



THE MESSENGER

JANUARY 2016

Franklin Presbyterian Church



From
the
Pastor



REVEREND LOU VENTURA
COVENANT PASTOR

The other day I was looking at some family genealogy, and the motto on a family crest in a name in my maternal line, Ware, jumped out at me: *Solace in the Service of God*. This family crest has been hanging in my hallway since we moved into the house in 1996, and I find it astounding that it has taken me this long to really *see* it. Solace in the service of God: what an accurately concise description of these past two years in ministry with you! I am living this motto each day: I routinely discover comfort, consolation, cheer, and support in working for God with you.

Interestingly, another family crest, also in my maternal line under the name Dent, displays this motto: *Res Non Verba*. My understanding is that this is Latin for "Actions Not Words."

Both are appropriate mottos for the beginning of a new year, don't you think?

Joyfully and with love in Christ,
Lou

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Invitation and Outreach

By Benjamin Matteson, Invitation and Outreach Team Lead



2015 marked another successful year of outreach here at FPC. The Angel Tree project was completed the Tuesday prior to Christmas; Tiffany and I delivered the gifts that were provided through your gracious giving. The families were very grateful. On their behalf, I thank you for your kind hearts.

I also want to express my own gratitude to each of you for your support in reaching out to our community. Each outreach opportunity is met with your generosity of time, presence, prayer, and funding, crucial components of giving; they fulfill Christ's command to take care of the "least of these." Thank you.

Our next giving opportunity will be at the end of this month when we hold our Super Bowl food collection competition for Franklin Cooperative Ministries. We will do it the same way we did last year: once the two teams are decided for the Super Bowl, two boxes will be in the narthex to collect food, one for each team. Put your food items in the box of the team you think will win (or the team you *want* to win!). The box with the most food items will be FPC's pick for winner of the Super Bowl. Last year in a close contest

the church picked the Seattle Seahawks, but the Patriots pulled out the win, much to the delight of several in our congregation. Watch the bulletin for more information.

Finally, coming to you at the congregational meeting on January 17 will be the Filling the Year with Giving spreadsheet, which will display the outreach programs and offerings for 2016.

Thank you for your continued support!

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.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

By Vivian Christie, FPC Presbyterian Women Moderator

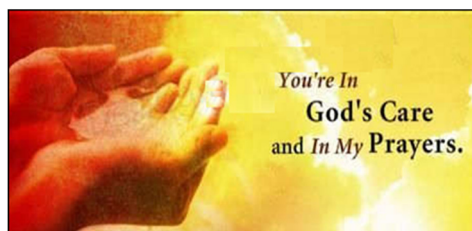
Presbyterian Women met on Tuesday, January 5, at 10am, in Brenner Hall. Our Bible study was led by **Robert Meredith**, and focused on "Deep Waters." The author summarizes the study this way: "When we are in deep waters, we feel cut off from the world; we are vulnerable. We are not in control and that feels scary. Our vision is blurred and our perspective is lost. We want someone to rescue us from the dangerous waters around us and get us on dry, firm ground." We have all been there, and this lesson was one we all could relate to.

Thank you, ladies, for all that you contributed to our Angel Tree, church decorations, and goodies. You always make our Christmas come to life.

Thank you also for continuing with "Feeding our Friend" project this year. Don't forget that the Franklin Cooperative Ministries needs help anytime with packaging food and sorting clothing.

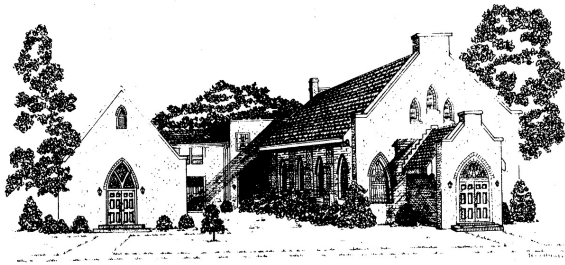
PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

PRAYER REQUESTS



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

Wayne & Earlene Sprouse	Frances Wilber
Isaiah Baggett Friend of Deloris Joyner	Timmy Drake Friend of the Roses
Cathy Quate Reverend Lou's mother	Ann Marie Wisher Reverend Lou's friend
The Ellsworth Family	Franklin Cooperative Ministry
Allen Wright Terry Rose's cousin	Lisa Shepardson Tiffany and Benjamin Matteson's friend
Diane Springfield Bob Springfield's sister	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	Marlene Petrowsky Tiffany Matteson's grandmother
Burton Grizzard	J.M. Burgess Father of friend of Tiffany Rose
Erin Matteson Benjamin's sister	Doug Ventura Ron Ventura's brother
Trisha McGuire Broken wrist	Ethan Reana Son of friend of Benjamin and Tiffany Matteson
Larry Jamerson Jackie Cutchin's brother, colon and lung cancer	Hannah Friend of Tiffany Matteson
Jimmy Mosher Friend of Deloris Joyner	Tommy Morris Kaye Weaver's cousin
Bill Edwards Katherine Weaver's brother	Estelle Edwards Kaye Weaver's aunt
The Fast Family on Ed's passing	Betty Arthur Betty Jones' sister-in-law
Peggy Ray Terrell's aunt, breast cancer	Bob Farrar , Ray Terrell's cousin's father, declining
Billy Atkinson , brother-in-law of Vivian Christie	Joey Weaver , Kaye and Katherine Weaver's Bichon



2015 CHURCH SNAPSHOT

Month	New Members	Average Worship Members	Total Attendance	Total Offering	Expenses
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	0	32		\$8,644.00	\$9,927.08
September	0	34		\$6,680.00	\$7,475.05
October	0	38		\$18,660.00	\$7,861.63
November	0	38		\$8,804.00	\$11,157.12
December	0	40		\$8,679.47	\$9,692.41

