



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*

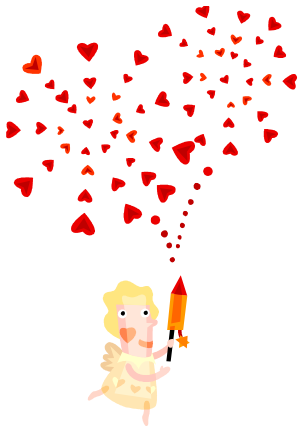
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S T E E P L E V I E W S



STEEPLE VIEWS

First Presbyterian Church

July, 2008

Martinsville, Virginia

From My Perspective Within The Kingdom

From time to time I will come across a good illustration or two that I plan to use in a sermon. However, as I listen to the biblical text and how that passage of Scripture speaks to our own lives, it becomes necessary to let go of certain items because there's only so much time given to preaching within the service of worship.

The following stories were intended for my June 22nd sermon, "Enough To Move On"; however, the sermon took on a life of its own and I had to set these illustrations aside. But, they are still worth listening to as they speak volumes.

Sunday, June 15th (Father's Day), during the U. S. Open golf tournament, golfer Rocco Mediate finished the last hole of regulation play leading by one stroke. However, he had to watch and wait while the last group finished play. In that final grouping was Tiger Woods, who had a long putt for birdie. If Tiger missed Rocco would win; if Tiger made the putt he would tie the leader and force an eighteen-hole playoff. Tiger made the putt and, nineteen holes later, he won the tournament by one stroke. After Tiger made the tying putt, a sports reporter asked Rocco for his comment. He said, "Unbelievable, that's just Tiger." Then the reporter asked Rocco, as he watched Tiger set up to make the putt, did he root that Tiger would miss it? Quick as a flash, Rocco answered, "No, no way, that wouldn't be right. I gave it all that I had, and so did he."

During one of the Special Olympics, which feature physically and mentally challenged persons of all ages, races, and backgrounds, eight of these special lym

pians lined up for the 100-yard dash. All eight charged

over the starting line at the sound of the gun, but suddenly a small-framed boy among them fell to the asphalt and began to cry loudly. What happened next is an amazing and beautiful thing. The other seven heard him and all turned around to help. One large sized girl bent down, kissed his hurt knee, and said, "That will help it feel better." Then all eight of the contestants joined hands and walked together to the finish line and crossed at the same time to the roar of the crowd.

While I enjoy competing or watching others compete, I appreciate these stories because of the value they place on friendship. There is something to be said about competition and striving to do your very best; but, where God is concerned, there is so much more to be said about compassion! Both illustrations remind us to use our God-given gifts to the very best of our abilities; we are meant to give our all. At the same time, we are to respect and encourage one another; always, we are to interact with all others with godly love. The lessons shared within these two illustrations are especially meaningful to life in the Church. The Spirit of God has given us a variety of gifts, which are to be put to good use on behalf of our risen Lord. While our gifts, talents, and opportunities differ, nevertheless, we are meant to do our very best with what we have been given. And, God intends for us to use our gifts in compassionate love and service to others.

The world may not understand or appreciate the value placed on giving (as opposed to receiving) and going the extra mile in order to show respect and compassion to another. However, our Lord Jesus understands all too well

and he glows radiantly when we strive to
act just like him!
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, Michelle Dobson,
Kimberly Seamon, Jim Stegall
- 17 Jerri DeVault
- 18 Duke Ferrell, Buck Kester, Jr.,
Ashby Pinkard, Johnathan Phillips,
Ainsley Phillips
- 19 Lee Eden
- 20 Nancy Betz, Gloria Rhodes
- 21 Bill Brown, Connie Garrett
- 22 Chuck Marshall, Lil Wall, Jessica
Showalter
- 23 Carl Bishop, Anne Lackey, Chris
Beeler
- 25 Henry Reed, Teri Ferguson
- 26 Tommy Martin
- 27 Elizabeth Hensley, Melissa Renz,
Laura Stevens
- 29 Bill Franck
- 31 Capers Zentmeyer, Laura Chiudioni

and in August to:

- 1 David Chittum, Anne Peterson
- 2 Virginia Becker, Lynne Beeler,
Allan Miller
- 3 Marge Dunn, Libby Goldstein
- 4 Liz Goldstein
- 5 Ruth Garland, Bob Richeson

