



The Remarker

First United Methodist Church



Princeton, West Virginia

Sharing God's Love ~ Teaching God's Word ~ Spreading God's Hope

March/April 2015

Volume 44, Issue 2

Introducing a New Column from the Director of Music

MUSIC Notes



I must begin this column by saying that is a pleasure to serve at First United Methodist, Princeton. When I applied for the position of Music Director last May, my main goal was to become more involved in the church. You see, this is a special place for my entire family. It is where my husband's grandparents attended and it is where my in-laws currently attend. The church also holds a special place in my heart, as it is where Seth and I said our marriage vows in front of a full sanctuary, and where bridal and baby showers have been celebrated. When I saw the posting for this position, I knew it was time for me to take the opportunity to serve. It has been wonderful to work with such a talented group of adults at our church, and I cannot thank the choir members and Jordan enough for being so flexible and hard-working.

Of course, there have been struggles with busy schedules and self-doubt as to whether I needed to be serving in this manner. At the same time, there have been so many moments when I have felt closely connected to the choir members and felt that we have truly brought honor and praise to God through the gift of music. However, the past few months have been difficult for our choir with members transferring from our church and others being forced to put their health at the forefront. I can honestly say that even though our Chancel Choir is currently small in number, we are a close group of individuals who are genuinely concerned about one another and enjoy each other's company. Through many prayers, I know we are all doing the best we can with what we have.

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Not Quite Home

From now on, brothers and sisters, if anything is excellent and if anything is admirable, focus your thoughts on these things: all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, all that is pure, all that is lovely, and all that is worthy of praise.

“Holy...just...pure...lovely...worthy of praise...” That is a tall order when it comes to focusing our thoughts. A very tall order. Sometimes, it is much easier to remember the hurts, the pain, the injustice, the harsh words than it is to remember the holy, just, pure, lovely and worthy of praise things that happen to us.

I recall an occasion when I was counseling a couple experiencing marital problems. During our first session the two of them did little but complain – to the point of yelling, mind you – about all the things the other person did wrong. After about forty minutes of this I was seriously thinking about suggesting that the two of them both get attorneys and end the madness. But then one of them said something that caught my attention: “It wasn’t always this way, you know.”

My response was to say, “No. I don’t know. Truthfully, from everything that I have heard, I would not have guessed that you two have had one happy moment in your life.” And we all sat in silence.

I gave them some homework to do. They were each to sit down and write out the three happiest moments that they had shared with their spouse in the last year, then write out the three happiest moments that they had spent with their spouse in their marriage, and then three from their entire time of knowing one another. After they wrote them out they could sit down in a quiet place and share them with one another.

I wish I could say that it magically fixed their marriage. It didn’t. But it sure did change what we had to talk about. It took them a lot of work and some trips to a better counselor than me but they ended up staying together. I like to think the fact that we changed the “tone” of their “memories” at least helped in that process.

I’m afraid that the same thing can happen to individuals. They can become so focused upon negative things that have happened in their life that they miss out on all the holy, just, pure, lovely, worthy of praise moments that take place right in front of them each and every day. Even remembering that Christ loved them enough to die for them doesn’t seem to change the tape – the world is a bad place and it isn’t getting any better.

I also know as a pastor that this memory trap can happen to congregations as well. We remember “the good old days” and forget what it took to get to them – we think they simply appeared out of thin air and vanished just as quickly. Others take a look at our world and say that we are headed to “hell in a hand-basket” and there is no changing our path. Still others focus on battles that have happened in the past in the church and just can’t let go of losing that battle – or winning it for that matter.



