



THE MESSENGER

MARCH 2016



Franklin Presbyterian Church



From the Pastor



REVEREND LOU VENTURA
COVENANT PASTOR

At Wednesday night's Lenten *lectio divina* gathering, we talked briefly about Passion/Palm Sunday. Some churches focus more on the passion of Christ (his torture and suffering) while others concentrate on his entry into Jerusalem amidst waving palms. For the past two Easters together, we have processed from Brenner Hall to the sanctuary, waving our palms as we go. This Palm Sunday, March 20, will be no different. The Worship Team and I are working on Good Friday worship, and I am looking forward to our third annual Easter breakfast.

In the meantime, I hope that you will find time to attend at least one of the remaining Community Lenten Services at St. Jude Catholic Church; it is a wonderful break from the weekday routine that reminds us just how much we are loved.

Joyfully and with love in Christ,
Lou

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Invitation and Outreach

By Benjamin Matteson, Invitation and Outreach Team Lead



Our church's giving year is up and in full swing. We have already had one 5th Sunday offering and our Super Bowl offering, both of which were great successes! Our next giving opportunity is the denomination's 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 Sunday, March 6 and the offering will be collected on Easter Sunday, March 27. Please give generously, remembering our charge: 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.

If you have any questions, call **Benjamin** at (434) 594-7212.

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PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



By Vivian Christie, Co-Moderator, FPC Presbyterian Women

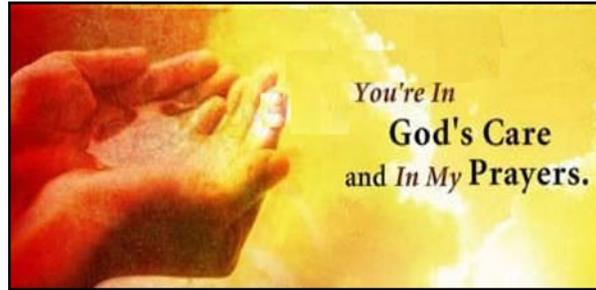
At our Circle Meeting on March 1st, we studied the “Waters of Justice and Righteousness.” The author of our study reminded us that being righteous and doing justice are to be a part of our lives. They are the ways we “walk the talk” of faith. As people of faith, we are to look to the needs of those marginalized in our communities today. She also prompted us to think of ways we could take action to save water. We decided that we could eliminate the need for bottled water at our church by putting a water filter on our faucet in the kitchen. Thanks to **Jackie Cutchin** and Ace Hardware for that donation!

On Sunday, March 6th, we celebrated The Gifts of Women Sunday. We dedicated the new communion cloth that was a memorial gift in honor of **Goldzsie Duncan Cabell**, and enjoyed a pot-luck lunch following worship. Our gifts to the congregation were a new cookbook with our favorite recipes being served that day. If you did not get a cookbook, they will be available in the narthex.

On April 5th, our Bible study will be “Streams of Mercy—Forgiveness.” In this lesson, we will look at various aspects of giving and receiving forgiveness, in the hope that forgiveness will become a more important aspect of our faith journey.

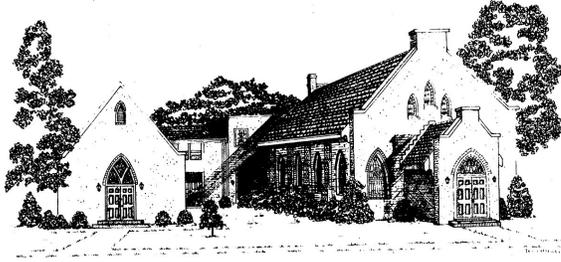
On Saturday, April 9th, PEVA PW will meet for the annual Spring Gathering in Great Bridge. Please let **Vivian Christie** know if you plan to attend.

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
The Springfield Family on the passing of 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 In Nansmond Pointe	Billy Lassiter Cousin of Linwood Drake, cancer
Jimmy Mosher Friend of Deloris Joyner	J.M. Burgess Father of friend of Tiffany Rose
Evelyne Vaughan	Tommy Morris Kaye Weaver's cousin
Larry Jamerson Jackie Cutchin's brother, colon and lung cancer	Estelle Edwards Kaye Weaver's aunt
The Fast Family on Ed's passing	The Family of Betty Arthur , Betty Jones' sister-in-law, on her passing
Bill Edwards Katherine Weaver's brother	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
Family of Hylah Griffin On her passing Neighbor of the Mattesons	Families of Gene Williams and Joe Stutts On their passing



2016 CHURCH SNAPSHOT

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



MARCH BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND OTHER CELEBRATIONS



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



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

Congratulations to **Kathryn and Frank Padgett** for completing a half marathon in New Orleans last Sunday!

Congratulations to **the Lackeys** on their new grandbaby!



ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP IN MARCH

06.	Jim Drewry and Jimmie Rose	Lead Lector:
13.	Frank Padgett and Ron Ventura	Cathy Eischeid
20.	Ann Marie and Bud Brotzman	
27.	Ben Matteson and Ray Terrell	

SESSION UPDATE

Prior to its stated meeting on February 20, 2016, the FPC Session held a retreat at the Paul D. Camp Community College Workforce Development Center to celebrate the service of the FPC leadership, examine church trends and explore goals for the coming year.

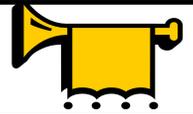


After the retreat, the Session held its stated meeting, where it:

- Received a report of the pastor’s activity from 1/20/16 through 2/19/16;
- Received financial reports for information;
- Heard a report of the commissioner to the PEVA meeting;
- Approved a request for a revision to the sexton’s salary;
- Approved a request from the Facilities Team to purchase a replacement microphone;
- Discussed ideas on activities for Congregational Life and Invitation and Outreach for 2016.



News Briefs



***Lectio Divina* Sessions In Progress—It’s Not Too Late to Join In!**

Lenten *Lectio divina* sessions continue to be held at 6 p.m. in Brenner Hall.

Lectio divina, which means “divine reading,” is a practice of reading through scripture to promote communion with God and increase knowledge of God’s Word. At each meeting, lectionary texts for the upcoming Sunday will be studied, and reflections and discussion from *lectio divina* often inform the sermon and other worship elements.

We are all quite busy, so *lectio divina* sessions are held to a strict hour in order to honor everyone’s time. The sessions are very informal—bring your dinner or a snack to eat while we meet!

The two remaining meeting dates are March 9 and March 16 (all Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in Brenner Hall).

Lenten Devotionals and Easter Lily Order Forms

They’re here! The Lenten devotional, “Living the Gospel Life,” is in the narthex—call the church if you’d like one mailed or brought to you.

Also, order forms for Easter lilies are in each week’s bulletin. Again, please contact the church at 562-4313 if you’d like one mailed or brought to you.



OUTREACH: UPCOMING OUTREACH AND GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers are STILL 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. **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.*



One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. Money gets broken into three areas: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self Development of People. This offering runs from 03/06/16-03/27/2016.

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.

THE MESSENGER

CONGREGATION'S CORNER

On Wednesday, March 2, FPC prepared and served lunch and led worship at the Franklin Community Lenten Service held at St. Jude Catholic Church.



Clockwise from top left: Lane Meredith and Ann Marie Brotzman have a serious conversation. Jimmie Rose and Harry Christie discuss crowd control strategy among the decorated lunch tables, the result of collaboration between Lane Meredith and Sue Fast, who continued the Lenten them from the sanctuary decoration. Betty Jones keeps an eye on the sandwiches. Lane Meredith, Ann Marie Brotzman, Vivian Christie, Faye Springfield, Val Schwolow and Pat Griffin chat while awaiting hungry customers.



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.



MARCH 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 12:30 Comm Lenten Svc 6:00 pm Lectio Divina	3	4	5 8:30 am Men of the Church Breakfast
6 11:00 am Worship <i>One Great Hour of Sharing Offering begins</i>	7	8	9 12:30 Comm Lenten Svc 6:00pm Lectio Divina	10	11	12
13 11:00 am Worship	14	15	16 12:30 Comm Lenten Svc 6:00pm Lectio Divina	17	18	19
20 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 11:00 am Worship	21	22	23 6:00 pm Session	24 <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	25 <i>Good Friday</i>	26
27 <i>Easter</i> 9:45 am Easter Breakfast 11:00 am Worship <i>Holy Communion</i>	28	29	30 6:00 pm Service of Healing and Wholeness	31		

Birthdays



2— Patricia McGuire
13— Nora Vasoti
31— Carolyn Lackey

Anniversaries



2— Patricia and Joe McGuire
14— Jackie and Carlton Cutchin
20— Lou and Ron Ventura



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-- MARCH 2016

2	Community Lenten Service 12:30 pm / Lectio Divina 6:00 pm
5	Men of the Church Breakfast 8:30 am
6	Worship 11:00 a.m. 4th Sunday in Lent
9	Community Lenten Service 12:30pm / Lectio Divina 6:00 pm
13	Worship 11:00 am 5 th Sunday in Lent
16	Community Lenten Service 12:30pm / Lectio Divina 6:00 pm
20	Worship 11:00 a.m. Palm Sunday
23	Session 6:00 pm
27	Worship 11:00 am Easter Sunday
30	Service of Healing and Wholeness 6:00 pm



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