

# Beyond the Columns

First Presbyterian Church—Danville, Virginia

189 Years of “knowing Christ and making Him known”

January 2016



## ***Do you want to get well?***

That is one of the most loaded questions that Jesus asks any of his followers. The question itself appears in John 5:6, but its implications are true for just about every-

one who asks Jesus for something that they want. When people ask Jesus for healing, when his disciples ask him for special recognition, and when his doubters ask him for signs, his answers often go much further than they expect.

In the particular case of “Do you want to get well,” Jesus is speaking to a crippled man who spent his days beside a supposed pool of healing, begging for money and food and waiting for someone to help him into the pool. The man was in a tough spot: he had been an invalid for 38 years and had basically made his living by begging. Moreover, because of the laws and superstitions of the day, those who were going to the pool to be healed would have in theory risked their own cleanliness by going through the trouble of helping him.

To complicate matters, if the man had actually been healed, he could not have lived as he had been living. While the cleanliness laws might have made people hesitant to help him, other laws encouraged them to give to him so that he could survive in his pitiable state. So, when Jesus asked him if he wanted to get well, the true question was, “Do you *really* want to get well?” After all, getting well would mean a complete change of lifestyle—one that the man might not be prepared to lead. If healed, he could no longer get by as a beggar and would have to live as a healed person, with much more responsibility!

Well—SPOILER ALERT—Jesus did heal the man, but the predicament speaks to us in our own lives of faith and as we enter a new year. If you are in the business of making New Year’s Resolutions, you know that we often set goals and make plans that soon get overrun by the rigors of our lives. We often discover that we are unable to fully reorient our lives around the things that we know we want to accomplish.

Likewise, in our lives of faith, we may find ourselves praying for things that end up requiring a lot more than we are prepared to give. Jesus’s disciples and our ancestors in the faith often discovered that when they asked Jesus for something, he was very willing to grant it...but the reception of it would come with a cost. As with New Year’s Resolutions, our own requests to God in prayer can require us to open ourselves up in ways that we do not fully recognize or appreciate.

For our five Sundays this January, we will study passages from the Bible in which the great rewards of God’s blessings are accompanied by great risks. Whether we ask God for healing, patience, happiness, success, opportunity, or anything else, we must realize that God will grant us these things on His terms and not our own. The good news, of course, is that God’s terms are always better than ours—we just have to be willing to recognize it!

While I am sure that we have all experienced this struggle in our lives—to give up something of our own in order to let God work—I hope that we can come together this month to consider how God keeps calling us to practice such faithful discipline. Moreover, if you have had such an experience of God’s joy and provision overcoming your own apprehensions, I hope that you will share it with me and with your brothers and sisters in Christ this month. By challenging and encouraging one another, we can help one another to be healed for the sake of living and sharing God’s good news.

In Christ, who gave all for us,

Allen

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**First Presbyterian Church, Danville, VA**