Barbara Ballard, Office Hours: Mon. 10-12, Tues. 1-2 & Wed 12-2, Cell (304-920-8186)

Sarah Johnson Office Hours: Tues, Wed & Thurs 1-3, Cell (304-952-1416)

Office Number: 304-425-0064

Church e-mail: fumcdce@suddenlinkmail.com



Children's Sunday School Schedule

9:30-fellowship & snack

9:45-Choir Chimes with Vicky

10:00-Sunday School lesson, games & activities



VBS 2015

June 22-26

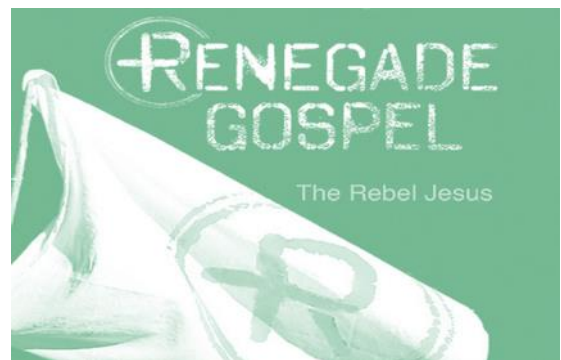
Volunteers needed!!

**See Barb or Sarah
to sign up to**

help with Bible School!!

What was Jesus really like?

Find out at **Primary Church** as we study:



For: Children K – 5th grade

When: Feb 22-Apr 5, during the 10:50am Sunday Morning Worship Service, following the Children's Message

Where: Etta Belcher Room, FUMC



March & April 2015

Easter Party

Saturday, March 28, 2015

10:00 to 11:30 AM

Egg Hunt, games, music, crafts, & snacks that center on the fact that God rolled the rock away. **Children: Preschool - 5th Grade**



FMC Calendar March

Mon & Tues evenings outside groups for basketball (Gym)

Wed 6:00 Family Dinner (Schell Hall)

Wed 6:30 Covenant Bible Study

Wed 6:30 Children's Fellowship Time (Schell Hall/Rowe Chapel)

Wed 6:30pm Youth Bible Study (Youth Director's Office)

3/1 Birthday Party (Schell Hall/Gym)

3/5 Medicinal Plants Workshop (Kitchen/Schell Hall)

3/6 Men's Prayer Breakfast (Schell Hall/Kitchen)

3/8 Cub Scouts Blue/Gold Pinewood Derby (Schell Hall)

3/14 Gideons breakfast meeting (Kitchen/Schell Hall)

3/14 Baby Shower (Kitchen/Schell Hall)

3/17 Life Line Health Screening (Schell Hall)

3/20 Men's Prayer Breakfast (Schell Hall/Kitchen)

3/21 Baby Shower (Schell Hall)

3/28 Easter Egg Hunt (Gym/Schell Hall)

3/28 BJ and Brandon's Wedding Shower (Kitchen/Schell Hall/Gym)

FMC Calendar April

Mon & Tues evenings outside groups for basketball (Gym)

Wed 6:30pm Youth Bible Study (Youth Director's Office)

4/1 6:30 Covenant Bible Study

4/3 Men's Prayer Breakfast (Schell Hall/Kitchen)

4/17 Men's Prayer Breakfast (Schell Hall/Kitchen)



Library News - And Stuff - Submitted by Jerry Flanagan, Librarian



A GOOD BOOK TO READ...

Dead Lawyers Tell No Tales, by Randy Singer

Landon Reed is an ex-quarterback convicted of organizing a point-shaving scheme. In prison, he finds forgiveness and faith. After prison, he earns a law degree and longs for an opportunity to prove his loyalty and worth. Harry McNaughten is one of the founding partners of McNaughten and Clay – and the only attorney willing to take a chance employing an ex-con turned lawyer. Though Landon initially questions Harry's ethics and methods, the crusty old lawyer wins Landon's respect with his brilliant legal mind and knack for winning. But as the two lawyers prepare for a high-profile murder case, Harry is gunned down in what appears to be a random mugging. Weeks later, the firm's leased jet explodes over Chesapeake Bay, and two more McNaughten and Clay lawyers are eulogized. Somebody has a vendetta against the firm, and Landon, his family, and his sole remaining partner are the final targets.

