

REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION

AUGUST 30, 2015



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."

As brothers and sisters in Christ, we are called to:

- WORSHIP** God faithfully and joyfully, prayerfully seeking God's direction for our lives;
- NURTURE** our faith in Jesus Christ through education and fellowship, growing in wisdom, and deepening our relationship with God and one another;
- SERVE** one another, our community, and the world with humility and love, relying on the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to lead us in witnessing to the love of God in Jesus Christ.

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. David G. Forney
Rev. Kimberleigh E. Wells
Rev. Liz Forney
Rev. Kendall Pearson
Dr. Jeremy Thompson
Kathy Doby

Kathy Freer
Judy Blair
Susannah Fuller
Susan Lawson
Michael Joyce
Donna Buchanan
Cathy Dalton

Pastor
Associate Pastor
Covenant Pastor for Congregational Care
Covenant Pastor for Mid High Youth and Their Families
Director of Music
Director of Ministry with Children and Their Families
Member Involvement Coordinator
Parish Nurse
Business Manager
Communications Director
Office Administrator/Receptionist
Facilities Maintenance Manager
Preschool Director
Assistant Preschool Director

CHUCH LEADERSHIP

ELDERS OF THE SESSION

Class of 2015

David Bear
Tory Blackford
Bill Kennedy
Jim Stone
Mac Thompson
Hannah Walker
Susan Wilson
--Rev. David Forney, Moderator
--Rev. Kim Wells, Vice-Moderator
--Lois Baylor, Clerk of Session

Class of 2016

Presley Thach
Jean Hudson
Jim Patterson
Caleb Pennock
Tom Phelps
Vicki Snead

Class of 2017

Ashley Schauer
Bethany Carlson
Chris Kennedy
Derik Rice
John Meaney
Kendall Cox
Robin Halsey

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2015

Brian Campbell
Lori Chapman
Melanie DeBerardinis
Jim Gillespie
Gary Greene
Pat McPhillips
Cathy Meaney
Mac Walker

Class of 2016

Wes Ammons
Susan Gianakos
Dirk Katstra
Megan Phillippe
Marta Ruggles
Heather Sieg
Jim Tiedeman
Ashley Walker

Class of 2017

Elias Awad
Jeanne Busse
Jocelyn Thach
Julie Sparks
Liza Sackson
Michael Kidd
Richard Stairhime
Joseph Warden

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Christian Outreach – Hannah Walker
Communications – Derik Rice, Dory Hulse
Discipleship – Jean Hudson
Evangelism – Vicki Snead
Finance and Administration – Presley Thach
Personnel – Tory Blackford

Preschool Council – Chris Kennedy
Property Management – Jim Stone
Stewardship – Tom Phelps
Worship – Mac Thompson
Endowment – Mac Walker
Nominating – Presley Thach

