

First Presbyterian News

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Sue Wilkins - Treasurer



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Office Hours
M-Th 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Closed on Friday
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First Pres. Family,

Greetings. July is upon us and change is in the air! As many of you know Glenn Coleman is retiring and will no longer be with us full time. On behalf of the congregation, I would like to thank Glenn for the wonderful blessings his guidance has brought to our church and wish him and his family health and happiness as they embark on a new chapter in their life. God Bless you, Glenn, and best wishes for your retirement; thank you, again, for enriching us all with your light and wisdom!

There are many other changes each of us are experiencing presently; graduations, new jobs, retirements, etc. Change brings the opportunity for growth and First Presbyterian is poised for wonderful change! Our PNC is working steadily in a search for a new pastor and the Session and Deacons have been working toward ideas for new programs and outreach to help our church grow. This is an exciting time and I cannot wait to see what changes God has in plan for First Presbyterian Church!



I would be remiss if I did not mention the upcoming July 4th, Independence Day celebration and the change God brought to the world with the founding of the United States of America. Through God's graces and the faith and sacrifice of many, the world has been forever changed by our system of self-governance brought about by colonists standing up to and defeating the greatest and most powerful nation at the time. During your celebrations, please take a moment to thank God, and all of those who have sacrificed their lives and labors, for the freedom and prosperity we all enjoy today. God Bless you all.

Mike Freshour

Worship Committee co-chair



Summer Office Hours continue
Monday thru Thursday from 9 am - 2 pm. With the office being closed on Fridays. In September the office will resume normal 9 am - 1 pm hours Monday through Friday.



Celebrating Graduates - Congratulations to all!

We are excited to acknowledge those who have worked hard to graduate from varying levels of school. Graduate information we have received:

Michaella Fraser Freshour - heading off to Sweet Briar College, to study Psychology wanting to be a Forensic Psychologist.

Matthew Fraser Freshour graduated from South Boston Elementary heading to the Middle School next year.

Ryan Coles Goldbold graduated from Paul Wharton High School in Tampa, FL. He is heading off to the University of Florida.

Madison Watkins, graduated from Halifax Co. High School. She is heading to Lynchburg University to study Physical Therapy.

Courtland Elizabeth Thackston graduated as one of the top 10 in her class at Galeleo HS in Danville, VA. She will be headed to Hollins University to study journalism.

Lance Chappell graduated cum Laude during Longwood University's undergraduate commencement ceremony, which was held on Saturday, May 21, 2022. He received his Bachelor of Science with a concentration in Environmental Science. He was one of 881 candidates awarded degrees in Longwood's 183rd year since it was found in 1839.

Peyton Wickemeyer graduated with honors with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Averett University on Saturday, December 11, 2021. She is utilizing her artistic talents by working at a pottery studio in Halifax County. She is also continuing her education by enrolling in a Graphic Arts program.

THIS MONTH'S PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer List - Danny Hazelwood had a heart catheterization. Schuyler Barnes, the wife of Jeremy Cherry's friend, placed on hospice care, she is 31 with a young child. James Edmunds' mother was hospitalized for congestive heart failure. Joan Owens, doing better with the warmer weather. Marge Nelson had back surgery on June 27, surgery went well, and she is recovering. Ginny Troy continues therapy in Rehab, she was moved to Riverside Rehab in Danville. Connie Troy. Tee Godbold's grandson had surgery and is healing. Sarah Bush, Joanna Hughes' granddaughter had back surgery, and is healing. Alan Tysinger had prostate cancer surgery, he is home and healing. Jim Luedtke's grand-

daughter had a beautiful baby boy, named Toby. Congratulations Jim! Mark Foster had biopsy surgery on his throat with a good result, he then had back surgery at the end of the month, throat surgery is scheduled for early July. Carol Foster was having coughing issues. Robert Harrison, a friend of Laurie Morris, passed away after dealing with stage 4 cancer and hospice care. Pat Hay and Ted VanBenschoten had COVID, Ted had to be hospitalized, but both are doing better now. Gavin Smith was taken to UNC for breathing issues, he came home with a breathing treatment for bronchial pneumonia. Bob Duncan, Don and Dargan's friend, had to have heart surgery, taking him off the kidney transplant list, but after surgery, he is improving, and hopeful to be put back on. Molly Campbell was diagnosed with lung cancer. Chris Jones' and his mother- Tine, had COVID, but both are doing better. Gene Haugh - diagnosed with lung problems. His caretaker, Cynthia needs prayers as well.