Author Randy Singer is a lawyer and a pastor (Trinity Church in Virginia Beach). He recently was a finalist with John Grisham and Michael Connelly for the Harper Lee Prize for Legal Fiction sponsored by the University of Alabama School of Law and the ABA Journal. Some of Randy Singer's books, like *False Witness*, *Fatal Convictions*, *Dying Declaration*, *Directed Verdict*, *The Judge*, as well as *Dead Lawyers Tell No Tales*, can be found in your church library.

MARCH-APRIL DRAWING

We will be giving away 2 CD's. CD #1 is *A Musical Tribute to C.S. Lewis*. There are 14 songs on this CD. Songs like, "Mary of Gaels", by Moya Brennan; "Addison's Walk", by Phil Keaggy; "I Will Rise And Go To Jesus", by Ruut Sallinen; "Immortal – Invisible", by The Cherwell Men's Chorus; "Fairest Lord Jesus", by Shannon Wexelberg.

CD #2 is *VeggieTales: 25 Favorite Sunday School Songs*. Songs like, "This Little Light Of Mine"; "The B-I-B-L-E"; "Give Me Oil In My Lamp"; "Peace Like A River"; "Jacob's Ladder"; "God's Love"; "Oh, How I Love Jesus"... and more.

For the drawing of these materials, write your name and the title(s) (CS Lewis and/or VeggieTales) you would like to have on a piece of paper. Place your entry(s) in the offering plate or mail to FUMC Library, P.O. Box 304, Princeton, WV 24740. All may participate in this drawing whether or not a member of this church.

Transitions



January 28, 2015

Certificates of Transfer from another Denomination:

Stephanie Ann [Hall] Bowling

– Certificate of Transfer from Quaker Gap Baptist Church, King, North Carolina -

Profession of Faith:

Michael Joseph Bowling

Baptism:

Adeline Campbell Bowling

March 1, 2015

Certificate of Transfer from another Denomination

Carol Jane [Butler] Bailey

Certificate of Transfer from Princeton Presbyterian Church -

Stewardship & Attendance

December 2014	
Budget	\$56,683.59
Building/Church Maintenance	\$ 4,655.00
Restricted Giving	\$35,146.55

ATTENDANCE - JANUARY 2015		
Date	Sunday School	10:50 AM Worship
01.04.2015	66	155
01.11.2015	81	180
01.18.2015	65	169
01.25.2015	81	176

January 2015	
Budget	\$24,103.81
Building/Church Maintenance	\$ 1,140.00
Restricted Giving	\$ 9,522.72

ATTENDANCE - FEBRUARY 2015		
Date	Sunday School	10:50 AM Worship
02.01.2015	70	161
02.08.2015	64	196
02.15.2015	33	100
02.22.2015	35	93

News
from the
3rd floor



Rebecca Schaeffer
Director of Youth
rschaeffer@suddenlinkmail.com
(304) 425-0064 - Office
(276) 245-9455 - Cell

Office Hours
Sunday 2-8:30
Monday 10:30-4
Tuesday 10:30-4
Wednesday 11:30-8
Thursday 10:30-12:30



Youth Night
Sunday's 5:45 -7:00 pm

Bible Study
Wednesday's at 6:30 pm



March 10th & April: TBA



Food Cart

March 11th & April 8th



**PARENT
MEETING**

March 29th @ 7:15 PM



All Proceeds go to support Feeding Hungry Children Program.

Canned goods will be collected for Tender Mercies & Bluefield Union Mission

Bowling



April 19th

HEGF Italian Dinner



April 19th

12:05 PM

March Birthdays



March 01 – Anna Johnson
March 02 – Janet Winfrey
March 03 – Jim Burks
March 03 – Mary Davis (93)
March 03 – Gaye Gunter (98)
March 04 – David Johnson
March 04 – Bob Lohr
March 05 – Shirley Barker
March 05 – Keri Johnson
March 05 – Bryce Veneri
March 06 – Martha Cook
March 07 – Megan Hersman
March 07 – Emma Johnston
March 08 – Abigail Pack
March 08 – John White
March 08 – Stephen Wynne
March 10 – Jordan Stadvec
March 11 – Ed Horton (96)
March 11 – Brenda Lohr
March 13 - Rachel Johnson
March 13 – Mary Frances Morris
March 14 – Evan Bay
March 14 – Neil Lohr (90)
March 15 – Austin W. Smith
March 16 – Becky Kidwell

