

First Presbyterian News

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May 2016

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Office Hours

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

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Dear First Folks,

There is so much to be thankful for here at First Pres, all the blessings and smiles and ministries and special times. There is also much potential for new and wonderful things. Pray and support what God is doing here, and find your place in each one. Whether it is prayer, action, finance or some other form, God always provides ways to work out our faith in this church body and beyond. So, let all our words and actions be blessings to one another in honoring God. Nothing less is what God demands, and much more is what he promises.

Blessings and peace,

Russell



STEPHEN MINISTRY

May 1—Sermon: “Heeding the Call”

Scripture: Psalm 67; Acts 16:9-15

May 8—Sermon: “Good Business”

Scripture: Psalm 97; Acts 16:16-34

May 15—Day of Pentecost

Sermon: “Nine A.M.”

Scripture: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b;

Acts 2:1-21

May 22—Sermon: “Instructions for the Church,” Rev. Ken Davis

Scripture: Psalm 8; Mark 6:1-13

May 29—Sermon: “The LORD is God!”

Scripture: Psalm 96; I Kings 18:20-21, (22-29), 30-39

June 5—Sermon: “Because of Me”

Scripture: Psalm 30; Galatians 1:11-24

June 12—Sermon: “Your Faith Has Saved You”

Scripture: Psalm 32; Luke 7:36-8:3



May 16—Officers’ Meetings

7:00 pm Diaconate

7:30 pm Elders



May 29—Five Cents A Meal Sunday



National Day of Prayer
Thursday, May 5 at 6:30 p.m.

The National Day of Prayer gathering will take place in the Halifax County High School Auditorium on Thursday, May 5 at 6:30 p.m. The 2016 theme is “Wake Up America” Come join us along with millions of others across our nation in prayer for our nation. Mark your calendar, invite others and make plans to attend. II chronicles 7:14 is just one place in the bible whereby God encourages prayer for healing our nation. Contact Larry McPeters at 434.454.6692 for more information.



During the month of May our congregation will be collecting funds to support our missionaries C. W. and Leslie Bing. The Bings are missionaries in Zambia and are the founders of Water for the Oppressed. Their ministry digs and repairs wells and teaches the Zambian people about the Bible. I spoke with C. W. and their ministry’s biggest needs right now are jerry cans, Bibles and shoes to distribute to the local people. Jerry cans are 5-gallon plastic containers that are used to transport water. Before the Bings started distributing jerry cans, many people were transporting water in unsanitary containers. Our goal is to raise \$1,500 for this project. I will be speaking to the congregation about this project at both worship services throughout the month of May. Submitted by Winston Harrell



New Youth Group— The Christian Education Committee is making plans for a new ministry for younger youth in the church. There are many kids of this age, and we urge the parents to help plan and make possible this vital endeavor. Our Kids must have a Christian foundation to live and succeed in this world which only God can give. See Nancy Pool or Dr. Lee for details.

Whole Woman Conference— designed for women of all Beginnings” The conference and Saturday May 21, at 8:30 Middle School. Child care is \$50 with a deadline of May 14 information or to register call: www.wholewomanconference.com



An upcoming conference is one ages to encounter the God of “New will be Friday, May 20 at 6:30 pm am to 4 pm at the Halifax County available for ages 2-12. The cost is for registration. For more 434.579.2369 or go to:



A couple of years ago, we went through a major process to determine the needs and wishes of the congregation on capital projects. At long last we are able to move forward on some of them. The projects described below are now underway. You can contact a session or a diaconate member if you want to help. All projects are placed on the map of the church property by the architect so that they will not overlap or interfere with future plans as approved.

If you would like to contribute financially toward these projects, please let us know. There is an opportunity for everyone as their interests and desires dictate.

Handicap Parking area at north door—This project has already been constructed and is fully used each week. Now the sanctuary door is fifty feet rather than fifty yards away from parking.

Soccer and Volleyball area—This project began with a volleyball court, and also now will include a soccer practice area. Both projects are aimed at providing a place for youth to gather and enjoy ministry on the grounds.

Church Sign—The need has been expressed by a number of people to have a church sign which can be updated on a regular basis announcing services and upcoming events. Now we are moving toward a master plan project which will fulfill those needs and fit within the historic area of the church grounds.

Picnic Shelter—A picnic shelter for outdoor gathering will be placed on the north property in its designated place. Designated as a place for worship, outreach, and fellowship and outreach gatherings, this is on the list of projects for our master plan as well.

Removal of brick building at rear of north property—This project will clear the area for more use of the property and clean up the grounds.

Columbarium—A columbarium is an outdoor place with spots to hold funeral urns on church property. Many people have expressed the need for such an area. We plan to start small, and design it so that it can be expanded in future years. It will be a garden setting, and a beautiful space to pray, meditate or remember.

There are other master plan projects which can happen if you would like to provide leadership. They range from short term projects like the above undertakings, as well as a veteran's memorial area, to long-term projects like an elevator, a fellowship hall located on the north property, restrooms on the second floor, and others. Rough plans and placements are already set for all of these and more.

All deacons and elders met for their regular meetings on April 18.



