



The Falling Waters Messenger

Issue Six

June 2016

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Sunday, May 22, 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ at Falling Waters Presbyterian Church,

English composer and musician, Anne Dudley says, "Composers are always going back to the past." That's certainly been true for me these past few weeks. Even as I think about beginning our ministry together at the Falling Waters Presbyterian Church, I cannot help but remember when I first came to serve the two churches in Indiana I said goodbye to last Sunday. It was a day to go back to the past before turning toward the future and thinking about new beginnings.

Author Chaim Potok writes, "All beginnings are hard." This wisdom also holds true whether it be for newlyweds, parents, or students. It holds true even for pastors and congregations. We all likely have questions that don't yet have answers. We wonder what the future will hold. Nonetheless, this isn't the only truth about beginnings. A wise and treasured friend recently invited me to remember how precious beginnings can be. The beginning of a symphony, the dawning of a new day, fresh starts in a relationship, all hold the hope of wondrous possibilities.

Given our faith in the merciful grace of God, I believe we can hold fast to God's promise to be present with us as we embark on our beginning in early June. Until we meet, know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers and John and I invite you to pray for us as we continue to prepare for our upcoming move. I am eager to be with you all.

Grace and peace be with you.
In Christ's joyful service,
Debra McKune

P.S. Please feel free to connect with me by email at pastormckune@gmail.com and/or Facebook at <http://facebook.com/debra.y.mckune>



Pray Without Ceasing

Pam Arvon
Bill & Billy Berg
Joan Chambers
Jimmy Cloud
Kenny Cushwa
Mary Hodges
Irvin Horst
Ted Largent
Pete Mekkelson
Virginia Snyder
Paula Tobin
Bill Zombro



June 5
June 14
June 21
June 28

Lyn Hansen, JR Sloan
Beth Henry, Tiffany Henry
Elizabeth Kaetzel, Helen Brown
Renee Campbell, Kadence Blaine

June Birthdays

- 1 Pam Arvon
- 1 Adam Collis
- 2 Lacy Linton
- Tory Henry
- 5 Ted Largent
- 11 Bill Zombro
- 16 Deborah Chambers
- 18 Phil Higginbottom
- 23 C. James Cloud
- 27 Bob Ruqus
- 28 Lyn Hansen



We will celebrate Independence Day with a picnic in the pavilion following worship on July 3rd. Please bring a covered dish. Hot dogs, sausages, buns, drinks, ice and tableware will be provided.



Dinner and A Movie Night



Please join us on June 18 at 5:00 for dinner at Kings Pizza in Falling Waters followed by "" at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will have refreshments and door prizes.

June Greeters

Kate Lewis Brown- Head Elder

June 5 Kate Lewis Brown, Marge and Richard Chamblin
June 12 Kate Lewis Brown, Robin Brown, Helen Brown
June 19 Kate Lewis Brown, Becky and Larry Brown
June 26 Kate Lewis Brown, John Brown, Pamela Fleagle

Reminder

The green and white pens attached to the visitor cards are for our visitors. Unless you're a visitor, please don't use them or take them! There should be two other pens in each pew for non-visitors.

Picnic In The Pavilion

T'is the season for family, friends, food and fun, and the FWPC pavilion is the perfect spot to make it happen. The pavilion is a wonderful facility that is available for use by our church family, that being, either members of the church or individuals who attend on a regular basis, and will be in attendance of the event. Summer gatherings for families, an organization you belong to or just a group of friends wanting to gather, are typical summer events. The pavilion is open June through September. A reservation for the pavilion is required, and that can be made by contacting either Fawn Fleagle at the church office (304-754-8211) or Steve Aulabaugh at 304-258-3511. The consideration of a donation, for the use, is appreciated to enable the continued maintenance of the pavilion. ENJOY!!

Flock Notes

Congratulations to **JR Sloan** on being awarded the WV Department of Education Golden Horseshoe. He traveled to Charleston on May 6 for the ceremony.

Congratulations to Ruth and Bill Berg on the birth of their 7th grandchild. as born to their son Eric and his wife Becca on May 24th. She weighed

www.fwpc.org

Website: Have you looked at the website lately? Please check it out when you have time – especially the pictures: www.fwpc.info. If you have comments or suggestions, please let Kate Lewis Brown know.

