



The Falling Waters Messenger

Issue Nine

September 2015

Volume XXXI



As I reflect on the end of summer and things I have been thinking about this month, I thought I would share with you some of my reflections about golf and faith. As you may know golf is a slow game with lots of time to reflect particularly when one walks. So in no particular order:

When you don't practice or play much it shows and you can't expect to do well. To play golf consistently, I need to be playing at least once a week and practicing in between on the putting green and driving range. Golf is a game that requires focus and when there is something just a little bit off in my swing it can make a difference between the ball going straight or slicing into the rough. If I don't practice my putting so that I putt the ball with a smooth confident stroke the ball will come up short or roll off line, missing the cup.

It occurs to me that faith is the same. When I don't pray, meditate or practice my faith, I can't expect it be ready to meet the challenges that come along. If I drift along in my faith, getting to church on occasion or even most Sundays but I am not being conscious of how I am living out my faith I may not be ready for the tough stuff. So when the health challenges, or a difficult person or anything else that tests my faith comes along, I may not be in "Tournament Form"....ready to do the harder stuff in life sustained by my faith.

Sometimes you don't get to the goal the way you were expecting. The golf joke is visualize your shot and "Be the Ball" letting your mind and body work together to create the shot you envisioned. But sometimes you mishit it and end up behind a tree, in heavy rough or in a hazard. The penalties can vary. The wisest thing to do is to examine the situation, weigh your options and figure the way to get back on

track. Many of us instead get angry, take the easy way out with a "foot wedge" or try a shot that is completely impossible for any mere amateur. The results usually range from comical to a ridiculously high score.

Yet in life, how often do we do the same thing when we have gotten "in the rough". Too often when we face difficulties we either rage against it; pretend it is that difficult and we can just blunder on through or we just keep trying the same old thing that got us there in the first place. Instead of taking a breath, praying, looking for a way out that we can do and learning what God may have had to teach us through the situation.

Another lesson: *If on Hole 15 you start adding your score and thinking about how this is your best round EVER!, your chances of finishing poorly increase greatly.* To play well means staying focused on the shot you are playing....not on the score you are making. Muscles need to stay relaxed and the mind needs to stay present to the current moment.

Just as in life when we start of get anxious or focused on the "what if's" that lie ahead or behind our energy is drained away. We will miss the opportunities and important things in front of us or even flub the 'easy stuff' because we are focused elsewhere.

So as we prepare to start back to school, get ready for new Sunday school classes and pick up from our summer schedules, my prayer is that you will let go of any anxieties and trust the future to God, stay out of the rough but when you find yourself there, know that God is walking with you and as part of your preparation be disciplined in your practice of your faith so you continue to grow daily.

Pastor Rose

September Birthdays

3	Larry Brown	14	Joan Chambers
3	Skip Lantz	17	Alex Fleagle
4	Phil Noll	19	Mary Hodges
4	Reggie Miller	20	Waneda Bowers
5	Jack Fleagle	21	Lucas Shipper
12	Tom Tucker	22	Renee Campbell
13	Kelsey Shipper	23	Pam Flanagan
13	John Brown	24	Steve Aulabaugh



Nursery Attendants

Sept. 6	Tina and Ellie Sloan
Sept. 13	Lyn Hansen
Sept. 20	Tammy Hylton
Sept. 27	Carl and Amanda Lamb

EPMC Music Festival

COME ENJOY HYMN SINGING,
and OTHER MUSICAL TALENTS!

When:

*Sunday, September 27, 2015
at 4:30 p.m.*

Where:

Tuscarora Presbyterian Church

**Church Choirs are encouraged to attend as a group
and to take part in the singing.**

***If you play a musical instrument and would like to
participate, please contact the church***

304-263-4579

Refreshments and Fellowship to follow the Festival.
Hope to see everyone there!

Pray Without Ceasing

Bill and Billy Berg
Waneda Bowers
Joan Chambers
Deborah Chambers
Jimmy Cloud
Kenny Cushwa
Jimmy Dunham
Jack Fleagle
Mary Hodges
Irvin Horst
Ted Largent
Mary Catherine Payne
Virginia Snyder
Paula Tobin
Carolyn Weidman
Bill Zombro



Movie Night



Join us on September 26 at 5:00
p.m. for dinner at Cracker Barrel
followed at 7:00 by "Woman in
Gold" starring Helen Mirren.
Please note the change in date.

Greeters for September

Archie Locke- Head Elder

Sept. 6	Archie, Donna Steele, Bea Taynton
Sept. 13	Archie and Heather Locke, Maxine Taylor
Sept. 20	Archie, Donna and Richard Pill
Sept. 27	Archie, Carl and Amanda Lamb

Flock Notes

Congratulations and best wishes to **Pam and Steve Flanagan** who were married at Martinsburg First Presbyterian on July 25. Their new address is: 111 Canoe Ct., Inwood, WV 25428. Pam is the daughter of Richard and Marge Chamblin.