March 18 – Kathleen Graham
March 19 – Sally Hill
March 20 – Spring Bailey
March 20 – Patricia Holland
March 21 – Megan Damewood
March 21 – Katie Knotts
March 21 – Lucille Reynolds (93)
March 22 – Melissa Forbes
March 22 – Tex Kennedy
March 23 – Blake Biggerstaff
March 23 – Debbie Griffith
March 24 – Joe Bowling
March 24 – Mona Lester
March 23 – Evangeline Painter
March 26 – Sue Backus
March 26 – Jerry Jenkins
March 26 – Naomi Raines
March 27 – Alston Sarver
March 27 – Richard Steenson
March 30 – Lela McCormick
March 30 – Betty Moody
March 31 – John Fleming
March 31 – Jeff Hollifield
March 31 – Cindy Kelly
March 31 – Betty L. Robertson
March 31 – Connie Scott



April Birthdays



April 01 – Stephanie Bowling
April 01 – Jeff Boyles
April 01 – Otis Earls
April 01 – Robert East
April 01 – Suzy Fry
April 01 – Roland Munique
April 01 – Shari Steenson
April 03 – Sydney Ben Chaabane
April 04 – Anna Coulbourne
April 04 – Candace Haynes
April 04 – Anthony Veneri
April 06 – Barb Hampton
April 06 – Verla Sledge (99)
April 06 – Laura Suroski
April 07 – Greg Jessee
April 08 – Jane Dingus
April 09 – Betty Branch
April 10 – Lynda Munique
April 10 – Kayla Thomas
April 11 – Shirley Halsey
April 11 - Erin Mendez Rimbach
April 11 – Brandon Roland
April 12 – Corbin Fredeking
April 12 – Don Stanley
April 12 – Ella Veneri
April 13 – Rachel Smith

April 14 – Jean Bailes (91)
April 14 – Carol Bailey
April 14 – Ott Fredeking
April 15 – Ted Gillespie
April 15 – Bruce Smith
April 16 – Jordan Henry
April 16 – Devin Olachea
April 17 – Paige Price
April 17 – Becky Veneri
April 18 – Brooke Henkes
April 18 – Ethan Robinson
April 18 – Kathy Tucker
April 19 – Jack Stafford
April 20 – Pat Belcher (98)
April 20 – Leslie Henry
April 21 – Jerry Childress
April 21 – Twyla Hersman
April 22 – Jasper Pritchett
April 22 – Jersey Pritchett
April 22 – Jillian Pritchett
April 22 – Katy Vaughn
April 22 – Jan Wilson
April 24 – Elmer Bay
April 24 – Betty Costoplos
April 26 – Joe Damewood
April 26 – Rick Dooley
April 29 – Nancy Duncan
April 29 – Ryan Shreve
April 30 – Isaac Mick
April 30 – Bob Robinson



In Honor and In Memory of

Alma Erma Hill Betker

a gift has been designated

by

Robert Betker

General Fund

Farley Edmund "Bud" Musick, Jr.

a gift has been designated

by

Earl and Regina Furches

American Cancer Society

Clement E. "Clem" Crowe

a gift has been designated

by

Arthur B. Holland

Memorial Fund

Ruth Boyles

LaVern and Kenny Flickenger

Pamela D. and Darryl H. Johnson

David and Ellen Knight

Joyce E. Martens

The Family of Farley Edmund "Bud" Musick

Bridgette Pendleton

Charlotte G. Short

Bereavement Fund & Library Fund

Bernice Ellen Hamed Taylor

a gift has been designated

by

Ruth Boyles

Bridgette Pendleton

Helen Shapard

Feeding Hungry Children

Helen Shapard

Feeding Hungry Children

Terry and Geraldine Childress

Dr. Norman and Nancy Jones

Don and Ramona Stanley

O'Dell H. Huffman Scholarship Fund



Music Notes continued...

