



Northside

NEWS

Northside Presbyterian Church

March 2015

Blacksburg, Virginia

From The Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends,

Do you ever make mistakes? I know, I know. Yes. You do. I do. Mistakes are part of being human. But I hate making them.

There's a funny thing about most of the mistakes I make. I don't notice them. I go blithely on, and do not see what I have done wrong. It's not so bad if it's a typo or some other kind of mistake—although I do wish my spell checker had pointed out my mistakes BEFORE the bulletin or letter gets printed.

The Spell-check Poem

I have a spelling checker;
It came with my PC.
It plainly marks four my revue
Mistakes I can knot sea.
I've run this poem threw it;
I'm sore your please too no,
It's letter perfect in its weigh,
My checker tolled me sew.

(adapted from a poem quoted by Jack Smith in the L A Times in 1992 or 1993?)

But it's the OTHER mistakes I don't catch that are really the problem. If I'm honest, I might call those mistakes sin. You know, the actions I vow not to do today—but by bedtime, I realize that there I went AGAIN! Or not. My personal "spell checker" doesn't always point out the ways that I fail God, others, and myself. I miss my errors, or I don't admit them.

It's why I am so thankful for God's grace—grace that forgives my sins, known or unknown, grace that gradually chips away at my bent for missing the mark, and keeps on reshaping me into a little more of a Jesus-shaped person. May God continue to work on me—and you, shaping us into the people God intends for us to be.

Peace,

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Morning Worship - 10:00 AM

Fellowship - 11:00 AM

Sunday School - 11:15 AM

FLOWERS

Mar. 1: Katherine Helsing

Mar, 8: COMMUNION

Mar. 15: Martha & Danny McMahan

Mar. 22: Amy & John Ogburn

Mar. 29: Nedra Underwood

OFFICERS ON CALL

Mar. 1- 7: Joanne Pearson,
540-961-5602

Mar. 8-14: Joe Hunnings,
540-808-3872

Mar 15-21: Steve Cole,
540-953-0434

Mar. 22-28: Mary Lough,
540-250-5810

Mar. 29-Apr. 4: Clark Gaylord,
540-552-2868

USHERS

Mar. 1: Jilk Stowe Family

Mar. 8: Sue & Ernie Bentley

Mar. 15: Steve Cole & Drew Taylor

Mar. 22: Ron Pearson & Sandi Webster

Mar. 29: Stolte Family

*Where we love is home, home that our feet
may leave, but not our hearts. The chain
may lengthen, but it never parts.*

-Oliver Wendell Holmes

LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR MARCH

Mar. 1: Gen. 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:23-31
Rom. 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38

Mar. 15: Num. 21:4-9
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Eph.2:1-10
John 3:14-21

Mar. 8: Exod. 20:1-17
Psalm 19
1 Cor. 1:18-25
John 2:13-22

Mar. 22: Jer. 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-12 or Os, 119:9-16
Heb. 5:5-10
John 12:20-33

Palm Sunday, Mar. 29: Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Isa. 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16
Phil. 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)

MARCH BIRTHDAYS !

- Mar.
- 2 Barbara McClintock
- 6 Ernie Bentley
Dwayne Kittle
- 8 Libby Meincke
Marjorie Harper
- 9 Marilyn Kreis
Linda Long
Kurt Stephenson
- 13 Benjamin Orr
- 14 Edd Stoops
- 15 Jan Geyer
- 16 Stacy Pearson
- 17 Pat Kittle
Pat Fullen
Mark Frimpong
- 23 Julia Pollock
- 28 Traci McCoy
- 29 Marilyn Rio



If your birthday is not listed here, you probably have not given it to us. We want to have everyone's birthday on file. Please give us a call at the church office and tell us the date of your birthday. We promise not to ask the year!

HAPPY, HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sewers, needle workers, and those who want to learn a needlecraft.

The Prayers and Squares group is expanding its focus. We invite you to come to Northside and join us for fun, fellowship, learning, and working. Bring your project and supplies. Do you want to learn something new? We can help. **We meet in the old kitchen from 2:00-4:00 pm each Thursday except the 2nd Thursday.** For more info contact Lou Brown, Martha Taylor, Nedra Underwood, Emily Davis or Mary Lough.

Big Event Student Projects:

Students from VT have volunteered to help Northside with spring cleaning and gardening on Saturday, April 11. In the past students have worked on the flower beds. Do you have a project that needs the help of college students for about 3 hours? If so, please notify Steve Cole or anyone on the Finance and Facilities Committee.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN 2015 CONFERENCE & FELLOWSHIP

July; 17, 18, & 19, 2015

Massanetta Springs Conference Center
712 Massanetta Springs Road
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801

“Body of Christ”

“Christ is like a single body, which has many parts; it is still one body, though it is made up of different parts.”
1 Corinthians 12:12

Sponsored by: Synod of the Mid-Atlantic
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Men’s Council
For more information: www.midatlanticmen.org

Recipient of Continuing Education Scholarship for Christian Education Announced

On Sunday February 15th Rebecca Coryell was introduced during the morning worship service as the newest recipient of Northside Presbyterian’s Continuing Education Scholarship for Christian Education. Rebecca is a senior at Virginia Tech who is active in the UKirk program at Cooper House. The grant is made to assist in paying her expenses to participate in a two-week Medical Mission Trip to Las Matas de Farfan in the Dominican Republic in March. She has gone with the group to the Dominican Republic for the past three years and “it has been an incredible way to see my passion for a career in medicine match up with a way to put my faith into action.” Rebecca plans to come back to Northside some Sunday this spring to share with the Contemporary Issues Sunday School class about her experiences in the Dominican Republic.

