

The First
Presbyterian Church
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Charleston, WV
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Bill McCoy
Pastor

Claire Butler

Associate Pastor for Youth

Bob Newman

Interim Associate Pastor

A. D. Ellison

Richard Lamb

Parish Associates

Jim Buckalew

Fellowship, Recreation
and Property

Robin Harlow

Visitors/New Members

Barbara Hopta

Children's Ministry

Jackie Lilly

Business Administrator

Frankie McCain

Community Ministry

Mary Odin

Music Director

Rob Peterson

College Campus Ministry

Ginna Taylor

Preschool Director

Amber Panetta

Assistant Preschool Director

Debbie Eads

Cherub Choir Director

Sally King

Child Care Coordinator

Sherry Ball

Kim Moles

Cooks/Hostesses/Custodians

Claude Churchwell

Evert Fisher

Lee Richardson

Custodians

Tom Daugherty

Librarian

Fred Gaul

Organist

Ina Armstrong

Jo Burdette

Jenny Pitchford

Marilyn Walbe

Support Staff

MISSION WORKERS

Bill Soldwisch-Mexico

Art & Sue Kinsler-Korea

Jolana & Stefan Nather

Slovak Republic

Matthew & Simone McKinnon

Brazil

MINISTERIAL

CANDIDATES/INQUIRERS

Greg Bolt Jason Lawrence

Leslie Clay Joe Marchio

Kate Hopta Dawn Patchell

PASTORS EMERITI

Thornton W. Tucker

P. Douglas Heidt

A. D. Ellison

January 2008

First Presby News

Volume XXXIII, Issue 1

First Presbyterian Church will strive to be a welcoming home, a beacon of Christ's light arising from inspiring worship and loving discipleship.

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

11:00 Radio Broadcast: 580 AM WCHS

Phone: (304) 343-8961 Fax: (304) 343-8970



FROM THE PASTOR:

In a town along a river valley a number of years ago, a meeting of the town council was stretching far into the night. There were serious issues on the table, not the least of which was the tight budget for the coming year. As they perused the figures in that budget, someone noticed a line titled, "The Keeper of the Springs," across from a fairly large amount of the town's money. He asked what that was about. One of the eldest of the town council members said, "The Keeper of the Springs" is an old gentleman who lives up in the mountains upstream from the town. For years he has had the job of seeing to it that all the streams and brooks and tributaries remain clear as they wind their way to our river. A lively discussion ensued and it was decided that the Keeper of the Springs was unnecessary. They removed him from the budget for the coming year and dispatched a messenger to inform him that his services would no longer be required.



Bill McCoy
Pastor

Within a handful of weeks people noticed that the river level had dropped a bit. In the following months it seemed that the frequency of illness in the town was on the rise. Sure enough, the end of year statistics showed that illness was up sharply, as was the instance of worker absenteeism from illness, pervasiveness of allergies and the death rate. Production was down and a general malaise had set in. It was clear that the river level was continuing to drop, as was the quality of the town's water, and the amount of debris in the river continued to rise. The town leadership launched an investigation. As they studied the streams, brooks and tributaries in the mountains upriver from the town, they found them clogged with debris of all sorts, natural and man-made... At the next town meeting, they presented their findings and then decided to re-employ the Keeper of the Springs and a messenger was dispatched to find him and "sign him on."

Soon the river level rose and the level of illness and disease dropped... Just so, for centuries the Church of Jesus Christ has been the moral, ethical, spiritual and relational Keeper of the Springs of humanity. In our time, increasingly our culture has lost sight of that fact and yet it is as true today as it was in the first century. We have a vital role in our world to bring the cleansing, clarifying, health-imparting love and grace of Christ to a world cluttered with the moral, ethical and spiritual flotsam and jetsam of postmodern living. What part will you play in that work in this new year?

'See you in Church!'

Bill

Bill

WORSHIP TIMES

Sundays, 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
with Church School at 9:45.

If you are home, listen at
11:00 a.m. to 580 AM Radio.

ARE YOU A VISITOR? NEW MEMBER? LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?

