

Fincastle Presbyterian Church

From the Desk of David: "Who Am I?"

Just this morning I had to hand-carry my wife's (Patsy's) birth certificate and social security card to the Botetourt County Administrative Building so that Patsy could prove that she was who she said she was! No problem, mission accomplished. Patsy proved to everyone's satisfaction that she was, is and will always be Patsy! And I am very very blessed that that is so!

Have you ever stopped to think or wonder: who am I?; what makes me "who I am"?

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German Lutheran pastor and a staunch anti-Nazi during the 1930's and 1940's, was taken prisoner by the Nazis during WWII and thrown into a concentration camp, where he eventually was hanged only 3 days before the camp was liberated by the Allies.

During his imprisonment he wrote many letters, poems, and even a book or two that were smuggled out of the camp by a sympathetic guard. In one poem Bonhoeffer asked:

"Who am I? They mock me, these lonely questions of mine.

Whoever I am, Thou knowest, O God, I am Thine!"

I think that Bonhoeffer, along with countless other leaders in the Christian community down through the ages, has identified where our personal identity is best found: in God, and in God's will and purpose for us,

To paraphrase the words of the Apostle Paul: *"may we live and move and find our being in God."* For in God we will find our truest identity.

Peace in Christ,

Your friend in Christ,

David

Note to the congregation: Thank you all for the week of vacation the end of June. We enjoyed a week with our 4 adult children, 2 daughter-in-laws, 1 son-in-law and our precious 3 grandchildren. We went to Chestertown Maryland and stayed in a 250 year old 2 story plantation house near the Chester River. A great time was had by all. I will not be in the pulpit on Sunday, July 17 and Patsy and I will be at the cabin the following week. God bless you all and I will be back in the pulpit on Sunday July 24, 2022. David

Committee Reports

Financial Committee—Hal Bailey, Chairman

Remember to send you contributions to the church : Fincastle Presbyterian Church
Box 144
Fincastle, VA 24090

Fellowship Committee—Jim Porter, Chairman

Sign up to provide cookies and drinks for after church fellowship time. The sign up sheet is in the basement.

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday August 28, 2022—Church on the Creek

There will be no service in the sanctuary on this Sunday. The congregation is invited to attend an outdoor worship service and pot luck lunch at The Last, Last Resort on Craigs Creek.. This is David and Patsy's cabin in Craig County. More information and directions will be in the August newsletter.

Congregational Care Committee—Cathy Goad, Chairman

Prayer List: **Members:** Nathalie Givens, Kaki Peaslee, Dianne Poynor, Meg Omer, Mary Beth Huwe, The family of Rick Vari, the family of Neil Brush

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

July Birthdays: Catharine Peaslee 7/4, Connie Miles 7/7, Julia Bailey 7/11, Nancy Pauley 7/15, Cathy Goad 7/23, Vickie Littleton 7/28

The family of Rick Vari invites the congregation of Fincastle Presbyterian Church to the memorial service for Rick to be held at Fincastle Presbyterian Church, Thursday, July 14th, at 10:00 a.m. The family also invites the congregation of FPC to the reception at the Vari home: 42 Ridge Trail; Fincastle, VA; 24090 that will follow the service.

Property Committee—Fred Coots, Chairman

Still working on the upkeep to out beautiful sancutary/church. Visit the Sunday School area to see the new "paint job" now with LED lights. How bring and welcoming!

Christian Education Committee—Lyn Burton, Chairman

Missions Committee—Paul Phillippe

Worship Committee—Lynne Bolton, Chairman

Hymns for the Month:

July 17

699 Christ is Made the Sure Foundation
532 Be Thou My Vision
568 Take my Life and Let It Be

July 24

26 Praise My Soul the King of Heaven
447 Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God
651 O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee

July 31

62 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
21 How Great Thou Art
491 Jesus is All the World to Me

Summertime Offertory Anthem— Because the choir and the handbell choir are “taking off the summer”, the congregation is asked to sing the following during the collection of the offering:

1. We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be; All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee. 2 May we thy bounties thus, as stewards true receive, And gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first fruits give

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone
is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen*

I Timothy 1:17 (NKJV)

It is said that only sturdy Scotch Presbyterians from the city of Edinburgh, could write such a powerful hymn on the sovereign, eternal power of God as *Immortal, Invisible*.

Walter Chalmers Smith, the author of the hymn was born in Aberdeen on December 5, 1824. After attending grammar school at the University of Aberdeen, he enrolled in New College in Edinburgh. He was ordained a minister in the Free Church of Scotland. In 1874 he served churches in the area and in 1874 he became pastor of the Free High Church (Presbyterian) of Edinburgh, a charge he kept until he retired in 1894. The beautiful building of this church was vacated by its members in 1934. It now serves as the Library for the University of Edinburgh.

In 1876 Smith published a collection of hymns, which included *Immortal, Invisible*. The poetic thought of this hymn is that God is invisible only because He is hidden by the splendor of light. The hymn became very popular and it was paired to the powerful melody called ST. DENIO, based on a Welsh folk song.