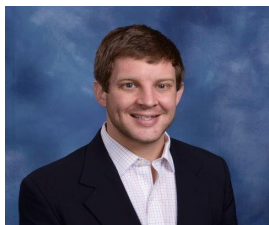




Beyond the Columns

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR



Friends,

First, thank you all for your prayers, cards, and well-wishes as I was in sinus surgery and recovery last month! Considering that we had four other members (that I know of) who had operations the same week, I know the solidarity that we can feel with others who have been through similar experiences and who are with us through them in prayer. Things are going well so far, and I hope that the improved breathing can make me even easier to hear on a weekly basis. Who knows—perhaps the

occasional audio issues in the sanctuary were the result of my septal spur and not a dodgy speaker system.

Second, I want to be sure that everyone is aware of this year's December schedule, as the calendar has made for some unusual scenarios. Let's work backward from the end of the month:

-New Year's Eve is on a Sunday this year. Since it's on the other side of Christmas, it almost feels so far away that I can't even comprehend it.

-Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year, but we will still have two Christmas Eve worship services. One will be at our regularly-scheduled Sunday morning worship time of 11:00 AM, and the other will be our traditional Christmas Eve service with children's pageant and candles at 5:00 PM. We will also celebrate The Lord's Supper at the 11:00 AM Christmas Eve service!

-Prior to Christmas Eve, we will have our annual Lessons and Carols service presented by our music ministries on December 17. Additionally, our monthly Community Prayer Service will be in the chapel, rather than in the sanctuary, at 7:00 PM on December 18.

-We will ordain and install our new officers on December 10. In recent years, we have waited for the new year to do this, but with our officers' retreat on January 5-6, Session saw fit to install our newly elected officers a bit earlier than usual. December 10 is also the date of the Outlook Class's annual Christmas Breakfast, to which all are invited! It will be at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

-Finally, other than being a radio Sunday and the first Sunday of Advent, December 3 looks to be fairly normal. For that matter, by the time you are able to get to reading this newsletter, it might have passed! If so, please disregard this paragraph.

By this time of the year, sometimes the schedule can be so hard to keep up with that we miss our opportunities to appreciate the season. Of course, every season and every day are times that we live with the good news of God's incarnation—his taking on flesh and joining us in life as Jesus. As I continue to use various Psalms as my preaching texts for the next few weeks, I hope that they can provide some rhythm and reminders of our relationship with God and His presence with us, both in the living Lord Jesus and in his Holy Spirit. I look forward to sharing this season with you, and to all the seasons of Immanuel, God-with-us. Have a wonderful December!

In Christ,
Allen



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|----------------------------------|--|---------------|--|
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 |
| 9:45am - Sun. Sch. 10:40am - Fellowship 11am - Worship | 9:30am - Prayer 10am - Staff Mtg. 4:30pm - Christian 8:30pm - Membershi | | 6pm - Youth | 5:30pm - Ch. Choir | Office closed | 10:45am - Bib. 11:15am - Lunch |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 8am - Worship 9:45am - Sun. Sch. 10:40am - Fellowship 11am - Worship | 12:30 p.m. PW Day 10am - PW C.Council 10am - Staff Mtg. 7pm - Evening Circle | 6pm - Deacons 7pm - Property | 6pm - Wed. Supper 6pm - Youth | 5:30pm - Ch. Choir | Office closed | 10:45am - Bib. 11:15am - Lunch |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 8am - Church 9:45am - Sun. Sch. 10:40am - Fellowship 11am - Worship | 9:30am - Prayer 10am - Staff Mtg. 11am - VIP | 7pm - Session | 6pm - Wed. Supper 6pm - Youth | 12:30pm - Staff 5:30pm - Ch. Choir | Office closed | 8am - Men's 10:45am - Bib. 11:15am - Lunch 2pm - Angel Tree |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 12 Pageant 8am - Mission 9:45am - Sun. Sch. 10:15am - Jesus 10:40am - Fellowship 11am - Worship | 9:30am - Prayer 10am - Staff Mtg. 7pm - Community | | 6pm - Youth | 10:30am - Dayschoo 5:30pm - Ch. Choir | Office closed | 10:45am - Bib. 11:15am - Lunch |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| Christmas Eve Worship/Communion 8:45am - Sun. Sch. 10:40am - Fellowship 5pm - Candlelight/C | Christmas Day Office Closed | | | 5:30pm - Ch. Choir | Office closed | 10:45am - Bib. 11:15am - Lunch |
| 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| New Year's Eve 9:45am - Sun. Sch. 10:40am - Fellowship 11am - Worship | New Year's Day Office Closed | 10am - Staff Mtg. 6pm - Deacons 7pm - Property | 6pm - Wed. Supper 6pm - Youth | 5:30pm - Ch. Choir | Office closed | 10:45am - Bib. 11:15am - Lunch |



Contact Jackson for details: Jackson@fpcdanville.com or 434.792.7822 ext. 3

Children:

Bible Club will meet Dec. 6th

December 17th Happy Birthday Party for Jesus

The Children will present the Nativity at the 5:00 pm Service on Christmas Eve, we will rehearse Sunday Dec. 17th after Worship (I will provide lunch) and again the afternoon of Sat. Dec. 23rd. We look forward to seeing our children present this very special Christmas scene.

