



Presbyterian

R E P O R T E R

Volume 57, Issue 2, March 2017

"A Ministry of Space"
Caroline M. Kelly, pastor

If you were to come to church on a Wednesday night, you would be greeted with a sign directing to you one of five or six meetings taking place in the Education Building: in the basement - Narcotics Anonymous; on the first floor - the Community Strengthening Coalition and the Hand Bell Choir; on the second floor - the Covenant Bible Study, two Getting Ahead Classes (Bridges to Opportunity) and the Sanctuary Choir. The sights and sounds of adults and children engaged in fellowship, music, bible study, play or supportive conversation is balm for anything that ails you.

Our Book of Order says, "the property of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) and its congregations is a tool for the accomplishment of the mission of Jesus Christ in the world." That may not be the first thought that comes into your mind when you enter the church, but our facilities give us an important opportunity to serve the community – through the use of space.

Thanks to the ministry of the Buildings and Grounds Committee and the generosity of the Session, our facilities are being used to further the mission of Jesus Christ in our community. Last year, the Session adopted a policy to guide the use of the space by groups whose purpose is consistent with ours, including the specific uses, application process and fee structure.

Over the past six months, we have offered space to three groups engaged in efforts to bring healing, reconciliation and transformation to our community:

- The Community Strengthening Coalition, an NAACP- initiative, is bringing together individuals and groups from all over the county to strengthen relationships and to create a network of folks who are involved in the effort to combat opioid abuse.
- Bridges to Opportunity, a Cumberland-wide initiative to help bridge people out of poverty, is holding two weekly "Getting Ahead" classes to support and encourage those who want to change their lives.
- The American Red Cross will begin holding their twice monthly life-saving blood drives in the Fellowship Hall.

All this, of course, means additional effort on the part of the Buildings and Grounds Committee and staff, especially Bob Courtney, John Brown and Brittany Jackson. For their leadership of this special ministry of space, we are so grateful! Celebrate with us all that God is doing through the gift of our space!

Blessings, 

FEBRUARY SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Session of First Presbyterian Church met in the church library at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 16, 2017, for its stated monthly meeting. The Rev. Caroline M. Kelly served as Moderator. Ann Kellermeyer served as Clerk.

The Session took the following actions:

- Adopted a revised Funeral/Memorial Service Policy as recommended by the Worship and Music Committee.
- Approved the recommendation of the Worship and Music Committee that the pianos in the sanctuary and choir room be switched by Mr. Kleeb of Morgantown, W.Va.
- Approved the recommendation of the Faith Formation Committee to use wine as part of the model Passover Seder that Rabbi Mark Perman will lead here at First Presbyterian Church on April 2, 2017.
- Approved the recommendation of the Buildings and Grounds Committee to engage Glass Services of Cumberland to replace tile ceilings with drywall in the office hallways and stairways.
- Approved the year to date financials as of January 31, 2017.
- Approved with regret the removal of Lisa McIndoe from the rolls at her request so that she can transfer her membership to Calvary UMC in Ridgeley, WV.
- Agreed with the Clerk to continue writing letters to nonparticipating active members encouraging their reengagement with our congregation or, in the case of those out of town, engagement with a faith community where they live.

In addition Session heard:

- A report from Rev. Kelly about plans that are progressing on the joint Lenten Study and Holy Week services with Emmanuel Episcopal and St. John's Lutheran churches.
- A report from Phil Mills on his experience as commissioner to the Presbytery Gathering on February 7.
- A report from Rev. Kelly on the Ad Hoc Committee to discuss the Youth Ministries Coordinator's job description. Members of this committee are Laura Fiscus, Alex Kellermeyer, Cindy Corley, Bryan Wodaski, and Rev. Kelly.

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

CONNECT WITH FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

874TH PRESBYTERY GATHERING IN REVIEW

ARK AND DOVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ODENTON, MD

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2017

TE **Caroline Kelly**, 1st Presbyterian Church of Cumberland preaches at 874th Gathering, "A Vision for Everyone. . ."



