



Volume 4 Issue 11

November 2024

Fincastle, VA

. From David's Desk

"A Homecoming Reflection"

As I write it is a cold and blustery Wednesday morning, November 1st. We have just been gifted by God's grace and the grace of the wonderful people who fill this church and who are part of the PFC extended family, to a wonderful, heart-warming Homecoming Sunday! Again, I thank one and all who helped to make it happen.

In just a few weeks we will celebrate Thanksgiving Day, and then a few weeks later, Christmas Day. Those celebrations will also be the occasions for many "homecomings" and "home goings".

The thought of "going home" or of welcoming loved ones who have "come home" for a visit is—for most folks—a powerfully and profoundly positive force in our lives. In such homes, we will gather around the family table to renew dear and precious relationships with mother and father, sister and brother, aunts and uncles, and cousins, and so on. The food will be glorious but the real "food" will be the fellowship enjoyed by beloved family and friends with one another.

It is important to remember and to appreciate, however, that for many folks, "going home" or "homecomings" are not necessarily a positive experience. The homes of their childhood might have been rocked by continual outbursts of anger, of bullying, even violence and abuse. For persons who suffered through such times "going home" might be the occasion for anxieties and fears that "what happened then might happen again". Bad memories are not easily forgotten.

And yet, by God's grace, bad memories of imperfect, even distorted, home lives can be transformed. Those who caused the but memories can repent.

Fincastle Presbyterian Church

Those who were the victims in the bad memories can forgive. Real, authentic, heart-felt penitence and forgiveness is always hard work. Yet, it is always a hard work that is worth doing. For it is through penitence and forgiveness that God is calling all of us who have fallen short of God's glory to come home again.

All "Homecomings" are intended by God to be a foretaste of that glad and final "homecoming" when we enter God's Kingdom. By God's grace may we make our "Homecomings" now all that God wants them to be. AMEN



CORRECTIONS FROM OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

What Happened at FPC during September?



Welcome New
Members:
David, Jennifer,
Kaycee and Mason



Congratulations to the Winners of the
Suzanne Moore Hale Scholarship given by
FPC

2022 Winner—Kaycee Kincaid, parents
Jennifer and David Kincaid

2023 Winner—Hannah Allen, parents
Clemmie and Bobbie Allen, granddaughter
of Peggy Davis

"A Homecoming THANK YOU!"

This past Sunday, October 29th, we at Fincastle Presbyterian Church (FPC) celebrated our Homecoming Sunday, the first that we've had in several years. By every measure it was a heart-warming success! On behalf of the church and our session, I would like to say a hearty "THANK YOU!" to each and every person who made our Homecoming the joyous, re-newing event that it was. Special thanks go out to the following:

- * **Jim Porter**, chairperson of our Fellowship Committee, who presented the idea to our session several months ago;
- * **Lynne Bolton**, chairperson of our Worship Committee, and to all of its members who planned the worship service;
- * **Lori Turner**, our Music Director and Pianist/Organist, who planned special music and invited **Fr. Bob Copenhaver** to play the bagpipes and **Lynne Bolton** for her solo;
- * **Neil and Kate Dunnavant**. Neil is a former pastor for FPC (1992-2003), now honorably retired. He brought a great message for our worship hour. Neil and Kate added to the spirit of Homecoming by visiting with many old friends;
- * To **each and every person** who helped to prepare our sanctuary for worship, and our fellowship hall for the magnificent lunch!
- * **The Session** for setting up the tables; **Betty Painter, Patsy Dickerson and Lyn Burton** for decorations for the table; and **everyone who helped take down the tables**;
- * Lastly, but not leastly by any means, special thanks go out to **Jim and Sue Porter** for their service and for bringing the necessary protein for our meal (chicken strips, wings and ham) and **the many mighty fine cooks** who brought covered dishes of every sort, and desserts, for ourselves and our many guests to enjoy.

One person counted about 63 (plus or minus) persons who attended, some who had to travel a distance to "come back home" to FPC! That makes our Homecoming Sunday the largest gathering of folks for worship and fellowship since before the Covid Pandemic.

By God's grace, I am convinced, we at FPC are turning "the corner" toward a brighter and more lively and productive future, all in the service of God's Kingdom!

Praise the LORD!

May the LORD'S name be praised!

(pictures on the next page)

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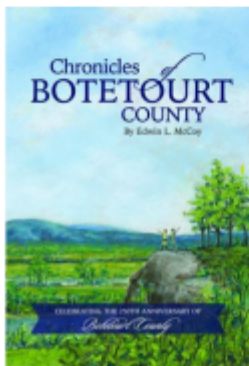
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PRESENTING:
**AN EVENING WITH
THE BCCC**
BOTETOURT COUNTY CITIZEN COMMISSION
FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

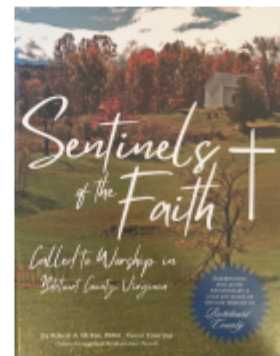
Join local historians and organizations in celebrating the
history of Botetourt County!



Edwin "Ed" McCoy
presentation on
history of iron
furnaces in
Botetourt and book
signing



Mulford "Bo" Trumbo
film presentation on
Looney's Ferry in
Botetourt, followed by
a short presentation
and Q&A.



Robert A. McRae
presentation on history
of churches in
Botetourt and book
signing

NOVEMBER 14
6 PM
GREENFIELD AUDITORIUM
57 S CENTER DR. DALEVILLE, VA 24083

Congregational Meeting

November 12, 2023

After Worship to hear

Report from the Nominating Committee and to elect

Session Members for Class of 2026 (Remember we need a quorum of 25)

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



“
Be present
in all things
and thankful
for all things.”

—Maya Angelou



Christmas Donations for Angel Tree



Please make your donations to our Angel Tree donation for Department of Social Services. Put a notation on your check for ANGEL TREE. Due by December 3rd.

David and Patsy will be on vacation from November 13 through 26.

We will travel to Madison Wisconsin the week before Thanksgiving and then travel to Fredrick Maryland.

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Holiday Home Tour *and* **MARKETPLACE**

Presenting
Sponsor



Bank of Botetourt



Saturday, Dec. 9,
9:30 am - 3 pm

Holiday Home Tour
Tickets: \$20
(\$15 for HFI Members)

**Marketplace and Ticket Sales at
Fincastle Baptist Church**

