



THE MESSENGER

SEPTEMBER 2015

Franklin Presbyterian Church



From
the
Pastor



REVEREND LOU VENTURA
COVENANT PASTOR

Next to December, August is my favorite month, and it's not just because it's my birthday month. When I was younger, I actually *missed* school during the summer, and was so excited when we began preparing to go back. Shopping for and gathering together all the school supplies was a big part of that, and that's one reason why I am so delighted that we are once again adopting out book bags for local school kids. It's hard to imagine doing homework or even assignments during the school day without the proper supplies. My guess is that I'm not the only person who really enjoys gathering all the new pencils, pens, paper, folders, and notebooks for a new year of learning, and with this project, we all get to participate once again in that exciting back-to-school tradition.

Most of you know that since June 25, I have been caring for Ron as
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Invitation and Outreach: Second Annual "Adopt" A Book Bag



Last Friday Joe Banty and I turned in the book bags the church "adopted" and filled. Like with the first "adopt" a bag program the second was a huge success. It never ceases to amaze me the way our church gets behind the outreach programs that are put before them. Thank you to all who "adopted" a bag and shopped (I know some of the bags got expensive, and items may have been hard to find) and thank you to those of you that donated money towards "adopting" a bag.



The second phase of the "adopt" a bag program starts now. I will be making little goody bags for the teachers, I hope to have those made sometime this week. I am going to put together some bags with a pen, a small thing of tissues, a pack of post-its and some candy for each teacher at S.P. Morton.

Thanks again for all you do to make the Invitation and Outreach programs a success.

Benjamin



Mr. Chandler (Principal S.P. Morton) and Benjamin with two of the "adopted" book bags.

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.

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PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

By Vivian Christie

FPC Presbyterian Women Moderator

On August 30th, Presbyterian Women Officers were installed by Rev. Lou Ventura. The officers are very much the same again this year. Thank you ladies for your love and dedication.

Officers are as follows:

Moderator – Vivian Christie

Treasurer – Bobbi Thomas

Circle Chairman – Betty Jones

Least Coin – Sue Fast

Secretary – Faye Springfield

Historian – Terry Rose

Search Committee – Dottie Gilbert

Sunshine – Lane Meredith

PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

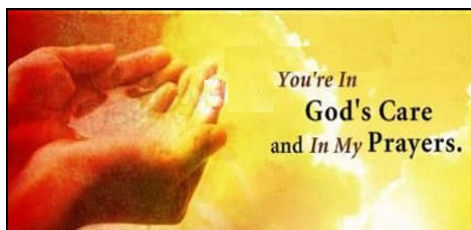
We are pleased to have Rev. Lou Ventura and Mr. Robert Meredith to serve as our Bible Study Leaders again this year. They always have a wonderful way of making the author's ideas come to life for us. This requires lots of time and dedication. We thank you for being called to serve as our leaders.

Our first meeting is **Tuesday, October 6, 10am**. We are making some changes and striving to keep our meetings to one hour to accommodate busy schedules. Our first meeting may be just a little longer because we need to discuss a focus/a mission project for the coming year. Please come prepared with some great ideas. Our study books, "Come to the Waters," should arrive by mid-September. See Betty Jones or Vivian Christie for one.

Important: Mark your calendars for **Saturday, October 10, 2015**, for PEVA PW Fall Gathering. It will take place at Denbigh United Presbyterian Church in Newport News. Registration is from 8:15 to 9am and the program closes at 1:15pm. The keynote speaker is Sushma Ramswami from India. She has been leading movements for the empowerment of women, children and youth. And, in the aftermath of hate crimes against minorities, she has organized training programs. She has provided counseling and healing to victims of riots. We are so fortunate to have her in our presence and sharing her experiences from her country. Following Worship, Communion, and our Keynote Speaker, you can visit the Hall of Beautiful Things and then attend 2 sets of workshops. We do hope to have a group to attend. The PW leaders are working hard to make this an informative and enjoyable meeting. Please let Vivian Christie know if you plan to attend. We would need to leave our church no later than 7:30am.

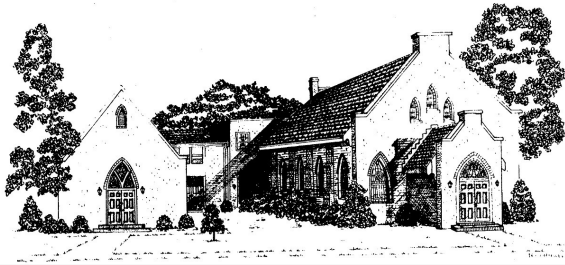
We hope you will choose to join us for Circle on October 6th. We have vibrant discussions and plan programs to help our church and our community. Come and be filled with the spirit of the living water.

