

Fincastle Presbyterian Church

Thoughts Message from David Patsy



Happy May! You may think that the design to the left is a mistake ~ no I'm taking editorial privilege to write some thought about the church instead of David giving you a good message. Welcome to Mixed-Up May. Remember these are my thoughts and not sanctioned by the session. Please indulge me.

This past Sunday during the sermon, a thought popped into my head—Why do I come to church? (Forget I'm the preacher's wife because I would probably come any way.) Do I come for the fellowship? Do I come for the music? Do I come for the message? Do I come to pray? Do I come for the beauty of the sanctuary and the flowers? Do I come because I was raised in the church and that's what we always did? (I can still see where my grandfather, lovingly known as "Big Paint" sat every Sunday) Do I come for a brief nap? (One of the first times David preached at FPC when "Papa" (my father) was in the congregation, David said that he looked at Papa and he was deep in napper's world.) Do I come to "live stream"? Do I come to bring my donation each Sunday? I could just mail it in. Lots to ponder and I'm sure there are more reasons that you could come up with. I think in truth, the answer is a bit of everything I listed ~ the message, the music, to pray, the beauty, the fellowship to mention a few. What about you, why do you come to church? And why do you come to Fincastle Presbyterian Church?

David's Message about Patsy's Thoughts

Patsy asked: "Why do I (we) go to church?". I think that her insights are "spot-on", so I do not want to offer a rebuttal. But I would like to offer some additional insights as to why we should go to church as offered by Scripture

In Hebrews 10:25 we hear: "let us...not forsake the gathering of ourselves together...". Gathering as fellow believers, i.e., as the church, was important to the early Christians, as it was important to Jesus. Jesus spoke to His disciples about His calling to them to "build-up" His church. Some 500 years later, St. Augustine (the Bishop of Hippo) spoke of the church as "the hospital for sin-sick souls" and as the place where "one beggar tells another beggar where to find food". So, the church is not simply a social club. It is the assembly of God's people, called by God to help one another in their worship of God and in their service to God and to the world.

John Calvin, the founder of our Presbyterian tradition, taught that the church exists wherever the word of God is proclaimed and heard, and where the sacraments are rightly administered. So, though we all, from time to time, come to church out of habit (and it is a good habit!), still I would hope that we also come to church because we are hungering to hear God's word, and hungering to be challenged and changed by God's word for the better.

Church people are not perfect. Far from it! But, as the church, we point to the One who is perfect, and who is the author and perfecter of our faith, even Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Savior. Let's go to church together this Sunday and each Sunday!

Peace in Christ.

David

Committee Reports

Financial

Chairman

Hal Bailey

Everyone is reminded that the expenses of church continue. Please bring your donations/contributions/tithes and put them in the offering plate or in the "Mailbox Slot" on the outside door to the back of the church or mail them to

**FINCASTLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
P O BOX 144
FINCASTLE, VA 24090**

Property

Chairman

Fred Coots

Work has been happening around the church—plaster patching of the columns, painting, weeding, etc. etc. Your help is always appreciated.



Congregational Care

Chairman

Cathy Goad

Lyn Burton—May 2
Rena Heslep—May 5
Cindy Bailey -May 23
Eric McGraw—May 24
Joel Branscom—May 26
John Hancock—May 31



Members: Nathalie Givins, Kaki Peaslee, Dianne Poynor, Meg Omer, Rick Vari, Mary Beth Huwe

Friends and Family: Laura Holt McCann, Mary Lee Reese, Mary Black, Marilyn Koch, Molly Rose, Lisa Curlee, Marleen Davidow, Amy Ward, Paul Langford, Benn Womble, TC Beasley, Whitney Wolford , the family of Linnie Gregory

Congregational Celebrations:

- On April 30, The Virginia Garden Club held a Garden Tour of 5 houses in Fincastle. Two of the houses are owned by members of FPC. Prospect Hill—Valerie Lucas, The Reynolds House—Kaye and Alan Lowe. Many people traveled through these two houses on that rainy Saturday. The Fincastle Presbyterian Church was the “starting point” for the tour. Peggy Davis and Bo Trumbo hosted the inside of the church for the interested people. Thanks to all who made ready for the visits.
- The Easter Celebrations held at FPC were very meaningful—the Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service, the Sunrise Service at Godwin Cemetery, and the 10:30 am morning worship service. The music was beautifully preformed by the Gallery Choir and The Back Street Ringers (thanks Rose Anne for your leadership)
- The Fellowship Time after church is back :)

Congregational Concerns:

- The war in Ukraine—Lord, help peace to prevail, be with the people who have lost their loved ones, their homes, and their peace.
- COVID is still a concern—Lord, be with the doctors and researchers who continue to learn more about this disease and make it safe for all.
- Our leaders and the other world leaders need our prayers for wisdom and peace.

