

# First Presbyterian News

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C. Russell Lee, Jr., Pastor, D. Min.

July 2010

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Dear First Folks,

July is the time to watermelon and other things which need watering. It is time to cantaloupe and count our blessings and the things God is doing through us and this church to change the world forever. It is the time to swim in cool water, to be fishers of men and women in the water of God's world, so that others can find eternal life.

Thanks for your part in praying for the ministries here, for what you do to make them possible, and for the chance to worship and serve in a church which is alive and thriving with God's spirit and life!

Read the pages below and find more chances to pray, to act, to seek, to love, to forgive, to plan, and to find out what wonderful things God is planning next!

In Him,

*Russell*



## Sermon Topics for July

- July 4* Sermon: Hands for Harvest  
Scripture: Psalm 30:1-5 Luke 10:1-11
- July 11* Sermon: Having Mercy  
Scripture: Psalm 82:1-8 Luke 10:25-37
- July 18* Sermon: What is Better?  
Scripture: Psalm 52:1-9 Luke 10:38-42
- July 25* *Paul Nichols, Guest Preacher*  
Sermon: The Limitation of Human Knowledge  
Scripture: Genesis 11:1-9 John 3:22-36
- August 1* *Communion*  
Sermon: Rich Toward God  
Scripture: Psalm 107:1-9 Luke 12:13-21

**Five Cents a Meal Sunday is July 25th**

**Session Meeting - Monday, July 19th at 7:30 pm**



**Missionary News** - Keep up with Matthew Lee in Cameroon, Africa, as he shares news, stories and pictures on his new blog. Here's an excerpt from a recent post: *I'm here in Yaoundé, and I'm more or less unpacked. I've been in orientation these last few days. All is going well, got internet and hot water, though please don't expect me to be online or available too much this week. I'm adapting, changing schedules, and taking it all in. A lot of things are familiar from different places and situations, but I'm not gonna be able to describe it very easily to you for a bit. (June 25)* Read more at

<http://WhereYouSendMe.wordpress.com/>



**CELEBRATION  
20-YEAR ANNIVERSARY  
OF MINISTRY AT  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 2010**

On Sunday, August 8, 2010, we will celebrate Reverend Lee's 20<sup>th</sup> year of ministry at First Presbyterian Church. A combined service will be held at 10:00 a.m. followed by lunch in the Fellowship Hall. This is certainly a special opportunity for us to recognize and thank Russell and Marilyn for the blessing they have been for our church and community.

**Make plans to be here for this celebration!**

*"He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young." Isaiah 40:11*



If you haven't looked at the Angel Food menu lately, pick one up in the lobby or check it out online. In the past few months, there have been several new packages that seem to be popular. The "Bit O' Blessing Box" is a smaller version of the original \$30.00 "Signature Box," offering a smaller variety of meat, fruits/vegetables, and a dessert for \$21.00. The "Just 4 Me - After School Box" and the "Just 4 Me - After School Fruit & Veggie Box" contain an assortment of child-friendly snacks great for after school or any time. Originally called the "Senior Box," the newly named "Fast and Flavorful Cuisine" offers 10 new and improved fully-cooked (just heat and serve) meals developed with the dietary needs of seniors and people living with diabetes in mind. The "Seafood Box" is discontinued during the hot summer months, but the "Allergen-Free Food Box" continues to be available to meet the needs of those sensitive to dairy, gluten, nuts, etc.

Please note that the July ordering dates are one week later than usual, due to the July 4 holiday. Orders are typically lower in the summer months, so this would be a great time to order a box to give to someone who is in need. Share flyers with folks you know, and don't forget to remind them of the easy on-line ordering. As always, new volunteers are welcome to help with distribution. Come out and share in the ministry and fellowship!