Opportunity to Serve – First Presbyterian has offered to provide a dinner for the Prizery's Summerstock Theatre cast and crew on Thursday, July 21, in the early evening. There will be about 30 young people in attendance. We are looking for individuals to help in the following ways – planning/menu/grocery list, shopping, preparing food, serving, clean up. If you can be involved in any way, please contact Kim Albert who is coordinating (434-579-5011 or kalbert@ntelos.net).

Searching for a New Pastor



PNC Update - What Are You Doing Here, Elijah?

This week in Pastor Glenn's sermon I felt very convicted when the story of Elijah in 1 Kings 19 was read. If you remember, Elijah wasn't just hanging out, waiting peacefully for a word from heaven. He was running for his life!

He had just slaughtered the prophets of Baal, the false god ascribed to by two of the cruelest, craziest characters in history—

King Ahab and Queen Jezebel. 1 Kings 19:3 says, *"Elijah was afraid and ran for his life."*

Keep reading. Elijah may be a lot more like you than you realize.

Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. *"I have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors."* (1 Kings 19:3–4)

Have you ever been there? Have you ever just had enough?

When we look around, so often all we see is failure and fear and insurmountable odds. Elijah had just angered the most powerful and evil woman in the world. She had endless resources and countless ways to end his life.

This great prophet saw no way out. He was done.

Again, keep reading:

Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat." He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank ... Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. (1 Kings 19:5–8)

Looking back at your life, can you think of times when God supplied you with sustenance? When a meal was waiting or a check arrived in the mail? What about when a smile came your way at just the right time?

We serve a God of heavenly heights who crafted this physical world we live in. He knows when we're hungry and thirsty. He knows when we can't walk another step. And He loves to provide spiritually and physically for His children.

What truly convicted me was God's pointed question to Elijah. *What are you doing here, Elijah?* (1 Kings 19: 9)

How often when we are discouraged and dejected do we find ourselves wanting to run and hide just like Elijah. It is at that time that we must remember God's question. What are you doing here?

This month the PNC interviewed a promising candidate only to discover major concerns the next day. We ask for your continued prayers as we continue the search for our next pastor.

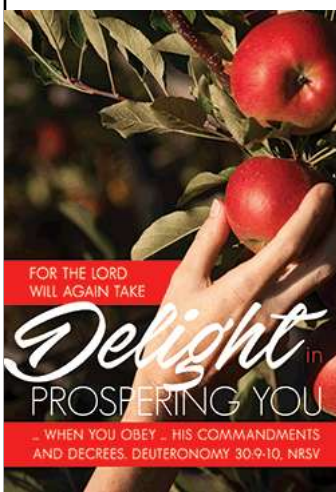
Grace and peace,

Don Cherry.

PNC Chairman

Manse Fund- The Session has approved the collection of funds to help pay for the renovation and restoration of the Manse. There are monies that will not be paid by the insurance company, such as deductibles under our policy, and extra expenses incurred as a result of the fire, and it is these costs we are targeting with this fund. Once we know an estimate of costs, we will let you know the amount we will need, but funds can now be sent in and designated "Manse Fund" so we will be able to take care of these expenses. The Manse Fund will be a restricted fund only used for expenses caused by the fire and the restoration and maintenance of the Manse.





As We Are

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As we read the scriptures, we should learn from them, and work to become better. We read frequently in the scriptures “And behold, all that he requires of you is to keep his commandments; and he has promised you that if ye would keep his commandments ye should prosper in the land.”

We see an example of this in the book of Judges. The Israelites, have a cycle of being righteous, having peace and prosperity, then they become proud in their abundance, then turn away from God. They become wicked, so God does not prosper them, and they become enslaved, then they become humble, repent, then they are delivered out of bondage, then they again have peace and prosperity. This cycle is repeated throughout the book.

During the days of Joshua, they were righteous and worshipped Jehovah, but when Joshua died, they turned away and begin to worship other gods. When Eglon became their leader, he put them, again, in bondage. They repented and humbled themselves, crying unto the Lord, so he listened. Then in Judges 3:15 Ehud was a son of Gera – a Benjaminite (Benjamin – means son of right-hand). Ironically Ehud was left-handed, the people didn’t trust him because of that, they didn’t trust anyone who didn’t fit the mold. Even in recent days, people look down on others who are different. Ehud was read to serve - despite his differences.

