



THE PRESBYTERIAN NEWS



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
408 N. Jefferson Avenue
Pulaski, VA 24301

Editor & Layout: Doreen Latimer

Office: (540) 980-2132

E-mail: firstprespulaskiva@gmail.com

Web Site: firstpresbyterianpulaski.org

Pastor: Rev. Melissa McNair-King

NO. 637

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Friends,

As we wind down the year 2020, and prepare to turn over a new leaf – I am more grateful than ever for your thoughtful Session members. This year, their true colors have shined. They have led with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love. During what could have been an anxious and divisive season, they have kept their hearts and minds in the right place: on our common mission to spread God’s light and love to a hurting world. Please join me in saying a big thank you to those who are completing their term of service: Gene Holt, Chasity Stevens, Ron Walters, and Joe Zagrapan.

And please join me in welcoming those who are preparing to begin their service: Glenn Johnson, Violet Nash, Ronnie Powers, and Phyllis Vice.

We are tentatively planning to hold an in-person worship service on **Sunday, January 17, at 11:00 AM** so that we can ordain and install our new class of officers (and as a trial-run to experience in person worship with all the pandemic-related restrictions). If you would like to attend on the 17th, an RSVP will be required so that we can assign you a seat. Feel free to email, call or text me with your plans. Masks will be required, and we ask that you refrain from hugging or visiting before/after service. We will not surround our new officers with the laying on of hands – but will find a way to share in its meaning symbolically.

Religious services are exempt from the governor’s restrictions on group-size gatherings, so long as social distancing and mask-wearing are enforced. If you feel sick or have been exposed to someone who is – please stay home and continue to follow our services online. All Sunday services will be recorded and/or livestreamed indefinitely. Thank you again for your flexibility – and most of all, for your safety and caring, during such a strange time in our life together. I miss you and can’t wait until we can eat, hug, and sing God’s glories together.

Love,

Melissa McNair-King

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS

Church Office will be closed New Year's Day, January 1st.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The MEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP will begin the 1st study lesson of *ILLUMINATING LENT* on Tuesday, January 5th at 7:00 PM at the Manse.

Illuminating Lent deepens faith and enhances knowledge through the exploration of the Lord's Prayer. Each session examines a part of the prayer, its theological understandings, and what it means for Reformed Christians in practical ways during Lent. The intent is to complete the study by Easter Week.

A few copies of the study guide are available at the Church Office during normal business hours. Any questions may be directed to Ron Walters, cell # 540-616-4503 or emailed to:

ronwalters2@yahoo.com

Covid-19 safety policies regarding safe distancing and the wearing of masks will be followed.

Please Submit Items to the church office for the February newsletter no later than Monday, January 18th.

Prayer Teams Continue: Thank you to the 25 people who volunteered to be on our prayer team. These members have agreed to set aside an extra moment to pray each day for a member of our church. They each received six or seven names from the church directory – everyone is included in the prayers. Know that someone is always praying for you, until we can meet in person again!

Stay in Touch:

There are many ways to stay in touch with our church during these days of challenge. Please sign up for as many avenues as you like:

- **Email** (Worship materials and announcements are sent each Sunday morning, and otherwise as needed): To subscribe, visit: <http://eepurl.com/gVSnKL>
- **Text Message:** To sign up for text alerts, you can text the message: @melissamk to the number: 81010
- **Facebook:** Visit www.facebook.com/FPCPulaski and “like” our page!
- **YouTube:** Visit www.youtube.com. Search for “First Presbyterian Pulaski VA” and click “Subscribe.” You will be notified any time a new video is shared on our page.
- **Snail Mail:** We have attempted to send weekly communications to anyone who may not regularly use email. If you would like to receive a paper copy of each week's sermon and worship announcements, please call the church office.