**July order dates:**

**Sunday, July 11th - 12 to 1 pm**

**Tuesday, July 13th - 11 am to 1 pm**

**Thursday, July 15th - 4:30 to 6:30 pm**

**Online ordering available until July 20th**

**Delivery date: Saturday, July 24th - 8 to 9 am**

**Hopes for the 219th General Assembly (2010)**

The Stated Clerk of the General Assembly has released his greatest hopes for the 219th General Assembly (2010) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), to be held in Minneapolis from July 3-10, 2010.

**1. Prayerful decision-making**

The spirit in which decisions are made at the assembly will be a prayerful and careful witness of decision-making for the entire church.

**2. Deeper awareness of the whole PC(USA)**

Commissioners and advisory delegates will gain a deeper awareness of the length and breadth of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), realizing they are part of something much larger than themselves.

**3. Issues facing congregations**

Commissioners and advisory delegates will discern with the whole church the issues and challenges facing congregations

**4. Common calling to a changing church**

A clear, common calling will emerge to actively and hopefully engage with the reality of a church in change.

**5. Attention beyond ourselves**

Attention will move beyond ourselves to a world in great need, committing ourselves to gospel work: making disciples, feeding the hungry, welcoming the outcast, encouraging the fainthearted, working for peace – all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**6. Enthusiastic sharing of the faith**

Those who are part of the assembly will be the first in line of Presbyterians to talk about their faith with a contagious enthusiasm.

**7. Furthering the mission of Christ**

At the end of the assembly, commissioners and advisory delegates will have a deep sense that what they did will further the mission of Christ in the world.

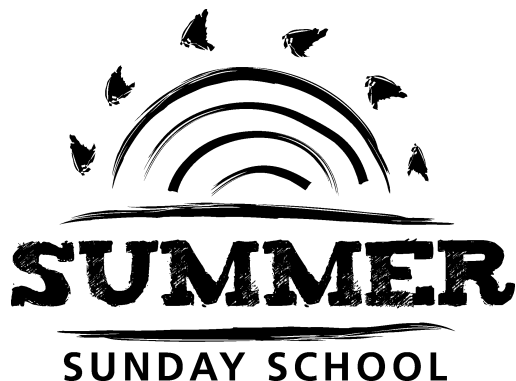
*The Reverend Gradye Parsons is Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).*



The SoBo Pilgrim's Holy Land Group is still meeting each month in preparation for the Holy Land Tour in February. The June meeting was held early to try to fit around the vacation schedule of so many of those who attend. We had a great evening at Mike and Doris Koch's home near Clarksville reviewing the area around the Sea of Galilee and Jesus' ministry there. In July we are planning a special get-together and picnic on Sunday afternoon, July 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 at Carole Woodward's home. This meeting will not only be special because of the opportunity for extra time of fellowship with the possibility of some boating and swimming, but also because some of our travelers who cannot get to our regular evening meetings will be able to join us.

Beyond our time of fellowship, we will be concentrating on the fifth day of our tour around Mount Carmel, Megiddo, and the Caesarea area. During this day, we will be traveling from Galilee to Jerusalem. Mt. Carmel is particularly famous from the Old Testament when the prophet Elijah trumped the many priests of Baal as God consumed his offering with fire from heaven. The valley of Megiddo is famous in prophesy as Revelation speaks of it as the site of the Battle of Armageddon. We will also tour Mt. Zion to see where King David is buried and visit the Upper Room where Jesus shared his last meal with the disciples before the crucifixion. As with each day's tour, there is so much to see and learn, so much that will build our understanding and faith.

There is still room for folks to sign up for the trip. Copies of the registration form are in the church office or available online. Remember that you don't have to be able to join us on the pilgrimage to join us for the monthly study gatherings. Just let Paul Nichols know if you are interested in coming to one of the gatherings so you can get the e-mail reminder. E-mail for the trip is [sobopilgrim@gmail.com](mailto:sobopilgrim@gmail.com). Also remember that you can follow our program online at <http://sobopilgrim.blogspot.com/>.



