

Beyond the Columns

First Presbyterian Church—Danville, Virginia

190 Years of “knowing Christ and making Him known”

January
2017



As you might imagine, I am at a stage of life at which I am being encouraged to plan for the future. The knowledge that Kelsey and I were expecting, and then that Islay was born, prompted many friends we have in the financial sector to contact us about our plans for college, savings, retirement, insurance, etc. We have appreciated this, because it is good to know people who are passionate about something important, are good at it, and are willing to help you do it as well.

These days, we are necessarily more serious about planning and preparing than we had been when it was just the two of us, or before we were married. While we did some saving during those times, it was not until we had a child that the future had a clear timeline, became more concrete, and was embodied in a person. Once the child was there, the future could be envisioned.

I suppose I could have used this reflection on Christmas Eve to talk about the way that Jesus’s entry into the world—into our lives—made God’s plan clear and knowable, but the illustration is a good one for any time. If you have a clear idea of what the future should look like—or even what you want it to look like—then it is much easier to prepare for it. We could also think of the future like a road trip: if you know the destination, then you can figure out how to get there. If you do not know where you are going, then you either sit around stuck for a while or you spend a lot of time driving around and wasting gas until you find it.

As a church, we are now fewer than ten years away from our 200th birthday. It might sound strange to suggest that we do some long-term planning when it’s “only” ten years in the future, but we should be thinking, talking, and especially praying about what God wants us to do and be as a church in ten years. While this will involve some faithful guesswork, it is fairly safe to assume that if we are going to be in a position of faithful service to Christ ten years from now, then we will not be able to stray too far from the proper path in the years between.

So, this month I will be preaching about vision and the examples that God gives us in the pages of the Bible for having healthy and faithful vision. Despite the old adage that, “if you want to make God laugh, tell Him your plans,” God does want us to plan to be faithful, to make disciples, and to have a pretty good idea how to do it. He also wants us to follow “the way” that he has set for us, as expressed in John 14:6- “Jesus answered, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’” In Greek, “way” is the same word as “road,” so we know that Jesus is out in front of us.

That said, the way has also existed behind us and has shown us many things. As this year goes on, the Session, Diaconate, committees, and all of us will get to share in considering how God has led us faithfully and how He is showing us Jesus’s road for the future. I am excited to talk about these things and to hear your stories, both of the past and of the vision the Holy Spirit is giving you for the future.

Have a good January, and I will see you on the road!

In Christ,

Allen

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS	FRI	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NEW YEARS DAY 9:45am Sunday School 10:40am Fellowship 11am Worship	9:30am- Prayer 10am Staff Mtg	6:00 pm Deacons mtg 7 pm Property cmte	12:15 pm <u>CHAPEL</u> 6:00pm Family Night Supper 6:00pm YOUTH	5:30 Choir	OFFICE CLOSED	10:45 Bible Study 11:15 Lunch Ministry
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9am Worship CMTE 9:45am Sunday School 10:40am Fellowship 11am Worship	9:30am- Prayer 10am Staff Mtg 10:00am Women's Council 11am VIP 12:30pm Day Circle 6:30 pm Membership Cmte 7: pm Evening Circle	6:15 Handbells 7 pm Session	12:15 pm CHAPEL 6:00pm YOUTH	5:30 Choir	OFFICE CLOSED	8:00 Mens Breakfast 10:45 Bible study 11:15 Lunch Ministry
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9:45am Sunday School 10:40am Fellowship 11am Worship	9:30am- Prayer 10am Staff Mtg	6:15 Handbells	12:15 pm CHAPEL 6:00pm Family Night Supper 6:00pm YOUTH	5:30 Choir	OFFICE CLOSED	10:45 Bible study 11:15 Lunch Ministry
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9am Missions CMTE 9:45am Sunday School 10:40am Fellowship 11am Worship	9:30am- Prayer 10am Staff Mtg 4:30 pm CE CMTE	6:15 Handbells	12:15 pm <u>CHAPEL</u> 6:00pm YOUTH	5:30 Choir	OFFICE CLOSED	10:45 Bible study 11:15 Lunch Ministry
29	31	FEB 1	2	3	4	5
9:45am Sunday School 10:40am Fellowship 11am Worship	9:30am- Prayer 10am Staff Mtg	6:15 pm Handbells	12:15 pm CHAPEL 6:00pm Family Night Supper 6:00pm YOUTH	5:30 Choir	OFFICE CLOSED	10:45 Bible study 11:15 Lunch Ministry

What's happening

January— time to hunker down and get ready for the cold? NOT!!!! It IS the time to stay active with the church



Family Night Suppers Join us for another exciting month of food, fellowship and learning. Menus will be posted in the bulletin the Sunday prior to the supper. Reservations are taken in the Juice room or you may call the church office.

