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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.*

THE COLUMNS

**January 2023, Volume 61, Issue 1**

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**MUSIC NOTES**

Beginning the New Year with Gratitude

Eight years ago, we moved to Virginia after living in Santa Monica, CA, for fourteen years. When we arrived in February 2015, we did not know what we would do, save for taking care of Roger’s father as he valiantly battled cancer. Little did we know that the church where Roger honed his musical skills, and where we were married, would provide the stability that we sought. Roger began playing at First Pres the week after Easter in 2015 and soon was named Director of Music/Organist. Since that time, we have had the pleasure of getting to know the congregation and “what makes FPC tick.”

As we embark on yet another new year, we reflect on the many ways in which we are richly blessed at First Pres. We are thankful that FPC is content to trust us to provide music for services on Sunday morning. We are also comforted by the relationships we have been able to build, from those Roger knew growing up in Waynesboro to those acquaintances made more recently.

Hardly enough can be expressed about the immense thanks we feel towards those who make up the choir. They commit time and energy, make themselves available and enhance the worship experience of those who attend FPC, either in person or virtually. Over the years, we have welcomed members and been saddened by their departure. The continued commitment of Jean Hashagen, Betsy Ruehl, Susan Elder, Bill Pannill, and Cathy and Mike Cunningham deepen the worship experience for everyone.

We are grateful to have shared significant life moments with people, including weddings, birth announcements (of children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren), funerals and memorial services.

We remain appreciative of the support of the music program and the various concerts and musicians who have played at FPC. To a person, each musician has commented on how wonderful it is to play in the sumptuous Sanctuary. It is one of the finest 500 seat “halls” in the country! With that in mind, we are grateful for the creation of the First Friday Organ Concerts and Light Luncheons. These programs have become a staple for many in Waynesboro and beyond, providing the opportunity to hear the beautiful sounds that emanate from the 1893 Woodberry and Harris pipe organ. The added bonus is the delightful luncheon afterward. Several folks have helped provide for these luncheons including Joyce Tipton, Joan Berry, Jean Hashagen, Mikey Leech, Colleen Cash and, most recently, Susan Johnson. Susan’s comprehensive efforts, combined with those who have contributed in the past, ensure that those in attendance enjoy fellowship with others who appreciate the music.

We are thankful for not only the fabulous organ, but also the lovely Boston piano and double harpsichord in the Sanctuary. These instruments enhance the worship experience by allowing us to faithfully execute centuries of sacred music!

And finally, we are most grateful for the people who make First Presbyterian Church the spiritual home it is. Thanks to the congregation for attending services each week and participating in the worship experience. Thanks to the choir for enhancing the service with their joyful music. Thanks to Reverend Patrick Pettit for leading the church through this time of transition. And thanks, in abundance to Colleen Cash, who accomplishes innumerable tasks to keep FPC humming along!

May your 2023 be filled with blessings –

Roger and Kimberlea Daggy

**NO FIRST FRIDAY CONCERT**

**IN JANUARY**

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**SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**

Session held a Stated Meeting on December 12, 2022.

* Jean Hashagen distributed a summary of the in-person meeting at Massanetta Springs Conference Center on November 13. Of special interest to our congregation is the transfer of former pastor Rev. George Chapman to the Presbytery of Coast Carolina where he is pastor at Shallotte Presbyterian Church.
* Session approved a 4% cost of living raise for all hourly employees. Session approved a 4% cost of living raise for all salaried employees except Rev. Pettit.
* The Harvest Brunch was enjoyed by about 25 in the Barksdale Room November 20. There was discussion about resuming regular after-church coffees and/or meals.
* Cynthia Hoover provided a detailed report of her monthly Mission activities. Highlights appear elsewhere in this newsletter. She spoke at a Men’s Prayer Breakfast at Westminster PC about our Food Bank (Westminster participates first and third Thursday nights from 6-8 p.m.). She has been in contact with WARM personnel regarding possible providing of lunch in January and March. A “Disaster Room” for storage of items needed at such times has been established.
* Colleen Cash reported on Maintenance matters. The gentleman who has been doing our yard work suffered a heart attack.
* Due to COVID-19 Rev. Pettit was absent from worship November 27 and December 18. On the 27th elder Mark Henderson led worship and read Patrick’s sermon; on the 8th Rev. Wray Sherman conducted the service. The Lessons and Carols Communion service will be held in the sanctuary on Christmas Eve. Only a virtual service will be available on Sunday, Christmas Day.
* Session approved the 2023 “Asking” from Presbytery - $5,096. ($52 x 98 members as of January 2022)

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**A NEW YEAR**

There is something hopeful about new. As we say goodbye to 2022 and welcome 2023, we wonder about what is ahead. What new possibilities will the new year bring? New beginnings? We find hope in the idea of a fresh start. This year will be better; this year will be different. *This year I will be better. This year I will be different.*

Some of us come up with resolutions, goals, or intentions for the new year: practices we want to begin, healthier and more balanced ways of livings, things we want to stop or start doing. There is something about a new beginning that gives us the strength and courage to strive for these worthy goals, and in many cases, to try again. January 1, 2023 – this is the day, this is the moment, for that new and fresh start.