Discernment & Decisions Highlights

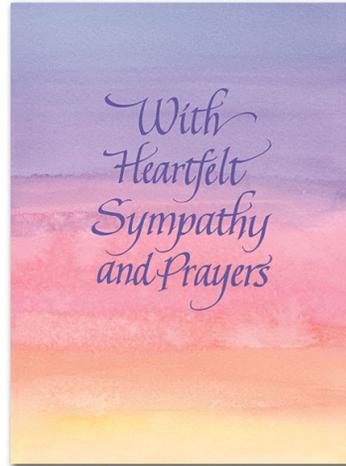
- **2016 Necrology**: three Teaching Elders and 52 Ruling.
- The Presbytery overwhelmingly **voted to concur** with all proposed amendments to the **Book of Order**.
- The Presbytery **unanimously** voted to **approve changes** to the Presbytery Manual allowing **electronic meetings**.
- The Presbytery voted to **endorse the statement of General Assembly Stated Clerk J. Herbert Nelson** in **opposition** to President Trump's Executive Order **banning refugee's entry** into the United States.
- Candidate for Ministry, **Vanessa Smith** of the **Frederick Presbyterian Church**, was examined on her Statement of Faith and was, subsequently, approved by the Presbytery to be **ready for final examination, pending a call**.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Just a reminder that daylight savings time begins next Sunday, March 12th. Turn your clocks forward one hour!

Joys and Concerns



BIRTHDAYS

Pam Jan	2-Mar
Dinah Searles	4-Mar
MikaylaDodge	4-Mar
Joe Aurigemma	6-Mar
Sheri Sterne	6-Mar
Suanne Casseday	8-Mar
Chelsea Boor	11-Mar
Sandra Burton	11-Mar
David Steele	14-Mar
Randy Stroup	15-Mar
John Johnson	17-Mar
Linda Smith	17-Mar
Jackie Boor	19-Mar
Gary Hartung	20-Mar
Kay Williams	20-Mar
Zach Dodge	22-Mar
Joe Weaver	25-Mar
Irene Kuykendall	26-Mar
Rolfe Singerman	27-Mar
Bert Barb	29-Mar
Bryan Wodaski	30-Mar

Prayers and Sympathy to Chelsea Boor and family on the death of Chelsea’s great-grandmother, Helen Eror, on Sunday, February 12. A funeral service was conducted at Livingstone Church of the Brethren on Friday, February 17, 2017, at 11:00AM.

Prayers and sympathy to the family of Juanita Morgan on her death on Monday, February 27. A funeral service was conducted at 1:00 PM at Durst Funeral Home with the Rev. Caroline Kelly officiating.



Change of Address

Jeannine Clark
 365 Proclamation Drive, Apt. 2205
 Winchester, VA 22603

Dear First Presbyterian Church Members,

I don't get too much news from Cumberland since I'm in Winchester.

I miss coming back to Cumberland! Where I live is a wonderful place , but I was in Cumberland a numbers of years.

If anyone is down this way, give me a call [540-450-6357](tel:540-450-6357).

LEARN & GROW

AN UPDATE FROM THE YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

Friends:

February is always a busy month for the youth group, as it is the month of our Annual Sweetheart Luncheon and Dessert Auction. This year was my third auction with the church, and every year I am more and more amazed by your generosity and support of the youth ministry. Thanks to you, this year was the most successful fundraising effort in my three years with the church. We raised almost \$2500! This money will be used to support the youth on their mission trip to the eastern shore of Virginia this summer where they will be doing a variety of work including home repair projects and working with children in the community.



Blessings,

Robby May



LENTEN STUDY SERIES CLAIMING OUR JEWISH ROOTS: HOW JEWISH PRACTICES INFORM OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH AND LIFE

Join friends from Emmanuel Episcopal and St. Paul's Lutheran on Thursdays at 6:00PM in the Fellowship Hall for a simple supper, followed by study and conversation.

