

**The First
Presbyterian Church**
16 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV
25301-2487

**EMAIL: firstpresby@
firstpresby.com**
www.firstpresby.com

Bill McCoy
Pastor

Jim Roberts
Associate Pastor for
Congregational Care

Bob Newman
Lay Academy

Richard Lamb
Parish Associate

Jim Buckalew
Fellowship, Recreation
and Property

Joe Faini
Youth Ministry

Robin Harlow
Visitors/New Members

Barbara Hopta
Child/Family
Ministry

Jackie Lilly
Business Administrator

Mary Odin
Music Ministry

Ginna Taylor
Preschool Director

Sue Webster
Community Ministry

Kathy Bruner
Child Care Coordinator

Debbie Eads
Children's Choir

Tom Daugherty
Librarian

Fred Gaul
Organist

FACILITY STAFF
Lee Richardson, Supervisor
Sherry Ball
Howard Johnson
Ricky Jordan
Kim Moles

SUPPORT STAFF
Ina Armstrong
June Mills
Jenny Pitchford
Marilyn Walbe

MISSION WORKERS
Carl Agsten & Leslie Clay-
Nicaragua
Art & Sue Kinsler-Korea
Jolana & Stefan Nather
-Slovak Republic
Presbyterian Coffee Project

**MINISTERIAL
CANDIDATES/INQUIRERS**
Kate Hopta
Robert Peterson

PASTORS EMERITI
Thornton W. Tucker
P. Douglas Heidt

First Presby News



January 2012 • Volume XLV, 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 at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Radio Broadcast at 11:00 a.m. on 580 AM WCHS

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

From the Pastor:

One century ago, the year 1912 saw, among other things, the passing of Robert Falcon Scott, John Jacob Astor, IV, Benjamin Guggenheim, William Booth and Bram Stoker. In that year Perry Como, Sam Snead, Woody Guthrie, Lady Bird Johnson, Pat Nixon, Archibald Cox, Eva Braun, Danny Thomas and Werner von Braun were born. New Mexico and Arizona achieved statehood, the Girl Scouts in the United States was founded, the Titanic sailed (once), Tiger Stadium and Fenway Park opened, the Olympic Games took place in Stockholm, and Woodrow Wilson was elected president. The world did not yet know the Great Depression, two World Wars, polyester leisure suits, Elvis Presley, or nuclear power.

As we begin 2012, we will bid some farewell and welcome others. We will hit big and miss big and continue to "seek to feel our way to God" in countless ways – some effective, some not. As has been the case in the last century and in all centuries of human existence, Christ will be "with us," as scripture has declared. Will we be with Him? Will we seek Him and His will in this coming year? And when people look back on our lives a century from now, what will we have done, and been, that has lasting, eternal significance?

May the God who is the same yesterday, today, and forever guide, direct, comfort, inspire and empower you to live effectively for Him this year. God bless you.

'See you in church,

Bill

Bill



Bill McCoy

INQUIRING MINDS

Yes, inquiring minds want to know about First Presby, Presbyterianism, and how our beliefs differ from those of other denominations. All curious newcomers are invited to tour First Presby on Sunday, January 15, beginning at 9:45 a.m. in the Ruffner Room and returning in time for the 11:00 worship service.

On the 22nd, Bill McCoy will lead the second of this three-week series of Inquirers classes as he shares his ideas of what it means to be a Christian and a part of a church family. With Jim Roberts' help on January 29, we will explore the history, beliefs and government of the Presbyterian Church, and Jim will answer any questions you may have.

Both classes begin at 9:45 a.m. in the Ruffner Room, located straight through the left-hand double wooden doors at the front of the sanctuary. We will have a light brunch on the 22nd and 29th. Questions? Email Robin at robin@firstpresby.com.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK

If you haven't had your blood pressure checked recently, please stop by the church library on Sunday, January 8. A parish nurse will assist you.

SICK, HOSPITALIZED, OR IN NEED OF PRAYER?

Let your church family know of any needs you have. The church has a telephone/e-mail prayer chain, a "pray for" list in the newsletter, and prayers during worship. Tell us your concerns or ask a friend to inform us.

If you want to tell us about someone else, a friend or family member, be sure to respectfully ask their permission first. You can also confide in one of the pastors and request it be kept confidential. Rev. Jim Roberts maintains the "pray for" list. Please call him at 304-343-8961, ext. 118.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Mary Lindsay Marchio who recently passed the bar and was sworn in at a special public session of the Supreme Court of Ohio. She is the daughter of Sara and Tom Marchio.



WEDDING NEWS

Congratulations to
Ellen Cyrus and Sonny Johnstone
who were married on
November 5, 2011.

PRESCHOOL THANKS

As we begin the New Year, I would like to thank all who helped support the weekday preschool's recent mission projects: the November food pantry drive and the Mitten Tree.

For November, the food pantry reports that the Preschool donated over 620 pounds of food. In addition, in the month of December, we've collected more mittens, hats, scarves and coats than could cover the Christmas tree twice over.

