

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

I enjoy getting to visit different churches, but as you can imagine, as a pastor, I do not often get that opportunity. I enjoy the worship experience but I also enjoy seeing how the bulletin is laid out, what's in the newsletter, and what information is available for a visitor to pick up about the congregation and community. Since I don't get to visit many churches right now, I appreciate it when other people do and bring back information for me. John and Eva Zirkle have brought back bulletins from places they have worshiped; Martha Sanders brought back a Volunteer Opportunity Booklet from the First Presbyterian Church in Tuscaloosa, Alabama; and Wayne and Margy King brought back a newsletter from the Wayside Presbyterian Church in Hamburg, New York. The pastor from the Wayside Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Dr. Carol Evans LaBlanc, wrote a thought-provoking article on disagreements in churches. I often find that someone else has said or written something that I had been thinking and has said it more eloquently than I could have ever done. With Rev. Dr. LaBlanc's permission, because we are in a season of disagreement—in churches, in politics, in families, I thought her article was well worth sharing.

**“When they heard these words, some in the crowd said, ‘This is really the prophet.’ Others said, ‘This is the Messiah.’ But some asked, ‘Surely the Messiah does not come from Galilee, does he?’ ...So there was a division in the crowd because of him.” ~John 7: 40-41 and 43**

Every healthy church has disagreements. In fact, disagreements can be good—a sign of a healthy, thriving, and fully faithful church! So I offer my thoughts and some Christian perspectives on disagreements.

I share the Bible verses above just to remind us that there are several places in the biblical record where people disagreed. These are found throughout the Old and the New Testament. We are human, and, need I point out, as humans we have various perspectives and points of view. Some of these disagreements were about the very essence and nature of God—theological disagreements. Some of them were about political and/or religious subjects, some were about the interpretation of laws and social mores. Others were about personal everyday stuff. About someone else who just rubbed them the wrong way. Getting on each other's nerves, in other words.

Sound familiar? If we look at all the disagreements in the biblical record, we see that they are not always settled well—or at all! But sometimes, the exemplary reconciliation is found.

I write about this because every church—including Wayside!—has disagreements among and between members and pastors and staff. It is inevitable because of that being-human factor. How do we deal with disagreements as Christian brothers and sisters? There is disagreement in committee meetings, in personal interactions, at congregational meetings—everywhere! So how do we keep from causing them to drive someone away, to hold a grudge, feel personally attacked, or, at the least, put-out. Often, disagreements come about because we don't understand clearly what the other person means, walking away with an assumption that, as it turns out, is incorrect.

Quite a few years ago, when I was pastor of another church, one of the women members strongly disagreed with me about something. She took the matter to the session, which caused the session to have to discuss and disagree among themselves. Finally they made their decision, and decided in favor of my view. The woman came to me a few days later and said how sad she was about the decision. She felt as though she had not been heard. I said that I thought she had been heard, but that she had not been agreed with.

It was Ralph Waldo Emerson, poet and author of notable quotes, who said, **“Let me never fall into the vulgar mistake of dreaming that I am persecuted whenever I am contradicted.”** Even though maybe overly-strongly stated, Emerson makes a good point, much like, for example, Paul in several of his epistles.

So, perhaps we should welcome disagreements! They can help us learn from each other, they can help us listen to each other better, they can also help us be clear about what we mean when we express disagreeing points of view. Here is one more quote from the Bible to help us think about how to remain a healthy church when disagreements arise: **‘All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ...’ ~2 Corinthians 5:18”**

The Rev. Dr. LaBlanc closed her newsletter column with the words, “In Christ's peace.” Even in the midst of our disagreements, Christ's peace, Christ's shalom, Christ's wholeness and completeness is available for us, brothers and sisters. In this season of disagreements, please never forget that the person with whom you disagree is a beloved child of God. Listen carefully to that person or those persons with whom you disagree. Open your hearts. Open your minds. Susan Farnham reminds us in *Listening Hearts*, “We must be willing to hear the appealing and the unappealing, the familiar and the unfamiliar. If we become selective, we may turn a deaf ear to God.”

In Christ's peace,  
 Diana

Jefferson City, TN 37760  
 721 Church St.  
 First Presbyterian Church

**WORSHIP VARIATIONS**

During the summer, I often like to try new things – new music, new orders of worship, sermon series rather than preaching on the lectionary. Other pastors I know change things during Advent or Lent, short periods to try something new. We will be doing that during the summer. Rather than our regular *Gloria Patri* that we sing after the Affirmation of Faith, we will be singing another *Gloria* written by Jacques Berthier of the Taize Community in France. The words are very simple: *Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!* It is # 576 in the hymnal.