Would you like to know more about First Presby, Presbyterianism, or how faiths are different? Do you have young children and want to get them involved in a church family, or teens who want to know how Christ fits into their world? How can you learn more about the mission, goals, people, programs, and activities at First Presby?
INQUIRERS CLASS, OF COURSE!

Join us on Sundays, January 6, 13 and 20 at 9:45 a.m. in the Ruffner Room-straight through the left door at the front of the sanctuary, or watch for signs. There is childcare for little ones and church school for bigger ones. We'll be watching for you! For more info, e-mail Robin at robin@firstpresby.com.

FPC LYRES CLUB

The harp players of First Presby have adopted a new name and will henceforth be referred to as the "FPC Lyres Club." We gave our first musical offering at Lessons and Carols worship on December 9, and we also played as part of the prelude for 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve worship. Many thanks to our friend and honorary Lyres Club member, Marilyn Harrell, for playing her flute with us! We bid a fond farewell to our dear Vicki Bridges in December as she moved away. Later this month, we'll welcome five new members to our ranks! New players will meet for a workshop as soon as our instruments arrive. Lyres Club members: Keep an eye on email each week for updates.

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS

You have a gift, a talent, an ear for music, or a love of music that gets you going! Whichever it is, please take a moment meet Mary Odin.

2008 PLEDGE ENVELOPES

Boxes of envelopes for giving in 2008 are now available in the main church hallway. Questions? Call Jenny, 343-8961 ext. 126.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK

Get your blood pressure checked by a nurse, Sunday, Jan. 13, in the Cablish Room off the main church hallway.

ALZHEIMERS' SUPPORT GROUP

You are welcome to join this group. They meet once a month, the third Tuesday. This month they will meet Jan. 15, 7:00 p.m. in Room E-310.

NEW IRS REQUIREMENT

Your canceled checks are no longer sufficient evidence of charitable contributions.

To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, do not file your 2007 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgement of your contributions (your statement) from the church.

ESTATE BENEFITS CHURCH

The Trustees of the Church express their appreciation to the late Alex (Smokey) Stover whose estate was bequeathed to the Church. Smokey's contribution to the Capital Campaign was more than enough to pay for the entire restoration of the stained glass windows. The remainder of his estate will be invested and the income produced will further the ministry of the church for future generations. May he rest in peace in the love of Jesus Christ.



CHILD CARE HIGHLIGHTS

Our young children are very lucky to have a wonderful group of volunteers each Sunday to watch over them. This month we would like to highlight one special person, Patty Bivens (pictured above). We are grateful for Patty's dedicated spirit. She is married to Lee and has been a member of our church for 37 years. They have three daughters and eight grandchildren. Patty regularly helps in the church nursery.

SPECIAL CLASS ON CHURCH FINANCES

There will be a short class on "Understanding First Presby's Budget and Financial Statements," Sunday, Jan. 13 during the church school hour, 9:45-10:45, in the Dining Room. Members of Session and other interested folks are invited. Please call the church office, 343-8961, to sign up.

FINANCE DIVISION REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 14, 2007

Year-to-date

| | Actual | Budget | Difference | Annual Budget |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Pledge Offerings: \$ | 881,907 | \$ 1,108,350 | (226,443) | \$ 1,171,700 |
| Trustee Funds: \$ | 221,131 | \$ 205,543 | 15,588 | \$ 205,543 |
| Others Revenue: | 108,690 | \$ 108,157 | 533 | \$ 112,655 |
| Total Income: \$ | 1,211,728 | \$ 1,422,050 | (210,322) | \$ 1,489,898 |
| Expenses: \$ | 1,326,104 | \$ 1,431,520 | (105,416) | \$ 1,489,898 |
| Net Income: \$ | (114,376) | \$ (9,470) | \$ (104,906) | \$ - |

(Net income loss is taken from budget reserve savings at year end. Total in savings = \$235,418.)

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| 2007 Stewardship Goal: | \$ 1,171,700 | 2008 Stewardship Goal: | \$ 1,2213,576 |
| Pledges realized for 2007: | \$ 1,003715 | Pledged-to-Date: | \$ 832,107 |
| Short of Goal: | \$ 167,985 | Short of Goal: | \$ 381,469 |

LENTEN GROWTH GROUPS

Lent, the 40 days from Ash Wednesday until Easter (excluding Sundays), provides a time for prayer, penitence, and self-reflection. This year Ash Wednesday is February 6.

