



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

*Our Web Site: www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org
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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

October, 2011

Martinsville, Virginia

From My Perspective Within The Kingdom

With the tenth anniversary of September 11, 2001 still fresh on our minds, my friends, Milt and Nancy Davis, sent me this little known 9/11 story, which I had never heard before.

A chaplain, who was assigned to the Pentagon, gave this first-hand account of an incident that happened right after Flight 77 hit the Pentagon. There was a daycare center near where the impact occurred. The daycare had many children, including infants who were in heavy cribs. The daycare supervisor was in a panic over what they could do; there were many children, mostly toddlers, as well as the infants that needed to be taken out with the cribs. There was no time to bundle them into carriers and strollers.

Just then a young Marine came running into the center and asked what needed to be done. After hearing what the daycare supervisor wanted to do, he ran back out into the hallway and disappeared. About two minutes later, that Marine returned with 40 other Marines in tow. Each of them grabbed a crib with a child, and the rest started gathering up toddlers. The supervisor and her staff helped them take all the children out of the center and down toward the park near the Potomac River. Once they got about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile outside the building, the Marines stopped in the park, and then did a fabulous thing – they formed a circle with the cribs, which were quite sturdy and heavy, like the covered wagons in the Old West. Inside this circle of cribs, they put the toddlers, to keep them from wandering off. Outside the circle were the 40 Marines, forming a perimeter around the children and waiting for instructions. There they remained until the parents could be notified and come get their children.

The chaplain said, “I don’t think any of us saw or heard of this on any of the news stories of the day. It was an incredible story of our men there. The thought of those Marines and what they did and how fast they reacted; could we expect any less from them? It was one of the most touching stories from the Pentagon.”

Surely all of us can remember many, many stories of courage and heroism that took place on that 9/11 day. Sometime later, I was asked to do a house blessing for a couple whose home address began with “911 (and then the street name) – they felt the need for a blessing due to the negative connotation of the 911 in their address. I gathered with the family in the home and, in my devotional and prayer, I suggested that we focus on all of the positives that came out of 9/11 in terms of the bravery of all the police, fire and rescue personnel, and ordinary citizens. It was in their caring and sacrificial actions that we could best see God at work!

As I reflect on the bravery of those Marines and many, many other Americans on that sad and horrible day, I am reminded of the One, who said, “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends” (John 15:13), and, before too long, Jesus went and did precisely that on the cross in order to take away the sin of the world. Here is courage and bravery at its very best.

This first Sunday in October is known as World Communion Sunday. More Christians around the world will come to the table of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and receive Holy Communion than at any other time during the year. Let us come to the Lord’s Table on Sunday, October 2, and remember the sacrificial death of the Lord Jesus on the cross for all of our sakes and all of our sins. And, let us join our voices in thanksgiving with millions and millions of our sisters and brothers in Christ throughout the world (and within the heavenly kingdom). Surely, that will be music to the Lord’s ears.

In Christ’s love,
Randy

Laity Sunday

Laity Sunday is an opportunity for members of our congregation to lead us in worship. This year it will take place on Sunday, October 16th. Jim Beard and Jamie Turner will be delivering the message at both services. There will be a very special Children's Moment at the 11:00 service shared by Jo Dykes. Other members will be reading scripture, offering prayers, making announcements and conducting all parts of the service. Please come worship with us and support our fellow members who are so graciously giving of their time and talents.

Happy Birthday in October to....

- 
- 1 Andrew Price, Shane Pinkston
 - 2 Myra Stegall
 - 5 Nancy Baker, Mike Powell, John Abercrombie
 - 6 Jane Ford
 - 7 Ralph Shank, Sr.
 - 9 Debbie Brown, Cole Tatum
 - 10 Grey Ferguson
 - 11 Fran Hensley, Richard Lawhon
 - 14 Dwayne Williams, Walt Seamon, Bennette Zentmeyer
 - 15 Sarah Krauss, Joe Smith
 - 16 Liz Knighton
 - 18 Betty Hendricks
 - 21 Mary Page
 - 23 Helen Hawkes, June Irby, Nancy Brown
 - 24 Virginia Zentmeyer
 - 26 Jana Jennings, Melissa Jessup, Ralph Shank, Jr., Katherine and Stacey Eanes
 - 28 Gwen Sowdon, Jenny Spivey
 - 29 Walter Anderson, Mary Ann McConnell
 - 31 Rusty Lacy, Lindsey Unterbrink

and in November to.....