When I attended church camp when I was younger, I learned a Doxology written by Richard Avery and Donald Marsh. They wrote songs that were featured at camp and conferences throughout the United States, some of which are found in our hymnal. We will be singing Avery and Marsh's Doxology (# 593) during the summer. The words are slightly different than what we are used to singing. *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.*



**MAKE DECISIONS TODAY FOR PEACE OF MIND TOMORROW**

**Advance directives** are written, legal instructions stating your preferences for medical care **if** you are unable to make decisions for yourself. Advance directives aren't just for older adults. Unexpected, end-of-life situations can happen at any age, so it's important for all adults to be prepared. Even if you are in good health now, making healthcare plans for the future is an important step to ensure you get the medical care you want.

Summit Medical Group has partnered with Tennova Healthcare and Laughlin Medical Center to offer workshops that will walk you through the process of completing your advance directives.

**Jefferson Memorial Hospital  
 Main Classroom**

**Tuesday, July 19<sup>th</sup> fro 9:00-10:00 a.m.**

*For more information or the RSVP for a workshop call:  
 1-855-836-6682*

# Announcements



## CHURCH STREET CAFE

The Church Family is invited to attend our twice monthly Church Street Cafe meals. Please come to meet our neighbors and enjoy good food and fellowship.

## SMOKY MOUNTAIN HIKING GROUP

The Smoky Mountain Hiking Club will meet on Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 a.m. and hike *Andrews Bald*. This is an approximately 4 mile round trip down Forney Ridge to a well known grassy bald, which from mid-June to early July is graced by the blossoms of numerous flame azaleas. Don't forget to pack a lunch and some water and join us!



## OUT OF THE OFFICE

Heather will be out of the office Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup> through Tuesday, July 19<sup>th</sup> and Monday, August 1<sup>st</sup> through Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. If you have bulletin announcements or August Newsletter items, please get them into the Church Office as soon as you can.



## YOUTH GROUP PLANNING

On Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 p.m. we will be having a youth planning get together for the youth and their parents. Please plan on bringing your calendars and ideas, as we will go over the youth events for the upcoming year. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Dinner will be provided.



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**Sunday, July 17-Wednesday, July 20, from 6:30-8:30 p.m.** — This year's theme is Arts Camp: Praise! What is praise? When do we praise? How do we praise? Why do we praise? These questions will guide our VBS journey this year through music, joy, and laughter. By Wednesday, we see that praise is something we all do in our own way, something we do together at worship, and often something we do when we don't even realize we are doing it!! All children ages 3 through rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders are eligible for full participation in VBS. A nursery will be provided for those under 3. Please fill out the registration form below for your child.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (for 2016-2017 school year): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to church office or place in the offering plate. Questions? Contact Kay Rutherford-Williams: 865-591-9640 or rutherfordkay@hotmail.com

## ADULT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**When:** July 17 through July 20  
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
**Where:** First Presbyterian Church  
721 Church Street  
Jefferson City, TN 37760  
www.fpcjeffcity.org  
865-475-2761



## "IMAGES OF CHRIST – PAST AND PRESENT."

presented by Chad Airhart, Associate Professor of Art (Art History & Art Appreciation) at Carson-Newman University.

*Chad teaches upper and lower level courses in Art History, as well as Art Appreciation. A native Texan, Chad received his Ph.D. in Aesthetic Studies (Art History emphasis) from the University of Texas at Dallas. His scholarly research centers on the connection of historical context, theoretical strategies, and aesthetic intent for American and European artists before and between the World Wars. Chad is also an active artist, emphasizing the expressive qualities of color, surface texture, and lively gesture. He has participated in numerous exhibitions and is represented by The Valley House Gallery & Sculpture Garden (valleyhouse.com) in Dallas, Texas.*



## 22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL YARD SALE FOR MISSIONS

**Save the date! October 1, 2016.** The Yard Sale for Missions needs you! Your time, your creativity and your prayers, are needed to make the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Yard Sale for Missions a loving, giving, welcoming outreach of FPC for those who come to shop, to eat, to visit, to enjoy and to serve. The recipients for this year's sale are 1) Ruth Brown, mission co-worker in the Congo and 2) Sunset Gap Mission, Cosby, TN.

**Clothing for the Yard Sale:** As you reorganize your closets and shelves, please sort clean, useable clothing, in good condition, into white kitchen bags to stash away until August. Label bags (Children, Women, Men) using permanent markers; tie bags in "bow" for easy/quick opening at yard sale time. Coats, suits, jackets and dresses can remain on hangers.

