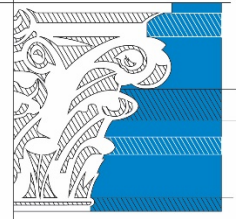




THE COLUMNS

July 2021, Volume 59, Issue 7

First Presbyterian Church, Waynesboro, VA



First Presbyterian Church of Waynesboro is a community-minded congregation living out the love of Christ as we serve one another with humility, gentleness, and patience through God's grace.

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

Pastor's Hours Monday -Thursday 10-2:30

Church Office Hours

Monday - Wednesday - 8:00 - 2:30

Thursday 8-4:30

Friday-Closed



In a ministry that spans three decades, I have experienced a lot. I have fallen off a roof; I have been chased by bees; I have married people in front yards, back yards, side yards, vineyards; I have buried people on mountainsides and in fields, in niches and gardens; in caskets and urns and a soup tureen, once; I have driven a cargo van from Pittsburgh to Seattle and back; driven folks to conferences, on mission trips, to the store; driven them to the doctor, to the hospital, to rehab, to jail; I have painted and anointed, hammered and baptized, demolished and built up; I have preached more than 1200 sermons; printed thousands of bulletins; set up tens of thousands of chairs; prayed countless prayers. I have done all that, and yet my brief time here at FPC has managed to be unique.

After several weeks of live worship, it has finally dawned on me how much I missed being together in person, and what I lost by not getting to know you all by sight and story during these months of pandemic. As I work to make up for lost time, I encourage you to consider what you have missed the past months and resolve to make up for lost time in worship and fellowship. We will take a major step forward together on July 18. On that Sunday, we will undertake several significant actions beyond in person worship:

- We will bring church by-laws in line with the truth about church leadership, by reducing the size of the session so that it better reflects the size of the congregation.
- We will finally hold long postponed elections for the new class of Ruling Elders.
- We will reconsider the role of Deacons in the life and ministry of FPC and consider recognizing their gifts and talents in a more practical way.
- We will reintroduce ourselves to table fellowship for the first time in almost 18 months, sharing a meal in the Fellowship Hall.
- We will, at long last, discuss the state of the church, consider what God is calling us to do, and what sort of pastoral God might be calling to work with us.

Listed like this, it seems like a lot, and I guess it is. But I am confident we will rise to the task and find our 'sea legs' eating and drinking, talking, and laughing, sharing and listening to each other and for the Holy Spirit.

Oh, and I'm cranking up the smoker for some wicked good barbeque.

I hope to see you there.

Patrick S Pettit, Interim Pastor



Happy birthday, America! This month opens with a celebration of our nation's 245th birthday. The music will reflect our nation's annual commemoration of our independence. Both the prelude (*How Firm a Foundation*) and Introit *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* come from the Southern Harmony tradition. These are among the hymns compiled by William "Singin' Billy" Walker in 1835 into the *Southern Harmony and Musical Companion*. Walker claimed that, by 1867, over 600,000 copies of the hymnal had been sold! The other hymns for Independence Day include *America* (My Country, 'Tis of Thee) and *Materna* (O Beautiful for Spacious Skies). Kathy Brown will sing the anthem, *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, written by two brothers. James Weldon Johnson wrote the text in 1900. Five years later, his brother, John Rosamond Johnson, composed the music for the anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth.

Summer festivals are back, and First Presbyterian Church has been fortunate over these past few years to work with the Heifetz International Music Institute in Staunton. The Institute brings talented high school and college musicians to Staunton for the summer to hone their skills. On Sunday July 11, musicians from Heifetz will play the special music that day.

July 18th marks the day after our (Roger and Kimberlea's) 33rd wedding anniversary. As many of you know, we were married at FPC in 1988. We feel extremely fortunate to make music in the place where our union was blessed! That weekend we will celebrate our anniversary at Tanglewood (in the Berkshires in Western Massachusetts). The wonderfully capable and kind Diane Kingsbury will play our historic 1893 Woodberry and Harris organ that day.

The final Sunday of July brings Cathy Cunningham and her Celtic harp to our Sanctuary. Cathy has chosen to play *Pant-y-fedwen*, a recently written Welsh hymn. The text was written in 1967 by Rev. William Rhys Nicholas (1914-1996), named after the location of that year's eisteddfod (a competitive music and poetry festival in Wales). Nicholas won the competition. The following year, the Pant-y-fedwen Eisteddfod committee invited people to write music for the award-winning hymn. Morris Eddie Evans (1890-1984) composed the music and, like Rhys Nicholas, was also awarded first prize. *Pant-y-fedwen* has since become one of the most popular hymns in Wales.

