



# THE MESSENGER

AUGUST 2015



Franklin Presbyterian Church



From the Pastor



REVEREND LOU VENTURA  
COVENANT PASTOR

Next to December, August is my favorite month, and it's not just because it's my birthday month. When I was younger, I actually missed school during the summer, and was so excited when we began preparing to go back. Shopping for and gathering together all the school supplies was a big part of that, and that's one reason why I am so delighted that we are once again adopting out book bags for local school kids. It's hard to imagine doing homework or even assignments during the school day without the proper supplies. My guess is that I'm not the only person who really enjoys gathering all the new pencils, pens, paper, folders, and notebooks for a new year of learning, and with this project, we all get to participate once again in that exciting back-to-school tradition.

Most of you know that since June 25, I have been caring for Ron as  
*Continued on page 4*

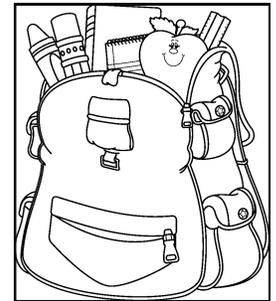
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## Invitation and Outreach: Second Annual "Adopt" A Book Bag



It seems like school just ended for the year, but much to the dismay of some of our teacher friends, school will be back in session in just over a month. This year we will once again help out local kids with school supplies through our "Adopt a Book Bag" project.



As with last year, the Invitation and Outreach team will purchase 20 book bags, and church members will then have the opportunity to "adopt" a bag. When a book bag is adopted, the "guardian" will find a list of school supplies in the bag. The guardian will then take the list to Wal-Mart (or a store of his/her choosing; the list will have Wal-Mart pricing) and purchase those items on the list. This year we will also be doing a goody bag for the teachers. If you would like to defray the cost of the goody bags for the teachers, or help pay for some of the book bags, please make checks out to the church and put on the memo line "Invitation and Outreach" team.

More information will appear in upcoming bulletins and announcements in church. Bags will be available this Sunday, Aug. 2, at church. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Benjamin Matteson at [benjaminmatteson@gmail.com](mailto:benjaminmatteson@gmail.com) or by cell phone 434-594-7212.

*Benjamin*

*We are a community of believers called by God to live humbly in the spirit of Christ and to act as His voice and hands in our world.*

**THE MESSENGER**

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

By **Vivian Christie**  
 FPC Presbyterian Women Moderator

Even though it is summer and PW is on a break, we are gearing up for our new year. We install our officers during worship on **August 30**. Then, we begin our circle meetings **OCTOBER 6**.

Mark your calendars! If you plan to attend circle and Bible study, please let **Betty Jones** or **Vivian Christie** know, so we can order you a study workbook.

Our 2015-2016 Bible study is "Come to the Waters." It focuses on passages in the Bible that refer to water. There are over 800 such passages. Author Judy Record Fletcher says, "Just as humans cannot live without water, Christians cannot imagine living without the Word of God. Water and Word go hand in hand as we strive to live as faithful followers of Jesus. This Bible study turns to some of the water stories and images in the Bible to enable us to learn more about God and how God would have us live our lives. The study also draws our attention to water, its power, its potential and its effects on our lives and our culture. We are invited to remember that water is precious and essential, and that clean water is unavailable to millions of people. Water and Word go together to quench the thirsts of our bodies and our souls."

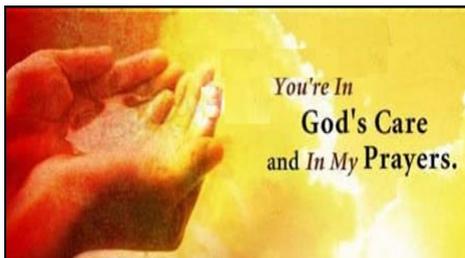
We hope you will choose to join us in October. The meetings begin at 10am and usually last about an hour. We have vibrant discussions and plan programs to help our church and our community.



