

## Beyond the Columns

### MY JOURNEY IN FAITH FROM OUR NEW INTERIM REV. DR. JOHN MCDONALD

My favorite scripture passage is Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." There is no other explanation for how a shy young man who was perfectly happy to blend into the back row of the choir has served for over 31 years as a pastor. I have learned over time that I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me, but I cannot do them all at once and I cannot do them alone.



I was born and raised in Rockville, Maryland. My parents were both elders in the Rockville Presbyterian Church. I regularly attended Sunday school, worship services and participated in youth activities with my brother and sister. My first job in the church was as janitor for the educational wing of that church.

I went to Davidson College planning on being a Biologist. God had other plans. I graduated in 1982 with a B.A. in history. During the Spring Semester of my sophomore year I received the call to the ministry and immediately questioned God's judgment. Why would God want someone who detested public speaking and rarely voiced his opinion on anything in public to serve as a minister? I learned by experience that, "God does not always call those who are equipped. God equips those whom God calls." After serving as a camp counselor at Camp Grier in Old Fort, North Carolina, I felt that maybe God was right. I attended Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, VA where my call was confirmed and I received an excellent theological education.

The first congregation I served was in Broadway, Virginia just north of Harrisonburg. I met and married my wife of almost 29 years, Ellen, while serving the Broadway church. Our sons, Nathan and Logan, were born while I served that church. Broadway will always hold a special place in our hearts.

The last five years of my ministry I have served three different churches doing transitional ministry. The last year of my ministry in Waynesboro was spent helping that congregation deal with several questions. One of the most challenging issues we confronted was how can an aging congregation, surrounded by a neighborhood that faced both economic and demographic challenges, minister to themselves and the community that surrounds it. In Marlinton, West Virginia they needed help regaining confidence and vision after the previous pastor almost led them out of the denomination. In my last interim position in Buena Vista, Virginia, I have helped them deal with the loss of some beloved congregation members and helped them establish a new vision for their ministry community.

I have truly been blessed that whenever I doubted the Lord's call, He provided just the person or group of people, the resources or the reassurance that I needed to do the work He called me to do. I have learned to trust to go where He sends me and do what He needs me to do. I have learned to play my part in the larger story of God's people for I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Session Highlights, Recipes of the Month, Meet our Members, Day School pictures and much more.

# July 2018

To Know Christ And Make Him Known

## First Presbyterian

937 Main St.  
Danville, VA 24541

Phone: 434.792.7822  
Email: [office@fpdandville.com](mailto:office@fpdandville.com)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:45 Sun.Sch. 9:45 Sun.Sch. 10:40 Fellowship 11:11 Worship 12 Fellowship	<b>2</b> 10 Staff Mtg.	<b>3</b> 7p Property Comm	<b>4</b> Office Closed	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Office Closed	<b>7</b> 10:45 Bib. Study 11:15 Lunch Program
<b>8</b> 9:45 Sun.Sch. 10:40 Fellowship 11:11 Worship 12 Fellowship	<b>9</b> 10 Staff Mtg. 11 VIP Comm.	<b>10</b> 7p Session	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Office Closed	<b>14</b> 10:45 Bib. Study 11:15 Lunch Program
<b>9</b> 9:45 Sun.Sch. 10:40 Fellowship 11:11 Worship 12 Fellowship	<b>16</b> 10 Staff Mtg.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Office Closed	<b>21</b> 10:45 Bib. Study 11:15 Lunch Program
9:45 Sun.Sch. 10:40 Fellowship 11:11 Worship 12 Fellowship	<b>23</b> 10 Staff Mtg.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Office Closed	<b>28</b> 10:45 Bib. Study 11:15 Lunch Program
<b>29</b> 9:45 Sun.Sch. 10:40 Fellowship 11:11 Worship 12 Fellowship	<b>30</b> 10 Staff Mtg. 6 p Membership	<b>31</b>				



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

## Children Events:

**Reminder: August 12th Back to School Commissioning Service** we ask the children to bring their backpacks as we will commission them to be missionaries in their schools. You are also invited to our Sunday School breakfast Sunday Aug. 12th at 9:30 a.m. During breakfast we will recognize our promoted students.

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## Youth Events:

**Reminder we take a break for the month of July. No Youth Group or Sunday School for middle & high school students.**

**Reminder: We do have Lunch Ministry on July 28th!**

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To our Church Family,

Thank you for the beautiful flowers and much appreciated card, but most of all for the prayers you have extended to our family during the last years. It was such a comfort knowing our family was being covered in your prayers. You are truly a blessing to us and our son's family.

With love,

Larry Miller

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Congratulations to Cabell & Whitney Barrow on the arrival of their bundle of joy, a baby girl born on June 4th, Virginia Burleson "Birdie," 7 lbs., 7 oz., & 21 inches long.