We remain grateful to First Presbyterian Church for the ongoing support of the music program.

Blessings –

Roger and Kimberlea Daggy

Independence Day

Nation's anniversary provides an opportunity for reflection and prayer

July 4, 2021

We pause today to remember and celebrate the brave action of the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. On that date the delegates voted to officially adopt the Declaration of Independence. A committee of five was tasked to have the text printed and dispatched across the 13 colonies as rapidly as possible. These copies departed Philadelphia on July 5.

George Washington, commander of the continental forces, was camped outside New York City when he received his copy of the text on July 9. On that day the soldiers under Washington's command were given a new mission as they fought to defend the newly declared independence. Perhaps by coincidence or perhaps by design, in the very same general orders of July 9, Washington also directed the colonels and commanding officers of the regiments to procure chaplains for their units. The commanders were to pursue "persons of good characters and exemplary lives." The soldiers were to "pay the chaplains suitable respect and attend carefully upon religious exercises."

Washington wrote, "The blessing and protection of Heaven are at all times necessary but especially so in times of public distress and danger. The General hopes and trusts, that every officer and man, will endeavor so to live, and act, as becomes a Christian Soldier defending the dearest Rights and Liberties of his country."

Today we give thanks for the visionary leadership of the founders of our nation and the courageous act the members of Congress took 245 years ago. We are also encouraged to pray as Paul said to Timothy, "First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

And as we celebrate and pray, please remember all who have served our nation defending freedom and justice. And pray also for our chaplains, "persons of good characters and exemplary lives," who throughout our history have been present wherever our forces have been deployed.

Lyman M. Smith, Captain, CHC, USN, Retired; Director of Presbyterian Counsel for Chaplains and Military Personnel

PRAYER ON THE 4TH OF JULY

We are grateful that you have given us a land to live in.

Bless this land with the labor of all its people.

Give us the love of learning and wisdom to know how to live well.

In a world often divided by hate, fill us with love and compassion for all our neighbors.

Amen.



COVID UPDATE

Masks are optional for anyone who has been vaccinated and passed the two-week mark; likewise, social distancing is relaxed for the immunized. Masks are required for those who remain unvaccinated, and social distancing is to be maintained. Those who feel unwell, and those who may be particularly at risk, are encouraged to participate via live stream.



2021 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Holly Bennett, chair, and Connie Sachlis met on June 4 to review six applications, an increase of one from last year.

Scholarship Name	Amount Available for 2021-2022
Lucy Coyer Scholarship	\$3,463.32
James Davis Scholarship	\$1,262.17
Memorial Scholarship	\$3,652.18
Lila Foster Teacher Scholarship	\$666.33
William Sheppard Scholarship	\$148.96
Total	\$9,192.96
Total Amount Awarded	\$9,190.00

Six Scholarships were awarded to:

Troy Blair - Mary Baldwin (William Sheppard award recipient)

Max Daggy - JMU (son of Kimberlea & Roger Daggy)

Faye Griffith - Mary Baldwin (Lila Foster Teacher Scholarship (daughter of FPC Michael Griffith))

Joseph Kearney - VCU

Nathaniel Rudin - Blue Ridge Community College (FPC Preschool Director)

Elizabeth "Bessie" Wood - University of Virginia (granddaughter of Anne Wood)

Special thanks to FPC Trustees, Burnie Powers and Anne Wood, for their time and effort and to Colleen Cash for all her administrative assistance throughout the academic year.



Dear Congregation,

June was a month full of fun. We began Summer Camp and saw many new faces along with some old ones. The children enjoyed making dirt cups on insect week, exploring ocean life, and making new friends.

In July we will celebrate the 4th of July and continue maintaining the garden. Work will begin on the new Playground soon. We are all excited to continue growing our wonderful Preschool.

One of the many ways we grow our Preschool is by giving back to our community. We do this through scholarships made possible by donations from the entire congregation. So far, we have received two scholarship requests.