We are very appreciative to all who helped to support these vital outreach mission projects with us. The young children in our program show so much enthusiasm and happiness in helping others. However, it is the community in which we live that benefits the most from the gifts we have given. Thank you all, and may God bless us through the coming year so that we may continue our caring and commitment to our community.

NEW GRANDBABIES

Rod Clay announces the birth of his grandson, Peyton Daniel Clay, on November 4. Mother, Alison Elizabeth Clay, and newborn son live in Charlotte, NC.

Barbara Warren and Duane Dombek announce the birth of Barbara's 8th grandchild! Lily Elizabeth Tweed was born December 1 in Philadelphia. Lily is now at home with parents Carol and James Tweed, and brother William, in Hammonton, NJ.

YOUTH NEWS

Youth events are in the planning process. These include ski trips, probably in February when the snow is in place.

Please stay in contact with Joe Faini via email, youth@firstpresby.com. Keep Joe informed of any email changes and watch his Facebook for new postings.

PREPARING FOR LENT

Lent is our time of preparation to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. In support of that, we are now planning the church calendar for Lent. A part of that is planning our Lenten Growth Group schedule.

If you would like to lead a Lenten Growth Group, please contact Jim Roberts or Ina Armstrong before January 17, so that we may design our brochure for the first of February. Ash Wednesday, which begins Lent for us in 2012, is on February 22.

We look forward to your input, leadership, and participation as we anticipate opportunities to grow in our faith and commitment to Jesus as the Lord of our lives.

PARTNERS IN PRAYER

We pray for churches in our Presbytery and in the Presbytery of Nyeri in Kenya, Africa.

Jan. 1: Alderson Presbyterian Church; Bethel PC, Waverly; Church of Our Savior, Clarksburg; Gaaki Parish, Kenya.

Jan. 8: DuPont City PC, Belle; Frankford PC; Hughes River PC, Cairo; Gichira PC, Kenya.

Jan. 15: Marsh Fork PC, Dry Creek; Village Chapel PC, Charleston; Valley Bend PC, Beverly; Kabiru PC, Kenya.

Jan. 22: Pineville PC; Rock Forge PC, Morgantown; Kagaita Church and Youth Polytech, Kenya.

Jan. 29: Summersville PC; First PC, Waverly; Winfield PC; Kiawaithanji PC, Kenya.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS FOR ADULTS

COVENANT CLASS: Room 406, Education Building. Would you like to increase your Bible knowledge? Give us a try. Class presidents: Betty and Ruffner Alexander, 304-344-4361.

the class: Room 204, Activities Building. Join us to study the Bible and social issues, and enjoy social activities. Class president: June Mills, 304-343-8961.

DISCOVERY CLASS: Recreation Room, Activities Building. Good coffee and brunch foods served weekly! Join us and learn more about God, our church and our community. Class contacts: Rick Vorhees, president, 304-344-5547; Scott Case, vice-president, 304-342-9506.

FOUNDATIONS CLASS: Room 310, Education Building. We are very busy people; many of us are parents. All are welcome to our class as we strive to stay focused on Christ in every way. Class contact: Tom Daugherty, 304-343-6356.

KOINONIA CLASS: Room 412, Education Building. We enjoy our busy lives, our grandchildren, and applying Bible understanding daily. Through local and regional building projects, we stay involved with our community and state. Class contact: Alice Abernethy, 304-342-0074.

RUFFNER CLASS: Room 201, Activities Building. A bit older, we are still concerned about applying the Christian faith to everyday life and current issues. We focus on Bible study and the Bible's relevance. Class contact: Jason Conley, 304-344-4830.

SENECA CLASS: Room 203, Activities Building. Here is where couples and singles in their 20's, 30's, and 40's explore their faith, build lasting friendships, and seek to understand the role of the church in the community. You can reach the class facilitator, Dawn Hawkins, at 304-382-6147 or dpatchell75@yahoo.com.

SOJOURNERS CLASS: Room 411, Education Building. We are a diverse group of couples and singles with a wide range of ages and interests. In addition to Sunday School and socials, we maintain a special ministry to Smith Street Station, a subsidized apartment house for low-income residents. Class Contact: George Keller, 304-744-3152.

TRINITY BIBLE CLASS: Susie Early Room, Sanctuary Building. We hope you will visit us. A greeter will be at the doorway to welcome you. We would be pleased to have you as a member of our class. The Trinity Bible Class is composed of senior-citizen age men and women. We study the Bible using *Uniform Lesson Series: The Present Word*. Class contact: Barbara Gessner.



BOY SCOUT TROOP 5 NEWS

On December 6, Troop 5 held a Court of Honor in the Chapel. This was one of the largest Court of Honor events the Troop has had in several years with 27 Scouts plus parents and guests. During the ceremony, 70 Merit Badges were presented. These were earned during summer camp and throughout the fall. First Presby members who earned Merit Badges include Matthew Callaghan and Tait Taylor. Perry Nassif (grandson of Ruffner and Betty Alexander), and Adam Kerr and Evan Kerr (grandsons of Roger and Jo Kerr), also were included in this group.

