First Presbyterian News

C. Russell Lee, Jr., Pastor, D. Min
pastor@1stpres.cc
Sherolyn Barnett, Admin. Asst
secretary@1stpres.cc
Chris Jones, Choir Director
Ernest "Avon" Traynham—Sexton
Terri Hazelwood—Nursery Leader

September 2017

Facebook:

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Website: 1stpres.cc

Office Hours

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

Dear First Folks,

It's time for a new year of ministry! We get ready for Rally Day in a few weeks, on September 10. It is really about doing a soul check and making sure the Lord is our first priority. Going to church, Sunday school, and other events is a way to grow in the blessings our Lord gives, and to fellowship and grow with others who love and support you. So look at the wonderful pages which are turning for us here at First Pres, and be in prayer, support for, and participation in as many as you can. Thank you for being a shining example to the world of what a church is supposed to be. Look for new and continuing ministries as we charge into the Fall. God is doing great things here, and we pray for all to keep up, and to ask for more. God gave His all for us. He asks for the same kind of life from his people.

In Him,

~ *Russell*

September 3
Sermon: "A Cloud of Witnesses"
Scriptures: Psalm 96; Hebrews 11:32-12:2

September 10
Sermon: "The Victory"
Scriptures: Psalm 18:1-6; 1 John 5:1-5

September 17 -
Sermon: "Seventy Seven Times"
Scriptures: Psalm 103:1-7, 8-13; Matthew 18:21-35

September 24
Sermon: "God's order for His People"
Scriptures: Psalm 145:1-8; Matthew 20:1-16

October 1—Communion
Sermon: "Complete Joy"
Scriptures: Psalm 25:1-9; Philippians 2:1-13

October 8
Sermon: "Knowing Christ"
Scriptures: Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14

Don't let this happen to you with anything here at First Pres. or with anything God has for you.

Mission News

A First Presbyterian World Mission Ministry

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your continued prayers. The last few weeks certainly haven't been dull and it seems that we have had a lot more poisonous snakes show up at the house than in the past. Yesterday our cat Lucky killed what several people have told us was a young banded krait which happens to be quite a deadly snake. A couple weeks before that we killed some sort of diamond headed snake, and a couple weeks before that we got rid of a cobra. Thankfully they are all dead and our cat has earned a place of honor in the family. He has now taken down a Krait to go along with another cobra he took on 2 years ago. We hope we won't see any more snakes for a long time.

Village visits

Earlier this week, Art had a chance to go with a short term team and an Indigo friend to visit a few Indigo villages and share about the Father. A family that hosted us seems to be very interested and hopes to hear more. It was exciting to go with our Indigo friend and see him sharing in the Indigo language for the first time. Please ask that the family that was interested in the good news would come to know the Father. There are no known Indigo believers in their region of thousands of people.

Discipleship Opportunity

Our Indigo friend Tom told us last week of an Indigo man that has recently believed in a nearby city and also shared the good news with his parents, his girlfriend, and her mother who also believed. Tom is now helping to disciple this young man when they meet once a month (they live a couple of hundred miles apart). Please pray for them as they meet next week and for wisdom as Tom works on practical lessons that this man can share with his family.

Have a wonderful weekend,

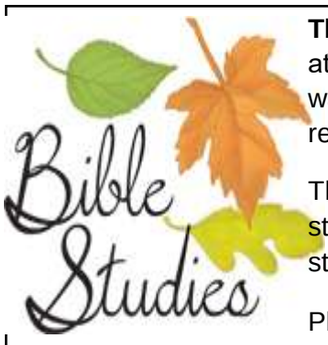
Art and Andrea

Pictures: Planting Rice for the upcoming season. Hard work done by hand. 2nd Picture: The banded Krait – a gift from Lucky the cat yesterday morning

New Church Playground

A new church playground is ordered for the North Property. The cost is about $19,000 dollars including installation, for a wonderful outreach in the Year of the Child. We are looking for large and small gifts immediately, for this is a large outlay in our investment in our youth, and we want you to have a part in it. Included in this initial module are a side by side slide, an L shaped tunnel slide, two decks, a tot rock climber, a wall with wheel, and a Delight-O-Scope. We have bricks from the old north property house which can be awarded for each $100 gift which say either South Boston or Cosby.

So far about $1500 has been given to this project.



