



CALVIN CHATTER

The Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church, Winchester, Virginia
Serving Christ & Neighbor in the Heart of Winchester since 1800

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May 2010

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WATTS Up

Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter Update

By Dan McCoig

The WATTS Board met on Monday, April 12 for an initial review of the past season and some preliminary planning for next season.

Key information for hosts, partners, and donors in the community includes the following:

- Over the course of 10 weeks, we served 75 different people.
- The nightly average was 16 guests. The guest count was lower in the early weeks and much higher in the later weeks. Word got out as to who we were and the ministry we provided.
- To date, the eight 2010 host will host again in 2011. Three additional hosts are expected to come on board: First United Methodist Church, Market Street United Methodist Church, and Emmanuel/Welltown/Whitehall United Methodist churches.
- The goal for next season is 12 weeks: Dec 13, 2010 through March 7, 2011. First Church will host the week of January 10-17.
- There will be *A Gathering of Grace and Gratitude* on Sunday, September 19, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. First Church is being asked to host the gathering in its fellowship hall. The goal will be to say thanks for last season and share information about the upcoming season. Additional details will follow.

- Lead volunteers will be receiving an evaluation form to complete and return. Our lead volunteers from each host church are the most knowledgeable about how WATTS worked in their location.
- The board will be looking closely at the following ideas: shelter for families; improving policies and procedures; focusing upon the mission [overnight shelter for adult men and women during the cold weather months] and perhaps spawning new groups to address issues related to homelessness; and expanding the number of churches to host a week of WATTS.
- WATTS has received several unsolicited generous donations. The staff costs for a week of WATTS is roughly \$1,200. At present, the treasury is strong and adequate.
- WATTS will coordinate more closely with the Free Medical Clinic during the next season. The clinic has adjusted its policies. WATTS residency for six or more weeks will now qualify a guest for care at the clinic.
- WATTS has developed a lot of goodwill in the community in a very short period of time. The volunteers and funding were and remain abundant.

Thank you, God. And, thank you to everyone in First Church who made WATTS possible.





Worship on Apple Blossom Festival Sunday

May 2

7:30 a.m. in Boyd Chapel

10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

There will be no Sunday School



RESERVE THE DATE

An exciting musical event will take place in our Fellowship Hall on Saturday, June 12, at 4 p.m. *Mosaic*, a dynamic interfaith gospel group from northern Virginia, will be singing. **June** and **Carl Hess** have sung with this energetic, hope-filled group for a number of years. A free-will offering will be taken for the benefit of Faith in Action, which meets transportation needs for medical appointments for those without means.



Cancer Support Group Planned for First Church

By Mark Johnson

Cancer has affected many individuals, including members of our church family at First Church over the years. Many organizations, including churches, have developed cancer support groups to assist individuals and their family members during and after cancer. A group of interested individuals met for the first time on March 1, 2010, at First Church to explore the possibility of forming a Cancer Support Group. The response was overwhelmingly in favor of the idea, and a core group was formed to further work out more details. The core group has met twice thus far and will be continuing to meet in anticipation of a summer 2010 start date for the Cancer Support Group. The core group will keep the congregation informed as things progress and more details emerge. If anyone has any questions or ideas for the group, please contact one of the core members: **Mark Johnson, Barb Schell, Greg Herndon, Bill Lawrence, Leigh Anne Whitacre, Mikie Jones, and Rich Reifsnyder.**



Congregational Meeting

A congregational meeting will be held in the sanctuary on Sunday, May, 16 at 9:30 a.m., following the 8:30 a.m. services, for the purpose of changing the terms of call for our ministers by adopting the parental leave policy for pastors and associate pastors recommended by Shenandoah Presbytery.

Guatemala Mission Team

Did the report from the Guatemala Mission Team spark some interest? Did you feel a nudge from God to get involved? If you are considering joining us on our next trip August 11-18th or in March 2011, or in some other way, please let one of us on the team know of your interest, so we can pray with you through your discernment of God's call to you. Details of the August trip are still in progress. We know there will be a Faith Stories Retreat and that the trip will be led by CEDEPCA, but beyond that the plans are not yet in place. Cost will be determined by the number of participants, but scholarship funds are available from the Ministry Council. Team members are **Sandy Cleaver, Rich Reifsnyder, Mary Rudolph, Dave** and **Carolyn Thalman** and **Jane Vandertoorn**.



ATTENTION WOMEN OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

By Paula Wahlman

Come join us for our annual Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering Luncheon on Wednesday, May 12, at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our honorary Lifetime Membership Award will be presented, and books will be given to our church library in honor of the women in our congregation who have died in the past year. The Birthday Offering, which was begun in 1922, will be received. This year's recipients will be The Kindergarten and Child Care Center in Kirkuk, Iraq, which is operated under the Christian policies of love, peace, tolerance and non-violence, and the RISE project (Reach, Improve, Strengthen, Empower) of the Peace Presbyterian Church, Louisville, Kentucky, which serves as a beacon of light to those at risk and needing support in Louisville.

Mark your calendar and come out and join us on May 12. Bring your favorite salad and enjoy fellowship and birthday cake.



Artisan Faire Results: \$8585.00

By Libba Pendleton

Thanks to the contributions of more than 60 talented and generous members of our church to the Artisan Faire, plus all of the willing shoppers and silent auction bidders, we managed to raise a total of more than \$8,585 for the Building Fund!