Scouts who are advancing in rank must perform service hours in the community. This fall, 14 Scouts served as ushers and helped receive the offering during a Scout Sunday in October. One weekend in November, 16 Scouts and leaders assisted at Manna Meal providing 63 man-hours of service. First Presby members and extended members participating included George Faulkes, Will Faulkes, Adam Kerr, Evan Kerr, Perry Nassif, and Tait Taylor.

On Veteran's Day, at the request of First Presby member Joan Steven, nine Scouts and leaders provided 18 man-hours of service gardening on the Sunrise Carriage Trail. First Presby members participating included George Faulkes, Will Faulkes, Liam Peterman, and Tait Taylor.

During the Court of Honor, 23 rank advancements were presented: nine Scouts were awarded Tenderfoot rank; six Scouts were awarded 2nd Class rank; two Scouts were awarded 1st Class rank; one Scout was awarded Star rank; and five Scouts were awarded Life rank.

First Presby members and extended members earning rank advancement include:

Second Class rank - Matthew Callaghan and Perry Nassif
(grandson of Ruffner and Betty Alexander)

First Class rank - Matthew Callaghan

Star rank - Evan Kerr (grandson of Roger and Jo Kerr)

Life rank - Adam Kerr (grandson of Roger and Jo Kerr)

After the New Year, the troop will have a winter camping trip including cross-country skiing in Canaan Valley and a down-hill ski weekend scheduled at Timberline. Other fun-filled events are being planned.

We encourage all boys in the Church who are at least 11 years old to consider joining Boy Scout Troop 5, a place where boys can grow mentally and physically and where character building occurs every time Scouts are together. Come check us out on Tuesday evenings from 7:15 to 8:45, Bud Francis Recreation Room, in the Activities Building.

— Blair Taylor, Scoutmaster



DAILY BIBLE VERSES

These verses are suggested by *The Upper Room*, a publication which can be found in the information hallway on first floor.

- 1/1 Romans 8:14-17 Adopted Twice
- 1/2 Psalm 56:1-4, 9-13
Learning to Float
- 1/3 John 3:1-17 Reborn
- 1/4 Galatians 5:22-26
Controlled by the Spirit
- 1/5: Numbers 11:1-6
To Find the Sunshine
- 1/6 Philippians 4:4-7
Message to Heaven
- 1/7 Matthew 5:14-16
God's Masterpiece
- 1/8 2 Chronicles 30:18-27 Rules
- 1/9 Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 Do It Now
- 1/10 Job 23:8-12 The Way Out
- 1/11 1 Kings 3:5-12 A Tiny Prayer
- 1/12 Deuteronomy 15:1-11
Our True Debt
- 1/13 Psalm 5:1-3 Good Morning
- 1/14 Isaiah 43:1-7
A New Identity
- 1/15 Psalm 23:1-6
Grace in Tough Times
- 1/16 Matthew 10:38-48
Prophetic Words
- 1/17 James 1:12-18
God Understands
- 1/18 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Do Not Provoke
- 1/19 2 Corinthians 3:7-18
Still a Caterpillar
- 1/20 Habakkuk 3:17-19 Blue Skies?
- 1/21 Luke 17:7-10 Ordinary Servants
- 1/22 Matthew 6:25-34 Renewed Faith
- 1/23 James 1:18-25
The Painful Truth
- 1/24 Deuteronomy 6:4-9
Keeping God in Sight
- 1/25 Jeremiah 29:10-14 God's Plans
- 1/26 2 Corinthians 4:8-14
After the Fire
- 1/27 Lamentations 3:21-26
One Day at a Time
- 1/28 Hebrews 11:8-16
Christmas Longings
- 1/29 Ephesians 4:25-32
Gracious Words
- 1/30 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 God is Able
- 1/31 Psalm 1:1-6 Like a Tree



FINANCE DIVISION REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2011

<u>Month of November</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Pledge Offerings:	\$ 110,000	\$ 86,948	\$ (23,052)
Trustee Funds:	6,735	5,313	(1,422)
Other Revenue:	9,623	6,165	(3,458)
Total Income:	126,358	98,426	(27,932)
Expenses:	115,830	104,140	(11,690)
Net Income (loss):	\$ 10,528	\$ (5,714)	\$ (16,242)
<u>Year to date: 2011</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Pledge Offerings:	\$ 1,020,000	\$ 916,575	\$ (103,425)
Trustee Funds:	297,545	295,933	(1,612)
Other Revenue:	183,071	173,656	(9,415)
Total Income:	1,500,616	1,386,164	(114,452)
Expenses:	1,486,634	1,427,078	(59,556)
Net Income (loss):	\$ 13,982	\$ (40,914)	\$ (54,896)

YEAR-END GIVING:

Gifts received by midnight December 31, 2011, will be deductible in 2011. The church will be open on New Year's Eve for the Good Night Celebration. Gifts received on Sunday, January 1, 2012, will be deductible in 2012.

