

First Presbyterian News

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Office Hours
M-F 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Dear First Folks,

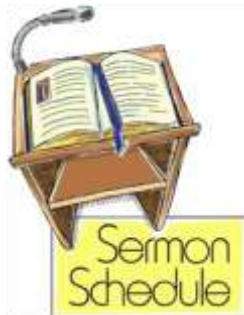
We enter the new year with high expectations and a blessed reality. God is with us, and fills the journey with joy. We travel over mountains and through valleys, as God leads us toward his glory day by day. May this new year be a blessing to you, to the church, and to others, as we seek to be faithful and blessed servants of the Almighty and Everlasting God.



There are many new beginnings, and many opportunities to grow, do, and give for the Lord. Take a look at the information below, pray for one another, for your pastor, and staff and officers of the church as we seek God's guidance for a blessed and wonderful year.

In Christ,

~Russell



Sermon Theme: God's Great Love
January 6 - Epiphany of the Lord
Sermon: "Where Is The Child?"
Scriptures: Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

January 13 - Baptism of the Lord
Sermon: "This Is My Son"
Scriptures: Psalm 29; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 20
Sermon: "Love For His Guests"
Scriptures: Isaiah 62:1-5; John 2:1-11

January 27
Sermon: "Love For His Son"
Scriptures: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Luke 4:14-21

February 3
Sermon: "Love Above All Loves!"
Scriptures: Jeremiah 1:4-10; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

February 10
Sermon: "Love For His Fish!"
Scriptures: Isaiah 6:1-8,9-13; Luke 5:1-11



Christmas Families – We were able to provide \$250 dollars to the 2 families for Christmas. Thank you for those who donated. If anyone still wants to contribute for this we can take offerings through today. Thanks for making Christmas a little brighter for those less fortunate.



Altar Flowers

Flowers—We have many openings for anyone wishing to beautify the sanctuary, by providing flowers. Dates available are: all of Jan. (6, 13, 20, 27); most of February (3, 17, 24). Please stop by, or call the office to sign up for your choice of dates.



From Julia Baskervill – With Glory to God and love to all! May you have a joyous Christmas season and a healthy and happy New Year!



Matthew and Teresa Lee (Wycliffe)

(A First Presbyterian Ministry)

December Newsletter:

We continue to trust in God that our financial needs will be met each month. It is easy to worry, but God is faithful and has brought up many people to give when the need is great. Over the last few months we have received many one-time gifts that have helped fill in some of the financial gaps. Thank you! Our need is great. And a bit more than expected. We must be at 100% before Wycliffe will release us to return to Cameroon.

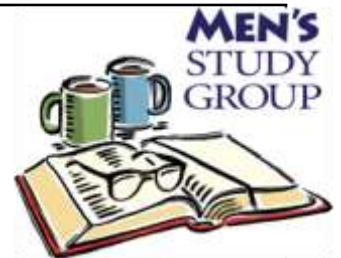
Since our return to Virginia for our furlough we have had the joy of seeing many of our partners and have been blessed by them. We have also connected with many new people. It is a joy and encouragement to us to connect with our partners.

Praise and Prayers - Praise that Matthew's time in Switzerland for meetings and Cameroon for a workshop were productive and went well. Praise that he was able to see many friends while in Cameroon. - Prayers for peace in Cameroon. - Praise for the many people who advocate for our Wycliffe ministry. - Prayers that we find more opportunities to share about how God has called us to serve in Cameroon and with Wycliffe Bible Translators. - Praise for the one-time gifts that we have received! Praise for the partners that have increased their monthly gifts and those that have joined our monthly partnership team financially! We know that God is providing. Prayers that people will feel lead to join our partnership team and give financially monthly. - Prayers for our remaining time in Virginia. Prayers that we find time to rest during this busy holiday season. We will be on the road often as we spend time with our friends and family. ~ Matthew and Teresa



Stewardship update - We have received pledges totaling about 60% of the budget for 2019. Thanks for those who have turned in the pledge cards. If you still need to do so, books will continue to be open until Tuesday, January 8 for 2018 offerings, and turning in 2019 pledges.

Men of the Church – Will begin a new study starting in January. Titled: *Believe Living the Story of the Bible to Become Like Jesus*, by Randy Frazee. “For where you treasure is, there your heart will be also. – Matthew 6:21.



What you believe in your heart will define who you become. God wants you to become like Jesus. This is who God created you to be. It is the most truthful and powerful way to live. The journey to becoming like Jesus begins by thinking like Jesus.



