



Presbyterian

R E P O R T E R

Volume 55, Issue 5, June-July 2015

"Updating an 19th Century Sanctuary for a 21st Century People"

Caroline M. Kelly, Pastor

As you know, the Session has appointed a committee to take a fresh look at our sanctuary and, together with the help of an architect who specializes in historic and church architecture, determine how it might better accommodate the way we use it today. The last time the sanctuary was modified was in 1952, with the addition of the Education Building and, before that, in 1929 with the addition of the pipe organ.

At the committee's first meeting, we looked to the Directory for Worship, which guides our arrangement of space for worship. It should: evoke reverence; encourage community; be accessible to all; include a place for the reading and proclamation of the Word; include a font for baptism; include a table for the Lord's Supper; and the pulpit, font, and table be arranged to express their relationship to one another and their centrality in Christian worship.

We also reviewed the history of worship space and the ways in which the space has highlighted different aspects of worship over the years: mystery, hospitality, and participation. We also talked about how worship had changed because of the congregation's role moving from audience to participants, the renewal of the sacraments, the use of all our senses, and the understanding that people learn and engage in different ways.

Our desire to take a fresh look at the sanctuary comes primarily from the desire to adapt the space to changing worship theology/practices and to create a more intimate worshipping community. What this *could* mean is that the chancel area (where the pulpit is) would be enlarged and opened up to provide a permanent place for the music ministry, to remove some of the distance between the worship leaders and the congregation and to provide flexibility for concerts, pageants, and handbells.

We invite you to join us in considering these questions: When you come into the sanctuary,

- What do you notice first?
- What symbols are prominent?
- What aspects of worship seem most valuable?
- What, if anything, is distracting?
- What does our community believe about God?

Nothing about what we are considering is designed to radically change our worship, but we are looking beyond today and next year for what will give us flexibility for years to come. We hope you will pray for the committee as they continue this important work.

Blessings,

Caroline

CONNECT WITH FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Session of First Presbyterian Church met in the church library at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, **May 12, 2015**, for its stated monthly meeting. The Rev. Caroline M. Kelly served as Moderator. Ann Kellermeyer served as Clerk.

The Session took the following actions:

- Sustained the examinations of confirmands Marisa Aurigemma, Addison Stroup, and Abbey Workmeister and received them as active members of First Presbyterian Church pending their public Profession of Faith during worship on Sunday, May 17, 2015.
- Sustained the examinations of Ruling Elders-elect Carl Belt, Jr., Kaitlyn Kauffman, Carolyn Mathews, Judy Stern, and Tim Workmeister for the ministry of ruling elder and agreed to ordain Judy Stern and Tim Workmeister and to install them together with ruling elders Carl Belt, Jr., Kaitlyn Kauffman, and Carolyn Mathews, having previously been ordained, to active service during worship on Sunday, May 24, 2015.
- Adopted the New Beginnings Leadership Team's proposal.
(<http://www.fpc-cumberland.org/about-us/our-visioning-process/>)
- Approved the serving of in-home communion, nunc pro tunc, on Sunday, May 3, 2015, by Ruling Elders Barbara Leasure and Ann Kellermeyer to Grace Frickey and by Ruling Elders Linda Smith and Robin Bissell to Polly Eyler and Lena Maas.
- Approved the year to date financial statements as of April 30, 2015.
- Approved the serving of communion at the first officer training on Sunday, April 12, 2015, nunc pro tunc.
- Approved the recommendation of the Worship and Music Committee to baptize Brennan Carl Irons, son of Jeremy and Meredith Irons born December 27, 2014, during worship on Sunday, June 14, 2015.
- Called a congregational meeting for Sunday, June 7, 2015, immediately following worship for the purpose of electing new corporate officers and amending the bylaws to revise the composition of the Personnel Committee.
- Approved the recommendation of the Christian Education Committee to allow the youth group to hold their annual Heritage Days Parking Fundraiser on June 17, 2015.
- Approved May 24, 2015 as the date of ordination/installation of new session members.

In addition, the Session heard:

- A report from Congregational Care and Outreach that 46 people had signed up for the "Tables for Six" dinners.
- A reminder from Worship and Music that June 14 is the beginning of 10:00 a.m. Worship.
- A report from Pastor Kelly that the Belhar Confession was approved by 2/3 of the Presbyteries and will be added to the Book of Confession in June when it is affirmed by the General Assembly.
- A report from Pastor Kelly that the Sanctuary Project Committee will see the preliminary concepts from the architect at their meeting on May 28.

If you have any questions, please contact the Clerk of Session or the Moderator.



