



# 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

---

NO. 620

MAY 2019

\*\*\*\*

Friends,

As I write today, it is approaching the end of Holy Week and I am profoundly grateful. Holy Week is challenging every year. Yes, we triple the number of worship services and that requires extra preparation. We host a large Easter Egg hunt, and that takes weeks of work to pull off. But more than just the “extra” services and activities, it is a challenging week because of the gravity of what we are honoring and remembering.

Every Holy Week we hear about Jesus’ closest friends betraying and denying him, and we are forced to confess that we do the same. Every Holy Week we receive the Last Supper, knowing that we do not deserve such love. Every Holy Week we consider how Jesus must have felt, knowing what was to come. Every Holy Week we face the cross – a violent, painful form of execution. Every Holy Week we long for that empty tomb – for new life. And thanks be to God, we receive it again.

I am grateful not only for these overwhelming gifts of God. I am grateful also for each of you and the part you play in God’s story. I am grateful for the grace you share with one another and with me; grateful for the gifts you share freely in your church. Many of you have taken extra time this week to serve. You have prepared special crafts to teach our children of God’s love. You have spread mulch and painted railings. You have hid Easter eggs. You have set up for a funeral. You have shared Communion with those confined to home, or prepared the elements for worship here. You have called to check on friends far away. You have shared music, prayers, laughter, and tears. I see it, and I am so thankful. Thank you for being Church.

Love,

Melissa McNair-King

## *NEWS FROM PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN*

From Day Circle by Phyllis Vice:

Day Circle will meet on Monday, May 13th, at 11 a.m. in the Manse. We will be on lesson six: *God With Us Through Our Trials*. Scripture for this lesson is: Isaiah 41:8-13, 43:1-7; Psalm 46:1-11. Bring a sack lunch and stay for fellowship after the meeting.

On May 12th there will be a special collection for the PW Birthday Offering. There are four recipients for 2019:

**Disaster Response Team of the Presbytery of Charlotte** - Charlotte, North Carolina

The Birthday Offering grant will help provide a warehouse and parking lot with security fencing so the Disaster Response Team can expand its ministry to support people affected by human-made or natural disasters.

**Effingham Child Development Center Inclusive Playground** - Effingham, Illinois

The Birthday Offering grant will improve the center's playground by helping to provide a protective play surface and all-inclusive play equipment for children of differing abilities.

**Presbyterian Homes and Services of Kentucky, Inc. Good Shepherd Community Nursing Center** -

Phelps, Kentucky. The Birthday Offering grant will help provide new wardrobes, bedside cabinets, over-bed tables, nursing beds, mattresses, and lift recliners for people who are sick, poor, lonely or vulnerable due to infirmities of age and poor health.

**Wings of Refuge Restoration Home** - Iowa Falls, Iowa

The Birthday Offering grant will help fund a larger long-term safe home where many more women victimized by human trafficking will find restoration, identity, community, opportunity and hope, and transition into independent living.

Please be generous with your giving.

Church Women United will be observing May Friendship Day on Friday, May 3rd, 11 a.m., at St. Edward Catholic Church (8th Street & N. Washington Ave. - Pulaski). The theme is: *The Time is Now! "Agree to Differ."* Our guest speaker will be filling us in on the week day religious school program. Bring a light lunch dish to share.

From Night Circle by Dianne Wallace:

Night Circle will meet on Thursday, May 30th, at 12 noon for a Sandwich Tea Lunch at the Draper Mercantile Blooms Tea Garden. Day Circle and all ladies of the church are invited to join us. The cost is \$12 per person. Please confirm your reservation by Wednesday, May 22nd, by calling Dianne at 980-2793 or 230-0295. Be at the parking lot on 4th Street across from the church to arrange car pooling by 11:35 a.m.

Please remember Sunday, May 12th, for the Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering.

\*\*\*\*\*

Trinity Lutheran Women invite you to our Spring Banquet on Sunday, May 5th, at 5 p.m. in our fellowship hall at the corner of 5th St. and Washington Ave. Potluck salads and desserts. RSVP by 5/1 to Lavelva Stevens at 320-3369.

Program to follow the Banquet will begin at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary. Program leaders are Barbara Tuck and Lavelva Stevens who will present pictures and stories from their recent trip to Israel.

Presbyterian Women -  
Praying, Studying, Loving, Serving



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS**

**SPRING PICNIC:** You are invited to our annual Spring Picnic on Wednesday, May 1st! We meet at the large shelter in Randolph Park at 6 p.m. (right next to the playground). The church will provide meat and soft drinks; please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

**COMMUNION** will be served on Sunday, May 5th.

**YOUTH GROUP** will meet on Sunday, May 5th, from 5:30 - 7 p.m. in the Manse. All youth in grades 5-12 are encouraged to join us for Bible study, dinner and games. Friends are always welcome!

