

Welcome Home! Come Walk With Us!



# Northside NEWS

Northside Presbyterian Church

June 2015

Blacksburg, Virginia

## *From the Pastor's Desk...*

Dear Friends,

There's been a lot of chatter around the internet about the shrinking of church attendance these days, based on a study by the Pew Forum. Fewer and fewer people indicate that they have any religious affiliation at all, and many do not ever attend church. This surely concerns folks like me, who serve churches. However, I have found hope in other recent writings about what church offers that we can find nowhere else.



There's no place like church (as Rachel Held Evans puts it):

"You can get coffee with your friends anywhere, but church is the only place you can get ashes smudged on your forehead as a reminder of your mortality."

"You can be dazzled by a light show at a concert on any given weekend, but church is the only place that fills a sanctuary with candlelight and hymns on Christmas Eve."

"You can snag all sorts of free swag for brand loyalty online, but church is the only place where you are named a beloved child of God with a cold plunge into the water." (or a sprinkle on the head)

"You can share food with the hungry at any homeless shelter, but only the church teaches that a shared meal brings us into the very presence of God."

Where else can you sing and pray and hear words of life, hope, and love with a mismatched, diverse group of people than church? Where else can you learn that it is the last and least who matter most to God? Where else can you bring your grief and despair and failures and find healing and care from others?

Friends, I love the church, in all its messiness, with all its flaws, even in all the ways I wish we were better at following Jesus. This is the place I want to give my life and spend my energy, and discover the love and joy of Jesus.

Peace, \_\_\_\_\_,

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Morning Worship - 10:00 AM

Lemonade on the Lawn following worship

## FLOWERS

**June 7:** Emily Bender

**June 14:** COMMUNION

**June 21:** Joanne & Ron Pearson

**June 28:** Frieda & Charles Bostian

## OFFICERS ON CALL

**May 31-June 6:** Mary Lough,  
540-250-5810

**June 7-13:** Emily Davis,  
540-392-1750

**June 14-20:** Joe Hunnings,  
540-808-3872

**June 21-27:** Bruce Harper,  
540-392-3597

**June 28-July 4:**

## USHERS

**June 7:** Sandy & Hunter Hancock

**June 14:** Jack & Sandi Webster

**June 21:** Sue & Ernie Bentley

**June 28:** Lisa Garcia, Brooke, Ty

**LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR JUNE**

**June 7:** 1 Sam. 8:4-11 (12-15)  
Psalm 138  
2 Cor. 4:13-5:1  
Mark 3:20-35

**June 21:** 1 Sam.17:(1a,4-11,19-23) 32-49  
Psalm 9:9-20  
2 Cor. 6:1-13  
Mark 4:35-41

**June 14:** 1 Sam. 15:34-16:13  
Psalm 20  
2 Cor. 5:6-10 (11-13) 14-17)  
Mark 4:26-34

**June 28:** 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27  
Psalm 130  
2 Cor. 8:7-15  
Mark 5:21-43

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**JUNE BIRTHDAYS !**

June

- 2 Ashley Shew
- Jenifer Kittle
- 5 Emmanuel Frimpong
- 6 Andy Harper
- Daniel Orr
- 11 Bruce Hull
- 13 Aran Garnett-Deakin
- Matt Stolte
- 22 James Jones
- 23 Pat Devens
- 26 Ty Stephenson
- 27 Frieda Bostian
- 28 Daniel Orr
- 30 John Brown



*If your birthday is not listed here, you probably have not given it to us. We want to have everyone's birthday on file. Please give us a call at the church office and tell us the date of your birthday. We promise not to ask the year!*

***HAPPY, HAPPY BIRTHDAY***

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*There are no secrets to success: Don't waste time looking for them. Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty to those for whom you work, and persistence.*

-General Colin Powell  
U.S. Army (retired)



Experience that deep sense of community one would expect at a national gathering of Presbyterians—a great big family reunion! Join us for a wide variety of workshops, all under one Big Tent, a conference that will inspire and equip Presbyterians to live missionally.

Only \$395 per person, which includes accommodations, seven meals, campus parking and outstanding programming. Fees for children and youth are no more than \$150 each.

There will be workshops on Faith Formation, the future of Christian Education, mission in every country in the world, amazing worship services and Bible Studies. There are scholarships available from the Northside Mission Committee. Kathy Carpenter is going and is encouraging anyone who is able, to go. You can register online at [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org). Questions, contact Kathy.

