



# Beyond the Columns

## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Friends,

For my eighty-second and final newsletter article for *Beyond the Columns*, I want to take a brief moment to thank you for the past six years and nine-plus months. Among the things for which Kelsey and I are most grateful, your love for Islay tops the list. From the time we announced Kelsey’s pregnancy, to the generous baby shower, to now, you have given her a wonderful church family. Even if she does not have clear memories of this age, her personality and character have been greatly formed by your love and care.

I could go on and thank each of you for something in particular—and I hope I get the chance—but for now I will continue to do what I have done in this space for almost seven years: provide a preview of the coming month’s theme and messages. Of the various sermon series that I have had in my head, one seems particularly appropriate for a coming time of transition.

Transitions are stressful, and they are often frustrating and uncomfortable. That said, a case could be made that a church—or any organization—is always in transition. William Vanderbloemen, a leading expert on pastoral transitions (who also grew up in my home church in Lenoir, NC) makes the case that every pastor is an interim pastor. So, whether a transition lasts 18 months or seven years, a church is always in some kind of transition.

Because some transitions can be especially stressful and agitating, however, there can be a heightened risk of conflict, typically in the forms of territorialism over certain areas of ministry, jockeying for influence, and that great conflict-exploiting behavior we find in the Bible: “grumbling.” Moses dealt with grumbling during the Exodus, and Jesus encounters grumbling often in the Gospels. Paul also addresses it in his letters. Grumbling exists in every organization, but occasionally you find one in which grumbling steers the ship. Such a situation often arises during some period of transition, but positive momentum in ministry and community can squash grumbling like a bug.

So, this sermon series will not be about grumbling, but about moving away from it. Studying the Bible passages that address grumbling in the Old and New Testaments, we see that there are a few other “gr-” words that are much stronger than grumbling: grace, growth, and gratitude. For my time here in January, I will spend a sermon reflecting on each of these traits. Each of them comes with the strength of the Holy Spirit, and enables us as individuals and the church to thrive in the midst of difficulty and uncertainty. They also help us to follow the will of God even when we cannot clearly see it.

I am looking forward to sharing these last few weeks with you, and I hope that we can each look forward with hope. Be in prayer for our elders and deacons as we have our annual officers’ retreat on the first weekend of the month, and for the committees that God is calling to lead you through transition. As I said above, I hope that I am able to express my gratitude personally to you this month, and I am eager to see what God has in store.

In Christ,

Allen



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Calendar.....	2
Upcoming Events .....	3
Youth and Children .....	3
Prayer and Praise.....	4
Celebrations.....	4
Sunday Flowers.....	5
VIPs.....	5
News and Features .....	6

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Stewardship in Action, Recipe of the Month, and more.

Contacts, First Presbyterian Church, Danville, VA, Holidays in United States

Jan 2018 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
<div>9 Admin Cmte.Rm</div> <div>New Year's Day</div> <div>New Year's Eve</div> <div>Office Closed</div> <div>8:45am - Sun. Sch.</div> <div>10:40am - Fellowship</div> <div>11am - Worship</div>	<div>10am - Staff Mtg.</div> <div>7pm - Property</div>	<div>6pm - Wed. Supper</div> <div>8pm - Youth</div>		<div>Office closed</div> <div>8pm - Officers'</div>	<div>Office closed</div> <div>8pm - Officers'</div>	<div>8:30am - Officers'</div> <div>10am - Deacons</div> <div>10:45am - Bib.</div> <div>11:15am - Lunch</div>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<div>9am - Worship</div> <div>9:45am - Sun. Sch.</div> <div>10:40am - Fellowship</div>	<div>10 PW Coordinating</div> <div>10am - Staff Mtg.</div> <div>11am - VIP</div> <div>12:30pm - PW Day</div> <div>7pm - PW Evening</div>	<div>2pm - DAR Mtg.</div>	<div>6pm - Youth</div>	<div>5:30pm - Ch. Choir</div>	<div>Office closed</div>	<div>10:45am - Bib.</div> <div>11:15am - Lunch</div>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<div>9:45am - Sun. Sch.</div> <div>10:40am - Fellowship</div> <div>12:30pm - Farewell</div>	<div>Martin Luther King</div> <div>Office Closed</div>	<div>10am - Staff Mtg.</div> <div>4pm - Day School</div>	<div>6pm - Wed. Supper</div> <div>8pm - Youth</div>	<div>5:30pm - Ch. Choir</div>	<div>Office closed</div>	<div>8am - Men's</div> <div>10:45am - Bib.</div> <div>11:15am - Lunch</div>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<div>9am - Missions</div> <div>9:45am - Sun. Sch.</div> <div>10:40am - Fellowship</div>	<div>9:30am - Prayer</div> <div>10am - Staff Mtg.</div> <div>4:30pm - Christian</div>		<div>6pm - Youth</div>	<div>5:30pm - Ch. Choir</div>	<div>Office closed</div>	<div>10:45am - Bib.</div> <div>11:15am - Lunch</div>
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
<div>9:45am - Sun. Sch.</div> <div>10:40am - Fellowship</div>	<div>9:30am - Prayer</div> <div>10am - Staff Mtg.</div> <div>6pm - Membership</div>		<div>6pm - Youth</div>	<div>5:30pm - Ch. Choir</div>	<div>Office closed</div>	<div>10:45am - Bib.</div> <div>11:15am - Lunch</div>



