STEEPLE VIEWS

First Presbyterian Church † June 2014 † Martinsville, VA

Transitioning to a New Pastor

At the May 5 called Session meeting, Jenny reported that her last Sunday preaching will be July 27, 2014, and her last day at work will be July 31. The Pastor Nominating Committee is working hard to find a new pastor but is not finished yet. Even when a candidate is identified, time must be allowed for the person to leave his/her old position and receive Presbytery approval. This means there might be several months between Jenny's departure and the new pastor's arrival.

At the May 12 called Session meeting a motion was made and unanimously approved to call a **Congregational Meeting for Sunday, June 22** after the 11:00 service to request the Presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relationship of Jennifer Spivey with First Presbyterian Church effective July 31, 2014, and to eliminate the position of Associate Pastor as our church moves to a solo pastor relationship.

Steve Earl, Associate Presbyter for Ministry in our Presbytery, gave the Session two options at a recent meeting: 1) look for a transitional pastor for 3-4 months who will be appointed to a temporary relationship via a contract between the Session and the pastor, or 2) to fill the pulpit with different people for 3-4 months with the Presbytery appointing a moderator from surrounding pastors. The Session made the decision to seek a full-time temporary supply pastor following the departure of Jenny and before the arrival of a new pastor. Right now it looks like we will have both as the Presbytery is saying they have many requests for Supply Pastors so we will probably start off with transitional pastors until the Presbytery finds a supply person for us.

Please pray for Jenny and her family as she moves through this significant transition period, for the temporary pastor, and for the new pastor for our church.

Come Celebrate Jenny's Ministry Among Us

Everyone is invited to come celebrate Jenny's ministry and all that she has meant to us on **Sunday July 13, at 4:00 PM**. We will begin in the Sanctuary for a worshipful celebration to include music, reflections and prayer (come prepared to sing and even do some energizers!) and then continue to party with a time for refreshments and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall afterwards.

Nine baptisms and the Lord's Supper, Sunday, May 4, 2014

Sunday Worship Focus

Easter to Pentecost

June 1, Seventh Sunday of Easter: "One: Not the Loneliest Number" John 17:1-11, 1 Peter 4:1-2, 8-11
June 8, Pentecost Sunday: Rev. Dr. Dwight Christenbury will preach. (Pastor Jenny will be at Massanetta Springs with the Church Family Retreat).

June 15: "I love you." 1 John 4:7-12, God is love.
June 22: "I'm sorry, please forgive me." Luke 15:11-24, The parable of the Prodigal Son
June 29: "Tell me more." Luke 24:13-35, Meeting Jesus on the road to Emmaus
July 6: "I don't know." 1 Corinthians 1:18-25, God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom.
July 13: "I need help." Luke 18:9-14, 35-43, The Pharisee and tax collector, the blind beggar
July 20: "Thank you." Philippians 1:3-11, Paul's thanksgiving for sharing the gospel
July 27: "Goodbye." John 16, Jesus' farewell to his disciples

It's time to register for Vacation Bible School

July 7–11, 9:00 AM–12:00 Noon

Registration forms are available now for Vacation Bible School. (See newsletter insert or online at **http://www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/documents/VBSReg2014.pdf**) We hope everyone has put the dates on their calendar and will sign up your kids as campers or yourself as a volunteer or both.

New this year is a kick-off barbecue supper on Sunday, July 6, at 5:00 PM. There will be food, songs, games, and shirt painting. We hope all campers and volunteers will attend this event.

It takes many volunteers to make Bible School a success, from fixing snacks to singing songs to helping with crafts. If you feel led to help us out, please **call Janet Fentress at 618-0153 or 638-3840 or email at jpfentress@hotmail.com**.

Congratulations to our 2014 Graduates!

High School

Annie B. Boyd graduated from Carlisle School as valedictorian of her class. She will be attending Washington & Lee University in the fall.

Olivia Evans graduated from Carlisle School and will be attending Ferrum College in the fall and playing on their newly formed Field Hockey team.

Stuart Beard graduated a year early from Martinsville High School and will be attending Virginia Tech in the fall.

We honored these young people in worship on Youth Sunday, May 11.

College

Martha Lynn Pilson, Virginia Tech
BS in Science of Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise
Andrew Price, Virginia Tech
BS in Aerospace Engineering
Sam Smith, Roanoke College
Bachelor of Business Administration and BA in Literary Studies
(Please let us know if we have missed anyone.)