Transfers of securities are deductible in the year they are received into the church account. Please allow several days for this transfer. The church has a new account number for stock transfers. Please contact Jackie in the business office at 304-343-8961 ext. 121 for more information.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGE FULFILLMENT

Five years ago, after months of thoughtful and prayerful hard work, this church undertook a campaign to raise over \$5 million. Many of the objectives of that campaign have been completed—the renovation of the dome and cupola above the sanctuary, the restoration of the stained glass windows, renovations to the heating system, and over \$434,000 to mission projects both here and abroad. The final contributions to this campaign will now be used for further mission work and to complete an endowment fund for HVAC operating costs every year.

If you have an outstanding pledge balance to the capital campaign, please plan to make those final contributions to the campaign. We are in the process of funding new mission projects that will share Christ's love to others as we minister to the least of His children. We will continue to receive contributions to the campaign in 2012 for those unable to complete their pledge this year.

I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith.
2 Timothy 4:7

REBUILDING HOPE IN NEW ORLEANS

West Virginia Presbytery's 5th Gulf Coast Mission Trip to New Orleans
March 18 - 26, 2012

Laborers are needed for construction work with Habitat for Humanity. Volunteers must be 16 years or older. **Please let us know now of your interest.** Contact Marie Newcomb-Lewis at 304-573-5360 or mmnlwv@suddenlink.net.

CHILD AND FAMILY MINISTRY



DON'T MISS OUT! Register for LOGOS

CLASS SCHEDULES:

5:00

K-2: Bible
3rd-5th: Choir/Worship Skills
6th-8th: Recreation

5:30

K-2: Choir/Worship Skills
3rd-5th: Recreation
6th-8th: Bible

6:00

Family-Style Dinner for All

6:45

K-2: Recreation
3rd-5th: Bible
6th-8th: Choir/Worship Skills

Register by completing a registration form or by calling the Christian Education Office at 304-343-8961.

Join children, youth, and adult volunteers as we celebrate, grow in faith, and strengthen one another through the enriching experience of LOGOS.

Dates: January 11, 18, 25; February 1, 8, 15, 29; March 7, 14, 21, 28.

PRAYER

Lord, thank you for a new year and opportunities to learn and grow. Thank you for giving us so many reasons to love others.

BLESSING FOR MEALS

We thank you, God, for food that nourishes us. We pray for those who are hungry, that they might be fed. Amen.

BIBLE VERSE

Jesus said to his disciples, "You give them something to eat."
(Luke 9:13)

WHAT WE CAN DO

January 6 is Epiphany, when we celebrate the wise men coming to see Jesus. On Sunday, January 8, Covenant Kids will handle gold, frankincense and myrrh before preparing gifts of sandwiches to deliver to Manna Meal.

Our goal of 200 sandwiches and fruit for hungry people is made possible through the contributions made at the Panera Bread table.

We thank the congregation for being a vital part of this ministry. You are invited to join the Covenant Kids in the dining room during the Sunday School hour on January 8 for a first-hand sandwich-making experience

WORD OF THE MONTH: SOUP

January is the time we anticipate the **Souper Bowl of Caring** , a mission project begun by Presbyterian youth at Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC as a way of caring for those who do not have enough to eat. Children and youth collect money and canned foods to give to local food banks; they will report their totals nationally on February 5.

Covenant Kids will do their part by bringing cans of soup and boxes of crackers for the Food Pantry throughout the month of January as their weekly offering.

PREPARATION FOR COMMUNION

Welcoming Children to the Lord's Table is a goal of the Children and Family Committee. Children in Kindergarten and first grade and their parents are invited to attend a hands-on workshop Sunday, January 8, at 2:00 p.m. We will begin in Room A-201. Register by contacting the Christian Education Office at 304-343-8961 x 122.



Previous participants in the Preparation for Communion workshop model their worship stoles.

We Are Part of the Family of God

Bailey Elizabeth Burton
daughter of

Ashley and Brent Burton was baptized
on November 27, 2011.

Addison Paige Forbes
daughter of

Lesli and Jesse Forbes was baptized
on November 27, 2011.

Lewis Wayne Steven
son of

Elise and Frank Steven was baptized
on December 4, 2011.

Lewis is the grandson of Susie and
Bob Orders.

Bailey Elizabeth Smith
daughter of

Elizabeth and Tanner Smith was
baptized on December 18, 2011.

Bailey is the great-granddaughter of
Kemp McLaughlin Sr. granddaughter of
Kemp McLaughlin Jr. and Vickie King
McLaughlin.



You are invited to the
Presbyterian Women's Luncheon
January 19, 2012

**Join us for an insightful look at
"Confessing the Beatitudes"**

Lesson Five: Greatly Honored Are Those Who Show Mercy!

presented by
Pastor Jim Roberts

This special annual program is a
combined Bible Study with all circles
meeting together following
the January luncheon.



Illustration by Ann Kim
2011-2012 PW Horizons Bible Study

Also join us for the PW Prayer Group
which meets just prior to the luncheon every month at 11:30 a.m.
in Room A-203. We praise God, bringing our joys and concerns
to Him as we pray together.

Call the church at 304-343-8961 by January 16 to make a lunch reservation.