Tickets are \$6 per person with a family maximum of \$21

Reserve the Dates!

Wednesday, January 4th- Chili and cornbread;

Program: Bradley Long

Wednesday, January 18th– Hot dogs and hamburgers:

Program: Bible Study

Bible Club for our Pre K-Grade 5 children after dinner !

Chapel Time

Wednesdays, 12:15 pm

A brief mid week time for prayer and worship

Our new
Wednesday
Night Supper
Chef says

"come join us.
Happy New
Year"



Mission Minute

Two of our supported missionaries are Matthew and Teresa Lee serving in the Cameroon, West Africa. Matthew is a Language Technology Specialist with Wycliffe Bible Translators. In addition to his translation responsibilities, he teaches linguistic and literacy tools to missionaries and Cameroonians. Teresa teaches kindergarten children of other missionaries.

They live in the city of Yaounde, Cameroon, where their modes of transportation are taxis or walking. They enjoy shopping for local fruits and vegetables in the markets. One of their greatest joys was participating in Operation Christmas Child at a church in Makenene, Cameroon, where they distributed boxes sent from the U.S. for small children. Both of the Lees said there was much joy in sharing gifts and time with the children.

The Wycliffe Bible Translator vision is that God's Word will be accessible to all people in the language of their hearts. Part of Matthew's job involves writing training materials for French speakers and testing or developing new computer language tools. Read more about their work and service on the blog whereyousendme.wordpress.com.



jackson@fpcdanville.com 792-7822

Youth Group: .Every Wednesday at 6:00 pm

Youth Lunch Ministry: January 28

Youth Ice Skating: January 29



CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Contact Jackson for details:
jackson@fpcdanville.com 792-7822 ext 3
Children's Bible Club: January 4 and 18
Children's Ice Skating: January 29

Opportunities to serve and share



Prayers and Praises

Pray for: Kevin Bailey, Chuck Bolt, Pat Bolt, Alice & Randy Bradshaw, Beth Brown, Bill Brown, Claire Campbell, Nelson R. Clark, R. L. Clifton, Sarah Fisher (Sally Clark's Mother), Betty Fitzgerald, Fred Gunn, Christina Hermetz (Kelsey Thompson's sister), Tim Hooker, Kay Huggins (son -in-law of Thomas and Alice Saunders), Conner Jones, Jana Keen and family, Angela Langford, Larry Mann, Carol Ingram McGee, Larry Miller, Lee Norman, Greg Nunley, Ella Ryan, Ethel Sakellaris, Alice Saunders, Lynn Saunders

Our VIPs: Anne Banks, Ruby Crowell, Maude Dalton, Rev. Cecil Eanes, Clarence Edmunds, Bill Erwin, Anne Grier, Lois Hayes, Kathy Huggins, Ruth Lawton, Grace Litzenberg, , Malcolm Mallery, Thelma Meadors, Carolyn Miles, A. B. Motley, Linda Terriberry, Nultie Wiseman

ON THE MEND--(Praise & Gratitude for improved condition) Anne Banks, Kelvin Gunn, Libby Hodge, Grace Litzenberg, Thomas Peyton Mahaffey, Mary Ann Shelton, Russell Vandiver, Jean White, Hampton Wilkins

All of the Caregivers.

For those who have lost loved ones: The family and friends of **Alex Mitchell**; Linda Obye and family of **Ken Obye**; the Abreu family on the loss of Sallie's father, **Thomas Shadrack II**.

Contact the church office with requests & updates. 792-7822. Confidentiality is respected, of course

Lunch Ministry

WHAT: Serving a hot lunch to the community every Saturday

WHEN: Every Saturday; volunteers work 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 AND OFTEN NEEDED**; Cooking, clean up, greeting, bible study, just chatting with our guests

Jan 7: PC's Women's Evening Circle

Jan 14: Westover Baptist Youth

Jan 21: Unity Presbyterian Church Women

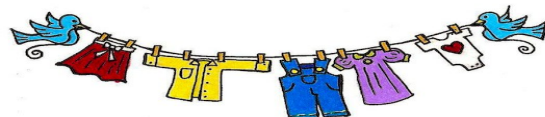
Jan 28: FPC's Youth

Sunday Servers:

Help Wanted: Liturgists, Children's Chat, Sound System operators. If you feel a calling to serve in any of these capacities, please email Brenna Takata at brenna5008@gmail.com or call the church office and leave a message with Christy.

