

First Presbyterian News

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Office Hours

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

Dear First Folks,

We are fast approaching very important times in the church year. As we move toward stewardship, officer election, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, let us be in prayer that God will raise us up as people who are deep in faith, ready for service, and faithful in the sharing of the good news of Jesus Christ. We can pass by this season just the same as we were, or we can be transformed by the power and love of our Almighty God. Thank You for the blessings and love you show to me and others, and let us continue to be a bright lighthouse of Salvation for the world!

In Him,

-Russell



November 4 - All Saints Sunday

Sermon: "See How He Loved Him"

Scriptures: Isaiah 25:6-9; John 11:32-44

November 11 - Missionary Sunday

Sermon: "Everything She Had"

Scriptures: Psalm 146; Mark 12:38-44

November 18

Sermon: "A New and Living Way"

Scriptures: Psalm 16; Hebrews 10:11-14

November 25 - Christ the King

Sermon: "His Word on My Tongue"

Scriptures: 2 Samuel 23:-1-7; Revelation 1:4b-8

December 2 - 1st Sunday of Advent

Sermon: "Full of Grace and Truth"

Scriptures: Isaiah 11:1-10; John 1:1-14

December 9—2nd Sunday in Advent

Sermon: "Blessed are You"

Scriptures: Isaiah 9:6-7; John 1:39-45



Don't Forget!

Set your clocks back 1 hr. Saturday, Nov. 3 evening before bed, so you will not miss church.

First Presbyterian Church Memorial Garden

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Soon after the Church purchased the North Property, Grimm and Parker (Jim Slaff) was employed to develop a master plan for the use of all First Presbyterian property. In addition to a fellowship hall, a picnic shelter and sports fields, a columbarium was proposed to be sited in the northeast corner of the North Property. The master plan also recommended a Veterans Memorial to be located in the grass area near the existing seating area and fountain at the South entrance.

A small committee began developing plan for the columbarium in early 2017 but quickly realized that there were many detractors to locating it on the proposed North Property site. Additionally, the Session approved moving the playground from the South side of the Church to the North Property to co-locate family outdoor activities. Movement of the playground opened an area close the Church upon which to construct the columbarium and the Veterans Memorial - thus, the Session approved a Memorial Garden.

After nearly 18 month of pretty intense work we are pleased to announce that the Memorial Garden will be completed in time for our dedication service on 11 November - Veterans Day. The gray-granite columbarium offers 30 niches, in which either one or two remains of Church members can be interned. Additionally, as you walk to the right, there is an open Bible monument and a cross monument, each designed to contain the cremated remains of two persons and as you approach the walkway from the columbarium area to the Veterans Memorial there is another cross monument and a Bible monument. Inside the columbarium area there are also four granite benches which can be engraved to memorialize family members. The wrought iron features can also memorialize our members.

The black-granite Veterans Memorial provides colored medallions recognizing each of our military services and our POW/MIAs and a striking pose of a military person rendering a salute in memory of our fallen heroes. The Memorial is engraved to recognize all First Presbyterian veterans and others who have defended our nation and the standards upon which it was founded.



We are thankful for the excellent work accomplished by Major Construction, South Boston Memorials, Anderson Landscaping and members of our congregation.

Mission Sunday, November 18, 2018



We will have our annual Missions Sunday on November 18, 2018. We are fortunate that we have several of the missionaries that we support who are now on home assignment. On the 18th we will have an opportunity to hear from each one at both the 9:00 and 11:00 worship services. They will each give us a brief review of their ministry and an update on what is currently going on in their respective locations.

During the Sunday School time the missionaries will have some table-top displays and laptop videos in the Fellowship Hall showcasing their work and the cultures where they minister. There will be some light breakfast pastries and coffee available so that you can get a bite to eat and visit with each of them to get to know them personally.

Currently we are planning to have C.W. and Leslie Bing from Water for the Oppressed (Zambia), Art and Andrea Carter, Matthew and Teresa Lee with Wycliffe (Cameroon), and Patrick Cherry formerly from Christ the Word Church (Wake Forest, NC).

Please plan to attend and get a close-up look at this vibrant part of our ministry outside our local world.



Community Thanksgiving Service - This year our combined Thanksgiving Service will be held at Main Street Methodist Church, Tuesday, November 20 at 7:00 PM. Dr. Russell Lee will be officiating the service.



Ladies Circle – Our next Circle group will meet on Tuesday, November 6 at 10:30 am in the Philathea Room. Our study this year is taken from the book *Attitude is Your Paintbrush*. It colors every situation by James W. Moore. We will be honored to have a special guest, Art Carter come speak to us. Come, enjoy and learn what he has to share. Bring friends! We have refreshments available as well.