RIVER OF HOPE

**Schedule a mountaintop experience
for July 18-2, 2012,
in Orlando, Florida.**

You are invited to attend the 2012
Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian
Women. Come experience
enrichment, community, recreation
and joy - all under one roof at the
amazing Gaylord Palms resort in
Orlando!

See www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering or call Frankie McCain at 304-343-0648 for more information and to register now at the discounted price. Brochures available on request.

OPEN STUDIO CONTINUES

**We are hosting a free Open Studio
for art, crafting, and/or fellowship
on the first Thursday of each
month, 4:30-6:30 p.m.** Come to
Room E-403 to share your work, do
some paper collage, practice
SoulCollage®, or simply enjoy the
fellowship. Note January 5 and
February 2 in your datebook now.

The Open Studio is for everyone
interested. This can be the beginning
of a continuing church-related
emphasis on art. Contact Ina at 304-
343-8961 x 122 for more information.

LOVE LIGHT TREE

Presbyterian Women's mission
project for December was to man the
Kanawha Hospice Center's Love
Light Tree at the Charleston Town
Center Mall.

Many thanks to **Sarah Roach,
Barbara Gessner, Suzanne Meyer,
Jarve Currence, Mary Kay Boyle,
Pat Miller, Janice Miller, Charlotte
Richardson and Nancy Martin who
were lovely and lively saleswomen
for a very worthwhile cause.** Thank
you for donating your time on a busy
Saturday.

BAD WEATHER POLICY

- If Kanawha County Schools close or dismiss early, church activities are cancelled unless you are directly notified to the contrary.
- If the county schools open late, the Preschool will have a one-hour delay. Church activity times will not change.
- PLEASE NOTE: Sunday worship always takes place.

**PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE
ARMED FORCES**

- Carly Leister**, National Guard
 - Richard Anderson**, US, cousin of Mary Odin
 - ET/3 Charles M. Holbrook**, Navy, Great Lakes, Illinois
 - Captain Gene Seiter**, Army near Kabul, Afghanistan, nephew of Carolyn Sturgeon
 - SR Eric Wilson**, Naval Nuclear Power Training in Charleston, SC
 - Frankie Bottorff**, Navy, San Diego, CA
 - Brian Leister**, Citadel
 - Ryan Hovis**, United States Coast Guard, Yorktown, VA, son of Tammy Hovis
 - 1st Lt. Stephen Bruner**, Army, Fort Fort Drum, NY
 - Captain Matthew M. Bruner**, Army, Fort Benning, Columbus, GA
 - Edwin Anderson**, cousin of Mary Odin
 - Airman 1st Class Caitlin Workman**, Omaha, NE, granddaughter of Pat Workman
 - Staff Sgt Franz S. Workman IV**, Air Force Search and Rescue Team, deployed, grandson of Pat Workman
 - Warrant Officer David McDarmont**, Iraq, son of Liz O'Finan
 - Owen Brown**, US Navy, Pensacola, FL, son of Earle Brown
 - David Rucker**, Germany, nephew of Barbara Brown
 - Donald Boylen**, US Navy at sea, grandson of Dick and Becky Smith
- Please call the church office to keep this information current. Thank you.*

ECO TIP

From The Care of Creation Committee

- A fluorescent lamp consists of a glass tube that is filled with mercury vapor . . . The inside of the tube is coated with a phosphorous substance. Fluorescent lights conserve energy. For the same amount of light they need less power than usual light bulbs. Please don't play and break fluorescent lamps: they contain chemicals that are poisonous.* **When disposing of a fluorescent lamp, take it in for recycling to Home Depot.** (*Excerpt from Cornell Center for Materials Research)
- If every household replaced just three 60 watt incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs, the pollution savings would be equal to taking 3.5 million cars off the road, according to the nonprofit group Environmental Defense.



MUSIC AND WORSHIP NEWS

JOIN A MUSICAL GROUP, BUILD COMMUNITY, AND WORSHIP GOD TOGETHER!

FROM MARY ODIN

Epiphany arrives every year on January 6. For most of us, this holiday is a fairly minor one, completely overshadowed by Christmas and New Year's Day. Like Christmas and New Year's, Epiphany falls on the same date each year, often in the middle of the week. But few of us invite out-of-town guests to our Epiphany parties, and even fewer merchants offer big savings at their After-Epiphany sales events. Even Presidents' Day gets more attention.

In 1998, Epiphany fell on a Tuesday. I was teaching a Kindergarten violin class at the school where I worked when one of my friends on staff interrupted my class to tell me I had a phone call. Roger was the Lee Richardson of our school and a dear friend, and I knew he wouldn't ask me to leave my students without good reason. He took me to the telephone in the cafeteria kitchen where my sister told me that our grandmother had just passed away while sitting in her wingback chair. I looked at my surroundings, a sort of backstage area in the school I had never seen before, and thought to myself: How can I be hearing this, the biggest, most awful news in my whole life, standing *here*?