- 3 Bill Hensley, Mildred Moorman, Elizabeth Ferrell Harris
- 5 Neil Tatum
- 8 Donna Lawhon
- 10 Kathy Washburn
- 11 Elizabeth Wotring, Leon Gunter

- 13 David McConnell
- 16 Hank Moore, Sharon Rakes
- 18 Donna King, Ruth Easley
- 19 Susan Bowles
- 21 Jim Baker, Henry Moore
- 22 Cliff Campbell
- 23 Sue Benfield
- 24 Judy Ware
- 25 Jean Hill, Ed Pace
- 27 Leanna Blevins, Margaret Clanton, Margaret Knight, Analisa O'Toole, Joe DeVault
- 28 Katie Krauss
- 30 Steve Mahoney

Sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Keith and JoAnne Sanders and Darrell and Carrie Wilson on the death of JoAnne's father and Carrie's grandfather, James W. Walker, Jr., on September 14, 2011, in West Lafayette, Indiana.

Sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Oscar Flemon Cannaday, Jr., on his death in Martinsville. Oscar, a member of First Presbyterian since April 3, 1960, joined the Church Triumphant on September 5, 2011.

IN MEMORIAM Oscar Flemon Cannaday, Jr. May 10, 1920 - September 5, 2011

The Presbytery of the Peaks is offering a **Leadership Event** on Saturday, October 8, from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Roanoke. Donald McKim, who is the author of *More Presbyterian Questions, More Presbyterian Answers*, will be the keynote speaker. Also, there will be a number of interesting and helpful workshops that will be offered in the morning and afternoon sessions. Members of the Session are planning to attend and anyone else, who is interested, is welcomed. The cost is \$10.00, which includes lunch and a beverage. If you are interested in attending and would like additional information about

the Leadership Event, please contact Sarah in the church office (632-3431).

The Tempo
"Our Musical Pulse"

Adult Music Report for 2010-2011

*(Presented at the September 18 Annual
Congregational Meeting)*

I express my thanks to Sandra Ford for standing in for me this morning to read this report. A family wedding activity has called for my presence elsewhere today.

This year has certainly been a year of contrasts. You might say that in this report we have some good news and some not-so-good news.

The Congregational Choir, the Chancel Choir and the Sanctuary Ringers have remained active throughout the year. The congregation has sung in every service. This has included the usual repertoire of know and sometimes the not so known hymns. Occasionally hymns from the red hymnal, which preceded this blue one, appeared as a copy in the bulletin. Lesser known hymns have also been included when the text spoke to the sermon of the day. There were a couple of music content classes, sponsored by the Sunday School, in July, on hymn singing and church music.

In 2004, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, (USA) gave authorization to the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation, the Presbyterian Association of Musicians, and the Office of Theology and Worship to begin research into the feasibility of a new Presbyterian hymnal. A questionnaire was developed assessing the need for a new hymnal and was distributed in August 2005. The results of the survey were presented to the 2008 General Assembly, which granted authorization for the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation to research, develop, and produce a new hymnal. All costs for the development and production of the hymnal are being underwritten by the corporation. No funds are com-

ing from the denomination's budget. Information about this project can be found on the web site www.presbyterianymnal.org. Some information is also published in the "Tempo" column in our *Steeple Views* each month. A hymnal sampler is available and has been ordered for our use in small groups. The hymnal will be out in 2013.

The Chancel Choir continues to prepare and present seasonal programs at Christmas and in the Spring. They also carry the music leadership load in the 11 'o clock service each Sunday as well as for special seasonal services.

The even dozen members of the Sanctuary Ringers have rung Preludes and Offer-tories for a morning service per month during their September-May season.

This report would not be complete without a commercial which seeks out talented singers and instrumentalists who could join with us in our mission of music here. We can always use those who have the interest, time, and talent.

This year, most of the funding for various activities of our church, have been negatively affected by a budget crunch. Budget items for us have been trimmed severely or zeroed out. That reality has put a strain on this ministry of our church. However, we are realistic and know that we cannot spend what we do not have. We remain hopeful that this is only a temporary condition and that in the future we can see our funding return to the usual level.

Thank you for your support throughout this year and in the preceding years of our ministry at First Presbyterian Church of Martinsville. RLC



Not Just a New Hymn Book

(Bob Chapman)

The Presbyterian Committee on Congregational Song (PCOCS) is not just producing a new hymn book. Our eighth committee

gathering in Louisville, marking two full years of working together, made this increasingly clear. What we are creating instead will be, in unprecedented ways, a multi-format resource for congregational worship and song.