Contact Jackson for details: [Jackson@fpcdanville.com](mailto:Jackson@fpcdanville.com) or 434.792.7822 ext. 3

**Children:**

Bible Club will meet Jan. 3rd & Jan. 17th

We will go Ice skating Jan 28th following Church

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**Youth:** Youth Group will meet Jan 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st.

Youth Bonfire Jan. 6th at the Jones Farm 6:30 p.m.

Youth Dinner Quest Jan. 21st at 4:00 p.m.

Youth Ice Skating following Church Jan. 28th.

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We will NOT have our Community Prayer Service this month. Please support the various services in our area.

We will have our next Community Prayer Service Monday **February 19th at 7 p.m.** in the **Chapel**. Join us in the chapel, as we have prayer time and serve communion.

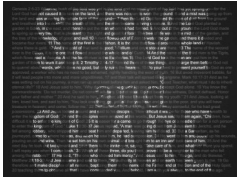


**REMINDER:**

The Men's Breakfast will be January 20th at 8:00 a.m.

You are invited to join us for our study; "Unfolded: The Story Of God." Most of us know specific Bible stories, but do you know the overarching story of the Bible? While the Bible is a collection of 66 books, the reigning theme that still holds eternal implications for our lives today is God's powerful story of redemption. We will explore this story of a God who loves us, longs to be known by us, and ultimately invites us into

## PRAYERS AND PRAISES



**PASTORAL CONCERNS**— Martha Bell, Chlodine Bittner (Jackson Weller's grandmother), Chuck Bolt, Lisa Bolt, Alice & Randy Bradshaw, Bill Brown, Mary Bray (Jarrod Brown's Aunt), Tim Burnette, Claire

Campbell, John Cao, Nelson R. Clark, Judy Cox (Kristen Cox's sister-in-law), Kathy Cropp, Charles & Lib Cuttle, Rev. Cecil Eanes, Marilyn East, Stacy Falden (Estella Falden's granddaughter) Pauline Fitts, Betty Fitzgerald, Fred Gunn, Lois Hayes, Christina Hermetz (Kelsey Thompson's sister), Kay Huggins (son-in-law of Thomas and Alice Saunders), Conner Jones, Doug Jones, Maurice Katoen, Jana Keen and family, Tim Kernodle, Angela Langford, Ruth Lawton, Larry Mann, Ruth Meadors, Carolyn Miles, A. B. Motley, Debbie Perrin Neal, Rhoda Neal, Paul Patrick (Charlotte Lowther's son-in-law), Nancy Poindexter (Jarrod Brown's aunt), Ella Ryan, Alice Saunders, Lynn Saunders, Alan Sweeney, Linda Terriberly, Tom West, Samantha Williams

**ON THE MEND**--(Praise & Gratitude for improved

condition) Kevin Bailey, Martha Bell, Dianne East, Kelvin Gunn, Mike Lewis (Tom and Ava Barrett's son-in-law), Erica Mann, Archer McIntire, Lee Norman, Mack Williams, John Rodgers (Jackson Weller's Uncle), Russell Vandiver, Nultie Wiesman

**OUR VIPs**—Rev. Cecil Eanes, Lois Hayes, Ruth Lawton, Grace Litzenberg, Malcolm Mallery, Carolyn Miles, A. B. Motley, Linda Terriberly, Nultie Wiseman

### CAREGIVERS

#### THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Our condolences to Judy Hooker and family in the loss of Tim Dec. 4th.