Nama was born on July 3, 1898. Her death on Epiphany in 1998 came just six months before her hundredth birthday. In her lifetime, she had lost two infant children, was widowed at age 38 when my mother was not quite 3 years old, and had survived the Great Depression as a single mother with 3 daughters. She outlived her parents, all of her siblings, and one of her adult children. A lifelong teacher, writer, and avid reader, she lost her eyesight to macular degeneration in the 1980's. I once asked her what she would do differently if she had her life to live over again, and she said, "I would have memorized more scripture and more hymns. I can't see to learn new ones now."

The dictionary gives several definitions for the word "epiphany". With a capital "E", it is "a Christian festival, observed on January 6, commemorating the manifestation of Christ to the gentiles in the persons of the Magi; Twelfth-day." With a lower-case "e", it is "a sudden, intuitive perception of or insight into the reality or essential meaning of something, usually initiated by some simple, homely, or commonplace occurrence or experience."

Nama's life embodied both. She was the strongest, most real Christian person I have ever known. Simple, homely, commonplace occurrences and experiences with her revealed more of God to me than anything else in my young life. Since her passing, not a day goes by when I don't strain to remember something she taught me, some Godly lesson or behavior I should emulate. Nama's life was filled with epiphanies with lower-case "e's", and her death on Epiphany was too poetic to go unmarked. Her tombstone reads: "Ethelyn Louise VonCanon Davis - An Epiphany of God."

Epiphany no longer slips by unnoticed in my family. We don't throw Epiphany parties or go on shopping sprees, but every year on January 6 we remember. Some of us think, some pray, and some call or email each other. I remember the feel of my cousin Beth's hand in mine during the funeral, squeezing her strength into me so I could play my violin. It's true, Epiphany with a big "E" only comes once a year. But Nama taught all thirteen of her grandchildren that epiphanies of the other sort happen every day. God comes to us, not just at Christmas, but every single day.

Happy Epiphany.

For weekly updates on your musical group's activities, go to our website: <http://www.firstpresby.com/music.asp> and follow the links.

PRESBY THESPIES

This group offers dramatic gifts to God in worship and other settings. To join, contact director Carole Carter through the church office.

WORSHIP TEAM

These vocalists and instrumentalists rehearse on Wednesday evenings and lead congregational song during worship on Sunday mornings. To join us, contact Bill McCoy or Mary Odin.

GENEVA CHOIR

Geneva Choir for youth and adults rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. To join the choir, come to the Choir Room at 7:30 on Thursday evening where your new friends will welcome you!

CAPELLA BELL CHOIR

Capella Bells rehearse on Thursday evenings from 5:30-7 p.m. If you would like to ring, contact director Kathy Lynch through the church office.

WORSHIP SKILLS

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

LOGOS Wednesdays at First Presby expand the traditional role of choir to include training in all the elements of worship. The second semester of LOGOS will begin on January 11, and you can enroll or re-enroll by calling the C.E. office at 304-343-8961. The Worship Skills schedule is as follows:

5:00-5:30: grades 3-5 in E-305

5:30-6:00 grades K-2 in the Susie Early Room

6:45-7:15 MS Youth in E-305

FPC LYRES CLUB

Our folk harp players practice on Tuesdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Ruffner Room. To join, contact Mary Odin at modin@firstpresby.com or at (304)343-8961, ext. 137.

2012 Montreat Conference on Worship and Music: June 17-23, 2012

Registration began on December 15 for this life-changing week of worship, Bible study, music, and the arts in Montreat, NC. Adults, youth, and children who have completed grade 3 may register for the conference. Childcare and clubs are available for ages 6 months through high school.

Twenty-two people are planning to attend thus far; we have room for six more. Housing deposits of \$100 may be left with Jackie or Jenny in the church office. For more information, go to <http://www.presbysmusic.org/montreat.html>

MISSION OUTREACH: VOLUNTEERING

Start off the New Year in a healthy way – VOLUNTEER!

In today's busy society, it can be hard to think about finding time to volunteer. However, the benefits of volunteering are enormous, both to you, your family and the community. The right match can help you find friends, reach out to the community, learn new skills and even advance your career. Volunteering can even help protect your mental and physical health.

Volunteering connects you to others. One of the better-known benefits of volunteering is the impact on the community. Unpaid volunteers are often the glue that holds a community together. Volunteering allows you to connect to your community and make it a better place. However, volunteering is a two-way street, and it can benefit you and your family as much as the cause you choose to help. Dedicating your time as a volunteer helps you make new friends, expand your network, and boost your social skills.

Volunteering provides many benefits to both mental and physical health. Volunteering helps to increase self-confidence, combats depression and helps you stay physically healthy.

Volunteering can advance your career. If you're considering a new career, volunteering can help you get experience in your area of interest and meet people in the field. Volunteering can also teach you valuable job skills.

Volunteering brings fun and fulfillment to your life. Volunteering is a fun and easy way to explore your interests and passions. Doing volunteer work you find meaningful and interesting can be a relaxing, energizing escape from your day-to-day routine of work, school, or family commitments. Volunteering also provides you with renewed creativity, motivation, and vision that can carry over into your personal and professional life.

