

First Presbyterian News

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February 2016

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M-F 9 am to 1 pm

Dear First Folks,

As we feel the arctic winds sweep through the land this time of year, we are reminded of the God who gives us spiritual flight like the mighty eagle, rising on winds of hope. As we celebrate the wonderful family that we are in Jesus Christ, and as new folks join us, let us give thanks for our journey together, and look forward to a confident future. Check out the things and folks you can support in prayer, finances, or with talents God has given you in this newsletter and each week of ministry.

In Him,
Russell



February Sermon Topics

Feb 14—Sermon: If

Scripture: Psalm 91:1-2; 9-14; Luke 4:1-13

Feb 21—Sermon: Our Citizenship

Scripture: Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17; 4-1

Feb 28—Sermon: Looking For Fruit

Scripture: Philippians 3:17; 4:1

Mar 6—Sermon: What's Mine is Yours

Scripture: Psalm 32; Luke 15:1-3; 1:1b-32

Mar 13—Sermon: Streams of Perfume

Scripture: Isaiah 43:16-21; John 12:1-8

Upper Rooms—devotionals for March-April are here and placed in the Sunday School Lobby and at the front of the church sanctuary. Please pick one up for your devotionals here in this season of Lent. They are provided free of charge by the church.

Web Ministries—Take a look at our website these days at 1stpres.cc. Ed Fraser has agreed to be our website coordinator, and is working to make sure things are up to date. He has been working for over a month now, learning new skills and sharing his expertise. Thanks to him for his ministry in this area. Also check out Dr. Lee's new blog.

Mar 2—The Ladies' Circle meets on Tuesday at 10:30 am in the Philathea Room. The study book for this year is "Quite Confidence for a Woman's Heart," based on the Twenty Third Psalm.

Feb 15—Officers' Meetings —

7 pm—Diaconate; 7:30 pm—Session

Feb 28- Five Cents a Meal Sunday

Radio Ministries—Each M, W, F Dr. Lee presents a one-minute devotional on WHLF 95.3 FM at 7:50 am. Tune in to start your day right. You can also tune it in through iheart radio on your computer or smartphone. Let our friends and shut-ins know too.

Officers' Retreat—The elders and deacons will gather for a retreat on March 12 from 8 am to 12 noon at James Edmund's hunting cabin in Paces. Be in prayer for them as they meet to seek God's leading for this year, and make decisions on ministries and projects which will enable good and fruitful things to happen. We will be examining a few sections of the book, "The Church Awakening: An Urgent Call to Renewal," by Charles Swindoll.

Stephen Ministry—A hearty welcome back for our Stephen Leaders, Nancy Pool and Connie Marvin, who just returned from an exciting week of training at a Stephen Series Leader's Training Course in Orlando, Fl. The fast-paced weeklong course began on Sunday evening, January 10 and concluded the following Saturday at noon.

Stephen Ministry Training—Setting times for interviewing potential Stephen Ministers and setting the start date for training is in process. The classes will begin on March 22. Folks interested in becoming a Stephen Minister should contact Connie Marvin, Nancy Pool, Karen Henderson, Jim Luedeke, or Rev. Lee.

A commissioning service for Nancy and Connie was held Sunday, January 31 at the 11 Am worship service. Stephen Leaders are the ones who recruit, select, train, and supervise Stephen ministers, as well as, located people with needs for care and match them with a Stephen Minister. They also build awareness regarding Stephen Ministry in the congregation and community.

The Stephen Leaders are now in preparation for our second Stephen Ministry training class which is scheduled to begin March. We ask that you be in prayer for our Stephen Leaders, Stephen Ministers and care receivers as this ministry strives to be a blessing to someone in need.

Ushers—are needed for the 11 am worship services. Contact Ray Shields at 434.517.0121 or email him at: rayshields56@me.com

Youth Activities

Sunday, February 14—Valentine's Day Spaghetti Lunch fundraiser for Passport Camp. Parents, please bring a dessert
Parents and Youth meet in the Fellowship Hall here at 9:30 am to prepare the meal. We will ask four couples to compete in *The Newlywed Game* for entertainment. If you would like to volunteer for the game, please let Amy Cole know.

