

Welcome Home! Come Walk With Us!



Northside NEWS

Northside Presbyterian Church

March 2015

Blacksburg, Virginia

From the Pastor's Desk...

Dear Friends,

Over the weekend, Mary Lough, Clark Gaylord, and I gathered in Washington, D.C., with about one thousand other Christians from various denominations. We were there to learn and to act—regarding the scourge of mass incarceration in this country. Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD) are held each year, with a different focus each year. The current theme was: “Breaking the Chains: Mass Incarceration and Systems of Exploitation.”



You may not know that the United States has more people in prison than ANY other country in the world—not a first place we should welcome. Proportionately, we have five times as many people in prison or jail than our share of the world's population would indicate. Many of our prisons are now not government facilities, but are owned and run by large corporations that make lots of money imprisoning people. Many prisons make no effort at rehabilitation or correction (even though they may be referred to as “correctional facilities”) but are mainly designed to warehouse the prisoners.

“Together we have joined in a movement to shake the foundations of systems of human exploitation, including a prison-industrial system that incarcerates millions of people in the U.S. and abroad,” said Doug Grace, Executive Director of EAD. “A world that incarcerates so many and allows some to profit from the exploitation of slave, trafficked and forced labor remains far from the ‘beloved community’ which we are all called to seek.”

Friends, I hope you will ask me over the coming days what I have learned and how I plan to work to make a difference in our community—and perhaps ask how you can, too. Jesus quoted from Isaiah as he described his own mission (and ours): “... the Lord ... has sent me to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to liberate the oppressed, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

Peace,

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Morning Worship - 10:00 AM
Fellowship - 11:00 AM
Sunday School - 11:15 AM

FLOWERS

May 3: Pat & Dwayne Kittle
May 10: COMMUNION
May 17: Betsy Stinson &
Paul Angermeier
May 24: Rosemary & Steve Cole
May 31: Sue & Joe Herbein

OFFICERS ON CALL

April 26-May 2: Bruce Harper,
540-392-3597
May 3-9: Clark Gaylord, 540-552-2868
May 10-16: Joe Hunnings, 540-808-3872
May 17-23: Heidi Harper, 540-392-0057
May 24-30: Joanne Pearson,
540-961-5602

USHERS

May 3: Jilk Stowe Family
May 10: Sue & Ernie Bentley
May 17: Ron Pearson & Sandi Webster
May 24: Stolte Family
May 31: Steve Cole & Drew Taylor

LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR MAY

May 3: Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 22:25-31
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8

May 17: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Psalm 1
1 John 5:9-13
John 17:6-19

May 10: Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98
1 John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17

May 24: Acts 2:1-21 or Ezek. 37:1-14
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Rom. 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 31: Isa. 6:1-8
Psalm 29
Rom. 8:12-17
John 3:1-17

MAY BIRTHDAYS !

May

- 2 Greg Adel
- 3 Jack Webster
- 4 Joe McGrory
- 6 Nedra Underwood
- 8 Kathy Carpenter
- 12 Emily Bender
Martha McMahan
- 22 Hunter Hancock
Matthew Harper
- 23 Michael Ayares
- 24 John Ogburn
- 26 Connie Pierett
- 27 John Heinze
- 30 Sue Bentley
Don Bloss
Linda Dickerson



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

Friendships, like gardens, must be nourished and cultivated if they are to flourish and thrive. Take time to pull the weeds, turn the soil, and plant new seeds. Then enjoy the beauty of this love you have created.

-Count Your Blessings, Thanking God for His Gifts.

Heritage Sunday, May 3

The first Sunday in May is our heritage Sunday celebration. The theme this year is *“We Celebrate the Church!”* Following worship, we will have a big party complete with brunch and a cake to celebrate the church and our graduating High School Seniors. It also is a GIFT Sunday so the Deacons and the Dream Team are combining efforts for this event. Following worship, we will have brunch together. The deacons will provide ham and we are asking everyone to bring fruit or a salad to share.

May 3 – Honoring Our High School Seniors

This year we have 3 graduating High School Seniors: **James Jones, Brook Stephenson and Bonnie Angermeier.** We will be recognizing them in worship on Sunday, May 3. Please make plans to be in worship for this special celebration.

Host a Foreign Exchange Student with Amicus:

Want to do something exciting as a family next fall? Why not host a Teen For Ten! In ten short months you will touch an exchange student’s life, and change yours as well. Amicus is looking for Christian families to host students for the 2015-16 school year. Sponsored by Young Life, Amicus is a non-denominational international ministry to teens. Consider reaching the world without having to get a passport with Amicus!

To find out more, please contact: Lynn Margheim, Amicus Representative
540-998-2288 or lynn85@mac.com
GowithAmicus.com

Sewers, needle workers, and those who want to learn a needlecraft.

The Prayers and Squares group is expanding its focus. We invite you to come to Northside and join us for fun, fellowship, learning, and working. Bring your project and supplies. Do you want to learn something new? We can help. **We meet in the old kitchen from 2:00-4:00 pm each Thursday except the 2nd Thursday.** For more info contact Lou Brown, Martha Taylor, Nedra Underwood, Emily Davis or Mary Lough.

THE DIFFERENT PARTS OF A CHURCH BUILDING HAVE SPECIAL ECCLESIASTICAL NAMES:

That part of the church beyond the front of the congregational seating is called the **Chancel**, from the Latin cancellus, meaning lattice screen. The area of the Chancel in which the Choir sits is called the **Choir**. The central division of the church in which the congregation is seated is called the **Nave**, from the Latin Navis, meaning ship, the Church being the Ark of Salvation. Properly speaking, the **Sanctuary**, from the Latin sanctus, meaning Holy, is that most sacred portion of the church in which the holy table sits; HOWEVER, in prevalent usage, the whole church is called the Sanctuary. The vestibule or foyer at the entrance of the church is called the **Narthex**. The receptacle which holds the water for Baptism is called the **Baptismal Font**. The stand on which the Bible rests is the **Lectern**. Seats for the Minister behind the pulpit, Lectern and Holy table are called Sedilia.

