



# THE MESSENGER

JULY 2016

Franklin Presbyterian Church



From  
the  
Pastor



REVEREND LOU VENTURA

How's your summer going so far? Many of you have done some traveling, and earlier in June Ron and I returned from our first trip to Pittsburgh (his hometown) since 2009. It was great to spend time with his family, and we were in town for Stanley Cup fever—the Penguins played game 4 in Pittsburgh while we were there (they lost, but then won the championship the next week in San Jose). That's the extent of my sports knowledge, but I'm pretty proud of it. Pittsburgh is a town that LOVES its sports, and it was great to see so many people find common ground in a shared passion.

And isn't that really the whole point of life together? Finding common ground in shared passion keeps us connected to one another. I saw that same shared passion at last week's Block Party. What a great time everyone was having! FPC's radical hospitality shone through in everything—from the popcorn and cotton candy to the bounce houses to the delicious food that was brought and grilled. Several ladies from the party visited us the next day in worship, and we had a great time afterwards at Lemonade on the Lawn. I look forward to the rest of the summer with you—in the meantime, relax and enjoy July!

Joyfully and with love in Christ,  
*Lou*

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## Invitation and Outreach

By Benjamin Matteson, Invitation and Outreach Team Lead



Well, the rain held off again this year and we had a **FANTASTIC** block party! Many thanks to all who contributed to make this such a success; we appreciate all your prayers, your time in walking the neighborhood to hand out flyers, and your donations of food, games, time, and funds. Those of you who were able to attend, thank you so much for the gift of your presence. For those of you who were with us in spirit, thank you for thinking of us and the event during your day.

We had a great crowd of folks, including kids and neighbors from our Neighborhood Watch group, and even a couple of Franklin Police Department officers stopped by for a bite to eat and to say hello. We served over 80 hamburgers and over 60 hot dogs! See the Congregation's Corner

on page 6 for photos.

The month of July has five Sundays, so on July 31, please bring your financial donations for our Compassion Fund and your canned goods for Franklin Cooperative Ministry. Our next offering will be in September with the Peacemaking Offering, and our next outreach event will be Thanksgiving dinners. This year we are exploring something new with Thanksgiving dinners: we are planning to partner with AARP, which meets in Brenner Hall, to identify older folks who may need a Thanksgiving meal put together. Stay tuned!

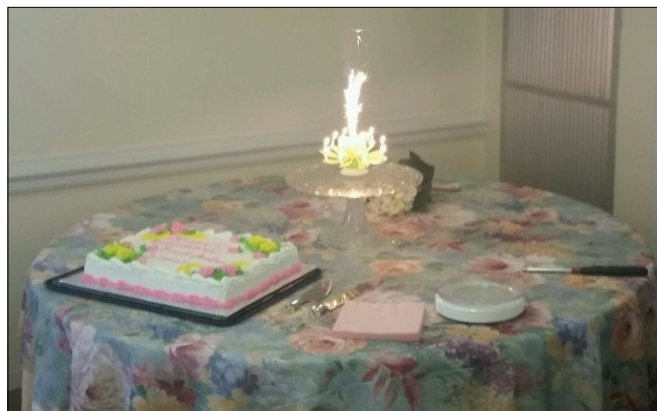
*We are a community of believers called by God to live humbly in the spirit of Christ and to act as His voice and hands in our world.*



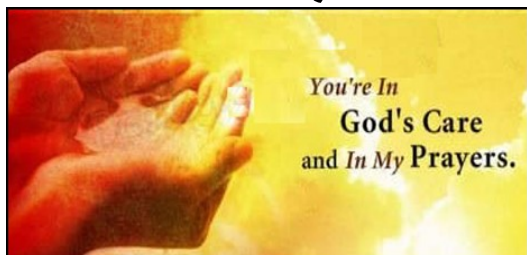
By Vivian Christie,  
PW Co-Moderator

on Sunday, June 12, you enjoyed a delicious lunch AND cake! Happy birthday, Presbyterian Women!