Jack Fleagle reported to Lackland AFB, TX, on August 25 for basic training for the Air Guard. We wish him the best on his new career path.



A new **Coffee Hour sign-up sheet** for the fall quarter is posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. If you haven't hosted a coffee hour in awhile, please consider it for the fall. You may also call Kathy Goodell at 754-3607.

Pie with Presbyterians

Some of what every Elder should know about the
Westminster Confession of Faith

September 12, 2015 6:30 p.m.

The Woods Chapel

First Church, Martinsburg

220 S. Queen St, martinsburg

304-263-5201

Patrick Daily, North American Director
of Truth Trust, Guest Speaker

Bring a pie you would like to share.

For more information contact Rev. Rufus Burton

304-263-5201

pastorburtonfpc@comcast.net

THE 2015 BIG EVENT

The BIG EVENT is fast approaching and it's time to sign your congregation up to attend!

The BIG Event will be held on Saturday, September 12, 2015 at Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center, Harrisonburg, VA from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The BIG Event **brochure** is now available and includes a schedule, listing of workshops, and registration form. **The registration deadline is September 7, 2015.** The Brochure and Registration are attached or can be downloaded using this link - http://shenpres.org/cpt_news/2015-big-event-sept-12th/.

The keynote speaker for the morning worship service will be Rev. Laurie Kraus, PDA Coordinator, PC(U.S.A.).

Again this year, a **MISSION FAIR** will be held during The BIG Event. Your congregation, organization, or mission community is invited to set up a display and be part of the fair. Registration forms for setting up a display are online at the link above.

KID'S KAMP for children ages 4 to 12 is being offered again this year. The 2015 Kid's Kamp will be led by Jenna Smith and Rebecca Witt and will include games, crafts, singing, story time, outdoor adventures, and more. More about this is in the brochure online.

The **Big Event registration form**, along with a check made payable to "Shenandoah Presbytery," should be **sent to Harriet Kopp**, Shenandoah Presbytery Big Event, 596 Horners Sawmill Road, Gerrardstown, WV 25420 by September 7, 2015

A listing of workshops is also available online at http://shenpres.org/cpt_news/2015-big-event-sept-12th/.

Outreach = Evangelism

Last year, the congregation was given a questionnaire that was used as information for our Mission Study. Responses to the questionnaire showed that members of the congregation felt, at that time at least, that FWPC had a “timid and uncertain evangelism program.” The Outreach Committee is working to turn that around. The first step was to establish the concerts program to familiarize people in the community with our church.

But we knew we had to leave the church building and go to people where they are. So, we have developed three initiatives for people in our church to serve the community in the name of the church. The first opportunity for service is packing food to be given out to hungry children at school through the Kidz Power Pacs program on one Saturday morning a month. Also as part of the Kidz Power Pac program, we had a table at the Community in the Park Day that drew people to play games, get temporary tattoos and goodie bags, as well as a brochure about the church. The second project is just getting off the ground and will involve helping one of the schools in the community within the 5-mile radius of the church. We will be meeting soon with the principal of Potomak Intermediate School to find out what kind of help is needed at the school. Finally, we are organizing a group for younger adults that will be open to people in the community as well. These four programs are intended to strengthen our evangelism program. We hope that everyone in the congregation who is able, will join in one of the outreach projects as well as assisting at the concerts. Don't forget to wear your church buttons!

Our next concert, **Berkeley County Has Talent!** will be held on Sunday, September 27, 2015, at **2:00 p.m.** As always, we need help distributing placemats to restaurants, putting up fliers on public bulletin boards, and giving them out to family, friends, and co-workers. Please see me if you want fliers or if you will be able to help at the concert.

Advanced Discipleship

Have you ever felt like you needed a better, more profound understanding of the Bible? Have you ever wanted a better understanding of Presbyterian theology? Have you ever wanted to be a more engaging witness who wished to share? Then this course is for you!

September 19, 2015 - December 18, 2016
School year Saturdays from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

The Wood Chapel
First Church, Martinsburg
220 S. Queen Street
304-263-5201

Cost: \$100 per term. There will be two semesters of two terms each. Total tuition will be \$400.00. Books and material will cost about \$77.00. There is no funding from Presbytery.

For more information contact Rev. Rufus Burton:
304-263-5201
pastorburtonfpc@comcast.net

New Adult Sunday School Curriculum to Begin September 13

The **Adult Sunday School** will not meet on September 6. A new curriculum will begin on September 13. Watch the bulletin for details. All are welcome.