



# 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](mailto:firstprespulaskiva@gmail.com)

Web Site: [firstpresbyterianpulaski.org](http://firstpresbyterianpulaski.org)

Pastor: Rev. Melissa McNair-King

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Dear friends,

The Lord is risen! How beautiful that Easter is not a single day that comes and goes. In fact, Easter is an entire season. Scripture teaches that after Jesus rose from death, he returned to the disciples. "He presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God" (Acts 1:3).

We now celebrate Jesus' resurrection for fifty days, because it was on the fiftieth day that the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles. That means that half of April, plus the entire month of May, is Easter.

What a gift – that God gives us fifty days of Easter: fifty days to sit in wonder, fifty days to celebrate in joy, fifty days to digest this mystery, fifty days to remember that God's love is so much stronger than death. The Lord is risen indeed!

In Christ,

Melissa McNair-King

## *NEWS FROM PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN*

From Day Circle by Phyllis Vice:

PW Day Circle will meet on Monday, May 8th, at 11 a.m. in the Manse. We will be discussing the eighth lesson of *Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes*. Scriptures for this lesson are: Genesis 12:1-4; Matthew 1:1; Galatians 3:6-7 and 4:23-29. Bring a sack lunch and stay for fellowship after the meeting.

Friday, May 5th, is May Friendship Day. On this traditional day for collection of the Fellowship of the Least Coin Offering, women and men across the globe are asked to pray for peace, justice and reconciliation. Church Women United of Pulaski will be celebrating Friendship Day in the Family Life Center of First United Methodist Church starting at 11 a.m. A pot-luck lunch will follow the service. All are welcome to come.

The PW ladies are in the process of replacing the worn out tablecloths used for the different functions at the church. Funds for the project will be gladly accepted. If you are interested in contributing to the cost of replacing these linens, gifts can be given to Violet Nash, our PW treasurer.

PW will be participating in the 2017 Birthday Offering in May. The Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women celebrates Presbyterian Women's history of mission giving. It was launched in 1922 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Woman's Auxiliary in the Presbyterian Church in the United States (PCUS). Since that time, it has become an annual tradition and has funded nearly 100 major mission projects that continue to make a difference in the lives of women and children. If you would like to contribute to this offering, special envelopes will be in the May 14th bulletin.

The three projects chosen this year are:

### **The Family Justice Center, South Carolina**

*The Family Justice Center (FJC) Safe Haven for Victims of Domestic Violence* currently operates an emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence in Georgetown and Horry Counties in South Carolina. With room for only eleven people, the shelter is frequently at capacity. The Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering grant will assist FJC in achieving its goal of constructing a new domestic violence shelter for victims of abuse living in these two counties of northeastern South Carolina.

### **Navajo Water Project, New Mexico**

*The Navajo Water Project* will eventually provide water systems to 205 families at the Smith Lake Navajo Reservation in New Mexico. This Birthday Offering grant will provide a running water system for forty families that do not have access to running water in their homes. They

currently store their water in pots, pans and 55-gallon drums. The grant will provide each household with a cistern, pump, sink, shower and all pipes for the installation of their water system.

**First Hand Aid, Cuba**

*First Hand Aid Rural Clinic Development Initiative* exists to diminish the suffering of the most marginalized Cuban citizens by providing them hope, dignity and the basic necessities of life and health. The Rural Clinic Development Initiative is designed to establish six medical clinics in partnership with, and located at, Presbyterian Churches in rural Cuba that will provide medicine and care not available, or difficult to get, from Cuban sources in those communities. This project will build, fund, stock and staff six medical clinics housed in long-existing and established Presbyterian Churches located in rural Cuba where needs are great and supply is limited.

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From Night Circle by Dianne Wallace:

Night Circle will meet on Monday, May 8th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Manse. We will continue *Women Who Dare to Believe* led by Phyllis Vice. Please read lesson six, *Breaking News-Messiah Watch* and today's heroine: Mary, the mother of Jesus. Our service project for May is to collect donations for the tablecloth fund. We will be joining Day Circle in replacing white table linens in disrepair used in the Fellowship Hall. Any member of the church who wishes to donate to this project please see Phyllis Vice, Carla Hallstead or Dianne Wallace. Our meal theme is May Day potluck. Bring a favorite spring dish and your beverage of choice.



