

Welcome Home! Come Walk With Us!



# Northside

# NEWS

Northside Presbyterian Church  
Blacksburg, Virginia

March 2016

## **From the Secretary's Desk . . .**

*Hymn #229 from our Hymnbook*

### **In the Darkness of the Morning**

In the darkness of the morning,  
just before the hint of dawn,  
Mary Magdalene discovered  
Jesus Christ, her friend, was gone.

Days before, she faced his suffering;  
she stayed with him as he died.  
Seeing now his tomb was empty,  
she remained outside and cried.

As she wept, the warmth of sunrise  
filled the waiting world with light.  
Then she turned and saw a stranger,  
though her tears obscured her sight.

Asked the man, "Why are you weeping?"  
in a voice she vaguely knew,  
He is gone, and I must find him,"  
she replied as morning grew.

"Mary!" said the smiling stranger  
as her vision was restored.  
She cried "Teacher!" and she touched him:  
Jesus Christ, her risen Lord.

## **SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

10:00 A.M. – Morning Worship  
11:15 A.M. - Sunday School

### **USHERS**

**Mar. 6:** Hunter & Sandy Hancock  
**Mar. 13:** Jilk-Stowe Family  
**Mar. 20:** Sue & Ernie Bentley  
**Mar. 27:** Sandi Webster &  
Drew Taylor

### **Officers On Call**

**Feb. 28-Mar.5:** Mary Lough,  
540-250-5810  
**Mar. 6-12:** Sue Bentley, 540-651-3170  
**Mar. 13-19:** Heidi Harper, 540-392-0057  
**Mar. 20-26:** Steve Cole, 540-953-0434  
**Mar. 27-Apr. 2:** Clark Gaylord, 540-552-  
2868

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**When GOD solves our problems,  
you have faith in GOD'S  
abilities; when GOD doesn't  
solve your problems GOD has  
faith in your abilities.**

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**The Bread of Life never gets  
stale!**

**LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR MARCH**

**March 6:** Josh. 5:9-12  
Psalm 32  
2 Cor. 5:16-21  
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

**March 20:** Luke 19:28-40  
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  
Isa. 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16  
Phil. 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56

**March 13:** Isa. 43:16-21  
Psalm 126  
Phil. 3:4b-14  
John 12:1-8

**March 27:** Acts 10:34-43  
Psalm 118:1-2,14-24  
1 Cor. 15:19-26; John 20:1-8  
Isa. 25:6-9; Psalm 114  
1 Cor. 5:6b-8; Luke 24:13-49

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**MARCH BIRTHDAYS !**

- 2 Barbara McClintock
- 6 Ernie Bentley  
Dwayne Kittle
- 8 Libby Meincke
- 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***

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**NORTHSIDE WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY:**

**Thursday, March 10, 2016  
1:30 pm in the old kitchen.**

**Our Bible Study this year is on a book by Judy Record Fletcher  
“Come to the Waters”**

**Rev. Linda will be leading this study and all are welcome!**

**Come Join Us!**

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**FEED THE FLOCK:**

As part of Northside’s Mission, we join other Presbyterian Churches in the area to provide meals for the UKIRK Ministry at Virginia Tech (Cooper House). Meals are provided on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. On the first Tuesdays of each month, Cooper House provides dessert.

Our scheduled dates to provide meals are the following:

- March 15, 2016
- April 5, 2016

If you can help with this mission project, please let Joe Hunnings, 552-9243, know or look for a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex. Your help will be appreciated!

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**2016 Ecumenical Lenten Supper Series  
“The Practices of Lent”**

**Supper: 5:30 p.m. – Worship Service: 6:15 p.m.**

Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> - “Prayer”

Host: Blacksburg United Methodist Church, 111 Church Street, SE, 540-5424  
Speaker: Rev. Linda Dickerson, Northside Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – “Alms/Giving”

Host: Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 1301 Gladewood Drive, 540-552-9716  
Co-Hosts: Unitarian Universalist Cong. And Northside Presbyterian  
Speaker: Rev. Catherine Taylor, Blacksburg Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> - “Scripture Reading/Meditation”

Host: Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, 600 Prices Fork Road, 540-951-1000  
Speaker: Rev. Joe Carson, Blacksburg Untied Methodist Church

Sponsored by the Blacksburg Ministerial Association – Offerings made during the Ecumenical Worship Services will go to support The Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program (MCEAP) **Please make checks payable to “MCEAP” and not the host church.**

**QUILTERS – FREE CLASS!** Jinny Beyer's Moon Glow quilt will be taught at monthly classes starting March 16 at 6:30 pm at the Northside Presbyterian Church. Purchase of the complete Moon Glow kit and pattern is required (Craftsy.com has the current best price). The class runs for 13 months, beginning with the basics of what belongs in a basic sewing kit (BSK) and covers hand piecing, machine piecing, paper foundation piecing, inset seams and so much more! Contact [paulacgolden@comcast.net](mailto:paulacgolden@comcast.net) for more information.