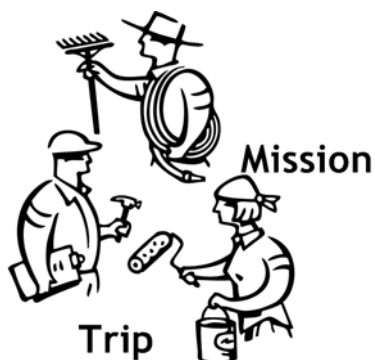
### Summer Sunday School Continues

The children (Pre-K to 5th grade) are being taught by a variety of wonderful volunteers who will teach a Sunday (or two) this summer. There is still one Sunday available (Sept. 5). The lessons should be very easy to pick up and can be used with all ages.

For the adults and youth (middle & high school), three pastors and a number of laity will teach a combined class entitled "Old Testament Wisdom for a New Testament Church — How Lesser Known Stories

of the Old Testament Speak to OUR Church Today." Looking at these stories from the Old Testament will be fresh and inspiring. Plan to be there as much as you can this summer!

Date	Teacher	Topic	Scripture
4-Jul	Jim	<b>American Christians or Christian Americans?</b>	1 Samuel 8:1-22
11-Jul	Stewart	<b>The Renegade Revealed</b>	1st Samuel 18: 13-17; 22:1-2; and 26:25
18-Jul	Wendy	<b>Backslider On a Bumpy Boat</b>	Jonah 2: 1 - 2:2
25-Jul	Patty	<b>Dangerous Devotion</b>	1st Samuel 18: 1-4; 19: 1-6; and 20: 33-42
1-Aug	Paul	<b>Go Down Moses - Pt. 2 - The Golden Calf</b>	Exodus 32:7-8
8-Aug	Russell	<b>God Gives Life</b>	II Kings 4: 38-44
15-Aug	Wendy	<b>Our Attitudes and Our Buts</b>	Exodus 3:1 - 4:16
22-Aug	Stewart	<b>Life is Messy</b>	2nd Samuel 12: 13-25
29-Aug	Paul	<b>Go Down Moses - Part 3 Manna</b>	Exodus 16:4-5
5-Sep	Jim	<b>Lord, What is Your Will for Us?</b>	2 Chronicles 18:1 - 19:3



## Summer Mission Trip “Hammerin’ in the Hills”

The Mission Team left on Sunday, June 6, at 1:00pm on our 6½ hour drive to Hazard, Kentucky. Kim Albert, Robert Guthrie, Mike Koch, Russell Lee, Carl and Jacquelyn McAbee, and John Mele made up the team for this trip.

We arrived safely at First Presbyterian Church of Hazard and were given lodging in the newer of two “mission cottages” located right next to the church. Before bed, we reviewed information about the two jobs we would undertake. One was removing and replacing underpinning and a front deck on a mobile home belonging to an elderly woman who was afraid to step out of her door because of so many rotten places in the porch. The other was building a brand new house from the foundation up for a man who was in and out of work and just wanted a home for his little girl. After months of planning, we were set to begin the next morning.

Early Monday morning, Team I – Mike, Robert, and Kim – headed out to work on the underpinning and deck removal and replacement job; Team II – Russell, John, Carl and Jacquelyn – left for the new home construction site. Team I accomplished the entire demo before lunch, replaced ¼ of the underpinning, and rebuilt the deck floor by day’s end. Team II did the entire sub-floor and had one exterior wall almost ready by quitting time. They lost count of the number of nails they had driven at somewhere upward of 6,000. We were definitely “Hammerin’ in the Hills!”

On Tuesday, Team II finished the remaining exterior walls of the new house, and appeared to put Team I to shame who only finished steps and handrail for the deck. But the lead carpenters on both sites remarked at how impressed they were at the amount of work our folks were able to accomplish. Even while taking a sick day at the cottage, Carl replaced the leaky bathroom faucet and did some caulking around the tub.