**Jan 2016 (Eastern Time)**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>27</div> <div>9:45am - Fellowship Time</div> <div>9:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>11am - Worship</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div>	<div>30</div> <div>12:15pm - Chapel</div>	<div>31</div> <div>5:30pm - Chancel Choir</div>	<div>1</div> <div>Office closed</div>	<div>2</div> <div>10:45am - Lunch Bible</div> <div>11:15am - Lunch Program</div>
<div>3</div> <div>9am - Worship Committee</div> <div>9:45am - Fellowship Time</div> <div>9:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>11am - Worship</div>	<div>4</div> <div>9:30am - Prayer Group</div> <div>10am - Staff Meeting</div>	<div>5</div> <div>6pm - Deacons</div> <div>7pm - Property Committee</div> <div>7:15pm - Membership</div>	<div>6</div> <div>12:15pm - Chapel</div> <div>6pm - Wednesday Night</div> <div>6pm - Youth</div>	<div>7</div> <div>5:30pm - Chancel Choir</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Office closed</div>	<div>9</div> <div>10:45am - Lunch Bible</div> <div>11:15am - Lunch Program</div>
<div>10</div> <div>9:45am - Fellowship Time</div> <div>9:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>11am - Worship</div>	<div>11</div> <div>9:30am - Prayer Group</div> <div>10am - Staff Meeting</div> <div>11am - VIP Committee</div>	<div>12</div> <div>6:15pm - Handbells</div> <div>7pm - Good News Choir</div> <div>7pm - Session</div>	<div>13</div> <div>12:15pm - Chapel</div> <div>6pm - Youth</div>	<div>14</div> <div>5:30pm - Chancel Choir</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Office closed</div>	<div>16</div> <div>8am - Men's breakfast</div> <div>10:45am - Lunch Bible</div> <div>11:15am - Lunch Program</div> <div>Youth's Parent's Dinner</div> <div>Time TBA</div>
<div>17</div> <div>9am - Missions Committee</div> <div>9:45am - Fellowship Time</div> <div>9:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>11am - Worship</div> <div>Ice skating: children and youth</div>	<div>18</div> <div>9:30am - Prayer Group</div> <div>10am - Staff Meeting</div>	<div>19</div> <div>6:15pm - Handbells</div> <div>7pm - Good News Choir</div>	<div>20</div> <div>12:15pm - Chapel</div> <div>6pm - Youth</div>	<div>21</div> <div>5:30pm - Chancel Choir</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Office closed</div>	<div>23</div> <div>10:45am - Lunch Bible</div> <div>11:15am - Lunch Program</div>
<div>24</div> <div>9:45am - Fellowship Time</div> <div>9:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>11am - Worship</div>	<div>25</div> <div>9:30am - Prayer Group</div> <div>10am - Staff Meeting</div> <div>6:30pm - Membership</div>	<div>26</div> <div>6:15pm - Handbells</div> <div>7pm - Good News Choir</div>	<div>27</div> <div>12:15pm - Chapel</div> <div>6pm - Youth</div>	<div>28</div> <div>5:30pm - Chancel Choir</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Office closed</div>	<div>30</div> <div>10:45am - Lunch Bible</div> <div>11:15am - Lunch Program</div>
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# What's happening

## Wednesday night supper

Dinner 6:00 pm Program at 6:45-7:30 pm

January 6 - District 3 Program: Bible Study by Allen Thompson

January 20 - District 4 Program: Bible Study by Allen Thompson

Reservations are required by Monday before the dinner. Payment will be taken at the time of reservation. Call the church office: 792-7822

## Membership Activity of the month

Watch the weekly bulletin for the announcement of the January activity.

### CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY

ICE SKATING January 17th – Leaving immediately after the Worship Service. If you would like to ride with us in the Church Van please let Jackson know (spaces fill up fast and are reserved first for youth). Parents of children: you will need to join your child for this event.

Contact Jackson for details:  
jackson@fpcdanville.com 792-7822

## YOUTH NEWS

Youth Group meetings on January 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th at 6:00 pm.

January 16th - **Parent's Dinner**- an opportunity for our Young People to say "Thank you" for all that our parents do.

January 17th - Ice Skating following the Worship Service.

January 23rd – Lunch Ministry

January 31st – Geocaching after Church

### Communicants class

begins on Jan 17th–9:45– 10:40 am Contact Jackson for details: jackson@fpcdanville.com 792-7822

## Faith and Prayer Walk

This month, after Sunday service, continue worship by walking around the block in prayer and thanksgiving. Meet at the Sutherlin entrance– weather permitting.



### Presbyterian Women

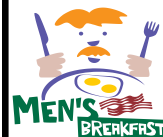
*Monday, January 4, 2016*

*11:00 a.m. Coordinating Council*

*12:00 p.m. Salad and Circle*

*2:00 p.m. Day Circle*

*7:00 p.m. Evening Circle at the home of  
Karan Johnson 329 Hawthorne Drive  
434-791-3456*



### Men of the church

Breakfast Fellowship  
& Bible Study

Saturday, January 16,  
8:00 a.m.