JUNE

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Jen Kauffman | 6/5 |
| Melissa Gambrel | 6/7 |
| Elizabeth Getty | 6/7 |
| Katie Getty | 6/7 |
| Kathy Dowell | 6/8 |
| Ben Fiscus | 6/16 |
| Judie Brown | 6/17 |
| Shirley Giarritta | 6/18 |
| Sean Aurigemma | 6/25 |
| Carolyn Mathews | 6/25 |
| Jeff Getty | 6/26 |
| Dave Corley | 6/28 |
| Quinn Madden | 6/28 |
| Julie Courtney | 6/30 |
| Jim Gill | 6/30 |

JULY

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Joanna Bissell | 7/3 |
| Garrett Corley | 7/4 |
| Polly Eyer | 7/4 |
| Bill McElvie | 7/4 |
| Don Fuller | 7/6 |
| Eleanor Madden | 7/8 |
| Margaret Hartsock | 7/14 |
| Bob Martin | 7/14 |
| Caroline Kelly | 7/17 |
| Bill Shaffer | 7/20 |
| Katrina Reasbeck | 7/23 |
| Bill Wilhelm | 7/23 |
| Kay Rudd | 7/24 |
| Elena Corley | 7/25 |
| Sylvia Kellermeyer | 7/25 |
| Louise Grimm | 7/26 |
| Amado Torres | 7/28 |
| Jessica Mellon | 7/30 |
| Brennan Kellermeyer | 7/31 |



RESUMES: JUNE 14TH
WORSHIP AT 10AM
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
FOR THE SUMMER.

THANK YOU

Dear Pastor Kelly and Members of the First Presbyterian Church,

It is with a bittersweet heart that I pen this letter of gratitude to all of you for providing such kindness, warmth, sympathy, and a heartfelt memorial service to honor the memory of my wife of 56 years, Jane Torres, on April 11, 2015. The homily, prayers, and sacred music really brought the memory of Jane's faith and gentle spirit to life. My family and I are also very much appreciative of the efforts by members of the hospitality committee for the detailed planning and execution of the luncheon which was much appreciated during our time of great grief.

In the over 40 years that my wife and I have been members of First Presbyterian Church, we have always felt the warmth and spirit of family exhibited by the pastoral staff and our fellow parishioners. That love was truly evident in this final tribute to Jane's spirit and faith. We are so blessed to have you in our lives. Thank you all once again.

Sincere regards,

Amado Torres & Family



Watch us live on Livestream- Sundays at 11 a.m.

You can either sign up through your email address or Facebook account.

new.livestream.com/accounts/4246707

NURTURE

JOYS AND CONCERNS



Congratulations to **Robert Smith and **Melissa Gambrel**, who were married on Sunday, May 31, in a ceremony officiated by Rev. Caroline Kelly.*



Congratulations to **Jen Kauffman who graduated from Frostburg State University with her Master Degree in Interdisciplinary Music/Education.*

Congratulations to **Phil Klickman who graduated last August from the University of Illinois with his ED in Music Education and recently had his hooding ceremony.*

Congratulations to **Robert Smith who graduated from Frostburg State University with his Doctor of Education.*



**Please note that as of May 29th Jeannine Clark's new address is:*

**The Village at Orchard Ridge
400 Clocktower Ridge Dr.
Winchester, VA 22603**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



On Sunday, May 17, 2015 three new members were received into the First Presbyterian Church family during the 11AM worship service.

Addison Stroup, **Marisa Aurigemma**, and **Abbey Workmeister** were all confirmed. **Addison** is the daughter of **Randy and Nadene Stroup**, **Marisa** is the daughter of **Joe Aurigemma and Susan Mills**, and **Abbey** is the daughter of **Tim and Ann Workmeister**.

Their mentors through the Confirmation process were Ruling Elders **Marlee Ort**, **Kathy Wilhelm**, and **Judy Stern**.



Addison Stroup

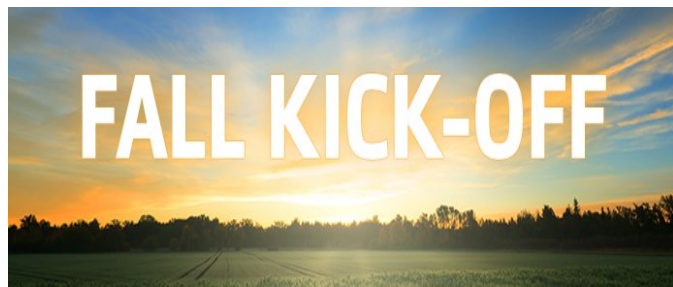


Marisa Aurigemma



Abbey Workmeister

SAVE THE DATE!