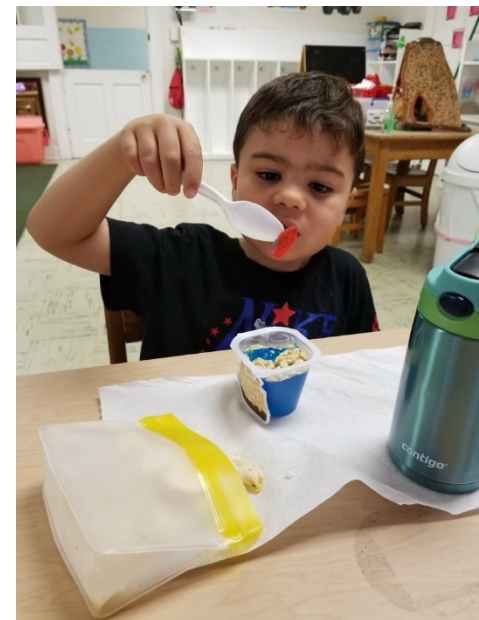
The first is a three-year-old child in the Extended Day program. Being a single parent household has placed great financial burden on this hard-working parent. The current Preschool tuition rate for the morning session for a three-year-old is \$165 a month.

The second is a four-old-child in the Preschool program (morning only). With a monthly household income of only \$1600 they find a hard time providing what they want for their child. The tuition rate for the four-year-old class is \$180 a month.

If you wish to sponsor a child or want to make a one-time donation, please email me at preschool@firstpresway.com.

Thank you for your time and God bless,

Nate Rudin
Director



NEED FOR PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Why First Presbyterian Preschool? Is it important to us as a church? It's a tradition. Is it important to the community? It's not a money maker. It takes a lot of time and effort by a lot of people. It can be noisy!

I could go on and on about the pro's and con's of our Preschool. I first became an elder at FPC in 1998 and have been involved with Session ever since. The questions above get asked every few years. Do we or don't we?

Every time the discussion come up, Session considers closing the Preschool. And every time, despite some decided opinions in the affirmative, Session says "no". Session decides that our Preschool is a MISSION of our church. It is a way to reach out to the community with the message that we believe in providing a Christian based education for as many children as possible.

Unfortunately, many hardworking families, who need a strong daycare situation, cannot afford the whole tuition although we charge as fair an amount as possible. That is where YOU come in!

If YOU feel our Preschool is worthwhile and worth keeping open, please consider sponsoring a child, partially sponsoring a child, sending an amount monthly, or making a one-time donation. Our competent Preschool Director, Nate Rudin, would be happy to work with you and answer any questions. Or just take a check to the Church Office.

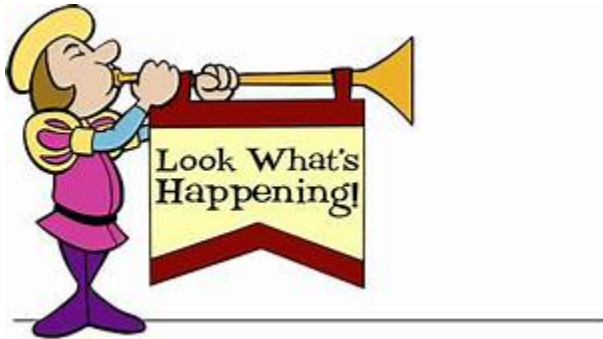
Truly the success of our Preschool is in your hands.

~Betsy Ruehl

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session did not hold a meeting on its appointed day, June 15, for lack of a quorum. Decisions among those present resulted in the following decisions which will be ratified at the next meeting.

1. Call a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, July 18, at the close of worship, for the following business:
 - Confirm the change in FPC by-laws to reduce the size of Session from 9 to 6 members.
 - Elect elders for the Classes of 2023 and 2024, provided the Church Nominating Committee has approved a slate. Elders remaining on Session are Bruce Bosselman, Joan Berry and Jen Jones.
 - Confirm the change in FPC by-laws to eliminate regular elections for Deacons and transition the Diaconate from a standing board into a commissioning for particular service, i.e. the person in charge of FPC Food Bank, or who regularly visits, could be commissioned a deacon.
 2. Immediately after the Congregational Meeting on July 18, gather in the Fellowship Hall for lunch and discussion about the CAT study; details will be worked out by the CAT Team.
- All meetings are opened and closed with prayer.



HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

**IMPORTANT CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
at close of Worship Sunday, July 18
followed by lunch and discussion in the Fellowship Hall**

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY MEETING
May 25, 2021, via Zoom**

- Celebrated Nancy Meehan Yao's graduation with Doctor of Ministry degree.
- Viewed presentation from Shenandoah Living Waters World team: Process of building and installing a filtration system to provide clean water.
- Shared a video of the Gore Home in Ethiopia, an orphanage that receives support from our Presbytery.
- Thanked churches for their continued support of the presbytery as a whole and shared some of the things their dollars helped with, especially in the pandemic.
- Save the date! Saturday, September 18, 2021, the BIG EVENT to be held at Massanetta Springs from 9-3. Keynote speaker is Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, Director of the Presbyterian Office of Public Witness on Capitol Hill.
- Shared that \$18,000 has been given in Innovation in Worship grants to churches in the presbytery. Congregations still may apply.
- Presented six reflective questions for sessions to ask coming out of COVID-19:
 1. Have we represented Jesus well during the year?
 2. Are we representing Jesus well as we move through and beyond these challenges?
 3. What have we learned – and what are we willing to learn?
 4. How can we better serve the people at home?
 5. How well are we serving our online church members and visitors?
 6. How are people hurting and what can we do to help them?

At this time the plan is for the August Presbytery meeting to be on Zoom and to meet in person for the November meeting.

- July 2 Mary June Cook
- July 4 Mike Cunningham
- July 9 Mary Ultee
- July 10 Edie Lawrence
- July 18 Earlene Templeman
- July 21 Ruth Quillen
- July 31 Bill Kiser



- July 7 Don & Jeannie Hashagen
Randy & Nancy Hypes
- July 17 Roger & Kimberlea Daggy





Prayers for Health and Other Concerns:

The Legacy: Eloise Morris, Mary June Cook

Shenandoah Nursing Home: Rubye Schwab

Summit Square: Lillian Hryshkanych

Home: Dick Huff, Nancy Garber, Mary Ultee, Edie Lawrence, Mary Ann Maupin

Friends and Family: Andy & Jean Robeson, (Cunninghams), Steve Stevens, Marianne Beck, Bill Bromley, Grace Measles (Jen Jones), Danny Smith (Nancy Hypes), Jennifer & Charlotte Sergeant (Kathy Brown), Emily Bardeen (Sandi Henderson), Kathy Doyle (Cindy & Rodger Doyle), Bill Metzler (Joyce Tipton), Tony Poplin, Jerry Hughes, Paul Watts (Colleen Cash), Shae Blackwell and Family (Preschool), Col. Stuart Roberts (Mark Henderson), Alissa Voils (Pam Leech), Phil Hashagen (Jean & Don), Erwin Berry (Joan)

Military: Jeremiah Henderson, Carson Craig

Missionaries: Elmarie & Scott Parker, PC (USA) Regional Liaisons to Iraq, Syria & Lebanon



Our Christian sympathies to the family of Charles Poland who died on June 17, 2021.

Editor—Betsy Ruehl (etruehl@ntelos.net)

Layout—Colleen Cash

Reporters—Members of the Congregation & Staff

COLUMNS Mailing List

During the pandemic the newsletter is being mailed to members and friends. Please remember to give your new address to the Church Office when you move. We do not want you to miss any of the Church news. Just contact the Church Office (949-8366 or church@firstpresway.com) *Sermons, bulletins and many Columns articles can be found on the church website:*

firstpresway.org **Deadlines: *COLUMNS*: 20th of the month**



Thursday, July 1

Food Bank 6-8 PM

Sunday, July 4

Worship 11AM

Monday, July 5 OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday, July 8

Food Bank 2-4 PM

Sunday, July 11 Bronwen Boswell

Worship 11AM

Tuesday, July 13 Session Meeting

Session 2:30 PM

Thursday, July 15

Food Bank 6-8 PM

Sunday, July 18 Congregational Meeting /Lunch

Worship 11AM

Thursday, July 22

Food Bank 2-4PM

Sunday, July 25

Worship 11AM

Mailing Address

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Waynesboro, VA 22980

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540.949.8366

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540.949.5750

E-mail

church@firstpresway.com

Website

www.firstpresway.org

Church Office Hours

Monday-Wednesday

8 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Thursday

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Friday

Closed

Interim Pastor

Rev. Patrick Pettit

pspettit@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Colleen Cash

ccash@firstpresway.com

Preschool Director

Mr. Nate Rudin

preschool@firstpresway.com

Director of Music

Mr. Roger Daggy

firstpreswaymusic@gmail.com

Music Associate

Mrs. Kimberlea Daggy

firstpreswaymusic@gmail.com

Audio/Visual Technician

Mr. Craig Cavanaugh

Maintenance Technician

Mr. Michael Griffith

Custodian

Mrs. Caroleia Strandberg

Child Care Attendants

Nate & Karalyn Rudin