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND OTHER CELEBRATIONS



03. Ed Schwolow, James Carr
 08. Faye Springfield
 10. Lauren Harper
 17. Ann Manning Cutchin, John Matous
 21. Cathy Quate
 23. Lane Meredith
 24. Pat Griffin
 25. Bill Boothe



4. Bobbi and Ray Thomas
 10. Betty and David Jones
 21. Carolyn and Mike Lackey



ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP IN JANUARY

03.	Robert Meredith and Ray Terrell	Lead Lector:
10.	Deloris Joyner and Bobbi Thomas	Kathryn Padgett
17.	Asa Johnson and Jim Vasoti	
24.	Betty Jones and Faye Springfield	
31.	Harry Christie and Greg Avent	

THE MESSENGER

SESSION UPDATE

The ruling elders who were to rotate off the Session in 2015, **Tiffany Matteson** and **Cathy Eischeid**, have graciously agreed to “re-enlist” and serve another 3-year term beginning in 2016. Therefore, there will be no need for an election of new ruling elders at our congregational meeting on January 17, and no installation (they have already been installed).



The Session did not meet in December, 2015. It will resume regular stated meetings in January, 2016.



News Briefs



2016 Offering Envelopes Available for Pick Up

Your 2016 Offering Envelopes are ready. Please pick them up from the bookcase at the back of the church---right beside Harry and the sound board.

If you were unable to pledge this year, we have extra envelopes for you too. Why use the special envelopes? We can keep a record of giving for your tax purposes. See Vivian or Harry Christie if you don't see one for you already.

Your 2015 Records of Giving will be ready on January 3rd.

Thank you for your generous giving.

Vivian and Harry Christie

Receiving Treasurers

Sanctuary Poinsettias

Thank you for your generosity in dedicating poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary during the Advent and Christmas seasons! We had a record 25 plants purchased, filling the chancel steps down to and in front of the communion table.

Poinsettias can be taken home beginning Sunday, December 27; however, feel free to leave them to decorate the sanctuary through Epiphany (January 6). Plan to take your plant(s) home no later than Sunday, January 10.



THE MESSENGER

Thank You from the



This time of year is filled with so much love, joy, and hope for so many of us. These are rare and beautiful items indeed, for they multiply rather than decrease when you give them away! Thanks to your loving and generous spirits, we were able to spread love, joy, and hope to two families this Christmas season. Both families were appreciative and thankful for the gifts!



Our congregation never ceases to fill me with joy and gratitude! Thank you for the support you continue to show the Angel Tree ministry year after year! A special thank you to **Lou Ventura** and **Lauren** and **Liam Harper** for assisting with shopping, **Vivian Christie** for or-

ganizing delicious snacks for the wrapping party, everyone who made or brought those delicious snacks, **Robert** and **Lane Meredith** for putting up and decorating our Angel Tree (In case you were wondering Lane made all those beautiful angel ornaments!), all the elves who wrapped the gifts for our families, everyone who donated, and **Benjamin Matteson** for delivering gifts.

This ministry is truly a team effort and would not be possible without all of you! Being able to chair this project brings so much love, joy, and hope into my life; I pray it does the same for you!

May this spirit of giving love, joy, and hope continue throughout the new year!

Yours in Christ,
Tiffany Matteson



Christmas gifts beneath the Angel Tree in Brenner Hall before they were delivered to the families.

THE MESSENGER

CONGREGATION'S CORNER



Hot Cocoa

Ingredients:

1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/3 cup hot water
1/8 tsp salt
4 cups milk (dairy or non-dairy)
1 tsp vanilla extract

Instructions:

Combine the cocoa, sugar, water, and salt in a medium saucepan.

Over medium heat, stir constantly until the mixture boils. Cook, stirring **constantly**, for 1 minute.

Stir in the milk and heat, but do not boil.

Remove from heat and add vanilla.

Serve immediately.

You can also use soy milk or almond milk in this recipe.



FREE lift chair available. Two previous owners. If interested, please call the church office at 562-4313.



Ray's Joke

Corner by Ray Terrell

What is Jesus's favorite room in the house?

The Master's suite.

What kind of pitcher uses medicine for pain?











A relief pitcher

What did the pig say to the driver?

Don't hog the road.



JANUARY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Worship 11:00 am 	4 	5	6	7	8 	9 Men's Breakfast 8:30am
10  Worship 11:00 am Holy Communion	11	12	13	14	15	16
17  Worship 11:00 am Annual Congrega- tional Meeting	18	19	20 Session 6:00pm	21  	22	23 
24  Worship 11:00 am	25 	26	27	28	29	30
31 Worship 11:00 am 5th Sunday Offering						

Birthdays

3— Ed Schwolow, James Carr
 8— Faye Springfield
 10— Lauren Harper
 17— Ann Manning Cutchin, John Matous

21— Cathy Quate
 23— Lane Meredith
 24— Pat Griffin
 25— Bill Boothe

Anniversaries

04 — Bobbi & Ray Thomas
 10 — Betty & David Jones
 21— Carolyn & Mike Lackey



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-- JANUARY 2016

3	Worship 11:00 a.m.
9	Men's Breakfast 8:30 a.m. in Brenner Hall
10	Worship 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion
17	Worship 11:00 am Annual Congregational Meeting after worship
20	Session 6:00 p.m.
24	Worship 11:00 am
31	Worship 11:00 a.m. 5th Sunday Offering



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