



The Falling Waters Messenger

Issue Ten

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Since it's financial stewardship season, I thought it would be interesting to read this article written by the Rev. Dr. Katie Hayes. Please, write or call or text me and let me know what you think of it.

Peace,
Pastor Debra

Why Give? Because Jesus Gave Us Work To Do

Rev. Dr. Katie Hays

The Millennials in my three-year-old next-church (non-traditional, emergent, missional) are generous. They will respond to a friend's specific need, without hesitation. But giving regularly in support of an institution -- what we call stewardship -- is a stretch.

As their pastor I'm tasked with teaching them why they should give (yeah, I said "should") in support of the church's life, as well as how generosity becomes a way of life connected to spiritual maturity.

In traditional churches, I learned to speak about stewardship mainly in terms of God's abundance and the generosity that grows out of recognizing how good we have it. The language of abundance doesn't resonate with Millennials, however, who came of age during a deep recession, whose student loan debt is heavy, and whose adulthood has been postponed - delayed home ownership, marriage, childrearing and vocational dreams.

So our church articulates alternative motivation for the practice of consistent, generous giving. In all aspects of our life together, we remember that Jesus left us (his followers, the church) with work to do, and the power to do it, with the help of his living Spirit in us.

So, for example, if Jesus was obsessed with announcing the reign of God, and inviting people to step into it (see Mark 1:14-15), then we should also be obsessed with announcing

the reign of God and inviting people to step into it. Our church developed a budget category named "Announcing and Inviting," in which the first line is for "Celebrations." Our Christology tells us that Jesus liked to go to parties (John 2, Luke 5:29ff.) and imagined God's future as a party (Matthew 22, Luke 14). So we are obligated to throw evangelistic parties, parties to which we can invite friends and neighbors and enemies for whom coming to "church" is just not going to happen... yet.

"Announcing and Inviting" also pays for "Branding, Web Presence, and Printing," so we have lots of ways to invite people to experience God's reign. And there's a line for "Public Events, Registration Fees" because we often enter floats in local parades and set up tables at local festivals to be as inviting as we can.

In traditional church budgets, this whole category might be called "Evangelism." But by linking it to Jesus' way of being in the world, and acknowledging that we spend money to make it happen, we count it as our collaborative work -- not something relegated to a committee, not something we talk about but can't effect.

The budget continues with additional categories of work we find Jesus doing in the gospels: Preaching and Teaching; Healing and Shepherding; Worship and Spirituality; Friendship and Hospitality; Calling and Sending; Bringing Good News to the Poor; and Welcoming Youth and Children. We try to imagine all the things we need to accomplish these tasks of education, compassion, empowerment, and more -- the work Jesus began in his own ministry and then left to us. Our budget keeps us tied to Jesus's work and prevents us from losing our sense of missional priority.

If we can't imagine Jesus doing it, we won't spend money on it.

Pray Without Ceasing

Pat Baumbaugh
Bill and Billy Berg
Joan Chambers
Jimmy Cloud
Kenny Cushwa
Mary Hodges
Irvin Horst
Ted Largent
Pete Mekkelson
Bill Perrott
Patty Runkles
Virginia Snyder
The Family of Paula Tobin
Ernie Weidman
Bill Zombro



World Communion Sunday

October 2, 2016

World Communion Sunday is an ecumenical celebration started by Presbyterians in the 1930's. It affirms the power of the Lord's Supper to unite the churches of Jesus Christ. Join us on October 2nd as we join Presbyterians and other denominations all over the world to celebrate communion.



On World Communion Sunday, Presbyterians are challenged to support the annual **Peace and Global Witness Offering**. This offering is used in various ways to promote peacemaking in innovative ways to alleviate violence whether it is domestic or otherwise. This offering is one of the four offerings of national and international scope that we at Falling Waters Presbyterian church support. **It will be collected on October 9th.**

The offering is divided so that 25% goes to our own Amazing Grace Fund, another 25% links congregations in ministries of peace and reconciliation throughout presbyteries and synods. 50% advocates for Christ's peace and justice in cultures of violence through education and Christian witness. Checks may be made payable to FWPC and marked "Peacemaking" on the memo line.

Happy Birthday -October

October 1 Bill Berg, Jr.
2 Crystal Mason
8 Tina Sloan
13 Naithan Lamb
15 Lauren Ruble
26 Trey Arvon
26 Chad Cushwa
29 Andrew Ruble



Wish These Friends a
"Happy Birthday!"