Movie Night Sundays in June

On Sunday evenings in the month of June, we will continue in the "Faith and Film" series of movies and discussions on themes of faith in popular film. We began this series in May, with "Invictus" and "Groundhog Day."

In June we will be viewing a couple movies that are more family-friendly, so we will be moving the time to 5:00–7:00 PM, to allow for earlier bedtimes for our younger viewers. On evenings when there is a film for older viewers, there will also be a fun movie and babysitters available for the kids. We gather in the Chapel, popcorn and bottled water are provided. All are welcome!

Get the Latest News!

Be sure to visit our church website for the latest news and announcements: **www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org** If you have information for the website, email it to Gael Chaney at gael.chaney@alumni.duke.edu.

Also send Gael an email if you want to receive an email when the latest edition of STEEPLE VIEWS is posted online and to receive the weekly "1st Presbyterian e-News Weekly." To receive Steeple Views via first-class mail, call the church office at 276-632-3431.

Forrest Truitt edits the "e-News Weekly"; submit news to him at fpcmartinsville@gmail.com.

Weekday School Summer Camps

June 2—6 ~ Art-rageous ~ Children will explore various artists and create unique artwork using various traditional and non-traditional art mediums and methods. Artwork will be displayed in an art show at the end of the week.

June 9—13 ~ Pirates & Fairies ~ Join us on a magical endeavor into the world of pirates and fairies—from gold doubloons to fairy dust activities and fun galore!

June 16—20 ~ Under the Sea ~ Dive deep into the ocean as we ex-plore the beaches with all sorts of activities about the creatures of the sea!

August 4—8 ~ Party in the USA ~ Join us on a cross country adventure from Virginia, Louisiana, Texas, California and Hawaii as we explore the states through activities, games and crafts.

Cost is $95 per week per child. Ages 3 to 6 years old. Must be toilet trained. Camps Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to Noon with extended day on Fridays until 2:00 PM for an additional $12. Please send a lunch for your child. Call First Presbyterian Weekday School 632-3431 or visit First Presbyterian Weekday School-Martinsville on Facebook for more information. Payment and completed form required to hold your spot for camp. Late registration fee of $25 after June 1.

June 8

Pentecost Offering

Our church will celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday, June 8. On the first Pentecost after Christ's resurrection, the Holy Spirit gave the early Christians *power* to go out and witness to the *power* of God's love.

On June 8 and 15, you will find Pentecost offering envelopes in the pew racks. Money collected supports the work of the Presbyterian Church (USA) with youth, providing financial support for the Young Adult Volunteer organization, providing safe environments for at-risk children, and providing opportunities for spiritual growth and discernment to our Presbyterian youth across the country, including young people in our own local community.

Thank you for filling the Pentecost Offering envelopes and empowering today's young people to become our future Christian leaders.

Camp Peaks Is Coming Again This Summer

Camp Peaks Day Camp is coming to Martinsville July 28-August 1. First Presbyterian is sponsoring this exciting program in partnership with Presbytery of the Peaks. Day Camp will run from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Campers do not need to be members of the congregation—Day Camp is open to everyone!

All children entering 1st-5th grades can enjoy this taste of camp. Day camp will be held again at Bill and Sandy Martin's Farm in Axton. They were generous enough to share their farm with us last year and everyone loved it! The Day Camp program includes Bible stories, worship, games, arts and crafts, nature study, a cook-out, field trips, fellowship and making new friends.

A Director and counselors who are trained to run the camp will come from the Presbytery Camps Workgroup. We will need volunteers from the congregation to help each day and to accompany us on our field trip to Fairy Stone Park on Friday, August 1.

The cost for the week is $80. This covers the program, drinks, a morning snack and s'mores every afternoon. Campers bring their own sack lunches.

Brochures are available in the church office. Please register early. There will be a limited number of places and the deadline for registration is July 14. For more information, call JoAnne Sanders at 276-340-6913.

Attention High School Grads and College Students

Did you enjoy youth group while you were in high school? Did you love going to youth conferences at Montreat? You can have an even richer experience in college with the Presbyterian campus ministry found at most colleges and universities. Visit the web site **www.ukirk.org** for information on finding the one at your college.