**CONFIRMATION SUNDAY** will be held on Sunday, May 19th, during regular worship. Make plans to be part of this important day in the life of our congregation, as we receive three young people in membership, celebrate what God is doing in their lives, and pledge our continued support in each of their journeys of faith.

**CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATE!** Congratulations to Kaitlyn Hodges, who graduates from Pulaski County High School this year and plans to attend New River Community College in the fall. We are proud of you!

**PLEASE SUBMIT ITEMS** to the church office for the June newsletter no later than Monday, May 20th.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** will be suspended during the summer months. Starting May 26th, there will be no Sunday School and worship will be at 10 a.m.

**CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed on Monday, May 27th, in observance of Memorial Day.

## **RELAY FOR LIFE UPDATE**

Thanks to all for attending the after church brunch and pie raffle on March 31. We received a total of \$270 for this season's Relay for Life fund drive. Along with donations received this past fall, a total of \$620 has been given. The church Relay for Life team is planning another after church event in May and will be accepting donations for memorials to those that have battled cancer and to honor cancer survivors. The Relay for Life event will be held on Saturday, June 22, at Jackson Park in Pulaski from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thanks to all for supporting Relay for Life. All donations to directly to the American Cancer Society.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN PRESCHOOL

Our school year is coming to an end and we have many fun activities planned for May! Members and friends of First Presbyterian are invited to watch our preschool graduation and promotion ceremony on Wednesday, May 22nd, at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. There is sure to be an abundance of cuteness and giggles. Thank you all again for all you do for our preschool! I thank God every day for the opportunity to serve our preschool kiddos and First Presbyterian!

With love,  
Jessie Brockmeyer



**CHECK IT OUT!**



All the pomp and circumstance are over now. We have put away the bunnies and chicks we used for decoration. The only thing we have to remind us of Easter is a few chocolate pieces, maybe. Do you know that we are still in Eastertide? We are not at the end, we are at the beginning of the church. Easter is never "over!" The following books will be on display in the church parlor. Check them out!

**225.6 GAL** The Reluctant Parting: How the New Testament's Jewish writers created a Christian book by Julie Galambush

**231.1 BAR** The Promise of the Spirit by William Barclay

**232 MCK** The Story of Christ by Scot McKnight - This compelling and fully Biblical introduction is for all who are curious to know more about the life and message of Jesus.

**232.97 MAR** The First Easter by Peter Marshall

**234 RIP** The Insanity of God: A True Story of faith resurrected by Nik Ripken - Not only was Jesus persecuted, so are His followers to this day around the world. This is a heart-breaking, faith-stretching, insider's look at what it means to pick up your cross and follow Jesus.

**270 LAN** Fire Upon the Earth: The Story of the Christian Church by Norman F. Lange

**270.1 MAI** First Christians by Paul L. Maier

## *Welcome New Members!*

We had the joy of receiving new members on Easter Sunday. Please introduce yourself and get to know these members of our family. We look forward to sharing in Christ's ministry together.



**Lance and Michelle Gardner**  
Gabe (13), Ruby (10),  
Julia (10), Vivienne (5),  
Indigo (2), Tex (7 mos)



**Connie McMillan**



**Eric Nunn**

**Zach and Heather Peaslee**  
Karoline (10)  
Addie (6)



## 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 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.

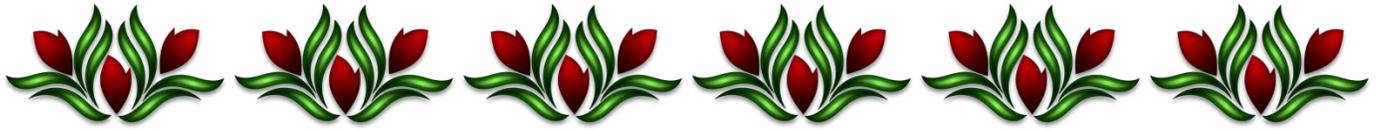
We now have only about eleven persons planning to attend this conference. But, we still have room to accommodate eight or nine more people. You must have registered to participate in choir and other classes, but you do not have to register to enjoy the conference and some good fellowship. The daily worship 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.***



**DATE:**

**LAY READERS:**

**CHILDREN IN WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS:**

**5/5/19**

Joe Zagraban

Debi Fox

**5/12/19**

Tom Haller

Kathy Hale

**5/19/19**

Confirmation Class

Lynn King

**5/26/19**

Allison Hunter

Doreen Latimer