To be sure, there is nothing wrong with this way of thinking. However, might there be more to this idea of new for us people of faith? We know that our “newness” doesn’t come from a “new year” at all, but from Christ. Calendar-time is but one aspect of what it means to live *in God’s time.* In baptism, we are made new in Christ, and as disciples, we are continually being made new in Christ. Like so much of our faith, this truth invites us to live in the reality of the both/and; the simultaneous existence of the *already* and *not yet.* We are already made new, and we are still being made new.

The place where I am reminded of this most often is in worship each week. The Prayer of Confession is my weekly reminder that I haven’t gotten there yet, that I have so much growing to do, that I need to recommit myself again and again to Christ’s way of self-giving love and service. There is something within me that yearns for that honesty, and especially for what follows: the Assurance of God’s Grace. This steady rhythm of truth-telling and above all, grace, gives me the hope and courage to try again, to keep going, made new in Christ and always being made new. It's not a once-a-year chance at a “do over”, but a daily reality and invitation.

*What does it mean to you to be made new in Christ? Where do you yearn for newness in your life and in our world?*

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**A NEW YEAR’S PRAYER**

God of new beginnings, we give you thanks that you made all things new. We thank you for your grace and mercy which embrace us anew each day. As we embrace a new year, lift us above calendar-time into your time. Expand our vision so that our intentions and hopes might align with your will. Make us grateful for the newness we have in Christ, and make us faithful in pursuing the newness that Christ continually offers. Amen.

(by the Rev. Madison M. VanVeeden, Associate Pastor of Care,

Second Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, IN)



Dear Congregation,

December brought an end to another year at The Preschool! We closed out 2022 with many Christmas celebrations, including our annual Christmas Program despite the weather. The children also designed and baked their own Christmas cookies.

The children will resume Preschool on the 3rd of January. In January, the children will begin learning about the new year and why it changes, as well as celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day and learning about the importance of such an important date.

Happy New Year and God Bless,

Nate Rudin,

Director

A picture containing table, person, indoor, plate

Description automatically generatedTwo girls standing in front of a painting

Description automatically generated with low confidenceA group of people in a church

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A picture containing person, indoor, baby, child

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 Birthdays

6 Ann Epes

Michael Griffith

8 Bruce Bosselman

11 Jeannie Hashagen

28 Celia Daggy

31 Randy Hypes



Liturgists

1. Betsy Ruehl

8- Joan Berry

15- Bill Pannill

22- Jim Leech

29- Cynthia Hoover

**MISSION 2022**

Thank you for your continued and robust support of the missions of First Presbyterian Church. We donated 91 pairs of gloves, 23 hats, and 18 pairs of gloves to the Disciples’ Kitchen. On December 13, our volunteers served 55 meals at Disciples’ Kitchen. All of our preschoolers received the book “Christmas in a Manger” by Nola Buck. The food bank had 1390 individuals served. Thank you to the dedicated volunteers that made this possible.

Last year Presbyterian Disaster Assistance requested hygiene and school kits. We hastily gathered the items after a flood in Kentucky. Two weeks later, Hurricane Ian caused widespread damage to the Fort Myers area. Again we scurried to assemble the kits. Moving forward into 2023 let’s be prepared for the storms that surely will occur. To that end, we will be collecting items on a monthly basis to make the kits. For the month of January please donate bath sized bars of soap. A storage area has been established on the second floor. Items can be brought to the office or dropped off in the Narthex.

--Respectfully submitted, Cynthia Hoover

**COLLECTION FOR DISASTER ASSISTANCE KITS**

**JANUARY 2023**

**Bath Sized Bars of Soap**



**Mailing Address**

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**Fax**

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.

**Interim Pastor**

Rev. Patrick S. 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](mailto:firstpreswaymusic@gmail.com)

**Music Associate**

Mrs. Kimberlea Daggy

[firstpreswaymusic@gmail.com](mailto:firstpreswaymusic@gmail.com)

**Audio/Visual Technician**

Mr. Craig Cavanaugh

**Maintenance Technician**

Mr. Michael Griffith

**Sunday, January 1**

11 AM Worship Service

**Thursday, January 5**

6-8 PM Food Bank

**Sunday, January 8**

11 AM Worship Service

**Tuesday, January 10**

2:30 PM Session Meeting Room, Room 212

**Thursday, January 12**

2-4 PM Food Bank

**Sunday, January 15**

11 AM Worship Service

**Tuesday, January 17**

7-9 PM Symphony Practice- Fellowship Hall

**Thursday, January 19**

**6-8** PM Food Bank

**Sunday, January 22**

11 AMWorship Service

**Tuesday, January 24**

7-9 PM Symphony Practice- Fellowship Hall

**Thursday, January 26**

2-4 PM Food Bank

**Sunday, January 29**

11 AMWorship Service

**Tuesday, January 31**

7-9 PM Symphony Practice- Fellowship Hall