Cancellation Policy Reminder:

In case of sudden inclement weather that requires the cancellation of Sunday morning or other scheduled services and activities, the members of the Finance & Facilities Committee will make a decision by 8:00 am. Cancellation notices will be sent to WDBJ-7 and WSLN-10 television stations, and WVTF-FM radio. When possible, a congregation email will be sent and the church voice mail will be changed. If you are interested in making phone calls to spread the word, please contact the pastor. Making these decisions is sometimes “iffy,” so keep checking your email and the television announcements. The TV stations also have a link where closings and delays are listed.

“40 DAYS OF CARING” CHALLENGE BAGS

Now that we are in the midst of Lent, we hope that all of you are using your “Challenge Bags” each day as a Lenten Discipline. May each day’s challenge lead us to a deeper relationship with God as we journey toward the cross and the resurrection.

The GIFT Planning Team

EASTER BREAKFAST

This year, we will have our annual Easter Breakfast –complete with make-your-own omelets. The breakfast will begin at 8:30 am or shortly after the sunrise service. It takes a lot of work to make this happen and the Christian Education and Fellowship Committees could use some help. If you can help with setup, breakfast preparation or clean-up, please contact Kathy or Jane Jones or Sandi Webster. Thanks so much!

HITTING THE JACKPOT

Have you ever considered what you’d do if you won the lottery or somehow managed to win or receive an unexpected, but fabulous fortune? After you got over the excitement of the event and paid off your house and all your loans, you might start thinking about giving to others. You might start to imagine how good it would feel to share your good fortune.

The good news is this. You’ve already won the lottery. You already have a vast fortune to share with others. It may not be showing up in your bank account, but it’s there. It’s the spirit of generosity that came into your life the day you started following Jesus. It’s the day you said, whatever I have, I’m willing to share.

You have been blessed with an abundance of treasure, and the more you give that treasure away, the more blessed you are. C. S. Lewis reminded us that “nothing is really ours until we share it.”

It’s a new day and the perfect moment to look at what you have to give away. It may just be a moment of your time, a smile, a kind word to the taxi driver, but whatever it is, share it. Love is never witnessed by a clenched fist, but only through an open and generous hand.

Father, you have blessed me beyond measure. You have filled my home and heart with joy. Cause me to never forget what you’ve done for me and to always remember to give in any way I can to others. Amen.

Session Notes

Elders met on February 23, 2015 at 6:30 pm for a Stated Session Meeting postponed from February 15 and February 22 due to weather. Major matters taken up were:

- Approval of minutes of January 17, 2015 Stated Session Meeting - Retreat. These will be posted in the narthex.
- Both income and expenses were slightly below budgeted amounts as of the end of January.
- Mary Lough was elected substitute Clerk for the March 15th Session Meeting.

- Committees reported:
 - Christian Education - The GIFT program for this first Sunday in March will be on the theme of prayer. Participants will participate in a labyrinth as well as other prayer activities. Kathy Carpenter is now in Guatemala with a group from Peaks Presbytery. Sunday School will start next year on the first Sunday in August rather than after Labor Day.
 - Finance and Facilities – Steve Cole brought forward a motion from the committee that Clark Gaylord be the new church Treasurer as soon as Clark and Marilyn can discuss details of the job and make signature card changes. The motion was approved unanimously.
 - Mission – Joe Hunnings presented a motion from the committee to have five special offerings during the year – One Great Hour of Sharing – April 5, Pentecost – May 24, Peacemaking – October 4, Thanksgiving – November 22 and Joy Gift – December 22. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Deacons – Care list needs to be reviewed and updated to agree with church registry. The proposed date for Heritage Sunday is May 3rd.
 - Presbytery report was submitted by Alternate Commissioner Sue Bentley. At the meeting retiring Teaching Elders, including Rev. Shirley Larson, were recognized. Rev. Linda and Rev Don Makin gave a very amusing heartfelt tribute to Shirley.
 - The session approved a resolution recognizing Rev. Shirley Larson on the occasion of her retirement December 31, 2014. A copy of this resolution will be sent to Shirley.

- Joys and Concerns were shared and prayers were offered.

Joanne Pearson, Clerk

DATES TO REMEMBER IN MARCH

- Mar. **1: Second Sunday in Lent; GIFT**
- 4:** Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
- 5:** Sewers Group, 2:00 pm in old kitchen
- 6: World Day of Prayer**
- 8: DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS**
- Third Sunday in Lent**
- COMMUNION**, 2 Cents-A-Meal Offering,
Committees to meet after Sunday School
- 11:** Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
- 12:** Women’s Bible Study, 1:30 pm in the old Kitchen

- 15: Fourth Sunday in Lent;** Session Meeting following Sunday School
- 16: President’s Day** (Church Office Closed)
- 18:** Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
- 19:** Sewers Group, 2:00 pm in old kitchen
- 20-22:** Presbytery High School Retreat
- 22: 5th Sunday in Lent**
- 25:** Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
- 26:** Sewers Group, 2:00 pm in old kitchen
- 29: Passion/Palm Sunday (Holy Week Begins)**

ATTENTION CONGREGATION!

We will NOT be doing extra announcements from the pulpit on Sunday mornings. There is a special section on the bulletin board in the narthex for announcements. If you have an announcement you wish to make, please write in on the slip of paper provided beside the announcement space and place the announcement there. Everyone is encouraged to stop by the bulletin board and check for these announcements. Because of the change in schedule this is necessary. Thank you cooperating in this new change.

<p>Check Us Out...</p> <p>Church Address: Northside Presbyterian Church 1017 Progress Street, N.W. Blacksburg, VA 24060</p> <p>Phone: 540-552-4327</p> <p>Email Address: secretary.northside@gmail.com</p> <p>Minister’s Email: dickerson.northside@gmail.com</p> <p>Website URL (http://www.nsidepresburg.org)</p>