MEMBERSHIP

1055

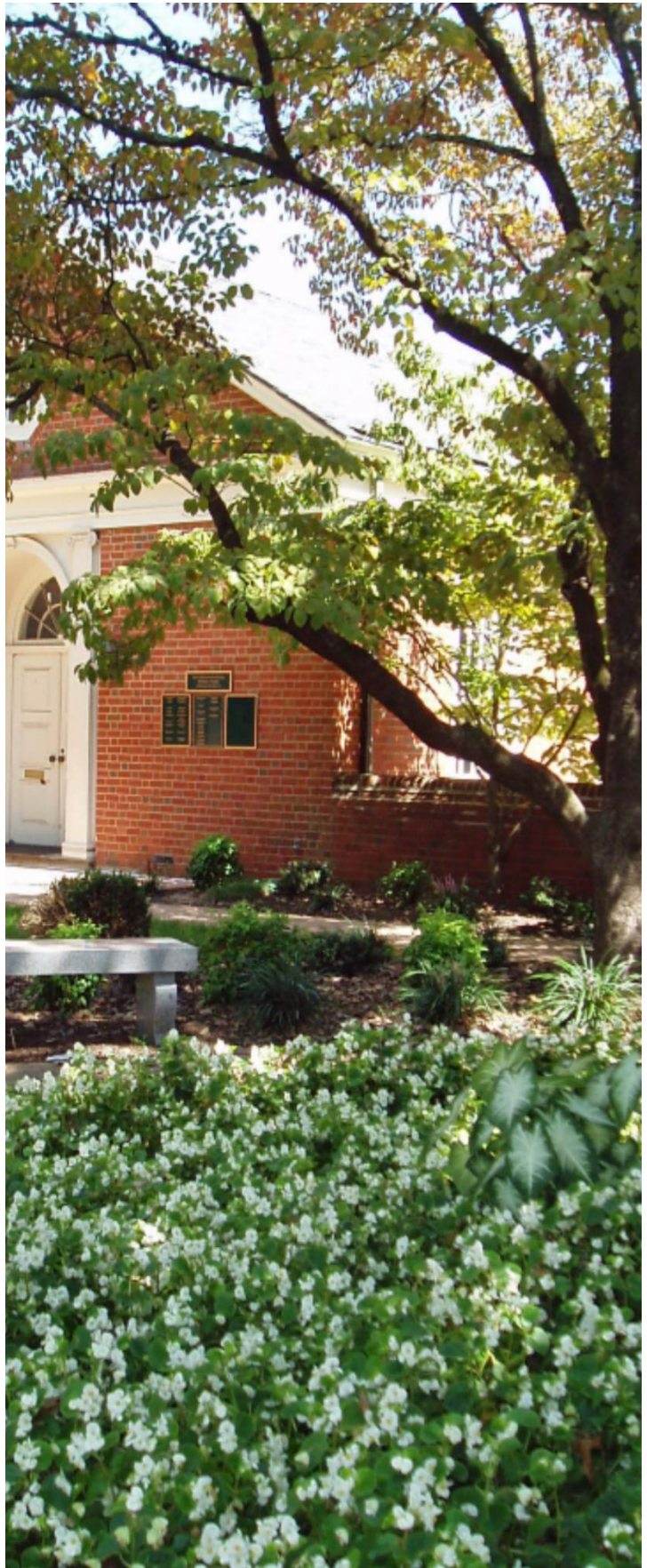
Active Members

43

New Members

IN MEMORIAM

Susan Baber
Carol Baker
Ernest Breeden
Clarice Brown
Bob Conley
Calvin Dodd
Virginia Dodd
Reo Ford
Judy Gadsden
Luella Gibb
Richard Hermann
Roger Hill
Mary E. Hodges
Roger McAllister
Doris Melton
Charles Minor
Grace O'Brien
Jayne Tietz
Velma Walton
Betty Wessel
Leila West



COME, HEAR, ACT

In this parable from Luke, the house stands for our Christian life. The house is your life, my life, our life together as the Christian community, the whole Church. Particularly, you could say that the house is First Presbyterian Church. And the storm is all the rough stuff life throws at us individually and communally – temptation, illness, loss, doubt, despair, economic troubles, the whole dark and stormy nine yards. So the house is life – individually and corporately as a community of faith. The storm stands for the problems that inevitably assail us. But the less obvious question about the parable is this: “What exactly does that foundation stand for, the foundation one house has and the other doesn’t?” In the classic 7th century hymn, “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation,” we sing that “Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone.” Christ is the foundation of life, both for individual Christians and for the Church.

In this congregational report, I hope you come, hear, and then want to act more in our life together as we seek to be like the one who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock. Consequently, this report is not just about hearing what we have been doing these past 12 months as a congregation, but it also offers up a few of the exciting ways we will be continuing to build our lives on the sure foundation.

The hymn “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation” is often used at church building dedications. And this is right, especially if we see that the first stanza refers to Jesus Christ and his body, the



Church, and not the building. It is not until the second stanza that we hear about the place where we worship God. So too, may we build our house on Jesus Christ and continue to come, hear, and act as God’s children at First Presbyterian Church.