- 6 Ann Crouch, Bunny O'Neal,
Elizabeth Chapman
- 7 Byron Price
- 8 Libby Miller, Elizabeth Clark
- 9 Andrew Bowles, Liz Ferrell

CONGRATULATIONS

and best wishes to Michelle Eileen
Unterbrink and Trevor Gwynn Dobson
on the occasion of their marriage in the
sanctuary on June 7, 2008.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mandy
Pritchett on the birth of her son, Gavin
Xavier Muse, May 29, 2008, in Martins-
ville. Proud grandparents are Ashby and
Lynn Pritchett

THE Sacrament of Baptism was
celebrated on June 8, 2008, for Joshua
Gage Lawson and Grayson Reid Law-
son, infant sons of Randy and Beth Law-
son.

SYMPATHY of the congregation is ex-
tended to Jack Richeson on the death of
his brother, William Evans Richeson,
June 3, 2008, in Atlanta, Georgia.

**RECIPIENTS of the John and Vera
Jane Kuhn Scholarship** for 2008 are
Liz Pritchett (Lynchburg College), Tyler
Price (Virginia Tech), and Melissa
Seamon (James Madison University).
We appreciate John and Vera Jane for
graciously providing this scholarship in
the amount of \$1,000.

STEEPLEVIEWS is published 12 times per year. Editor: Patrice Newnam, Publisher: Sarah Altizer; Mailing Staff: volunteers
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**Coming Home.....
..IS COMING!!!**

“Coming Home” is just around the corner!!

All of the plans are looking great, with some new additions as well!

The invitations are going out in a week or so, around June 30. If you have not received yours, please let me know!

Just to recap...on Saturday, a fun day is planned at Fairystone Park for all age groups! There is swimming, boating, paddle boats, opportunities to visit and catch up with old friends and a great picnic at 1:00 p.m. You can also take a tour of the Virginia Natural History Museum at a reduced rate or play golf with Bill Manning at Chatmoss!

Saturday evening, we will have a wonderful meal and be entertained by Bob Chapman’s crew...the music is really great- uplifting and toe-tapping! The younger Presbyterians will have fun and games outside after supper.

Sunday has plenty to offer as well. The early worship service at 8:35 a.m. will start us off singing and praising God. Then we can visit with friends until 10:00 when an absolutely wonderful video presentation will be shown. Melissa Wingfield has put together hundreds of photos of our church’s members and activities through the years. IT IS NOT TO BE MISSED!!! I have seen it and it is just incredible. It is heartwarming and memory packed!

Worship at 11:00 will be followed by a wonderful catered lunch in the Fellowship Hall, where we will have time to visit with friends before we bring the weekend to a close.

Oh yes....the new addition. A beautiful Christmas ornament of the church will be for sale throughout the weekend. Many of you have seen ornaments like

these around town of other churches... now we will have one as well. The cost is \$10. The ornament comes boxed and with an info sheet about our church. To help us decide how many to order, would you preorder yours by emailing me at betsyhaskins@yahoo.com or leaving word at church or filling out the form below. We plan to order extras to sell after the weekend as well. They really are stunning.

My committee has been the best! Special thanks and appreciation to Melissa Wingfield, Randy Stevens, Bill Manning, Sandra Ford, Bob Chapman, Connie and Walt Anderson, and Susan Pilson.

We need help with several endeavors-- cooking a dish for Saturday evening dinner, selling history books and ornaments, help with the picnic. Call or email me if you would like to pitch in and have a ball!!

Questions? Call me!!

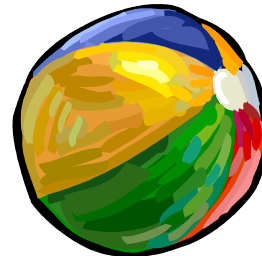
See you at church!

Betsy

Name _____

Phone: _____

No. of ornaments at \$10 _____



The Tempo "Our Musical Pulse"

Chancel Choir and the Summer Stretch

The Chancel Choir will be singing throughout the three Summer months. They will have an abbreviated rehearsal schedule with some early Sunday rehearsals replacing the Wednesday rehearsals. Wednesday rehearsals will be held on July 30 and on August 6, 13, 20 and 27. Early Sunday rehearsals, 9:45-10:30 a.m., will be held on July 6, 13, 20, and 27.

