



THE MESSENGER

MARCH 2015



Franklin Presbyterian Church



From
the
Pastor



REVEREND LOU VENTURA
COVENANT PASTOR

March 20th marks Ron's and my 22nd wedding anniversary, and our 23rd year together—we were married a year to the day of our first date. When I think back to 1993 when we married, I am struck by how different I believe I am than I was then (and not just in years and mileage!). While certainly I have retained most aspects of my character and personality, I *am* different, and in mostly good ways. Marriage has changed me, life has changed me. And each year that our anniversary rolls around, I look at it as not just *another* anniversary, but as a time to reflect on what I have learned, where I have come from and what I hope for in the future, both as an individual and as a married person.

Continued on page 4

Inside this issue:

Invitation and Outreach	1
Presbyterian Women	2
Prayer Requests	2
Church Snapshot	3
March Celebrations	3
Assisting with Worship	3
Session Update	4
Outreach	5
Congregational Corner	6
Calendar	7

Invitation and Outreach: ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



I would like to once again thank everyone for bringing in canned goods for the Super Bowl canned good collection that was held in early February. The collection ran for just two weeks, but we donated 187 canned goods to the Franklin Cooperative Ministry—I would say the collection was a huge success!

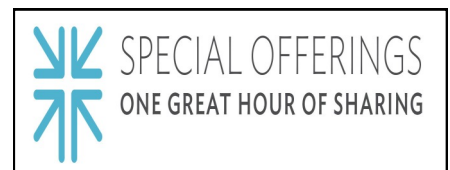
Our next giving opportunity is One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). For years, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36% of undesignated gifts, while Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receives 32%.

OGHS begins March 8th and the offering will be collected on Easter Sunday, April 5th. If you have any questions please contact me in the church office.

Benjamin

P.S. Don't forget: our 5th Sunday Offering is March 29th, when we'll collect canned goods for Cooperative Ministry as well as monetary donations to FPC's Compassion Fund!



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

PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

By Vivian Christie

FPC Presbyterian Women Moderator

Our next meeting is Tuesday, **March 3rd**, at 10am in Brenner Hall. Rev. Lou Ventura is our Bible Study leader for Lesson Six in our Study Guides. The author summarizes this month's study this way: "The Aroma of God Among Us. She states that Paul uses processions or parades as a metaphor to clarify his authority and to emphasize the idea that all followers of Christ are called to show their faith in action." We look forward to the discussion on this part of our journey with Paul.

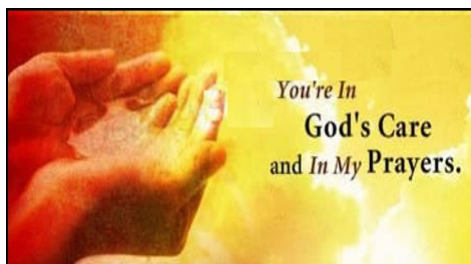
On March 8th, we join together to celebrate The Gifts of Women Sunday. Our women are going to present a dramatic reading, "Faithful Fear: Voices from Scripture." The script was written by The Rev. Kelly Kaufman and originally presented at PW Spring Gathering 2014. We plan to rehearse after our Bible Study and meeting on March 3rd, so prepare to be a little longer than usual. Be sure to bring your scripts.

Also, PW invites the congregation to join us for a lasagna lunch following worship on March 8th. Come support our PW and enjoy a feast.

**You are Invited to Gifts of Women Sunday March 8th**

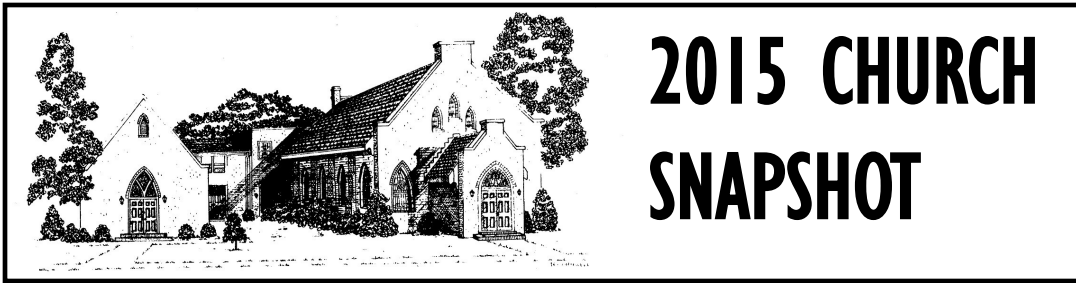
Franklin PW will present a dramatic reading, "Faithful Fear: Voices from Scripture," during our worship. Then, you are invited to join us for lunch immediately after worship. Our PW are preparing lasagna, salad, bread, and brownies. You don't want to miss this fun, so mark your calendars and be there!