First Presby has a tradition of small group study during this holy season. Lenten Growth Groups meet for five or six weeks and are designed for personal spiritual growth. They may take the form of Bible study, art classes, yoga, book study, prayer groups. The Christian Ed office welcomes your input! Please let us know if there is a particular topic or teacher you would like to include in this year's design.

PARTNERS IN PRAYER

We pray for churches in our presbytery, in the Presbytery of Nyeri in Kenya, Africa, and our ecumenical partners through the West Virginia Council of Churches.

Jan. 6: Alderson Presby; Bethel Presby, Waverly; Church of Our Savior, Clarksburg; Gaaki Parish, Kenya.

Jan. 13: Dupont City Presby, Belle; Frankford Presby; Hughes River Presby, Cairo; Gichira, Gaaki Parish, Kenya.

Jan. 20: Marsh Fork Presby, Dry Creek; Village Chapel Presby, Charleston; Valley Bend Presby, Beverly; Kabiru, Gaaki, Kenya.

Jan. 27: Pineville Presby; Rock Forge Presby, Morgantown; Kagaita Church and Youth Polytech, Gaaki Parish, Kenya.



A special "Thank you!" to Boy Scouts of Troop 5 for decorating the Activities Building for Christmas.

PYC YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH FULLY INVOLVED

The Youth have been fully living into the Christmas season and the command to give back to those less fortunate than ourselves. They have wrapped presents for Oakwood Terrace, Adopted a family through Covenant House, went caroling to places like Hubbard Hospice and Edgewood Terrace; and also had a chance to fellowship together through activities such as ice skating and a Christmas party at the home of Lesley and Carl Agsten.

SPRING PLANNING HAS BEGUN!

Plans for Coffee Houses, Ski Trips and Missions Trips are just some of the activities that are in the works for the months to come. Keep an eye out for more information to come as the new year unfolds. May God's blessings be upon you in the New Year!

If you are interested in helping to plan, host, or chaperone for youth activities, please contact Claire Butler, Associate Pastor for Youth, 343-8961 ext. 119.

CONFIRMATION UPDATE

The 2007-2008 Confirmation class is in full swing. This year's ninth graders are learning what it means to not only be a Presbyterian but also an active member of First Presby. If your youth has not yet found a mentor and you need help with suggestions please let me know!

OAKWOOD TERRACE TASK FORCE NEWS

On Dec. 16 the Oakwood Terrace Task Force delivered 150 frozen turkeys, 88 Charleston Town Center Mall gift cards for youth 11-18, and wrapped gifts for 212 children (newborn-10 years old).

This Christmas tradition is made possible by the four area churches (First Presby, Charleston; Rock Lake Presby, South Charleston; Oakwood Baptist; and Elizabeth Memorial United Methodist Church), residents and community volunteers. **THANK YOU!** If you would like to attend a Task Force meeting, contact Frankie McCain.

SHEPHERD'S CENTER



The Shepherd's Center of Charleston has changed their luncheon date to comply with a request from First Presby.

Adventures in Learning Programs and their Luncheon will be held on the **FOURTH THURSDAY** of each month (instead of the second Monday). We appreciate their willingness to help us with our scheduling so that we can make the most efficient use of our cooks and custodial staff. Please support them by attending their functions. It is a lively and interesting group with entertaining and informative programs.

On Thursday, Jan. 24 a program on tax changes will be presented by H & R Block at 10:00 a.m. After lunch, Debbie Copeland, a delightful motivational speaker, will instruct us in "Attitude Therapy." What a great way to start the new year off!

On Thursday, Feb. 24, our own Mary Odin will help us "Reminisce with Music" for the luncheon program and Norm Stemstra will present "Charleston Recycling 101" for Adventures in Learning at 10:00 a.m. **Make reservations for the \$7 luncheon on Jan. 24, with Diane Clements at 343-0590 by Monday, Jan. 21.**

SWEETS SEATS YIELD

A "Sweet Seats Auction" was held Nov. 28 to benefit the East End Family Resource Center. Molly Drescher, who is leading a children's art and photography project at the Resource Center, initiated the auction and contacted area artists to participate with the youth. Over \$5000 was raised to augment program and operational expenses as they seek to "build bridges of opportunity" through their Learning Center, Family Services and Career Center.