## PRAYERS AND PRAISES



### PASTORAL CONCERNS—

Martha Bell, Chlodine Bittner  
(Jackson Weller's grandmother),  
Chuck Bolt, Lisa Bolt, 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, Betty Fitzgerald, Ed Fisher (Sally Clark's father), Fred Gunn, Lois Hayes, Martha Jo Hodges, Kay Huggins (son-in-law of Thomas and Alice Saunders), Conner Jones, Doug Jones, Maurice Katoen, Jana Keen and family, 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, Mrs. Ellen Tunnicliff, Tom West, Samantha Williams

**ON THE MEND--**(Praise & Gratitude for improved condition) Kevin Bailey, Martha Bell, Dianne East, Kelvin Gunn, Mrs. Helen Harris, Tim Kernodle, Erica Mann, Lee Norman, Kaiden Sheldon, Mack Williams, Russell Vandiver, Nultie Wiseman

**OUR VIPs—**Chuck Bolt, Alice & Randy Bradshaw, Charles & Lib Cuttle, Rev. Cecil Eanes, Donna Fowlkes, Flo Hall, Lois Hayes, Goldie Keese, Ruth Lawton, Charlotte Lowther, Grace Litzenberg, Malcolm Mallery, Carolyn Miles, A. B. Motley, Fae Smith, Linda Terriberly, Tom West, Nultie Wiseman

### CAREGIVERS

### THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

## 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.

July 7: Women's Circle  
July 14: Westover Baptist  
July 21: Unity Presbyterian  
July 28: Youth



Fred & Carolyn Baker announce the birth of their grandson, Joshua Solomon Baker who was born June 13th, to parents Reverend and Mrs. David Baker.

## VBS PICTURE





## Sunday Flowers on the Reredos



July 1st The flowers today are given in loving memory of Howard & Cile Green and Bob & Mary Clemons by Dickie, Pam and the Green family.

Outlook Class will be in charge for the month of July.

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.

July 1 Fae Smith

661 Timberlake Dr., Danville, VA 24540

July 9 Goldie Keesee Room #32 Roman Eagle Nursing Home

2526 N. Main St., Danville, VA 24540

July 16 Chuck Bolt

133 Westmoreland Ct., Danville, VA 24541

July 23 Charlotte Lowther

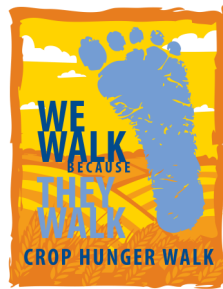
345 Mowbray Arch, Danville, VA 24541

July 30 Tom West #38 South Riverside Rehab

2344 Riverside Drive, Danville, VA 24540

**VIP Update:** Lois Hayes has moved from Stratford to Roman Eagle, #239 and Donna Fowlkes is also now residing at Roman Eagle in room #54.

Are you going on a 'walk about' this Summer? Don't forget to mark you calendar for our 11th Annual Danville Area Crop Hunger WALK on Sunday October 7th. Come by the Crop Walk table for your collection envelope this summer in the juice room and start asking your family if they would sponsor you.



## Property Committee

### Bob's To-Do List

Routine Maintenance items around the church building ongoing.

Develop a paint schedule for hallways, etc.

Replace shingle roof

Repair Apt. #1 before renting out

Replace sound control board

Plaster in choir loft

### Completed items:

Sutherlin Entrance Door bolt repaired

Gutter repairs in parking lot

## PRESBYTERIAN MISSION EMPHASIS

### COMMITTEE UPDATES

#### Christian Education Committee

Brenna Takata, Chair

Christian Education will  
meet Monday July 30th at  
4:30 p.m. in the parlor.



Worship Committee will  
meet July 1 at 9:00 in the  
parlor.

Pray for Andrew & Norine Brunson. The couple worked for two decades in Turkey, leading their small protestant congregation, Resurrection Church, in Izmir. Andrew was jailed in 2016 on charges of espionage and attempting to overthrow the government “by means of Christianization,” charges that carry a life sentence and are thoroughly lacking in evidence. The Brunsons’ home church pastor, Richard White of Christ Community Church (Evangelical Presbyterian Church) in Montreat, NC and elder Sam Thielman, traveled to Turkey in May 2018 to attend the trial which lasted 10 hours. Brunson was returned to prison. Thielman said afterward he was shocked by “the level of nothing” prosecutors brought against Brunson. Andrew did not know White or Thielman would be there and was visibly moved by their presence. Regular prayer times for the Brunsons will continue at Christ Community Church. White says “It’s made us more of a serious people. Serious that Jesus Christ really is worth it. This is a mean world, and we should not expect otherwise... The Lord also is teaching us the patience of prayer, even when we are not seeing justice. We are going to be a praying people, and we will not walk away.”

(as reported in “World Magazine” by Mindy Belz, May 12, 2018 and June 9, 2018)

### DIACONATE NEWS



Happy Holidays or Summer Vacation from your diaconate! The deacons are organizing a Summer project and are asking for hotel toiletries. We hope to collect as many as possible to make hygiene bags for the lunch ministry guests. Some have been asking for this—maybe because Hotel Leeland has closed—we hope you’ll join in and bring us your goodies for our collection bins in the Narthex and Sutherlin entrance. Have fun and be safe this Summer.



