

Beyond the Columns

The Song of Solomon compares the love between a man and a woman and the desire we have for a close relationship with our God. In the entire Lectionary sequence there are 156 Old Testament passages listed as potential lessons about which to preach. Only one of them is from Song of Solomon. We preachers tend to shy away from any mention of the book in our preaching for many reasons. It never mentions God. It is almost entirely poetry with no plot whatsoever, and where some Christian writers have compared the relationship described in the poem as an allegory to Christ's relationship to the church, that is a bit of a stretch. As I read it again, however, 2:8-13 did bring to mind a spiritual lesson that could be far more instructional for our lives than writing or reading romance novels. Amidst all the imagery of leaping gazelles and peaking stags there is the call to "Arise, my love, my fair one and come away. For now, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance." It brought to mind memories of the first moments you laid eyes on the love of your life. Suddenly your senses reach a new heightened state where you see everything from a new perspective. Food at your favorite restaurant tastes even better because of the person that is with you. The movie you go see seems even funnier because you have someone to laugh with you. The world comes into a new focus because you see it through the beautiful eyes of your beloved. Everything you do seems more fun, lovelier, and positive. The possibilities of life seem endless.

The language of the Song of Solomon reminds me of looking into the eyes of your new born child. The beauty and love you see in their eyes help everything seem more hopeful. Your heart seems to expand exponentially as you stare into your child's partially shut eyes and think of all the fun, all the heartaches, and all the wonders of the world you will experience again while watching your child grow, learn, and explore the world on their own.

Love of another person can compel one to arise and come away from a world where "I" am the center of my own universe to a world where "We" are the center of existence. The two worlds are as different as the Spring is from the Winter. The loneliness of the winter is filled with cold harsh winds. When you are in love, the winter is exchanged for the beauty of the gentle breezes and life-giving showers of the spring. The "We" centered world is made even better when God is part of the "We".



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Upcoming Events, Meet our Members, and much more.

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Human relationships are wonderful and life-giving. They help broaden our emotional horizons. The people we are in relationship with, either by blood, marriage or friendship, can transform our level of understanding to a great extent. But, when we come into relationship with God our hearts and minds and souls expand to such an extent that no physical body can contain them. No piece of fiction can ever truly describe the type of love that a relationship with God through Jesus Christ brings. Poetry does not do it justice and prose can only begin to tell the marvelous story of walking in faith with our Lord. We are to grab hold of the kind of love that comes from a relationship with Jesus Christ as passionately as a bride and groom staring into each other's eyes. We are to live our lives in a close personal relationship with Christ as if our lives depended upon it -for indeed they do.

In Christ,

Dr. John



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

Children Events:

Lunch, Dessert, and Movie !!! Sunday September 30th

We will meet at 12:00 noon in Overbey Fellowship Hall for lunch, dessert, and a movie on the big screen !!! Please let Jackson Weller know who will be coming so we can plan accordingly. (792-7822 ext. 3 or jackson@fpcdanville.com). Hope to see you there !!!

Youth Events:

We will meet for Youth Group Wednesdays September 5, 12, & 26

Sept. 16th Sundaes Sunday, join us for Sundaes on Sunday and help us put together Church Directories !!!

Sept. 19th there will be a Church Dinner to hear from Bill Perrow, our missionary in Columbia. Come and join us to hear the ministry we are a part of in Columbia.

Sept. 22nd Lunch Ministry

Sept. 23rd Escape Room in Greensboro (be looking for more info as we get closer).

September 2018

To Know Christ And Make Him Known

First Presbyterian
 937 Main St.
 Danville, VA 24541
 Phone: 434.792.7822
 Email:
vickie@fpcdanville.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 10:45 Bib. Study 11:15 Lunch Program
2 9:45 Sun.Sch. 10:40 Fellowship 11 Worship	3 Office Closed Labor Day	4 7 pm Property Comm	5 5 pm PNC Comm 6 pm Youth	6 5:30 pm Chancel Choir	7 Office Closed	8 10:45 Bib. Study 11:15 Lunch Pro- gram
9 9:45 Sun.Sch. 10:40 Fellowship 11 Worship 12 Fellowship	10 9:30 Prayer 10 Co.Counsel 11 VP 12:30 Day Circle 5:30 Finance 7 Evening Circle	11 7 pm Session	12 5 pm PNC Comm 6 pm Youth	13 5:30 pm Chancel Choir	14 Office Closed	15 8:00 Mens Bible Study 10:45 Bib. Study 11:15 Lunch Pro- gram
16 9:30 Missions Comm. 9:45 Sun.Sch. 10:40 Fellowship 11 Worship 12 Fellowship 4:30 Sunday Event	17 9:30 Prayer Group 5:30 Vision	18	19 5 pm PNC Comm 6 pm WNS w/ Perrowes	20 5:30 pm Chancel Choir	21 Office Closed	22 10:45 Bib. Study 11:15 Lunch Pro- gram
23 9:45 Sun.Sch. 10:40 Fellowship 11 Worship	24 9 Prayer Group 4:30 CE Comm.	25	26 5 pm PNC Comm 6 pm Youth	27 5:30 pm Chancel Choir	28 Office Closed	29 10:45 Bib. Study 11:15 Lunch Pro- gram
30 9:45 Sun.Sch. 10:40 Fellowship 11 Worship 12 Fellowship						