“I will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them. That one is like a man building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it, because it had been well built. But the one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the river burst against it, immediately it fell, and great was the ruin of that house.”

Luke 6:47-49

HEAR

WORSHIP

It all began with the proclamation of the Word. The proclamation of the Word shaped the cosmos and the faith of the church concerning what God has done and is now doing in Christ. Throughout the Church's history, hearing the stories of God's past freed people to have faith in God's future and, therefore, to live in the present. "Faith comes from what is heard," writes Paul (Rom. 10:17). By continually hearing the stories of God's faithfulness in the past and God's promises for the future, we know to whom we belong and to what we are called to do. God's unfinished story today inevitably moves toward God's promised future. From the very beginning, story and time had been inseparable. Therefore, in worship we acknowledge God present in the world and in our lives. As we respond to God's claim and redemptive action in Jesus Christ, we are transformed and renewed. In worship, we offer ourselves to God and are equipped for God's service in the world.

365

Average Worship Attendance

65

Services with Communion

12

Baptisms

6

Confirmands





This past year was a year of continued growth in the Music Ministry here at First Pres. The goal of the Music program is to provide opportunities to worship God through music. Every week volunteer musicians from the congregation give their gifts in community to help lead the congregation in worship. There has been continued growth in all of these ensembles, both in terms of number of participants as well as the quality of the music being presented.

There were several instances this year of particular note. On Good Friday, the Sanctuary Choir with orchestra and soloists presented Théodore Dubois' "Seven Last Words of Christ," a major undertaking that was a moving experience for those in attendance. In July, the children of the church, led by Ashley Grundler and Kathy Doby, presented the musical "Live Love" in both services, which was the result of several weeks of preparation during the summer. The Music on Park Street Concert Series continued with its presentation of musical offerings to the community at large, which included a performance by the Los Angeles Children's Chorus as well as a recital to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the church's Casavant organ. Participation in the handbell choir and praise team have increased as well, and the groups have continued in their dedicated service.

MUSIC ON PARK STREET 2015

Music of Alexander Scriabin: February 8
Jeremy Thompson, piano

Dubois: Seven Last Words of Christ: April 3
Sanctuary Choir and Chamber Orchestra

A Capella Sacred Motets: May 3
Plena Voce Chamber Chorale

Casavant Organ 20th Anniversary: May 31
Jeremy Thompson, organ

Los Angeles Children's Chorus: June 24

Invoke String Quartet: July 21

NURTURE

Nurture happens in many ways at First Pres! As a family, we celebrate milestones that encourage us to remember we belong to God and are known and belong to one another. At baptism our quilters have lovingly sewn quilts for the family, tied together with knots of prayer, blessing the child and his or her family. Kindergartners and 3rd graders receive bibles, spend time with pastors, and enjoy lunch with other families to nurture faith at home. In worship, children and youth are nurtured as participants, particularly when they provide hospitality as cookie kids greeting visitors; read scripture as lay liturgists; sing; and plan and carry out the service on Youth Sunday. This year saw the establishment of a Children's Ministry Parent Council, which enables parents to provide invaluable feedback for our children's ministry. We have also implemented a Three Year Scope and Sequence plan with bible stories and themes we want our children to hear, experience, and respond to during the Sunday Morning Class Hour.



In the First Pres Preschool, we have 154 children enrolled. In the 2014-2015 school year, we supported three children with full scholarships and two children with partial scholarships. Continually mindful of parents' needs, we added a 5 day 3-4 year old class, which increased enrollment in the 5 day classes. We offered teachers the matching retirement benefit offered to all First Pres staff, while maintaining a budget, and ended the year with a surplus because enrollment was higher than anticipated.

This year First Pres started a new tradition of sending off our high school seniors with a special dinner, gifts, wrapped in a prayer shawl to remember they are loved and nurtured by their church family. Over the summer, a large group of First Pres youth attended "one of the best Montreat Conferences ever," according to Kim Wells, and have enjoyed a summer of fun recreational activities, including team building through a high- and low-ropes challenge course.

