



THE MESSENGER

APRIL 2016

Franklin Presbyterian Church



From
the
Pastor



REVEREND LOU VENTURA
COVENANT PASTOR

I write this message just a few days before Easter and a week's vacation. I remember when I first came to FPC how hard it was for me to spend time away from you. It's still hard, but I know that I need to rest in order to give you my best, and I am finding that I get good indicators telling me when I need to get away, even if it's just to stay home and change the routine.

As Christians, we know that even Jesus, the Son of God, required peace and quiet for renewal, and we are no different. As a traveling congregation, many of you have already begun your own sojourns out and about, and I continue to delight in hearing the stories you bring back of the (mostly fun) times you have, and seeing you return refreshed. Enjoy the coming beautiful weather and, as you see the new growth, feel the sun's warmth, and smell the fresh air, remember that *all* things are renewed in Christ.

Joyfully and with love in Christ,
Lou

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Invitation and Outreach

By Benjamin Matteson, Invitation and Outreach Team Lead



Last week we collected our first major offering, One Great Hour of Sharing. We collected \$230.00 thank you for your faithful giving.

The churches next giving opportunity is the Pentecost Offering. A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also addresses the needs of at-risk children. Forty percent of the Pentecost offering is retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. Money gets distributed into three areas: Young Adult Volunteers, Ministries for Youth and Children at risk. Our portion of the money (40%) benefits the Childrens Center as it has done every other year. This offering runs from 4/24/16 to 5/15/16. Please give generously.

If you have any questions, please contact Benjamin

at 434-594-7212



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.

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PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



By Vivian Christie, Co-Moderator, FPC Presbyterian Women

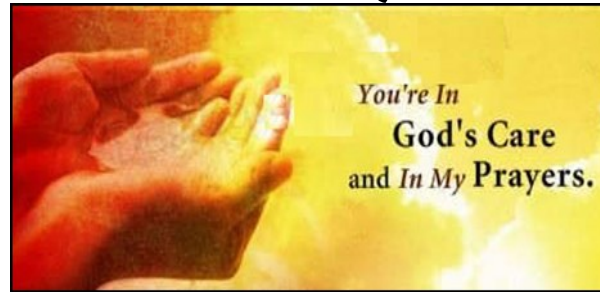
March was a busy month! Thank you to all who helped with the Lenten lunch on March 2nd. We received many compliments. I, especially, want to thank the men who cooked and helped too. This shows a real support from our entire church, not just our ladies.

Gifts of Women Sunday was such fun. Thank you for your HUGE surprise. Yes, I was totally surprised to be honored as Woman of the Year. Taskmaster, maybe. ☺ I knew our PW was resourceful, but I never knew how sneaky they could be! However, on the serious side, I want you to know how much it means to me. You are my family, and I enjoy working and playing hard together. Our time for Bible study is so educational. I always walk away with having learned something new. Our projects may be small or large, but we always do it well and rejoice at the completion. Thank you! I look forward to surprising some special lady again next year.

Please mark your calendars for Circle on April 5th at Brenner Hall at 10am. Also, our PW of Eastern VA are gathering at Great Bridge Presbyterian Church on April 9th. Rev. Lou and I are going and would love to have some of you join us. We must preregister by April 1st. The \$7 fee for lunch will be taken at the door.

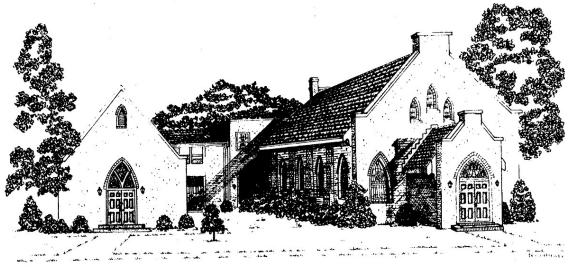
The Summer Gathering at Massanetta Springs is June 9-12. For more information, you can find it at the website: <http://pwsynodmidatlantic.org>, or you can give me a call.