Sunday, February 21—Dan River Baptist Association Winter Youth Event: 3 pm to 7 pm First Baptist Church will be hosting this event for the DRBA. Please encourage your child to participate in the day. We will need to run the registration table and be there to guide youth to various locations. We are expecting 200 or more youth.

Live in Concert.....

Ernie Haase + Signature Sound on April 2, 2016 at Halifax County High School at 7 pm. (Doors open at 6 pm) Tickets are \$20.00 (artist circle, limited number available)
\$10.00 (general admission). You may purchase your tickets at: The South Boston Visitors' Center, Dan River Baptist Association office, Dan River Baptist church, South Boston church of God, Elliot Electric or call Tim Davis at 579.1359.



From the Elders at their January meeting:

- Made plans for missionaries C.W. and Leslie Bing's upcoming to the church in February.
 - Made preparations for an officer's retreat to be held in February or March.
 - Heard final stewardship report, amount of pledges roughly 78%.
 - Approved minutes for session and diaconate since last stated meeting.
 - Heard that updating insurance and property contracts is in progress.
 - Approved balance sheet.
 - Heard from Outreach about possible summer mission trips.
 - Heard report from Connie Marvin about Stephen Leader training.
 - Missionary elder will endeavor to provide support gifts for Patrick Cherry, son of the church who is starting a new church in North Carolina.
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The following is a partial letter from Giola Osbornes's niece, Avery Johnson, who will be going to Honduras March 11-19, 2016 with her school, Des Moines Christian School. Please be in prayer for her.

Dear Friends and Family,

I am happy to announce that I will be going on this year's Mission Trip to Honduras with my school. I will be a part of the Mission House where I will be assisting doctors (dentists and optometrists) with medical services as well as having the opportunity to worship with children and families of Honduras. My dad (Steve) is also going as a chaperone so I'm excited to share this experience with him.

I feel the Lord has laid this trip on my heart as well as called me to become a pastor in missions and counseling. This serving experience will help me become more confident in that decision and allow me to work my way up to that goal. Second, I feel that it will help me work on my communication skills since the people of Honduras speak Spanish and I will often be communicating through interpreters. The trip will give me a chance to talk to adults and children as I share with them the message of God and His amazing works. Lastly, there are hundreds and thousands of children and adults around the world who don't know Christ, and many of those will be the ones we are meeting in Honduras. Through this experience, I will have the opportunity to help them learn about the Gospel and accept Him in their hearts.....



Blog— Dr. Lee's blog posts on our web page have begun. Check out the articles on our website at 1stpres.cc. Titles are: What Is A Blog?, Two By Four Faith, and Soldiers of Christ.

Our **Facebook page** is up and running, and full of photos and comments. You can access it by searching FirstPressobo on the web, or mark it on your facebook account. Thanks to Joni Owens and Susan Chandler for their work here. Forward photos to them for inclusion, and like our Facebook page!

Flower Calendar— Please contact the church office at 434.572.3581 or Mike Freshour, worship chair, at 434.572.8396 or email him at: fraserfreshour-law@gmail.com to sign up for flowers. You may also sign up using the green sheet to the right of the church office door.

Solicitations On Sundays—The session has approved a new policy on solicitations on Sundays. They decided that no solicitations of any kind that are not related to church ministry and approved by Session will be allowed. We certainly support organizations which need sales to support their work, but want congregation members to decide on their own at other places and times.

Lenten Luncheons— Lenten Luncheons, a tradition for many years here at First Pres, have already begun. On Wednesdays from now until Easter, we will gather for a bag lunch in the fellowship hall with people from the other churches. At 12:30 pm each day a pastor or layperson will share a devotional on preparation for the Easter event. The services will conclude promptly at 12:45 pm each time, for folks who are taking their lunch hour from work. Make plans to join us for one or all of the events. You will certainly be blessed!

