



Beyond the Columns

First Presbyterian Church

JUNE 2025

RANDOM THOUGHTS FROM JACKSON

As we step into the radiant month of June, we are greeted with the promise of renewal that comes with the celebration of Pentecost on June 8, 2025. This sacred day, detailed in Acts 2, marks the powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples, igniting their hearts with divine fire and birthing the Church in a spirit of unity, courage, and mission. Pentecost is a vivid reminder that the Holy Spirit is ever-present, breathing new life into our faith and calling us to renewal in our walk with Christ. This June, let us embrace the theme of renewal as we reflect on the Spirit's transformative work. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was a moment of revival, empowering ordinary people to proclaim the Gospel boldly and love in extraordinary and extravagant ways. In the same way, the Spirit invites us to renew our commitment to God, to one another, and to our calling as the church. What areas of your life need the Spirit's refreshing touch? How can we, as a community, be renewed to serve and shine as Christ's light in the world? On June 8, join us for a vibrant Pentecost worship service, where we'll celebrate the Spirit's outpouring with heartfelt praise, prayer, and a message centered on renewal. Throughout the month, let's pray for opportunities to experience the Spirit's renewing presence and extend God's love to those around us.

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Let us also pray for one another, seeking the Spirit's guidance to refresh our spirits and strengthen our fellowship. May June be a season of spiritual renewal, where we open our hearts to the Holy Spirit's transformative power. Let us be a people renewed by God's love, united in purpose, and sent forth to share the hope of Christ with our world.

~ Jackson



200 Anniversary Committee June 10th at 5:00pm.

Please remember your homework!

Youth

Youth Group June 4th , 11th , and 18th.

No Youth Group on June 25th .



Dear Church Family,

Praise God for you all. You were there for comfort when grief was overcoming us and we felt the power of your prayers. We appreciated so much the meal you provided after Mike's service as well as the food that was brought to the house during the week. Everything was absolutely delicious. Our family and friends were so complimentary of the love and support that they witnessed. Thank you for being a beacon of strength for our family.

Love,
The Family of Mike Reynolds

Music Department

A Musical Note on Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

On June 8th, we will celebrate Pentecost, the birthday of the church. Children's sermons on this day sometimes include the singing of "Happy Birthday" and the passing out of cupcakes. The Day of Pentecost is recounted in Scripture in Acts 2:1-13. The Holy Spirit indwelt the apostles and moved them to witness to Christ's resurrection through both words and deeds. The Holy Ghost is often portrayed as a burning flame, but also as an invisible wind. Pentecost celebrates the unseen presence of God. It also celebrates the emotional and spiritual creativity of believers to worship and serve God in an array of ways, using our many gifts to glorify the one Spirit of God.

These are several hymns appropriate for personal reflection in the days following Pentecost:

- Breathe on Me, Breath of God
- Come Down, O Love Divine
- Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove
- Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us
- Spirit of the Living God

A Prayer for Pentecost

Lord God, through Christ you have given us peace that the world cannot give. Let your Spirit of truth abide with us so that we may live in hope, grow in faith, and keep your commandments of love; in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

The following week, on June 15th, we will celebrate Trinity Sunday – a day of adoration of the one eternal God. Trinity Sunday is unique in the liturgical calendar because it observes a doctrine rather than an event. The triune God is the foundation of all we are and do as Christians. We are baptized in the name of the triune God and become part of the family of God. We affirm our faith when we recite creeds, saying what we believe. Trinity Sunday is the final festival day before the onset of Ordinary Time.

Hymns adoring the Trinity are at the beginning of our hymnbook, including:

- Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
- Come, Thou Almighty King
- Holy God, We Praise Your Name
- Eternal Father, Strong to Save

A Trinity Sunday Prayer

Holy, triune God, all that is, all that was, and all that ever will be belongs to you alone. You have spoken to us through your Word made flesh. Now guide us into the truth by the gift of your Holy Spirit, so that we may glorify you forever and ever. Amen.

Next month we will consider Ordinary Time and the not-so-ordinary rhythms of church life. Happy Father's Day and happy summer to everyone in our First Presbyterian community!

Peace of Christ,

Ashley

Our Missionaries



Our missionaries **Ian and Stephanie Fraiser** are working out of VIA headquarters (formerly Center for Mission Mobilization) in Arkansas to recruit, train, and equip indigenous missionaries in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America.

Currently, 80% of the world's Christians live in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America but they produce only 20% of the world's missionaries. VIA plants teams of mobilizers in countries like Peru, Kenya, and China to help start missions movements in the global church. Almost three billion people are unreached; they don't know anyone who knows anything about Jesus; and VIA is focused on mobilizing the unsent, those who know and love Jesus but aren't engaged in missions, to share the gospel with them.