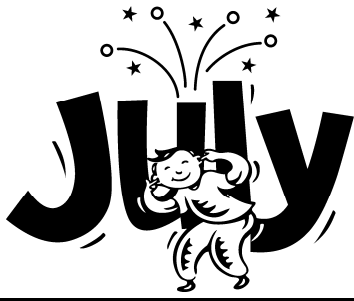
The McAbees decided that they needed to get Carl home to medical care by his regular doctors so they headed home early Wednesday, and the rest of us hated to lose part of our team who has worked together so closely in this service that we love. Team II arrived on the job and had hammered 2 nails when it began raining. The carpenters called off work for the day, so we decided to use our time doing things to improve the Mission Cottage. We added hooks over the doors for hanging clothes and towels, a shower caddy, a microwave and toaster, and did what turned out to be extensive work on some of the doors that wouldn’t close properly. Team I’s lead carpenters were more persevering as they dodged the rain drops and actually put in a full day’s work trying to complete the replacement of the underpinning. After dinner, some took a walk downtown. References to “Black Gold” were everywhere – coal is still VERY important here. Our carpenters told us that approximately 90% of the population makes their living in the coal mines. They also told us stories about what it’s like to work as a miner – scary stuff.

After the rain delay, Team II returned to hammering on Thursday and built all the interior walls for the house, and were able to get everything ready for roof trusses the next day. Team I finished the tedious job of underpinning the trailer, and completed the new deck. They went the extra mile by clearing a lot of debris from under the trailer, tidying up the wires from the satellite dish, and relocating stepping stones so that they made a nice path from the new deck to the parking area.

For our final day, the two work teams came together on the new home construction site. The big event of the day was setting the roof trusses. It was a slow but interesting process, and it was mid-afternoon before they were finally all in place. A few other odd jobs, and by day’s end we left our “new” house all ready for a youth team next week to finish it up with sheeting and shingles.

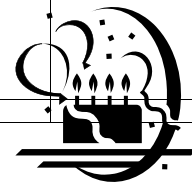
The tools were packed away. Another Mission Trip completed. The Upper Room devotion for our first day of work set the tone for the week. Entitled “Immeasurable Compassion,” it said that just as the needy, alone, and those without help depend on others [like us] to do for them what they cannot do for themselves, we are all spiritually dependent on God and desperately in need of our Savior to do what we cannot do for ourselves.

To see pictures from the trip, visit <http://housingdevelopmentalliance.org> and click on the link for Housing Development Alliance on Facebook. Once there, you can scroll down to see pictures and postings from First Presbyterian Church of Boston, VA.



2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:30 am Habitat for Humanity 12 noon NA  7 pm Men of the Church 8 pm AA	2 9 am Bulletins and newsletters  12 noon AA	3
4 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11am Worship	5 9:30 am Prayer Group	6	7 12 noon AA	8 12 noon NA  7 pm Men of the Church 8 pm AA	9 9 am Bulletins  12 noon AA	10
11 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11am Worship 12 Angel Food	12 9:30 am Prayer Group  5:30 pm Long Range Planning Comm.	13 11 am-1 pm Angel Food	14 12 noon AA	15 12 noon NA 4:30-6:30 pm Angel Food 7 pm Men of the Church 8 pm AA	16 9 am Bulletins  12 noon AA	17
18 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11am Worship 3 pm Holy Land Trip meeting	19 9:30 am Prayer Group  7:30 Session	20	21 12 noon AA	22 12 noon NA  7 pm Men of the Church 8 pm AA	23 9 am Bulletins  12 noon AA	24 8-9 am Angel Food Distribution
25 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11am Worship	26 9:30 am Prayer Group  <i>Newsletter DEADLINE</i>	27	28 12 noon AA	29 12 noon NA  7 pm Men of the Church 8 pm AA	30 9 am Bulletins and newsletters  12 noon AA	31



### Youth Fellowship

Summer Greetings to you all! I would like to thank everyone for all of the prayers and well-wishes during my recent illness. I am back to work and feeling better everyday, hoping to be back to normal soon.

We are planning a trip to the lake on Saturday, July 10. The plan is to meet at the church around 12:00 and caravan out to the Roberts' place where we will go swimming, boating, and possibly skiing. Plenty of opportunity for fun and fellowship. We will eat dinner and come back to the church around 6:00-6:30. Grab your gear and come on out for water time!

