



**Presbyterian Web Sites:**

Presbytery of the Peaks: [www.peakspresbytery.org](http://www.peakspresbytery.org)  
Synod of the Mid-Atlantic: [www.synatlantic.org](http://www.synatlantic.org)  
Presbyterian Church (USA): [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org)  
Pby. Disaster Assistance: [www.pcusa.org/pda/](http://www.pcusa.org/pda/)  
Presbyterian Today: [www.pcusa.org/pcusa/today](http://www.pcusa.org/pcusa/today)  
Pby. News Service: [www.pcusa.org/pcusa/brief.hem](http://www.pcusa.org/pcusa/brief.hem)

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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

July, 2010

Martinsville, Virginia

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## **From My Perspective Within The Kingdom**

The other day I was sitting in a Facilities Committee and we were discussing the various items on the agenda. Whenever we meet together, we are always aware of the rich legacy we have inherited from those who have gone before us. We are truly blessed with a beautiful church plant and, in turn, we use our facilities to be a blessing to both our members and to the community. As we talked, we shared some of the ways our entire church facility, which was built in three stages, is used.

Of course, the facilities are used for Sunday School and worship; for over two years now, we have had an additional worship service most Sundays, beginning at 8:35 a.m. The Session has monthly meetings, as do most of the seven committees of the Session. The Presbyterian Women and some of their circles meet in the church. The church's music program (hand bells, choirs, and other musical activities) for children, youth, and adults meet often each week. Although the church is quiet during these summer months, it's a beehive of activity during the school year with the Weekday School children and the Early Learning Intervention (ELI) children and their teachers 3-4 mornings a week. The Tuesday Morning Bible Study class also meets each week during the school year. Scout Troop 61 has weekly meetings here and we provide a room for the Boy Scout District office, and there are district meetings, which occasionally take place here; also, from time to time, a Cub Scout den has met here. We host a Narcotics Anonymous group, which meets here on Thursday and Saturday evenings. The Piedmont Youth Soccer League board meets here. We are an approved and trained emergency feeding center for the Red Cross if a natural disaster should ever strike our community. We are hosting the Vacation Bible School for five churches in July; and, MHC 3 will use our facilities throughout the month of July as well. There are weddings, wedding rehearsal dinners, and receptions and there are services giving Witness to the Resurrection (and more receptions), which take place in the church. Other fellowship activities include Lemonade on the Lawn, Kirk Night suppers, and luncheons after church. From time to time, various small groups from the Presbytery of the Peaks meet at our church, and we usually host the presbytery for an all day meeting every five years.

I imagine that I have overlooked some other groups in this detailed listing of activities. When you look at the many and varied ways that our facilities are put to use (really good use!), it probably won't surprise you to learn that, on average, our monthly city utilities bill (for electric, water, and sewage) is \$2,168. That's a lot of money but, then again, we get a lot and do a lot for our money. You can also see why we strive to be good stewards of our facilities and make sure that lights, as well as heating and cooling units, are turned off when they are not in use.

I am grateful for our beautiful and well-used facilities. We are truly blessed, and we try our very best to be a blessing – to God and to others – with all that we are and with all that we have. I am also reminded that what really makes this place a church is the communion of the saints, who gather here for study, worship, fellowship, and service offered to the glory of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God!

In Christ's love,  
Randy

## Happy Birthday in July to



- 2 William Seamon
- 3 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, Ashby Pinkard
- 19 Lee Eden
- 20 Nancy Betz, Connor Wotring
- 21 Bill Brown, Connie Garrett, King
- 22 Chuck Marshall, Lil Wall, Jessica Showalter
- 23 Carl Bishop, Anne Lackey, Chris Beeler
- 25 Teri Ferguson
- 26 Tommy Martin
- 27 Laura Stevens
- 29 Bill Franck
- 31 Capers Zentmeyer, Laura Chiudioni

## .....and in August

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

It is with great joy and excitement that we welcome the **Reverend Jennifer McCann Spivey**, who officially begins her call as one of the church's pastors on July 1, 2010. Jenny will co-lead in worship on Sunday, July 4, and she will also officiate at the Lord's Table with Randy that morning. Jenny will preach on July 11 and July 18. On Sunday, July 11, following the 11:00 a.m. worship service, there will be a reception to honor and welcome Jenny and her family. Please be sure to come and welcome Jenny and make her feel at home!

The **Combined Adult Summer Sunday School** continues to meet in the Session room, from 9:45-10:40 a.m., during the summer months. This summer we are studying the *Book of Confessions*, which, along with the *Book of Order*, form the constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA). During the month of July, we will be studying The Second Helvetic Confession and The Westminster Confession of Faith. Please come and join us.