March 9 - Holy Water: Ritual Washing and Baptism

March 16 - Holy Words: The Word of God in Jewish and Christian Scripture

March 23 - Holy Ways: Sabbath Keeping and other Spiritual Practices

March 30 - Holy Meals: Passover Seder and Communion

HABITS FOR EVERY DAY, NOT JUST EARTH DAY



Source: Keep America Beautiful campaign

By educating and engaging individuals to recycle more of the right things the right way—at home, at work and on-the-go—we can help make recycling more economically viable, creating jobs and providing recyclables to manufacture new products and packaging, while continuing to reap greater environmental and community benefits.

Top Ten Items to Recycle

1. Cardboard
2. Paper
3. Food boxes
4. Mail
5. Beverage cans
6. Food cans
7. Glass bottles
8. Jars – glass and plastic
9. Jugs
10. Plastic bottles and caps

Let's all work to do our part to reduce waste.

SEPTEMBER WEST VIRGINIA FLOOD DAMAGE WORK CAMP

The Mission Committee is organizing a group from our congregation to participate in a week long work camp to assist families that were devastated by extremely severe storms last year in the White Sulphur Springs WV area. A Presbyterian church in that area has hosted and organized numerous church work groups since last summer. Much work remains to be done, and we have sent a deposit to reserve the dates of September 16-23 to help our WV neighbors. In the next few months, we need to recruit workers to make this mission trip a reality. Our team has room for unskilled, moderately skilled, and well skilled workers. The organizers will assign us a project based on our skills and number of participants. Caroline Kelly, Judy Stern and I have already signed up for the trip. Having worked with the NAILS project that was formed by our church to help with flood damage in the George's Creek area of Allegany County, I witnessed several work groups that left Cumberland with way more satisfaction, team work, a sense of hands on giving to those in need, and making their church stronger and closer to God than when they arrived here. I am certain that our church can be the answer to a family's prayer, and we can return with a similar experience. Please contact me with any questions concerning our planned mission trip. Look for further updates and information in the next few months in the newsletter and moment for mission church service messages.

Thank you! Phil Mills

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE



ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO SOUTH DAKOTA THIS SUMMER?

If you would like to learn more about the eighth annual Learning Camp, please join Robin Bissell and Janet Hendershot after worship on Sunday, March 19 in the library for an informational meeting. Other times can be arranged by contacting Robin at rbissell444@gmail.com.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

Friends

As we enter this most meaningful of church seasons, I wanted to share a few of the things happening in the music ministry of FPC.

During worship you may notice that the piano in the sanctuary looks and sounds a bit different. On the last day of February, the Chickering piano previously in the sanctuary was switched with the Yamaha piano that had resided in the second floor choir room since 2008. The superior tone and quality of the Yamaha will better serve the needs of our primary worship space, and the efficiency of the Chickering will better suit our rehearsal space.

As we make our Lenten journey together, I would like to highlight some of the choral repertoire that the Sanctuary Choir is preparing. Over the next six weeks, in addition to complimenting the weekly scripture readings, our choral music will focus on themes of reflection and renewal, including a number of works by noted American composers, such as Alice Parker, Alan Hovhaness, and Virgil Thomson.

The choir and I would also like to extend an invitation to anyone who would like to join us in singing for special worship services during Holy Week and Easter Sunday. For more information, please speak with me or any choir member. Your presence would be welcomed and appreciated!

Wishing you an intentional and meaningful Lent,

Bryan Lohr

Director of Music Ministries

bryan@bryanlohr.com

[\(814\) 442-4168](tel:8144424168)



Palm/Passion Sunday, April 9 at 11:00AM at First Presbyterian

Maundy Thursday, April 13 at 7:00PM at Emmanuel Episcopal

**Good Friday, April 14 at 12:00 PM at First Presbyterian (in the Chapel)
and 7:00PM at St. Paul's Lutheran**

**Easter Sunday, April 16 = Sunrise service at Rocky Gap at 7:00AM
and a traditional service in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian at
11:00AM**

First Presbyterian Church
Eleven Washington Street
Cumberland, Maryland 21502

March

We Thank God For:

Address Service Requested



Like us on Facebook!

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



Watch us live on Livestream- Sundays at 10 a.m.
You can either sign up through your email address or
Facebook account.

new.livestream.com/accounts/4246707

301-777-3700

www.fpc-cumberland.org