In His Grip,

*Jim*

**A Day  
at the  
Lake**



### July Birthdays

- 3 Buck Watkins
- 3 Leah Long
- 5 Beth Roller
- 8 Courtney Cheever
- 10 Carrie Cheever
- 12 Donna Garrett
- 13 Dot Fuller
- 15 Dee Raney
- 15 Ginny Troy
- 17 Roberta McCrowell
- 17 Mark Krogh
- 18 Bill Marable
- 18 Betty Dillard\*
- 18 Steven Crutchfield
- 21 Marilyn Lee
- 21 James Edmunds
- 25 Woodson Hughes
- 22 Louise Shelton\*
- 26 Bob Nelson
- 26 Jo Dixon
- 27 Mac Lacy
- 27 Michael Thackston
- 28 Joanna Hughes
- 29 Kathy Greer\*
- 29 Kathryn McAbee
- 30 Jessica Nelson

\*remembered  
Please let the church office know if we don't have your birthday on our list.

### More Graduate News

**James Bennett Harris, Jr.**, son of Jim and Marian Harris and grandson of Tee and the late Frank Godbold, graduated on June 16 from Mills Godwin High School in Richmond. He will attend James Madison University in the fall, with plans to study International Business and eventually obtain a law degree.

**Will Dillard**, son of Donna and Glenn Garrett and the late Les Dillard III and the grandson of the late Les and Betty Dillard, graduated Magna Cum Laude from University of North Carolina-Wilmington on May 7th with a double major in Finance and Economics. The university is sponsoring him to take his Certified Financial Analyst Level 1 Exam.

**Wedding** - Congratulations to Anne Cranford Edwards and Mike Irby who were married in the church sanctuary on June 19th. Anne is the daughter of John and Laura Edwards and the late Kenneth Cranford. The couple will be moving to South Carolina to begin their new life together.



**Vacation Bible School** - Many thanks to all who helped with last week's Vacation Bible School which was held at Main Street United Methodist Church. The children had a wonderful week of study, music, crafts, food and fun! A special thank you to our church's coordinator, Julianna Berry!

**Save the date!**  
**Camp Hat Creek Retreat**  
**October 1-3, 2010**

First Presbyterian Church  
 800 North Main Street  
 South Boston, VA 24592

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**General Assembly** - The 219th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is meeting in the Minneapolis Convention Center from July 3-10, 2010. The Presbyteries of Twin Cities Area, Minnesota Valleys, and Northern Waters are hosting this year's event. The theme, "Rivers of Living Water," comes from John 7:38 - "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water." Elder Loretta Brown will serve as one of the 712 commissioners to this year's General Assembly representing the Presbytery of the Peaks. Please be in prayer for her and all the commissioners as they meet together and carry out the larger work of the church!

**HUNGER NEWS AND NOTES:** Please continue to give generously as you are able to Five-Cents-a-Meal. The Presbytery Grant Workgroup will soon meet to award funds, which will be a challenging task. The International fund has an available balance of \$9,375.42, with requests for \$12,000. The Local, Regional, National balance is currently \$8,692.10, with grant requests for \$28,250.00. If every member of the Presbytery of the Peaks could give just two cents, three times the \$\$\$ now available could be awarded. Please keep our hunger ministry in your prayers.

**Radio Ministry** - "God's Gemstones" - First Presbyterian began a new radio ministry in May of one-minute devotionals on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 7:50 am on WHLF 95.3 Fm. Recorded by Dr. Lee and others, it will share God's word with the community and be completed by different church members giving a greeting and invitation to visit here.

#### July Highlights

- June 11, 13 & 15 - Angel Food orders
- July 18 - Holy Land trip meeting
- July 19 - Session meeting
- July 24 - Angel Food distribution
- Prayer Group - Mondays at 9:30 am
- Men of the Church - Thursdays at 7 pm

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**Here is your July newsletter...**