Sanctuary Ringers

The Sanctuary Ringers will begin their preparation for the "Coming Home" Fellowship on Wednesday evening, July 30, at 6:00. They will be preparing a medley of three songs from "The Phantom of the Opera", by Lloyd Webber and arranged by Douglas Wagner.

Coming Home Fellowship

Both the Chancel Choir and the Sanctuary Ringers will contribute music to the Saturday evening dinner/fellowship event on August 16. Some singers and ringers who do not sing and ring regularly are joining with us in this fellowship. In addition to the choirs there will be group and quartet singing. Rehearsal of this music takes place during the last 45 minutes of the Chancel Choir rehearsal on Wednesdays and on Sunday morning in July at 9:45 a.m. If you are interested in singing or ringing please talk to Bob.

The Chancel Choir will be singing a medley of spirituals titled "Swingin' With The Saints," arranged by Mark Hayes, and the spiritual, "I Am His Child" by Moses Hogan. The choir will also sing a Sandra Ford song about the Commonwealth titled "I'll Always Love Virginia." There will be group singing

and a quartet or two. The supper is at 6:00 and the Fellowship follows at 7:00.

Thank You, Betsy

On Sunday evening, June 1, many of the Chancel Choir members showed up at Jim and Betsy Haskins' for a dinner honoring the Fraser family who are moving to Scotland. We already are missing Nick's voice in our Chancel Choir and will miss Hannah and Amy and their violins. Chris we will miss as well as she kept them all on course in their musical work.

It was a lovely evening, and Jim and Betsy were very gracious host and hostess. The food was delicious and the fellowship was great. It seems that the Chancel Choir always has a good time when they get together for an event like this or a rehearsal or service in our church.

NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY



*Say
"Cheese"
Please*

It has been almost five years since our last pictorial directory was published and much has changed in that time. Babies have become toddlers, children have reached those wonderful teen years, and many new families have joined our congregation.

Plans are in place to publish a new church pictorial directory utilizing the services of Olan Mills Photography. This pictorial directory will allow each of us to become more familiar with our church family, be a valuable visitation and outreach tool, and be integral in the recruitment and assimilation of new members. In addition, your participation will entitle you to a complimentary hardback

pictorial directory, and the option to purchase photos at a great price.

Beginning on Sunday, July 20, and for the following four Sundays, signup sheets will be available in the narthex. Photography appointments can also be scheduled by contacting the church office during the week. Photography sessions will be held on the following dates:

Friday, August 8

Saturday, August 9

Thursday, September 11

Friday, September 12

Saturday, September 13

Your participation is critical to the success of the pictorial directory. Without you, it just won't be the same. So brighten up that smile and get ready to say "cheese" please.



Stories of Faith

In June 1954, my husband Walt and I moved to Thomasville, North Carolina. The furniture finishing business had taken us from Grand Rapids, Michigan, to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, down to Thomasville.

It was a huge challenge for me -- having no company there, not knowing anyone and living in a motel. I can still see the two of us sitting in the corner drugstore going through the paper looking for a place to live! We found an apartment and lived there a year. Then we bought a home, as we were expecting our first child in May 1956.

Next door to us lived a wonderful family -- Willa Mae and Clarence Lohr and their two children, Becky & Bill. Willa Mae was a seamstress in a textile mill and Clarence a lumber grader for Thomasville Chair Company.

After working all day, they would come home and work in their vegetable garden, often sharing vegetables with us

so many times. We remember making ice cream together in their carport, and playing a competitive game of canasta in the evenings. We all liked to win.

They welcomed us into their family and were always there to help and encourage us. They took us to their church, Heidelberg United Church of Christ. Walt and I were married in the Congregational church where I was raised. Once we visited a Presbyterian church in Lancaster, and in Thomasville we were looking for a church home. The Heidelberg church had a small congregation, and it definitely was a hands-on church. Everyone was active in some facet of the church. Walt and I joined, and it didn't take us long to become involved - both of us in the choir, and Walt as a Deacon. We have gone back for several reunions.

When Robert and Susan, our children, were baptized, The Lohrs were our family and stood up with us. During Susan's baptism ceremony, Dick Cheek, our minister and friend, asked Walt to "Name this child." Walt responded, "Constance Muir," which was MY maiden name. After the preacher gave him a light poke in the ribs, Walt corrected himself and said, "Susan Muir Anderson."

