

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Thank you all for your warm welcome!! I am excited to be here, joining you in the journey of faith and ministry!

As this is a new chapter in the life of our church, I thought it would be good for us to discover afresh God's mighty vision for the Church. Therefore over the next eight Sundays we will be looking at a different aspect of our mission. Our message series will be, *"The Church UNLEASHED: Internally Strong, Externally Focused."*

I love the Church, and am passionate about God's vision for it. We all want to live with purpose. We all want to make a difference. As you know, God's purpose for the Church is about bringing life and wholeness, healing and freedom to people and our world in the love of Jesus Christ. Indeed, it is no stretch or exaggeration to say that God's purpose or vision for the Church is nothing less than to change the world. That's a *pretty BIG purpose!*

So I really do hope you will join us in worship as many Sunday mornings as you can over these next eight weeks, as we think together about our calling as a church, and as individuals. I think you will find, as I do, that diving into, and reminding ourselves afresh of "why we are here," is not only important, but inspiring.

Wishing you the grace and peace of Christ,

Dave



Prayer Concerns



Church Family

GIZELE BOWEN
JERRY CROMER
SUE KEENE
STANLEY STEVENSON
PEGGY ASBURY
DAWN & DAVID OLINGER
RICHARD WITTEN
SAM ADKINS
EDDIE NASH
MARTHA MASSIE
JEANETTE RAMEY
RENIA HALE PEERY

VICKY RINEHART
BARBARA SISCO
PRISCILLA DILLOW
BOB PARKS
BARBARA STANSBURY
ROBERT HELDRETH
CONNIE FLETCHER
BETTY KELLY
PARKER NECESSARY
GEORGIA HALE
JUANITA BOLING
DOROTHY NUCKLES

Active Military Personnel: John Patrick Flynn, and Jon Wright
Missionaries: The Wellers and The Ardnts

Others

Family of Levi Humphreys
Lee Ann Stump
Family of Jan McClure
Family of Dorothy Litten (sister of Ann Parks)
Kinsley Pruitt (granddaughter of David & Delores Pruitt)
Melissa Parks (Bob Parks' niece)
Sam Larimer (David Larimer's brother)
Larry Stroup & Ed Smith (neighbors of Randall & Martha Cooper)
Shelley Keene-Walsh (daughter of Sue Keene)
Jeannie Putman (Connie Fletcher's niece)
Jimmy O'Neill (Dora's grand-nephew)
Charlotte Wilson (daughter of Martha Massie)
Gilliam Shelton (Debbie Crews' father)
Rev. Curtis Murray
Dustin Hicks
Blanche Carpenter (Ron Carpenter's mother)

NURSERY SCHEDULE

September 2016

4th – Dora Barnes

11th – Josh Thompson

18th – Linda Clifton

25th – Josh Gledhill

Dates to remember:

- *The pastor's installation will be on November 20 afternoon (Stewardship Sunday), pending the approval of Presbytery.*
- *November 27 Dr. Gilbert will be off, with pulpit supply needed.*
- *Christmas is on Sunday this year, so the session approved by consensus having only the Christmas Eve service and none on Sunday at Dr. Gilbert's request, so that he can be with family members.*

August 2016 Session Action

- † *Property Chair Debby Crews reported that solar shades had been purchased for the fellowship hall to enable video presentations to be viewed.*
- † *By consensus the session approved the locking of church doors during business hours and the use of a doorbell for entry until the Virginia State Police has completed a safety assessment.*
- † *Education Chair Jim Thompson announced a change in the date of the beginning of Sunday Night Live (SNL) to September 11, 2016.*
- † *Program Coordinator Pam Irvin declared our ecumenical Bible school a great success with a regular attendance of about 120. Adventure Time/TAG will begin on Wednesday, September 7.*
- † *According to Chair Carol Weaver's Worship Team's minutes, there is a need to find volunteers for communion setup as many current ones are physically unable. Please consider assisting.*
- † *In spite of heavy rain, more than 70 people attended the Crab Orchard picnic last Sunday for Rev. Gilbert's initial service.*
- † *Although the Fellowship and Missions Team did not meet, Chair Dorothy Wright said that the Caring Friendship Club, under the leadership of Eunice Jones Lester, is enjoying many planned trips. She also said that PCUSA missionaries Michael and Rachel Weller were returning to a dangerous tribal warring situation in Ethiopia. Please pray for them.*
- † *Dr. Gilbert wishes liturgists from the congregation for each service. Session members have signed up for some at this point.*

Items from the Pastor's Report:

- *Began work on Tuesday, August 16.*
- *First message: "New Chapter, New Territory" (based on Joshua 1:1-9) at Crab Orchard picnic*
- *Fall sermon series: "The Church Unleashed"*
- *Residing in rental at 214 Church Street.*
- *Contact information: gilbert.david73@yahoo.com; (330)314-3936*



A GREAT SUCCESS

Our VBS this year was a joint effort of more than 10 churches. We had committees that worked on everything from crafts, food, skits, recreation to whatever needed to be done. Natalie Blankenship, of Main Street UMC had a vision, Rev. Anthony Grills told her to go for it and the vision was embraced by us all.

We had a great time, the children had a great time and in spite of the heat we all went away with a good feeling of what a community coming together means.

We averaged between 110 and 120 per day with approximately 230 for worship on August 14. It was just church, not your church or my church and it was great.

We now know it can be done! So who knows what next year may bring?

A big thanks to all our people who helped out in any way – that is what makes it happen – good helpers.

In Christ,
Pam



COMMUNITY OUTREACH
LUNCHEON

September 14th
at 11:00am

CARING FRIENDSHIP CLUB TRIP SURVEY FOR SEPTEMBER

FOR OUR SEPTEMBER TRIP PLEASE INDICATE ONES LISTED BELOW IN WHICH YOU WOULD PARTICIPATE INDICATING YOUR PREFERENCE BY 1ST, 2ND OR 3RD CHOICE.

___ Trip to Wytheville on a Sunday after Church for Lunch at a favorite restaurant and a tour of our Children's Home

___ Trip to Pipestem State Park and Lunch at one of their restaurants

___ Trip to Saltville to tour Museum of the Middle Appalachians (cost: \$2.00) and eat lunch or dinner at the local family restaurant

Dates I would not be able to participate:

SIGNED: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Please return the September survey to Eunice Jones, 208 Church St., Tazewell, VA 24651 or you may reply by calling (988-4412) or emailing jnseun@aol.com with your choices. Or, you may place this survey in the offering plate.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thursday, September 1st

*The Outreach Planning Committee
will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 am*

Tuesday, September 6th

Christian Education Meeting at 7:00 pm

Wednesday, September 7th

Worship Committee Meeting at 1:00 pm

Thursday, September 8th

Afternoon Circle

“Covered Dish Picnic”

*will be held at the home of Madeline Hurt
at 5:00 pm*

Desserts and Drinks will be provided

Sunday, September 11th

*PW Fall Gathering will be held at
Central Presbyterian Church
from 3:00 – 5:00 pm*