Last Upper Drama in Clarksville— On March 20 and 22 at the Performing Arts Center in Clarksville, the community will gather for the presentation of The Last Supper. Mike Koch from our church will be portraying Nathaniel, one of the twelve. Chris Jones is in charge of the chorus, and needs volunteers for the chorus, particularly tenors and basses. Contact Charlie Simmons at Simmons Realty in Clarksville or Chris Jones at The Prizery if you would like to help.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5 9 am Bulletins 12 Noon AA 7 pm Girl Scouts	6
7 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship	8 9:30 am Prayer Group	9 10:30 am Ladies' Circle 12 noon NA	10 12 AA 7:30pm Choir	11 12 noon NA 7 pm Men of the Church	12 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 7 pm Girl Scouts	13
14 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship Communion	15 9:30 am Prayer Group	16 12 noon NA 6 Girl Scouts 6:45 Stephen	17 12 AA 7:30 pm Choir	18 12 noon NA 7 pm Men of the Church	19 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA	20
21 9 am Worship 10 am S School 11 am Worship	22 9:30 am Prayer Group 7 pm Diaconate 7:30 pm Session	23 12 noon NA	24 12 AA 7:30 pm Choir	25 12 noon NA 7 pm Men of The Church 8 pm AA	26 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 7 pm Girl Scouts	27
28 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship 5 cents a meal	29 9:30 am Prayer Group <i>6 Newsletter DEADLINE</i>					

February Birthdays

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|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Ann Ferguson | |
| 1 Ron Fitch | 16 Kylie Berry |
| 2 Jacquelyn McAbee | 17 John Mele |
| 3 Baylee Miller | 18 Amanda Albert Bennett |
| 6 Anne Butler | 18 Deborah Sizemore |
| 6 Bob Seat | 19 Ashley Slaff |
| 8 Pam Rowland | 20 Lauren Faulkner |
| 9 John Hall Greenbacker | 21 Greg Farley |
| 12 Jonathan Farley | 22 Robert Carter |
| 13 Morgan Paige Farley | 23 Charles Ware |
| 13 Caitlin Joy Owens | 23 Teresa McCollum |
| 13 Susan Godbold Klotz | 24 Skyler Smith |
| 13 Connie Crews Holder | 24 Melissa Fraser |
| 13 Gail Carter | 25 Ann Egloff |
| 14 Mark Crabtree | 28 Dargan Cherry |
| 14 Kitty Lawson | 28 Madeline R. Freshour |
| 15 Diane Newberry | 29 Bob Egloff |



Worship Leaders - If you are interested in leading worship from time to time, there is room for several First Folks to join this ministry. Men, women, and older youth are welcome. Lay ministry has always been important to Presbyterians. Each participant would lead worship once every three to four months and handle the first part of the worship liturgy. Leaders serve the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. Take a look at what happens as they lead the next time, and see if God may be leading you toward this vital ministry. Contact the church office or Russell Lee to volunteer.

A poem about our church bus was found on our church bulletin board. Here it is:

The Little White Bus
Bless this little bus, O Lord, we pray-
Keep it safe both nite and day,
And the driver in your care
As it transports passengers here and there,
Keep its wheels smooth and strong,
And its engine humming all day long-
Little Bus, do not tarry,
For great is the message you carry-
It is of our Father's Word,
And far and near it must be heard.
So, bless this little bus, Father, we pray,

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

Highlights

Feb 15—Officers' Meeting

Mar 1—The Ladies' Circle meets on Tuesday at 10:30 am in the Philathea Room. The study book for this year is "Quite Confidence for a Woman's Heart, "based on the Twenty Third Psalm.

Weekly Happenings

Prayer Group: Mondays at 9:30 am
Choir: Wednesdays at 7:15 pm
Men of the Church: Thursdays at 7 pm