**Come enjoy great food & fellowship &  
support the men's ministry.**

# Opportunities to serve and share

## **Remember in Prayer**

Lynn Adcock, Anne Banks, Chuck Bolt, Pat Bolt, Alice & Randy Bradshaw, Robert Brooks, Beth Brown, Mary Ann Burton, Nelson R. Clark (David's father), Bill Copeland, Ruby Crowell, Maude Dalton, Ronnie Dinkle, Rev. Cecil Eanes, R. L. Clifton, W. J. "Buck" Collins, Clarence Edmunds, Bill Erwin, Betty Fitzgerald, Reva Goss, Steve Gross, Fred Gunn, Kelvin Gunn, Lois Hayes, Tim Hooker, Kathy Huggins, Glenda Hyde, Chris Kile, Ruth Lawton, Thomas Peyton Mahaffey, Larry Mann, Alice McDonald, Jake McGee, Thelma Meadors, Carolyn Miles, Larry Miller, Alex Mitchell, A. B. Motley, Debbie Perrin Neal, Toni Oakes, Richard Russell (Ina Ingram's brother), Ella Ryan, Alice Saunders, Lynn Saunders, Diane Shelton, Melva Sweeney, Russell Vandiver, Bill Weaver, Nultie Wiseman. All of the Caregivers. Serving in the military: Mark Heard, Josh Kopp



## ***A note from your Membership Committee...***

***If you are in need of a ride to church on Sunday or to other church activities, please contact David Parris, Chairman of the Membership Committee at (434) 793-9239 or contact Jean in the church office. We'll make sure you get to your activity!***

***The Membership Committee***

### **Lunch Ministry**

WHAT: Salvation Army's lunch ministry is extended to Saturdays at FPC.

WHEN: Every Saturday; volunteers needed from 10:30 am – 1:00 pm. Lunch is served at 11:30 am.

WHO: Different groups are in charge each week, extra help is always appreciated.

Jan2: FPC's Women's Evening Circle  
Jan 9: Westover Baptist Youth  
Jan16: Unity Presbyterian Church's Women  
Jan 23: FPC's Youth  
Jan 30: (5th Saturday) Outlook Class

### **GOD'S STOREHOUSE**

#### **WEEKEND BACKPACK PROGRAM**

WHAT: Preparing backpacks of food items to be distributed to children for weekends.

WHY: Malnourishment and hunger greatly influences a child's school performance. This program provides food over the weekend so that children will be ready to learn on Mondays.

WHO is needed and HOW do I help? Four (4) people to assemble the packs at God's Storehouse, and assist in delivery to Woodberry Hills school.

WHEN and WHERE: Assembly will be on Thursdays, January 7 and February 4 at God's Storehouse at 5:00 pm. Delivery will be at 1:00 pm Fridays, January 8 and February 5.

CONTACT: Nancy Wilson ,coordinator  
434-793-2644

# Sunday servers and sharers

## Alter Flowers



The flowers are placed in the sanctuary on Sunday to the praise and glory of God and...

- \* Jan 3: In honor of my church family, with the hope for a wonderful New Year by Susan Mathena
- \* Jan 10: To the glory of God and in loving memory of Ronnell D. Belton by his family
- \* Jan 17: (open\*)
- \* Jan 24: In honor of our children, Nathan and Olivia by Sally and David Clark
- \* Jan 31: In memory of my mother, Katherine Setzer Buchanan by Susan Mathena

**\*Open dates are available for sponsoring flowers. For information please contact Rebecca Atkinson at 434-203-1666. rebeccaatkinson@comcast.net**