Our Fall Kickoff has been scheduled for Sunday, **September 13th**, at Rocky Gap State Park. The kickoff will be held in the Lakeview Shelter starting with worship at 11AM and followed by a picnic. Please mark your calendars!

WORSHIP

GUEST PREACHER COMING TO OUR PULPIT

While our pastor Caroline Kelly is away from the pulpit on June 28th and July 5th, the Worship and Music Committee has searched for an ordained pastor willing to lead us in worship each of those Sundays. Reverend Walt Peters, Associate Stated Clerk of the Baltimore Presbytery, has agreed to be our guest preacher for both of those services and will preside over communion on July 5th when we will celebrate communion by intinction. Walt is familiar with our congregation, having participated in Presbytery meetings held here and lives just over the mountains in Hagerstown. He retired from pastoral responsibilities last fall after 14 years at the First Presbyterian Church of Westminster, Maryland. His biography from their website tells us:

Pastor Walt Peters came to First Presbyterian Church in September, 1999. He is a graduate of Baylor University, and holds both Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Columbia Theological Seminary. He and his wife Rebecca have three grown children and two grandchildren. Walt cooks pretty well, plays golf pretty poorly, enjoys reading (mostly history and biography) and the films of the 1930's and 1940's, and dabbles in family genealogy.

Let us fill our pews in welcome to Rev. Peters each of these summer Sundays.

NEW COMMUNION CHALICE & PATEN

The Worship and Music Committee recently purchased two new communion patens and chalices, from Wortman Pottery.

These beautiful blue ash glazed traditional stem chalice and paten sets were dedicated during worship on June 7th and were used for the first time during communion that day. Unlike the silver chalice, the pottery chalice is intentionally wide to accommodate the practice of dipping bread into the juice (intinction).



SUMMER LUNCHBOX VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Calling all peanut butter & jelly sandwich makers and lunch packers...the 2015 Summer Lunch Box season is fast approaching. We'll begin packing and delivering lunches on **Friday, June 26th and continue until Friday, August 14th**. Each Friday during that 8 week period we'll be working in the Fellowship Hall and kitchen from **9:30AM – 12PM**. Lunch makers and packers as well as lunch delivery drivers are needed each week.

If you can help in any way, please sign up on the sheets in the side hallway at church or call Cathy Levitas. Come join us in this fun and hardworking effort to help feed hungry kids in and around Cumberland.



Like us on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/First.Pres.Cumberland>

LEARN & GROW

NEW BEGINNINGS FINAL REPORT PRESENTED TO THE CONGREGATION

After worship on Sunday, June 7, the New Beginnings Leadership Team made its final report to the congregation, reviewing the 18 month visioning process that led, last month, to the adoption of an implementation plan for their final recommendations. Prior to the meeting, an email containing the report was sent to the congregation. For a copy of the final (and initial) reports, go to <http://www.fpc-cumberland.org/about-us/our-visioning-process/> or call the church office.

From the email:

After a year and a half of holy conversation, prayer, and study, we have discerned that God is calling us to engage more deeply in the life of our community in service to our neighbors and God. Recognizing that the single biggest issue facing our community is poverty, this recommendation does not try to specify one organization or one opportunity for service on which we should focus. Instead, it outlines a process for evaluating and opportunity for service that comes to the session for consideration. In this way, we think we can connect with a broad variety of opportunities that will allow us to engage more of the congregation in God's work of life-giving and life-changing ministry with our neighbors.

(New Beginnings Final Report continues on page 7.)

AN UPDATE FROM THE YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

Friends:

It's hard to believe that the school year has come to a close! While we won't be meeting as frequently as a youth group this summer due to the many summer activities, we still will be active throughout the summer.

April was a month full of learning and fun for the youth. Here are a few highlights:

Joint Youth/Congregation North Korea Book Study: On May 31 we concluded our Spring Joint Book Study on *This is Paradise*, the autobiography of a North Korean who escaped the totalitarian dictatorship. Over the past several months we have enjoyed times of fellowship together, while also sharing our thoughts and ideas about the atrocities that are happening in North Korea. If you were not able to be a part of this group, please talk to someone who was, as they would love to share some of their insights.

Spring Retreat: Eight of the guys in the youth group came together for a weekend filled with fun and spiritual retreat as we joined together at Lost River State Park in WV. The theme for the weekend was "Transformed by Christ", based on Romans 12:1-2. The boys enjoyed a variety of activities including swimming, geocaching, games, and much more in a beautiful setting.