Angel Tree Party News

Thanks to all who bought and gave their gifts with love. Hearts were moved to tears and a few smiles were wider than their faces! We had 32 guests from 9 families with Jackson and the youth, Ava Barrett & Shaeffer, Harriet Beale, Adjowa, Cameron, Maykayla & Ben Kassa, and Carolyn Baker hosting. Another truly blessed opportunity from our family of faith to those in need. —Marie-Louise Crane



Saturday Lunch Program Clothing Drive

Thanks for all of the donations of winter clothes for our Saturday Lunch guests. They were much appreciated. The Deacons will be collecting clothes again in late spring for warm weather clothes. But please do not bring them to the church until requested.



Sunday servers and sharers

Flowers on the Reredos

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

January 1: OPEN

January 8: The flowers that enhance our worship this morning are given to the glory of God, and in celebration of the baptism of Catherine Islay Thompson by her family.

January 15: In loving memory of Ronnell D. Belton by his family.

January 22: OPEN

January 29: In loving memory of our parents, Katherine Setzer Buchanan and Kim and Jack Mathena by Susan and Tommy Mathena

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

After the service, flowers are distributed to those persons on our prayer list or as directed by the sponsor. In charge of this month's distribution: Deacons



Serving this month January 2017

Children's Sunday Activities

	<u>Nursery/ Sunday School</u>	<u>Younger class</u>	<u>Older class</u>	<u>Children's Chat</u>		<u>Liturgist</u>
1	Leigh Blount & Marissa Meadors	Jackson Weller	Jackson Weller	Allen Thompson	1	Ray Beale
8	Ava Barrett	Whitney & Catie Clarke	Lisa & Lia Argyrakis	Nicky Bracey	8	Nancy Schomer
15	Diane Shelton & Kim Clifton	Karan Johnson Gwen Baucom	Carolyn Baker Kathy Machado	Kent Shelton	15	Colin Meadors
22	Harriet Beale	Rebecca Atkinson Chris Moore	Sara Weller Jennifer Stowe	Tom Barrett	22	Bunny Hayes
29	Brenna Takata	Kathy Dolianitis	Laura Jones Erin Parris	Whitney Clarke	29	Becky Meadema
	Friendship: Deacons*, Elder *Deacon on call for visitation			Sat Lunch Deacon, Elder		
1	*David Parris, C.B Strange CAKE SUNDAY			7	Mike Reynolds, Joan Reynolds	
8	*Mike Reynolds Dave Zook			14	Joyce Perez	
15	*Kent Shelton, Bunny Hayes			21	Harriett Beale, Ray Beale	
22	*Harriet Beale, Betzy Wilson			28	Jeanne Nostrandt, Bob Newnam	
29	David Swann, Tom Barrett					

	<u>Elders-Front Door</u>	<u>Sound System</u>	<u>Ushers*</u>
1	Eddie Blount	Fred Baker	Team 1
8	Joan Reynolds	Edward Blount	Team 2
15	Joyce Perez	Sam Meadema	Team 3
22	Ray Beale	C.B Strange	Team 4
29	Bob Newnam	Ray Beale	Team 4

*Team leader may ask someone to help with ushering

Monthly Duties

Collections: Mike Reynolds

Flowers: Deacons

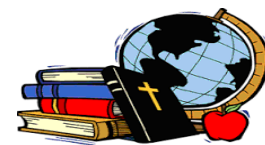
Communion: January 15

Brenna Takata, Bunny Hayes

Opportunities to Study the Word

Class: rm; leader; study or statement, time

Christian Education



Youth and Adult Sunday School: 9:45-10:40 am

- ✂ Youth (middle and high school): rm 112; Jackson Weller; uses the scripture to be used in the week's sermon to prepare for worship
- ✂ Outlook: rm 322; Jay Hayes, Tom Barrett, Bob Newnam, Kent Shelton, Whitney Clarke;
- ✂ Seekers: rm 109; Joyce Perez; *"Feasting the Word"*
- ✂ Bible Fellowship: Library; Linda Copeland; *Common Sense and The Gospel* (A study of the Wisdom Books)
- ✂ **Children's Sunday School** ages Kindergarten through 5th grade have a Sunday School lesson during the Children's Extended Time (mid-worship approximately 11:15-12:00). The lessons follow the Liturgical Calendar, bringing to life the stories and lessons that are the foundation for our Christian faith
 - ✂ K-2: rm 304; see pg 7 for instructors
 - ✂ Gr 3-5: rm 306; see pg 7 for instructors

Church Officers elected on December 11

Session (Elders)