During our latest PCOCS meeting in late August/early September 2010, a session with marketing and editorial staff members from the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation focused as never before on new options for multiply formats for final “publication.” The committee reviewed an array of existing electronic formats with features like searchable indexes for easy location of appropriate hymns by keyword or scripture reference; MIDI files of melody lines so that those who do not read music can still hear what a new hymn sounds like; downloadable descants and obbligatos for congregations with the choral and instrumental resources to take advantage of such possibilities; slides for projection of text (or perhaps even of text and tune) for services that use screens instead of printed pages; and built-in permissions and usage-reporting mechanisms that make it easy for worship planners to reproduce and use new material without violating copyright law. We also dreamed about additional options, like links to streaming video to demonstrate performance practice, teaching (for example) a simple drumming pattern to accompany a song from the global church, or clarifying the pronunciation of foreign phrases, or demonstrating how a song is creatively used in worship in a particular local context. We dreamed about a PC(USA) worship website that might be regularly undated with freshly reviewed texts and tunes, so that even after publication of the 2013 resource, subscribers can stay current with new material rather than have to wait for another multi-year process to create another new hymnal or song supplement. Along with the dreaming, we talked about down-to-earth practicalities, such as ways to create pricing incentives that will make it pos-

sible for congregations with limited resources to purchase books, an online subscription, or both, to suit their particular needs.

In addition to talking about multiple *formats* for our new congregational resource, we also talked about multiple contents. Since beginning two years ago, when we renamed ourselves a committee on congregational song rather than a “hymnal committee,” we have been clear that our finished product will include not just traditional hymns (music whose message unfolds over a series of stanzas, printed underneath each other on the page and all sung to the same melody), but also songs of multiple genres, including praise choruses; beloved early twentieth-century Sunday school and Sunday night gospel songs; simple, repeated chants from Taizé or Iona; contemporary music with a verse, refrain, and bridge structure; and service music from the local and global churches (Alleluias, Glorias, Kyries, prayers). Our subcommittees on contemporary, global, and other forms of “new” (and “old”!) music continue to work hard at making their selections to send to the full committee for review and approval.

We have also been clear from day one-but we have said less about this fact- that our finished resource (book, website, or both) will contain elements of *spoken* as well as sung liturgy. David Gambrell, our committee representative from the Office of Theology and Worship, updated us on a recent and productive meeting with Harold Daniels, former editor of *Book of Common Worship*, to discuss, among other things, a rich set of proposed liturgical texts from Harold, David Batchelder, Arlo Duba, and Gláucia Vasconcelos Wilkey. The editorial board of the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation is still proposing a thirty-page scope for liturgical materials in the new resource, with a focus on Lord’s Day services. Kimberly Bracken Long, Assistant Professor of Worship at Columbia Theological Seminary, and Teresa Stricklen, Associate for Worship in the Office of Theology and Worship, are working closely with David

Gambrell to create and edit these materials which will be distributed to PCOCS test congregations for review following similar processes as those used to send trial packets of texts and tunes under consideration. Some of the materials will also be previewed at the North American Academy of Liturgy meeting in early January 2012.
Mary Louise Bringle, Chair



Join A Choir This Fall-Sing-Ring-Play-Serve!!!

Youth and Children's Music

Children and Youth music groups are off and running!! There are many old friends and new friends coming together to celebrate music and faith in our church. I would like to share a few vignettes from each group.

Monday sees 23 first through fifth graders barreling in from Patrick Henry, Carlisle, Henry County and North Carolina for WAM. Of course, the first thing we have to do is eat! Our snack time is fun and a good way for the children to make the transition from school to a less formal setting. With the help of some very dedicated musical helpers like Suzan Kirby, Emily Beard, and Lanie Walsh we are providing the following experiences: learning to read music by gaming, singing on pitch with the help of Kodaly curriculum, ringing bells, either the colored Kristal bells or handbells for the older musicians, and preparing to be worship leaders at least once a month. It is an action packed afternoon and the energy level is so high!! We are really coming together as a group. We will begin work on our Christmas play which is going to be a beautiful experience. Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 4 at 7 pm.

Music Together is a very popular offering. We have children from 4 days up to 3 years with their moms, dads, good friends or grandparents. It is a time of joy, music and

learning during a hugely critical time in a child's life. I am asked on occasion, "what do you do with babies in a music class." The answer is choose all the following, sing, dance, play games, work on steady beat and surround these children with love and joy. The children and whomever brings them go home with a battery of songs and activities to enjoy the rest of the week. Come and see something that is absolutely filled with joy and love.