Greeters for October

(Kathy Goodell- Head Elder)

2 Kathy, Pete and Sue Mekkelson
9 Kathy, Deborah and Kirk Chambers
16 Kathy, Elizabeth Kaetzel, Diana McKinley
23 Kathy, Becky and Larry Brown
30 Kathy, Dorothy Hurley, Shelly McFillan

It's Time for the BGB!

The Men's Big Greasy Breakfast is scheduled for October 15 at 9:00 a.m. Fellowship and food - can't get any better than that! Bill Moore will be the guest speaker on his books "Early Hedgesville Chronicles" and "They Were Not Afraid to Work - The Story of the Men of the North Mountain Clay Company. If you are interested in volunteering to help, please let John McDonald know, 304-274-2372.



Nursery Attendants

October 2 Laura and Paul Peach
October 9 Fawn and John Fleagle
October 16 Pamela Fleagle, Marge Chamblin
October 23 Nancy Shipper, Tiffany Henry
October 30 Renee Campbell, Ellie Sloan

How Can I Help?

Are you a new member or a new regular attendee of our congregation and looking for a way to volunteer your time and get more involved in the life of the church? Are you a long time member looking for a new way to serve? Here are just a few ways you can help:

Host a coffee hour.

Our church enjoys a spirited coffee hour after worship on Sunday mornings. It is a fun time to connect with our church family, catching up with established friends and getting to know our new members. Traditionally, coffee hour consists of a hot beverage in the winter and a cool one in the summer along with a cookie or donut. Some in our congregation, however, enjoy using this time to make favorite recipes or to experiment with new ones. Please remember that if you sign up, all that is expected of you is a simple treat to accompany the beverage. Those volunteering are responsible for set up and clean up. If you have any questions please call Kathy Goodell at 754-3607.



Become a Nursery Attendant:

Do you have a heart for toddlers? - volunteer once a quarter to watch the cutie patooties in the nursery during worship. There are always two attendants per Sunday. Parents usually bring their own diapers, wipes, etc. but there are also diapers in the downstairs women's restroom. If you would like to be included on the nursery attendant list, see Fawn, 754-8211.

Teach Children's Church

You and a helper can minister to our youth, ages 5-8 by leading a time of worship geared especially for young children. Children sit with their parents in the sanctuary for the Call to Worship through the Children's Message and then move downstairs to the Rainbow Room for a Bible story. They return to the sanctuary during the hymn following the sermon. The curriculum is provided and is very user friendly. If you would like to help, contact Fawn Fleagle at the church office.

Fix something.

Are you handy? The Maintenance Committee is always looking for willing hands to maintain our beautiful historic church, grounds and pavilion. Jobs currently needing attention are posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. See Steve Aulabaugh to volunteer your services.

Help with the order of worship on Sunday mornings.

Pastor Debra is always looking for ways to get the laity (translation: the nonclergy - you and me) involved in the worship service. Are you willing to read scripture, collect the offering, sing in the choir, or be a greeter? Call the church office - 754-8211 - if you would like to assist with worship.



Make a visitor feel welcome.

We have all been newcomers at one time or another and know how it feels. Welcome our visitors with a smile and give them a Guest Bag located in the vestibule and on the small table directly inside the sanctuary. Show them where the bathrooms are located. If they have small children, accompany them to the nursery if they so desire. Invite them to stay for coffee hour.



We have **9 Sessional Committees** dedicated to overseeing the work and ministry of the church. Many hands make for light work. Assess where your talents can best be of use and get involved.

Christian Education oversees anything to do with the education of our members, i.e. children and adult Sunday School, the Sardines (teen youth group), Vacation Bible School, the church library, Confirmation or new member classes.



Congregational Nurture responds to members in crisis, coordinates visitation, and keeps the pastor informed of the congregation's needs through the Shepherd Program and the Prayer Chain.

Outreach concentrates its efforts on service in the community, seeking ways to reach out to the unchurched in our community, and church growth.

Fellowship and Recreation strives to keep our congregation connected through hospitality - covered-dish meals, picnics, after worship coffee hours and other special occasions.

Finance works with the Session on budgetary and financial matters. Formulate the church budget.



Maintenance is responsible for the church building and property, the pavilion and the manse. (excluding the cemetery) It recruits volunteers for snow removal, and grounds maintenance.