Details of each category are as follows:

Artisan sales	\$4,983
<i>What amazing talent we have among our members!</i>	
Baked goods	\$454
<i>With remaining items going to Jubilee Kitchen!</i>	
Bag lunches	\$769
<i>Another delicious meal from Pat and Dan Ritchie!</i>	
Eugene Smith Gallery	\$775
<i>Lovely prints and note cards of three beautiful paintings of our church with all proceeds going to the event – thank you Eugene and Sarah!</i>	
Face painting	\$14
<i>Thank you girls for the cute painted faces and hands!</i>	
Silent auction	\$1,590
<i>Wonderful baskets, children's ministry artwork and other great items!</i>	
Grand total	\$8,585





What Is the Pentecost Offering?

Pentecost Offering May 23

The benefits can be seen all around us. Congregations are trying new ways to minister with the children at risk in their communities. General

Assembly programs are advocating for children and providing leadership development opportunities for our youth and young adults. Since 1998, Presbyterians of all ages have raised over \$7 million for these ministries that benefit younger members of God's family.

40 percent of the Pentecost Offering is kept by congregations for use on behalf of children at risk. This year, our recipient will be Healthy Families of the Northern Shenandoah Valley, which works with expectant and new parents to help get their children off to a healthy start.

10 percent percent of the 2010 Pentecost Offering will support General Assembly Child Advocacy ministries to:

- ✚ Facilitate the denomination's ongoing emphasis, the Decade of the Child, as it approaches its culmination in 2011.
- ✚ Develop an interactive website to connect congregations and groups who have committed to Presbyterians in Covenant with Children, a virtual covenant community.
- ✚ Facilitate the work of the Human Trafficking Roundtable around child trafficking.
- ✚ Make available a new DVD resource, *And How Are the Children?*, to help churches develop skills in making a difference for children.
- ✚ In partnership with the *Children's Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study*, continue to develop Kids4Kids, a website to engage children in action on behalf of other children.

25 percent percent of the Offering supports General Assembly ministries with youth to:

- ✚ Develop and maintain the www.d365.org website. This new online resource is a timely, theologically thoughtful, and diverse

daily devotion written especially for youth. Designed with engaging youth-friendly graphics and music, it is available to any young persons seeking to prayerfully consider their life and faith.

- ✚ Support thousands of Presbyterian adult youth workers through the Presbyterian Youth Workers' Association.
- ✚ Create "Quick Sheets," a youth ministry quick reference resource. Addressing such issues as faith, friendship, looming adulthood, vocation, and Christian discipleship, this new resource is invaluable to parents, youth leaders, and young people.
- ✚ In 2009, six "Pathways" events were created. Pentecost funding allowed youth ministries staff to recruit nationally known leaders, grant scholarships to youth and adult youth workers, and create promotional materials and take-home resources for the hundreds of youth attending the seminars.
- ✚ Launch the 2010 Presbyterian Youth Triennium website. The site allows churches and presbytery delegations to get information quickly, register youth for Triennium online, manage information, and pay in installments. All this in a paper-LESS manner!

25 percent supports Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) opportunities, which in 2010 will prepare and help to pay travel and living expenses for Young Adult Volunteers (YAVs) in the United States and overseas. Offering funds are matched with funds that YAVs raise to allow them to participate in this year of mission involvement. These young adults serve in communities of need within the United States and abroad and explore their call to the work of Jesus Christ. This work provides a life-changing opportunity for young people to experience and share God in new and different ways.

Forty percent of Pentecost Offering receipts are retained by congregations and 60 percent are forwarded to General Assembly ministries for children at risk, youth, and young adults. Look for Pentecost Offering updates on the new PC(USA) website, scheduled to launch in summer 2010.



CCAP Sunday

***3rd Sunday
of each month***

May 16

"Peter replied, 'Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'"

Acts 2:38

Four Cents-A-Meal Hunger Offering

***4th Sunday
of each month***

May 23



Week of the Young Child

By Lara Davis

"Early Years Are Learning Years" was the theme of the National Association for the Education of Young Children's (NAEYC) Week of the Young Child, celebrated April 12-16.

Please be sure to check out the large bulletin board in the main church hallway for a glimpse of our young children in action.



Spring has sprung at the WDS. The children are glad to be outside investigating wind, water, and growing things.



The five-day five's class explored the traditions of Easter. Pastor Rich joined the children for a Palm Sunday and foot-washing role play.

Births

- Mar 31 Lauren Anne, daughter of Anne & Matt Kave, granddaughter of Lynn & Sterling Williams
- Apr 1 Caden Christopher, son of Melanie & Christopher Beaudin, grandson of Mary & Mark Rudolph
- Apr 1 Preston Gregory, son of Steffany & Greg Plotts

In Memoriam, with Christian sympathy to the families

- Feb 17 Joseph Carl Smith, father of Carolyn Rutherford
- Feb 21 Ed Gill, husband of Pat Gill
- Feb 28 Helen Stewart
- Apr 1 Elisabeth P. Levin, mother of Ray Hillyard
- Apr 12 Byron Emswiler, brother of Leonard Emswiler
- Apr 17 Elizabeth Turner, sister of Meg Sublett
- Apr 24 Robert Taylor

DEADLINE FOR THE June CALVIN CHATTER is May 12.

Send submissions to calvin.chatter@verizon.net.

CALVIN CHATTER

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Founded July 16, 1788; Organized September 7, 1800

Sunday Worship Services 7:30 a.m. (Boyd Chapel), 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Coffee and Cookies 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Pastor: The Reverend Dr. Richard W. Reifsnyder

Associate Pastor: The Reverend Dr. Dan M. McCoig, Jr.

Associate Pastor: The Reverend Maren Sonstegard-Spray

Parish Associate: The Reverend Elizabeth Lewis

Children's Ministry Administrator: Stacey Iden

Minister of Music: Roger Callis

Director of Adult Handbell Choirs: Lynn Reifsnyder

Organist: Pat Byers

Music Leader for New Stone Gathering: David Merrill