



THE PRESBYTERIAN NEWS



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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NO. 621

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I can remember, as a kid, squirming in my seat a little bit every Sunday at church when we got to that line in the Apostle's Creed: "I believe in the Holy Ghost." Because I thought, of course, that we were talking about ghost-ghosts, the stuff of scary bedtime stories and Halloween costumes.

Two theology degrees later, I only have a more sophisticated fear of the Holy Ghost.

On June 9, we will celebrate Pentecost together! "Pentecost" means "fifty days" and occurs 50 days after Easter. According to Acts 2, it was on Pentecost that the believers were gathered together and God sent the Holy Spirit. There was the sound of a violent, rushing wind; tongues of fire resting on their heads; the sounds of multiple languages filled Jerusalem. It was so chaotic that outsiders presumed all these Christians were drunk.

God's Spirit is indeed surprising. It cannot be controlled. It does not behave decently or in order. It blows where it will, and it prompts the faithful to go where they had never imagined, and to do what they thought impossible. It is frightening and exhilarating all at once - - and we cannot be the Church without it. Praise God for the Holy Ghost - who comes not to make us afraid, but to give us power. Praise God for the Holy Ghost - who comes to bless and surprise and commission - sending us into the world to spread the grace of God.

In peace,

Melissa McNair-King

NEWS FROM PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

From Day Circle by Phyllis Vice:

Day Circle will not be meeting during the summer months. We will meet again in September.

At the Church Women United Friendship Day gathering representatives from the New River Valley Agency on Aging shared with those there ways to extend friendship to those who need a friend. The agency serves the counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski and the City of Radford. Their office is here in Pulaski at 141 East Main Street, Suite 500.

A simple way to volunteer is to become a part of the TAP program. TAP stands for Telephone Assurance Program. TAP provides free telephone reassurance, check-in and friendly phone calls to area residents who are in need of someone to touch base with them to ensure their well-being and/or have a friendly conversation on a regularly scheduled basis. TAP is NOT a telemedicine provider or medical alert service. If you are interested in participating in the TAP program as a caller or a callee or for information on other ways to volunteer contact Shannon Cook, Volunteer Coordinator, at 540-980-7720, E-Mail: volunteerpulaski@nrva.org.

From Night Circle by Dianne Wallace:

Night Circle will not be meeting in the summer months.

Presbyterian Women -
Praying, Studying, Loving, Serving



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS

COMMUNION will be served on Sunday, June 2nd.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES are suspended during the summer months. Worship is at 10 a.m. The first Sunday of fellowship gatherings following worship at 10 a.m. will be June 2nd. Session members hosting the after worship fellowships in June are:

June 2nd: Kathy Weddle

June 9th: Violet Nash

June 16th: Chasity Stevens

June 23rd: Gene Holt

June 30th: Barry Long



YOUTH GROUP: Starting in mid-June, we will meet on Wednesday mornings for "Brunch and Bible" in the manse. Join us on the following Wednesdays from 10:30-Noon: June 12, 19, and 26.

PLEASE SUBMIT ITEMS to the church office for the July newsletter no later than Monday, June 17th.

SERMON RECORDINGS: You can now listen to sermons from our worship services online! If you are sick, traveling, homebound, or have moved away but want to stay connected with the messages, listen online at: <https://melissamk.podomatic.com/> . Sermon recordings will be uploaded by Sunday evening each week, and a link will also be shared on the church Facebook page when it is available (<https://www.facebook.com/FPCPulaski>).

THE ADULT CHOIR is taking a well deserved break during the summer. If you or anyone you know has a talent to share during the summer worship services see Mardia Long or Phyllis Vice.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN PRESCHOOL

Preschool had a wonderful field/fun day on May 20. Big thanks to Michael Boothe for getting water to our 6 foot tall unicorn sprinkler!!! Thrivent Financial provided the funds for our end of the year celebration, and there was a bushel of fun had by all. Our preschool kiddos had a small ceremony in the sanctuary where they received their completion certificates on May 22, which was our last day of the school year!

What a blessing the preschoolers have been to me! I can't believe we have finished up our school year, but that also means that I'm planning for the Fall. Feel free to email or text me if you have any questions whatsoever. I will be in and out of the classroom throughout the summer, and I will be available should anyone need me.

Thank you all again for such a joyous opportunity to serve in preschool. I feel blessed every single day to be surrounded by such wonderful kiddos and staff! I hope y'all have a great and refreshing summer.

