



The Falling Waters Messenger

Issue Five

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Volume XXXI

What Do You Expect From a Pastor?

As your Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is getting ever closer to nominating a new pastor...yes even though they are beginning a second round of looking at resumes....this article came across from a colleague whom I follow in her writings. While she talks some about taking care of pastors who have been 'on the job' for a while and may be needing some renewal, the article raised some interesting questions about how we 'use' pastors. What do you expect of a pastor? How do see them being a tool in carrying out the Mission and Ministry of Falling Waters Presbyterian Church.

So I commend to you this article from Rev. Jan Edminston who currently serves as Executive Presbyterian in Chicago:

Is Your Pastor a Tool?

I ask this in the most positive way possible. The reason our churches have buildings, classrooms, Bibles, coffee makers, printing machines, hymnals, screens, parking lots, playgrounds, flip charts, and all other property is because they are all tools for ministry. We do not worship them. We use them to carry out our ministry, to make disciples and to love God and neighbor.

And not only does a pastor have tools for ministry from libraries to computers to a seminary degree, but we pastors **are** tools for ministry. We want to be sharp and effective.

Think of all the different professions that need tools: cooks, potters, electricians, gardeners, seamstresses, construction workers, teachers, and students. We pastors metaphorically do the work of ordinary tools.



Imagine:

The pastor as aerator bringing fresh air to dry, unhealthy landscapes.

The pastor as flashlight bringing light to dark spaces.

The pastor as spatula stirring things up as needed.

The pastor as hammer offering leverage when a wall

needs to be torn down.

The pastor as needle patching up what is torn.

The pastor as broom cleaning up the debris.

You get the idea.

As I work with so many good pastoral leaders, it's clear that after many years on the job, we get tired and dull. Some of us haven't taken a life-changing continuing education class or retreat (i.e. something to help us "get sharper") in years. Some have never had a sabbatical. I hate to admit this, but some of us haven't read a new book in a while.

Now more than ever, our spiritual communities need the right tools to do ministry and that includes a strong, well-trained, energetic equipper of the saints – an effective pastor. If you know a pastor who no longer has the capacity to be effective, there are things we can do to encourage her/him. Support them in prayer, financial care, and offerings of coaching, counseling, and recovery time. God deserves our very best.

**if you like her thoughts you can find her blog at:
<http://achurchforstarvingartists.wordpress.com>*

Pray Without Ceasing

Bill & Billy Berg
 Waneda Bowers
 Joan Chambers
 Jimmy Cloud
 Jimmy Dunham
 Mary Hodges
 Irvin Horst
 Ted Largent
 Tink Manor
 Mary Catherine Payne
 Virginia Snyder
 Carolyn Weidman
 Bill Zombro



May 3 Fawn and John Fleagle
 May 11 Linda Martin, Tiffany Henry
 May 18 Robin Brown, Helen Brown
 May 25 Kathy Goodell, Ellie Sloan
 May 31

Flock Notes

The Academy of Engineering Excellence at Virginia Tech recently presented **LTC Kristen Casto** (Becky Hawthorne's daughter) with their Outstanding Young Graduate Alumna award. Kristy received her PhD in Human Factors Engineering at Virginia Tech. She has been a US Army audiologist for more than 20 years and also holds degrees from WVU and Central Michigan University. Her current assignment is hearing conservation consultant to the Army Surgeon General at the Defense Health Headquarters in Falls Church, Virginia. Kristy is married to Deron Casto, a middle school teacher in Loudoun County, and has two children. Leah is a junior at WVU and Ben is in 9th grade. They reside in Ashburn, VA.

Congratulations to **Ruth and Bill Berg** on the birth of a granddaughter, Molly Ellen, on April 6, to their son, Stephen, and his wife, Stacy. Molly was welcome home by big brother, Austen.

VBS Needs Your Help



VBS is in need of **monetary donations for snacks**. If you would like to make a donation, please see Fawn.

The VBS Staff will meet on **May 14** at 7:00 p.m., in Fellowship Hall to make final plans for June.

May Birthdays

May 1 Trevor Henry
 12 Mason Chambers
 12 Tony Heaton
 15 Branden Walters
 15 Sharilyn Bovey
 15 Craig Taynton
 15 Richard Blizzard
 17 Heather Witmer
 18 Patty Runkles
 20 Gladys Burcker
 23 Avalon Blizzard
 23 Michael Campbell
 24 Donna Steele



Heritage Sunday



Please join us on May 24th as we celebrate **Heritage Sunday** with a picnic in our pavilion immediately following worship. Please bring a covered-dish to share. The Fellowship and Recreation Committee will provide fried chicken, tableware, drinks and ice. There is a sign-up sheet posted in Fellowship Hall. Please register your name and the number of people from your family attending so we can make sure we have enough chicken for everyone.

Easter Lilies were given in honor and memory of:

Geraldine Aikens
Ottile Bauer
Jack G. Baumbaugh
Arthur Blizzard
Gary Carper, Sr.
Jordy Carper
Parents of Chamblin Family
Charles and Elvira Cloud
Janice Cloud
Donald and Katherine Cushwa
Wayne Cushwa
Ruth Ann Dean
Ellis and Virginia Donaldson
Sally Tobin Fellows
Rog and Lucille Fleagle
Sarah and Richard Fogle
Edmund Goodell
Karen Runkles Gray
Nick Hawthorne
Reva and Louis Hilliard
John Horner
Madalyn Horst
Mother of Dorothy Hurley
Jack and Glenna Lang
Roberta Lantz
Doc Linton
Parents of Shelly McFillan
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert McKinley
LeRoy and Ruth McWayne
Mr. & Mrs. Adolph Ostowski
Merhle and Evelyn Pickett
Thelma Pittsnogle
Herbert and Ethel Runkles
Elizabeth Thompson
Lee and Florence Weidman
Laura Mae and Arthur Wydner
Jean Zombro



and others not specifically named

Attention Men!