Christian Education

Chairman

Lyn Burton

Remember the **adult Sunday School Class every Sunday morning** at 9:30 before worship. David is teaching a class on Revelations. If you are interested, all you need to do is show up! The class is held upstairs in the Fellowship Hall in the Robert Logan Classroom. Hope to see you there.

Mission

Chairman

Paul Phillippe

The Mission Committee is volunteering to help box up and hand out food from the Fincastle Food Pantry every Saturday morning from 9:30 until 11:30 AM. Currently we are averaging 30 families per week all of whom have been approved of need by the Botetourt Social Services Department. If you would like to get involved, such as helping one Saturday morning per week, contact Paul Phillippe at 473-1262.

Also, contact Paul if you would like to serve on this committee.

Fellowship Committee

Chairman

Jim Porter

The Fellowship Committee sponsored a delightful SPRING PICNIC at the home Fred and Debbie Coats. The food was delicious and the fellowship was delightful. Debbie and Fred have a beautiful home and were so gracious to share it with us.

After Church FELLOWSHIP TIME has returned. Cookies and drinks will be available in the fellowship hall after worship each Sunday. If you would like to provide the cookies one Sunday let Jim know or sign up in the basement. The idea is to K-I-S-S (keep it simple ...)

Recipe for **Japanese Fruit Pie** (served at The Boarding House in the '50's in Fincastle) - Patsy brought it to the picnic

1-1/2 sticks melted margarine; 1-1/2 cups of sugar; 3 eggs beaten; 1-1/2 tsp. vanilla; 1-1/2 tsp. vinegar; 3/4 cups raisins; 3/4 cups chopped pecans; 3/4 cup coconut; 1 unbaked pie shell

Blend all ingredients and bake at 350 degrees for approximately 40–50 minutes, until the pie has turned light brown on top.

Worship Committee

Chairman

Lynne Bolton

Hymns for the Month

May 8—#95 All Hail the Power of Jesus Name

#542 Near to the Heart of God

#103 Ye Servants of God, Your Master

May 15 — #694 Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

#436 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Up with your Love

#364 Jesus, Jesus, Jesus in the Morning

May 22—#77 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

#655 Take Up Your Cross

#514 Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine

May 29—#353 For the Beauty of the Earth

#568 Take My Life and Let It Be

#532 Be Thou My Vision

*Go therefore and make disciples of all
the nations,*

*Baptizing them in the name of the Father
and of the Son*

and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19

BE THOU MY VISION ~ One of the oldest and most moving hymn written ~ Irish Hymn –
8th Century

Text: **Mary Elizabeth Byrne**, Dublin, Ireland, translated the ancient Irish poem

Eleanor Hull, Manchester England, took Byrne's translation and created the hymn and set it to the Irish folk
song, *Slane*.

Only one missionary, St. Patrick, is honored with a world-wide holiday, and only one known by his color of green. He was born in A.D 373, in what is now Scotland. His father and grandfather were active in church ministry. Patrick was not involved in the church. When he was 16, raiders entered his small town and torched his home. He was seized by the men and placed aboard a ship and taken to Ireland as a slave. There he gave his life to Jesus.

After a period, Patrick escaped and returned to Scotland. His family begged him to never leave Scotland again. But he had a dream that reminded him of Paul's vision of the Macedonian Man in Acts 16. Patrick's dream was that of an Irishman pleading with him to come back to Ireland to spread the gospel. He did not go back with eagerness, for he was going back to his former captors. He only took one book, in his hand, the Latin Bible. As he preached in the countryside, multitudes came to listen. Of course, the Druids were against his preaching and sought to kill him. Patrick was a powerful preacher. He became one of the most successful evangelists of all time. He formed about 200 churches and baptized over 100,000 converts to the church.

In the 8th century an unknown poet wrote a prayer asking God to be his Vision, his Wisdom, and his Best Thought by day and night. In 1905 Mary Byrne and Eleanor Hull were responsible for the text. Later, it was set to the tune, *Slane*, which was the name of the area in Ireland where Patrick preached gospel to the Druids.