The Case for Christ—Women's Bible Study - beginning Thursday, September 7 at 10:00 am!! We will be studying Lee Strobel's bestselling book, as well as watching the movie which was released last year. This book delves into the reliability of the Bible and proves that Christ is indeed exactly who He claims to be.

The movie will be shown on the first day, September 7 at 10:00 am. All further studies will be at 10:30. Karen Henderson and Wendy Daniel are coordinating this study.

Please join us for this powerful study and enjoy fellowship and spiritual growth. We welcome you all!

Beth Moore Live Simulcast - Saturday, September 16—Dan River Baptist sign-in begins at 9 am. Pre-register by August 31 by calling DRC office at 572-3547 or email them at drbc@embarqmail.com. $10 fee covers a boxed lunch with ham, turkey, or chicken salad. Please specify preference during registration.

Rally Day Plans

Rally Day will take place as usual on the Sunday after Labor Day, which this year falls on September 10th. We will begin with worship at 9am, a full breakfast at 9:30 am, our Sunday School Program in the Fellowship hall at 10:15 am, and worship at 11 am. Sunday School Classes and teachers for all ages will be ready to share the word of God each Sunday morning. Make sure to be here on that day, and make an extra special effort to commit to what God can teach us all this year!

The Ladies' Circle will meet on Tuesday, September 12 at 10:30 AM in the Philathea Room. Our studies this year will be taken from the book "Attitude Is Your Paintbrush, It colors every Situation" by James W. Moore. We will cover such subjects as, The Attitude of Gratitude, The Attitude of Compassion, and many other aspects that make up our lives. Eloise Wilder will be the leader. All ladies are encouraged to attend for a time of "study and fellowship".

Outreach Partnership with One Another

We are sending each member a letter asking them to indentify and reach out to three individuals or families in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ who are not active in a church and invite them to church. Most people just expect the church to grow, without taking part. This gives us all a chance to reflect on the blessings of friends and family. The session has approved this major effort to be the church in her highest sense, and it networks with many other things we are planning for growth and renewal. Take seriously this prompting by God to follow through on what you know in your heart is the most important work of the church. As we plan our back to church outreach, plan to be an active part of it, and you will see how God anoints it.

Rogation Service on October 23

Our second Annual Rogation Service will happen at 3pm on Sunday, October 23. We had about 25 animals and their pet humans last year. Be sure to bring your pets on that day. The worship time, for all creatures great and small, and blessing of the animals and crops will be a special time for all. We will give thanks to God for his creation and providence, and urge you to not only be there, but invite friends and neighbors as well.

Pig Pickin' In October

In order to take advantage of more daylight and to utilize our new Fellowship Picnic Shelter, we are planning our annual Pig Pickin' for Sunday evening, October 15 at 5 pm. The playground may be completed by then, and we will also have outdoor activities for the kids and adults. Soccer, football, volley ball, and corn-hole games will be there as well. We will eat at the picnic shelter, and the Fellowship Hall will be also be available for inside dining.

Fall / Testimony

With the Fall approaching and schools starting back, my thoughts have been on learning and its importance. I believe the only thing we can take with us when we leave this world, is our knowledge, and our testimony of Jesus Christ. Let me share mine. I know that Jesus is the Christ, the Savior of this world. I know that both He and God the Father live and love us, and watch over us and our daily activities. They want us to be happy, but our eternal happiness is more important to them than our momentary daily happiness. In order to achieve the greatest happiness, Eternal Life, we must obey the commandments and all the God has asked us to do. Matthew 11: 29 tells us to learn of Christ, and He will give us rest. In other words He will bless us, and we will not have worries of the world. I know that the gospel, as Christ set it up, is upon the Earth today, and that They wants all to return to live with Them. I believe Isaiah 29:4 that as we learn and read the scriptures truth will be known and familiar. I know God is the same yesterday, today, and always, and does not change to accommodate man, but that man must turn to Him in all things. That as we hear the truth and read it will be as Isaiah 29:4 states "and shalt speak out of the ground, and thy speech shall be low out of the dust, and thy voice shall be, as of one that hath a familiar spirit." For when we hear or read the truth it does truly have a familiar feel and we know the truth. I love the scriptures and the opportunities we have to know the Savior and follow His example to be an instrument in His hands.

~ Sherolyn

New Plans for First Pres Youth!