In fact, it was because Ehud was left-handed that he was able to deliver Israel out of their 18-year bondage. As Ehud went to deliver a present to the King of Moab, he fastened a dagger on his right thigh, which was not searched, because the people were used to right-handed people, who would not hide a weapon on the right thigh. I love this story; God doesn’t require His servants to fit a certain mold. He knows our strengths and weaknesses, and He can use us for good, as we are. Often it is because of our differences that the Lord uses us to help others. We are all different, we have different strengths and different characteristics, sometimes others may try to make us feel bad or demean us because of these differences, but God knows us; He can, and will, use us as we are. ~ *Sherolyn*



July 3 - Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Title: “Following and Leading”

Scriptures: 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; Galatians 2:15-21

July 10 - Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Title: “Hospitality”

Scriptures: 2 Kings 4:8-17; Luke 10:38-42

July 17 - Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Title: “Laughter and Hope”

Scriptures: Genesis 18:1-15; Romans 5:1-8

July 24 - Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Title: “Teach Us to Pray”

Scriptures: Psalm 85; Luke 11:1-13

July 31– Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Title: “Being Rich Toward God”

Scriptures: Psalm 49:1-12; Luke 12: 13-21

August 7 - Ninth Sunday after Pentecost


Sermon Title: “Faith Is a Journey”

Scriptures: Genesis 15:1-6; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16





JULY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am—Worship	27	28	29 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm NA 6:00 pm—Choir	30 7:00 pm—Alanon 8:00 pm - AA	July 1 Office Closed 12:00 PM AA	July 2
3 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am—Worship	4 - Office Closed 	5	6 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm NA 6:00 pm—Choir	7 7:00 pm—Alanon 8:00 pm - AA	8 Office Closed 12:00 PM AA	9
10 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Baptism of Harrell twins during worship		12	13 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm—Choir	14 7:00 pm—Alanon 8:00 pm - AA	15 Office Closed 12:00 PM AA	16
17- 5 Cents a Meal collection 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am—Worship	18	19	20 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm NA 6:00 pm—Choir	21 7:00 pm—Alanon 8:00 - AA	22 Office Closed 12:00 PM AA	23
24 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am—Worship	25	26	27 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm NA 6:00 pm—Choir	28 7:00 pm - Alanon 8:00 pm - AA	29 Office Closed 12:00 PM AA	30
31 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 am—Worship	August 1 Newsletter DEADLINE	August 2	August 3 12:00 Noon AA 6:00 pm NA 6:00 pm—Choir	August 4 7:00 pm - Alanon 8:00 pm - AA	August 5 Office Closed 12:00 PM AA	August 6



- 8 Beth Roller
- 10 Ernest 'Avon' Traynham
- 12 Donna Garrett
- 15 Ginny Troy
- 16 Ashton Cranford
- 18 Steven Crutchfield
- 21 Marilyn Lee
- 21 James Edmunds
- 26 Bob Nelson*
- 26 Jo Dixon
- 27 Mac Lacy
- 27 Michael Thackston
- 28 Joanna Hughes
- 29 Kathryn McAbee
- 30 Jessica Nelson

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




* In Memory

Session Notes: **Since our last Newsletter, our Session discussed:**

The Session met on Tuesday, June 21, 2022.

1. Rev. Coleman opened the meeting with prayer and shared news of the congregation.
2. Robin Hall met with the Session requesting membership by transfer of letter. She was unanimously approved.
3. Candice Powell requested membership through profession of faith. She was approved and will be baptized in front of the congregation.
4. The Harrell's BBQ dinner for the congregation at their home garden was a great success. Many thanks for Frances and Rick sharing their home and garden with the congregation.
5. Next Presbytery Meeting – August 20, 2022, in Altavista, (Kim Albert – Commissioner)
6. Membership Roll – Robin Hall and Candice Powell were added to the membership roll. Les Powell IV was reinstated to the membership roll.
7. PNC Report – Continues to work with the Vanderbloemen Search Group to identify potential candidates for our next pastor.
8. Personnel – The agreement for Pastor Glenn to continue to serve as Pulpit Supply was discussed. He will preach on Sundays and be in the office on Mondays.
9. Property – Don Cherry presented an update on the progress of the insurance claim for the fire in the Manse. A second contractor quote is being put together.
10. Budget & Finance – Financial report was reviewed
11. Worship – Next communion August 7th
12. Local Missions – First Presbyterian has offered to provide a dinner for the Prizery's Summer Stock Theatre cast and crew on Thursday, July 21. There will be about 30 young people in attendance. We are looking for individuals to help in the following ways – planning/menu/grocery list, shopping, preparing food, serving, clean up.
13. Rev. Coleman closed the meeting with prayer.

	<p>Upcoming :</p> <p>Choir - Each Wednesday at 6 pm.</p> <p>Deacons and Session - Neither the Diaconate nor Session will meet in July.</p>
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First Presbyterian Church
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