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### Summer Camps

**This Summer, Peaks Presbytery is offering summer camps – day camps and residential. Day Camps for rising 1st through 5th graders will be at the Presbyterian Church of Floyd, June 22-26 and New Dublin Presbyterian, July 6-10. Middle School Adventure Camp for rising 6th through 9th graders will be June 28 – July 3 at Camp Bethel in Fincastle.**

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### **NORTHSIDE MISSIONS – DID YOU KNOW?**

**Micah’s Backpack addresses food insecurity for children from low-income families in Blacksburg by partnering with nine Blacksburg schools to provide direct food assistance. Every Friday during the school year the identified students receive a backpack filled with two breakfasts, two lunches, and two dinners, snacks, juice and milk boxes and an educational piece. On Thursday evenings up to 100 volunteers from various academic, civic, and interfaith groups volunteer together to pack the backpacks. Currently approximately 280 children are served by this program.**

**During the summer break approximately 140 children are served by Micah’s Mobile Backpack. Weekend food deliveries are made via a food pantry on wheels. Faculty and staff from one of the area schools also organize a lending library from the back of the bus.**

To our Northside Church Family:

Ronald and Joanne Pearson invite you

to join us in celebrating our

50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

June 20, 2015

Northside Presbyterian Church

2-5 pm

No Gifts - Only a picture, if you have one of us,  
from any time in the last 50 years.

RSVP by June 10<sup>th</sup> to rep@vt.edu

**ATTENTION!**

**With Northside's summer season coming up, your Facilities and Finance Committee would like to remind everyone that salaries, services, and other Church Expenses go on much the same. We urgently request your continuing generous support during this time of the year.**

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*Words of encouragement fan the spark of genius into the flame of achievement. Legend tells us that Lincoln's dying mother called her small son to her bedside and whispered. "Be somebody, Abe.!"*

-WILFRED A. PETERSON  
*The Art of Living Treasure Chest*  
Simon & Schuster

## Session Notes

Elders met on May 17, 2015 after Sunday School. Major matters taken up were:

- Approval of minutes of April 19, 2015 Stated Session Meeting. These will be posted in the narthex.
- Sue Bentley was elected to serve as our commissioner for the July 25<sup>th</sup> Presbytery Meeting to be held at Campbell Memorial Church in Vinton. Mary Lough was elected to serve as alternate.
- Treasurer's report revealed that there was currently less than a 1% gap between expenditures and pledged income. Income was slightly less than budgeted and expenses slightly more than budgeted at this time of the year.
- Committees reported:
  - Christian Education – May 31 will be Teacher Recognition Sunday.
  - Theology, Worship and Music – Request was made that hymns selected for summer worship be ones that the congregation is familiar with, since there will not be a choir present to assist with the singing.  
There is a need to continue to get people to volunteer to present music during the summer season.
  - Finance and Facilities – Although income is close to the amount budgeted for this time of the year, the congregations needs to be reminded not to forget to pay pledged amounts during the summer months.
  - Mission – Session approved a motion to endorse the application for a Two-Cents-a Meal grant application in the amount of \$1,200 for the Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry. This application is being jointly submitted by Northside and Blacksburg Presbyterian Church.
  - Human Resources – Bruce will remind the committee chair, Lisa Garcia, to set a date for the nominating committee to begin their work.
  - Report from Presbytery Meeting of May 7th was received.
- It was decided that there would not be a meeting of session in June or July unless it was necessary to call a meeting.
- The Big Tent national mission gathering of Presbyterians will be held July 30 - August 1, 2015 on the University of Tennessee campus in Knoxville, TN. Church members are encouraged to attend. Scholarship money is available for people to apply for soon. See the Mission Committee for more information.
- Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession were offered.

Joanne Pearson, Clerk

***We didn't inherit the Earth from our parents.  
We're borrowing it from our children.***

-CHIEF SEATTLE (1788-1866)  
Suquamish/Duwamish chief

**DATES TO REMEMBER IN JUNE:**

**June 7: Morning Worship, 10:00 am (No Sunday School)  
Lemonade On The Lawn**

**14: COMMUNION, 2 Cents-A-Meal Offering  
Committees to Meet**

**20: Pearson's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party, 2 -5 pm**

**21: Father's Day**

**(NOTE: No Stated Session Meeting for the months  
of June or July)**

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***ATTENTION CONGREGATION!***

We will **NOT** be doing extra announcements from the pulpit on Sunday mornings. There is a special section on the bulletin board in the narthex for announcements. If you have an announcement you wish to make, please write in on the slip of paper provided beside the announcement space and place the announcement there. Everyone is encouraged to stop by the bulletin board and check for these announcements. Because of the change in schedule this is necessary. Thank you cooperating in this new change.

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**Check Us Out...**

Church Address: Northside Presbyterian Church  
1017 Progress Street, N.W.  
Blacksburg, VA 24060

Phone: 540-552-4327

Email Address: [secretary.northside@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.northside@gmail.com)

Minister's Email: [dickerson.northside@gmail.com](mailto:dickerson.northside@gmail.com)

Website URL (<http://www.nsidepresbburg.org>)