## Serving this month January 2016

Sunday School. Kindergarten Extended

	<u>Nursery/ Sunday School</u>	<u>Older class</u>	<u>Younger class</u>	<u>Children's Chat</u>
3	Leigh Blount, Marissa Meadors	Erin Parris, Pat Bolt	Karan Johnson, Susie Crews	Susan Mathena
10	Ava Barrett	Laura Jones, Carolyn Baker	Kathy Dolianitis, Gwen Baucom	Donna Parris
17	Kim Clifton, Diane Shelton	Sara Weller, Carolyn Baker	Whitney Clarke, Catie Clarke	Kathy Dolianitis
24	Harriett Beale	Sara Weller, Jennifer Vance	Kathy Dolianitis, Karan Johnson	Rhoda Neal
31	Brenna Takata	Erin Parris, Pat Bolt	Whitney Clarke, Catie Clarke	Allen Thompson

## Liturgist

3 Nancy Schomer  
10 Ray Beale  
17 Donna Parris  
24 Brenna Takata  
31 Jackson Weller

## Collections

Susan Mathena

## Deacon for Friendship:

3 Marie Louise Crane,  
10 Susan Mathena, David Swann  
17 Ava Barrett, David Hyde  
24 Marie-Louise Crane, Kathy Dolianitis  
31 David Hyde, Cindy Zook

## Sat. Lunch Deacon/ Elder

1/2 Ava Barrett/ Thor Wright  
1/9 Ina Ingram  
1/16 Cindy Zook/ Hampton Wilkins  
1/23 Kent Shelton/Brenna Takata  
1/30 David Hyde/Bob Newnam

## Elders Friendship

3 Gail Gunn  
10 C.B. Strange  
17 David Clark  
24 Eddie Blount  
31 Bob Newnam

## Elders-Front Door

3 C.B. Strange  
10 Brenna Takata  
17 Barry Cutright  
24 Joan Reynold  
31 C.B. Strange

## Sound System

Fred Baker  
Edward Blount  
Sam Meadema  
Ray Beale  
C.B. Strange

## COMMUNION/ Flowers

17 David Clark, Gene Hayes



# Committee News

## Rev. Bill and Ann Moore : spreading the gospel in Japan.



In a country with a tiny Christian population, Rev. Bill has been charged with developing a new church in a rural/suburban community. The Reformed Church of Japan (RCJ) is a longstanding partner of the Presbyterian Church (USA). RCJ's Western Presbytery has invited Bill and Ann to begin a congregation in Nishitani, just north of the Osaka/Kobe metropolitan area. Bill is the organizing missionary and responsible for evangelistic outreach and pastoral care, preaching and organizational leadership. The Moores are encouraged by the progress of the new church development in Nishitani Japan. Please prayerfully support them in this new opportunity.

David Swann, Missions Committee

## Committee meetings and Chairs

- ♦ Worship Committee-(Brenna Takata, Chair) Sunday, January 3, 9:00 am
- ♦ Diaconate - (Susan Mathena, Chair) Tuesday, January 5 , 6:00 pm
- ♦ Property - (Tom Barrett, Chair) Tuesday, January 5, 7:00 pm
- ♦ Membership – (Chris Moore Chair): January 5 , 7:15 pm (replaces December meeting)
- ♦ VIP - (Pat Argyrakis, Chair) Monday, January 11, 11:00 am
- ♦ Christian Education (CE) (XXXXXX Chair) - January 11, at noon (12:00 pm).
- ♦ Session - (C.B. Strange, Clerk) Tuesday, January 12, 7:00 pm. Session meetings are always open to members wishing to attend.
- Missions XXXXX Chair: Sunday, January 17, 9:00 am
- Membership (Chris Moore, Chair)– January 25 , 6:30 pm

## Newsletter NEWS

We hope that you enjoy the changes to this month's newsletter. The membership committee is now responsible for "Beyond the Columns". We appreciate your feedback and contributions to content. Please submit any comments, notices, news, dates etc. to either David, Marie-Louise, Susan, or the church office by the 20th of the month before publication.