Youth: Youth Group will meet December 6, 13, & 20th, we will not meet for Youth Group Dec. 27th

Dec. 2— Bon Fire at the Jones' Farm

Dec. 16 — Angel Tree Party

Dec. 22 — Youth Christmas Party

Dec. 23 — Lunch Ministry



As we enter into our Advent Season we want to thank Jarrod & Lisa Brown for their beautiful fall arrangement that adorned the sanctuary this fall.



We will have our Community Prayer Service this month. It will be Monday December 18th 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 Dec. 16th 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 His story.

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, Maude Dalton, Rev. Cecil Eanes, Marilyn East, Pauline Fitts, Betty Fitzgerald, Fred Gunn, Lois Hayes, Christina Hermetz (Kelsey Thompson's sister), Tim Hooker, Kay Huggins (son-in-law of Thomas and Alice Saunders), Conner Jones, Doug Jones, Maurice Katoen, Jana Keen and family, Angela Langford, Ruth Lawton, Bill Lorimer, 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 Terriberry, 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—Maude Dalton, Rev. Cecil Eanes, Lois Hayes, Ruth Lawton, Grace Litzenberg, Malcolm Mallery, Carolyn Miles, A. B. Motley, Linda Terriberry, Nultie Wiseman

CAREGIVERS

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Our condolences to Mike Reynolds and family on the loss of his sister, Judy Poythress who passed away Nov. 1.

Our condolences to the Miller family on the loss of Larry who pass away Nov. 15. Keep Laurie, Anderson, Sue & Alexander in your prayers.

Our condolences to the Hooker family in the loss of Judy Hooker's mother, Rosemary Haley, who passed away Nov. 17.

Our condolences to Mary Ann Shelton in the loss of her brother, Charles Hubbard on Nov. 24th.

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.

Dec. 2 : Women's Circle
Dec. 9 : Westover Baptist
Dec. 16: Unity Presbyterian
Dec. 23: Youth
Dec. 30: Outlook



The Annual Church Christmas Breakfast will be Dec. 10 at 9 a.m. in Overby Hall. Mark the date on your calendar for your family to enjoy this Christmas tradition that began in the 1940's. Everyone is welcome to a breakfast of ham or sausage biscuits, homemade breakfast casseroles, fruit, sweets, juices, and coffee sponsored by members of the Outlook Sunday School class. There is no charge. Come and begin your day of worship with this time of fellowship & joy.



The Deacons would like to thank everyone who contributed to the clothing drive. It was a huge success! Everyone was very thankful for the clothes they received. Only 4 boxes were taken to Goodwill after the event. For the Thanksgiving Saturday Lunch we served 88 people and everyone was able to have a plate to take home. Thanks again to all who contributed to the drive and the luncheon.

Flowers on the Reredos



Dec. 10th The flowers today are placed in loving memory of Mr. Guy Fowlkes and Mr. & Mrs. W.D. Kirk by the family.

Dec. 17th The flowers today are placed in loving memory of the deceased members of the Wiseman family by Nultie, Paige and Frank Wiseman.

The Elders will be in charge for the month of December.

We have open dates available for December.

If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary, please contact Rebecca Atkinson at 434.203.1666 or 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.

Dec. 3 Randy Bradshaw, Commonwealth Senior Living, 1111 Main St., Danville, VA 24541

Dec. 10 Alice Bradshaw, Commonwealth Senior Living, 1111 Main St., Danville, VA 24541

Dec. 24 Maude Dalton, Brookdale Piedmont 149 Executive Ct. Danville, VA 24541



Family Night Suppers this month will be December 6th and December 13th. Sign up in the Dunlinson-Roberts room or call the church office to reserve your spot.

Dec. 6th will be pork roast, mac & cheese, veggie, salad and a delicious dessert. The program will be the history of the American Church by Jay Hayes.

The next Supper will be Dec. 13th and will be a Christmas Celebration featuring a handbell concert and dinner.

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:

Cork Strips & Bulletin
Boards are installed in Day
School.

Items on painted surfaces
are removed in Day School.

PRESBYTERIAN MISSION EMPHASIS

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Christian Education

Committee

Brenna Takata, Chair

Christian Education will
NOT meet in December.

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



Rev. Cecil Eanes has moved :
his new address is
125 Riverstone Terrace
Apt. 308, Canton, GA
30114

Please send your cards to
this address.