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	Bettie Bass
Rod Phelps and Family Friends of Kaye Weaver	Barbara Gray
Allen Wright Cousin of Terry Rose	Bill Riddick Friend of Kaye Weaver
Jennifer Stephenson Rebecca Harper's mother	Rosalind Cutchins Exec. Dir. of the Children's Center
The Turner Family Friends of Deloris Joyner	Nahala Smazel Family of Jimmie & Terry Rose
Jackie Cutchin	Bertha Taylor Family of Jimmie & Terry Rose
Carol Dixon Sister of Jimmy Rose	Kathy Worrell Friend of Vivian Christie
Bob Edwards Katherine Weaver's Brother	Ron Ventura Reverend Lou's husband
The Rhodes Family Friends of Deloris Joyner	The Hall Family Friends of Deloris Joyner
Krista Johnson Co-worker of Kathryn Padgett	Krista Slane Friend of Vivian Christie



2015 CHURCH SNAPSHOT

		Average		
	New	Worship	Total	Total
Month	Members	Attendance	Offering	Expenses
December	0	39	\$10,114.11	\$7,869.94
January	0	31	\$7,988.00	\$9,059.92
February	0	35	\$7,783.00	\$8,309.27
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	\$10,126.69

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES. AND OTHER



06. Jim Drewry
07. Ron Ventura
09. Jackie Cutchin
12. Ken Raybuck
14. Terry Rose
19. Ray Thomas, Frances Presnall
27. Witt Harper



06. Allen & Lauren Harper
13. Ann Marie & Bud Brotzman
17. Val & Ed Schwolow
20. Faye & Robert Springfield



ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER

06.	David Jones & Ray Terrell	Lead Lector: Kathryn Padgett
13.	Charlie Lupton & Greg Avent	
20.	Robert Meredith & Frank Padgett	
27.	Faye Springfield & Betty Jones	

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From the Pastor Continued from page 1

he struggles again with debilitating back and leg pain. Our summer has been filled with steroid injections, physical therapy, and pain meds. I've had the relatively easy part, but as anyone who has cared for a loved one knows, it is indeed relative. This experience has made me aware that, while I am definitely gifted with compassion, care-giving is not my strength; it requires a serving gift that unfortunately I do not possess. However, it is important to us that you know that your thoughts, prayers, cards, concerns, and care not only for Ron, but for me, have been of great comfort, and we both deeply appreciate that we are surrounded by your love. Thank you!

Joyfully and with love in Christ,

Lou

SESSION UPDATE



At its stated meeting on July 15, 2015, the FPC Session:

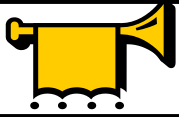
- Received the monthly church financial report for information;
- Received a report from the pastor for information;
- Acknowledged upcoming Service of Healing and Wholeness on 7/29, East Pavilion worship on Sunday, Aug. 2, hosting the PEVA Commission on Ministry (COM) meeting on Aug. 4, and the "Making Arrangements: Your End-of-Life Decisions" workshop date of 9/19 with a potluck soup and sandwich dinner to follow;

- Heard a report from FPC, Inc. President **Lauren Harper**, who reviewed the terms of the sale of the manse and the status of the negotiations;
- Received with regret a report from the Administration/Personnel Team Lead **Ann Marie Brotzman** regarding the resignation of FPC Office Manager **Benjamin Matteson**, and approved a motion from the same team to hire **Gabriella Bryce** beginning 7/20/15;
- Received a report from the Facilities Team Lead **Harry Christie** that estimates will be obtained for repairs of the external brick and the ceiling in the church admin's office;
- Received a report from the Congregational Life Team Lead **Tiffany Matteson** regarding a museum trip on July 31 and a second Art Party on Aug. 7;
- Validated the electronic vote approving the wedding of Chantal Roemer and Tim Dalton to be held at the church on Saturday, Sept. 12, with Pastor Lou officiating;
- Conducted pastor/session semi-annual evaluation.

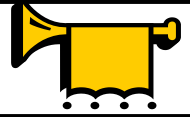
At a called meeting on July 26, 2015, the FPC Session:

- Received a report from Facilities Team Lead **Harry Christie** regarding the estimate to repair the external brick in three locations (above the doors beneath the stained glass window in Brenner Hall, above one of the side windows in Brenner Hall, and near the windows of the pastor's office), and approved the amount and repair;
- Heard a report from FPC, Inc. President **Lauren Harper**, who reviewed the final terms of the sale of the manse.