You see, there is far more to what occurs each and every week during practice and Sunday morning's service than music rehearsal and performance. For all of us, our time together is a time for fellowship through music. That doesn't mean that every person is perfect vocalist. In fact there are a few of us that get nauseated at the thought of singing a solo (myself included). Music provides all of us with a way to honor God for the many blessings we have received. The lyrics provide us with the words that cause us to reflect upon scripture and how we can be better Christians. Our time together is a wonderful form of fellowship, where we laugh, connect, and create something we hope is pleasing to all ears. One of my favorite verses is: *My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to You (Psalm 71:23)*. Often, I feel more connected to God during this time involved in music than I do in quiet prayer. Wednesday and Sunday provide the refreshment that my soul needs.

I encourage anyone to attend a Wednesday practice and see if this form of ministry is what you have been searching for. We are preparing for the Easter Cantata and a special benefit concert for the West Virginia Home Society. If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to call or email me. At the same time, if you have a favorite song that you would like to hear, or you would like to provide special music at any time, please let me know.

God Bless,

Ashley Vaughn
304 922 0284
Ashley.vaughn83@gmail.com

Acolyte Training

The Altar Guild and Pastor Scott would like to offer Acolyte Training to children and parents who are interested. The training will take approximately two hours on a Sunday afternoon/evening. If you are interested (Grades 1 – 8) please call the church office or send us an email and let us know!





Thank You's

Your Kindness is such a blessing...and so are you.

Thanks so much.

The homeschooled basketball team and families

From the Princeton/Athens Area

To our wonderful church family,

Thank you so very much for the kind thoughts, many cards sent and, especially, the multitude of prayers offered on our behalf. The prayers have truly helped as we fight this disease. We pray for you, as well. We love and miss you all and hope to see you again soon.

Danny & Mary Ann Thomas and Family

AWESOME AMAZING ADMIRE APPRECIATED

You're at the top of my "A" list.

Thanks for everything.

Boy Scout Ski Group

January 16-19, 2015

To: First United Methodist Church – Princeton

Thank you for the use of your facilities on January 30 and 31, 2015.

BSA Troop 597

Jacksonville, NC



Library News and Stuff continued...

AND THE WINNERS OF THE JAN.-FEB. DRAWING ARE ...

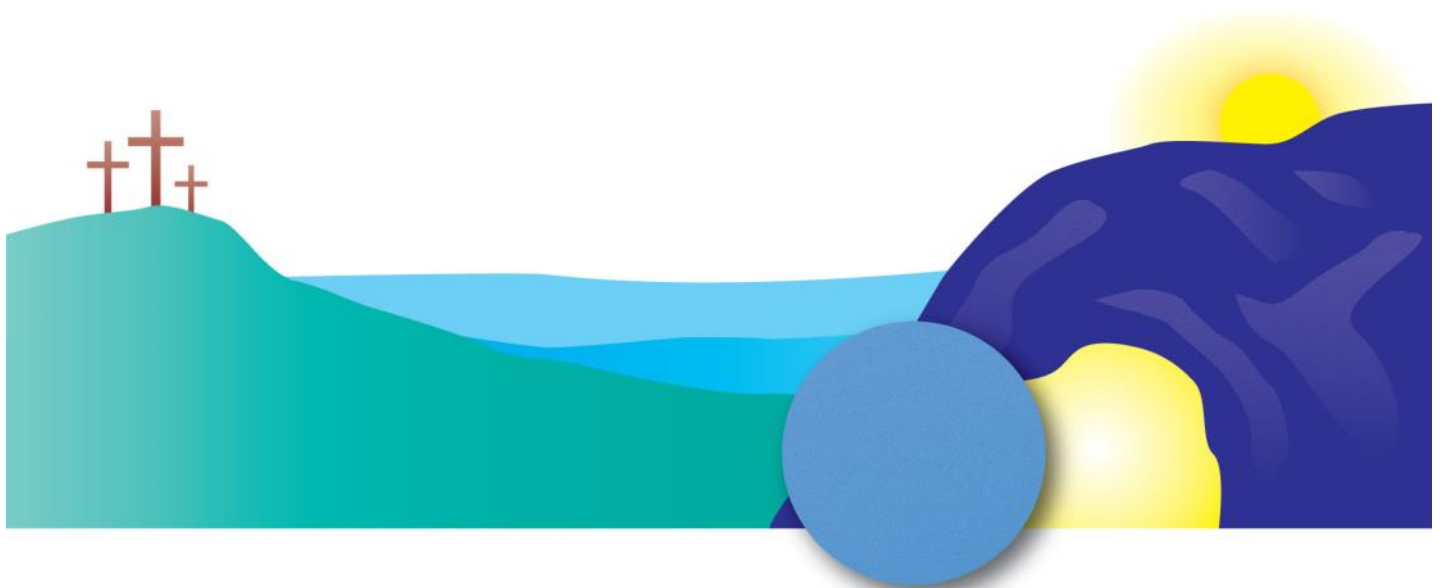
Saints Among Us; Tales From Grace Chapel Inn (book): Cheryl Merritt, Becky Helmick, Joni Veneri, Beth Stinson, Vicki Horton, Lee Elmore and Ramona Stanley.

