

The Falling Waters Messenger

Issue Eleven

November 2015

Volume XXXI

Always Being Reformed...or Why We are Not the Frozen Chosen!



We are of the Reformed Tradition. Our motto is “*Ecclesia reformata semper reformanda*”. This phrase appeared first in 1674. It is translated in several ways: “*The church is always to be reformed*”; “*The church is reformed and always being reformed*”; “*The reformed church is always to be reformed.*”

Alister McGrath, in his history of Protestantism called “Christianity’s Dangerous Idea”, writes that “Protestantism stated its identity in terms of a method rather than an outcome.....The Protestant principle of grounding matters of doctrine and ethics in the Bible and subjecting these to constant review immediately generated controversy.”

Given the changing world around us, McGrath looks at the ways we might respond. One says we must preserve or ‘freeze’ moments from the past; that the way our forbearers did it was so wonderful and great, we must preserve it at all costs. The other is to claim the original principle of being willing to constantly examine ourselves (as individuals and a church) in light of the Bible and to change and correct according to our new understandings.

Jill Duffield, editor of the *Presbyterian Outlook*, reminds us in the October 26th issue, that the natural tendency of institutions and movements, is to start with the creative energy of a new thing, with leaders having a vision that people grab hold of and follow. The next stage is to consolidate those changes and ‘new things’. By the third generation, the focus often becomes preserving the original movement. The focus goes to what our elders did rather than focus on the values they were living out in creating what they created.

One of the laments, I hear over and over in the church today is “People just won’t come to Sunday School any more. Used to be we would have more people in Sunday School than in worship.” What is forgotten is that the Sunday School movement was a creative and energetic response to the need to educate people in the Scriptures. If that model no longer works,

what other ways are we teaching the Scripture and training disciples?

We can spend our time and energy lamenting what has been lost; that there are so many competing options on Sunday morning; that people aren’t as loyal to a denomination or even congregation as they once were. Or we can look around us and consider how we make disciples in today’s world.

Are we willing to reexamine ourselves in light of Scripture and new understandings and challenges to us? Are we willing to be reformed anew? Jesus said: “I have come to do a new thing.” and “I have come that you may be reborn.”

Another story in the October 26th issue of *The Outlook* is of Johnson C. Smith Seminary, one of our 10 Presbyterian Seminaries and the only historically black one. In 2010, they had only 17 students. Instead of closing their doors which many thought they should, they rethought their mission by listening to students and pastors who were looking for continuing education and those who felt called to ministry but were not sure they could afford the cost. They have reformed and are starting some exciting new missions and programs to respond to the needs that were expressed.

The Reformers of Luther and Calvin’s era were keenly aware of the need to get the Bible into the hands of the people and to teach them they could go directly to God in prayer. They wanted people to have a faith that changed them and the way they lived.

There is great need around us and while many claim to be ‘none’ when it comes to church affiliation, there is also great spiritual hunger. Do we maintain ways of doing things because they were a good idea 50, 20 5 or even 1 year ago and hope that people will find us. Or will let ourselves be reformed by the Holy Spirit and open to the new thing that God might be doing through us and find ways to go out to all of God’s children who might not even know their need for Him?

Pastor Rose

Pray Without Ceasing

Pam Arvon
Bill and Billy Berg
Waneda Bowers
Brenda Carper
Deborah Chambers
Joan Chambers
Jimmy Cloud
Kenny Cushwa
Jimmy Dunham
Mary Hodges
Irvin Horst
Ted Largent
Pete Mekkelson
The Payne Family
Virginia Snyder
Paula Tobin
Bill Zombro



Greeters for November

Renee Campbell- Head Elder

Nov. 1 Renee, Denny and Darla Grove
Nov. 8 Renee, Dixie and Avalon Blizzard
Nov. 15 Renee, Becky Hawthorne, Pamela Fleagle
Nov. 22 Renee, Rob and Tina Sloan
Nov. 29 Renee, Dorothy Hurley, Shelly McFillan

Time For the Spaghetti Dinner!!



Mark your calendars for **Sunday, November 29**, when the Sardines will be serving you up an early dinner after church. There will be serving spaghetti, salad, garlic bread and a variety of delicious desserts. A good meal to fill you up and send you home to curl up for your Sunday afternoon nap -- what could be better? Maybe this -- the price of your dinner is whatever you may think the meal is worth. Now how many restaurants give you that option? Any proceeds from the dinner will be used toward the Youth Fellowship upcoming events and projects. These folks are the future of our church, so please plan on joining them, getting to know them and supporting them.



Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart

Falling Waters Presbyterian will host this year's **Community Thanksgiving Service** on November 24 at 7:00 p.m. Come join us as we worship with Hedgesville churches of all denominations and raise our prayers of thanksgiving to God. A cookie and punch reception will follow the service.