THE MESSENGER



News Briefs



Outreach: The Presbyterian Peace & Global Witness Offering

by Benjamin Matteson



SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS

The Presbyterian Peace and Global Witness Offering (formerly the Peacemaking Offering) supports the efforts of Presbyterians through their congregations, presbyteries, synods, and the General Assembly to work for peace by tearing down the walls of hostility.

The offering begins on Sunday, September 6, and we take up the offering on World Communion Sunday, October 4, 2015.

As Presbyterians, we recognize that Christ taught us to be peacemakers and that being peacemakers is part of being Christ's followers. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Peace and Global Witness Offering encourages us all to work for peace. Each congregation is invited to find ways to promote peace within the congregation and within the community. Our church will retain 25% of the total offering we receive for the purpose of local peacemaking efforts. As in past years, we will dedicate that to the Genieve Shelter in Suffolk that assists individuals impacted by domestic violence.

If you have any questions please contact **Benjamin Matteson** at benjaminmatteson@gmail.com or by cell phone 434-594-7212.



Mark Your Calendar for the “Making Arrangements—Your End-of-Life Decisions” Workshop

The “Making Arrangements—Your End-of-Life Decisions” workshop will be held Saturday, September 19, from 3 pm. to 5 p.m. in Brenner Hall. The workshop will be open to the public through flyers and a notice in the *Tidewater News*.

A light potluck dinner of soup and sandwiches is planned for after the workshop. Watch the narthex for a sign-up sheet to bring food and drink, as well as for the workshop itself. We'll need to know how many handouts to prepare as well as how many folks to feed (maximum 25).

Blessing of the Animals Event October 3, 2015

Animals of God's creation share in the life of human beings. For many of us, our pets are family. Francis of Assisi apparently felt the same way: he called animals, wild and tame, his brothers and sisters. Remembering Francis' love for all creatures, we will invoke God's blessing on these animals in a Blessing of the Animals event on Saturday, October 3.

Since this date falls at the same time of the Franklin Fall Festival, we have decided to open this event to the community. Details—like when and where—are pending, because we are working with the festival committee to determine the most ideal time and location.

Please save the date and make plans to attend with your pets. While pets of all kinds are welcome, it is recommended that animals that become frightened or anxious in crowds or among strangers be left at home for their own safety and comfort.

THE MESSENGER CONGREGATION'S CORNER

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.



Proverbs 4:23

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GET READY TO RUN / WALK!!

The Genieve Shelter of Suffolk is hosting

A 5K walk/run

Location: The Hilton Garden Inn

Across the street from McDonald's downtown

100 East Constance Rd

Suffolk, VA.

Sign up is at 7:00am on Saturday September 12

There will be a \$25.00 sign up fee

For information call 757-925-4365



Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.

Proverbs 22:6



Ray's Joke Corner

by Ray Terrell

Why do golfers and baseball players make such good dancers?

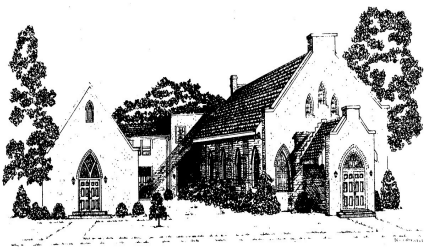
They make good swingers!

What do you get when you cross loud music with a surfer?

You get a sound wave!

What did the lost teacher say to the pencil?

Point me in the right direction.



SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Worship 11:00 am * Communion	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Worship 11:00 am	14	15	16	17	18	19 Making Arrangements Workshop 3-5 pm
20 Worship 11:00 am	21	22	23 Session Meeting 6 pm	24	25	26
27 Worship 11:00 am	28	29	30 Service of Healing and Wholeness 6 pm			

Birthdays;



6 - Jim Drewry

7 - Ron Ventura

9 - Jackie Cutchin

12 - Ken Raybuck

4 - Terry Rose

19 - Frances Presnall

19 - Ray Thomas

27 - With Harper

Anniversaries



6 - Lauren & Allen Harper

13 - Ann Marie & Bud Brotzman

17 - Val & Ed Schwolow

20 - Faye & Bob Springfield



FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

405 Lee St
Franklin, VA 23851
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franklinpreschurch@gmail.com



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

UPCOMING EVENTS-- SEPTEMBER 2015

06.	Worship 11:00 am *Communion
13.	Worship 11:am
19.	Making Arrangements Workshop 3-5 pm
20.	Worship 11:00am
23.	Session 6:00pm
27.	Worship 11:00am
30.	Service of Healing and Wholeness 6:00 pm

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



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