Little House on the Prairie (DVD): Kelly Beachler, Lee Elmore, Beth Stinson, Danny McNamara, Vicki Horton, Joe Hampton, Patty Flanagan, David Johnson and Joni Veneri.

Congratulations to all!!

THOUGHT FOR THIS DAY

“If we want to look at the history of Christian thought and influence, the list is endless: St. Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Martin Luther, John Calvin, John Wesley, Karl Barth, C.S. Lewis, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, etc. Every one of these thinkers were influenced by books both past and present and this fact is evident in their contributions to the church, both in thought and in practice. They read the Bible but they also went beyond and read the greatest books of history, some fiction and some non-fiction. They devoured the classics and immersed themselves in the poetry, myths, philosophies, and histories of the ancient and modern world.”



Anniversaries



March 14 – Jim & Janie Sarver

March 15 – Jamey & Raegan Biggs

March 20 – Greg & Jane Jessee

March 21 – Bob & Jackie Davis



April 01 – David & Ann Graham

April 10 – Jeff & Ginny Boyles

April 11 – Devin & Amy Olachea

April 14 – Randall & Sandy Veneri (55)

April 15 – Lynn & Pat Veneri (50)

April 21 – John Mark & Leah Mendez

April 26 – Nathan & Lee Elmore (58)

Not Quite Home, continued

The truth is, however, that whenever things have gone well in the life of the church – First UMC or any other church – there is almost always a group of people focused on the holy, just, pure, lovely and worthy of praise things going on in their lives together and those things are lifted up as a focus for everyone. The positive energy that comes from this helps any congregation thrive.

I'm curious...what type of person are you? Are you the kind that looks back or around for all that is going wrong? Or are you the type that says, no matter what is happening there is something holy, something just, something pure, something lovely, something worthy of praise – let's talk about that together?

If you are one of the latter...I'd love to hear from you personally – a call, an email, a note, almost anything but a passing comment on Sunday morning will do (I have a tendency to forget those, unfortunately). Let me know you love looking for the “holyjustpurelovelyworthyofpraise” things and would love to hear even more of them. We may just get together and share them!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Scott

Trial of the Centuries

People vs Jesus of Nazareth



Honorable Judge David Knight presiding

Prosecuting Attorney Tony Veneri

Defense Attorney Pastor Scott Sears

Easter Sunrise Service April 5th 2015 6:30 AM

US District Court of the First United Methodist Church

Princeton, West Virginia



Activity
Calendar

Use the graphic link above to view the

[First United Methodist Church](#)

[Activity Calendar](#)