During the called congregational meeting on Sunday, June 13, the following people were elected to serve on the **2010-2011 Officer Nominating Committee**: from the Session – Paul Cannaday (chair.) and Gavin Russell (vice chair.); from Presbyterian Women – Lynn Pritchett and Vicki Wells; from the youth – Evelyn Clark and Michael Mason; and three members-at-large – Marian Campbell, Lang Mauck, and Henry Moore. Please pray for these persons as they meet and come back to the congregation with a slate of nominees (six names to serve as elders on the Session and two to serve on the Board of Trustees, for a three-year term on the Class of 2013.

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Editor: Patrice Newnam, Publisher: Sarah Altizer; Mailing  
Staff: volunteers

Dear Church members and friends,

Thank you for your many prayers for our daughter, Laura, and her cousin/our nephew, James, who is donating one of his kidneys to Laura (as of June 17) at UVA Hospital in Charlottesville. Also, thank you for your prayers on my behalf as I undergo a complete hip replacement on my left side on Monday, July 19. Both Laura and I believe that our respective surgeries will go well, that healing will follow, and that we will both be given a new lease on life. We are grateful for your prayers for us (and especially for Monica!!!) as they do sustain us and give us strength far beyond our own strength. We have trust and confidence that your many prayers will be heard by the Lord our God and answered accordingly. Thank you for your faithfulness and for your friendship!  
In Christ's love, Randy

### Session Highlights for May 25, 2010

- Manly Boyd led the Session in a devotional and opening prayer
- Approved the Session's minutes for April 26, 2010 meeting and the minutes for the congregational meeting held on May 2, 2010
- Voted to have Dr. Don Makin, pastor of Christiansburg Presbyterian Church, lead the Session through a *Healthy Relationships Through Behavioral Covenants* four-hour workshop; the results of this workshop will be communicated to the congregation
- Approved Connor Linwood Wotring's baptism for Sunday, May 30, at the 11:00 a.m. worship service with elders Walt and Connie Anderson to assist the pastor.
- Voted to have a called meeting on Sunday, May 30, at 10:40 a.m. to meet with Maddie Sayles and Kellene Wotring, (who are graduating from Children's Worship), along with their parents, and invite them to the Lord's Table to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.
- Called the congregation to meet on Sunday, June 13, at the close of the 11:00

a.m. worship service, for the purpose of electing the 2010-2011 Officer Nominating Committee.

- Approved the use of our facilities by the YMCA program, MHC After 3, July 5-30, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; it is understood that MHCA3 will work around the Vacation Bible School program, which is already in place to meet from July 12-16, from 9:00 a.m. to noon.
- Heard reports from the Sessional committees' moderators and the pastor
- Discussed plans for the community cookout to be held on Saturday, June 19, from 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- Adjourned with prayer at 9:00 p.m.

### The Tempo "Our Musical Pulse"



### Chancel Choir

The Summer Stretch is upon us. That means the choir gets some relaxing time on a few Wednesday evenings and on a Sunday morning each month when Soloists and ensembles will fill the anthem slot and provide the music. Members of the choir will be in the Chancel during the service to lead the congregational choir along with the organist. Wednesday rehearsals, beginning June 30 through August 4, are canceled. Rehearsals resume on August 11 at 7 p.m. I don't know what the members will do with so much time on their hands this summer.

Let me mention that on Wednesday evening, August 25, at 7 p.m., there will be a kick-off rehearsal which follows a 6 p.m. potluck dinner. The choir members and their families are invited as well as those of you who want to become a part of the choir family this next year. I know, you have been invited for 15 years but, this time, you need to come. The knob of the choir room is unlocked for you.

Since I wrote the copy for the June 18 Steeple Views I have gotten some very distressing news. Mike Boswell, one of our three tenors, is closing his business in Martinsville and moving to Oak Island, N.C. That leaves

John Bowles and Rusty Reaser. Rusty is presently working on his golf game at Isle of Palms, S.C., and is here for somewhere in the 50% range, and probably less after he joins the Pro Tour. So, that leaves John Bowles and me to carry the load. If you are a Tenor, we need you!

Mike Boswell has been a loyal and faithful member for most of the years since I came to FPC. His character, humor and voice have been such a plus factor for the Chancel Choir. Certainly I hate to lose and as a choir we hate to lose him. In Church Music, that is the way it goes. Health, age, death, and moving has robbed us of many loyal and faithful singers through these years. O to find some singers and ringers who will answer the call to service in this vital part of our worship.

### The Sanctuary Ringers

The Sanctuary Ringers finished this year with a cookout at the lake home of Smith and Gael Chaney on June 13. We always have a great time enjoying the water, fellowship and food.

As most of you know, membership in this choir is like membership in a quartet or small ensemble. When a member is absent it is like an automobile with three-out-of-four wheels. Sometimes we have substitutes to take the place of our absent loved ones and sometimes not. If you are a bell ringer, I would like to sign you up to be a sub.

