



### **David Dickerson becomes Pastor at Fincastle Presbyterian Church**

The Session and Members of Fincastle Presbyterian Church in Fincastle are pleased to introduce their new Pastor, The Reverend David Dickerson. David and his wife, Patsy, have moved to Fincastle after his retirement from Radford Presbyterian Church, Radford, VA. Since retirement, David has been a supply preacher for Christiansburg Presbyterian Church and Fincastle Presbyterian Church after the death of Dr. Iain Maclean in June of this year.

David, the son of Mary Lee Dickerson Reese and the late Eli Dickerson, was born in Hillsville. His parents' selfless support played an irreplaceable role in David's sense of call into the ministry. David graduated from Hillsville High School in 1969, Wytheville Community College in 1972, and Radford College with Bachelor of Science degree in Math Education in 1974. Prior to enrollment in graduate school, David worked for VDOT as a Highway Construction Inspector on I-77 construction in Carroll County from 1974 to 1978. David entered graduate school in math at VT in July 1978, but withdrew and returned to the workplace as cost analyst at Camcar Textron in Grayson County. During that time, his volunteer work at his home church, Fairview Presbyterian Church, grew and led to a sense of call into the ministry. David entered Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, VA July 1981 and graduated with a Doctorate of Ministry in June of 1985. David was ordained in July of 1985 by Presbytery of the Blue Ridge.

During David's third year of seminary training as the student pastor at Galatia Presbyterian Church in Gala, VA, he met Patsy Simmons when he was a guest minister at Fincastle Presbyterian Church. Patsy is the daughter of the late Pat and Bill Simmons of Fincastle. The couple were married on July 21, 1984 at Fincastle Presbyterian Church.

After graduation from seminary, David accepted the call to serve as the pastor at Olivet Presbyterian Church at Charlottesville, VA and served there till July 1991. While at Olivet, he and Patsy had four children. In 1991, David moved to Bethesda Presbyterian Church in Rockbridge Baths and remained

there as their pastor to July 2006. That's when he was called to serve as the pastor at the Presbyterian Church of Radford and served there until retiring from active full time ministry in 2017.

Patsy and David have four adult children: Patrick, 32, who lives in Apex, NC, with his wife Ariel Hendrickson and infant son, Anders. He works as a high school history teacher. William, 30, lives in Raleigh, NC with his wife Kyleen and their two dogs. He works as a carpenter. Leeann, 28, lives in and works for the city of Frederick, MD with Scott Crews with their two cats and dog. Allen, 26, lives and works in Richmond, VA with his dog and is currently a middle-school math teacher. The Dickerson children love to travel whenever they get a chance.

David enjoys playing the guitar, taking walks and hikes, and spending time with his beautiful bride and their amazing kids and the rest of their family! Time at the Simmons family cabin on Craig Creek is especially important to David and the extended family.