Our condolences to the family of Bill Lorimer who passed away Dec. 7th.

Our condolences to Dixie & Gene Hayes in the loss of Jamey Stevens.

Our condolences to the family of Maude Dalton who passed away December 15th.

Our condolences to the family of Munford Pritchett who passed away December 14th.

### SATURDAY LUNCH MINISTRY

**WHAT:** Serving a hot lunch to the community

**WHEN:** Every Saturday; volunteers work from 10:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m.

**WHO:** Different groups are in charge each week. **EXTRA HELP IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED!** Cooking, clean up, greeting, Bible Study, chatting with guests.

Jan. 6: Women's Circle  
Jan. 13: Westover Baptist  
Jan. 20: Unity Presbyterian  
Jan. 27: Youth



Tom West is at Riverside Rehab room 22. Mrs. Dale Haley is at Riverside Rehab room 6 and Mrs. Pauline Fitts is at Riverside Rehab as well. Please note the changes and send a card to let them know you are thinking of them.

The prayer group will NOT meet on January 1st, 8th, & 15th but will resume meetings in the library on January 22nd. In the meantime we, or course, will have ample time to use the gift of prayer separately where ever we are for all the needs of our church, community and the world.



The Membership Committee wishes to thank two longstanding committee members: Barry Cutright and Nick Argyrakis for their all encompassing organization of our annual Church Picnic as well as their Christmas goodie bag supplies for our shut ins for many years. Glory be to God!

## Flowers on the Reredos



January 14– The flowers today are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of Ronnell D. Belton by his family.

January 28– The flowers today are placed in loving memory of her mother, Katherine Setzer Barrett Buchanan, on the anniversary of her passing into the realm of glory, by Susan and Tommy Mathena.

January 21–The flowers today are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of Pat Bolt, Buck Collins, Sarah Collins, and Tom Collins by Charles Bolt and family.

The Deacons will be in charge for the month of January.

We have open dates available for January. If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary, please contact Rebecca Atkinson at 434.203.1666 or [rebeccaatkinson@comcast.net](mailto:rebeccaatkinson@comcast.net), for more information. After the service, flowers are distributed to those persons on our prayer list or as directed by the sponsor.



## 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 Ruth Lawton, Bright Leaf Assisted Living,  
432 Hermitage Dr., Danville, VA

Jan. 7 Lois Hayes, Commonwealth Senior Living,  
1111 Main St., Danville, VA 24541

Jan. 14 Grace Litzenburg 954 Main St., Danville, VA 24541

Jan 21. Linda Terriberry Brookdale Piedmont  
149 Executive Ct., Danville, VA 24541



Family Night Suppers this month will be January 3rd and January 17th. Sign up in the Dunglinson-Roberts room or call the church office to reserve your spot.

Jan. 3rd will be chili, cornbread, salad and a delicious dessert. This will be a Game Night!

Bible Club will be held for children 10 & under.

Price will be \$6 per person/Children 10 & under free.



## Property Committee

### Bob's To-Do List

Paint apartment porch  
woodwork

Sutherlin Street  
Entrance

Routine Maintenance items  
around the church building  
ongoing.

### Completed items:



## PRESBYTERIAN MISSION EMPHASIS

### COMMITTEE UPDATES

#### Christian Education Committee

Brenna Takata, Ina Ingram  
Co-Chairs

Christian Education will  
meet Monday Jan. 22 at  
4:30 p.m. in the parlor.

Coming Soon: The Gar-  
trels, our mission co-  
workers in Brazil will visit  
with us this Winter. Save  
the date: **Wed. February  
7th**. A Wednesday night  
supper !!