Bible Study – We have just a few more weeks left in our new study of *The Invisible War* –by Chip Ingram. Come join us as we learn about how to recognize Satan's deceptive schemes, and hold strong to the Word of God to win the spiritual battles. We meet each Thursday at 10:30 in the Philathea Room. If you have any questions, contact Karen Henderson. Our last class will be November 15th, in time for the holidays.



Pig Pickin' In November

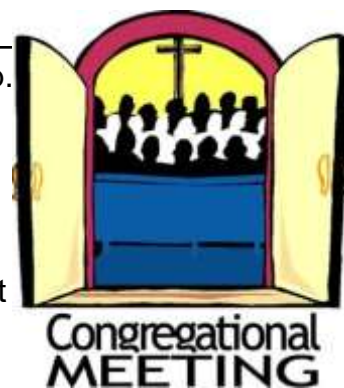


Our annual Pig Pickin' is scheduled for November 11th at 5 pm. We have been blessed to have the picnic shelter area, and this will be a great opportunity to invite friends and family members to join us with some fun, food, and fellowship under the picnic shelter. We will have many outdoor activities available for the kids and adults (ex: soccer, football, volleyball, and corn-hole). We will plan to eat under the picnic shelter, but the Fellowship Hall will be available as well. Hope to see you all out!

Congregational Meetings Coming Up in November after 11am worship.

November 4- To elect remainder of Nominating Committee. There will be two elders, one deacon appointed by their respective bodies, and a majority elected by the congregation.

November 18- To hear budget, approve Pastor's terms of call, and elect officers.



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.

Young Adult Ministry- We are planning a time for our Young Adults to gather with others who can be examples of faith and love to us. God has much to do through and in all of us, and changes lives every day. Let us be much in prayer for the right people, the right time, and the right results for this time in history.



Stewardship Drive - November 4 will be the kickoff for our annual stewardship drive. Please be in prayer about how God has blessed you and how you can be a part of this important effort to support the church and honor Your Lord.

November 18 will be Stewardship Dedication Sunday. On that day we will celebrate God's blessings to us and our tithe and offering pledges for the coming year.





Fear Not

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I know I am not alone, I find myself fearful often. Recently, there were many in fear of the weather. The disciples at the time of Christ were fearful when the waves were rocking the boat, and greatly feared a figure they saw walking on the water. But when their eyes were opened and they took time to really look, and listen, they beheld Christ, and He provided them with comfort.

In Kings we read the story of Elisha, and his servant was fearful of the approaching army. But Elisha had great faith and said "Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them." ~ 2 Kings 6:16 Then I love the next thing he prayed "open his (servant's) eyes, that he may see. And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw...mountain full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha." ~2 Kings 6:17.

What a beautiful story! We often fear, but if we will take time to believe and open our hearts and eyes to what God can do in our behalf, we can find comfort and fear not.

The Lord counsels us "Be of good cheer, and do not fear." and "Look unto me in every thought; doubt not, fear not." If we truly believe in Jesus Christ and His atonement, we can find peace and comfort in these times of trial, and stress. I pray we will all "Fear Not". ~ *Sherolyn*

Operation Christmas Child – Deadline November 11

Once again this thanks and giving season we are promoting the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. These boxes provide not only gifts and needed personal and school supplies for children around the world, but are also a beacon of God's caring for those who need to know His love.

The following story from Teresa Lee makes this ministry very real for those of us on the giving end:

"For many years I have packed shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child and have always wondered where my boxes would go and how God would use them in the life of the children who receive them. In 2016, while serving in Cameroon, I had the opportunity to attend three Operation Christmas Child gift distributions in three different locations near where I live in Yaoundé.

"The distribution programs included singing, praying, a time of discussing who Jesus was and why he died for us, an invitation to the older children to attend a discipleship class, the revealing of the special gift boxes, a time of talking about why these gifts were packed and who packed them, and then the distribution of the boxes by gender and age.

"During the distribution I had the chance to share about packing boxes and how I packed my boxes with love and prayed for the child who would receive them. My favorite part was being able to help hand out the boxes to the children. Their smiles and excitement were contagious. It is amazing to see God at work through Operation Christmas Child."

Watch for the specially printed boxes in the lobby and the foyers, and pick up one or more to fill with special items. You decide if you will shop for a boy or a girl, and what age category, ages 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14.