**Silent Auction Baskets:** Please consider filling a basket for the Silent Auction. Folks enjoy the option to "make a bid" or "buy it now" on a wide range of items. For more information and to sign up for making a Basket with your family or with friends, please go to [www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0548aeea2da6f94-yard](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0548aeea2da6f94-yard).

**Books:** Please note that cookbooks, novels, and children's books sell especially well.

**Flower Pots:** Please save any plastic pots or liners for the Plant Store. Contact Eva Zirkle if you have any questions.

**Large Ticket Items:** Boats, canoes, cars, trucks, campers, mowers, etc. are especially popular with our shoppers. If you have items that no longer need to be in your driveway, garage, basement or storage building, please consider donating to the sale.

**Toys and Games:** Toys, games, and children's play items are always sought after at the sale. As the toy store works hard to display items for the shoppers, please bring only toys, games, and puzzles with no missing pieces or broken parts and instructions for use, if needed.

**Storage for Yard Sale:** Collection of donated items for the yard sale will begin in August. Dates and times for receiving items in August and September will be announced. However, storage space is available before August if needed. Please note that limited space will not allow us to accept large upholstered couches and chairs. For health/safety concerns, we cannot accept mattresses, bed pillows, infant car seats, or cribs. Please call Linda Noonkesser, 865-216-0715, or Del Deaton, 865-250-5557, if you have questions. Please consider Appalachian Outreach for large sofas, chairs and mattresses.

**Thank you! Your help in ways..large or small..make the Yard Sale for Missions an amazing outreach of giving and serving.**

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR JULY

**July 3** – Communion – Rev. Diana Moore, presiding. This will be a Service of Thanksgiving and Repentance in Scripture, Prayer and Song.

**July 10** – Rev. Diana Moore, preaching. The scripture readings are Psalm 139: 1-12, 23-24 and Acts 2: 1-4, 38-42. Special music will be provided by Tenor Nathan Martin. Nathan is a graduate of Converse College where he received his Master's of Music in Vocal Performance in Opera. He also holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Carson-Newman University. Nathan has performed with the Knoxville Opera, Spartanburg SC Repertory Company, Knoxville Choral Society, Converse College, and Carson-Newman University. His concert repertoire includes Dubois' Last Seven Words of Christ, Saintsaens Oratorio de Noël, Rene Clausen's The Creation, Bach's Magnificat, and Handel's Messiah. We especially welcome Nathan because he is the grandson of our own Barbara Wilson.

**July 17** – Rev. Diana Moore, preaching. The scripture readings are Psalm 139: 1-2, 23-24 (yes, we will be reading this again) and Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23. Special music will be provided by Sue Swilley, flutist.

**July 24** – Vacation Bible School Worship Service with Children and Youth. We will be using special music and liturgy and crafts from our Vacation Bible School during worship.

**July 31** – Rev. Diana Moore, preaching. The scripture readings are Psalm 78: 1-8 and Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52.

## FINANCE REPORT

### MONTHLY INCOME

JUNE 5	\$4,565.00
JUNE 12	\$2,597.00
JUNE 17	\$7,070.00
JUNE 26	\$1,331.00


TOTAL \$15,563.00

### YEAR-TO-DATE (YTD) INCOME/EXPENSES

	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET
INCOME	\$104,368.04	\$108,292.56
EXPENSES	\$87,386.58	\$110,808.56

YTD INCOME OVER EXPENSES: \$16,981.46

# JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Mary Hodges Sandy Payne	2
3 Communion Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. Mike & Sherri Van Bruggen	4 OFFICE CLOSED 	5	6	7	8	9
APPALACHIAN OUTREACH WEEK						
10 Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. FELLOWSHIP & EVANGELISM 12:00 P.M. Mary Ellen Patton	11 STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE 2:00 P.M.	12 Church Street Café 5:00 p.m.	13 SESSION 6:30 P.M. Bob and Sue Rhein	14 Susan Moser	15 Sit 'n Knit 7:00 p.m. Jake & Roxanne Moser	16
17 Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. VBS 6:30-8:30 p.m.	18 VBS 6:30-8:30 p.m.	19 VBS 6:30-8:30 p.m. Linda Noonkesser	20 VBS 6:30-8:30 p.m. Kay Gowan	21 Kerry & Carol Antoniewicz	22 Jeff Drees	23 HIKE 8:00 A.M.
24 Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m. Youth Planning 5:00 p.m. Johan Koppier	25	26 Church Street Café 5:00 p.m. Johan & Ineke Koppier	27 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 6:30 P.M. Peggy Hypes	28 Scott Kustermann	29	30 Denny Pryor Beth Folsom
31 Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45-11:45 a.m.						