BEAN DINNER RESULTS

The Religious Coalition for Community Renewal (RCCR) gratefully reports over \$35,000 was earned by the Big Bean Dinner held at First Presby in November. Thank you so much for your continued support of this vital housing ministry.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

MORNING PRAYER

God, we thank you for Jesus and how he taught us about loving you and loving our neighbors. Help us this day to remember that as your children, we are to treat all others with kindness. Amen.

BLESSING FOR MEALS

Thank you, Lord, for this food and for the hands that prepared it. Thank you for your many blessings. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER

Thank you, God, for sending your son Jesus, who is the light of the world. Help us find ways we can be your light in our world. In Jesus' name. Amen.

BIBLE VERSE

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." (Matthew 2:1-2)

WORD OF THE MONTH

Epiphany: On Epiphany Sunday, we celebrate the visit of three wise men to the baby Jesus and his mother, Mary. An epiphany is when God appears to someone. God appeared to the world in the form of Jesus. Epiphany can also mean that you suddenly understand what something means.

Portions from **2008 Children's Mission Yearbook**. Copies are available in the CE Office.

*"In everything
do to others as you would
have them do to you."*

(Matthew 7:12)

The Covenant Kids (grades 1-5) both memorized and intentionally practiced The Golden Rule during the month of December. Throughout the month, they donated new and gently used children's books to the East End Family Resource Center. Toothbrushes and toothpaste decorated the chapel tree as the children collected them for Resolve Family Abuse Center. Warm scarves made by the children were included in this gift.

More than 200 meat and cheese sandwiches were made by the children and delivered to Manna Meal; homemade cards and decorated cookies were delivered to the residents of the Fellowship Home. We thank the congregation for your support and ask you to continue to pray for our children as they continue to learn how God's people are called to care for others.

THANKS FROM PRESCHOOL

The Preschool would extend its warmest thanks to all who donated to this year's mitten tree. As the first few weeks of December came to a close, our little tree began to fill up with warm mittens and hats, and added a great splash of color to lighten up the hallway. An official count of the mittens and hats will be complete by the middle of January. All of these warm offerings will go to the children of our city by the way of the Covenant House clothing pantry and food pantry.

CHILDREN LEADING WORSHIP

There are moments in childhood which we seem never to forget. Thankfully for many, those moments include happy ones that are a part of the church family and are formative events in our faith. Many of you remember roles played in youth events, in Bible School, and in the Christmas Eve Tableau. We so appreciate the Children and Family Committee and all who helped with the production of this year's Tableau.

EPIPHANY

On Epiphany Sunday, January 6, we celebrate the visit of three wise men to the baby Jesus and his mother, Mary. Look for the Wee People wise men in the sanctuary as they finally arrive at the home of Mary, Joseph and Jesus. The Wee People conclude their "calendar duties" for this season and will reappear on the first Sunday of Advent, 2008

CENTS-ABILITY OFFERING JANUARY 20



Cents-Ability is a Presbyterian Hunger Program that supports local food pantries and soup kitchens through congregations in each state. They also make Development Assistance grants to help people feed themselves through garden projects and nutrition education. One fourth of the Cents-Ability Offering is sent for hunger development projects in Africa.

You and your family can collect money at each meal. On Jan. 20 bring what you have collected to worship. You can bring coins, bills, or checks. In this repeated exercise of giving a small portion, you practice giving and teach sharing to your children.

Prayer for mealtime:

At our table may there be love in every heart for Thee. By thy goodness we are fed, and we thank Thee for this bread.