Mission coordinates the participation of our congregation with mission projects of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, by promoting special offerings and seeking opportunities to participate in overseas and local mission programs.



Mission Needs

Personnel serves as a liaison between the Session and church employees, reviews employment responsibilities and policies annually and conducts yearly reviews of all paid employees.



Worship Committee

Worship assists the pastor in the planning, evaluating, and enhancement of the worship service, prepares and sets up the elements for communion, coordinates greeters and ushers, supports the work of the church organist and choir director and makes arrangements for sanctuary decoration for special occasions and holidays.

These are just a few of the many ways you can make a difference. Our church has remained vibrant and alive for 260+ years because the enthusiastic ministry of all who enter it's doors. Help us continue to keep it that way.

Operation Christmas Child

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.

Plastic boxes will be provided with content guidelines inside. 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. 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 on October 30.

Please donate \$7.00 for shipping costs. Watch your bulletin for further information.

Thank You Volunteers!

Kidz Power Pacs packing - August 27: Kate Lewis Brown

Honky Tonk Blues Concert - September 18

Ruth Berg, Helen Brown, John Brown (before and after concert), Brenda Carper, Marge Chamblin, Kathy Goodell, Pete and Sue Mekkelson

Kidz Power Pacs packing - September 24

Renee Campbell, Becky Hawthorne, Diana McKinley, Pete and Sue Mekkelson

October Movie Night



Please join us for **Movie Night** on October 24. We will eat dinner at 5:00 p.m. Kings in Falling Waters followed by the movie "The War Room" at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will have door prizes.

What Does Our Church Mean To You?

Just think, FWPC is 282 years old! Thousands of members have come here before us to worship. Our cemetery is the resting place for many of the saints who have come before us. If only these walls could talk... Well, these walls can not talk, but YOU can. We want to hear from YOU. What does the church mean to you? How do you see our church going forward?

We want to hear your response to these two questions - how You see our church- and we want to include them in future newsletters.

It is your choice to include your name or answer anonymously if your prefer. We want to hear what you have to say.

Written responses may be left in the church office. Email responses may be sent to fwpcusa@gmail.com or rhleeds1@comcast.net

LET'S HEAR FROM YOU

The Glory Of Christmas

The National Christian Choir and the National Christian Children's Christmas Choirs will be performing their annual **Christmas Concert** with Orchestra at the International Community Church, 123 Byte Drive, in Frederick, MD, on Saturday, December 3, 2016 at 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. Notice the change in venue.

Jeanie Cushwa has tickets for both performances. There is an Early Bird Special until October 16 for General Admission Only. Buy 1 ticket at regular price of \$20.00 and get 2nd ticket \$5.00 off. The Director's Circle Tickets are \$25.00 and Chairman's Circle are \$50 (Limited Availability).

Call Jeanie for tickets at 304 267-8189 or email www.nationalchristianchoir.org. Or call 1-(301) 670-6331 or 1 (800) 599-4710.

Shining Our Light

The following is an excerpted portion of an Alban blog at the Duke divinity School:

...The choice for many Americans today isn't which church they'll attend - it's whether to go at all. So how do we make people want to seek us out? Your goal is to get people talking about your congregation and how innovative and interesting you are. People expect churches to be stodgy and high-bourne; they don't expect fun and creativity. Organize your own community events and invite others to join you...Let community groups meet in your basement, let your members host book clubs onsite, invite fascinating speakers to come. It doesn't have to be "issues oriented"...

The main thing is that you want the community to feel comfortable coming to your church - to know where it is, to think of it as a relaxing and interesting place, to associate it with their own ideology and values, and - just maybe - to pick up a pamphlet about your services, have a conversation with a member, and decide to come on Sunday.

In addition to our service out in the community, we need to come up with new ideas for events that will bring people into the church and people who will take responsibility for such events. Outreach, in all its forms, has to be a church-wide effort.

Currently we have two such events: VBS one week a year for kids, and the concerts. For adults, the concerts are a perfect opportunity for everyone to invite friends and neighbors (and their children) to come to our church for an enjoyable time. If there are people you know who would like to attend a concert but can't afford tickets, let me know and I'll give you free tickets for them.

Please think about coming to the concerts, even if it isn't your type of music. (Thank you to the few faithful who do!) You may not be able to volunteer at Potomack Intermediate School, pack food for backpacks, or cheer on a soccer team, but how about spending a couple of hours on a Sunday afternoon 4-5 times a year, welcoming people to our church. This is a way of doing outreach without leaving the building!