To save costs of mailing paper copies, please contact us if you have email and if you are receiving both paper and e-versions. And don't forget that the newsletter can be found on the church's website [www.fpcdanville.com](http://www.fpcdanville.com)

David Parris: [johndparrissr@gmail.com](mailto:johndparrissr@gmail.com) , Marie-Louise Crane 770-0136 [mlinusa@comcast.net](mailto:mlinusa@comcast.net)  
Susan Mathena 770-3655 [susan.mathena@gmail.com](mailto:susan.mathena@gmail.com) Church office 792-7822

## Church Officers 2016-2018

### 2016 SESSION

Class of 2016 Ina Ingram, Hampton Wilkins,  
Thor Wright

Class of 2017 Tom Barrett, Gail Gunn,  
Brenna Takata , Dave Zook

Class of 2018 Eddie Blount, Gene Hayes,  
Bob Newnam, Joan Reynolds, (Gary Wimer, Alt)

### 2016 DIACONATE

Class of 2016 Marie-Louise Crane, Susan Mathena,  
David Hyde, John Parris

Class of 2017 David Parris ,Kent Shelton, Mike  
Reynolds, Cindy Zook

Class of 2018 David Swann, Kathy Dolianitis,  
Ava Barrett

# Christian Education



## Class offerings

Class: rm; leader; study or statement

- \* Outlook: rm 322; Jay Hayes, Tom Barrett, Bob Newnam, Kent Shelton, Whitney Clarke; Uniform Lesson Series: "The Present Word"
- \* Seekers: rm 103; Joyce Perez; "Feasting the Word"
- \* Bible Fellowship: rm ; Linda Copeland;
- \* Youth: rm 110; Jackson Weller; uses the scripture to be used in the week's sermon to prepare for worship
- \* Children's Sunday School ages Kindergarten through 5th grade have a Sunday School lesson during the Children's Extended Time. The lessons follow the Liturgical Calendar, bringing to life the stories and lessons that are the foundation for our Christian faith
- \* Wednesday night Bible study January 6 and 20 at 6:45 pm (dinner at 6:00)  
See Wednesday Night Supper on pg 3.

## Day School 2015-16

ERIN PARRIS, DIRECTOR



Happy New Year from your Day School families!

February 1st is fast approaching which means our enrollment for the 2015 school year will begin. We're expecting another full house so if you know of anyone looking for a preschool please send them my way!

Check out our updates and picture posts to Facebook

- ⇒ **COMMUNICANTS CLASS**
- ⇒ **Begins on Jan 17th during the Sunday School time (9:45-10:40 am)**
- ⇒ **8 week class**

Parents, contact Jackson in the church office if you are interested in your son or daughter taking this class:

jackson@fpcdanville.com 792-7822



### A note from the Choir

The Choirs at FPC always welcome new participants.

Rehearsals are typically scheduled as follows, but always refer to the calendar pg 2!

Chancel Choir Thursdays at 5:30 pm

Handbells Tuesdays at 6:15 pm

Good News Choir Tuesdays at 7:00 pm

Please contact Heather at  
heather.robertson@pcs.k12.va.us

### Wednesday Women's Bible Study

More opportunity to fellowship and study God's word in our Wednesday Women's Bible Study. We will meet in room 103 on Wednesdays at 4.30 pm beginning in later January. Please be on the lookout for more information in our bulletins or on our website.

For more information, contact Barbara Wilkins ([barbara.wilkins@lpnt.net](mailto:barbara.wilkins@lpnt.net)).