**PRESBYTERIAN  
 WOMEN**



**PRAYER REQUESTS**



*To add or remove a name or to request continued prayers, please contact the church office.  
 Thank you.*

<b>Wayne &amp; Earlene Sprouse</b>	<b>Frances Wilber</b>
<b>Isaiah Baggett</b> Friend of Deloris Joyner	<b>Timmy Drake</b> Friend of the Roses
<b>Cathy Quate</b> Rev. Lou's mother	<b>Ann Marie Wisher</b> Reverend Lou's Friend
<b>Ellsworth Family</b>	<b>Bettie Bass</b>
<b>Rod Phelps &amp; Family</b> Friends of Kaye Weaver	<b>Shirley Mosher</b> Friend of Deloris Joyner
<b>Allen Wright</b> Cousin of Terry Rose	<b>Bill Riddick</b> Friend of Kaye Weaver
<b>Jennifer Stephenson</b> Friend of Jackie Cutchin	<b>Rosalind Cutchins</b> Exec. Director of Child. Center
<b>Kelly Joyner</b> Niece of Deloris Joyner	<b>Nahala Smazel</b> Family of Jimmie & Terry Rose
<b>Jackie Cutchin</b>	<b>Bertha Taylor</b> Family of Jimmie & Terry Rose
<b>David Jones</b>	<b>Kathy Worrell</b> Friend of Vivian Christie
<b>Bob Edwards</b> Katherine Weaver's Brother	<b>Ron Ventura</b>
<b>Linda Smith &amp; Family</b> PEVA Admin. On the passing of her mother Ramona Sorrell Marley	<b>Raybuck Family</b> On the passing of Sherrell's father.



<u>Month</u>	<u>New Members</u>	<u>Average Worship Attendance</u>	<u>Total Offering</u>	<u>Total Expenses</u>
December	0	39	\$10,114.11	\$7,869.94
January	0	31	\$7,988.00	\$9,059.92
February	0	35	\$7,783.00	\$8,309.27
March	0	35	\$16,222.00	\$9,008.74
April	0	41	\$8,742.00	\$8,833.39
May	0	35	\$9,340.00	\$11,404.17
June	0	36	\$24,894.00	\$28,656.92
July	0	40	\$7,183.25	\$10,222.77

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES. AND OTHER CELEBRATIONS



- 06. Cathy Eischeid
- 15. Dottie Gilbert, Lou Ventura
- 18. Bobbi Thomas, Frances Wilber
- 24. Ann Marie Brotzman
- 26. Linwood Drake



- 17. Mary and Norm Shroyer



## ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP IN AUGUST

02.	Allen Harper & Benjamin Matteson	Lead Lector: Tiffany Matteson
09.	Ron Ventura & Jim Drewry	
16.	Melvin Gray & Harry Christie	
23.	Ann Marie & Bud Brotzman	
30.	Tiffany & Benjamin Matteson	

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**THE MESSENGER**
**From the Pastor** Continued from page 1

he struggles again with debilitating back and leg pain. Our summer has been filled with steroid injections, physical therapy, and pain meds. I've had the relatively easy part, but as anyone who has cared for a loved one knows, it is indeed relative. This experience has made me aware that, while I am definitely gifted with compassion, care-giving is not my strength; it requires a serving gift that unfortunately I do not possess. However, it is important to us that you know that your thoughts, prayers, cards, concerns, and care not only for Ron, but for me, have been of great comfort, and we both deeply appreciate that we are surrounded by your love. Thank you!

Joyfully and with love in Christ,

*Lou*

**SESSION UPDATE**

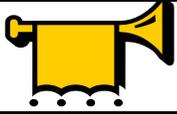

At its stated meeting on July 15, 2015, the FPC Session:

- Received the monthly church financial report for information;
- Received a report from the pastor for information;
- Acknowledged upcoming Service of Healing and Wholeness on 7/29, East Pavilion worship on Sunday, Aug. 2, hosting the PEVA Commission on Ministry (COM) meeting on Aug. 4, and the “Making Arrangements: Your End-of-Life Decisions” workshop date of 9/19 with a potluck soup and sandwich dinner to follow;

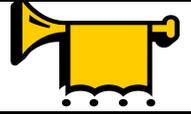
- Heard a report from FPC, Inc. President **Lauren Harper**, who reviewed the terms of the sale of the manse and the status of the negotiations;
- Received with regret a report from the Administration/Personnel Team Lead **Ann Marie Brotzman** regarding the resignation of FPC Office Manager **Benjamin Matteson**, and approved a motion from the same team to hire **Gabriella Bryce** beginning 7/20/15;
- Received a report from the Facilities Team Lead **Harry Christie** that estimates will be obtained for repairs of the external brick and the ceiling in the church admin’s office;
- Received a report from the Congregational Life Team Lead **Tiffany Matteson** regarding a museum trip on July 31 and a second Art Party on Aug. 7;
- Validated the electronic vote approving the wedding of Chantal Roemer and Tim Dalton to be held at the church on Saturday, Sept. 12, with Pastor Lou officiating;
- Conducted pastor/session semi-annual evaluation.