PRAYERS AND PRAISES



PASTORAL CONCERNS—

Martha Bell, Chlodine Bittner (Jackson Weller's grandmother), Chuck Bolt, Lisa Bolt, Amy Bracey Bill Brown, Lisa Brown, 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, Fred Gunn, Jay Hayes, 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, Beth Landfair (John's mother), Bill Landfair (John's step father), Ellen McDonald (John's wife), Freel Shipe (J. McDonald's father-in-law), Angela Langford, Ruth Lawton, Larry Mann, Ruth Meadors, Carolyn Miles, A. B. Motley, Paul Patrick (Charlotte Lowther's son-in-law), Ella Ryan, Alice Saunders, Lynn Saunders, Alan Sweeney, Linda Terri- berry, Tom West, Samantha Williams

ON THE MEND--(Praise & Gratitude for improved con- dition) Kevin Bailey, Martha Bell, Dianne East, Kelvin Gunn, Mrs. Helen Harris, Erica Mann, Lee Norman, Mary Ann Shelton, 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 Keesee, Ruth Lawton, Char- lotte Lowther, Grace Litzenberg, Malcolm Mallery, Carolyn Miles, A. B. Motley, Fae Smith, Linda Terri- berry, Tom West, Nultie Wiseman

CAREGIVERS

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY-Will Holman

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.

September 1: Women's Circle
September 8: Westover Baptist
September 15: Unity Presbyterian
September 22: Youth
September 29: Outlook Class

I have come back from my 'Walk About' and am ready to go and make the Crop Hunger Walk of the Danville Area a great one this 11th year. Thanks to all who have supported this great mission throughout the years. We will walk again on **Sunday, October 7th at 3 p.m.** from Ballou Park and will again have the children's choir of Danville sing before we get going on our 1 or 5K walk to change lives with our efforts and donations. An email will follow to invite you to register online, so watch 'this' space and I will man the Crop Walk table in the juice room every Sunday after church so you can sign up or donate. Did you know that \$24 is good for a **1-year** supply of nutrition packets for **20** children, promoting healthy development and preventing lifelong health problems?.... (Blooper joined us as we promoted the Crop Walk at the last Home Game of our own Danville Braves August 23rd).



EXTRA EXTRA READ ALL ABOUT IT..... Sundae Sunday! Sunday, September 16th, hot off the press The New Membership Directories. But we need your help: at 4.30 we will distribute the new Membership Directories you have all worked hard on to get to us. But since every family will get their own with all our families' information in it, we need to have an assembly line. So, come fix your Membership Directory to take home and we'll fix you a Sundae as a treat to say 'thanks for your help'.

Sunday Flowers on the Reredos



September 2 The flowers are placed to the glory of God and in honor of our interim pastor, Rev. Dr. John McDonald by the Outlook Sunday School Class.

September 9 The flowers today are given in loving memory of Pat Bolt, and her birthday by her daughter, Lisa Bolt.

Evening Circle will be in charge for the month of September.

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.

September 3 Alice Bradshaw, Colonial Suite
Commonwealth Health Care
1111 Main St., Danville, VA 24541

September 10 Nultie Wiseman
5969 Dry Fork Rd., Dry Fork, VA 24549

September 17 Flo Hall Brookdale Danville
149 Executive Dr., Danville, VA 24541

Make sure you mark your calendars for our annual Church Picnic at the Wiseman Farm again this year. We will have a meal with all the fixin's on Sunday, October 14th with lots of fun and games for all ages.



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

Plaster in choir loft

Sun Sail for playground Area

Completed items:

New Sounds System board

Fans install for ventilation in pipe organ area

1st & 2nd Apt rented

PRESBYTERIAN MISSION EMPHASIS

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Christian Education Committee
Brenna Takata, Chair

Christian Education will meet Monday Sept. 24th at 4:30 p.m. in the parlor.



