

Fincastle Presbyterian Church

A Message from David — The Joy of Spring time is Here

In the Old Testament book, Song of Solomon, Chapter 2: 10—13, the poet writes:

“My beloved speaks and says to me: Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.”



In those verses the poet is celebrating human love, the romantic love between the lover and the beloved. For young lovers, their love for one another can transform every season of the year and even the worst weather day imaginable into a beautiful day filled with the joys of spring.

At the same time the church has often interpreted the poet’s words in “ Song of Solomon” as a symbolic account of the love be-

tween God and God’s people. From that point of view the poet’s words can then become a reminder of how God’s love can transform our lives from a winter-like darkness created by illness or our failures into a spring-like day break of healing and new beginnings.

Our celebration of Easter has reminded us that neither our most miserable sins, nor our most serious illnesses, nor even our death will speak the final word in our existence. For in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ God has shown us that through faith, God’s final word in our existence will be God’s victory over both sin and death. God’s final word will be God’s gift of the life eternal lived in the Kingdom of our Risen Lord.

May the joys of Springtime be ours. May they also remind us of God’s love for us and God’s power to redeem us from the darkest winter of our lives into the brightest spring time! Happy Springtime!



Worship Committee

Facebook Live Worship Every Sunday 10:25 am



Easter Sunday Worship Service

Directions for watching Facebook Live On Sunday

1. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/fincastlepresbyterianchurch/> on your computer or phone
2. Once the service starts, if you don't see the new Facebook post with the Facebook Live Video on the page above, refresh your page, or close it and go to the url above again.
3. The Facebook Live Video will begin at 10:25 AM. The service will start at 10:30AM. Music will start at 10:25

Musical Additions to Worship Service

- * Chiming of the hour at the beginning of the service
- * A time for Meditation and Personal Reflections immediately after the sermon

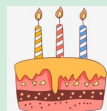


Tenebrae Service

Congregational Care Committee

April Birthdays

John Griffith 4/3
Rick Vari 4/9
Marissa Schade 4/16
Craig Leisure 4/21
Marilyn Tomblin 4/22
Debbie Coots 4/25



Prayer Requests and Concerns



FPC Members: Evelyn Renshaw, Alan Brenner, Peggy Davis, Nathalie Givens, Kaki Peaslee, Phyllis Tenser, Dianne & John Poynor, Family of Clyde Givens, Family of Jean Branscom

Friends and Family: Laura Holt McCann, Jackie Ferrel, Mary Lee Reese, Mary Black, Marilyn Koch, Alexis Porter, Molly Rose, Gretchen Greiner, Lisa Curlee, Marc Evans, Michael Miracle, Ronan, Michael & Sandy Petrucci, Sharon Lane, Dana & Billie Wilson, Lilly Porter, Marlene Davidow, Hope Burton, Anna Burton, Family of Louis Stephens Wal-drop Sr.

Are We There Yet? Re-Opening?

Long ago on long family trips in the car our children, when they were small, used to ask : “Are we there yet?” (Sound familiar?) I can only imagine that each of us church-going folks is asking that question now in regards to the pandemic and in regards to return to in-person worship?

To that end let me give a summary of what we (as a session) have been doing to achieve that wonderful and worthy goal.

The session has considered the question of re-opening each month at each session zoom meeting since the beginning of the pandemic. Each month, out of an abundance of caution since our congregation is an older population, the session has decided to close the church to in-person worship for that up-coming month.

Now it is mid-April and our nation is making substantial progress in the vaccination program throughout the country. We are seeing significant signs of light at the end of the tunnel. The session has an “Ad Hoc” committee that is charged with studying how to safely re-opening again. At the April session meeting the committee will make its recommendation to the session. Regardless of the decision, the live streaming of the worship service will continue.

If we do decide to re-open, it will be under our presbytery’s and the CDC’s safety guidelines in effect at that time.

We are all hungering for “in-person ”worship and we are working toward that goal and we will get there—but safely.

Report for 2020 - Benevolences from General Endowment Fund

\$6,000 2020 Bill Branscom FPC (through Bot. Co Dept. of Social Services)

\$3,200 2020 Church Budget Benevolences (Botetourt Food Pantry; Troutville & Fincastle Fire Departments)

\$500 Presbyterian Children’s Home of the Highlands, Inc. (PCHH)

\$250 PCHH - Thanksgiving Offering

\$200 Local Office on Aging—Bot. CO. (LOA)

\$750 RAM House

\$500 Botetourt Food Pantry St. Mark’s Episcopal

\$400 Christian Free Clinic in Botetourt (Fincastle Baptist)

\$400 Rescue Mission of Roanoke

\$400 Eastern Appalachian Teen Challenge

\$500 Troutville Baptist Food Pantry

\$300 Child Health Investment Partnership (CHIP)

\$550 James River High School - Fellowship of Christian Athletes

\$400 Salvation Army - Roanoke

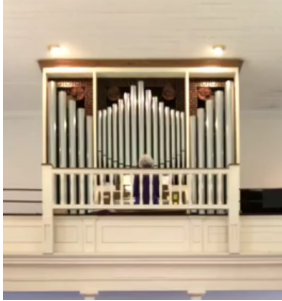
\$1,000 Botetourt YMCA Scholarship Fund

\$750 Presbytery of the Peaks - Two Cents per Meal; One Great Hour; Joy Gift Offering

TOTAL BENEVOLENCE \$16,200

Property Endowment paid \$3,200 to 2020 Church budget toward Church maintenance; \$400 toward mowing and \$4,000 for Church tree work(2020)

Remember EASTER 2020



Evelyn at the organ



Palm Sunday 2020



Tenebrae Service 2020



Easter Sunday 2020



Fincastle Presbyterian Church
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Mission Statement: Striving to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, Growing in God, Through uplifting and inspiring spiritual experiences, and Serving our community in love.

Church Staff

Interim Minister: The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson, D. Min

Treasurer: Becky Downs

Organist and Choir Director: Evelyn Renshaw

Bookkeeper/Secretary: Beth Clark

Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 9am—noon

Other times by Appointment

Session Members

Lynne Bolton Sandy Gates Lyn Burton
Alan Brenner John Griffith Becky Downs
Cathy Goad Paul Phillippe Bo Trumbo
John Kilby, Clerk

Trustees

Bob Omer, Peggy Davis, Garland Jones

Deadlines

Weekly Bulletin— by Wednesday of the week

Monthly Newsletter—by 20th of the month