The Men of the Church will host coffee hour on Mother's Day, May 10. Men, please see John MacDonald about the dish you plan to bring. There is also a sign-up sheet posted in Fellowship Hall.

CALLING ALL GOLFERS!!!!

“Holes ‘fore’ Hunger” is a golf tournament being held at the Woods on Monday, May 4, 2015, with proceeds going to the Berkeley County Backpack Program. Tee-off is at noon. Registration forms are available on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. For more information, please contact Jennifer Yeater at 304-279-2142.

Four Cents A Meal Sunday

On the first Sunday of each month we collect our **Four Cents A Meal Offering**. This hunger offering is collected on the first Sunday of each month. 25% of the offering benefits Hedgesville Loaves and Fishes and the other 75% is sent to the PCUSA for world-wide hunger programs. It is called Four Cents A Meal because it is suggested that each family contribute four cents for each meal each family member eats in one month, i.e. a family of four would contribute 16 cents per meal per day. 16 cents x 3 meals a day = 48 cents. 48 cents x 30 days = \$14.40 per month.

May Greeters

Jessica Ruqus, Head Greeter

May 3	Jessica Ruqus, Pete and Sue Mekkelson
May 10	Jessica Ruqus, Susie Cushwa, Crystal Mason
May 17	Jessica Ruqus, Bea Tyanton, Gwen Noll
May 24	Jessica Ruqus, Dixie and Avalon Blizzard
May 31	Jessica Ruqus, Sharron and Joe Reel

Maintenance Committee News

Pavilion: we will be opening the pavilion in May for the summer season. We invite the congregation to make good use of it for family reunions, organization picnics, birthday parties, graduations, etc. Please schedule your event in the pavilion by calling the church office at 304-754-8211. Enjoy your summer.

Stewardship and Dougie Harlan

Dougie Harlan graduated from Shepherd College in 1931. She was a longtime teacher/educator in the Berkeley County School System. Education was a very important part of her life, and she continually devoted her time, talent, and financial resources to our church throughout her life. Educating children was her passion.

Late in her life, she decided that she wanted to help the children of our church financially in a larger way by establishing the M. Douglass Harlan / FWPC Higher Education Fund. The purpose of this fund was to encourage our young people to pursue higher education after graduation from high school.

The monies in this fund have been used many times by young people of our congregation. Because the monies in this fund continue to be used by our young people to supplement their own financial resources, and because these funds are limited to what was originally donated by Dougie, growth of this fund has been limited.

Realizing the higher cost of education today, The Trustees, along with The Session, have discussed the possibility of increasing the amount that may be available to young people applying for these funds. We are serious about the future and education of our youth and the increased costs of higher education.

Certainly, Dougie Harlan's legacy should be continued by the members of our Church. She loved our church and she loved our young people.

One way to help Dougie's legacy grow is to invite interested members to contribute to her education fund, ensuring that this fund is never depleted and will always be a resource for the young people of our Church. Checks may be made payable to FWPC with Dougie Harlan in the memo line

Ron Hansen

Community Outreach Opportunities in May

Support FWPC music teachers and their students in our community by attending the end-of-year student concerts. Get a few people together, wear your church buttons, and if anyone asks why you're there, let them know you are there to support the kids and the teachers. Please put these dates on your calendar:

- **May 6:** Choir, Band, Choir Chimes (MaggieBeth Ponton) – Hedgesville High School auditorium at 7:00 p.m.
- **May 12:** Choir, Honors Choir, Handbells (MaggieBeth Ponton/Sandy Stamets) – Hedgesville High School auditorium at 7:00 p.m.
- **May 20. Choir Concert** (Jessica Ruqus) – Spring Mills High School auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

Help pack backpack food for children in our community with the Christian organization **Kidz Power Pacs**. The next packing date is **May 16 at 9:00 a.m.** at the Eagle Intermediate School. Kids can help also! Please talk with Renee Campbell for more information.

Help with the **Kurtis Adams Jazz Quartet Concert on May 17 at 3:00 p.m.**

Buy tickets and come to the concert – there are order forms by the order box In Fellowship hall and prices are quite low.

Give tickets to or buy tickets for friends, neighbors, and coworkers.

Sign up to deliver placemats to a restaurant – there's a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board – let Fawn know you will need placemats.

Deliver fliers or door hangers in your neighborhood.

Take a flier to a store, gym or anywhere there is a public bulletin board – we have fliers with tear offs at the bottom.

Help as staff on the day of the concert – you don't have to buy a ticket.

35th Anniversary Open House

You are cordially invited
to Hospice of the Panhandle's
35th anniversary open house celebration

Friday, May 15, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
330 Hospice Lane, Kearneysville

Remarks begin at 3:00 p.m.

Featured speaker:
US Senator Shelley Moore Capito

Please RSVP by Tuesday, May 12
by contacting Ashley Horst
at (304) 264-0406 or ahorst@hospiceotp.org