Worship Committee will meet Oct. 7th 9:00 a.m. in the parlor.

SAVE THE DATE

The Annual Gathering of the Presbyterian Women of the Peaks (our Presbyterian Women's district) will be held Saturday, September 29th, at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Lynchburg. There is an exciting lineup of speakers for this Gathering, as well as some surprises along the way so mark your calendar and join me there. ML Crane, Moderator- PW FPC

The Perrows are coming to town! Our mission co-workers in Medellin, Columbia are delighted to come and share their news on Wednesday, September 19th for an extra scheduled Wednesday Night Supper program. We hope you will come out to share a meal with them and to give them our encouragement and prayers for their work overseas. Next missions meeting, Sunday, September 16 at 9 a.m.



DIACONATE NEWS



Thank you to all who traveled & supplied us with the goods to have 2 overflowing buckets of travel toiletries & sundries. The deacons will be able to make many hygiene kits to give out to the Lunch Ministry guests.

As we said 'goodbye' to the Brown family, Jarrod Brown had to vacate his spot on the diaconate, but alternate Becky Meadema has graciously stepped in and we are very grateful for her service. Next Deacons' meeting Tuesday October 2 at 6 p.m.

The Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Council will meet on Monday, September 10th at 10 a.m. in room 108.

The new Presbyterian Women's Handbooks are ready. Copies to be found in the Sutherlin Entrance or Narthex; please pick up a copy. As Presbyterian women we will start our new fall season on Monday, September 10th with the Day Circle meeting at 12.30 pm in room 108 starting on a new bible study called "God's Promise: I am with you" taught again by Charlotte Lowther who will celebrate her 40th year of teaching this year. And then the Evening Circle will meet that same evening at 7 p.m. in the home of Susan Mathena, 700 Steam Way to continue their bible study "Chasing After The Heart Of God" taught by Joyce Perez. Spread the word and bring a friend; all are invited to join in which ever study suits them best.

BLACK BEAN SALAD BY LIB CUTTLE

Ingredients:

1 red, 1 green, & 1 yellow bell pepper, diced
1/2 c red onion, diced
1 can corn, drained
1 clove garlic, minced
1 tsp cilantro
1/4/c olive oil
4 Tbsp. red-wine vinegar
1 tsp. lime juice
Salt & pepper, to taste
1 can 15 oz. black beans, drained
Tortilla chips

Combine bell peppers.

Add red onion, corn, garlic & cilantro.

Add olive oil, red-wine vinegar, lime juice, salt & pepper to taste.

Toss.

Add can of black beans.

Toss and serve with tortilla chips.

STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

In last month's "Stewardship In Action", we highlighted a special form of stewardship practiced by Linda Copeland. This month we'll highlight the contributions of CB Strange. CB, a long time member of our church, has served on both the Diaconate and Session and has currently been the Clerk of Session for over 15 years. CB, along with Carol, support many church functions including Wednesday night dinners, the Outlook Sunday school class, and church picnics. He supports Sunday worship services by operating the sound system and serves the Presbytery by attending meetings. Outside of church, CB supports the community by volunteering his dental skills at the free clinic. CB's support of his church and the community illustrate the true meaning of stewardship. Thank you CB!



The Presbyterian Women will supply the Free Clinic with a meal for their volunteers on the Tuesdays of this month. The 11th will be by the Coordinating Council, the 18th by the Day Circle and the 25th by the Evening Circle. We are very grateful to be able to continue this mission for yet another year.



3 Paige Wiseman

4 Sally Clark

6 Dixie Hayes

7 Caitlyn Crews
Susie Crews

8 Millie Hatcher

10 Jeff Davis
Anne Harvey

14 Anderson Miller
Sue Miller

16 Gail Jones
Pat Knick
Sam Meadema

21 Mark Heard
Tom Gillespie

22 Ava Barrett

23 Rebecca Atkinson

24 Linda Dodson

26 Carol Strange

27 Bob Ramey

28 Lauren Mathena

The Cuttles have moved to be closer to family and would love a card from you! Here is their new address:

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Cuttle
c/o Mr. & Mrs. Parks Newby
1518 Duplin Rd.
Raleigh, NC 27607



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 vickie@fpcdanville.com

A big thank you to Kim Meadows who has graciously and generously donated her time and talents to our church library this Summer. With these pictures she invites you to come check it out and check out a good book or 2. Kim has also started the baskets at the Sutherlin Entrance and in the Narthex with some books she recommends and hopes we can read and talk about amongst ourselves. I for one can't wait!



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