:00 p.m.)

Contributions to Memorial Funds

In memory of Joseph Campbell
Langhorne Mauck

In memory of Lyell Knighton
Mrs. Marjorie T. Dunn

In memory of Henry Cook Reed
Mrs. Purnell Ascough
Mr. and Mrs. Gary W. Collins
Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Draper
Mrs. Marjorie T. Dunn
Mr. Horace G. Dyer
Mr. Thomas G. Dyer
Mr. and Mrs. William Fidell

Mr. and Mrs. Walter W. Flythe
Mr. William C. Garrett
Mr. and Mrs. William T. Hensley
Mr. Eddie Reed
Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hyde
Mrs. Brooke Cundiff

In memory of Nick Matherly
Mr. R. Marshall Pinkard, Jr.

Cole Tatum Fund
Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Truitt

Montreat Bound

Immediately after the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, June 26, a group of Senior High youth and adults will load up the church bus and head to Montreat for one of the 2009 Youth Conferences entitled *World on Fire*, from July 26-August 1. The following youth will be attending as conference participants: Emily Beard, Jordan Berglund, Carrie Buffkin, Ethan Guebert, Michael Mason, Ben Pinkston, Meredith and Kimberly Seamon, Sam Smith, Jordan Torrez, Jacob Wingfield. The adult sponsors are Laura Stevens and Randy Stevens. Tyler Price will be helping out as well. Please keep all of these folks in your prayers as they head to Montreat for a week of fun and spiritual enrichment.