With love,
Jessie Brockmeyer



CHECK IT OUT!



Summer is here! It's time to go to the beach, go to the pool, go on vacation, go to a good book. Do you like to read mysteries, love stories, non-fiction, history, biographies, meditations, books on nature, books of faith, self-help? Do you know you can find it in the church library? Check it out!

082 KAR A continual feast, Words of comfort and celebration collected by Father Tim by Jan Karon

128 WIL On Being Human by Woodrow Wilson

150 CAR How to Win Friends and Influence People by Dale Carnegie

220.85 PAR All the Birds of the Bible: Their stories, identification and meaning.

220.92 HIG Bad Girls of the Bible: And what we can learn from them by Liz Curtis Higgs - Ten of the Bible's best-known femmes fatales parade across the pages of this book with situations that sound oh-so-familiar. Let these bad girls show you why studying the Bible has never been more fun!

230 BRU The Divine Drama by Kurt D. Brunner - In this book the author helps us to see God's story as a grand adventure unfolding on the stage of life. This book is about where life and story meet, the points at which the divine drama of God intersects with the small scenes of daily life.

640 BIA Green Mama: The guilt-free guide to helping you and your kids save the planet by Tracey Bianchi - The author offers creative tips and spiritual inspiration to help you make wise environmental choices in your community, at the office, and during ordinary afternoons at home.

640 HAN Finding the Time by Sharon Hanby-Robie - Time is a precious gift. By showing you how to accept its limitations and embrace your true priorities, this book will help you to slow down, simplify and live a life of purpose.

818 LIN Gift from the Sea by Anne Morrow Lindbergh - The author shares her meditations on youth and age; love and marriage; peace, solitude and contentment as she set them down during a brief vacation by the sea.

973.92 EIS In review: Pictures I've kept by Dwight D. Eisenhower

BIO BRADLEY With God's song in my heart: A story of Faith by Faith Skepstad Bradley - the author tells her story as a 3rd generation missionary, having been raised and worked in China and Taiwan. She currently lives in Black Mountain, NC.

CH FIC BUS Our great big backyard by Laura Bush - Jane's plans for spending the summer playing video games with her friends are dashed when her parents announce that her family is going on a road trip.

FIC CAL The Rule of Four by Ian Caldwell - A mysterious coded manuscript, a violent Ivy League murder, and the secrets of a Renaissance prince collide in a labyrinth of betrayal, madness and genius.

FIC DAV The Lady's Maid by Susan Page Davis - Lady Anne Stone embarks to the American west to find her uncle, taking her maid, Elise Finster along.

CH FIC NES The Railway Children by E. Nesbit - Soon after their father's disappearance, the family moves from their villa to a tiny house near a busy railroad. The children find plenty of excitement, but what happened to their father? Will he ever come home?

YA 242 JON Finding God in a galaxy far, far away: A spiritual exploration of the Star Wars Saga by Timothy Paul Jones - Join the author on an astounding, eye-opening exploration of the spiritual themes in the "Star Wars" saga. Rediscover awe.

YA FIC BEA Serafina and the black cloak by Robert Beatty - In 1899, a 12 year-old rat catcher on North Carolina's Biltmore estate teams up with the estate's owner's young nephew to battle a great evil and, in the process, unlocks the puzzle of her past.

Save the Dates: Vacation Bible School!



**MONDAY - FRIDAY, July 15 - 19
9:30 - 11:30 am**

**for students
RISING PRESCHOOL THROUGH 5th GRADE**

**Discover your strength in Jesus,
and how you can make this world a better place!!**

Be one of our heroes...

Where: **First United Methodist Church
135 4th Street NW, Pulaski**

What: **Stories, music, science experiments, games, and crafts to explore your heart in Jesus and how your actions can bring peace to this world.**

Nut - free snacks for every session.

Bring your wonderful self, comfortable clothing and closed-toes shoes.

Look for Online Registration in the coming weeks!

Montreat Worship and Music Conference

June 16 to 22, 2019

Come and Join Us!

Come and join us for a week of fellowship and relaxation in the mountains of western North Carolina! We still have 5 bedrooms available and can accommodate 8 or 9 more people for this conference.

For over 25 years our church has rented the Hickory Lodge in Montreat, NC for the 1st week of the annual Montreat Worship and Music Conference. This lodge is located in very close proximity to the Anderson Auditorium, where daily worship services are held during the conference. The Lodge is about a 5 minute walk to the Anderson Auditorium and all choir classes and other seminar lectures and classes which are in nearby buildings.