DAILY BIBLE VERSES

| | | | |
|------|-----------------------|------|-------------------|
| 1/1 | 2 Corinthians 1:19-20 | 1/16 | John 2:7-11 |
| 1/2 | Genesis 1:1-5 | 1/17 | John 3:1-5 |
| 1/3 | Genesis 1:26-27 | 1/18 | John 3:16-17 |
| 1/4 | Genesis 3:2-5 | 1/19 | John 3:19-21 |
| 1/5 | Genesis 4:4b-5, 8-9 | 1/20 | John 4:27-30 |
| 1/6 | Matthew 2:1-2 | 1/21 | John 4:30-42 |
| 1/7 | Genesis 6:17-19, 21 | 1/22 | Genesis 22:1-3 |
| 1/8 | Genesis 17:3-7 | 1/23 | Genesis 25:29-34a |
| 1/9 | Genesis 18:10-14 | 1/24 | Genesis 32:24-29 |
| 1/10 | Genesis 21:8-13 | 1/25 | Genesis 37:4-5 |
| 1/11 | Genesis 21:14-19 | 1/26 | 1 Timothy 2:4-5 |
| 1/12 | John 1:1-5 | 1/27 | 1 Timothy 4:7-8 |
| 1/13 | John 1:6-12 | 1/28 | 1 Timothy 4:12 |
| 1/14 | John 1:45-49 | 1/29 | 1 Timothy 6:9-10 |
| 1/15 | Isaiah 66:12-13 | 1/30 | 2 Timothy 1:5 |
| | | 1/31 | 2 Timothy 3:16-17 |

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome these new members into our fellowship. You will find their photos on the bulletin board beside the church office. Look for them at church and welcome them by name.

Fred Gaul comes to First Presby every Sunday all the way from Point Pleasant. For his day job he is a billing analyst with CDI, but on Sundays he truly shines as our beloved organist here at FPC. Please welcome Fred and thank him for all he does for us.

Stephan and Mari Serfontein and children Stephen and Mikaela. Mari and Stephan were members of First Presby several years ago when Stephan was a med student. They moved with his work, but are now back among us, along with their two young children, at FPC. Stephan is a physician at Pleasant Valley Hospital and Mari is a stay-at-home mom. Please welcome the Serfonteins back to Charleston.

Susan Poffenbarger joined First Presby on December 2 and has many friends already at FPC. She is a well-known and admired local artist and is interested in helping with art events and projects at First Presby. Welcome, Susan.

Barbara Shaffer is so happy to have come to First Presby where her sister, Cheryle Hall is a member. She is also glad that she is able to attend Sunday worship services, as her last job required her to work on Sundays. She has three grown children who live out of state. She is interested in becoming involved in adult and singles events, so please welcome Barbara into your classes and special events.

BAD WEATHER POLICY

REGARDING CHURCH ACTIVITIES

If Kanawha County Schools are closed due to weather, all meetings and activities in the church are cancelled. If public schools close early due to weather, all meetings and activities in the church are cancelled for that evening. If school opening is delayed, activities will not be delayed.

Please do not come out if it puts you at risk for injury.

Worship Services will always be held!

(Please contact the Preschool regarding their bad-weather policy.)



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN LUNCHEON AND BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, January 17, 12:00 noon

Combined Bible Study and Sing-Along

“God’s Extravagant Grace”

Jackie Taylor will lead the Prayer Group at 11:30 a.m. in Room A-203.

Lunch begins at 12:00. Dr. Bill McCoy will teach based on Jonah 4.

Betty Volkens will lead everyone in song.

Bring someone and introduce them to your First Presby friends.

Be sure to make your lunch reservation by Jan. 14—call 343-8961.

Childcare is available if reserved by
calling Ina, 343-8961 ext. 122 in advance.

Westminster College Choir is coming!

Come join us for an evening of beautiful choral music performed by the Westminster College Choir under the direction of Dr. Robin Lind.

The concert will take place on **Monday, January 7 at 7:30 pm** in our sanctuary and should last about an hour.

Admission is free; a freewill offering will be taken for our guests to defray the costs of their tour.

Come celebrate the New Year in song!

GETTING READY FOR ROLLER SKATING!

Do you have memories of roller skating at the church? Many years ago First Presby children and youth enjoyed skating in the Bud Francis Recreation Room. Jim Buckalew has been making preparations to start a roller skating program soon. Space for equipment storage has been found and the room has been redone. Pictured below is **Randy Lynch** installing cabinets that he built to contain new roller skates. When Jim asks for help monitoring the children, please come forward and volunteer!