## FPC Presbyterian Women Celebrate Birthday



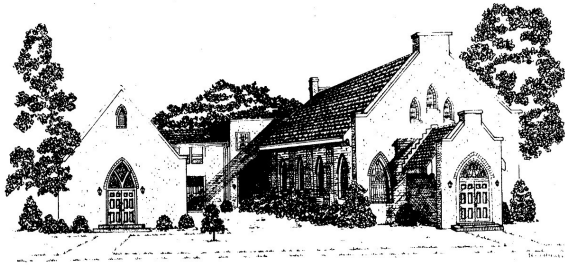
## PRAYER REQUESTS



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

### PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

<b>Wayne &amp; Earlene Sprouse</b>	The family of <b>Burton Grizzard</b> , on his passing
<b>Isaiah Baggett</b> Friend of Deloris Joyner	The family of <b>Millie Hotchkiss</b> , on her passing
<b>Cathy Quate</b> Reverend Lou's mother--Home!	<b>Hannah</b> Friend of Tiffany Matteson
<b>Melvin and Barbara Gray</b> Move to GA, Melvin's health	<b>Doug Ventura</b> Ron Ventura's brother
<b>Lois Minetree</b> Friend of Lane Meredith	<b>Rosalind Cutchins</b> Exec. Dir. of the Children's Center
<b>Vivian Goodwyn</b> Lauren Harper's co-worker	<b>Rev. Marian Carmichael</b> Diagnosed with breast cancer
The family of <b>Bob Farrar</b> , Ray Terrell's cousin's father, on his passing	<b>Billy Lassiter</b> Cousin of Linwood Drake, cancer
<b>Larry Jamerson</b> Jackie Cutchin's brother, colon and lung cancer	<b>Denise Johnson and Larry Edwards</b> Cousins of Kaye Weaver, health issues
<b>Carolyn Williams</b> Friend of Lauren Harper	<b>Joey and Abby Weaver</b> Bichons of the Weaver Family
<b>Peggy Ray Terrell's</b> aunt, breast cancer	<b>Estelle Edwards</b> Kaye Weaver's aunt
<b>Linda Morgan</b> , sister of Ray Terrell, upcoming surgeries	<b>Charlie Lupton</b> Home!
<b>Connie Beale</b> Jimmie Rose's sister	<b>Nadine Mann</b> Friend of Jimmie and Terry Rose
<b>Orlando, FL</b> On the nightclub shootings	<b>Linda Gavin</b> Friend of Jimmie and Terry Rose



## 2016 CHURCH SNAPSHOT

Month	New Worship Members	Average Total Attendance	Offering	Total Expenses
February	0	36	\$ 6,514.00	\$ 8,478.18
March	0	39	\$14,763.00	\$ 7,710.10
April	0	32	\$8,245.00	\$14,086.00
May	0	28	\$9,400.30	\$11,066.93
June	0	33	\$9,113.97	\$8,081.53



## JULY BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND OTHER CELEBRATIONS



10 Taylor Harper  
12 Bettie Bass, Joshua Raybuck  
17 Cody Thomas  
27 Asa Johnson, Tiffany Matteson  
30 Betty Jones



2 Carol & Jim Holland  
23 Pat & John Griffin



## ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP IN JULY

3	Bobbi Thomas and Betty Jones	Lead Lector:
10	Jim Vasoti and Asa Johnson	Ann Marie Brotzman
17	Tiffany Matteson and Deloris Joyner	
24	Harry Christie and Frank Padgett	
31	Allen Harper and Benjamin Matteson	

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### SESSION UPDATE

The FPC Session did not meet in June. Its next stated meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 20, 2016, at 6 p.m. in Brenner Hall.



### Meet Our New Administrative Assistant!

Melissa Lewis, FPC's new administrative assistant, began work in late May. She was born in Tennessee and lived there until the age of six when her family moved to Virginia. She grew up in Suffolk and graduated from Forest Glen High School. After living in Stoney Creek, Virginia, for nine years, she has resided in Franklin since 2002.

Melissa has four children: Wesley (25), Cori (23), Gabby (15), and Michael (13), and was blessed with a beautiful granddaughter three years ago.

In her spare time, Melissa enjoys reading (she's a long-time Stephen King fan), yard work, cooking, and doing things with her kids. Her favorite TV shows include "The Walking Dead," "The Big Bang Theory," and "Once Upon a Time." She has one dog, a Chihuahua named Buddy.

Melissa is in the office on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays—stop by to say hello!

## OUTREACH: UPCOMING OUTREACH AND GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

### Peace and Global Witness (formerly the Peacemaking Offering)

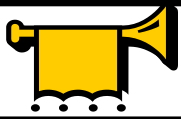
A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to use up to

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.

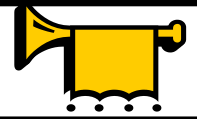




## THE MESSENGER



## News Brief



In the last issue of *The Messenger*, I listed eight overtures that I was watching in the 222nd General Assembly of the PC(USA), held in Portland, Oregon in June.

Following are the outcomes for those eight overtures.