We now have only about eleven persons planning to attend this conference. But, we still have room to accommodate eight or nine more people. You must have registered to participate in choir and other classes, but you do not have to register to enjoy the conference and some good fellowship. The daily worship services are open to all in Montreat. This year's conference theme is Not as the World Gives. *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.*" -John 14:27. More information about registering for the conference may be found on the Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM) website.

The conference concludes with a Friday evening concert in which the adult choir (typically over 600 members), the children's, middle school, and senior high school choirs participate along with several hand- bell choirs. A Tuesday evening talent show, Wednesday evening hymn sing, and Thursday evening performance by the adult and high-school Chamber choirs are highlights of the week at Montreat. (All of these events do not require registration to attend.)

We have the lodge rented for Sunday night, June 16 through Friday night June 21, returning to Pulaski on Saturday June 22. But, you do not need to stay for the entire week if you would like to come to Montreat for a shorter visit. The group takes turns preparing the evening meals and we eat very well all week for about \$30 per person (including breakfast, lunch, and dinner each day). Beds are available in two person rooms for \$200 per person for the entire week.

Please contact Mardia Long or Phyllis Vice for more information about this year's Montreat Worship and Music conference.

For many who return each year, Montreat is a special place where their faith is strengthened and their spirit is renewed.

Relay for Life Update - May 21, 2019

Thanks to all for supporting the 2019 Relay for Life / American Cancer Society after-church fund raisers. All the food for these after church meals are donated by the Relay team and church members and all the donations received go directly to the American Cancer Society. We received over \$1,200 in donations from the March 2019 pancake brunch and pie raffle.

This year's Relay for Life event will be held at Jackson Park in Pulaski Saturday June 22 from 3 pm to 10:30 pm. This year's theme is *Strike Out Cancer.* The event, rain or shine, will be a family centered festival including food vendors, arts and craft vendors, and several music performers. A detailed schedule of Relay events will be included in the June 16 church bulletin.

The Relay for Life continues to offer the regular paper bag luminaire to honor cancer survivors or in memory of those who have battled cancer. A \$10 donation is suggested for these luminaires. This year a special purple Mason jar luminaire is also being offered for a donation of \$15. These Mason jar luminaires will be displayed at Jackson Park on June 22 at about 9:00 pm. After the event the jars will be returned to the church for the donor to take home with them. Donations may also be made to include photographs in a multi-media presentation during the June 22 event in memory of or honor of those who have battled cancer. (Please Contact Martha Moody for more details about this.)

The Relay for Life team will also accept larger donations for this year's Pulaski County/Radford Relay event. All donations received by August 15, 2019 will be credited to this fiscal years 2018-2019 Relay for Life. Receipts will be provided for each donation upon request. A schedule of the 2019 Relay events will be included in the June 16 church bulletin. The Relay Team will also set up a booth at this year's Relay event. Please contact team captain, Martha Moody for more information.

Again thanks to all for supporting the Relay for Life!

American Cancer Society Relay for Life

Luminaria

Luminaire 1

- Luminaire bag (\$10 donation suggested) or
- Purple Quart Mason Jar (\$15 donation suggested)
- In Honor of _____ or
- In Memory of _____

Luminaire 2

- Luminaire bag (\$10 donation suggested) or
- Purple Quart Mason Jar (\$15 donation suggested)
- In Honor of _____ or
- In Memory of _____

Luminaire 3

- Luminaire bag (\$10 donation suggested) or
- Purple Quart Mason Jar (\$15 donation suggested)
- In Honor of _____ or
- In Memory of _____

Donated by _____ Total Donation _____

Date _____

The luminaria will be displayed at the Relay for Life event at Jackson Park in Pulaski the evening of June 22 at about 9:00 PM. Please make checks payable to Relay for Life or American Cancer Society. Please use the Relay for Life donation envelope for your check or cash donations. Return form to First Presbyterian Church by Sunday June 16 for all Luminaire donations.



DATE:

6/2/19

6/9/19

6/16/19

6/23/19

6/30/19

LAY READERS:

John Hunter

Barry Long

Mardia Long

Connie McMillan

Jordan Phillips

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS:

Violet Nash

Karen Payne

Barbara Roberson

Aubrey Vaughan

Peg Vaughan