Kindermusik groups are experiencing a more sophisticated level of music, appropriate to their ages. The younger group is loving having a lunch packed and eating with their friends. We always have a story and then we are ready for our class. They are working on steady beat, realizing what sounds and music in life has a steady beat and will begin playing their glockenspiels, which is the instrument they will use to internalize sound. Parents come for the last few minutes for our wrap up. The second year students are playing their dulcimers!! This is their string music experience in Kindermusik. They are doing really well playing by ear. Pretty amazing stuff for kindergartners. We will be studying music from around the world during the next few weeks and months. These are wonderful families that are a joy with which to work.

There are some very talented handbell ringers in high school and college who love practicing and working together. Matthew Price, Sam Smith, Brett Showalter, Kimberly, William and Wendy Seamon are practicing together on Sunday afternoons. We are doing some quartet, quintet, duos and trios. These are very accomplished musicians who really love to be together and produce music that speaks of their faith. They will be ringing frequently in church. We have plans to go to a festival that is for ensembles and learn and perform there. I have had these young people since they were babies and to see them as such fine musicians is a special joy.

Come by the music wing and see what is happening! We will welcome you with open arms. Have a great fall and see you at church!!

Betsy

Operation Christmas Child **"The Shoe Box Project"**

This year the youth group is again taking part in a unique mission project called "Operation Christmas Child." Samaritan's Purse operates a number of projects including "Operation



Christmas Child", a program where shoeboxes are packed with personal hygiene items, school supplies, toys, and distributed to nearly 8 million children annually in 95 countries. Samaritan's Purse is an

International Relief Organization under the direction of CEO and founder, Franklin Graham. To date, this organization has collected and distributed more than 69 million shoeboxes to boys and girls in over 135 countries.

People across the country are getting their items and donations ready to send to their churches. Our youth are asking that all families participate in this project in one of several ways:

- 1) by bringing a filled shoebox with suggested items,
- 2) by bringing empty shoeboxes for the youth to pack (you know they are in your basement!)
- 3) by bringing donations of items on the suggested list below (no used or damaged items please!),
- 4) by making donations to help cover shipping cost (a box takes \$7 to ship worldwide)

Please bring your donation/gift to the church by October 31st. Donations of items and shoeboxes can be brought to Pastor Jenny's office, and monetary donations given to the church office. The youth will pack and gift-wrap shoeboxes during Youth

Group meeting on November 6th. The boxes will be delivered to our local drop-off center the week of November 14th.

Operation Christmas Child is a great way to bring joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need of hope. What a perfect gift to give in honor of Jesus' birthday.

Gift Suggestions

Designate your box for the appropriate age category below:

Girl or Boy: Ages (2-4 years), (5-9 years), or (10-14 years)

School Supplies: pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

Toys: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky, etc.

Hygiene Items: toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.

Other: hard candy and lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries).

A Personal Note: In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

DO NOT INCLUDE: Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

Upcoming Youth Group Events

Sunday, October 2 – 5:00pm – Church Picnic – All youth are invited to join with the congregation to enjoy fellowship and food at the church picnic, to be held right here on our church grounds. Following the picnic, youth are invited to carpool over to Forest Hills

Presbyterian Church for a concert in their Common Ground Chapel at 7:00pm. The band playing is Echoing Angels, a contemporary Christian band.

Sunday, October 9 – Pumpkin Patch Service Project. We will meet at the corner of Starling and Mulberry, 3:30pm. We will volunteer by helping to unload the pumpkin truck and set up Grace Network's Pumpkin Patch.

Saturday, October 15 – Virginia Creeper Trail Bike Trip. Chris Wingfield and Johnny Pinkard are organizing this event again, we will meet at the church at 7:00am to travel to the trail in Damascus. Come ready for a full day of fun!

Sunday October 16 – Youth Group, 5:30-7:00pm, We will join together with Forest Hills' Youth Group and do a service project and learning about hunger and how our faith calls us to respond.

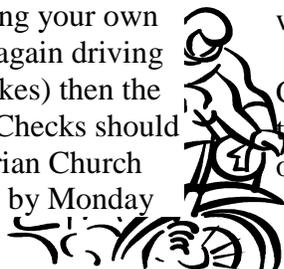
Saturday, October 22 – Trip to Haunted House in Greensboro, more details to come.
Sunday, October 23 – Youth Group, 5:30-7:00pm

Sunday, October 30 – Trunk or Treat, 5:30-7:00pm, Youth will help to host this Halloween event for our community by doing activities and games!