***I pray that the
fellowship of your
faith may become
effective through the
knowledge of every
good thing which is
in you for Christ's
sake.***

Philemon 1:6

Nurturing the community of our entire congregation is just as present as the nurture of the younger members. Through hosting and attending fellowship hour, church-wide events like the Hanging of the Greens, the dance, the annual picnic, the fall and spring PW gatherings, and through acts such as providing funeral receptions for six families, and providing visits, flowers, meals, and blood pressure screenings to the congregation, we draw closer to one another, support one another, and build the foundation for our faith.

Within First Pres, nurturing our faith is just as important. Our participation in Bible studies and educational pursuits to nurture our own faith is strong. In the past year, we have had an average of 75 adults attending seven Sunday school classes that were offered each semester. At the same time, three classes for youth were offered and four classes for children were offered, with a total of 60 youth and children in attendance. Six youth were confirmed this past spring. Two bible studies, two youth groups, a quilters group, a mission sewing group, four circles, and a men's lunch group offered myriad ways to encourage the growth of our faith and fellowship with one another. This summer, four adult Sunday school classes were offered, with an average of 22 adults in attendance, and nearly 20 children practiced during each Sunday morning class hour to perform the musical "Live Love" during worship on July 26. In addition to our Sunday morning classes, programs such as Centering Prayer and Lectio Divinia offer a more specialized way to deepen one's faith. Children's Summer Storytime offered a chance for education and fun to both First Pres families and First Pres Preschool families; 25 children registered for this three-week long activity, and it couldn't have been supported without the dedication of church member volunteers.

Serve the congregation and community in compassion, witness, and service. Sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry the sick and the lost, the friendless, and the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies, or structures, or anyone in distress."

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BETHANY CARLSON ON NURTURE AT FIRST PRES:



In a word, my experience at First Pres. is 'loved'. My very first Sunday, Deacon Susan Gianakos invited me to coffee in the Fellowship hall after the service. I felt welcome right away, and lucky to make a new friend. That feeling only deepened a few months later when I had to have emergency surgery. Pastor David came to visit me in the ICU; Pastor Kim came to visit me at my home when I was recovering; and members came to deliver flowers to me personally after church a few Sundays later. Wow!

On a more regular basis, I love Sunday school. I can be opinionated and curious and talkative; I love exploring the faith with a group of people who are open to sharing, even on contentious topics with lots of different views. I always leave feeling heard, like I've learned a lot, and appreciated. This is rare, particularly in a church like First Pres. that cleaves to the Word, and I cherish it.

KATHY DOBY ON NURTURE AT FIRST PRES:



Nur*ture / nerCher/: care for and encourage the growth and development of someone

Nurture at First Pres. has expanded in some positive ways over the last few years and it has come with some joys and challenges that transition can bring. One area I am most excited about is the development of TEAMS working together to share the load of ministry. The reality is we are busy people doing lots of great things in our homes, communities, and church! Members involved in ministry often need to be encouraged and supported and that most often happens when you are part of a TEAM rather than on your own carrying a load by yourself.

When everyone contributes and shares the load, relationships are strengthened as you work together. And let's not forget how fun it is! A recent example is the 4th Tuesday Soup Kitchen team. Many folks who work full time or families with children wanted to participate in Soup Kitchen ministry but were not available on Wednesday mornings. Marta Ruggles & Jennifer Jones, our new Soup Kitchen coordinators, heard this and created a Tuesday evening cooking team – last month there were over 14 cooks in the kitchen as kids set the table and families were able to connect with one another over service.