PRAYER REQUESTS



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

Wayne & Earlene Sprouse	Krista Slane
Angela Drewry Kathryn Padgett's friend	Anna Cabell Wiley
Isaiah Baggett Friend of Deloris Joyner	Timmy Drake Friend of the Rose's
Rick Gantly Brother of Diana Conco	Ann Marie Wisher Reverend Lou's Friend
Diane Springfield Sister in Law of Faye Springfield	Howard Ambrose Brother of Faye Springfield
Nora Vasoti	Sheri Pearce Sister of Denise Kien
Steve Mitchell and family Friends of the Christies	Barbara Mease Children's Cent. Exec. Director
Allen Wright Cousin of Terry Rose	Inman Family Co-worker of Terry Rose
Toler Family Friend of Deloris	Shirley Mosher Friend of Deloris Joyner
Ellsworth Family	Holly Johnson Wells Cousin of Terry's Friend
Jackie Cutchin	Betty Bass
Emily Harris Thomas Niece of Kathryn Padgett	Evelyn Vaughan
Ray Powell Brother of Evelyn Drake	Unspoken Prayers



		Average		
	New	Worship	Total	Total
<u>Month</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>	<u>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	\$8,036.95

Upcoming: Join us for the 2nd annual Pancake and Potluck breakfast on Easter Sunday at 9:45 am in Brenner Hall. Pancakes will be provided. Listen during Announcements in worship for a food sign up sheet. Questions? Contact **Tiffany Matteson** at tmatteson84@gmail.com or call the church office.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



02. Patricia McGuire
13. Nora Vasoti
31. Carolyn Lackey



02. Patricia & Joe McGuire
14. Jackie & Carlton Cutchin
20. Lou & Ron Ventura



ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP IN MARCH

01.	John & Pat Griffin	Lead Lector: Cathy Eischeid
08.	Jim Drewry & Jimmie Rose	
15.	Bud & Ann Marie Brotzman	
22.	Frank Padgett & Ron Ventura	
29.	Benjamin Matteson & Ray Terrell	

THE MESSENGER

From the Pastor Continued from page 1

Anniversaries are important. They are remembrances of significant events in our individual and corporate lives that help define who we are. We can look at communion as an anniversary; each time we eat the bread and drink the juice, we are doing so in remembrance of Jesus—the person who defines our individual and corporate lives—while at the same time looking forward to his return. Our Christian liturgical year guides us through annual seasons—in a sense, anniversaries—of significant events in the life of the church. Though our Ash Wednesday worship was snowed out last week, we have entered into another season of Lent. And it's not just *another* Lent, but an opportunity to compare where we were last year, where we are now, and where we want to be next year.

I hope that you are able to find some time this month to be with God and reflect, and I pray that the insights you gain are insightful and bring you closer to God.

Joyfully and with love in Christ,
Lou

SESSION UPDATE

On February 21, 2015, the FPC Session held a retreat at the PDC Workforce Development Center to celebrate the work of elected leaders of the FPC congregation. During the retreat, the group worshipped and participated in Holy Communion; took a spiritual gifts assessment; played a version of the game “Giant Jenga;” and viewed and discussed the video, “How Great Leaders Inspire Action.”

After the retreat, at its stated meeting, the Session:

- Received the monthly church financial report for information;
- Received a report from the pastor for information;
- Received a report regarding the status of the Compassion Fund;
- Approved a motion from the Invitation and Outreach Team to place a box in the narthex to collect used eyeglasses for the Franklin Lions' Club;
- Was reminded of the upcoming 5th Sunday offering (March 19), when both canned goods for the Franklin Cooperative Ministry and money for the FPC Compassion Fund will be collected;
- Heard a report regarding the January PEVA meeting and vote regarding constitutional changes.



Lent Worship Team Continues in March

You are cordially invited to gather with **Pastor Lou** on Wednesday, March 4, 11, and 25, 2015 from 6 to 7 p.m. in Brenner Hall to participate in a *lectio divina*-like experience with the lectionary scripture for Lent.

At this meeting we will also share thoughts about worship throughout the Lenten and Easter season.

These meetings are very informal; please feel free to come as you are and bring your dinner; we can “eat while we meet.”

If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Lou. Otherwise, just let her know you plan to attend so there will be plenty of handouts.



THE MESSENGER

OUTREACH: VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR FUTURE OUTREACH AND GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers are needed to help coordinate three major outreach opportunities this year: One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), Pentecost, and Peacemaking offerings. If the Spirit moves you, please contact **Benjamin Matteson** at the church office to volunteer. 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 04/26/15 to 05/24/15.



Peace and Global Witness formally the Peace-making 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 09/06/15 to 10/04/15.

Community Lenten Services

March 4– March 25, 2015

Schedule

12:00 – 12:30 Lunch

12:30 – 1:00 Worship

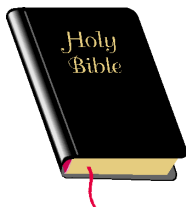
1:00 – 1:30 Lunch

Offering: Cooperative Ministry

Host Church	Date	Worship Leadership	Lunch Leadership
Hunterdale Christian	3-4-15	Franklin Baptist	St. Jude Catholic
Hunterdale Christian	3-11-15	First Baptist	First Baptist
Hunterdale Christian	3-18-15	High Street UMC	High Street UMC
Hunterdale Christian	3-25-15	Fellowship Around the Word	Fellowship Around the Word

THE MESSENGER CONGREGATION'S CORNER

HOLY HUMOR



A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!"

His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible

means?"

The son replied, "I do know!"

"Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?"

"That's easy, Daddy..." the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for **Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.**"



*The following recipe was submitted by **Vivian Christie** at the request of several women of the church; the recipe was given to her by **Cathy Eischeid**. Enjoy (and share! 😊) —Editor*

REFRIGERATOR BRAN MUFFINS

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!



Ray's Joke Corner

by Ray Terrell

How did Jesus and the disciples pay for their food?

-With their Master's Card.

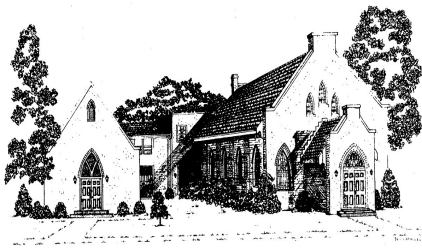
What kind of tree has fingers?

-A palm Tree.

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

-String of Pearls.





MARCH 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Sunday Worship 11:00 am	2  	3 Presbyterian Women 10:00 am	4  Lenten Worship Team Mtg 6:00 pm	5 A.A.R.P. Board Meeting 11:00 am Choir Practice 7:30 pm	6	7 Presbyterian Men's Breakfast 8:30 am
8 Sunday Worship 11:00 am *Daylight Savings Time begins*	9	10	11  Lenten Worship Team Mtg 6:00 pm	12 A.A.R.P. Mtg 11:00 am Worship Team Meeting 6:45 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm	13 	14 
15 Sunday Worship 11:00 am	16	17	18  Session Meeting 6:00 pm	19 Choir Practice 7:30 pm	20 	21
22 Sunday Worship 11:00 am	23 A.A.R.P. Safe Driving Class 9-12:30 pm	24	25  A.A.R.P. Safe Driving Class 9-12:30 pm Lenten Wor- ship Team Mtg 6:00 pm	26 Choir Practice 7:30 pm	27	28
29 Sunday Worship 11:00 am Fifth Sunday Offering (canned goods and \$)	30	31 		 Denotes Community Lenten Service		

Birthdays:

02. Patricia McGuire 31. Carolyn Lackey
13. Nora Vasoti

Anniversaries:

02. Patricia & Joe McGuire 20. Lou & Ron Ventura
14. Jackie & Carlton Cutchin



FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Franklin, VA 23851
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Worship with us each Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS-- MARCH 2015

01.	Sunday Worship 11:00 am
03.	Presbyterian Women 10:00 am
05.	A.A.R.P. Board Meeting 11:00 am
07.	Presbyterian Men's Breakfast 8:30 am
08.	Sunday Worship 11:00 am -- Daylight Saving Time Begins
12.	A.A.R.P. Meeting 11:00 am
12.	Worship Team Meeting 6:45 pm
15.	Sunday Worship 11:00 am
18.	Session Meeting 6:00 pm
22.	Sunday Worship 11:00 am
23.	A.A.R.P. Safe Driving Class 9-12:30 pm
25.	A.A.R.P. Safe Driving Class 9-12:30 pm
29.	Sunday Worship 11:00 am -- Fifth Sunday Offering

Choir practices at 7:30 p.m. each Thursday



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