Surf's Up! Time for Surf Shack

VBS is scheduled for June 13-17 from 9:00 - noon. Our theme this year is “**Surf Shack, Catch the wave of God’s Amazing Love**”. It is designed to introduce students to a deeper relationship with God through Jesus Christ. They will experience God’s amazing love, explore God’s mission for their lives, encounter powerful water stories from the Bible and discover ways to live our god’s amazing love.

The color of the day is:

Monday - yellow

Tuesday -red, white and blue

Wednesday - green

Thursday - blue

Friday - purple

The students will get a point each day for their attendance, bringing their Bibles and wearing the color of the day.

They are asked to bring canned pasta, pudding cups, fruit cups and toilet paper to be given to a local charity and a small offering each day which will be sent to our missionary, Nadia. Our goal is to raise \$100.00 to help her with her work with preschoolers in the Ukraine.

Space is limited and **pre-registration is required**. To register, call the church office at 754-8211 or see Fawn.

VBS is in need of monetary donations for snacks, paper towels, and toilet paper. If you can help with any of these, please see Fawn.

Our New Pastor

The Rev. Debra McKune

Most of you have seen Debra McKune's biography but, in case you haven't, it's printed below. It is slightly different from the one that was emailed or mailed to you previously.

Debra and her husband, John, have bought a house in Williamsport about 15 minutes from the church. John's parents decided to move to the area with them and the property that Debra and John bought has a cottage on it for them. Debra will be coming to the area around June 1, a little ahead of the rest of the family, and will stay somewhere temporarily until the house is available around the middle of June.

Debra's email is pastormckune@gmail.com and her Facebook page is <http://facebook.com/debra.y.mckune>.

Biography – Rev. Debra McKune

When I was a young child, I wanted to be Harold (from the story Harold and the Purple Crayon) and draw myself a world full of exciting adventures. One of my dreams was to be an astronaut and I remember wondering who made the moon. I asked my parents and they said nobody made the moon, it's just there. I remember disagreeing with my parents for one of the first times in my life — but certainly not the last! I couldn't figure it out, but I was sure that whoever had made the moon was powerful and important.

As we were growing up, my sister and I spent a great deal of time with our maternal grandparents. From my grandmother, I learned to love afternoon tea and biscuits and reading about English history. From my grandfather, I learned to love baseball and Baptist hymns. He was the first person who taught me about God. From Papa and his Baptist hymnal, I learned God made the moon, and everything else, including me. It was from here that I also developed my love of music.

While in high-school, I met my future husband, John. We worked together in a fast-food restaurant. During slow periods, when it was just the two of us working, we spent many hours talking about all kinds of subjects, including faith and religion. John is a cradle Presbyterian and a PK. As our relationship grew and I began spending more time with him and his family, I was able to ask questions about the Bible and faith. It was a joyful time of spiritual growth for me as I went to church with them and sang in the youth choir. Eventually, John's father married us in the Interfaith Center (the chapel at the Synod offices where John's father served).

Life pattered along. John worked - a lot. I worked a lot too as a stay at home mom who did a lot of volunteer work. We have two children, David and Megan. David is married to Kristina and they live in Denver, CO. Megan is recently returned from living and working in the UK where she finished earning a Master's degree in International Hospitality. She lives and works in Indianapolis, Indiana near two of John's sisters and not far from John's parents. When they were 4 and 8 years old, they were baptized in a PCUSA church in Maryland, which is where we lived at the time. It was a wonderful day - John's parents drove all the way from Indiana to celebrate the occasion with us.

During these years, I also worked as a semi-professional singer, performing in musicals and operas. I sang for weddings, funerals, and in local churches. I performed around the area as a soloist in some well-known (and some not so well-known) oratorios. Those were wonderful years and I had many great experiences. But I kept feeling I was meant for other things - I just didn't know what.

Feeling drawn to serve the church, I gave up my singing career to explore a call to full-time professional ministry. After serving as a Christian Educator for several years, God led me to Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA where I earned a MACE degree and then my M.Div degree and was then ordained as a teaching elder in the PC(USA). And so, today, by the grace of God, thanks to the support of many others, here I am.