PRAYER REQUESTS



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

Wayne & Earlene Sprouse	Burton Grizzard
Isaiah Baggett Friend of Deloris Joyner	Timmy Drake Friend of the Roses
Cathy Quate Reverend Lou's mother	LeAnn Vinson Friend of Terry Rose
Allen Wright Terry Rose's cousin	Doug Ventura Ron Ventura's brother
Billy Lassiter Cousin of Linwood Drake, cancer	Rosalind Cutchins Exec. Dir. of the Children's Center
Vivian Goodwyn Lauren Harper's co-worker	Krista Johnson Kathryn Padgett's co-worker
Barbara Gray In Nansemond Pointe	Lynn King Richardson The Merediths' daughter
Jimmy Mosher Friend of Deloris Joyner	J.M. Burgess Father of friend of Tiffany Rose
Evelyne Vaughan	The Fast Family on Ed's passing
Larry Jamerson Jackie Cutchin's brother, colon and lung cancer	Family of Hylah Griffin On her passing Neighbor of the Mattesons
Families of Gene Williams and Joe Stutts On their passing	The Barlow Family on the passing of Mrs. Barlow (a former teacher at Franklin High School)
Estelle Edwards Kaye Weaver's aunt	Bob Farrar , Ray Terrell's cousin's father, declining
Peggy Ray Terrell's aunt, breast cancer	Billy Atkinson , brother-in-law of Vivian Christie
Joe Vaughan Friend of Deloris Joyner	Charlie Lupton In Courtland Rehab
Elizabeth Bertacchi Friend of Tiffany Matteson	Seth Banty Friend of Terry Rose's coworker
Marlene Petrowsky Tiffany Matteson's grandmother	Tricia McGuire Broken right arm
Bombing victims in Belgium	



2016 CHURCH SNAPSHOT

	New Worship	Average Total		Total
Month	Members	Attendance	Offering	Expenses
January	0	32	\$10,982.00	\$10,629.05
February	0	36	\$ 3,066.00	\$ 8,478.18
March	0			



APRIL BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND OTHER CELEBRATIONS



23 Robert Meredith
30 Carlton Cutchin



ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP IN APRIL

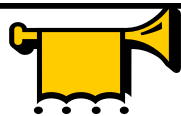
03.	Betty Jones and Bobbi Thomas	Lead Lector:
10.	Robert Meredith and Bill Boothe	Robert Meredith
17.	Asa Johnson and Jim Vasoti	
24.	Pat and John Griffin	

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SESSION UPDATE

At its Stated meeting on March 23, 2016, the FPC Session:

- Received a report of the pastor's activity from 2/19/16 through 3/22/16;
- Received financial reports for information;
- Discussed recent neighbor reports of loud disturbances from pavilion and back yard at night. Held conversation regarding temporary tethering of picnic tables and ideas to keep the yard and pavilion open to community users without disturbing others, including potential renewal of a neighborhood watch;
- Received information that Johns Brothers will be installing an electronic access system (with video and audio) on main church door between Brenner Hall and stairs April 6, 7, and 8. Keys can still be used in this door after installation;
- Discussed having a church bowling party in May; watch the bulletin for details!
- Elected a temporary Receiving Treasurer for May 1, 8, and 15;
- Elected a Ruling Elder Commissioner to PEVA's April 26th meeting.



News Briefs



On Thursday, March 24, 2016, Jerry Thigpen, son of charter member **Samuel Thigpen**, visited FPC to see the window dedicated to his father's memory. Jerry and his wife Lucia took a tour of the church, saw his parents' names in the church rolls (they were the first two on the list!) and learned that founding member **Evelyne Vaughan** remembered the Thigpens well, especially the time when Jerry was expected.

Samuel was an engineer, so his skill set was in great demand by the builders of our church. Jerry shared that his father served in World War II and in Korea. Jerry was born three weeks after Samuel passed away from a heart attack. Both of Jerry's parents are buried in Franklin's Poplar Grove Cemetery. Jerry and Lucia split their time between Florida and Vermont.



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OUTREACH: UPCOMING OUTREACH AND GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers are STILL needed to help coordinate the remaining giving opportunities this year: the Pentecost and Peacemaking offerings. *If the Spirit moves you, please contact **Benjamin Matteson** at the church office to volunteer. This is a great way to play an important part in the mission of the church that is not time-consuming. Duties include becoming familiar with the offering, finding people to do the Minute for Mission talk for each offering, and being the point of contact for each offering. Detailed information about the offerings is provided by the denomination.*



Pentecost Offering

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. Forty percent of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. Money gets broken into three areas: Young Adult Volunteers, Ministries for Youth, and Children at risk. FPC portion of the money (40%) benefits the Children's Center. This offering runs from 04/24/16-05/15/2016.