At First Pres, we are not exempt from the tension of letting go and receiving of something new. One such example that comes to mind is Funeral Receptions. I am always in awe of the attention to detail and beauty that the women of First Pres have cultivated and provided for the families and friends as an offering of love to those during a difficult time. As the baton is passed to the next generation, there have been challenges and questions about what will be lost in the transition and concern if the legacy of the hard work will be remembered and carried on. At PD's funeral, I saw a glimpse of glory as the next generation carried the torch with some gentle guidance of wisdom and saw the smiles of those who did it for so many years to know that it will be ok – that we are together, working to remember, and successfully came together to live love for families and friends.

Can we grow in this? YES! The reality at a big church with two worship services is that it takes effort to know one another and nurture relationships! This upcoming year we will have 2 unified worship services (Fall & Spring) where New Members will be presented to the whole congregation and there will be opportunities for fellowship with the whole body.

Small groups are growing as we try and get to know one another: Lectio Groups, Centering Prayer, Intergenerational events, Picnics in the Park, Parents Night Out, Mom groups, service opportunities; these are all ways we are continuing to deepen our love of God and offer care and encouragement for this body of faith.

ACT

SERVE



First Presbyterian members are actively fulfilling our mission to “serve one another, our community, and the world with humility and love, relying on the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to lead us in witnessing to the love of God in Jesus Christ.”

This year, the Youth Mission Week focused not on a ‘mountaintop’ week-long experience, but an immersion in aid programs within our local community, hoping to show First Pres youth the many ways in which they can volunteer throughout the year, and continually give back to our community.

The Mission Construction Team has also expanded its

WHERE IS FIRST PRES SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS?

MACAA
 Region Ten
 ARC of the Piedmont
 Habitat for Humanity
 Soup Kitchen
 Emergency Food Bank
 Meals on Wheels
 Blue Ridge House
 Love, INC
 IMPACT
 PACEM
 Montreat Conference Center
 Virginia Consort
 Glee Club
 Music Feeds Us
 Hospice/Music by the Bedside
 Oratorio concerts
 Recitals
 Wednesday Music Club
 CMTA Competition/Festival Hospice
 Memorial Illumination
 AA & NA meetings
 Needlepoint Guild meetings
 Charlottesville Bar Association meetings
 Kiwanis Club Pancake breakfast
 CASA training
 Charlottesville Special Needs Support Group meetings
 Girl Scouts
 Alliance for Interfaith Ministries
 Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church
 Building Goodness Foundation

mission from organizing trips to places such as Southwest Virginia to doing local construction projects; this year they joined forces with Building Goodness Foundation for the first time to provide new homes to accommodate a seasonal influx of furry orphans taken in by the Rockfish Wildlife Sanctuary in Nelson County. First Pres also sent two people on the South-West VA mission trip to provide home improvement work in Dickenson County, an economically distressed area, and First Pres sent Kim Wells to represent our church on a Presbytery mission trip to Haiti, in order to learn more about the work of PC(USA) mission co-worker Cindy Corell and her partnership with the Joining Hands in Haiti program.

Inside our own walls, we have served nearly 3,000 plates of food during Soup Kitchen in the past six months, and every Wednesday that count increases. In addition, we decided in August 2015 that the “5 Cents a Meal” offering collected on the second Sunday of each month will be designated to help fund the First Pres Soup Kitchen.

Through the work of PW Circles and the PW Coordinating Team, we have supported both local and world mission activities including Operation Christmas Child, Little Dresses for Africa, and Foothills Child Advocacy Center; and we have collected or sold fair trade products, Church World Service hygiene kits, school bags, and baby layettes. We have also collected more than \$1,800 in Least Coin, Birthday, and Thank offerings. This year First Pres donated nearly \$5,000 to a women’s shelter through the sale of quilts made by our Quilt Sowers.

Quiet, sometimes simple methods of reaching out to the community and sharing our faith abound at First Pres, such as staging greeters at various church events, like the Music on Park Street concerts, volunteering at the First Pres Preschool fall and spring activities, and continuing the doorstep visit and cookie kid programs. In addition, members of the Evangelism committee attended the dinner meeting of a group of churches in our Presbytery exploring possible avenues of collaboration for growth in church attendance.