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

— The Session voted to place a brick in the Veterans Memorial at Festival Park in honor of all veterans who have worshiped at First Presbyterian.

— The Session authorized the Building and Grounds Committee to develop a cohesive plan for work in the Memorial Garden.

— The Session set the dates for two upcoming Congregational Meetings, one on October 16<sup>th</sup> to elect the Elder Nominating Committee and one on November 6<sup>th</sup> to elect new elders.

## PNC ANNOUNCEMENT

Your pastor nominating committee continues to move forward to find the next pastor of our church. We have already interviewed several candidates, and are working through the process. We well understand the importance of moving expeditiously to bring in a new pastor, but we also understand that our charge from you is to discern the will of the Holy Spirit in identifying the person God is calling to lead our church.

So keep us in your prayers, and also pray for that person that we will welcome to our church family as our pastor.

## JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

### FAMILY & FRIENDS OF:

Paul Brewer, former pastor Hebron Presbyterian Church

### SPECIAL CONCERNS:

Pat Patton  
Bob and Irene Shurden  
Mary Winslow  
Lonnie Hogan  
Susan Stiner, friend of the Juroff's  
Donna Watson, friend of Ashley Williams  
Rev. Ron Ramsey, Pastor at First United Methodist  
Seth and Morgan Hollingshead  
Stephanie Hedrock, Madison Meadows' co-worker  
Leonard Young, Diana's sister's father-in-law  
Ameriah, Charles, JahCaris, and Shevonne Chandler  
Larry Soto, friend of Arlene Peck  
Brent Sykes, Kent and Susan Clouser's son  
Rhonda Masoner, a friend of Diana Moore  
Skylar McMillan, Diana's great-niece  
The Pastor Nominating Committee  
All members of the military and their families, especially those stationed overseas.

Terry Jaros  
J.V. Cline  
Charles Chandler  
Lola, Neal Beck's cousin

## MISSION INTERESTS FAR AND NEAR:

Hope Unlimited  
Safe Space  
Jefferson Rural Clinic

Recovery House  
Samaritan House

Hillary Reneau, granddaughter of Bili Ledgerwood, who is a youth missionary in Swaziland, Africa

Ruth Brown, PCUSA missionary in Congo

Crossworld, Bruce and Deb Robinson's Organization in Haiti

## CHURCH STREET CAFÉ:

Joelene Vannatter  
Gerald Nelson  
Nathan Reid

Matthew Hannah  
Jennifer Chanilu

Dale and Barbara Hickey, health issues

Sue Murray, continuing health issues

Tammy Staffon, for her son and daughter

Carolyn Free, health issues

Darlene White, health issues

Mike Crenshaw, cousin of Ruth Reece, who has cancer

Dana Claunch, who broke an ankle and will need surgery

Chris Partes, friend of Adrian Blanc, who is on dialysis

Gabrille Lumpkin, Shelia Nelson's niece, who is in Washington, DC on internship

Rachel Harmon, nursing student at Carson-Newman working in Thailand for the summer

## ILL AND RECOVERING:

Kerry Antoneiwicz, who is recovering from hip replacement surgery

Margy King, who is recovering from elbow surgery

Steve Wintermute, who is recovering from surgery

Ronnie Clark, Madison Meadows' great uncle

Bob McCarter, friend of the Zirkles

Ashley Mixon Wynne, former member of FPC, who has been diagnosed with breast cancer

Terry Igou, friend of Phil and Kay Williams

Kristen Zelinski, the Rinehart's daughter-in-law

Janice Veal's husband, friend of Sue Swilley, who has cancer and is in hospice

Randy Cook, married to John Zirkle's cousin, has been diagnosed with chronic traumatic encephalopathy

Jannette Hypes, Connor's mom

Kathy Ackerman, Dick Gombert's daughter

Stephanie Hortman, friend of Eva Zirkle, a young mother, who has been diagnosed with a recurrent chestwall tumor

## IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES:

CHANDLER HOUSE: Argie Saylor, C.R. Vest

HERITAGE CENTER: Bonnie Young

LIFE CARE CENTER of JEFFERSON CITY: Charlie May Bozeman

JEFFERSON COUNTY NURSING HOME: Celeste Reneau, Lucille Tinsley