Sunday, November 6 – Youth Group, 5:30-7:00pm – Pack and wrap shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Youth Bike Trip – October 15th

Fall is once again here and the youth group is once again heading off to enjoy God's good creation and get a taste of the outdoors on the Virginia Creeper Bike Trail in Damascus, VA. We will load up the bus and leave the church at 7:00am on Saturday morning October 15th and make the trip to Damascus. The cost of bike rental is \$28.95, and if you want to bring your own bike (Johnny Pinkard will be again driving his pick-up to transport our bikes) then the cost of the shuttle is \$14.00. Checks should be made out to First Presbyterian Church and given to the church office by Monday



October 10th. (Also please note we will need a FPC signed release form for each youth and guest, the forms are available on the website.) Please bring money that day for a snack on the way, and for a snack along the trail! If you have questions, contact Chris Wingfield, Johnny Pinkard or Jenny Spivey.



"Trunk or Treat" Halloween Party – October 30th, 5:30-7:00pm

Trunk or Treat is back! We will host our 2nd Annual Trunk or Treat event here on our church grounds on Sunday, October 30th. Our youth along with the youth at Forest Hills Presbyterian Church will help host this event for younger kids in our church and community. What is Trunk or Treat you ask? Folks bring their cars/minivans/etc. and decorate their trunks with some funny theme and stand by their cars to hand out candy to the young kids that come by. We will arrange our cars in one section of the parking lot and invite our young guests to come in costume! We hope to invite the children in our ELI and Weekday School programs, and Forest Hills will likewise invite children involved through their congregation. The event will be held on our parking lot, and we will have additional refreshments and goodies for the parents and children that attend! This is an excellent way to *share God's love and embrace our neighbors* in a fun way!

Contemporary Worship Update

The Worship Band will be playing and singing at Three Oaks Methodist Church in Vinton on October 15th. We are very excited to be part of their revival and welcome the opportunity to spread the good musical word about!

We want to thank Gael and Smith Chaney for the new screens that are in use in the sanctuary now. They are replacing the other screens that the Chaney's also gracious-

ly donated. We appreciate your generosity to your church family.

Recently a survey was prepared by Gael that was given and completed by attendees at the 8:35 service. I would like to share some of the results from Gael's summation of the results of the survey.

1. 77% indicated that they attend the early service more often than the 11:00 service.
2. 94% consider the service a success and would like to see it continue.
3. 66% indicated that they attend the service because of the time.
4. 54% indicated that they attend because of the music.
5. Other reasons mentioned were, "the relaxed and informal atmosphere, feelings of fellowship and warmth, ease of worshiping with children, the sharing of joys and concern."
6. A few general comments are as follow: "The structure, the people and the time make this service unique. It has also helped to make our congregation more diversified." "There are individuals who were not attending the traditional service on a regular basis who are regularly attending the early service." "Contemporary music service is the service of the future."

Part of the survey was about possibly changing the day and time. The percentage of those who did not favor change slightly outweighed those who would consider it.

All in all the survey was very edifying highlighting things that could improve the service and issues that seem to be going well.

I appreciate all who filled in a survey and Gael's efforts in making a clear picture for us of the comments that were made.

You don't need a survey to tell us what you think. I welcome anyone who has suggestions/complaints anytime. Your thoughts and ideas mean a great deal as our

church works as one to offer our best Worship to our Lord.

Joy in Christ,
Betsy

Weekday School

Weekday School is off to a roaring start for the 2011-2012 school year! The children are settling in nicely. Only a few random tears now and again. The teachers have been busy helping all of our students to settle into their new routines. Registration for the year is great. We have a total of 56 children enrolled in our school so far this year! There is still very limited space available in our 4-year-old classes. Please spread the word to your friends and acquaintances. Word of mouth is our best advertisement!



Here are some upcoming Weekday School events:

- the fours will take their first trip to King's Grant on Tuesday, October 25.
- Fall Open House, Thursday, October 27th, at 6:15.
- Pumpkin Patch visit for 3's and 4's is in the works. Date to be announced.

Mission Fair

Our Mission Fair will be held on October 23 following the Traditional Service. Organizations which will be asked to make presentations are:

1. PATHS – an organization which helps guide needy persons find funds for medical care.
2. Grace Network
3. Community Store House
4. Pregnancy Care Center
5. YMCA – presenting "Girls on the Run." Mentoring for middle school girls
6. Contact

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Available at Church Picnic

**October 2
and other times TBA
Cash or Check**