The Session approved the appointment of **Daniel Orr** as one of Northside's representatives on the VT UKirk Board of Directors. The Mission Committee is responsible for seeking members for the Board.

Help the UKirk Ministry at Virginia Tech Students go to Guatemala! On May 19, 2015, eleven students and two leaders will travel to Guatemala in partnership with CEDEPCA. They will participate in their Intercultural Encounters program with a special emphasis on vocational discernment. Please consider donating to help with expenses. Here is the link to the online fundraising account: <https://www.crowdrise.com/ukirkmission/fundraiser/jessiebutler>

"NO-EXCUSE SUNDAYS" TARGETS PEOPLE WHO AVOID CHURCH

In order to make it possible for everyone to attend church next month, we are planning a special no-excuse Sunday.

1. Cots will be placed in the vestibule for those who say, "Sunday is my only day for sleeping in."
2. Eye drops will be available for those whose eyes are tired from watching TV too late on Saturday night.
3. We will have steel helmets for those who believe the roof will cave in if they show up for church services.
4. Blankets will be furnished for those who complain that the church is too cold. Fans will be on hand for those who say the church is too hot.
5. We will have hearing aids for the people who say, "The pastor doesn't talk loud enough." There will be cotton for those who say "The pastor talks too loud."
6. Score cards will be available for those who wish to count the hypocrites.
7. We guarantee that some relatives will be present for those who like to go visiting on Sunday.
8. There will be TV dinners available for those who claim they can't go to church and cook dinner too.
9. One section of the church will have some trees and grass for those who see God in nature, especially on the golf course.
10. The sanctuary will be decorated with both Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies to create a familiar environment for those who have never seen the church without them.

See you in church!

NOTE OF APPRECIATION:

During my surgery and chemotherapy these past months, I've come to realize how important it has been to have people who have supported me and made me happy in so many ways. I want to say how much I appreciate my Northside family for being an important part of my life and to thank you for being here for me.

-Sandi Webster

Session Notes

Elders met on April 19, 2015 after Sunday School. Major matters taken up were:

- Approval of minutes of March 15, 2015 Stated Session Meeting. These will be posted in the narthex.
- Approval was granted to transfer Frankie Wilson's church membership to Gateway Presbyterian Church in Colorado Springs, CO.
- Sue Bentley was elected commissioner and Steve Cole as alternate to the May 7th Presbytery meeting at First Presbyterian in Martinsville.
- Treasurer's report revealed that there is currently only a 2.0 % gap between actual expenditures and pledged and non-pledged income.
- Committees reported:
 - Christian Education – May 3rd is both Graduating High School Senior Recognition Sunday and Northside Heritage Sunday. Students being honored are Bonnie Angermeier, James Jones, and Brooke Stephenson. Church dinner will be held following worship.
 - Fellowship – People have been signing up to assist with Fellowship Time following morning worship.
 - Finance and Facilities – A draft report of the financial audit of 2013 records has been received by the committee chair.
Nine students from Cochrane Hall participated in the Big Event at Virginia Tech by helping with the church work day on April 11.
 - Human Resources - Use of a bell to signal announcements during Fellowship Time has been started.
Bruce Harper will chair the Nominating Committee which is composed of the three people elected from the congregation, Joe Hunnings and Bruce from the session and a member of the Board of Deacons, to be identified soon.
 - Mission – A motion was approved to appoint Daniel Orr as the new person on the Ukirk Board of Directors from Northside.
- May Stated Session Meeting will be May 17th.
- Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession were offered.

Joanne Pearson, Clerk

When life doesn't go according to our plan, and calamity strikes, our true character is revealed. How we handle adversity signals what kind of person we are deep inside.

I looked for God to send a miracle, something big and dramatic. I wanted to hear his voice like thunder. Instead, he sent a stranger passing on the sidewalk who smiled, and I heard God whisper a love song to my heart.

-Count Your Blessings-Thanking God for His Gifts

DATES TO REMEMBER IN MAY:

- May 1: **MAY FELLOWSHIP DAY**
- 3: **HERITAGE SUNDAY (Brunch after Morning Worship)**
Recognition of High School Graduates
- 6: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
- 7: **NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**
Presbytery Meeting, First Presbyterian Church, Martinsville, VA
Sewers – 2-4 pm in old kitchen
- 10: **MOTHER’S DAY; COMMUNION**
2 Cents-A-Meal Offering; Committees to meet after Sunday School
- 13: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
- 14: **Ascension of the Lord**
Women’s Bible Study, 1:30 pm in old kitchen
- 17: Session Meeting following Sunday School
- 20: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
- 21: Sewers, 2-4 pm in old kitchen
- 24: **DAY OF PENTECOST**
- 25: **MEMORIAL DAY** (Church Office Closed)
- 27: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
- 28: Sewers, 2-4 pm
- 31: **TRINITY SUNDAY**

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.

<p>Check Us Out...</p> <p>Church Address: Northside Presbyterian Church 1017 Progress Street, N.W. Blacksburg, VA 24060</p> <p>Phone: 540-552-4327</p> <p>Email Address: secretary.northside@gmail.com</p> <p>Minister’s Email: dickerson.northside@gmail.com</p> <p>Website URL (http://www.nsidepresbburg.org)</p>