Feasibility Committee

Paul Phillipie, Cathy Goad,
Patsy Dickerson, Bo Trumbo,
Verna Shuey, John Kilby, and
David Dickerson

About 6 months ago, David asked the session to form an ad hoc committee of session members and members-at-large to study the future of Fin-castle Presbyterian Church. The members of the committee consists of people who have a “long” history at FPC.

The first meeting was with Carl Utley, Executive Presbyter of Presbytery of the Peaks. Carl explained to the committee some options as far as the leadership of the church—an interim (like David or Iain), a tent-maker (a minister with another job), a full time minister, or a “yoked” ministry with another church were some of the ideas explored. The committee decided to explore the possibility of yoking with Buchanan Presbyterian Church because they have an interim also. After several meetings and discussions, our committee decided that this was not a realistic option for FPC at this time.

You are invited to join The Feasibility Committee at

Conversation About the Future of FPC

Join Us at either or both meeting(s)

*Sunday, May 22—right after church (light refreshments
will be served)*

Thursday, May 18 at 4 pm

STEP BACK INTO HISTORY

TAKE A FAMILY FRIENDLY SELF-GUIDED
FREE WALKING TOUR OF
FINCASTLE, VIRGINIA,
TO CELEBRATE THE
250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
FOUNDING OF FINCASTLE, THE COUNTY SEAT



Games

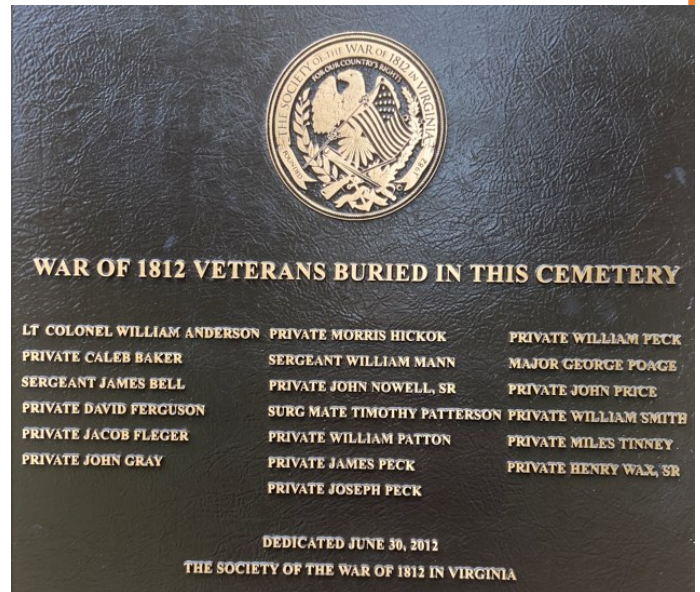
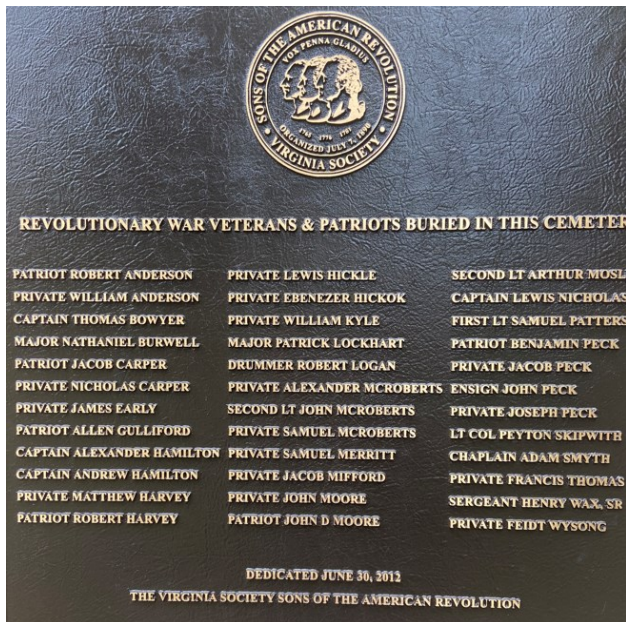
May 14, 2022
10:00AM-2:00PM



Tour sponsored by

Town of Fincastle
Botetourt County Public
Schools
Historic Fincastle, Inc.
Botetourt County Historical
Society
Kiwanis Club of Botetourt
County
Botetourt County Chapter
DAR

Happy Memorial Day ~ May 30



Views from plaques on the front and east side of the church.