MUSIC AND CHOIR NEWS

NOTES FROM MARY ODIN, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

As I write this, there are just a few days before Christmas. As you read this, you may be feeling relieved that the stress of the holidays is behind you. Because of where I am in the season, it's difficult for me to write to you as though my holidays were over. Writer and reader are in different seasons of life.

Not everyone who comes to worship on Sunday is in the same season of life. In our own church family, I can name several who have just lost a family member. Others have just found out they are expecting their first grandchild. Some are missing a service member overseas. Still others have just baptized a new baby. All of us worship God together, side by side in the pews on Sunday mornings.

How do we do it? How do we sing songs of lament and songs of joy with equal fervor every week? Romans 12:15 tells us to "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep." Christ gives us the command and the privilege to bear one another's burdens and thrill to one another's joys through all the seasons of life. In some seasons of my life, I have simply been unable to sing certain songs in worship. I have had to lean on my brothers and sisters around me in the pews, those who were in a different season from my own. Maybe this has happened to you.

Our congregational song must be just that: the song of the congregation. Individuals may find themselves in too much pain to sing songs of joy, but they may need to *hear* those songs in worship as a reminder that seasons do not last forever. We must be prepared to sing for our brothers and sisters who may, for a season, have lost their voices.

Whatever your season of life, know that God has given you the tools you need to survive and to thrive. One of those tools is this community of faith. If you're filled with joy, sing with fervor! If not, lean on us and we'll carry you until your song of joy is restored.

Mary

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Cherub Choir and Cathedral Choir served as music leaders for Lessons and Carols worship on December 9 and at the Tableau on Christmas Eve. Both groups meet Wednesday evenings from 5:15-6:00 p.m. Debbie Eads leads the Cherubs (grades K-2) in the Susie Early Room and Mary Odin leads the Cathedral Choir members (grades 3-6) in E-305. This month, both choirs will resume rehearsing on January 9. This is a great time of year to join, since we're all starting new music. Come sing with us!

BELL CHOIR

Bell Choir members were very busy in December, giving musical offering during Lessons and Carols on December 9, worship on December 16, and 11:00 p.m. worship Christmas Eve. The group rehearses in the Choir Room on Thursday evenings from 5:30-7:00 p.m. under the direction of Kathy Lynch.

GENEVA CHOIR

The Geneva Choir gave numerous musical offerings during the Christmas season, including Lessons and Carols on December 9 and 11:00 p.m. worship Christmas Eve. Following our Christmas break, we will resume rehearsing together on January 10. The Geneva Choir welcomes all youth and adults with a sense of humor and a heart for service to sing. We rehearse in the Choir Room, Thursdays, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

QUILTS OF VALOR SEWING GROUP

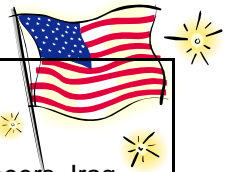
Quilters will meet again starting on Monday, Jan. 14 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm in the dining room and continuing through March. The group enjoyed working together last year; in addition there were many people who expressed an interest in helping with the project, but couldn't participate last spring. We hope you will consider joining us this winter.

This time the format will be a little different – instead of a teaching class, this will be an ongoing sewing group. Everyone can work at their own pace. Quilts will be given to veterans as each quilt is finished. Bring your own project or pick from patriotic patterns that will be available each Monday and then shop for materials after you pick out your project. Projects will range from simple to complicated. We will follow Quilts of Valor guidelines for quilt sizes and fabrics. Time will be taken at the beginning of each week to see how projects are progressing and offer help.