Volunteering as a family is meaningful. While it might be a challenge to coordinate everyone's schedules, volunteering as a family has many worthwhile benefits. Children watch everything you do. By giving back to the community, you show them firsthand how volunteering makes a difference and how good it feels to help others and enact change. It's also a valuable way for you to get to know organizations in the community and find resources and activities for your children and family.

Authors: Joanna Saisan, M.S.W., Melinda Smith, M.A., and Gina Kemp, M.A. Last updated: August 2011. ©Helpguide.org All rights reserved. This reprint is for information and support only and NOT a substitute for professional diagnosis and treatment. Visit www.helpguide.org for more information and related articles.

Volunteering pleases God. As it is written “. . . for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it unto me.’” Matthew 25:35-36, 40

There are MANY opportunities to serve and volunteer in our community. Please give me a call to find out how you can get involved.

Blessings to you for a Healthy New Year,

Sue Webster

RECIPE FOR VOLUNTEERING

Ingredients:

2 cups of Listening
1 teaspoon of Trust
1 1/2 cups of Kindness
1 teaspoon of Honesty
1 cup of Responsibility
1 cup of Patience & Laughter
1 tablespoon of Communication
1 tablespoon of Compromise
1 dash of Commitment
2 teaspoons of Give & Take
2 dashes of Forgiveness
2 tablespoons of Appreciation
of Each Other
3/4 cup of Tolerance

Method: Combine listening, trust and kindness. Mix well. Add communication, honesty and compromise. Blend. Cream happiness, commitment, and responsibility until light and fluffy. Sift together patience, give/take and laughter. Fold together gently. Add dashes of forgiveness, to taste. Top with appreciation and tolerance.

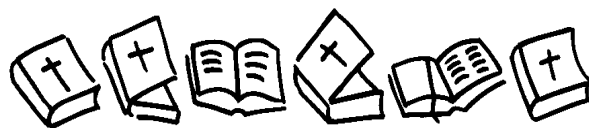
Results: "Remembering the essence of volunteering." You will need to follow the directions very carefully to end up with the results you want!

(By Naznin Dhanani, 2006. Source: <http://uwgfvolunteercenter.blogspot.com/2010/>)

2012 OFFERING SCHEDULE

January 22—Cents-Ability
February 5—Souper Bowl
February 26—Cents-Ability
March 25—Cents-Ability
April 8—One Great Hour of Sharing*
April 22—Cents-Ability
May 20—Cents-Ability
May 27—Pentecost*
June 24—Cents-Ability
July 15—Urgent Needs
July 22—Cents-Ability
August 26—Cents-Ability
September 23—Cents-Ability
October 7—Peacemaking*
October 28—Cents-Ability
November 18—Davis-Stuart
November 25—Cents-Ability
December 23—Christmas Joy Gift*
December 24—Urgent Needs
**churchwide special offerings*

January 2012



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
1 11:00 Worship 	2 Church Buildings Closed 6:00 pm: Church League Basketball Games	3 9:30 Tuesday Bible Study 4:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study 6:00 CCRA Basketball 7:00 Women's Bible Study 7:15 Boy Scouts	4 8:00 Wednesday Work Crew 8:30 Aerobics 7:00 Worship Music Team	5 7:30 Bible Study, Shoney's 9:30 Women's Study Group 10:00 PW Coordinating Team 4:30 Open Studio/Collage 5:30 Capella Bells 6:00 CCRA Basketball 7:30 Geneva Choir	6 Epiphany 8:30 Aerobics 5:00 K-2 Basketball Practice	7 K-2 Basketball 10:00 Greek Class
8 <i>Install and Ordain Officers</i> <i>Blood Pressure Check</i> 8:45 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 2:00 Preparation for Communion	9 8:30 Aerobics 10:30 Knitting Into The Mystery 5:30 CE Division 6:00 pm: Church League Basketball Games 7:00 Ballroom Dancing	10 9:30 Tuesday Bible Study 5:30 Lyres Club 6:00 CCRA Basketball 7:00 Women's Bible Study 7:15 Boy Scouts	11 8:00 Wednesday Work Crew 8:30 Aerobics 5:00 Property Division 5:00 LOGOS <i>Start of Winter Semester</i> 6:00 Dinner 6:45 Worship Division 6:45 Deacons 6:45 Mission Division 6:45 Personnel Division 7:30 Contemplative Prayer 8:00 Worship Team rehearsal	12 7:30 Bible Study, Shoney's 9:30 Women's Study Group 5:15 Coordinating Council 5:30 Capella Bells 6:00 CCRA Basketball 7:30 Geneva Choir	13 7:00 Men's Group 8:30 Aerobics 5:00 K-2 Basketball Practice	14 K-2 Basketball 10:00 Greek Class
15 8:45 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Inquirer's Class 11:00 Worship	16 <i>Remembering Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i> Church Buildings Closed	17 9:30 Tuesday Bible Study 4:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study 5:30 Lyres Club 6:00 CCRA Basketball 7:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Alzheimer Support Group 7:15 Boy Scouts	18 8:00 Wednesday Work Crew 8:30 Aerobics 5:00 LOGOS 5:15 Finance Division 6:00 Dinner 6:45 SESSION 7:30 Contemplative Prayer <i>February "Presby News" Deadline</i>	19 7:30 Bible Study, Shoney's 9:30 Women's Study Group 11:30 PW Prayer Group 12:00 PW Luncheon 5:30 Capella Bells 6:00 CCRA Basketball 7:30 Geneva Choir	20 7:00 Men's Group 8:30 Aerobics 5:00 K-2 Basketball Practice	21 K-2 Basketball 10:00 Greek Class
22  8:45 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Inquirer's Class 11:00 Worship 12:00 Congregational Meeting	23 8:30 Aerobics 6:00 pm: Church League Basketball Games 7:00 Ballroom Dancing	24 9:30 Tuesday Bible Study 4:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study 6:00 CCRA Basketball 7:00 Women's Bible Study 7:15 Boy Scouts	25 8:00 Wednesday Work Crew 8:30 Aerobics 5:00 LOGOS 5:00 Fellowship/Recreation Division 5:00 Visitors/New Members Division 6:00 Dinner 7:30 Contemplative Prayer 7:30 Worship Music Team	26 7:30 Bible Study, Shoney's 9:30 Women's Study Group 10:30 Shepherd's Center Activities 11:30 Shepherd's Center Luncheon 5:30 Capella Bells 6:00 CCRA Basketball 7:30 Geneva Choir	27 7:00 Men's Group 8:30 Aerobics 5:00 K-2 Basketball Practice	28 K-2 Basketball 10:00 Greek Class
29 8:45 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Inquirer's Class 11:00 Worship	30 8:30 Aerobics 6:00 pm: Church League Basketball Games 7:00 Ballroom Dancing	31 9:30 Tuesday Bible Study 4:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study 5:30 Lyres Club 6:00 CCRA Basketball 7:00 Women's Bible Study 7:15 Boy Scouts	BASKETBALL IS HAPPENING! Basketball games and practices are going on throughout the month of January. Contact Jim Buckalew for more information. Come to any of the games and show your support of the coaches and players. See CCRA Basketball Schedules at: http://www.ccrawv.org/id9.html			