Hospitality Team

I have received some helpful thoughts about the new Hospitality Team and welcome any you might have. I'm hoping to have the new team up and running by the end of June. I thought it would be a good idea to get our new pastor's input before we launch. Please do let me know if you would be willing to serve on the team.

Kate Lewis Brown



Without the help of volunteers, building relationships with the community just couldn't happen. I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to the following people who have assisted me with the concerts or have served in the community with FWPC:

National Christian Choir Concert

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Bea Taynton | John MacDonald |
| Brenda Carper | Kathy Goodell |
| Carl Howard | Lyn Hansen |
| Fawn Fleagle | Ron Hansen |
| John Brown | Sam Tobin |
| John Fleagle | |

Berkeley County Has Talent!

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| John Brown | Carl Howard |
| Brenda Carper | Jacob Hylton |
| Kathy Goodell | Fawn and John Fleagle |

Berkeley Community Chorus

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Brenda Carper | Marge Chamblin |
| Carl Howard | Pete Mekkelson |
| Fawn Fleagle | Sue Mekkelson |
| Kathy Goodell | Renee Campbell |
| John Brown | |

Kidz Power Pacs May Packing

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Becky Hawthorne | Kate Lewis Brown |
| Alex Fleagle | Diana McKinley |
| Beth Fleagle | Pete Mekkelson |
| Fawn Fleagle | Sue Mekkelson |
| Pamela Fleagle | |

Potomack Intermediate School

Packing treat bags for teacher appreciation week:

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Bea Taynton | Robin Brown |
| Brenda Carper | Sue Mekkelson |
| Jacob Hylton | Tammy Hylton |
| Pete Mekkelson | |

Selling roses for Mother's day:

| | |
|--------------|------------------|
| Nat Hylton | Kate Lewis Brown |
| Jacob Hylton | Nancy Shipper |
| Tammy Hylton | |

Library:

Fawn Fleagle: reads weekly to children
Kate Lewis Brown: Assists in the library and reads to children weekly

If I've left anyone off by mistake, please let me know.

Kate Lewis Brown

Attention Ladies



The Ladies of the Church will host coffee hour on Father's Day, June 19. There is a sign-up sheet posted in Fellowship Hall.

Community Day in the Park

The Outreach Committee has signed FWPC up to have a booth at the **3rd Annual Community Day in the Park** scheduled for **Saturday, June 18, 2016, at War Memorial Park from 12:00 to 6:00 pm.** This is an excellent opportunity for us to be part of our community and give our neighbors a glimpse of our warm and friendly “family” and the fellowship we share.

Community Day in the Park is hosted by Community Combined Ministries (CCM), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, which was created in 2007 with a primary focus to serve our area schools with meals for children, who would otherwise go without, on weekends, during breaks and throughout the summer. CCM currently serves many schools in Berkeley and Jefferson Counties through their meal package program, Kidz Power Pacs (KPP). All of the KPP recipients and their families are invited to Community Day, as well as the public at large.

Approximately 500 people are expected to visit the event, including 300 children, and everything at the event is free, from hot dogs to the Moon Bounce to swimming for the KPP children after 6:00 p.m. We are still gathering ideas and planning for our booth, so any suggestions are appreciated.

Additionally, we are in need of volunteers who could come and help out at our booth for 1-2 hours during event.

A planning meeting is scheduled during Coffee Hour on June 5, so please bring your ideas to share while you drink your coffee and enjoy the goodies always available. Also, please check your calendar and let Renee know if you can volunteer for an hour or two (or all afternoon) on Saturday, June 18.



PCUSA General Assembly Meets June 18-25

Plans are in motion now for the 222nd General Assembly (2016) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), June 18–25, in Portland, Oregon.

Commissioners and advisory delegates from all 171 PC(USA) presbyteries, along with other participants and observers from around the world, will converge on the Oregon Convention Center (OCC) in downtown Portland for celebrations, deliberations, and inspirations in support of the denomination’s biennial gathering.