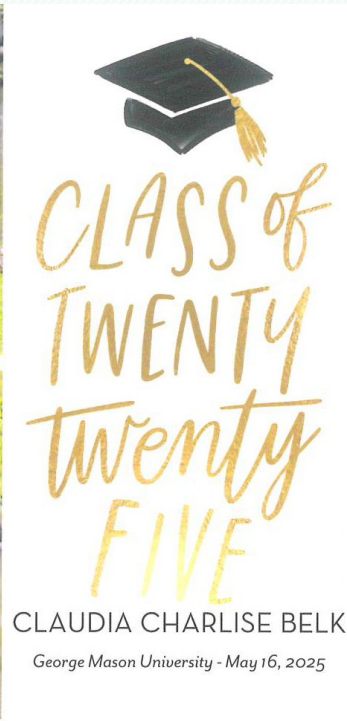
VIA engages with students, families, and leaders worldwide to point their hearts towards God's Great Commission: go into the world and raise up disciples. Pray for the Lord of the Harvest to raise up more laborers!

~submitted by Gary Wimer

Congratulations

Brenna Takata was recently recognized for her outstanding years of service by the Pittsylvania County School Board with a S.T.E.M. Lab named in her honor. We are proud of her accomplishments and her continued passion for all that she does.





Claudia is an Honor College Graduate—
Magna Cum Laude

She earned a Bachelor of Science in Geography with a minor in East Asian Studies and Computational and Data Sciences. She had the opportunity to apply her Japanese studies while studying abroad in Osaka, Kyoto, and Tokyo. Next, she will pursue a graduate degree in Software Engineering at George Mason University. Go Patriots! She received the Outstanding Service to the Department of Geography and Geoinformation Science Award!

Dear Church,

Thank you for supporting me through my undergraduate degree in geography from George Mason University. I am thankful to have studied abroad in Japan and for discovering my interest in tech. Starting this summer I will be pursuing a MS in software engineering. Looking forward to seeing you all at Christmas and Easter!

Thank you,

Claudia Belk



Day School Round-Up

Whew! May was a really busy month at Day School! Science Center, Day School Sunday, Mother's Day Tea, Art Show, Day School Picnic, and our last day of school - we barely had time to catch our breath!! But, boy, did we have fun!

We always have fun at the Science Center, and this year was no different. The Butterfly Garden was amazing! Their habitat was beautiful, and they didn't seem to mind sharing it with us. The play rooms kept us busy, and we had snacks outside by the train tracks.

Day School Sunday was so much fun. We loved practicing our music to share with you. It was really cool how we all sang together on Sunday, and then we got to eat lunch that y'all made just for us! Of course, the Bounce House topped it all off...

Ms. Liz, our 4 year old teacher, invited her moms to come have sundaes and do crafts with their kids- they had a great time being spoiled and appreciated for all they do! We worked hard all year on work for our Art Show. We got to display it in the fellowship Hall just like a real art show! Our parents enjoyed the creations, and the donuts! We hope that you enjoyed it too!

Day School Picnic- hot dogs, chili, cookies and fellowship.. This is one of our favorites! We all gathered on the playground with our families, teachers, Mr. Jackson and Ms. Brenna. They cooked and served us while we all visited and played. We went home full and happy, and possibly ready for a nap...

Our last Day of school flew by! We bounced, we had ice cream or slushies, played with some new toys on the playground, and enjoyed our last day of regular school. Graduation is always exciting, happy and sad. Mr. Jackson cooked an amazing meal and an even better strawberry cake! It was fun to celebrate our 4 year old class leaving for big school, even though we will really miss them. Ms. Liz made a lot of people cry with her video she did of the graduates. But I guess they were kind of happy tears because they were smiling while they cried? Grown ups can be confusing...

Well, this year flew by, but we have a lot of fun memories to look back on! Now for a quick break before summer session....





4 Malcolm Mallery

Carol Stoakley

8 Emma Jones

10 Anne Pritchett

11 Jean Pritchett

12 Eddie Blount

13 Marissa Meadors

17 Erin Beale

24 Mikayla Kassa

25 Royal Motley

Carpenter Walden

28 Sallie Abreu

30 Sue Miller

Anniversaries

June 5, 1966 Bernadine & Jay Hayes

June 19, 1976 David & Donna Parris

June 24, 1972 David & Sally Clark

Let us know if we've missed your special day!



Thank you for the overwhelming congregation response for the donated clothes given away to our Saturday lunch guest on May 3rd and May 10th. We had approximately 80 people go through the four rooms where the clothes were displayed. All of the men's clothes were taken and most of the women's were given away. The remaining were given to the Salvation Army and the House of Hope.

Matthew 25:38-40

They asked Jesus "When did we see you a stranger and invited you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?" Jesus replied "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for the least of these my brothers and sisters of mine, you did it for me."

~ from the Membership Committee

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DANVILLE

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 of west downtown.

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

Office hours are Monday– Thursday 9 am—1 pm



If you are interested in placing flowers in the sanctuary, please contact Brannon Blount at 434-334-9935 or brannon_blount@yahoo.com for the dates available.



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