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

16 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV 25301-2487

www.firstpresby.com

AUTHORIZED
NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 918
Charleston, WV

PRAYER CONCERNS

IN THE HOSPITAL:

General: Herb Miller

OUR SYMPATHY TO:

Susan and Bill Herold on the death of Bill's mother.

CURRENT PRAYER CONCERNS:

David and Barbara Bryant (friends of the Doumauxs); Joe Kennedy, brother of Barbara Brown; David Rucker, nephew of Barbara Brown; Rev. Matt Lyles (friend of Joe Marchio); Ann Schneider; Janet Riddle, friend of Sally Slicer; Chris Leister; Aaron Jackimowicz (stepson of Jackie Lilly's cousin); Maggie & Clyde Crowley (Linda Elliot's aunt & uncle); John Chappell (friend of Mary Kaye Boyle); Ernie Emswiler; Bob Morris; Carole Carter.

EXTENDED PRAYER CONCERNS:

Amy Patwa, Steve Hopta's cousin; Olav Seimer, ex brother-in-law of Marilyn Monahan, father of her niece; Beth Hammer, Mary Odin's cousin; Ollie Cunningham, Steve Hopta's aunt; Vicki Ashley-Moore, Ron Reedy's

mother; Pat Jarrett; Nadine Hoch & family, friends of Dill Battle; Kristin Mercer, granddaughter of Jean Mercer.

LONG-TERM PRAYER CONCERNS:

Harriet Myrick (Robin Harlow's aunt); Ricky Jordan (our new custodian); NevaJo Adams; Leslie Meadows & Trecia Peterson, friends of Candy Strader; Lindsay Pack, friend of Amy Keller; Michele Krueger, Marissa Sanders' friend; Louise Christensen; Dwayne Smith (friend of Ruth Weber); Kathy Walker; Harley Skorpenfji, friend of Doumaux family; Amber Skorpenfji, friend of Doumaux family; Pam Goodwin; Frances Sattes, sister of Kay Lamb & Lyle Sattes; Nancy McCoy, mother of Bil; Tom, Melinda, & William Doumaux (Art's & Pat's son & family); Nancy Drescher; Tyrone James; John Shadeed (Jim Buckalew's friend); Justus (Linda Elliott's neighbor); Betty Childers; Craig Christensen (Dave's nephew); Mary Murphy (Perry Keller's friend, Tim Murphy's, mother); Ramsey Essa,

friend of Toni Clendenin; Mary McFarland (Sarah McGriff's sister); George Hamrick; Dr. Audrey Farley, daughter of Elizabeth & John Lambros; Edwin Scherr (Jim's father); Laura (Bulla), Tom Bulla's daughter); Chuan Rong Tsao, Howard Doumaux's brother-in-law; Jack Gastineau; Joseph Sprouse.

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH,
304-343-8961, and provide updated
information on these Prayer Concerns.
Thank you.

— *In Memoriam* —

Dr. John B. Morton III

November 30, 2011

Charles L. Young

December 11, 2011