Good Samaritan – We are collecting for The Good Samaritan. As Fall and Winter approach their needs increase. They have more people coming in needing help with electricity, food, etc. So we'd like to help fund their support of the needs in the community. Donations should be marked “Good Samaritan” with your offerings. Thank you! We appreciate all your help in contributing to this worthy cause.

Ladies Circle – We will meet Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 10:30 am in the Philathea Room. We continue our study taken from the book *Attitude is Your Paintbrush. It Colors Every Situation*, by James W. Moore. Kim Albert will lead our class, which will be Chapter 10 – Attitude of Trust. Refreshments will be available.



Bible Study – will resume our Bible study group in January 10th. We will be studying another book by Chip Ingram. This one titled *Spiritual Simplicity*. If you crave simplicity, yearn for peace and calm, this book is for you. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas season, and Happy New Year! Enjoy the time with family. We'll see you again in January. Study materials are available in the office to purchase. Books and study guides are available in the office at a cost \$20, (\$12 for books, \$8 for study guide). Tell your friends! We'd love to have a large class.



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

30 5 cents a meal 9 am Worship 10 am Sun. School 11 am Worship 6 pm NA	31 10:00 Prayer Group 6pm NA	January 1, 2019 Office Closed	2 6pm Praise Team 7:30 pm Choir	3 11 Moms in Prayer 7 pm Men of the Church 7 pm Al-Anon 8 pm AA	4 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 6 pm NA	5 NA12—1
6 9 am Worship 10 am Sun. School 11 am Worship 6 pm NA	7 10:00 Prayer Group 6pm NA	8 10:30 Ladies Circle 12 noon NA	9 12 Noon AA 6 pm NA 6pm Praise Team 7:30 pm Choir	10 11 Moms in Prayer 7 pm Men of the Church 7 pm Al-Anon 8 pm AA	11 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 6 pm NA	12 NA 12-1 GS Troop 796 meets 2-4
13 9 am Worship 10 am Sun. School 11 am Worship 6 pm NA	14 10:00 Prayer Group 6pm NA	15 12 noon NA	16 12 Noon AA 6 pm NA 6pm Praise Team 7:30 pm Choir	17 11 Moms in Prayer 7 pm Men of the Church 7 pm Al-Anon 8 pm AA	18 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 6 pm NA	19 NA 12—1
20 9 am Worship 10 am Sun. School 11 am Worship 6 pm NA	21 10:00 Prayer Group 6pm NA 7:00 pm Deacons 7:30 pm Elders	22 12 noon NA Newsletter DEADLINE	23 12 noon AA 6 pm NA 6pm Praise Team 7:30 pm Choir	24 11 Moms in Prayer 7 pm Men of the Church 7 pm Al-Anon 8 pm AA	25 9 am Bulletins & Newsletters 12 noon AA 6 pm NA	26 NA 12—1
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- 1 Richard Harrell IV
- 1 Dabney Gilliam
- 1 Clarice Crews
- 3 Ruth Jean Slayton
- 4 John Cranford
- 7 Kay Lewis
- 7 Donna Mistal
- 10 Leon Plaster
- 10 Joshua Roberts
- 14 Paige Powell
- 14 Colby Cranford
- 15 Karen Henderson
- 17 Tricia Burton
- 19 Eric Nelson
- 19 Art Carter
- 21 Peggy Fuller
- 25 Linda Lumsden
- 31 Jenny Wilkins*



* In honor of

If we don't have your birthday listed, please call the office and let us know.



December Session Report

Session Notes: Among other matters, the Session:

1. Served communion on December 2.
2. Shared and lifted up those who are sick.
3. Shared Christmas memories in a combined meeting for current and newly elected elders and deacons.
4. Heard a report from Elder Don Cherry about Nov. 29 Presbytery meeting.
5. Heard reports of wonderful Christmas Cantata by our choir and touchin
6. Christmas Joy Program by the youth on December 16.
7. Noted changes in Missionary Support for 2019.
8. Approved Minutes of Deacons and Elders.
9. Approved Minutes of Congregational Meeting on !!!!
10. Heard update on support gift for two local families for Christmas.
11. Heard update on heating system repairs.
12. Discussed financial matters, approved Finance Report.
13. Hear report on Memorial Garden.
14. Approved new dates for communion in 2019.



Installation of New Officers - We will confirm and install our new officers early in January. We are grateful for those who have served and those new officers who have stepped up to serve. We look forward to new growth and great blessings for the church.

January 21

7:00 pm - Deacons Meeting

7:30 pm - Elders Meeting

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

Weekly Happenings

Praise Team Rehearsal: Wednesday at 6 pm

Choir Rehearsal: Wednesday at 7:30 pm

Men of the Church: Thursdays at 7 pm

Women's Bible Study: Thursdays at 10:30 am
starting January 10

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