You will need to bring:

- Your own sewing machine in good working order
- Extension cords/power strips
- Basic sewing/quilting supplies: Bobbins, thread, scissors, straight pins, cutting mats if available and rotary cutters with new blades. (I will bring my rulers and cutting mats to share and I know those that have rulers, pins will share)

Call or email Sara Hoblitzell with any questions: 343-2190 or sazh128@suddenlink.net



PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

David McMillam, grandson of Betty Kerns, National Guard Engineers, Iraq

Major Todd Harrell, Iraq, father of Emily and Jonathan

Caitlin Workman, granddaughter of Pat Workman, Airman First Class, Qatar, Saudia Arabia

Franz S. Workman IV, grandson of Pat Workman, Airman 1st Class, Balad, Iraq

Jonathan Seiter, nephew of Carolyn Sturgeon, in Iraq for second tour of duty

David McDarmont, son of Liz O'Finan, in Ohio

Donald Boylen, grandson of Dick and Becky Smith, Virginia

Owen Brown, son of Earle Brown, in Pensacola, FL with the Navy

David Rucker, nephew of Barbara Brown, Germany

Please call the church office to keep this information current. Thank you.

January 2008

| | | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SAT |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| | | 1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed | 2 8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise NO WEDNESDAY CONNECTIONS | 3 7:30 am Bible Study, Shoneys' 9:30 Francke Bible study 9:30 PW Coordinating Team 5:30 Bell choir 6:30 Karate 7:30 Geneva choir | 4 7:00 Men's group 8:30 Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:00 Family Soccer | 5 |
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | | | | | |
| 6 Epiphany 8:30 Worship 9:45 Church School 9:45 Inquirers 11:00 Worship 6:30 High School Youth Group (location to be announced) | 7 8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:30 Disciple 3 7:30 Westminster Choir Concert | 8 9:30 Bible study 5:30 Harps 6:30 Karate | 9 8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:15 C. E. Division 5:00 Middle School Committee 5:00 Property Division 5:00 Volunteer Ministry Division 5:15 Cherub and Cathedral Choirs 5:45 Supper 6:00 Mission Division Retreat 6:30 Middle School Youth Group 6:30 Disciple One 6:45 Deacons 6:45 Personnel Division 6:45 Worship Division 7:15 Boy Scouts 7:30 Contemplative Prayer | 10 7:30 am Bible Study, Shoneys' 9:30 Francke Bible study 5:15 Coordinating Council 5:30 Bell choir 6:30 Karate 7:30 Geneva choir | 11 7:00 Men's group 8:30 Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:00 Family Soccer | 12 Middle School Trip to Winterplace |
| 13 Blood Pressure checkup 8:30 Worship 9:45 Church School 9:45 Inquirers 11:00 Worship 6:30 High School Youth Group at the home of Michelle Raney | 14 8:30 am Aerobics 4:00 Quilt group 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:30 Disciple 3 | 15 9:30 Bible study 5:30 Harps 6:30 Karate 7:00 Alzheimers' Support Group | 16 8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:00 High School Committee 5:00 Finance Division 5:15 Child and Family Committee 5:15 Cherub and Cathedral Choirs 5:45 Supper 6:30 Middle School Youth Group 6:45 Session 7:15 Boy Scouts 7:30 Contemplative Prayer | 17 7:30 am Bible Study, Shoneys' 9:30 Francke Bible study 11:30 PW Prayer Group 12:00 PW Luncheon 5:30 Bell choir 6:30 Karate 7:30 Geneva choir | 18 7:00 Men's group 8:30 Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:00 Family Soccer | 19 |
| 20 Cents-Ability Offering 8:30 Worship 9:45 Church School 9:45 Inquirers 11:00 Worship NO YOUTH GROUP | 21 Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday observed Church Office Closed | 22 9:30 Bible study 4:30 Knitting Into the Mystery 5:30 Harps 6:30 Karate | 23 8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:00 Fellowship & Recreation Div. 5:00 Visitor/New Members Div. 5:15 Library Committee 5:15 Cherub and Cathedral Choirs 5:45 Supper 6:30 Middle School Youth Group 7:15 Boy Scouts 7:30 Contemplative Prayer | 24 7:30 am Bible Study, Shoneys' 9:30 Francke Bible study <i>Shepherd's Center programs and Luncheon</i> 5:30 Bell choir 6:30 Karate 7:30 Geneva choir | 25 7:00 Men's group 8:30 Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 6:00 Family Soccer | 26 7:00 PM COFFEE HOUSE |
| 27 8:30 Worship 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship NO YOUTH GROUP | 28 8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 4:00 Quilt group 6:30 Disciple 3 | 29 9:30 Bible study 5:30 Harps 6:30 Karate | 30 8:30 am Aerobics 2:00 Senior Exercise 5:15 Cherub and Cathedral Choirs 5:45 Supper 6:30 Middle School Youth Group 6:45 Preschool Committee 7:15 Boy Scouts 7:30 Contemplative Prayer | 31 7:30 am Bible Study, Shoneys' 9:30 Francke Bible study 5:30 Bell choir 6:30 Karate 7:30 Geneva choir | SERMONS ARE NOW POSTED ON THE WEB PAGE ALONG WITH WEEKLY NEWS UPDATES, YOUTH NEWS, AND PHOTOS www.firstpresby.com | |