First Pres shared with the community our participation in God's mission by contracting with Charlottesville Family Magazine to place six monthly ads in their magazine throughout the year; by promoting the flow of information about First Pres and our Children and Family Ministry to the First Pres Preschool parents through an online monthly newsletter; by redesigning the First Pres website; and by creating a Facebook page for the Music on Park Street Concert Series. Within our own church, we have fostered a better dissolution of information by setting up a new 'Connect/Serve' website and listserv as a way to publicize all the urgent volunteer needs of our church, and by creating and placing a Communications Request Form and a Website Update Request Form on the First Pres website. Most importantly, we have made great headway in developing a Strategic Communications Plan for First Pres, meant to serve as a structure for identifying, prioritizing, and implementing effective communications for First Pres.

KIM WELLS ON OUTREACH AT FIRST PRES:



Did you know that First Presbyterian Church's Preschool began as an outreach ministry to our surrounding community? In the fall of 1964, a Charlottesville City School nurse identified the need for a kindergarten that would help economically disadvantaged children prepare for first grade. That fall, members of one of our church's Sunday school classes invested themselves in planning for the school and reaching out to children in our community. In January of 1965, the school – called "Tots on Top" – began, with our own Elizabeth Meiburg serving as the volunteer teacher five days a week. There were many others who served as volunteers, teaching assistants, and bus drivers, and who donated snacks, materials, and equipment. Once kindergartens were incorporated into public schools, First Presbyterian Church's outreach ministry to these young children became a preschool.

Since those days over 50 years ago, our church's self-understanding as a body of believers called to serve our community and world has continued to develop. Our church's participation in PACEM (a mobile homeless shelter that rotates through our community's faith congregations) includes not only serving as a host site 2 weeks a year, but also mobilizing members to mentor homeless individuals throughout the year. New developments on the immediate horizon include another local service week in April 2016 – this time open to adults as well as youth, and an emerging partnership with our neighborhood elementary school, Burnley-Moran. Our Christmas Giving project will also take on a new and more empowering form this holiday season – we will be providing gifts for Charlottesville Abundant Life Ministries' children, whose participation in tutoring and Bible clubs earns them "blue bucks," which they can then use to "buy" gifts for their families. Along with all these new local developments, our annual delivery of Thanksgiving Food Boxes and preparation of a Thanksgiving meal at Blue Ridge House continue. On an international scale, our church will be rallying to support the construction of new cisterns in Haiti and also taking its first intergenerational mission trip to Guatemala!

First Presbyterian Church's dedication of time, talent, and treasure to ministries beyond the walls of our church is truly extraordinary and a privilege to witness. We sincerely thank everyone who has participated for their contribution. If you are not already involved in outreach, I would like to invite you to come and participate in the joy!

BEHIND THE SCENES WORK

Our efforts to worship, nurture, and serve wouldn't be effective without excellent administration. For this, we give thanks to the dedication of our Property Management, Personnel, Stewardship, and Finance & Administration committees.

We have selected and implemented a small group benefits plan for non-installed staff who previously had coverage under the Board of Pensions' traditional plan; began matching up to 3% of compensation for those non-installed staff members who contribute to the church's 403(b) retirement savings plan; and developed an approved compensation philosophy and guidelines. First Pres had two new staff changes, and the Personnel committee hired Susannah Fuller as the new Communications Director (a part-time position); and restructured custodial coverage to include two part-time custodians who work split shifts.

We have maintained and updated our church building by repairing the slate roof and downspouts and replacing most of the snow guards on the roof. We completed the Master Landscaping Plan—recent projects included removing trees and installing fencing in the chiller area, and landscaping the sloped area between the upper parking lot and the Carriage House. We also installed track lighting and railing systems in the hallway between the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall, and launched a kitchen renovation project.