Peace and Global Witness (formerly the Peacemaking Offering)



A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to use up to 25% of this Offering to sustain their local peacemaking ministries. FPC portion of money (25%) goes to the Genieve shelter. This offering runs from 09/04/16-10/02/16.

"MANAGING CONFLICT IN THE CHURCH" WORKSHOP: APRIL 22-23

PEVA's **Commission on Ministry** is offering a 2-day **WORKSHOP** designed for pastors, ruling elders, deacons, and other church leaders interested in learning **MEDIATION** techniques to resolve **CONFLICT** early, internally, and at a low level. The workshop will take place on **FRI., APRIL 22** from **8 AM - 4 PM** and on **SAT., APRIL 23** from **8 AM - 4 PM** at the **PEVA CENTER** (801 Loudoun Ave.) in Portsmouth (large conference room). **COST = \$100**, which includes textbook and training materials - lunch is on one's own. Instructors will be the Rev. Dr. Wilbur Douglass (Pastor, Community PC, Portsmouth) and the Rev. Lou Ventura (Pastor, Franklin PC). To register, contact either Linda Smith linda@pcusa-peva.org or Jessica Fitzgerald jessica@pcusa-peva.org **REGISTRATION DEADLINE** is **MON., APRIL 18**. For registration information, see Pastor Lou.

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CONGREGATION'S CORNER

Corrected Recipe from Carolyn Lackey Easiest-Ever Cocoa Fudge

Ingredients:

3-2/3 cups (1-pound pkg)
confectioners' sugar
1/2 cup HERSHEY'S Cocoa
(Dark for Mike and Regular
for Carolyn)
1/2 cut butter or margarine,
cut into pieces and melted
1/4 cup milk
1/2 cup chopped nuts
(optional)
1 T vanilla

Directions:

Combine confectioner's
sugar, cocoa, butter and
milk in a large micro-proof
bowl.
Stir until mixture is smooth.
Stir in nuts and vanilla,
blend well.
Spread evenly in a buttered
9-inch square pan, cool.
Cut into 1-inch squares.

Rain couldn't stop FPC's Flowering of the Cross on Easter morning—we just moved it into the narthex! Many thanks to **Carol Holland**, whose beautiful arranging skills carried on this wonderful tradition.



Ray's Joke Corner by Ray Terrell

What do you get when you cross shoe laces with oysters?

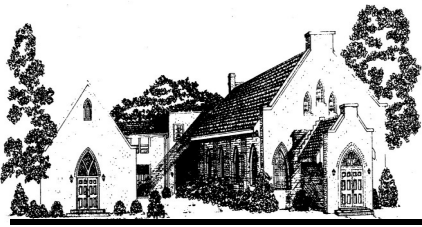
A strings of pearls.

What did the farmer say to the corn?

Quit stalking me.

What did the bushel basket say to the farmer?

You're in a peck of trouble.



APRIL 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8:30 am Men of the Church Breakfast and Bible Study
3 11:00 am Worship Guest Preacher Rev. Brent Kimlick	4	5 10:00 am Presby- terian Women Mtg and Bible Study	6	7 10:00 am AARP Board Meeting	8	9 9:30 am PW Spring Gath- ering and Lunch Great Bridge PC
10 11:00 am Worship	11	12	13	14 11:00 am-1 pm AARP Meeting	15	16
17 11:00 am Worship	18	19	20 6 pm Session	21 5:30 pm Lions' Club	22 8am-4pm Mediation Train- ing at PEVA	23 8am-4pm Mediation Train- ing at PEVA
24 11:00 am Worship	25	26 Presbytery of Eastern Virginia Meeting Kirkwood PC, Yorktown	27	28	29	30

Birthdays



23— Robert Meredith
30— Carlton Cutchin



FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Franklin, VA 23851
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franklinpreschurch@gmail.com



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

UPCOMING EVENTS-- APRIL 2016

3	Worship 11:00 am —Guest Preacher Rev. Brent Kimlick
10	Worship 11:00 am
17	Worship 11:00 a.m.
20	Session 6:00 pm
24	Worship 11:00 am



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