JANUARY BIRTHDAY!

Congratulations to Ada Oates who will be celebrating a "90 and over" birthday on January 25. Ada is a centenarian!



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Taylor Raab and Leslie Bridwell on their marriage on Nov. 29. Taylor is the son of Terry and Anna Raab.



BAPTISM

On November 25, we celebrated with Rachel McCue the baptism of her great-granddaughter, Catherine Anne Hume. Grandparents are Carolyn and Bill Mullett; parents are Elizabeth and Chris Hume of New York, NY.



Prayer Concerns

Please minister through prayer, cards, calls and visits.

OUR SYMPATHY TO . . .

Ruth Jones and Scott

Glassburn on the death of their daughter;

Jason Conley on the death of his brother;

Scott Byrum on the death of his father;

Lucille Cooke on the death of her granddaughter;

Herchiel Sims, Betty

Damewood and family on the death of Herchiel's sister;

Marty Martin on the death of a close friend.

PRAYER CONCERNS . . .

Hester Covert; Grey Yetter; Tom Bettinger, friend of Mary Mullens; Larry Miller; Linda and Lew Metcalf, friends of Mary Odin; Ed and Lou Gonzalez, friends of Mary Odin; Terry Folse, friend of Marilyn Walbe; Sondra Hodgson; Eugene and Betty Dahmer; Laura Gossage; Sara Beal; Nan Bolt, mother of John Bolt; John Michael Muskera; Jim Adkins; Blaire Sprouse; Naomi Campbell; Graham Kuhl, infant relative of Dick Nolan; Clara Thomas; Nancy Peterson.

CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS . . .

AD Ellison; Eric Asbeck; Craig Huffman, brother-in-law of Lisa Stewart; Ruth Evans; Kelly Reed; Lillie Saunders, Darlene Kerr's mother; Liz O'Finan; Linda Morris; Kevin Malcomb; Julia Sparks, mother of Margaret Bolt; Leigh Bowlin, friend of Gena Moore; Charlie Young; John Hopkins; Grady Riestler, grandson of Tom and Nancy Bulla; Carolyn Soule, sister of Nancy Bulla; Bill Raney; Pam and Virginia Phares
Kenya Gord, friend of Slacks; Amy Reams, daughter of Tom and Sally Llewellyn; Gini Lucas; Tom Collins; Joseph Sprouse; Olivia Turner; Virginia Fizer, mother of Kay Propst; Connie Payne; Ben Wooddell; Dr. Bob Schneider, Sprouse family brother-in-law; Gracie Meek, Carol Buckalew's niece; Jo Ann Price, Homer Lambert's aunt; Jon Stoecklin; Joseph Sprouse; Paul McCorkle; Mary Catherine

In Memoriam

William A. Morton

November 26, 2007

Eleanor Gilchrist Wray

November 27, 2007

Lowder-Bailey; Mark Stewart, Ken Stewart's brother; Bill Morris; Giduk Jung, brother-in-law of Chang Iyer; Claire, family member of Judy Keller; Ed Vazquez, Ruth Shepherd's son-in-law; Joye Russell, friend of Robin Harlow; J. B. Friedman; Thelma Marcus, mother of Liz O'Finan; Filomino Alicie; Fred Monk; Jennifer Stewart, daughter of Ken Stewart.

Remember to call, or have someone else call, whenever you are ill, hospitalized or have a need: Bob Newman, 343-8961 ext. 118, or the church office. Please also call to update Bob on this list. Thank you.