Just a few days ago the session, as a further investment in our Year of the Child emphasis, voted to hire LeeAnne Pulliam as our new youth coordinator. We are planning now for twice a month meetings with middle and high school youth, and once a month for the younger kids. Each month we are also looking at a service or fun event for all.

LeeAnne is a young adult with a combination of skills and faith. She is an active member of her church in Roxboro, NC, married to a race car driver, and is a physical therapist by trade. She says she is "diligent in communication, thrives in creativity, and always gives 200%!" She is now a professional photographer, and was a cheerleader for the Carolina Panthers football team, so we are praying for God to use all of her background and organizational skill to make wonderful things happen here.

Look for her contact, as groundwork begins immediately for a strong and hopeful ministry. Kickoff event will be scheduled for mid-September, but preliminary meetings will begin sooner. You will be blessed as soon as you meet her.

Presbytery of the Peaks Middle School retreat October 27-28

There will be a High School Retreat February 23-24, 2018.

Both retreats will take place at Camp Bethel.

September 18

7:00 pm—Diaconate

7:30 pm — Elders Meeting

Weekly Happenings

Prayer Group: Mondays at 10 am

Praise Team Rehearsal: Wednesday at 6 pm

Choir Rehearsal: Wednesday at 7:30 pm

Men of the Church: Thursdays at 7 pm

September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 5 cents a meal 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship 6 pm NA 6 pm Youth	28 10:00 Prayer Group 12 pm NA	29 12 Noon AA	30 12 Noon AA 6 pm NA	31 7 pm Men of the Church 7 pm Al-Anon 8 pm AA	September 1 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 6 pm NA	September 2
3 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship 6 pm NA	4— Office Closed LABOR DAY	**5** 12 noon NA	6 12 Noon AA 6 pm NA	7 7 pm Men of the Church 7 pm Al-Anon 8 pm AA	8 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 6 pm NA	9 GS Troop 796 meets 2-4
10—Rally Day 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship 6 pm Youth Group 6 pm NA	11 10:00 Prayer Group 12 pm NA	12 12 noon NA	13 12 Noon AA 6 pm NA	14 7 pm Men of the Church 7 pm Al-Anon 8 pm AA	15 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 6 pm NA	16 9 am Beth Moore Live Simulcast Dan River Baptist
17 Back to Church 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship 6 pm NA 6 pm Youth Group	18 10:00 Prayer Group 12 pm NA 7:00 pm Elders	19 12 noon NA	20 Summer Begins! 12 Noon AA 6 pm NA	21 7 pm Men of the Church 7 pm Al-Anon 8 pm AA	22 9 am Bulletins 12 noon AA 6 pm NA	23
24 5 cents a meal 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship 6 pm NA 6 pm Youth	25 10:00 Prayer Group 12 pm NA	26 12 Noon AA Newsletter DEADLine	27 12 Noon AA 6 pm NA	28 7 pm Men of the Church 7 pm Al-Anon 8 pm AA	29 9 am Bulletins and Newsletters 12 noon AA 6 pm NA	30

1 Mike Koch

6 Connie Marvin

6 Salli Pool

7 Connie Cox

8 Harman Saunders

8 Michaella Freshour

8 Doris Koch

9 Joanie Cranford

10 Sam Lewis

10 Julianna Berry

10 Carole Woodward

11 Tommy Wilkinson

14 Matthew Lee

16 Eric Roberts

17 George Burton

18 Dylan Berry

18 Jeremy Luedtke

19 Paul Nichols

21 Tee Godbold

22 Mike Freshour

22 John Morgan

24 Grace McAbee

24 Parker Harrell

25 Joe Ferguson

26 Fred Collins

28 Shirley Blackmon*

29 Latane' Saunders Schwabe

29 Susan Chandler

August Session Report

At the meeting since the last newsletter your Elders:

1. Served communion on August 6
2. Received into membership John and Debbie Leznik.
3. Received and approved financial review of church accounts by Stan Bradshaw, CPA.
4. Heard updates and lifted up concerns and blessings for members.
5. Heard update on new church playground for North Property.
6. Decided to seek more information on a new church sign for outreach.
7. Approved balance sheet and financial report.
8. Approved hiring of new youth coordinator Leanne Pulliam.
9. Heard update on Columbarium/Veterans Memorial Project.
10. Set next communion for October 1.
11. Approved minutes.
12. Set Pig Pickin' for October 15.
13. Heard Updates on Missionaries.

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

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