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## Session Notes

Because of the winter storm on Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, the Annual Officers' Retreat and Stated Session Meeting scheduled for that date was rescheduled and held on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Ruling Elders, deacons and members of the Memorials Board (current, outgoing and newly elected) all met during the morning, while the afternoon session was required only for new and current members of the session. Major matters taken up were:

- Celebration of Worship and Communion. Scripture readings: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 and Hebrews 11:1-16. A reflection on Christian Hope concluded with all who were present asked to write their hopes for the coming year on slips of paper and then drop them into the jar labeled "HOPE". This container will be in the narthex for everyone to think about each week when they come to church.
- Recognition and gratitude to Retiring Officers. Incoming Officers shared their faith journeys and statements of faith. Examination and approval of Officer Candidates for ordination and installation.
- Workshop led by Jane Jones on managing congregations and continuing improvement within organizations. Session members had been asked to read the book **Business of the Church** prior to the meeting. Jane had further activities using the committee-developed information on how they serve various populations locally/nationally/ internationally.
- Approval of minutes of December 20, 2015 Stated Session Meeting, January 17, 2016 Annual Congregational Meeting, February 1, 2016 electronic voting and February 14, 2016 electronic voting. These will be posted in the narthex.
- Elect Clark Gaylord as church treasurer for 2016. Elect Sue Bentley as Clerk of Session for 2016.
- Elected Steve Cole and Bruce Harper as the two elders to serve on the Nominating Committee. The Deacons have elected Dave Meincke as the person from their board to serve on the Nominating Committee.
- Bruce Harper, chair of Human Resources, brought forward four additional names of people to be removed from the active role. These people had responded earlier that they wished to be removed and the names had been inadvertently omitted from the list of people removed at the December meeting.
- Four special offerings during the year (One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peace and Global Witness, and Christmas Joy) were brought forward by the Mission Committee for approval. All were approved by consensus.
- Joys and Concerns were shared and prayers were offered.

Joanne Pearson, Clerk of Session

**MARCH GIFT (Generations in Faith Together) – DEACON FOR A DAY**

Our March GIFT program will be held on March 6<sup>th</sup> immediately following Worship. We will learn through example how we nurture people within and outside the Congregation in times of personal crisis. We will also use our hands to work on several activities to support our current Deacons as they prepare for Easter. If you haven't tried GIFT come to the March program and see what you're missing!

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**HELP NEEDED:**

On Wednesday night, March 9, 2016, Northside will be co-hosting (food) for the Lenten Dinner along with the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at 1301 Gladewood Drive. If you would like to contribute a dessert for this dinner Please call Rosemary Cole at 953-0434. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

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**New River Valley Senior Games: April 30 – May 5, 2016**

“You don't stop playing because you grow old, You grow old because you stop playing.”

The New River Valley (NRV) Senior Games are being organized by Montgomery County Parks and Recreation. With participants from Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Floyd, Giles, Pulaski, Montgomery County, Radford and Wytheville, games are open to all residents 50 years of age or older. Through a multitude of athletic and social events, participants have the opportunity to display their athletic, ability and exchange and share common ties and interests with other senior individuals. The emphasis is not so much on competition as it is the fellowship and socialization characteristic of Senior Games.

If you are interested in these games please check the bulletin board in the Hallway for more information and registration form.

Dear Friends,

A delightful exchange of correspondence took place several years ago in a publication in England, *The British Weekly*. I found it in a newsletter which got it from First Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville, Florida. It begins with a complaint, suggesting that preaching is a futile exercise. But the reply – a jewel – applies far beyond the pulpit.

*Dear Sir:*

*It seems that ministers feel their sermons are very important and spend a great deal of time preparing them. I have been attending church services quite regularly for the past 30 years and I have probably heard 3,000 of them. To my consternation, I discover that I cannot remember a single one of them. I wonder if a minister's time might be more profitably spent on something else?*

*Sincerely, . . .*

For weeks a storm of editorial responses ensued. The debate finally ended with this wise letter:

*Dear Sir:*

*I have been married for 30 years. During that time I have eaten 32,850 meals, mostly my wife's cooking. I have discovered that I cannot remember the menu of a single meal. And yet, I have received nourishment from every single one of them. I have the distinct impression that without them I would have starved to death long ago.*

*Sincerely, . . .*

Most of us are incapable of remembering what we ate a week ago. Most of us are equally incapable of saying when, how, how much, and with what we have been nourished by God. But be assured: The Lord is with us and feeds us – through sermons, and in many other ways. If he did not feed us, we all would have starved to death long ago.

Rejoice in the nourishment you receive from God – in worship, in times of need, from Godly people you meet, as you relax in the refreshing surroundings of God's good creation. We have the promises of the Lord that we will not face the future, or any time of our lives alone. God will be with us and will nurture us and supply our needs. Be well assured, the promises of God are to be believed.

God bless you all.

Copied from, "*A Word from Pastor John*"

**DATES TO REMEMBER IN MARCH:**

- March**
- 2: Ecumenical Lenten Supper, 5:30 pm**  
**Choir Practice, 7:30 pm**
  - 4: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**
  - 6: 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT – Communion -GIFT SUNDAY**
  - 9: Ecumenical Lenten Supper, 5:30 pm**  
**Choir Practice, 7:30 pm**
  - 10: Women’s Bible Study, 1:30 pm in the old kitchen**
  - 13: 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT - Communion**  
**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS**  
**2 Cents-A-Meal Offering**  
**Committees to meet**
  - 16: Ecumenical Lenten Supper, 5:30 pm**  
**Choir Practice, 7:30 pm**
  - 20: PALM SUNDAY**  
**Session Meeting**
  - 23: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm**
  - 24: MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE, Choir Cantata, 7:30 pm -**
  - 27: EASTER SUNDAY – One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**  
**Easter Sunrise Service, 7:30 am**  
**Omelet Breakfast, 8:15 am**
  - 30: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm**

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**Cancellation Policy Reminder:**

In case of sudden inclement weather that requires the cancellation of Sunday morning scheduled services and activities – a decision will be made by 8:00 am. Notices will be placed on the church answering machine and WDBJ-7 and WSLS-10 television stations and WVTF-FM radio. The TV stations also have a link where closings and delays are listed.

**Check Us Out...**

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