Class of 2017	Class of 2018	Class of 2019
Tom Barrett	Eddie Blount	Betzy Wilson
Gary Wimer	Gene Hayes	Joyce Perez
Brenna Takata	Bob Newnam	Bunny Hayes
David Zook	Joan Reynolds	Ray Beale

Diaconate (Deacons)

Class of 2017	Class of 2018	Class of 2019
Mike Reynolds	David Swann	Jarrold Brown
David Parris	Kathy Dolianitis	Marie Louise Crane
Kent Shelton	Harriet Beale	Susan Mathena
Becky Meadema		Jeanne Nostrandt
		Alternate: Melva Sweeney



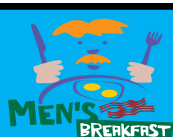
Presbyterian Women

Monday January 9, 2017

Coordinating Council will meet at 10:00 am in Room 108

Bible Study: at 12:30 pm in Room 108

Evening: 7:00 pm at the home of Brenna Takata, 5008 Cobblestone Dr, Danville



Men of the church

Breakfast and fellowship
January 21 at 8:00 am
Overbey Fellowship Hall.
All men are invited!!

Committee meetings

- ✂ Diaconate: (David Parris, Chair); Tuesday, January 3, 6 pm (first Tuesday)
- ✂ Property: (Tom Barrett, Chair); Tuesday, January 3, 7:00 pm (first Tuesday)
- ✂ Worship Committee: (Brenna Takata, Chair); Sunday, January 9, 9:00 am (first Sunday)
- ✂ Membership: (Chris Moore); Monday, January 9: 6:30 pm (NOTE_ DIFFERENT WEEK)
- ✂ Session: (C.B. Strange, Clerk); Tuesday, January 10, 7:00 pm (second Tuesday) Session meetings are always open to members wishing to attend.
- ✂ VIP: (Pat Argyrakakis, Chair); Monday, January 9, 11:00 am (second Monday)
- ✂ Missions: (Gary Wimer, Chair), Sunday, January 15, 9:00 am (third Sunday)
- ✂ Christian Education (CE): Monday, January 23, 4:30 pm (Third Monday)

celebrating our family

Celebrate with us on the first Sunday in the juice room with birthday cake— before and after worship

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

2 Anna Honea
Tremblay
3 Dick Stoakley
5 Carter Meadors
7 Barry Cutright
9 Martha Mallery
9 Amy Quinn
10 George Snead
11 Gail Ramey
11 Brad Turner
13 Bob Willeford

13 Richard Stoakley
14 Kathy Huggins
14 Madeline Parris
15 Barbara Newnam
16 Lia Argyrakis
16 Hunter Cutright
16 Brandon Willeford
16 Flo Hall
19 Whitney Pritchett
19 Dale Hutchens
20 Tom Barrett

20 Grace Litzenberg
22 David Parris
24 Jackson Heard
24 Nancy Wilson
25 Alice Charette
25 Lois Lea Paalman
27 Mary Lou Snead
31 Larry Fehrenbaker
31 Maggie Weller

Anniversaries-

January 8, 1965: Walter and Gail Gunn

VIP OF THE WEEK

Please remember our VIPs in prayer each week and drop them a card or note to let them know how much they are loved

Jan. 1 Ann Banks-Riverside Rehabilitation Ctr. 2344 Riverside Dr, Danville Va. 24541

Jan. 8 Maude Dalton Brookdale Danville Piedmont 149 Executive Ct. Danville, Va. 24541

Jan. 15 Lois Hayes Commonwealth Senior Living at Stratford House Room 115 1111 Main Street Danville, Va. 24541

Jan. 22 Cecil Eanes Stratford Health Care Room 404 1111 Main St. Danville Va. 24541

Jan. 29 Grace Litzenburg 954 Main Street Danville, Va. 24541

Many thanks to our VIP committee who selflessly visit our VIPs. It takes a special calling to help those who can no longer get to church on a regular basis still feel like they are a vital part of the church family, as indeed they are. Thank you VIP committee members.



Thank you so much to those who have been able to help bring Pat & Chuck Bolt a meal in the past months. They still need our help and would love your visit.

Check in online (www.takethemameal.com, the Bolts, password : PatnChuckB) to sign up or call Marie-Louise Crane at 434-770-0136 to pick a date.

Check out the website <http://fpcdanville.com/>

Attention

If you have information for the Sunday bulletin, please provide it to Christy Edgar at office@fpcdanville.com by the preceding Tuesday. If you would like an insert to be printed and included in the bulletin, please request it at least 10 days in advance. Thank you!

First Presbyterian Church
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED