

Welcome Home! Come Walk With Us!



Northside

NEWS

Northside Presbyterian Church

January 2012

Blacksburg, Virginia

From the Pastor's Desk...

Dear Friends,

When I was a teenager (many moons ago), I loved to read novels about the future. I remember reading *Fahrenheit 451*, *Brave New World*, *1984*, and others of that ilk—and watching television shows like *Star Trek* and *The Jetsons*. I wondered about whether we could ever get so far into the future as 1984, and what that future would be like. I speculated about whether I would live to see the turn of the century, but could not imagine that time so many years ahead. Now I am astonished that we are all living in 2012, and that what life is like is way beyond anything I could imagine.



No, we are not flying around in “space cars,” but the shuttle has been to space so often that before its end, most people didn’t even bother to watch the takeoffs. We have computers we can carry in our pockets or hold in our hands. We can instantly text people all over the world, and international news comes to us in minutes, not weeks. We can take pictures with our phones and post them online in seconds. The future is far different than I imagined in the sixties.

Now that I am closer to the end of my life than the beginning, I suspect that there is yet more the future has in store for me. As in my youth, I probably cannot imagine what that will be—for me, for our church, for our cosmos. But what I do not have to imagine is the faithfulness of God, the grace of Jesus Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit. These, which have been here from before the beginning, are here now, and will continue until God wraps up history with a new heaven and a new earth.

Happy New Year! 2012 will bring changes, but rejoice in this: “Great is God’s steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!” (*Psalm 117*)

Peace,

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:30 am – Sunday School

Gathering

9:45 am – Sunday School Classes

11:00 am – Morning Worship

USHERS

Jan. 1: Hancock Family

Jan. 8: Sue & Ernie Bentley

Jan. 15: Garnett-Deakin Family

Jan. 22: Jilk-Stowe Family

Jan. 29: Ron Pearson & Lisa Garcia

NURSERY

Jan. 1: Kay Hunnings

Jan. 8:

Jan. 15: Michael Stowe

Jan. 22: Ann Marie Conner

Jan. 29: Matt Stolte

FLOWERS

Jan. 1: Poinsettias

Jan. 8: COMMUNION

Jan. 15: Lineweaver

Jan. 22: Gray

Jan. 29: Robeson

OFFICERS ON CALL

Jan. 1 - 7: Paul Ruzler, 951-0123;
231-9184

Jan. 8- 14: Rich Rio, 961-5505;
553-6228

Jan. 15-21: Jane Jones, 540-400-2531

Jan. 22-28: Joanne Pearson, 961-5602

LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR JANUARY

Jan. 1: Isa. 61:10-62:3
Psalm 148
Gal. 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40

Jan. 15: I Sam. 3:1-10 (11-20)
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Cor. 6:12-20
John 1:43-51

Jan. 8: Gen. 1:1-5
Psalm 29
Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11

Jan. 22: Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalm 62:5-12
1 Cor. 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

Jan. 29: Deut. 18:15-20
Psalm 111
1 Cor. 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28

FAIR TRADE COFFEE- Through the Presbyterian Coffee Project you can help small farmers of Latin America, Africa and Asia build pride, independence and a better future by purchasing coffee through a fair trade organization called Equal Exchange. A variety of items are for sale the 1st Sunday of every month in the Narthex. Let's help these farmers help themselves by supporting this worthwhile project!

COME TO SUNDAY SCHOOL!

All ages are welcome! Coffee, juice, doughnuts at 9:30, classes begin at 9:45 am.

Adult Christian Forum class, Sundays, 9:45 am:

Adult Traditional Bible Study, Sundays, 9:55 am. Lucian Robinson, Teacher.

This class continues the study of Hebrews.

Cooper House Needs You to Feed the Flock!

The Coopers of Presbyterian Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech meet Tuesday evenings for a meal and fellowship. Northside participates by providing meals on certain Tuesdays. Please sign up to **Feed the Flock** and get to know some of the students. Jan McGilliard is the Acting Campus Minister and Carol McNeely is Administrative Assistant. Cooper House phone is: 552-2473. Northside will be feeding the flock on January 17; March 20; & April 24.

“Prayer should be the key of the day and the lock of the night.”

“Some people spend the first six days of the week sowing wild oats and then go to church on Sunday and pray for a crop failure.”

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS !

- 1 Nancy Oakey
- 2 Steve Conner
- 3 Matt McCoy
- 8 Constance Hull
Linda Jilk
Aaron Teller
Cynthia Sowers
- 11 Christian Davis
- 14 Steve Cole
- 16 Frankie Wilson
- 19 Menzo Kaldro-Bridge
- 21 Mary Rhodes
- 22 Travis Hunnings
- 24 Mary Louise Baker
- 28 Sandra Gaylord
- 31 Avery Jones



If your birthday is not listed here, you probably have not given it to us. We want to have everyone's birthday on file. Please give us a call at the church office and tell us the date of your birthday. We promise not to ask the year!

DATES TO REMEMBER IN JANUARY :**Jan.**

- 1 **New Year's Day**
11:00 am – Worship
Fellowship Time
- 4 Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
- 6 **Epiphany of the Lord**
- 8 9:30 am – Coffee & Doughnuts; 9:45 am – Sunday School; 11:00 am – Worship -
Sacrament of the Lords Supper, 2 Cents-A-Meal Offering, Committees to meet after
church
Safe Sanctuary Training, 1:30 pm
- 9 **Safe Sanctuary Training, 7:00 pm**
- 10 **Men's Dinner Group, 6:00 pm**
- 11 **Christian Education Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm**
Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
- 12 Women's Bible Study, 1:30 pm
- 15 9:30 am – Coffee & Doughnuts; 9:45 am – Sunday School Classes; 11:00 am –
Worship
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING following worship
Session Meeting following church
- 16 Officer Training, 7:00 – 9:00 pm
- 17 **Feed the Flock at Cooper House**
- 18 **FEAST, 5:30 pm – “Game Night”**
Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
- 21 **Officer Retreat: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**
- 22 9:30 am – Coffee & Doughnuts; 9:45 am – S.S. Classes; 11:00 am –Worship &
Ordination & Installation of Officers
- 25 Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
- 29 9:30 am – Coffee & Doughnuts; 9:45 am – S.S. Classes; 11:00 am - Worship

THE WOMEN OF NORTHSIDE are meeting again this year on the second Thursday of each month at 1:30 pm. **They will be meeting this month on January 12th.** They are studying the Beatitudes, "*Confessing the Beatitudes*". Rev. Linda is leading the study again this year. All women are encouraged to attend!

The Men's Dinner Group got off to a good start at their first meeting. They plan to meet again on Tuesday night, January 10, 2012 for a Dinner Meeting at 6:00 pm. All men of the church are cordially invited to attend.

If you plan to attend, please sign the sign-up sheet located in the Narthex or contact Harvey Sowers at 382-3114.

The Finance and Facilities Committee would like to acknowledge an anonymous gift to Northside to be applied to our mortgage principal. The current balance on our mortgage is \$119,185. Thank you!

The Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy invites you to its annual advocacy day, The Day for all People of Faith, on January 17th from 8 am-3 pm in Richmond. Participants will receive policy updates and advocacy trainings before heading to the General Assembly to speak to elected officials. Registration is available at www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org. Cost is \$25 before January 1, which includes lunch and materials. Scholarships are available and transportation to/from Richmond may be available. Contact Mary Lough (540-552-1948) for more information.

"Healthy Choices in Schools", a conversation with a panel of nutrition and physical education experts, will take place on January 24 from 7:00-8:30 at the Blacksburg Jewish Community Center, 201 E. Roanoke Street. What changes have been happening and what are future possibilities to work toward? You are invited to be a part of the conversation and learn with us. This third "conversation" is sponsored by the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy – NRV Chapter and VICPP's "Healthy Kids Campaign". For more information contact Mary Lough 552-0948 or Ruth Grene at grene@vt.edu or 392-0184.

Thanks to our members and friends who generously shared their musical talents on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day; as well as throughout 2011. Your gifts were appreciated. We hope you will consider offering them again during the coming year.

Feast on January 18 at 5:30 pm. Join us for fellowship and "Game Night". Bring your favorite board game to play with your church family.

Safe Sanctuary Training on Sunday, January 8 at 1:30 pm and on Monday, January 9 at 7:00 pm. Please come for one of these sessions. This is a refresher for Church Officers and Committee Chairs and for anyone who works with our youth and children. It is Northside's policy that everyone who works with youth and children is expected to have attended a "Safe Sanctuary" training.

Christian Education Committee will meet on Wednesday, January 11 at 7:00 pm at the church. We will be making plans for the next few months as well as beginning our plans for VBS.

THE EMPTY NESTERS will be having a Potluck Dinner at the Coles January 28th, 5:30 pm. Please call Rosemary at 953-0434, to get your food assignment. The Coles will be furnishing the meat and drinks.

Session Notes

Elders met on December 18, 2011 after worship. Major matters taken up were:

- Session met with Janis Brown and Frankie Wilson who were wishing to become members of Northside Presbyterian Church. Janis and Frankie were approved for membership and will be introduced to the congregation on January 8th.
- Approval of minutes of November 20, 2011 Stated Session Meeting. These will be posted in the Narthex.
- Bible Study of Revelation 12:1-6 was lead by Linda, with discussion of how the passage was seen by early Christians as relating to the birth and death of Jesus.
- The 2012 budget was approved at \$252,079.
- The Covenant of Intent (a pledge to Presbytery) was approved at \$11,344.
- Committees reported:
 1. Christian Education – there will be no Sunday School classes on December 25th and January 1st.
 2. Finance and Facilities – the budget continues to be met.
 3. Fellowship – The next Men’s Dinner will be January 10th. Cookie Sunday will be on January 8th when the new church members are introduced.
 4. Human Resources – Doug Garnett-Deakin and Joanne Pearson were elected to serve as elders on the Nominating Committee for 2012.
 5. Reverend Linda acknowledged the monthly Mission bulletin inserts.
 6. There was a reading and discussion of the By-Laws for Northside. Following minor revisions the document will be voted upon at the January meeting of the Session.
- The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on January 15th following the morning worship service.
- Joys and Concerns were shared and prayers were offered.

Joanne Pearson, Clerk

Name Tag Amnesty:

Have you lost a name tag? Or, perhaps the dog ate it and you just were too embarrassed to ask for another one. Maybe you never had a name tag. Well, no problem. Just put a note in Rich Rio's mail slot with your name as you would like to have it on your name tag.

The Finance Committee would like to remind everyone of two opportunities to give –**The June Murphy McElwee Endowment Fund for the Support of the Blacksburg Food Pantry**

This is an endowed fund and invested in New Covenant Mutual Funds, which is a part of the Presbyterian Foundation Group. Income from this endowment fund is sent to the Food Pantry quarterly.

AND

“Hardship Offerings Account” at Northside

This account was established in 2010 by Session to help members of our church family in times of need.

Any donations to these funds are tax deductible. Checks should be made payable to Northside Presbyterian Church. Please clearly mark on your check that it is intended for a particular fund. Your donation will be documented on your year-end financial statement from the church.

NEW ACIVITY FROM FELLOWSHIP – January 10th, 6 pm – Men's Dinner

Well it's not exactly new as we had the first one in December which was so much fun it prompted the second! Please contact Harvey Sowers of the Fellowship Committee at 382-3114 if you would like to attend the January men's group dinner. Harvey does all the cooking – just bring \$5 to cover your meal and enjoy the company;! There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex for all who are interested.

RECEPTION FOR NEW MEMBERS – January 8th after church

For those who missed having Cookie Sunday last week, there will be sweets on the 8th to welcome our newest members, Janis Brown and Frankie Wilson. Please join us for cake following the service!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Check Us Out...

Church Address: Northside Presbyterian Church
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Blacksburg, VA 24060

Phone: 540-552-4327

Email Address: secretary.northside@gmail.com

Minister's Email: dickerson.northside@gmail.com

Website URL: (<http://www.northsidebburg.org>)

Facebook URL: (<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=174465382567&v=info>)