At a called meeting on July 26, 2015, the FPC Session:

- Received a report from Facilities Team Lead **Harry Christie** regarding the estimate to repair the external brick in three locations (above the doors beneath the stained glass window in Brenner Hall, above one of the side windows in Brenner Hall, and near the windows of the pastor’s office), and approved the amount and repair;
- Heard a report from FPC, Inc. President **Lauren Harper**, who reviewed the final terms of the sale of the manse.



## News Briefs



### Outreach: : The Presbyterian Peace & Global Witness Offering

by Benjamin Matteson



SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS

The Presbyterian Peace and Global Witness Offering (formerly the Peacemaking Offering) supports the efforts of Presbyterians through their congregations, presbyteries, synods, and the General Assembly to work for peace by tearing down the walls of hostility.

The offering begins on Sunday, September 6, and we take up the offering on World Communion Sunday, October 4, 2015.

As Presbyterians, we recognize that Christ taught us to be peacemakers and that being peacemakers is part of being Christ's followers. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Peace and Global Witness Offering encourages us all to work for peace. Each congregation is invited to find ways to promote peace within the congregation and within the community. Our church will retain 25% of the total offering we receive for the purpose of local peacemaking efforts. As in past years, we will dedicate that to the Genieve Shelter in Suffolk that assists individuals impacted by domestic violence.

If you have any questions please contact **Benjamin Matteson** at [benjaminmatteson@gmail.com](mailto:benjaminmatteson@gmail.com) or by cell phone 434-594-7212.



### Mark Your Calendar for the “Making Arrangements—Your End-of-Life Decisions” Workshop

The “Making Arrangements—Your End-of-Life Decisions” workshop will be held Saturday, September 19, from 3 pm. to 5 p.m. in Brenner Hall. The workshop will be open to the public through flyers and a notice in the *Tidewater News*.

A light potluck dinner of soup and sandwiches is planned for after the workshop. Watch the narthex for a sign-up sheet to bring food and drink, as well as for the workshop itself. We'll need to know how many handouts to prepare as well as how many folks to feed (maximum 25).

### Blessing of the Animals Event October 3, 2015

Animals of God's creation share in the life of human beings. For many of us, our pets are family. Francis of Assisi apparently felt the same way: he called animals, wild and tame, his brothers and sisters. Remembering Francis' love for all creatures, we will invoke God's blessing on these animals in a Blessing of the Animals event on Saturday, October 3.

Since this date falls at the same time of the Franklin Fall Festival, we have decided to open this event to the community. Details—like when and where—are pending, because we are working with the festival committee to determine the most ideal time and location.

Please save the date and make plans to attend with your pets. While pets of all kinds are welcome, it is recommended that animals that become frightened or anxious in crowds or among strangers be left at home for their own safety and comfort.

THE MESSENGER

CONGREGATION'S CORNER

REFRIGERATOR BRAN MUFFINS

Submitted by Cathy Eischeid

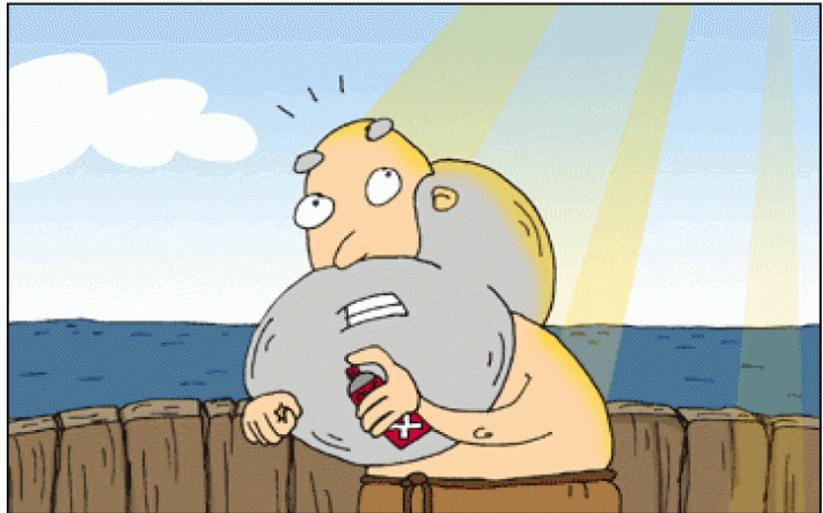
- 15oz box Raisin Bran
- 5 cups all purpose flour
- 3 cups sugar
- 5 teaspoons soda
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 1 quart buttermilk
- 1 cup butter, melted