As I look ahead to the New Year, which begins in September, we have a need for at least one new ringer. Perhaps you would like to fill one of those slots. I will make the offer to anyone who wants to join us, of private or group lessons during the summer to bring you up to speed. If you are interested, please let me hear from you. That way is much easier than "On the Job Training" when fall gets here. Try it, you will like it.

### **July Is Name Tag Month!**

The Mission/Evangelism Committee is requesting that we wear our nametags each Sunday during July. Thanks for your cooperation.



## **Children and Youth Music**

### **Music for Little Ones**

Music Together is going strong this summer. This is the class for children ages birth through 4 and a care giver-Mom, Dad, Grandma, etcetera. We meet on the following Tuesdays and welcome new friends, whether you are a new family or your grandchildren or nieces and nephews are in town for a visit. Our meetings will be at 11am on July 6, August 10, August 17, August 24 and August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Don't forget Bible School is July 12-16, and there is awesome music as well as loads of wonderful learning!!

### **Music for Fall**

We will have the same schedule as last year unless there is a need to change. The schedule is as follows:

**WAM** Mondays from 2:45 to 4:30 for ages 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 6<sup>th</sup>. WAM stands for *Worship, Arts and Music*. We have a wonderful group that sings, dances, prepares for worship, has fun arts and crafts projects and handbells. This year we will have two large-scale plays, one at Christmas and one during Lent.

**Kindermusik I** Tuesday noon to 1:30 for the four-year-old set. Kindermusik is a national curriculum that is a wonderful basis for whatever a child chooses to do musically. There are games, singing, mime, and a whole lot of learning. There is a fee for this group. It is 35 dollars for church members to cover the carry bag and glockenspiel. The fee for non members is \$150.

**Kindermusik II** Tuesday 2:45 to 4:00. This is the continuation of Kindermusik I. In the second year, we make and learn to play the dulcimer and learn to play the recorder. We study music of other cultures and other lands. This group is for Kindergartners. A child does not need to have taken Kindermusik I to join in the fun.

**Music Together**, as noted above, meets on Tuesdays from 11:00 to 11:45 and is great fun. The materials are wonderful and well worth the

\$35 per quarter that they cost. I have 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders still ask to sing some of their favorite songs from so long ago.

**Cantabile Bells** is our group for Middle and High School bell ringers. We usually meet after church on various Sundays depending on schedules. It is an awesome group!!

**Questions?** Call me or email me, I am always delighted to explain how these groups will positively impact your child or youth.

### **For Our Older Members;**

I am very interested in hearing how God has revealed Himself in your life. I have a vision of creating your stories, with your permission, into mini-music stories. It is something I have been thinking about for the last year or so. If you are interested, please let me know.

In Joy,  
Betsy

### **Scholarship Awarded**

Recipients of the **John and Vera Jane Kuhn** Scholarship for 2010 are Maggie and Martha Pilson. Maggie Martha recently graduated from Bassett High School and Maggie will attend James Madison University while Martha will join sister Mary at Virginia Tech. Congratulations Maggie and Martha! We appreciate John and Vera Jane for graciously providing this scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.

### **Contemporary Worship News**

Our group said farewell to two of our most important persons recently. Tommy Martin has been a part of this service from the beginning. Researching, working with the *Live Worship* program that we use, working weekly to prepare the slides and chart out the bulletin, and always with a great sense of humor! We will miss Tommy and appreciate his huge contribution.

Ann Marie Franck is a whiz with the sound system. She and Smith set things up and she was present every Tuesday evening and on Sunday morning to make sure the sound mix was at its best. Ann is going to be missed so much for

her expertise, but also for her compassion and joyful presence.

So we now have Ashby Pinkard, Melissa Wingfield, and Paul Cannaday working to fill Tommy's shoes. Sam Smith and Emily Beard are working diligently on the sound board and doing quite well. My friend Sam is going to be leaving in a few months and I am looking for someone to share the job with Emily. If you are interested, please let me know. I am looking for two people so that no one has to be present every time. It is not hard to learn, even I can do it! Teen or adult, either would be great!!

I hope you are enjoying your summer and finding God's love at every turn of the road!  
In Joy and Love,  
Betsy

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**JULY 12-16**

**9:00 - NOON**

### **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**

It's almost here!! Spend lots of time on the *High Seas* at this year's VBS! Please fill out a registration form and turn it in to the Church Office. You won't want to miss a single minute of fun. Of course, we always need teenage and adult help so you need to turn in a registration also.

On July 9, at 4:00 p.m., at the church, all teen and adult helpers will meet to decorate their Bible School shirts followed by a pizza party! Don't miss it.