May Session Report

- Shared prayer concerns
- Approved donation of weeping cherry tree for front lawn
- Reminded that National Day of Prayer happens on Thursday, May 5
- Heard about the Whole Woman's Conference May 21-22
- Elected delegates for the next three Presbytery Meetings
- Planned testimony times for worship on 1st and 3rd Sundays
- Approved initial homecoming details for the fall
- Updated on training of six new Stephen Ministers
- Updated on organization of Christian Education committee.
- Appointed a task force to coordinate Youth Ministry with development of north property
- Received new members
- Began formation of committee to construct columbarium, a master plan project
- Approved Chairs of Committees to construct other master plan projects.
 - Soccer and volleyball area, Steve Reynolds
 - Church sign for 2nd and North Main Streets, Mike Long
 - Picnic shelter, Jim Sizemore
- Approved financial report
- Approved Bibles for congregational read-through to begin September 2016



May 8—On Mother's Day, we will present a flower to each person present as we remember our mothers. The time-honored tradition of a red flower for living mothers, and a white one for those who are now with the Lord makes possible worship which intersects the human and divine in a special way.



The local **Habitat for Humanity** chapter is giving us the chance to step up in the building of the next house. They need our help with sheetrock inside, and work on the front porch outside. We will work on Saturday, May 14, from 8:30 am until 12 noon. They can use men, women, teens, and well-supervised youth a little younger if they want to help. Bring hammers, tool belts, if you have them, and work gloves. The house is located on the corner of Cole and North Main Street, just a few blocks north of the church.

Testimony Time—One of the spiritual goals from our recent officer's retreat is the idea of hearing a 3-5 minute testimony in worship about how God is blessing us spiritually. We are planning this on the first and third Sundays, and God is already blessing the endeavor. If you would like to share, please contact Mike Freshour, Worship Elder, or Dr. Lee, otherwise we may call you.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship	2 10 am Prayer Group 6 pm Girl Scouts	3 10:30 am Ladies' Circle 12 Noon AA	4 12 Noon AA 7:30 pm Choir	5 12 Noon AA 6:30 pm NDP 7 pm Men of Church 8pm AA	6 9 am Bulletins 12 Noon AA	7
8 MOTHER'S DAY 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship	9 10:00 am Prayer Group 6 pm Girl Scouts 6:45 pm Stephen	10 12 noon NA	11 12 Noon AA 7:30pm Choir	12 12 Noon NA 7 pm Men of the Church 8 pm AA	13 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 7 pm Girl Scouts	14 HABITAT WORK DAY Corner Cole & N. Main St. 8:30 am to Noon
15 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship	16 10:00 Prayer Group 6 pm Girl Scouts Diac & Elders 7 & 7:30	17 12 noon NA	18 12 Noon AA 7:30 pm Choir	19 12 Noon NA 7 pm Men of the Church 8 pm AA	20 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA	21
22 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11 am worship	23 10:00 am Prayer Group 6 pm Girl Scouts	24 12 noon NA	25 12 Noon AA 7:30 pm Choir	26 12 noon NA 7 pm Men of The Church 8 pm AA	27 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 7 pm Girl Scouts	28
29 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship 5 Cents A Meal Sunday	30 10:00 am Prayer Group 6 Girl Scouts Newsletter DEADLINE	31 12 Noon AA				



May Birthdays

- 1 **Jeremy Cherry**
- 1 **Brian Farley**
- 1 **Megan Henderson**
- 3 **Rick Harrell**
- 3 **Les Powell IV**
- 4 **Kelly G. O'Kelly**
- 5 **Anne-Carlisle Irby**
- 6 **Darlene Bain**
- 9 **Terri Hazelwood**
- 10 **Jennifer Edmunds**
- 13 **Raleigh Powell**
- 13 **Patty Nelson**
- 15 **Nick Lumsden**
- 15 **Ginny Miller**
- 28 **Winston Harrell**
- 29 **Sterling Roberts**



You can sign up to receive a daily devotional and Bible verse each day via email. To receive a daily devotional go to: <http://devotional.upperroom.org/>

To receive a daily Bible verse go to <https://www.biblegateway.com/>

These links can also be found on the First Presbyterian website under the resource tab. <http://www.1pres.cc/> - Resources Tab

Blog— Dr. Lee's blog posts on our web page have begun. Check out the articles on our website at 1stpres.cc. Titles are: *Bible Is The Key* and *Soldiers of Christ*.

Our Facebook page—you can access this page by going to the web and typing in: [facebook.com/firstpressobo/](https://www.facebook.com/firstpressobo/) or by going to web and doing a search.

Thanks to Joni Owens and Susan Chandler for their work here. You can forward photos to them for inclusion, and like our Facebook page!



Thanks to Sam and Kay Lewis for the donation of a pink weeping cherry tree for the front lawn.

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



May 3 —The Ladies' Circle

The Ladies' Circle will meet on Tuesday, May 3 in the home of Kay Lewis at 10:30 am. Dr. Lee will provide the program. All ladies are invited to attend. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish to be shared during a time of fellowship.

May 16—Officers' Meetings

7 pm — Diaconate

7:30 pm — Elders



Weekly Happenings

Prayer Group: Mondays at 10 am

Choir: Wednesdays at 7:30 pm

Praise Team: Wednesdays at 6 pm

Men of the Church: Thursdays at 7 pm



Diana Shields for upcoming surgery
Debbie Burton for upcoming surgery
Patty Nelson in death of her mother
Darlene Bain for recent surgery
Janet Adams for recent surgery
Missionaries C..W. and Leslie Bing, as well as other others we support

PRSRT
US Postage Paid
Permit #15
South Boston, VA

Here is your May Newsletter