Return the box(es) to the church by November 11 at the latest, and we will get them to a local collection center. Our goal is 50 boxes.

Suggestions for things to include in your box are a "Wow" item, personal care items, clothing and accessories, crafts and activities, and toys. You might also want to include a personal note. For more specific gift suggestions, go to www.samaritanspurse.org.

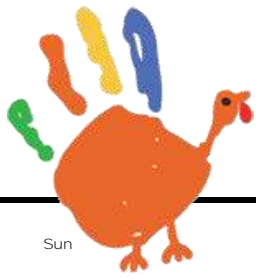
Please do not include candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; or aerosol cans.

Each box should also include a \$9 donation. This not only goes toward transportation costs, but helps train and equip local churches in how to share the Good News of the Lord Jesus Christ in a child-friendly way. Your donation also provides The Greatest Gift Gospel Booklets, which are written in the children's language and distributed along with shoebox gifts.

Most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your gift.




For more information, you can go to www.samaritanspurse.org.





November 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 5 cents a meal 9 am Worship 10 am Sun. School 11 am Worship 6 pm NA	29 October 10:00 Prayer Group 12 pm NA	30 October 12 noon NA	31 October 6pm Praise Team 7:30 pm Choir	November 1 10:30 am Women's Bible Study 7 pm Men of the Church 7 pm Al-Anon 8 pm AA	2 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 6 pm NA	3 NA12—1 
4 Stewardship Begins 9 am Worship 10 am Sun. School 11 am Worship 6 pm NA	5 10:00 Prayer Group 12 pm NA	6 12 noon NA	7 12 Noon AA 6 pm NA 6pm Praise Team 7:30 pm Choir	8 10:30 am Women's Bible Study 7 pm Men of the Church 7 pm Al-Anon 8 pm AA	9 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 6 pm NA	10 NA 12-1 GS Troop 796 meets 2-4
11 Veterans Memorial Dedication 9 am Worship 10 am Sun. School 11 am Worship 5 pm Pig Pickin' 6 pm NA	12 10:00 Prayer Group 12 pm NA	13 12 noon NA	14 12 –3 Garden Club 6 pm NA 6pm Praise Team 7:30 pm Choir	15 10:30 am Women's Bible Study 7 pm Men of the Church 7 pm Al-Anon 8 pm AA	16 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 6 pm NA	17 NA 12—1
18 Missionary Sunday/ Congregational Mtgs 9 am Worship 10 am Sun. School 11 am Worship 6 pm NA	19 10:00 Prayer Group 12 pm NA 7:00 pm Deacons 7:30 pm Elders	20 12 noon NA	21 12 noon AA 6 pm NA 6pm Praise Team 7:30 pm Choir	 Office Closed	23 Office Closed	24 NA 12—1
25 5 cents a meal 9 am Worship 10 am Sun. School 11 am Worship 6 pm NA	26 10:00 Prayer Group 12 pm NA	27 12 noon NA 	28 6pm Praise Team 7:30 pm Choir	29 10:30 am Women's Bible Study 7 pm Men of the Church 7 pm Al-Anon 8 pm AA	30 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 6 pm NA	December 1 NA12—1



November BIRTHDAYS



3 Norma Henderson
 7 Susan Wilkinson
 8 Jim Albert
 10 Sarah McCollum
 11 Irene Smith*
 11 Matthew Bain

14 Bob Hughes
 16 Peggy Burton
 20 Russell Lee
 21 Andrew Ferguson
 23 Debbie Ferguson
 26 Pat Hay

12 Bruce Wilkins
 13 Kim Wickemeyer
 13 Sarah Bush

26 Charles Van Duser
 27 Maelyn Freshour
 28 Mike Marvin
 30 Kathy Debiec





October Session Report

Since the last newsletter the Session has in their monthly and other meetings:

1. Approved quarterly financial report.
2. Heard update on young adult ministry plans
3. Heard reports on missionaries, Missions Weekend for November?
4. Approved minutes.
5. Set budget and nominating committee plans.
6. Set next communion for December 2.
7. Heard report on completion of Memorial Garden
8. Reminded of Congregational Meetings on November 4 and 22.
9. Addressed supplies for pew racks.
10. Heard updates on Website and Stephen Ministry.
11. Approved Elder Nancy Pool as delegate for November 15th Presbytery Meeting.
12. Accepted elder Art Carter's resignation due to personal reasons.
13. Heard updates on local outreach.



November 19

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

Women's Bible Study - Thursdays at 10:30 am

Men of the Church: Thursdays at 7 pm

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