Poinsettias



Those wishing to donate money for the purchase of poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary in honor or memory of loved ones should see Crystal Mason before **November 29th**. The average cost per flower \$17.00. Please keep this in mind when making your contribution. **Checks may be made payable to Crystal.**

Happy Birthday -November

1 Dixie Blizzard
3 Virginia Snyder
3 Becky Hawthorne
5 Jeanie Cushwa
8 Kirk Chambers
8 Austin Cushwa
12 Rod DeKett
14 Becky Brown
20 John Cormack
21 Denny Grove
22 Trent Carper
30 Brent Cushwa
30 Lillie Largent



Operation Christmas Child

Set Your Clocks



End of
Daylight
Savings...
FALL BACK!

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 1. Please remember to turn your clocks **back** one hour.

Warm the Children



LOCAL MISSIONS

For the past five years members of FWPC have made a donation at Christmas to the **Warm the Children** fund through the Martinsburg Journal. This program has donated about \$431,000 in warm clothing to thousands of children in

Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan Counties. Last year the number of children served was nearly 500. There are no administrative costs and 100% of the money is used directly for the children. The program relies solely on volunteers - those who coordinate the program and also those who donate their time to shop with the parents. Patty Runkles has volunteered with this program for the last 5 years. Checks may be made payable to "Warm the Children" and given to Patty Runkles. Cash donations are also welcome. **Cut-off date is November 29.** Patty and the Journal thank you for your generosity in the past and hope you will continue to support the program this year.

Is our heart broken by the desperate plight of millions of children around the world? Whether they are refugees of civil war, survivors of a natural disaster or victims of extreme poverty, these little ones need to know that they are precious to God. That's the motivation behind Operation Christmas Child, the unique project of Samaritan's Purse that enables caring people to share God's love with hurting girls and boys in the far corners of the globe.



Remember those who are less fortunate

Take an ordinary shoe box, fill it with toys and other presents, and you have an extraordinary gift for a child in need of joy and hope.

FWPC will again this year participate in OCC.

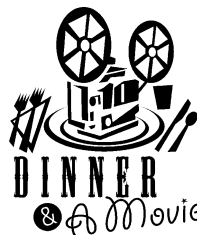
Our goal is to make 90 boxes. Content guidelines are small toys, school supplies, hygiene items, hard candy, T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, and watches. Do not include used or damaged items, war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures, chocolate or food, liquids or lotions, medications or vitamins, breakable items such as snowglobes or glass containers or aerosol cans. **Shoe boxes will be collected November 8.**

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Falling Waters Presbyterian Church
2928 Hammonds Mill Rd.
Hedgesville, WV 25427

Nursery Attendants

November 1	Ruth Berg, JR Sloan
November 8	Robin Brown and Helen Brown
November 15	Elizabeth Kaetzel, Kelsey Shipper
November 22	Renee Campbell, Tiffany Henry
November 29	John and Fawn Fleagle

November Movie Night



Please join us for **Movie Night** on November 21st. We will eat dinner at 5:00 p.m. at Kings Pizza in Marlowe near Food Lion. At 7:00 p.m. our feature will be "How Green Was My Valley" starring the late Maureen O'Hara. We will have refreshments and door prizes.

We Need Your Help



Remember
Our
Homebound
Members

The Congregational Nurture Committee is making **holiday baskets for our shut-ins** and needs your help. It is collecting small gifts such as packaged snacks, personal care items, candy, and books. A basket will be placed in

Fellowship Hall for the collection. The cut off date is **November 29**. Please see Jessica Ruqus if you have any questions.

"Joy - An Irish Christmas"

Keith and Kristyn Getty's Joy - An Irish Christmas tour is thrilled to be partnering with The **National Christian Choir** for this year's concert at the John F. Kennedy Center.

In order for friends and family to easily come to the concert, a 30% discount is being offered with the special code: NCC.

To order with the code tickets can be purchased in person at The Kennedy Center Box Office, 2700 F. Street or by phone at 202-467-4600. Phone orders will incur a 9.5% processing fee.

For more information, contact Mary Anne Stevenson at Maryanne@destination-paradise.com

Eastern Panhandle Mission Community News

Officer Training

Saturday, November 7, 2014

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Bunker Hill Presbyterian

Calling all elders and deacons! The 2015 Eastern Panhandle Officer Training is for all officers—brand-new or "well-broken-in." Plan to participate at 9 a.m. to 12:30 noon on Saturday, November 8, at Bunker Hill Presbyterian Church,

What is the

"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.

Amazing Grace Fund



Plans are under way to ensure that approximately 20 disadvantaged families in our local area are provided fixings for a Christmas dinner, a turkey, gifts (for children) and other essential products.

Tuscarora Presbyterian Church is already working on the food boxes and children's gifts. Therefore we here at FWPC plan to provide the turkeys and other essential necessities. This is where we need your help. Boxes have been placed in the Fellowship Hall and downstairs to collect items such as **(lots of) toilet paper, paper towels, bar soap, laundry and dish washing detergent.** Anyone wanting to make a donation please contact Beth Henry (274-2112) or Brenda Carper (274-3053). Items are needed no later than **December 6.** Your kind gestures will change lives.

