



Presbyterian Press

A Publication of the First Presbyterian Church

June 2019

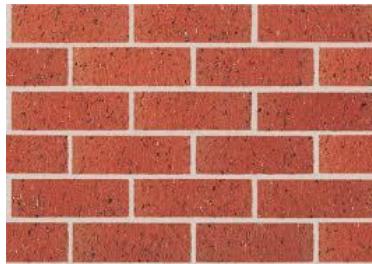
Vacation bible school will be July 14-18 with the Sunday program on July 21. We are in need of volunteers to help serve dinner and also to help with activities. Please contact Terra Burnett or Terri Harris.



For more than twenty years the Presbytery of West Virginia has rejoiced in its sister Presbytery in Nyeri, the capital of the Central Highlands of Kenya, an area that would remind you of our own state, with green hills and hollers—and tea farms and coffee plantation—and without the snow.

Most of the time our relationship is spiritual, as we pray for each other and support at a distance our shared work in the Lord. Every couple of years, however, teams travel from one country to the other. Our next opportunity will come in the late summer 2019 during the Kenyan dry season where we will have the opportunity to participate in building a new church.

**Help Build a Church in the
Nyeri Presbytery**
\$10.00 a brick
\$50.00 for a roof panel
\$100.00 for a window
\$500.00 for a door



Please make checks payable to:
Presbytery of West Virginia, 520 2nd Ave SW, South
Charleston, WV 25303
Write Nyeri Trip in the memo line.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. News/Events
2. Worship Schedule
3. John's Jottings
4. Session Highlights
5. Notes from Treasurer
6. Schedule of Volunteers
7. Graduates

**Sunday
Worship** Church
School
9:30 a.m.

Worship
10:45 a.m.
Live on WPDX
Radio, 104.9 FM

Choir News...



Our first year together was enjoyable and memorable! The FPC choir did an excellent job in providing worship music throughout the year. Thank you all for your hard work in preparing and performing our **Christmas Cantata "Touch By A Child, Touched By A King"** and our **Easter Musical, "The Last Words of Christ"**. They were **BEAUTIFUL**. We also appreciated those who lent their acting talents to the speaking roles. A very special thank you to Quentin Harris on the sound board!

Please note that I will be scheduling special music throughout the summer. If anyone has family or friends who aspire to use their musical talents for the Lord, please call or email me their contact information to schedule a Sunday for them.

Choir members – Beth and I are going to try and schedule an end of the summer picnic at Lake Floyd – be watching the newsletter for further information for this event!

I love you all and am so glad God let me to this church!

In Christ - Jeanne



A DAY THAT BEGINS AND ENDS IN PRAYER SELDOM UNRAVELS

MONDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP is a great way to start your week. We meet in the Parlor at 10:00am for sharing praises, concerns, needs for healing and prayers for our church and community. The format is informal and friendly as we form a collective prayer ending with the Lord's Prayer. Attend weekly or whenever your schedule permits. If you have prayer concerns you would like us to address, call the church office at 304-622-6831, leave a note in the offering plate or email me at wayneharriett@frontier.com. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God." Philippians 4: 6-7
Yours in Christ, Harriett

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR June

June 2nd 7th Sunday in Easter- (Honor Graduates and Holy Communion)

SCRIPTURES: Jeremiah 29:4-11 *Revelation 2:1-5a

SERMON TITLE: "In Search of a New Life"

THEME: God says in Revelation 2, "Behold I am making all things new." Time of transition can be scary and overwhelming. But for those with the right foundation, these transitions are the opportunity to reach for their dreams and to move confidently into the new life God is giving them. In Jeremiah 29:11 God says, "For surely, I know the plans I have for you,.. plans for your welfare and not for the harm, to give you a future with hope."

June 9th Pentecost Sunday

Pastor John is on vacation.

Guest preacher: Rev. James A. Harris

June 16th Trinity Sunday (Father's Day)

SCRIPTURES: Psalm 8 *1 John 1:1-4

SERMON TITLE: "The Word of Life"

THEME: Jesus was both fully God and fully human. John wants us to understand why that is important to our understanding in joy in the Lord.

June 23rd 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

SCRIPTURES: Psalm 42 & 43 *1 John 1:5-2:2

SERMON TITLE: "The Word of Life"

THEME: Jesus was both fully God and fully human. John wants us to understand why that is important to our understanding in joy in the Lord.

June 30th 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor John is on vacation.