Presbyterian Women –  
Praying, Studying, Loving, Serving

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS

**SPRING PICNIC:** Join us in the large shelter at Randolph Park at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 3rd, as we finish out our "Wonderful Wednesdays" for this season. Chicken will be provided - please bring a side or dessert to share!

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED** Friendship Day will be on Friday, May 5th. The program will be at 11 a.m. at First United Methodist Church (Family Life Center) and a pot-luck lunch will follow. All are invited to join in this observance.



**YOUTH SUNDAY:** This is a special service that you will not want to miss! Join us on Sunday, May 7th, as the youth of our church lead us in giving glory to God. We will also recognize graduating seniors and celebrate them at the Relay lunch with a cake.

### **Congratulations to this year's graduates!**



Sean DeHaven - James River High School  
Lexi King - Pulaski County High School  
Chad Fox - Radford University  
Madalyn Fox - Radford University  
Peyton Phillips - Radford University



**COMMUNION** will be served on Sunday, May 7th.

**RELAY FOR LIFE UPDATE:** Thanks to all who participated in the Wonderful Wednesday "Pie Night" on April 19th. We received \$175 in donations for the Relay. The Relay for Life team is also planning an after church spaghetti lunch on Sunday, May 7th. Thanks to all for your support of our fund-raising efforts for the American Cancer Society. Thus far we have received nearly \$1,200 in donations and from sales of jewelry for the Pulaski County - Radford Relay for Life.

**PLEASE SUBMIT ITEMS** to the church office for the June newsletter no later than Monday, May 15th.

**PRE-SCHOOL** graduation will be held in the sanctuary on Tuesday, May 23rd, at 10 a.m.

**CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed on Monday, May 29th, in observance of Memorial Day.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** will be suspended during the summer months. Starting June 4th, there will be no Sunday School and worship will be at 10 a.m.

**NEW CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION:** Please make note of our NEW phone number and email address for the church! You can now reach us at (540) 980-2132, and [firstprespulaskiva@gmail.com](mailto:firstprespulaskiva@gmail.com).



**CHECK IT OUT!**



On the Presbyterian Church Calendar, May 14th (Mother's Day) is not the only date highlighted. May 4th is the National Day of Prayer, May 5th is May Friendship Day, May 7th begins Older Adult Week: Wills Emphasis, May 13th is Fair Trade Day, May 21st is Presbyterian Heritage Day and May 28th is Disability Inclusion Day. Below is a listing of books from our church library that will be on display in the church parlor. Check them out!

**170.2 NOU** Aging: The Fulfillment of Life by Henri J.M. Nouwen

**248.32 LUC** Before Amen by Max Lucado - We aren't the first to struggle with prayer. The first followers of Jesus needed prayer guidance too. Jesus gave them a prayer. Not a lecture. Not the doctrine of prayer. He gave them a quotable, repeatable, portable prayer. Couldn't we use the same?

**285.17 AND** The Story of Montreat from its beginning, 1897-1947 by Robert Campbell Anderson

**302 HAN** Simple Friendships by Sharon Hanby-Robie - Love and friendship. What more could we want? This book will start you on your way to experiencing all you can from the circle of friends with whom the simple things in life means so much.

**331 HAN** Simple Retirement by Sharon Hanby-Robie - Whether you are already retired or planning for later years, let this book inspire you to embrace this chapter of your life with a sense of purpose and optimism.

**332.02 HAN** Managing Your Money by Sharon Hanby-Robie - The less you worry about money the better. By showing you how to be a good steward, this book will help you be content with God's blessings and remember the real Source of your joy.

**CH FIC MAH** Making Friends by Margaret Mahy - Small Mrs. De Vere's large dog Titania and large Mr. Derry's small dog Oberon serve as instruments that bring their masters together in an unexpected but quite successful friendship.