UKIRK MINISTRIES

And there's even more! Every January, there's a College Conference at Montreat between New Year and the beginning of spring semester classes. Contact Jeff Binder at the Presbytery of the Peaks (rev.binder@gmail.com) for more information.

You may also contact Ruth-Decker Chaney at decker.chaney@ alumni.duke.edu. She has been active in Presbyterian campus ministries and the college conference both as a student and an advisor.

Reach and Rise Mentoring Program

The Martinsville-Henry County Family YMCA is asking area churches to provide volunteers to mentor youth through the Reach and Rise Mentoring Program. This is a therapeutic mentoring program that was started by mental health professionals over twenty years ago to meet the needs of youth who were not getting the emotional and social support they needed. Mentors receive training on ways to relate with youth, build relationships, and understand issues youth face, as well as how to work with their families and support both kids and families in all kinds of situations.

The program is designed to make an incredible impact on the mentee, but the mentors also end up feeling their lives have been forever changed.

Our youth are our most important resource. Many youth in our community need individualized attention and role models to help them achieve and overcome obstacles in life. Volunteers, particularly men, are needed to help mentor youth and guide them to a more positive direction in life.

To volunteer for the Reach and Rise Mentoring Program, please contact Terri Hairston at the Martinsville-Henry County Family YMCA at 276-632-6427.

Pastor Nominating Committee Progress Report

We have two answers for you:
No. We have not found a Pastor yet.
Yes. The Committee members are still speaking to each other and committed to the task. It is gratifying to see how well our Committee has worked together. We have learned from each other as well as challenged each other. We have also developed a greater sense of friendship and fellowship in our quest.

This is where we are: We have reviewed in excess of 90 PIFs (Personal Information Forms). We have interviewed four Pastors via Skype. In addition, six of our Committee traveled to hear a minister speak and have lunch with the Pastor. We currently have two Pastors that we have an interest in, and they have indicated their interest in us. We are waiting for a video sermon from one of these Pastors and scheduling a visit to hear the other one. We have been meeting almost weekly since April 29, 2013. Most of these meetings have included Dale Van Ostem, a Danville resident who is a member of the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry. We have also been supported by Nancy Dawson and Steve Earl from Presbytery.

There are still about 35 PIFs we can review if our current prospects do not work out. Until we conclude our search, we ask for your continued patience, support and prayers.

-Bob Davis, Chairman

Congregational Supper & Committee Night June 9

Everyone is invited to join us for supper in the Fellowship Hall on June 9 at 6:00 PM. All church committees will meet afterwards at 7:00.

Session Highlights for Stated Meeting on April 28, 2014

- Jenny Spivey moderated the meeting that began at 7 pm.
- Nancy Moore led the Session in devotion and an opening prayer.
- Betty Hudson was received into membership by Reaffirmation of Faith.
- It was noted with sadness the death of Harriett Mattox on April 25, 2014.
- Milt Davis, Church Treasurer, gave a financial report ending April 2014.
- The Session agreed to continue the six-year rotation for committee membership with exceptions being made when needed and appropriate.
- The Session committed to continuing the congregational dinners/committee nights. It was decided that donation baskets would be placed on tables to help defray the cost of the dinners.
- A motion was made and approved for the Weekday School Committee to report to the Administration Committee in order to bring business to the Session.
- As an extension to the baptism of nine children on Sunday, May 6, the Session approved some of the older baptized children to help serve communion at that service by carrying baskets of bread. This is allowed by the Book of Order when approved by the Session.
- The Session will meet to continue its April Retreat on Monday evening, May 5, 2014. Steve Earl, Associate Presbyter, will attend the meeting to discuss the transition between Jenny's leaving and when the new pastor is called.
- Since the next stated meeting is on Memorial Day, the May meeting was rescheduled for Monday, June 2, 2014.
- The meeting was closed with prayer by Jenny Spivey at 9:30 p.m.

-Joan Montgomery
Clerk of Session

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Address service requested

STEEPLEVIEWS June 2014

Our Mission

Share God's Love, Embrace Our Neighbors, Nurture Each Other

STEEPLE VIEWS is published by First Presbyterian Church, Martinsville, VA. Deadline for submission of articles to the church office is the 14th of each month. Email articles to Gael Chaney at gael.chaney@alumni.duke.edu

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