Combine first 5 ingredients in a large bowl; make a well in center of mixture. Combine eggs, buttermilk, and shortening. Add to dry ingredients and stir just enough to combine. Cover and store in refrigerator until ready to bake, as long as 5 - 6 weeks.

When ready to bake, spoon batter into muffin cups. Bake at 350 for 20 minutes.

Yield: about 5 dozen  
 Note: These are best if the batter is at least 1 day old. And the batter really does keep - and gets even better at - 6 weeks!

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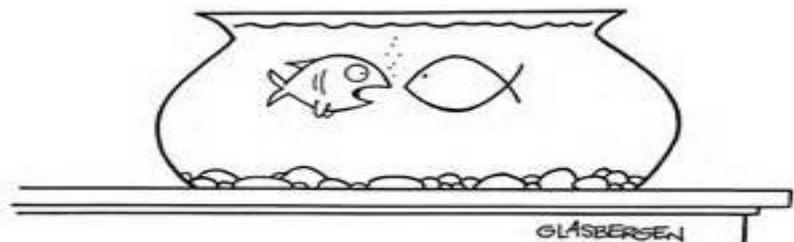


Thanks to Jerry Moates (See Genesis 6-8)

01-21-2004

HEY NOAH ... HAVE YOU SEEN THE MOSQUITOS?

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"Can't we talk about something besides religion for a change?"



Ray's Joke

Corner by Ray Terrell

Where do football players go to eat?

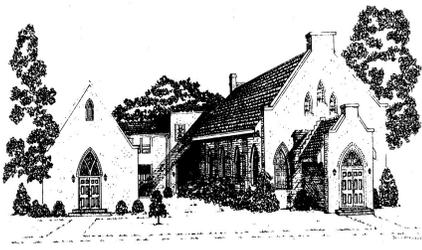
-The Huddle House!

What is a golfer's favorite drink?

-TEE!

What kind of vegetables remind you of your feet?

-Potatoes and Tomatoes.



# AUGUST 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Worship 11:00 am *Communion  East Pavilion Worship 3:00	3	4 Host PEVA's Commission on Ministry (COM) Brenner Hall 4-7 p.m.	5	6 	7 Art Party 5:30 pm	8
9 Worship 11:00 am	10	11	12	13	14	15 
16 Worship 11:00 am	17 	18 	19 Session Meeting 6:00 pm	20	21	22
23 Worship 11:00 am	24 	25	26	27	28	29
30 Worship 11:00 am PW Installation during worship	31					

Birthdays: 

Anniversaries: 

06. Cathy Eischeid  
18. Bobbi Thomas

15. Dottie Gilbert    15. Lou Ventura  
18. Frances Wilber    24. Ann Marie Brotzman    26. Linwood Drake

17. Mary & Norm Shroyer



**FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

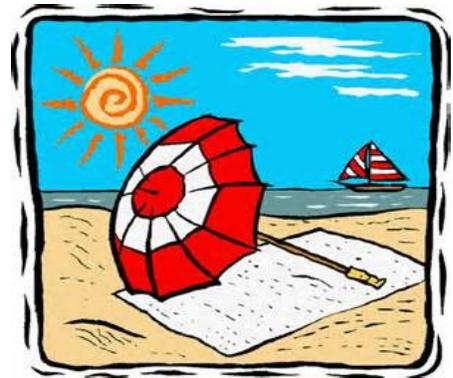
405 Lee St  
 Franklin, VA 23851  
 757.562.4313  
 franklinpreschurch@gmail.com



*Worship with us each Sunday at 11:00 a.m.*

**UPCOMING EVENTS-- AUGUST 2015**

02.	Worship 11:00 am *Communion
07.	Art Party 5:30pm Brenner Hall
09.	Worship 11:00 am
16.	Worship 11:00am
19.	Session 6:00pm
23.	Worship 11:00am
30.	Worship 11:00am



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