Summer Calendar:

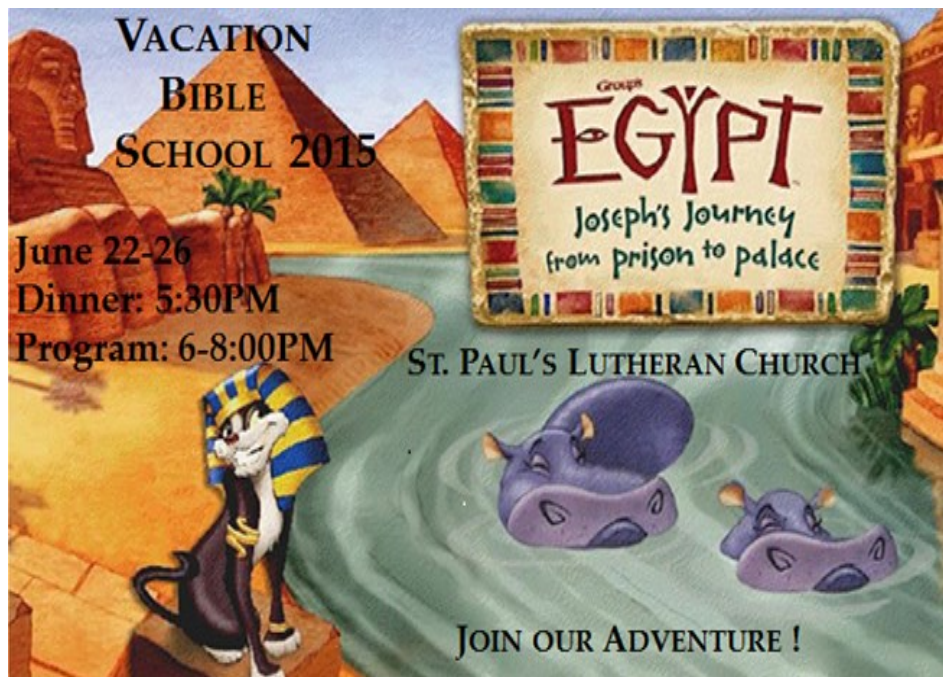
Saturday June 20 (6:30-8PM) – Youth Group
Saturday July 11 (6:30-8PM) – Youth Group
July 12-18 – Montreat Youth Conference
Saturday August 15 (6:30-8PM) – Youth Group
Saturday August 29 (6:30-8PM) – Youth Group

**Currently we are looking for locations to hold these youth group meetings.*

If you have a space you are willing to volunteer, please let Robby know.

(Youth Updates continue on page 7.)





Come enjoy food, fun, puppets, games, story telling, dancing, videos, music, crafts, play musical instruments; and enjoy market place activities.

If you are interested in signing your child up for Vacation Bible School, contact the church office at 301-777-3700.



NEW BEGINNINGS FINAL REPORT CONT.

Having adopted this recommendation, the Session has charged each of its committees to consider their ministries and how they will support and encourage this focus of engagement with the community. Mission will be the primary committee to help the session evaluate service opportunities, but each committee has a role to play in helping carry out this vision.

We are grateful to Jeff Getty, Chair; Julie Courtney, Pam Jan, Michael Levitas and Lisa McIndoe for their service!

YOUTH UPDATE CONT.

We are looking for members of the church family to join the youth for events, including Sunday evenings, to build relationships with youth, have fun, participate in youth ministry, and provide coverage. We are looking for 1-2 people per Sunday evening (5:30-7PM). You would eat dinner with the youth, participate in or help run games, and the devotional/Bible Study that concludes with prayer. We hope you could commit to one meeting every few months.

If you are interested in helping with the youth, please contact Robby or any member of the Christian Education Committee.

The Montreat Youth Conference is quickly approaching. Please be in prayer for traveling mercies and a week full of growth for Kaitlyn Kauffman, Sam Kauffman, and Ben Fiscus. We will be attending the conference from July 12-18.

Blessings,
Robby May

First Presbyterian Church
Eleven Washington Street
Cumberland, Maryland 21502

We Thank God For:

June-July

Address Service Requested



301-777-3700

Worship Calendar

- June 14:** 10:00 AM Service of Word and Sacrament:
Holy Baptism
- June 21:** 10:00 AM Service of Word and Sacrament:
Holy Baptism
Reception of New Members
Commissioning of Youth Conference Participants
- June 28:** 10:00 AM Service for the Lord's Day
Rev. Walt Peters preaching
- July 5:** 10:00 AM Service of word and Sacrament:
Holy Communion
Rev. Walt Peters preaching
- July 12:** 10:00 AM Service for the Lord's Day
Commissioning of Dakota Summer Camp Participants
- July 19:** 10:00AM Service for the Lord's Day
- July 26:** 10:00 AM Service for the Lord's Day

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