**043—On Amending the Book of Order to Clarify Titles to Ordered Ministry (Approved as Amended)** The final text of this amendment brings back the title “Minister of Word and Sacrament,” while retaining the term “Teaching Elder” as a descriptor to distinguish from a Ruling Elder. *(Personal note: this is a change I greatly support; I consider myself a Minister of the Word and Sacrament, and rarely call myself a Teaching Elder. ☺—Pastor Lou)*

**050—On the Admission of, and Apology for, Harms Done to the LGBTQ/Q Members of the PC(USA), Family and Friends (Approved with an Alternate Resolution)** An alternate resolution that was approved covered the purpose of this overture. The final text affirms that “Followers of Jesus Christ know that no person can claim divine favor through personal merit, but only by the grace of God,” and expresses acknowledgement and sorrow over past actions that may “have at times led God’s beloved [LGBTQQ children]...to feel that they stand outside the grace of God.”

**051—On Resources for Learning, Reflection, and Reconciliation (Answered with Action on Another Resolution)** This resolution had to do with learning about and reflecting on the ways that American society, culture, and political institutions have marginalized and disempowered Americans from communities of color. The final text in response to this resolution recommends several actions of communication, education, and training to raise awareness and work to combat implicit bias and antiracism.

**052—On Amending G-2.0607c to Require Training in Evangelism (Disapproved)** The suggested amendment would have added “practical training in evangelism” as a prerequisite for a presbytery to certify a candidate ready for examination for ordination. The 1984 GA considered and rejected this same concept, stating that “it is inappropriate for the [GA] to seek to achieve the great ends of the church through placing a requirement of seminary courses in the Constitution.” The final recommendation adds that if the presbytery chooses to, it may require training in evangelism to its candidacy requirements, as PEVA and others require clinical pastoral education.

**056—On Amending Book of Order G-6.04 and Standing Rule F.5.b.(1) to Require Two-Thirds Vote on Constitutional Changes (Answered with Action on Another Resolution—FINAL ACTION: Disapproved with Comment)** *(details on comments are in the pastor’s office)*

**060—On Approving an “Affirmation of Creation” (Approved as Amended)** The final text on this overture reads “That God has connected all life on Earth in a network of kinship by virtue of biological evolution from common ancestors” and “That, in response to God’s call, we Homo sapiens (modern humans) emerged, in our wide diversity and different cultures, as a species over more than 6 million years of hominin development.”

**061—On Amending Section G-2.1001 to Clarify the Discretion Given Presbyteries to Utilize Commissioned Ruling Elders (Disapproved)** *(details are in the pastor’s office)*

**064—On Taking Specific Action to Address the Worsening Plight of the African American Male (Approved as Amended with Comments)** Encourages specific action in word and deed and in working with other agencies to address and improve the plight of African American males in Baltimore, Charlotte, Cleveland, New York, and Pittsburgh. *(details are in the pastor’s office—will be watching for outcomes)*

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## CONGREGATION'S CORNER      FPC's 5th Annual Block Party—June 25



Cori Graham (center, admin assistant Melissa Lewis' daughter) gets really good at cornhole!

(LEFT) The day got a little overcast, but the festivities continued. Benjamin Matteson grilled burgers and dogs, and Harry Christie kept kids of all ages supplied with popcorn and sugared up with cotton candy.



Robert Meredith (L) accepts praise from Vee, a neighbor, who LOVED Robert's baked bean recipe. They're now called Robert's Blest Beans!



## Ray's Joke Corner

by Ray Terrell

Why do golfers and baseball players make good dancers?

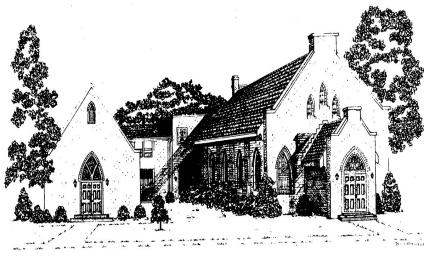
They're good swingers.

What did the bushel basket say to the sick farmer?








You are in a peck of trouble.

Why can a cake stand hot weather?

Because it's got FROSTING on it!



# JULY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 
3 11 am Worship <b>Holy Communion</b>	4  INDEPENDENCE DAY	5	6	7	8	9
10  11 am Worship	11	12 	13	14	15	16
17  11 am Worship	18	19	20 Session Meeting 6 pm	21	22	23 
24 11 am Worship	25	26  PEVA Quarterly Mtg	27 	28	29	30 
31 11 am Worship <b>5th Sunday Offer- ing—Canned Goods and Com- passion Fund</b>						

## Birthdays:

10 Taylor Harper  
12 Bettie Bass, Joshua Raybuck  
17 Cody Thomas

27 Asa Johnson, Tiffany Matteson  
30 Betty Jones

## Anniversaries:

2 Carol & Jim Holland  
23 Pat & John Griffin



## 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-- JULY 2016

3	Worship 11:00 am <b>Holy Communion</b>
10	Worship 11:00 am
17	Worship 11:00 a.m.
24	Worship 11:00 a.m.
31	Worship 11:00 am 5th Sunday Offering



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