PW Day Circle will meet for their
monthly bible study on Monday
December 4th at 12:30 p.m. in
room 108.

Evening Circle will meet at 7 p.m.
at the home of Sandra Strange,
285 W. Main St., Danville, Mon-
day December 4th.

NEWS FROM CAMEROON MISSIONARIES

The year 2017 has been an encouraging and challenging one for Matthew and Teresa Lee who are serving in West Africa as Wycliffe Bible translator and kindergarten teacher, respectively. They feel that God has prepared them for the work they have in Cameroon, and they have been so grateful for the support received from churches at home. However, pledges have dropped below their initial budget; therefore, Matthew and Teresa will return to the US for a furlough in 2018 to raise support they need to return to the ministry they have begun. During the time here, they plan to visit their supporting churches and give first-hand reports of God's work in the lives of Cameroon's people.



Please pray for this young Virginia couple who answered the call of the Great Commission. Join their Wycliffe prayer or partnership team at

<https://www.wycliffe.org/partner/302162>

The Angel Tree was bare and before we knew it- so thanks to all and have fun shopping !! The gifts need to be back at church (Dunglinson-Roberts room) on Sunday Dec. 10th so we can make sure we have everything covered and be ready for the Angel Tree Party on Saturday Dec. 16th at 2 p.m. All are invited to share fellowship with our angels & caregivers!



The Christmas Spectacular at Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, VA is December 3rd at 4:00 p.m. We have limited number of tickets at \$14.34 each. Contact John Parris (434-793-9239 johndparrissr@gmail.com or the church office at 792-7822 Vickie@fpcdanville.com if you are interested in attending. A carpool or the church van will be organized.

Dr. Robert Ramey became the great grandfather of two identical twin boys last November 4th. Their names are Sam & Beck and are the children of Reese and Sadi Dorrier. Best wishes to all!!

Sweet
BLESSINGS

SPOON BREAD COURTESY OF HARRIET HAYNESWORTH

From the 2009 Stewardship Supper Cookbook

1 c sifted plain cornmeal
2 c cold water
2 tps. Salt
3 Tbsp. olive oil

Mix the above ingredients in a sauce pan. Cook over direct heat on low heat stirring constantly until thick. Fold in 2 well beaten eggs and 1 c. milk. Pour in greased casserole dish. Bake 350-400 for 45 minutes.



STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

Last month in this column we highlighted a special form of stewardship practiced by Ruth Meadors. This month we highlight **Bob Newnam**. Bob has always been very active in the maintenance and upkeep of the church building. He is also active in many other ways. Bob is currently a member of the Session and has been a past Deacon. Bob rotates as a Sunday School teacher for the Outlook class and has worked with the church youth. Outside of 1st Pres, Bob has worked extensively with the Boy Scout troop at First Baptist Church and has seen

many of his scouts attain the rank of Eagle Scout. He has also been very active with Habitat for Humanity. Thanks Bob for the many gifts you provide to the people around you!



December

5 Frank Wiseman

7 Charlotte Litzenberg

9 Kathleen Harris

10 Holt Whitt

12 David Swann

12 Nathan Honea

13 Carson Green, Jr

15 Heather Clark

15 Edward Blount

16 Lisa Bolt

18 Elaine Lea

18 Spencer Stoakley

21 Bob Whit

23 Chuck Bolt

25 Cooper Crews

27 Sharon Whitt

27 Ellen Thomas

28 Robert Clifton

29 Carol Ellis

29 Martha Bell

Let us know if we have missed your special day!

Stewardship Corner

October 2017 Financials

| | MTD Actual (This Year) | YTD Actual (This Year) | YTD Actual (Last Year) | YTD Budget (This Year) | YTD Bud/Act (This Year) |
|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Contributions | \$23,015 | \$259,696 | \$252,339 | \$258,750 | \$946 |
| Other Income | \$271 | \$2,167 | \$115,529 | \$8,122 | (\$5,955) |
| Transfers | \$748 | \$108,662 | \$87,550 | \$77,930 | \$30,733 |
| Total Revenues | \$24,034 | \$370,525 | \$455,418 | \$344,802 | \$25,724 |
| Expenses | \$38,503 | \$363,257 | \$445,878 | \$342,719 | (\$20,538) |
| Net Total | (\$14,469) | \$7,268 | \$9,540 | \$2,083 | \$46,262 |

Stewardship News

A big Thank You to all who attended the concert Linda McKechnie's concert held on Nov 4th. We were all treated to a great performance. Also, thanks to everyone who has pledged during our stewardship season and a gentle reminder to do so if you haven't. Hope you had a great Thanksgiving and hope your Christmas planning is going well!

**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

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 (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...



Dear Members,
Larry, Sr. and I would like you to know how much we appreciate the prayers, love and support you have extended to our family. Please continue to lift Larry, Jr.'s wife and children as they face the days and years to come.
With love, Sue & Larry Miller

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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