The First Pres Endowment Fund received nearly \$246,000 from the Estate of Doris Wanner, plus \$23,000 in additional gifts to the Endowment Fund, increasing the fund's current value to over \$1,550,000. We distributed \$48,500 from the Endowment Fund investments to the accumulated income funds. Gifts to the Endowment Fund further First Pres' mission to worship, nurture, and serve; this year we utilized the accumulated income funds to support the Massanetta Springs Conference Center's building campaign, Haiti missionary Cindy Contrell, intergenerational mission activity, First Pres' railing and lighting systems, Foothills Child Advocacy Center, and the presentation of Dubois "Seven Last Words of Christ" music on Good Friday.

We have made a number of tactical financial decisions affecting First Pres this year: we have changed insurance carriers to cut costs on the church's insurance coverage; we approved full technology support by a vendor, shifting first level support from staff to the firm that currently provides our tech services, and we merged the Fund for the Future with the Building Reserve to streamline reporting.

DORIS WANNER

On June 10, 2012, Doris Ada Wanner died at the age of 102. A dedicated Presbyterian since becoming a member in November, 1987, Doris generously left a large portion of her estate to the First Pres endowment fund.

Doris was a good and faithful friend with a sweet disposition. She was good at caring for others; she took care of her younger sisters, Gladys and Edythe, as well as her lifelong friend Dorothy, whom she thought of as her sister.

Doris' family and friends appreciated her spunky side as well, laughing at her sense of humor. First Pres is extremely appreciative of Doris' generosity.



ACT

LOOKING INTO 2016

Come, hear, and act, these are Jesus' instructions to all who want to be his disciple. At First Pres, we act in worship, in our nurture of each other, and in our service to others. So here are several upcoming ways for you to join with us in actively serving Christ.

Worship

This coming year, congregation members will continue to volunteer their time and energy in the various ensembles of the church to help lead worship every week. The Sanctuary Choir is planning on presenting Dvorak's "Mass in D Major" and "Te Deum" with soloists and orchestra, Music on Park Street will continue with another season of choral and chamber music offerings, there will be a traditional Lessons and Carols service on Christmas Eve, and we will offer other musical opportunities throughout the year as well. It is hoped the music program will continue to grow and develop, deepening our worship of God and our relationships with each other.

Nurture

First Pres will focus on building opportunities for children by: nurturing faith at home through Family Lunch 'n Learns and building on our Parent Resource Library in the downstairs children's library; building Intergenerational Relationships during Advent, and Service opportunities in the community; and encouraging participation in worship through hospitality as Cookie Kids, Greeters, and Children Readers.

For the preschool, we will continue to improve the building and grounds by adding some simple playground structures and include some "natural" outdoor play, paint more classrooms, and plan and implement other needed classroom improvements.

This fall First Pres will offer a five-week adult class that will address Advent consumerism, biblical counter-perspective, mission, and practical information about Haiti – the work that PC(USA) is doing there, the challenges Haitians face, and the community-driven work that is being done through the FONDAMA (an acronym for the Haitian translation of "Joining Hands in Haiti") network to address the root causes of hunger and poverty.

BETHANY CARLSON

"First Pres is one of those churches where the Holy Spirit is moving. I don't know exactly what all the forms are that this will take in the years to come, but I can't wait to see. Personally, I love the arts and music ministries. These are gentle ways to reach out to the community and share the good things we've got going in our church family. I think First Pres is growing into a great example of how the church can be at the loving heart of a place, not apart from the people and above, but side-by-side - just like our example in Jesus."