# Celebrating our family

## Birthdays and Anniversaries This Month:



- |                   |                   |                      |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 2 Anna Honea      |                   | 19 Whitney Pritchett |
| 3 Bob Honea       |                   | Dale Hutchens        |
| Dick Stoakley     |                   | 20 Tom Barrett       |
| 5 Carter Meadors  |                   | Grace Litzenberg     |
| George Crowell    |                   | 22 David Parris      |
| 7 Barry Cutright  |                   | 24 Jackson Heard     |
| 8 Alex Mitchell   | 14 Kathy Huggins  | Nancy Wilson         |
| 9 Martha Mallery, | Madeline Parris   | 25 Jenna Dean        |
| Amy Quinn         | 15 Barbara Newnam | 25 Cheryl Wooten     |
| 10 George Snead   | 16 Lia Argyrakis  | Alice Charette       |
| 11 Gail Ramey     | Hunter Cutright   | 25 Lois Lea          |
| Brad Turner       | Brandon Willeford | 27 Mary Lou Snead    |
| 13 Bob Willeford  | Flo Hall          | 31 Larry Fehrenbaker |
| Richard Stoakley  | Hunter Cutright   | Michael Wilson       |
|                   |                   | Maggie Weller        |

Please share with us your anniversary date. Call Marie-Louise at 770-0136 or email [mlinusa@comcast.net](mailto:mlinusa@comcast.net)

Day School  
Christmas  
program  
2015



## VIP OF THE WEEK

- Jan 3 Charlotte Lowther, 345 Mowbray Arch, Danville, VA 24541  
 Jan 10 Mary Ann Burton, Brookdale, room 325, 432 Hermitage Drive, Danville, VA 24541  
 Jan 17 Thelma Meadors, Our Lady of Hope Room 15, 13700 N Grayton Road  
 Richmond, VA 23233  
 Jan 24 Ken Obye, 1111 Main Street, Apartment 214, Danville, VA 24541  
 Jan 31 A. B. Motley, 480 West Main Street, Apt A3, Danville, VA 24541

Please remember our VIPs in prayer each week and drop them a card or note





## Notes and updates

### An invitation to all women

The Coordinating Council wants to invite all the women of our church to attend our Circles. There are several to choose from and they all meet the first Monday of each month. We have a 12:00 Salad and Circle coordinated by Ava Barrett, 2:00 Afternoon Circle coordinated by Caroline Baker, and the 7:00 Evening Circle coordinated by Pat Argyrakis and Karan Johnson. The first two meet at the church and the evening group meets in different homes ( see monthly newsletter and bulletins). Please choose one that best meets your needs and join us. We will welcome you with open arms!

This year on Sunday, May 1, we will host a Birthday Tea. Please mark your calendars now and plan to join us!

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Cindy Zook, Moderator

*The Worship Committee would like to thank all those who graciously donated a candle to adorn our windows in December*

*Given in memory of Charles & Harriet Haynsworth  
by their children*

*Given in memory of William Harden Haynsworth  
by his nieces & nephew*

*Given in memory of Ted Argyrakis  
by Nick & Lisa Argyrakis*

*Given in honor of Pat Argyrakis  
by Nick & Lisa Argyrakis*

*Given in memory of George & Hazel Hagiwara  
by the Takata Family*

*Given in honor of Esley Rebecca Hill  
by Sam & Becky Meadema*

*Given in honor of Bill Erwin  
by Bracken Irwin*

*Given in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Brooke  
Temple  
by the family*

*Given in honor of Elizabeth Temple Wilson  
by the family*

*Given in honor of Benjamin H. Clark &  
Heather E. Clark*

*by David and Sally Clark*

*Given in memory of William E. "Bill" White  
by Jean White*

*Given in memory of James F. Ingram  
by his family.*

*Given in memory of T. Ryland Dodson  
by Inara Dodson*

*Given in honor of Pastor Joe and Leonie  
Pallikkathayil*

*by Joe and Angie Alexander*

*Given in honor of their marriage on  
November 20, 2004*

*by Kent & Diane Shelton*

*Given in honor of Charles and Lib Cuttle  
by Frances, Parks & John Newby*

### Angel Tree

*A big THANK YOU to all of you!  
What a blessing we all were to  
the 30 children served through  
our Angel Tree Ministry and  
the Party on December 19th.*

*Praise God from whom all  
blessings flow and again, thank  
you all for including an extra  
child into your family.*

*Marie Louise*



Check out the website

<http://fpcdanville.com/>

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MAIL MERGE

10  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED