



# THE MESSENGER

MARCH 2017

Franklin Presbyterian Church



## One Great Hour of Sharing

By Benjamin Matteson, Invitation and Outreach Team Lead

It is only the end of February, and our church has already had some successful giving opportunities. We have had a Fifth Sunday Offering and a Souper Bowl Competition food drive that collected over a hundred and forty food items. Thank you for your generous giving! Our church picked the Falcons to win by donations, but the Patriots came back to win it.

Our next giving opportunity is the denomination's One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). As in prior 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 19 and the offering will be collected on Easter Sunday, April 16. 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.* Thank you in advance for your generous giving.

If you have any questions as always feel free to contact me.



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From the pastor

REVEREND LOU VENTURA



Many of you may have heard our family's good news: our son, RJ, is engaged to his delightful and beautiful girlfriend, Natalie Moreno. RJ and Natalie live in Silver Spring, MD, near Natalie's family. We are overjoyed that RJ and Natalie are making it official, and it is wonderful to see them so happy. Chloe,

RJ's daughter, is excited as well. They haven't set a date yet, although they're talking about June or September. This may also mean at least one more grandchild, so we are looking to the future with bright expectations.

Speaking of bright expectations: Ron and I will celebrate 25 years together, 24 years married on March 20. ☺At right is a picture of RJ and Natalie we took at lunch last Saturday.

Joyfully and with love in Christ,

Lou



*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

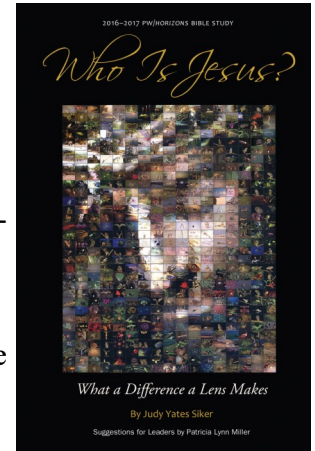
By Vivian Christie, FPC Presbyterian Women Moderator



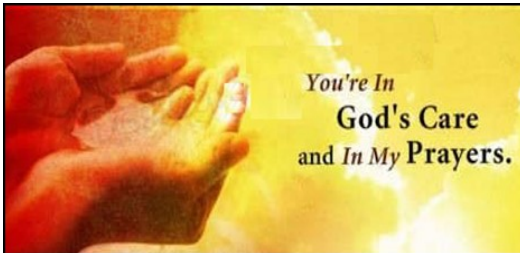
Well done PW!!! Our project for February was to donate bed bug mattress and pillow covers to The Genieve Shelter in Suffolk. Even though these items were expensive, we donated 8 sets (\$282.00). They were so pleased when I delivered them! We hope to do an easier project for them possibly in April/May.

Our next circle meeting is Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, at 10 a.m. in Brenner Hall. We are studying Lesson Six on page 58 in your study books. This lesson focuses on "Who is Jesus" according to the Book of Hebrews. Our author encourages believers to hold fast to their faith in times of adversity, to remain firm in their commitment to Jesus who has run this race before us and now reigns in glory with God.

Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, is The Gifts of Women Sunday. Be sure to check out that article on page 6!



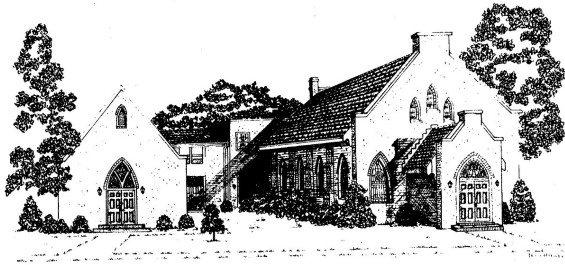
## PRAYER REQUESTS



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

## PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

<b>Mary Annette Dunn</b> , friend of Lauren Harper, bypass surgery	<b>Isaiah Baggett</b> Friend of Deloris Joyner
<b>Polly Edwards</b> , sister-in-law of Katherine Weaver/Kaye Weaver's aunt	<b>Karen McNair</b> , sister of Jimmie and Terry Rose's neighbor, inoperable bone cancer
<b>Betty and Don Fisher</b> , Don ill with Hodgkin's lymphoma	<b>Melvin and Barbara Gray</b> Health, closing Franklin home
<b>Doug Ventura</b> Ron Ventura's brother	<b>Ethel Vick</b> , mother of Terry Rose's coworker; dementia, blood clots
<b>Rosalind Cutchins</b> Exec. Dir. of the Children's Center	<b>Larry Jamerson</b> Jackie Cutchin's brother, colon and lung cancer, improving
<b>Rev. Marian Carmichael</b> Diagnosed with breast cancer	<b>Billy Lassiter</b> Cousin of Linwood Drake, cancer
<b>Mary Bridges</b> Health issues	<b>Estelle Edwards</b> Kaye Weaver's aunt
<b>Peggy</b> , Ray Terrell's aunt, breast cancer	<b>Linda Morgan</b> , sister of Ray Terrell, upcoming surgeries
<b>Charlie Lupton</b>	<b>Wayne &amp; Earlene Sprouse</b>
<b>Jerry Cutchin</b> , father-in-law of Jackie Cutchin, in East Pavilion, Room 150, EP East	<b>Katherine Weaver</b> mobility and back pain issues, pneumonia
<b>Jenny Jones</b> , infected kidney stone; upcoming procedure	<b>Lauren Harper</b> , broke wrist playing tennis, recovering
<b>Dee Council</b> , neighbor of Kaye Weaver, gall bladder surgery last week	<b>Ameshia Warren and her mother, Yvonne Grant</b> , spot found on Yvonne's lung (Ameshia is a friend/co-worker of Tiffany Matteson)
<b>Ed Cotton</b> , brother of Jimmie and Terry Rose's neighbor, inoperable pancreatic cancer	<b>Ruth Gall</b> , mother of Jimmie & Terry Roses's daughter-in-law, stroke and pneumonia
<b>Hugh Coleman</b> , lung cancer, friend of Deloris Joyner	<b>Georgia Barrett</b> , upcoming neck surgery, friend of Deloris Joyner
<b>Judy Faison</b> , at home and doing well	<b>Kaye Weaver's cousin</b> , waiting on biopsy results
<b>Carole Dixon</b> , Jimmie Rose's sister, recovering well from surgery	<b>The Family of Lois Minetree</b> friend of Lane Meredith; passed away 2/16/17
<b>Barky Wright and family</b> , on the death of Barky's brother Stephen	



# 2017 CHURCH SNAPSHOT

Month	New Members	Average Worship Attendance	Total Offering	Total Expenses
January	0	31	\$10,385.33	\$11,866.34
February	0	00	\$	\$
March	0	00	\$	\$
April	0	00	\$	\$
May	0	00	\$	\$
June	0	00	\$	\$
July	0	00	\$	\$
Aug	0	00	\$	\$
Sept	0	00	\$	\$
Oct	0	00	\$	\$
Nov	0	00	\$	\$
Dec	0	00	\$	\$

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND OTHER CELEBRATIONS



2 Patricia McGuire  
13 Nora Vasoti  
30 Lee Peace  
31 Carolyn Lackey



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



Congratulations to **Benjamin Matteson** on his promotion to Corporal at the Southampton County Jail! This should mean we will see more of Benjamin—when the force is fully staffed, the job comes with regular Monday through Friday day shift work. We know Tiffany is looking forward to having Benjamin home with her on the weekends! We're proud of you, Benjamin—way to go!



## ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP IN MARCH



5	Deloris Joyner and Bobbi Thomas	Cathy Eischied
12	Frank Padgett and Ron Ventura	
19	John and Pat Griffin	
26	Harry Christie and Bud Brotzman	

## THE MESSENGER

## SESSION UPDATE

At its stated meeting on Saturday, February 11, 2017, the FPC Session:

- Held its annual retreat with guest speaker CRE Billy Ricketts, incoming Commission on Ministry (COM) Moderator and Pastor of Family Life Ministries at Providence PC in VB;
- Approved minutes of the January meeting and coordinated the church calendar;
- Approved minutes of the January Stated Congregational Meeting held January 15, 2017;
- Received a report of the pastor's activities for the prior month;
- Received financial reports for information;
- Modified and approved the policy for two weeks' paid vacation to administrative assistant;
- Tabled the capital expense policy until March's meeting when the trustees can attend and discuss;
- Heard a report on the January Neighborhood Watch meeting;
- Heard the report of Commissioner Elder **Ann Marie Brotzman** on the January PEVA Meeting.



## News Briefs



## Stop Hunger Now Meal Packing Event at First Hampton PC April 25

You are invited to the presbytery-wide Stop Hunger Now meal packing event on Tuesday, April 25th (exact time still to be determined) at First Presbyterian Church Hampton just before the quarterly PEVA meeting.

Volunteers are needed to set up and take down packaging stations and equipment, fill bins with raw ingredients, scoop ingredients into meal bags, weigh and seal the bags, box and stack them on pal-

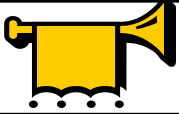
lets, and load the pallets and equipment onto a truck.

Funds are currently being gathered (and donations are accepted) to cover the cost of the materials (\$2,944.00) for 10,152 meals (approximately 29 cents per meal).

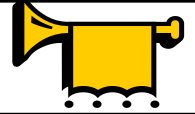
Stop Hunger Now distributes food and other life-saving aid to vulnerable children and families around the world, endeavoring to help end world hunger. They package and ship meals to feed people in need through community-supported meal-packaging programs like this one that engage half a million volunteers per year.

Everyone is invited—let's pack 10,152 meals! If you are interested in attending, let Pastor Lou know so we can get a carpool or caravan together.





## News Briefs



### Community Lenten Services

Franklin Presbyterian Church will be the host church for all of the 2017 Community Lenten Services.

**March 1 – April 5, 2017**

#### Schedule

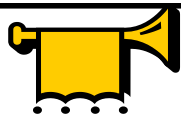
12:00 – 12:30 Lunch  
12:30 – 1:00 Worship  
1:00 – 1:30 Lunch

**Offering: Cooperative Ministry**

3/1/17	HSUMC	HSUMC
3/8/17	Franklin PC	Franklin PC
3/15/17	Emmanuel Episcopal	Emmanuel Episcopal
3/22/17	Fellowship Around the Word Church	Fellowship Around the Word Church
3/29/17	St. Jude Catholic	St. Jude Catholic
4/5/17	Franklin Baptist	Franklin Baptist

Volunteers are needed each week to:

- Be a resource for lunch leaders in Brenner Hall
- Be a resource for worship leaders and participants
- Prepare soup and sandwiches for FPC's lunch leadership on Wednesday, 3/8/17, and help serve



## News Briefs



### PRESBYTERIAN PILGRIMAGE WEEKEND: SUMMER 2017



Pilgrimage Weekend is a time to look at your own life in the light of God's will for you, and a time to learn and reflect on your place in His scheme of things.

The next PEVA Presbyterian Pilgrimage Weekend will take place during summer 2017. A brochure is available to explain all about this opportunity for spiritual development, or you can ask Pastor Lou, who participated in a pilgrimage in November 2011 and often serves as spiritual advisor for pilgrimage weekends.

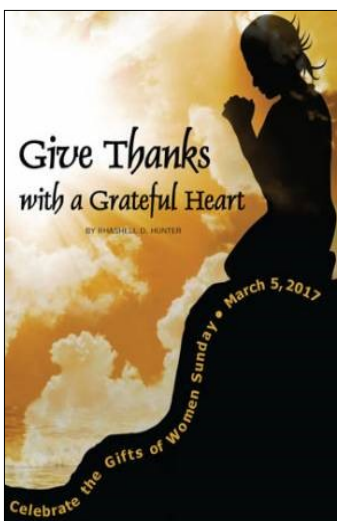
If you would like to participate, contact Gale Pere at 804-815-1595 or [gale57@cox.net](mailto:gale57@cox.net) You may also contact Mary Jo Baylor: [baylorm@outlook.com](mailto:baylorm@outlook.com) or 757-404-5083. They can provide you with more detailed information.

### *The Gifts of Women Sunday* March 5, 2017

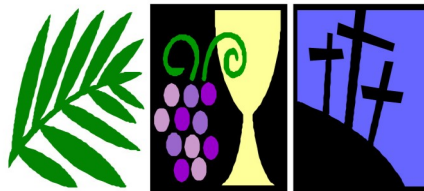
Be sure to mark your calendar to join us for worship on **Sunday, March 5, the Gifts of Women Sunday.**

On this special Sunday, we are encouraged to live with an "attitude of gratitude." One way we do this is to honor a "Woman of the Year" in our church family. Yes, the suspense begins...you must be there to find out just who we have chosen! It was difficult; we have so many gifted members in our church family!

After worship, ALL WOMEN are invited to have lunch together at Cypress Cove Country Club (Dutch treat). Yes, that is ALL WOMEN!!! If you have any questions, please contact one of the following: **Vivian** 562-2198, **Jackie** 650-8318, or **Betty** 562-2820.



### COMMUNITY



### LENTEN SERVICES

This year, our church is hosting our Community Lenten Services, every Wednesday through Lent.

We need volunteers to act as our hosts/

hostesses. Mainly, the responsibilities are to be available in the church kitchen to help our guests know where things are and to help them with any of their needs. **If you can assist, please call the church office.**

On Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, Franklin Presbyterian Church is leading worship and providing lunch for about 100 guests. We are serving soup, sandwiches, and dessert. If you have not already signed up, please call **Vivian Christie** or the church office. We need your help.



## News Briefs



### Lenten Devotionals On Order

This year's Lenten devotional, "The Sanctuary for Lent 2017" by Donald K. McKim has been ordered and is expected within days.

This devotional contains brief readings for each day in Lent, including a suggested Scripture, a short devotion, and a closing prayer. In keeping with the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's nailing of the theses, each day's devotion will include a quote from one of the Reformers.

Watch the narthex for your copy, or contact the church office for one to be mailed to you.



### Cradock PC in Portsmouth, Makemie Woods To Close

At its quarterly meeting on Saturday, January 28, 2017, the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia (PEVA) voted 80-25 to close Makemie Woods effective May 31, 2017.



**Makemie Woods**

Events and activities at the camp will begin to be phased out between now and April 15; existing staff will be offered the opportunity to assist with the closure through May 31.

A task force will be appointed by PEVA to work through the phase-out process and the disposal of the Makemie Woods property. The task force will be empowered to hire or contract for services as necessary in consultation with the Stewardship Ministry Team, as well as determine the disposition of any associated designated funds.

A service of celebration will be held at Makemie Woods on Saturday, March 25, 2017, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., to lift up the ministry which took place on the Makemie Woods property over the past 50 years, noting lives that were changed and the many people who served there in the name of Christ.

At the same meeting, PEVA approved the appointment of an Administrative Commission in response to a request from the Session and the vote of the congregation of Cradock Presbyterian Church, Portsmouth, to implement the dissolution of the church.

Please be in prayer for the Makemie Woods staff and the congregation at Cradock.



**Cradock Presbyterian Church**

## THE MESSENGER

## CONGREGATION'S CORNER

Hello Church Family!

I want to share some news with you. I had a phone call from Joe Slane last night. He did retire from ministry, but it was delayed a little because of an unexpected injury. I think I have this correct—he had a torn tendon in his leg and had to have surgery. He is home recuperating well.

Now, the big news from him is that he is marrying his dear friend, Beverly, on February 18th. Elliott will wheel him in to the altar in a wheelchair, and his bride will wheel him out. If you want to correspond with him, please contact the church office for his address.

Blessings to each of you,

Vivian Christie

*Editor's Note: Pastor Lou baked these cookies for the Session members at their retreat in February, and they were a big hit.*

### Lemon Bites

Ingredients:

- 1 pkg (18.25 oz) lemon cake mix
- 1 egg
- 1 container (14 oz) frozen non-dairy whipped topping, thawed
- 1/2 C sifted confectioners' sugar

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. In a large bowl combine cake mix, egg, and topping (batter will be VERY stiff).
3. Drop teaspoonfuls of dough into confectioners' sugar.
4. Roll into 1-inch balls, using sugar to keep dough from sticking to hands.
5. Place balls of dough 2 inches apart on a greased baking sheet.
6. Bake 10-12 minutes or until light brown on bottoms.
7. Place on a wire rack to cool.

*Yield: about 4 dozen*



**It's Brenner Time!!!**

Come Join Us the  
Second and  
Fourth Sundays of  
Every Month  
Starting February 12<sup>th</sup>  
in Brenner Hall

Sign-Up Sheet is  
Located in the Narthex

Be Sure to Sign-Up and  
Host A Sunday!!



## Ray's Joke

### Corner by Ray Terrell

What did Jesus and the disciples put on their fish?

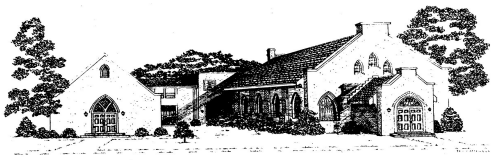
Miracle whip.

How did Jesus and the disciples pay for their food?




With their Master's card.

What is Jesus' favorite room in the house?

The Master bedroom.



# MARCH 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> 12—1:30 p.m. Community Lenten Service	<b>2</b>   11 a.m. AARP Board Mtg.	<b>3</b> <i>World Day of            Prayer</i>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <i>1st Sunday in Lent</i> 9:30 a.m. Book Study 11 am Worship	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10 a.m. Presbyterian Women Mtg.	<b>8</b> 12—1:30 p.m. Community Lenten Service	<b>9</b> 11 a.m. AARP Mtg.	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <i>2nd Sunday in Lent</i> 9:30 a.m. <u>Final</u> Book Study 11 am Worship	<b>13</b> 	<b>14</b> 	<b>15</b> 12—1:30 p.m. Community Lenten Service	<b>16</b> 6 p.m. Lions Club Mtg.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i> 11 am Worship	<b>20</b>  7 p.m. Neighborhood Watch	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 12—1:30 p.m. Community Lenten Service 6 p.m. Session Mtg.	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 2 p.m.—5 p.m. Makemie Woods Celebration
<b>26</b> <i>4th Sunday in Lent</i> 11 am Worship	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 12—1:30 p.m. Community Lenten Service	<b>30</b> 	<b>31</b> 	

## Birthdays



2 Patricia McGuire  
 13 Nora Vasoti  
 30 Lee Peace  
 31 Carolyn Lackey

## Anniversaries



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



## FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Franklin, VA 23851  
757.562.4313  
franklinpreschurch@gmail.com  
www.franklinpresbyterianchurch.org



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

## UPCOMING EVENTS--MARCH 2017

1	Ash Wednesday/12-1:30 p.m. Community Lenten Service
2	11 a.m. AARP Board Mtg.
3	World Day of Prayer
5	9:30 a.m. Book Study/11 a.m. Worship
7	10 a.m. Presbyterian Women Mtg.
9	11 a.m. AARP Mtg.
12	9:30 a.m. Final Book Study/11 a.m. Worship/ <b>Daylight Savings Time Begins</b>
15	12-1:30 p.m. Community Lenten Service
16	6 p.m. Lions Club Mtg.
19	11 a.m. Worship
20	7 p.m. Neighborhood Watch Mtg.
22	12-1:30 p.m. Community Lenten Service/6 p.m. Session Mtg.
26	11 a.m. Worship
29	12-1:30 p.m. Community Lenten Service



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