First Presbyterian Church
of Waynesboro, Virginia

The Columns
- *Online.*

Remembering Lucy Craft Laney.

Lucy Craft Laney (1854-1933) was a Presbyterian educator who founded the first school for black children in Augusta, Georgia. For fifty years, she served as principal of *The Haines Institute for Industrial and Normal Education.*

Born free in Macon Georgia eleven years before emancipation (her parents had purchased their freedom), Laney was a prodigy: she could could read and write at the age of four, and by age 12, she was translating Latin. Laney trained as a teacher at Atlanta University (now Clark Atlanta University), then worked as a teacher for ten years before returning to Augusta to start her own school in the basement of Christ Presbyterian Church.

continued

COVID average Incidence Rate per 100,000
from the Virginia Dept of Health.

Augusta County:	32
Harrisonburg	34
Staunton	38
Rockingham	32
Waynesboro	67
Average/100K	**40.6**

*Session will schedule in person worship when the average incidence rate reaches **10** or less. For more information about incidence rates and their significance, click this link:*

Click here to lean more about incidence:

Covid ActNow

Lent 2021
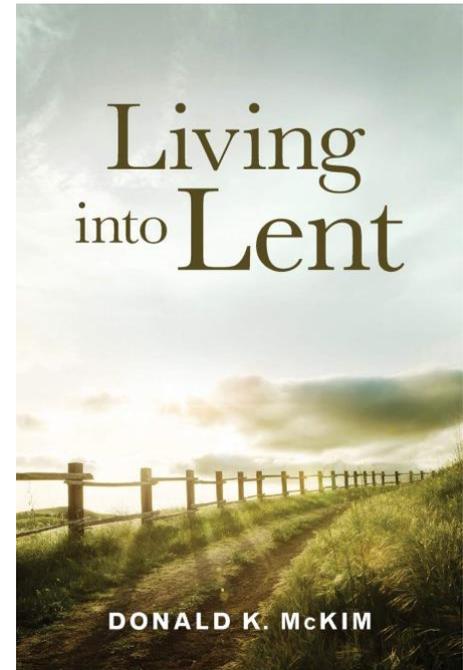## February 17 – April 3
First Presbyterian Church

Lenten Kits available at the church
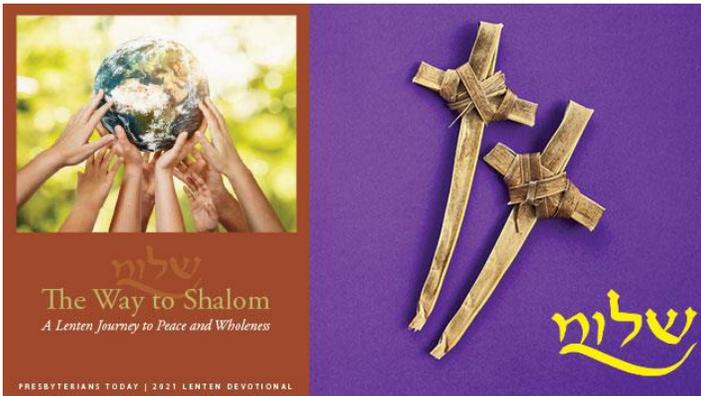beginning Monday, February 15

Wednesday, February 17

Virtual Ash Wednesday Service

Available by 9:00 a.m.
Ashes are in the Lenten kit

Lenten Devotional:

The Way to Shalom

Link is HERE.
also available in the Lenten Kit

Wednesdays, February 17 through March 31

Lenten Book Study:
Living Into Lent

Zoom© meetings beginning at noon.
Books may be purchased HERE.
To register, please contact Donna
at: shenpres@shenpres.org.

Wednesdays, February 24- March 24

Virtual Community Services

hosted by First Presbyterian Church
Thought provoking messages
from the Waynesboro faith community.

Music Notes for February 7.

Zionists. Charles B. S. Nkosi (South African, 1949–), 1979. Watercolor on paper.

This Sunday is both Valentine's Day and the celebration of the Transfiguration of Jesus, and the music reflects the power of the light of Christ, as we mark the final worship service prior to the season of Lent.

The opening hymn, *Open My Eyes that I May See,* asks the Spirit to dwell in us so that the light may shine forth in our words and deeds. The anthem, *We are Marching in the Light of God (Siyahamba),* originally a Zulu folk song, was set as a Christian hymn in the 1950s by Andries Van Tonder, and later became an anthem in the South African anti-Apartheid movement. The closing hymn, *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light,* was composed in the summer of 1966 by organist/composer Kathleen Thomerson (b.1934). She called the tune *Houston* after visiting the Church of the Redeemer in that coastal city in Texas.

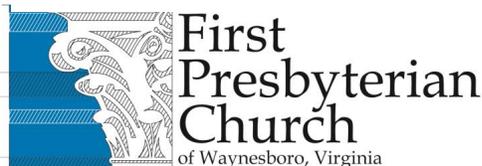May the light of Christ shine through you during these challenging times!

Thomerson.

Virtual Worship.
click on the pic

In the midst of an uncertain time, the session is working hard to discern the direction and scope of our ministry. These are challeging days for the church, but even as we are forced to curtail many of our usual activities, the work goes on - in the preschool, in the office, on the phone and across the internet.

Please return your pledge card as a reminder to yourself and a planning aid for the session; if you have not recived one, give us a call! Mail your pledges and contributions to:

P.O. Box 877
Waynesboro, VA 2298

When can I get Vaccinated?

Click on the syringe to find out!

Sources of Information
click on the links

PC(USA) News
Virginia Department of Health updates

Sources of Inspiration
click on the links

Daily Readings from the Lectionary
Jan Edmiston's Blog
The Upper Room Devotional

Sources of Fun
click on the links

Today's Holiday

Mr. Boffo

First Presbyterian Church of Waynesboro, Virginia

Skull of St. Valentine, maybe.
Basilica di Santa Maria, Roma

Another Pettit Pet?

A pensive Leah the dog.
Leah is half Schnauzer, half Beagle and all boss.

Her first class in 1883 had six students, but interest within the African-American community quickly grew, and by the end of the second year, the school had 234 students. With the increase in students, she needed more funding for her operation, so in 1886, she asked the Northern Presbyterian Church Convention for support. She was given only enough money for her train fare home, but her speech inspired Francine E.H. Haines, president of the Women's Department of the Presbyterian Church, to donate $10,000 (about $277,000 today). Haines would become a lifetime benefactor of the school, which would be named in her honor. The school quickly outgrew the church basement, and eventually spanned an entire city block of buildings; by 1928, at a time when public education was still segregated, the school's enrollment was more than 800 students.

Laney participated in the Niagara Movement, and in 1918 helped to organize the local chapter of the the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

She was active in many organizations dedicated to the welfare of blacks and black women, and helped to integrate the community work engaged in by the YMCA and YWCA, both of which offered separate organizations for whites and blacks.

In 1974, Governor Jimmy Carter selected Laney as one of the first three African Americans honored by having their portraits hung in the Georgia State Capitol. Her portrait bears tribute to *the mother of the children of the people,* a woman who knew *God didn't use any different dirt to make me than the first lady of the land.*