As the years passed, we both moved -- we to Martinsville and our friends to Asheville, North Carolina. We have always kept up our care and friendship with telephone calls, cards, visits, and now e-mails. When my mother flew to Asheville to look at a retirement home at Black Mountain, I drove down and Clarence arrived at the airport to help with her luggage and lead us to the home. Without his help, mother and I would have been completely lost.

Clarence died several years back. Willa Mae still lives in Asheville with her son, Bill. In March of 2007 she celebrated her 90th birthday. It was at her

church fellowship hall among many friends. Walt & I were there. She didn't want any gifts, but I knit a shawl for her, thinking she might need it. But as it turned out, that was the last thing she needed. She is still quite active. She makes crafts to sell at craft shows and plays bridge with her friends often. No sitting around in her shawl!

Looking back, I believe it was God's grace that landed us in that house in Thomasville. We shall always be thankful for their love, guidance and a friendship that has lasted a long time – 54 years.

(Connie and Walt Anderson will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary in August. They have been members of First Presbyterian Church for 45 years.)

(Stories of Faith is written by members of First Presbyterian Church. We invite you to share your faith experiences in Steepleviews by emailing them to jmstegall@comcast.net.)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 7 - 11

9:00 - NOON

**FOREST HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

It's almost here!!

Lots of bubbling fun

at this year's Power Lab VBS. We are looking for your registration as it's just a few more days away. Please fill out the registration form and turn it in to the church office. You won't want to miss a single minute of fun. And of course we always need teenage and adult help so you need to turn in a registration also so we can place you in the most needed spot. Fizz, Sparki, Dewd, Max and Electra will miss you if you're not there so sign up ASAP.



Keeping Up With the Needlework guild

The Needlework Guild has made changes in the 20

years since it was

formed by Liz Harris and Amy Miller. Some of us still meet one morning a month to find out about our projects, get materials and patterns, and enjoy the fellowship. We do our work mostly at home. Now we have several members who contribute to the guild, but for various reasons, cannot attend our monthly meetings. They are Eleanor Woody, who sews all the hospital gowns for the three nursing homes; Billie DePuy and Lyn Davis are busily knotting scarves, hats, and slippers, and Jean Adams sews totes for walkers. Sarah Altizer, Vickie Wells, and Arlene Dunn helped paint sweatshirts for our ELI children, and Bonnie Price taught some of us to make Chrismons for our beautiful church tree. It's great to have these women as members, and we are thankful for all they do.

For the last several years, Helen Flythe has knit sweaters for all the newborns in our church family; and Clara Hartley has knit the booties. They are still doing this. These make a lovely gift.

We've gone global! Besides serving our community, we have knit and sent premie booties to Africa's Ivory Coast, responding to a request from Doris Marshall. Also, Helen Flythe is sending off a large box of knitted hats and scarves for the children of North Korea. She has a friend, (Mrs. John (Ruth) Folta) here in the states who has a missionary connection in northern China, close to the North Korean border.

**I Scream
You Scream
We All Scream
FOR ICE
CREAM**



Mark your calendar for Sunday, July 13 for our annual Sunday Ice Cream Social. It begins right after the 11:00 service with Subs, chips and more and then ice cream. Nothing says “summer” better than the home-made variety, so if you have an ice cream maker, now is the time to get it out and put it to good use. Chocolate, Vanilla, Strawberry or your favorite blend. Bring it to church in the morning of the 13th and we will deep freeze it. This has always been a popular luncheon, so get ready, get set and SCREAM for ICE CREAM!

**Combined Adult Summer Sunday
School Class**

For the past month, the combined Adult Summer Sunday School class has been studying “The Question of God,” as seen through the philosophies and writings of Sigmund Freud and C. S. Lewis, who are at different ends of the spectrum. The series is based on the book, “The question of God,” by Dr. Armand M. Nicholi, Jr., which also resulted in a PBS series. The class time revolves around a presentation (by either Jody, Rusty, or Randy), viewing a portion of the DVD, and then time for questions and answers. This study will conclude on August 3, and the remaining four weeks will focus on the life and ministry of Dr. Billy Graham.