When you are at a concert, please wear a church button and talk to people you don't know. This isn't the time to invite them to come to worship, just to be friendly with "small talk". If you aren't comfortable initiating conversations with strangers - just smile at them and say hello. If you're wearing a church button, they may initiate a conversation with you!

We need the support of the congregation if we are going to attract people to our church. The concerts are an ongoing program attempting to do that. We can show people that we are friendly while generously providing quality music at a minimal cost. We have picture brochures about the church in every pew rack at the concerts, but your smiling face and friendliness would be even better. So please help us as we plant seeds, in the hope that some of them will fall on fertile soil!

Kate Lewis Brown
Chair, Outreach Committee

Capital Projects

To complete the implementations of the *Plan for Undesignated Funds (Policy #24)*, which was approved by the Session on November 17, 2015, the Session developed the below prioritized list of capital projects to be undertaken as money is available in the new **Capital Campaign Fund**. The projects on the list came from

- (1) suggestions made by the congregation at the time of the Hiatt Bequest
- (2) the Maintenance Committee
- (3) members of the Session.

The capital projects will be carried out in the order they are listed. If the Session determines that there is a critical need to revise the list at any time, the Session will vote to modify this list and you will be kept informed. In addition, you will be notified when a project is completed and reminded of what the next project will be. When most of the projects on the list are completed, your input will be sought, and new projects will be added to the list.

You may recall from the *2015 Annual Report*, all of the church's undersigned money was allocated to 4 interest-bearing funds in the Presbyterian Foundation: Reserve, Emergency Capital, Mission/Outreach, and Capital Campaign. The Capital Campaign Fund will be financed in a number of ways:

- any money in the Manse Fund and checking account, together in excess of the \$25,000.00 cap, including earnings;
- earnings from the Capital Emergency Fund that is capped at \$50,000.00;
- earnings from the reserve Fund that is capped at \$125,000.00;
- royalties, undesignated memorial gifts and other undesignated gifts;
- gifts from individuals to the Capital Campaign Fund;
- the Building Fund when liquidated in November.

We will not be holding fundraisers to finance capital projects. Everyone in the congregation is welcome to contribute to the Capital Campaign Fund, but please remember that weekly offerings (for the budget) should be everyone's first priority. Any money above weekly offerings that can be spared to help pay for these capital projects, will be welcomed. Money should be designated for the Capital Campaign Fund and not for a particular project or to the Maintenance Committee's budget line item.

Prioritized List of Capital Projects

1. Install new exterior doors to the church.
2. Install air conditioning in Fellowship Hall.
3. Paint the sanctuary.
4. Replace roof on Educational Building.
5. Mount hanging room dividers in Fellowship Hall; if the ceiling won't support hanging room dividers, then rolling dividers.
6. Move sound system to back of church.
7. Install shaftless elevator.
8. Install church security system.
9. Make the former speaker cabinet behind the organ into a place for storage.
10. Replace current pews, including balcony (perhaps chairs in balcony).*
11. Install new cushions in sanctuary, including balcony: except for obstructed view seats (half of the pews next to walls in the back) and the back pew in the balcony that is especially uncomfortable. Eliminate suggestion if new pews are installed first.

*congregation will vote on this.

Trunk Or Treat



Please join us after the Fellowship Dinner on Sunday, October 30, in the back parking lot for a Trunk or Treat time for our children, with hot cider/punch to follow up at the pavilion. You can decorate your trunk anyway you desire – not necessarily scary, but any theme which catches your fancy (within reason, of course). Invite your grandchildren, nieces and nephews and/or your neighbor to join us for church and then fun and games that day. This will be a grand opportunity to interact with the future of our church, so don't be a stick-in-the-mud and come join the fun.

With Heartfelt Sympathy

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to two of our members.

Paula Tobin passed away on September 27th after a courageous battle with cancer. Paula was an Elder, former Chair of the Maintenance Committee and a member of the choir. She was the daughter of the late Paul and Thelma Pittsnogle and was married to her husband, Sam, for 34 years. We will miss her smile and optimist spirit.

Bill Perrott passed away on September 30th. He and his wife Delores, who lived in Hagerstown, were faithful attendees for well over 20 years. They were married for 61 years before Delores passed away in 2013. Ill health kept Bill from worship for the past several years but his thoughts were never far from his church family.

*With
Sympathy*