**btw**  
BY THE WAY

The missions committee  
meeting room has changed  
to room 312, which is up-  
stairs opposite the handbell  
choir room.

PW will meet for Coordinating  
Council on Monday January 8th  
at 10 a.m. Then Day Circle will  
meet for Bible Study in room  
108 at 12:30 p.m.

Evening Circle will meet at 7  
p.m. at the home of Brenna Ta-  
kata, 5008 Cobblestone Dr.,  
Danville, Monday January 8th.

### NEWS FROM THE SYDNORS

One year ago the French government dispersed 10,000 refugees living in Calais. Many are now finding their way back to northern France where Rev. Paul Sydnor continues to work through the International Assoc. for Refugees. France puts up many road-blocks to the ministry because it does not want any kind of permanent refugee settlement on French soil. Churches are not permitted to minister aid. However, refugees do receive basic assistance through different humanitarian organizations. This is all “transactional help,” in the form of food, security, water, shelter and medical.

In contrast Paul and IAFR are trying to offer “relational aid;” community, faith, emotional well-being, personal capacity, contribution and place. This outreach is done on the streets in Lille under very chaotic conditions. An important goal is to establish a center where refugees can come to them for relational support. Paul and a partner are hoping to see this come to fruition soon and to be able to expand through additional partners.

Many refugees Paul meets are former Muslims converted to Christianity. They are all young men, some even minors. They normally carry only a knapsack and often have a Bible in it. Some of their small tents are found on old railroad loading docks. Refugees apply for legal status which may take years and few are successful. Many will try to cross into the U.K. For more information check out [www.IAFR.org](http://www.IAFR.org). Please continue to keep Paul and Reinhild Sydnor in your prayers.



Thank you to all who made our sanctuary and  
all our Advent Services so meaningful.

What a blessed time for the children and caregivers as we did arts & crafts at our An-  
gel Tree Party on December 16th. Thanks for all that made this ministry possible this  
year and all “Santa’s little helpers” too!!

## TURKEY CHILI COURTESY OF JACKSON WELLER

- 1 lb. ground turkey
- 1 1/2 tsp olive oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 c. water
- 1 (28 oz.) can crushed tomatoes
- 1 (16 oz.) can kidney beans– drained, rinsed, & mashed
- 1 Tbsp. garlic, minced
- 2 Tbsp. chili powder
- 1/2 tsp. paprika
- 1/2 tsp. dried oregano
- 1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper
- 1/2 tsp. cumin
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. pepper

Heat the oil in a large pot over medium heat. Place turkey in the pot, and cook until evenly brown. Stir in onion, cook until tender. Pour water into the pot. Mix in tomatoes, kidney beans, and garlic. Season chili powder, paprika, oregano, cayenne pepper, cumin, salt, and pepper. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low, cover, and simmer 30 minutes.



*The Presbyterian Women have the honor to invite you to a church wide reception to say “goodbye” to Allen, Kelsey and Islay as they will be leaving First Presbyterian Church and Danville for a call in North Augusta, South Carolina.*

*Though their last day with us will be January 21st, we will host their farewell reception on Sunday January 14th, right after the morning service at 12:30 p.m. We hope you will join us one and all to wish them well on their new adventure!*



### January

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

Let us know if we have missed your special day!

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1826, we were the first organized congregation in Danville. Our sanctuary and offices are located at 937 Main St, next door to the Sutherlin Mansion and Museum and a few blocks west of downtown.

On Sundays, Sunday School classes meet at 9:45 AM and worship services are at 11:00 AM in the sanctuary. For all other events, please see our calendar and missions page. You can also follow us on Twitter and like us on facebook.

You can reach us at  
(434) 792-7822 or  
office@fpcdanville.com



Angel Tree Ministry Party

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
937 Main Street  
Danville VA 24541-1809  
Website: [www.fpcdanville.com](http://www.fpcdanville.com)

Phone: 434.792.7822  
Fax: 434.792.7832  
E-mail:  
[newsletter@fpcdanville.com](mailto:newsletter@fpcdanville.com)



## Saturday Lunch Ministry Help Needed!

We need YOU, we really do! The ladies of the Evening Circle have supported the LUNCH MINISTRY for the 1st Saturday of the month for 20 years. As their group is getting smaller, they have expressed the need to open it up to all the women in our congregation. If you are able to help out on the 1st Saturday of the month the initial contact is: Karan Johnson at [paulkaranjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:paulkaranjohnson@gmail.com) (or with any questions). Consider helping the Outlook Class on the 5th Saturdays of the month. Please come help at 10:15 a.m. to prepare the food, then serve at 11:30 and clean around 12 noon. Thank you for your consideration...