If there is a book you would like to read from our church library but are unable to get it, give Phyllis Vice a call (980-3106) and she will be happy to get the book to you. To check out a book write your name and the date you are taking the book on the card that is in the pocket in the back of the book. Place the card on the black and white spotted box (the card catalog) on the shelf nearest to the windows.

## Welcome to our Newest Members!

On Sunday, April 9, we welcomed four new friends into our family of faith. We are so blessed that God has led Joe and Michele Zagraban, and Ron and KD Walters, to First Presbyterian Church. These friends have already become active in the life of our congregation: leading Sunday School, singing in the choir, helping with crafts at our Egg Hunt, ushering on Sunday mornings, participating in PW circles, enjoying Wonderful Wednesdays, and most importantly – lending their prayers and hearts in glory to God each Sunday.

Please take the time to get to know our newest partners in faith!



**Ron and KD Walters**



**Joe and Michele Zagraban**

## Financial and Misc. Updates for the Congregation 4-19-17

### 1. Review of March 2017 Financial Reports

General Fund Donations for March were \$12,700. General Fund expenses for March were \$14,800, representing a shortfall of about \$2,100.

2. \$40,000 remains to be transferred from the General Fund to fully restore funds borrowed from the Benevolent Fund for the Capital Campaign. The Phil Sadler benevolent fund has been completely restored and will be almost fully utilized by the end of 2017.
3. Preschool Report – Preschool Director Stacey Utt advises preschool is nearly full for the fall 2017 school year! Income continues to exceed expenses for the Preschool.
4. Peaks Presbytery Community Block grants have been awarded for the Emergency Needs Task Force, Free Clinic and Pulaski Grow (\$2,500 for each). Pulaski Daily Bread has also received a 2-Cents-a-Meal grant provided by the Presbytery.
5. The upgrade of the Church Telephone System / Internet which began in January 2017 has finally been completed! This includes all of physical work of installing new lines across the alley from the manse to the church with a new internet router in the manse and internet range extenders in the church. A powerful internet range extender has been installed in the Fellowship Hall along with another extender near the Daily Bread Office. Internet access is also now available for groups meeting in the church manse. Special thanks are in order to Mark Alley, a local contractor, who donated the labor to cut and remove the pavement in the alley. Also a special thanks to Michael Boothe for overseeing the installation of the new system and the resolution of several technical problems.
6. Verizon telephone service has been reduced from five voice lines to two data lines to supply only the church fire protection system. The Verizon DSL internet service has been replaced with Com Cast internet. Installation of Magic Jack for telephone service through the Comcast internet has also been completed. Telephone service for the preschool will continue under the existing number (540-994-0618). The kitchen and Daily Bread office will share the existing church number 540-980-2131. The Church Office and Pastors Office will be under 540- 980-2132. Intercoms are now operational for additional communication between (1.) the kitchen and Daily Bread Office and between (2.) the Church Office and Pastors Office. Overall the annual savings for the upgraded church internet and telephone service will exceed \$2,500 per year.
7. The storage room across from the Daily Bread office which includes the silver storage closet was recently renovated with the installation of three large shelving units to better organize and store Daily Bread materials, church maintenance materials, and other materials for Wonderful Wednesday and Fellowship meals.

## **Montreat Worship and Music Conference**

June 18 to 23, 2017

**Come and Join Us!**

***Come and join us for a week of fellowship and relaxation in the mountains of western North Carolina!***

For over 20 years our church has rented the Hickory Lodge in Montreat, NC for the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 ten persons planning to attend this conference. This includes our pastor Melissa and Daniel. But, we still have room to accommodate ten or more people. Most 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 Then Sings My Soul.

The conference concludes with a Friday evening concert which the adult choir (typically over 600 members) and 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 18 through Friday night June 23, returning to Pulaski on Saturday June 24. 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 less than \$30 per person (including breakfast and lunch each day). Beds are available in two person rooms for \$175 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.***





**DATE:**

**5/7/17**

**5/14/17**

**5/21/17**

**5/28/17**

**LAY READERS:**

Youth Sunday

Chasity Stevens

Jordan Phillips

Phyllis Vice

**CHILDREN IN WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS:**

Communion

Ashley Hale

Lynn King

Doreen Latimer