Guest Preacher: Dick Ogden

Topic: Zaccheaus

Office Hours

Monday-Friday

9:00am to 2:00 pm

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TREASURERS REPORT

Net Cash Flow-April	2018	2019
Income	\$84,517	\$70,947
Expenses	\$57,130	\$59,714
Net Income	\$27,387	\$11,233



PASTOR JOHN'S JOTTINGS

I recently attended a lecture by Brian D. McLaren. His topic was, "The Seven Stories We Live By." He said that there are six stories that most people live by. The story we live by is found in our answers to questions such as, "How can we be safe?", "How can we find happiness?" and "What is our place in the world?"

McLaren said that once you understand these stories, everything you see reminds you of them. I have to agree. It has been that way for me. The six stories that most of the world live by are:

1. Domination: Us Ruling Over them. This is the most popular world view and the story most people live by. It says that the only way we are ever going to be safe and happy is if we can dominate others. This view looks for ways to bigger and stronger than others, to be the boss.
2. Revolution: Us Overthrowing Them. This world view is a mirror image of number 1. It is also a popular story. It says that the only way we are going to be safe and happy is to overthrow those who are now dominating us. Then we will be the ones who dominate.
3. Isolation: Us Apart from Them: This story says that the only way that we are going to be safe, pure, and happy is for our small group to withdraw from the corrupting forces of the rest of the world. This is the story of groups like the Amish. It is also the story of nations that practice isolationism.
4. Purification: Us Marginalizing or Excluding Them. This story says that the way to feel good about ourselves is to blame all of our troubles on some smaller, weaker group. An example of this was how Hitler treated the Jews during WWII. It is also the story that justifies genocide, slavery, and a host of other evils.
5. Victimization: Us Defeated by Them. Not that many people live this story, but it is a powerful story nevertheless. This story says that we are the victims and we are powerless to change anything. People who live the victim story focus on all the bad things that happen to them and are always ready to tell you about how awful things are for them.
6. Accumulation: Us With More Than Them. This is a story that flourishes in our country. It says that the way to be safe and happy is to be rich and have more stuff than others. It says that a person's value in life is determined by how much money they have and how much stuff they can accumulate.

McLaren points out that Jesus brought us a different story. It is the story of reconciliation: "Us and them learning to be in right relationship, creating a bigger, all-inclusive us. Us for them, or even better, *some of us for all of us*." McLaren goes on to say that, "More and more of us are coming to believe that the Seventh Story is the best way to live, whatever our age, gender, race, religion, politics, or nationality. You may say that we are dreamers, but we're not the only ones!"

I am intrigued by this approach and these stories. Obviously, most people don't fit easily into any one story. Most of us live in more than one story, depending where we are and what the circumstances are. I would also point out that each of the first six stories have serious flaws. In the Domination and revolution stories, only one person can be the strongest. And that person is probably not us. In the isolation and Purification stories the circle of us just keeps getting smaller and smaller. Until as one wit put it, "There are only two acceptable people in the world. You and me. And frankly, I'm not so sure about you!" The victimization story is simply a terrible story to live and the accumulation story has the same problems as the domination story. Some is always stronger and richer.

The reconciliation story is very different, but in fairness, it is not an easy or safe story to live. Jesus himself was crucified and many Christians down through the ages have also been killed or persecuted for living out the story of reconciliation. Living this story takes courage, lots of help from the Holy Spirit, and continual examination of how we are living our lives. It is not something that comes naturally or easily to us.

Brian McLaren has written a Bible Study around these seven stories as we find them in scripture and in our lives. It is titled, "We Make the Road by Walking." There are 52 studies that can be used as a once a week Bible Study for a year. He says that this is "a year-long quest for Spiritual formation, reorientation, and activation."

I will be leading a study on this book beginning after school starts back in the fall. If you are interested, please put this on your calendar. It will be Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. starting on August 28. This promises to be both a challenging and very relevant study. I hope you will plan to attend.

Hope and Confidence,

John

First Presbyterian Church

Session Agenda Tuesday, May 21, 2019 5:30 p.m.