You Can Help

FWPC is collecting food and money for **turkeys for Hedgesville Loaves and Fishes:** Instant mashed potatoes, stuffing, yams, cranberry sauce, green beans, corn, gravy, fruit cocktail, brownie mixes, jiffy muffin mixes- and checks for turkeys made out to: Hedgesville Loaves and Fishes- mailed to: Hedgesville United Methodist Church, 201 Mary ST, PO Box 35, Hedgesville, WV 25427.

The cutoff date for the Thanksgiving meal will be November 15 and the date for Christmas is December 13.

Outreach

Thank you to the folks below for serving the community with FWPC in October 2015.

Book Fair at Potomak Intermediate School:

Ruth Berg, Robin Brown, John Brown, Kate Lewis Brown, Renee Campbell, Fawn Fleagle, John Fleagle, Pete and Sue Mekkelson

Kidz Power Pacs:

Marilyn Gilbert, Becky Hawthorne, Diana McKinley, Kate Lewis Brown.

Concerts in the Community

The Shepherd University Jazz Ensemble will be performing at our next concert on Sunday, November 8, at 3:00 p.m. The Ensemble is not asking us to pay for their performance. We have been requested, however, to provide a meal for the 20 student performers after the concert.

We will buy fried chicken, but we need people to bring sides and desserts. Becky Hawthorne and Diana McKinley have graciously offered to do the setting up for and cleaning up after the meal (thank you, thank you, thank you). If you would be able to assist them, please let them know. As always, we need volunteers to help on the day of the concert.

Concert Schedule - Please get out your calendars!

Shepherd University Jazz Ensemble – 11/8

2nd Edition (an ensemble of the National Christian Choir) – 3/13/16

Berkeley County Has Talent! – 4/17/16

Berkeley Community Chorus – 5/15/16

Honkey Tonk Blues – 9/18/16

Stoney Creek Bluegrass Band – 11/6/16

20/50 Young Adult Group

The 20/50 Young Adult Group is having a get together on November 14, 2015. They are in need of child care for a few hours, beginning at 5:30. We'd love to have volunteers but are also offering to pay. If you or any responsible adult or older teenager you know would be interested in being paid to provide child care, please call Kate Lewis Brown.

Feel free to invite friends, neighbors, or co-workers to come to the get-together on November 14. Please let Heather Locke know if you plan to attend – it's a potluck supper.

The HACC's Grow to Share Program

During the 5 months from June-October, the Grow-to-Share program provided fresh fruits and vegetables to an average of 80 families per month, totaling an average of 240 family members per month. The small amount of donated money that was left over was given to Loaves and Fishes specifically to pay for some of the turkeys that are given out for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Guideposts for a Financially Healthy Church

1. Talks about church finances and money openly in all aspects. Realizing how we interpret and use our money says a great deal about our values. When people see how their money is properly used they are more reinforced to give.
2. Awareness that all giving is in response to God's goodness. God owns all the universe and all that is in it.... we are the stewards.
3. Understands that offering is an integral part of worship. Just as Jesus offers us his body and blood through God's communion offering table, we present ourselves as an offering through our financial gifts.
4. Discusses money openly in the context of worship, instead of considering money a disreputable subject.
5. Engages in mission beyond its own doors and see's mission both locally and world-wide through a planned year-round program.
6. Has a long range campaign plan in place for its objectives and its financial needs.

Flock Notes

Tory Henry received the Spirit Award for Mt. Airy Winners 4-H club at the annual 4-H Achievement Night ceremony.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of **Jason Payne**, who passed away in October.

Both **Pam Arvon** and **Deborah Chambers** had successful surgery in October and are recuperating at home.

Pete and Sue Mekkelson have headed south for the winter. We wish them the best and will look forward to seeing them again in the spring.



Warmest thanks to the congregation for the amazing collection of "pastor appreciation" cards addressed to me! Bev and I have thoroughly enjoyed Pastor Rose's ministry and an opportunity to serve at times with her and all of you. When you don't see us in the pew, you'll know I'm providing pulpit supply somewhere else. You are awesome, and we love being with you!

Rev. Carl

Dear Friends,

I so appreciate you lovely tribute, memory book, cards, flowers, cakes and generous monetary gift marking my 30+ years as your church secretary.

It has been my pleasure and privilege to serve this church along with my very best friends, where my heart is at home.

I love you all,
Fawn

Dear People of God here at Falling Waters Presbyterian Church,

One of the things I have come to appreciate during my time with you is your generous spirit. You are quick to express your appreciation and your warmth and generosity in doing so always lifts my spirit and makes life so much brighter. All the cards and notes and expressions of care have brought me much joy.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Rose