Lib Cuttle and elves !



Handbell performance Dec. 13th





Dear Friends,

It is time for a new church directory! Rather than a static commercially produced directory, the committee has decided to create a dynamic, user friendly, family oriented album. The theme of the album is to "know each other" and be able to connect and build deeper relationships within the church.

The album will contain member information and photos, be printed on quality paper and be in a loose leaf notebook. This format allows us to add new members easily, updating the album at minimal cost and effort.

Each member or family unit will have a 2 sided page: page 1 will have a photo with contact info; page 2 will have in-depth info personalized by the member/family. The form attached to this letter contains *ideas for the personalization of page 2*. You are welcome to add other appropriate items which you wish to share with your church family.

Forms are submitted for each family or individual member The photo submitted can be submitted digitally or as a printed photo- but digital is best. The photo can be a single member or a group photo

The photo should be recent- TAKE PICTURES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Since this is a "family album", candid photos are suggested.

Forms and photos can be submitted by email (vickie@fpcdanville.com) or by turning into church office

Forms and photos should be returned by Jan 31

We are hoping to have the album ready for distribution in February, but this depends on the response and rate of returned forms.

Please join us in making this project a success.

**Remember we would like you to fill out page 1—page 2 is optional whatever information you wish to provide about you and your family.**

The directory committee

Watch for announcements in the Dunglinson  
-Roberts room on Sunday mornings.

Our New Church calling system is in the  
works...



Hello,

It's been a fast 5 months for me! I have enjoyed meeting many of you and hope to meet many more over the coming months. I'm very grateful to be working here at First Presbyterian. Thank you for bearing with me as I learn the ropes. I'm sure you would like to know a little about me. My family is very important to me. I am married to Tim (38 years), have 2 fine looking sons Graham(27) and Will(25) (I am partial to them). I have experienced an interesting few years. In 2016, my father lost his battle to leukemia. In September, Will joined the Marines and went to boot camp at Parris Island, SC. For 13 weeks there was no contact except through letters. Extreme hard for a mom!! He is now stationed in Miramar, CA. In January 2017, Graham, who works at Nucor Steel, was transferred from Richmond, VA to Portland, OR. I was previously employed at Rivermont Baptist Church. I had worked there for the past 5 years and have been a member since I was 15! We have a lab/retriever mix, Sydney that keeps me walking...and walking. I keep busy reading, making/stamping cards, scrapbooking, and cross-stitching. I have a servant's heart and I am truly thankful for God opening doors and allowing me the opportunity to serve here. Your Administrative Assistant Vickie Holman



# First Presbyterian Church

## Session, Diaconate and Trustees

### Session

2017	2018	2019	2020
Tom Barrett	Eddie Blount	Betzy Wilson	Lisa Brown
Gary Wimer	Gene Hayes	Joyce Perez	Martha Bell
Brenna Takata	Bob Newnam	Bunny Hayes	Fred Baker
David Zook	Joan Reynolds	Ray Beale	David Parris
		Gary Wimer (Alternate)	

### Diaconate

2017	2018	2019
Mike Reynolds	David Swann	Jarrold Brown
David Parris	Kathy Dolianitis	Marie-Louise Crane
Kent Shelton	Kent Shelton	Susan Mathena
	Harriet Beale	Jeanne Nostrandt
	Becky Meadema (Alternate)	

Clerk, C. B. Strange

### Trustees

Tom Gillespie 20

Jim Motley 18

Chuck Bolt 19



The 2nd floor apartment is available for rent. Recently remodeled and painted, this apartment has 2 bedrooms (possible 3rd), 2 bathrooms, living room, dining room. Rent will be \$800/with \$800 security deposit. If you know anyone interested, please call Dick Stoakley at 792-7822 ext. 5