- Received Loria Parsons into the active membership of the church. We will celebrate this in worship on June 16.
- Changed the date of July commonion to July 14th as Pastor John will be on vacation on July 7.
- Rally Day will be September 8. The children and youth will lead worship that day.
- Summer Sunday School will be used for the children and youth to practice for Rally Day.
- Graduate recognition Sunday will be June 2.
- Session take graduates and parents to dinner at Minnards, June 9th @ 6 PM
- Pentecost is June 9th this year.
- Father's Day gifts have been ordered.
- Vacation Bible School will be July 14-18 with the VBS program to follow on Sunday, July 21.
Schedule: Dinner 5-5:30 PM, Activities 5:30-7:30 PM.
- Choir will sing the first Sunday in June and then be off for the summer. Jeanne Harris will arrange for special music during the summer months.
- Discussed scheduling a Red Cross Day in late July. We need more details in order to make a decision on this.
- Beckie Alvaro will attend a meeting of the Change Initiative that will plan for cold weather emergency shelters next winter. The meeting will be on June 3rd, Central Christian Church,
@ 6 PM
- Session approved signing of legal papers with Arsenal. The papers deal with some small gas and oil interests left to the church by the Dodds.
- Denver is looking to recruit more ushers. If you have not ushered, but would like to, please see Denver.
- The property committee reports a number of small maintenance items that have been completed.
1. New Faucet in stalled in men's restroom.
 2. Replace flush valve on toilet in women's restroom.
 3. Lights in top of electronic sign have been replaced and the top of the sign has been waterproofed. (Thanks Jeff Mitchell)
 4. Little library top has been water proofed. (Jeff Strange)
 5. Plaster repair and painting in Men's restroom has been done.
 6. New vacuum has been purchased for Lance. (Thanks Wayne.)
 7. Sutter Roofing came and replaced shingles on roof that may have been causing a leak in the sanctuary.
- Several small scrapping and painting jobs are in the works.
- Doris Holt reported on the Presbytery meeting that she attended on May 16th in Morgantown.
- Approved Andrea's request for the use of Westminster Hall on memorial day for her dance group to practice.

Pastor's Report:

hospital visits: 6 Other significant Pastoral visits: 21

Sacrament of Communion: Was celebrated on May 12 served to 65 people.

Home communion was served by Pastor John with the help of elder Jo Eckert to 7 people.

Pastor's Discretionary Fund 2019

MONTH	REQUESTS	COMPLETED	AMT PLEDGED	AMT DISBURSED
January	6	6	\$ 395.53	\$ 395.53
February	5	5	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
March	3	3	\$ 220.00	\$ 220.00
April	4	4	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
TOTALS	18	18	\$ 1,315.53	\$ 1,315.53

OUR AMAZING Volunteers

Children's Moments

June 2nd – Terra Burnett

June 9th – Janet Wilson

June 16th –

June 23rd – Jeanne Harris

June 30th –Terra Burnett

Worship Leaders

June 2nd - Jennifer Wetzel

June 9th - Jeanne Harris

June 16th-William Mick

June 23rd- Maria Morrison

June 30th-Denver Atkinson

Deacon Greeters

June 2nd - Janet Wilson,
Connie Leuliette

June 9th - Jeanne Lynch,
Jenna Bennett

June 16th-Judy McQuaid,
Kandy Atkinson

June 23rd-Karen Tyson,
Doris Holt

June 30th- Dottie Rinehart
Beckie Alvaro

Acolytes

June 2nd –Quentin Harris and
Bradley Burnett

June 9th –Bradley Burnett and
Anthony Corsini

June 16th -Hannah Burnett
and Gia Corsini

June 23rd – Amelia Harris and
Kierra Harris

June 30th –Hannah Burnett
and Gia Corsini, Molly Hugus

REREDOS FLOWERS

June 9, 16, 23, 30

July 7, 13, 21, 28



Angie Fowler
Eric Kuhens
Wilma Oldaker
Everett Shiffra
Jennifer Wetzel
Dottie Burkhammer
Derek Hardman
Doug Linton
Susan Orr (Carole's Sister)
Melanie Simmons
Jack Holt
Nickolas Nardone
Amy Pack
Bonnie Smith
Robbie Hood
Kenneth Oldaker
Donna Smith



Is This Your Cup of Tea?

Are you creative? Do you like to think outside of the box? I love being able to use something old to serve a new purpose (especially if it means I get to save money! I enjoy crafting. I also think we throw too much away. Are you interested in helping me find things we can make out of our trash? (Old clothes, paper, plastic, bottles, you name it - the sky's the limit!) Are you like me and have "stuff" you could contribute to projects like these?

I have a few ideas, and some dreams of things that can be done. I'm hoping to find some other folks who have some ideas & dreams, too. I'd love to see what good God can do through us! Some of my dreams are mission related, some are educational, and some.... Well, if I've peaked your interest, let me know! Give me a call on my cell, 681-753-1209. Charla Waters Koerner