Hosted by the Presbytery of the Cascades and united under the theme “The Hope in Our Calling,” from Ephesians 1:18, the General Assembly will include rich worship services, the election of the Moderator, action on a plethora of overtures, and much more. Learn about the docket and more at <http://oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/222nd-general-assembly-2016/>

General proceedings and worship during assembly will be live-streamed, and the web site listed above will provide up-to-date information leading up to the gathering on travel, registration, and various other details. Bookmark the page and check back often!

How Do You Welcome a New Pastor?

You may be thinking about this: How shall we welcome our new pastor, Rev. Debra McKune?

First, remember that the Pastor Nominating Committee members, chaired by Ruling Elder Kate Brown, have now become the pastor support team. They’ll welcome your ideas and your volunteered time and efforts. So plan to stay in touch with them.

Then, let’s walk through some ways to welcome Pastor Debra:

Open your hearts and decide that you are going to love your new pastor. Begin praying daily for her and her family.

Send cards of welcome and encouragement to her.

Know that welcoming your new pastor in genuine and effective ways lays the groundwork for a

healthy and vital relationship and the development of stable, long-term ministries together.

Introduce yourself to the pastor repeatedly! You have one name to learn; your pastor has many names to learn. Use the church name tags—always!—in the sanctuary *and* fellowship hall.

Make sure the pastor has a list of home-bound or nursing home members, a list of those struggling with long-term illness, and list of those still in grief over recent deaths in the family. Better yet, take the pastor and introduce her to each of these households or nursing homes.

Introduce the new pastor to public and community leaders.

Ask church members in civic clubs to take the new pastor to one of their meetings.

Create a “church yellow pages” (a list of people in the church who have specific skills that a newcomer may find beneficial).

Give gift certificates to several of your favorite restaurants in the community.

Here are Brian McLaren’s “Ten Commandments for Welcoming a New Pastor”:

I. Thou shalt not compare the old Pastor and the new Pastor, for the Lord thy God has made each person unique and wishes you to appreciate each original creation.

II. Thou shalt not expect everything to stay the same when the new Pastor arrives. Nor shalt thou resist change, nor assume that change is bad, but thou shalt trust that the Lord thy God isn’t finished with your church yet and is bringing change for your good and the good of your mission.

III. Thou shalt not make graven images of thine old grudges, nor shalt thou keep stale disappointments in the temple of thine heart, but thou shalt forgive and move on in the grace of the Lord thy God, for how can thou ask God for mercy unless thou give mercy from thine heart?

IV. Thou shalt not commit gossip, nor shalt thou fearfully complain, nor shalt thou listen to those who do, but instead thou shalt entreat them to adjust their attitudes and lighten up, for everything shall be alright, and in fact, shall turn out very well indeed – better than you can ever imagine.

V. Thou shalt not commit nostalgia or say that the old days were better, for in so doing thou shalt make thy judgment come true. Be assured that the Lord thy God is not falling asleep at the wheel, but will be with thee and surprise thee with abundant blessings, more than thou canst contain or count.

VI. Thou shalt not factionalize nor create “us-them” divisions, but thou shalt unify with thy brothers and sisters even when they annoy or confuse you.

VII. Thou shalt not come to the new pastor with your demands, pressure, complaints, bad reports, manipulations, threats, agendas, unsolicited advice, or snide comments. But thou shalt say, “Welcome! How can we help you? We love you! We would like to increase our giving significantly. We’re praying for you and your family. Welcome to our community! We baked you some cookies!” And each week, thou shalt do so again and again until the new pastor begs you to stop.

VIII. Thou shalt increase thy giving, and not withhold thy tithe, but invest thy money and thine heart in the future of thy community of faith and mission.

IX. Thou shalt not come to thine old and former pastor with anything but praise for the new pastor, but thou mayest bring thy concerns to God in humble prayer, and if thou must, thou may also share concerns with the duly appointed leaders of the church.

X. Most important, thou shalt trust God, and stay connected to God, and draw strength from God, staying deeply rooted in the message of God’s grace. For God is good, and God will never leave you nor forsake you. God has brought Pastor Debra to this place—you can count on that for sure!

Pastor Carl