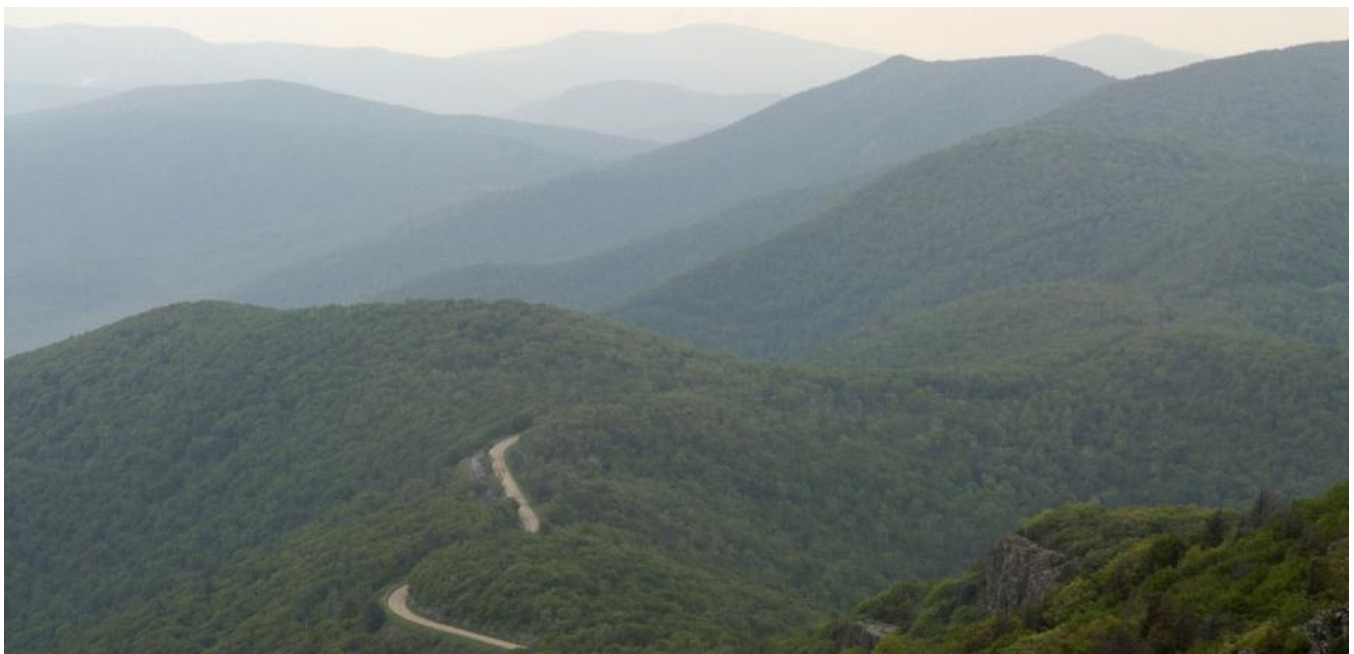
We have decided to change the program that our annual Christmas Tree Ministry supports to Charlottesville Abundant Life Ministries (CALM), which is a partnership among the residents of the Prospect Avenue neighborhood and volunteers from local churches and area non-profits. CALM's desire is to address spiritual, educational, and economic needs by offering Christ-centered programs and by sharing our lives together.

Serve

Enriching ourselves is undoubtedly linked to serving others. In the upcoming year, First Pres will offer many ways to faithfully serve, one of which is the annual CROP 10k walk, for which First Pres serves as the beginning and ending host.

Mission trips are currently being planned: for adults and youth, an intergenerational 'alternative spring break' is planned, offering another opportunity for a week-long volunteering immersion into local Charlottesville aid programs; and, in summer 2016, we will offer an intergenerational mission trip to Guatemala with CEDEPCA.

In the upcoming year, First Pres looks forward to a kitchen renovation, which the Session has determined, on behalf of the entire congregation, to name "PD's Kitchen" in honor of PD's love for and dedication to First Pres. The kitchen renovation was spurred by a generous donation and the Property Maintenance Committee's review. The estimate for the project is \$50,000 - \$70,000. The First Pres kitchen is a central part of our outreach efforts. We rely on our kitchen to provide approximately 100 meals each week to homeless or significantly in-need community members; for our fellowship time with one another each Sunday; for our monthly men's lunch group, PW meetings, and all of our church meals together. In addition, there are myriad external groups who use our church as a meeting place and utilize the kitchen. Funds for the renovation will come from a combination of congregational donations and the church's Building Reserve.



We hope you choose to come, hear, and act alongside us as one of God's children in 2016.