**Back to School Commissioning Service will be Sunday Aug. 12 during the worship service, we ask the children to bring their backpacks as we will commission them to be missionaries in their schools. You are also invited to our Sunday School breakfast Sunday Aug. 12th at 9:30 a.m. During breakfast we will recognize our promoted students.**

## POSH SQUASH BY BERNADINE HAYES

2 lbs. of yellow squash  
 2 eggs  
 1 c. mayonnaise  
 1 sm. onion, chopped  
 1/4 c. sweet red or green pepper, chopped  
 1 c. grated Parmesan cheese  
 Salt/pepper to taste  
 Buttered bread crumbs  
 Cook squash until tender, drain well. Beat eggs in separate bowl and add rest of ingredients to eggs and mix. Add squash and gently mix. Pour into a greased dish. Top with bread crumbs. Bake at 350 for 30 min. Serves 6-8 people.



## STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

In last month's "Stewardship In Action", we highlighted a special form of stewardship practiced by Bill and Betty Fitzgerald. This month we'll highlight the contributions of Pat Argyrakis. Many know Pat for her wonderful meals and deserts. She has always enjoyed working in the kitchen and currently serves on the Kitchen Committee and was Estella's right hand lady for many years. Pat serves as chair of the VIP committee, serves on Membership committees and frequently visits many of our members. She is very involved in the Presbyterian Women's Evening Circle serving as co-leader and was recently awarded the Honorary Life Membership. Pat has worked to organize many receptions for ministers, church employees, and families who have lost a loved one. She has also opened her home many times for church picnics and other church activities. Pat exemplifies the true meaning of stewardship in all the things she does for our church members. Thank you Pat!



2 Alex Garcia  
 Dickie Green  
 3 Sophie Van Valkenburg  
 6 Donald Crane  
 7 Gail Davis  
 Elizabeth Walden  
 8 Mary Ann Shelton  
 10 Ben Lowther  
 Davis Shelton  
 11 Pam Green  
 Laura Jones  
 Cindy Zook  
 12 Charles Ellis  
 13 Judy Hooker  
 15 Joe Alexander  
 17 Jim Motley  
 20 Mike Reynolds  
 Kathy Cropp  
 24 Sammie Gillespie  
 25 Shaffer Boles  
 Cliff Walden  
 Whitney Barrow

26 Colin Meadors  
 28 Bill Brown  
 29 Libby Hodge  
 30 Scott Machado  
 31 Matthew Dolianitis

## Anniversaries

July 7, 1984 Barry & Martha Cutright  
 July 21, 2000 Marie-Louise & Donald Crane  
 July 29, 1973 Brenna & Calvin Takata  
 July 29, 1989 Leigh & Eddie Blount

## Stewardship Corner

### May 2018 Financials

	MTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (Last Year)	YTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Bud/Act (This Year)
<b>Contributions</b>	\$ 16,620	\$ 16,620	\$ 16,620	\$ 16,620	\$ 16,620
<b>Other Income</b>	\$ -	\$ 1,210	\$ 1,476	\$ 2,294	\$ (1,084)
<b>Transfers</b>	\$ 6,000	\$ 89,007	\$ 41,796	\$ 42,697	\$ 46,310
<b>Total Revenues</b>	\$ 22,620	\$ 106,837	\$ 59,893	\$ 61,611	\$ 61,846
<b>Expenses</b>	\$ 30,004	\$ 149,967	\$ 155,126	\$ 144,826	\$ (5,142)
<b>Net Total</b>	\$ (7,384)	\$ (43,130)	\$ (95,233)	\$ (83,215)	\$ 40,085

### Stewardship News

Hello everyone from the Stewardship Committee! Our first special offering for the season was held on June 17, 2018. We are happy to report that \$127 was collected for the Sunnyside Retirement Home. Thanks for your support!

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 Sutherland 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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Approved Revisions to be made to April 2019 scholarship application:

- Membership in FPC Danville
- Activity in

Youth Group Age

24 and under

- Full time undergraduate who is taking at least 12 credit hours
- Two letters of recommendation for the initial application one of which must come from the FPC Youth Director
- Must have a 2.00 GPA or the previous semester prior to application have a 2.5 or better GPA
- Awards will be limited to 2 years at a community college or 2 years at a community college and 2 years at a 4 year college or 4 years at a college Renewals must submit a church scholarship application and a transcript to document good standing with the college
- Maximum award will be \$2500.00/yr. for 4 year college and \$1500/yr - community college

Approved PNC(Pastor Nominating Committee) recommended by the nominating committee and set July 1 for a congregational meeting to approved said committee.

Approved a motion from membership to have session approve the Membership Directory supplies expenditure through Haynsworth Office Plus.

Vision statement is now on website.

Session expressed their appreciation to Rev. Paul Johnson for serving as Moderator for past several months.



## MORE VBS PICTURES





## JAMAICA PICTURES





Many thanks for the prayers and support from our congregation and church family during our recent Jamaica mission trip. We look forward to presenting a report at a Family Night Supper this fall.

