

Pastor
Rev. Bob McLavey
pastor@pcfloyd.org
Pastor's Cell Phone

540.200.7191

Church office hours
Tuesday-Friday
9:00am-2:00pm
Or by appointment
Church Phone
540.745.2546

Organist/Music Director
Sandra Smith

Clerk of the Session Wanda Hylton

The Session
Joyce Blevins
Jim Richards
John Getgood
Janice Shelor
Roger Thompson
George Lane

Receiving Treasurer
Mark Allen

Disbursing Treasurer
Minnie West

Building and GroundsTravis Cantrell

Administrative Assistant
Jodi Cromer
office@pcfloyd.org



The Chimes
The Presbyterian Church of Floyd
January 2020

Dear friends,

When I recently came to the stark realization that another decade has passed, it caused me to pause and reflect on all that has occurred over the past ten years of my life. In many ways it seems that the time has passed quickly, but when I think about what I was doing ten years ago, it seems like a long time ago. Isn't life interesting?

Ten years ago, I was about half-way through seminary, working hard to learn and succeed, and filled with hope about how God would use me in the future. What I didn't see on the horizon at that time was a beautiful community of faith in Floyd, Virginia that would invite me to become a part of that community. Yes, as I look back, my faith grows as I see how God was at work to prepare me for this venture in my life. Believe me, I praise God often! I could not have predicted where God would lead me, but I was confident in my hope.

That hope is available to all of us. In 1 Peter 1:3-4, it says, "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade." I love the realization that God, by his mercy, has given us new birth into a living hope. Jesus' sacrifice for each of us gives us the opportunity to focus on the present without worry. We have new birth and a living hope, allowing us to grow in our relationship with God, unencumbered by all of the chaos that surrounds us. Oh, I understand that it is not easy, but Jesus never said it would be easy. He said he would be faithful in showing us the way. The amount of effort we choose to put into our faith, journey is up to each of us. My experience tells me that the more effort we put into our faith, the greater the hope and joy!

As we head into a new decade, my prayer is that we all will trust God to show us the way, and that we will dedicate our lives to following the path revealed to us. Remember, God's will is perfect.

"There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off."
--Proverbs 23:18

In the hope of Christ,

Pastor Bob







January Birthdays

January2nd

Melissa Cantrell Jodi Cromer

January18th

Bennett Barbieri Molly Koon

January 22nd

Wanda Hylton Sue Osbourne Don Williams

January 30th

Billy Cromer Autumn Vaughan



2020 Sanctuary Flowers

A sign-up sheet has been placed on the bulletin board in the narthex for those wanting to provide flowers for the sanctuary for the months in 2020. You may sign up by week, weeks or month.





January Greeters

January 5th Don & Brenda Williams

January 12th John & Betty Getgood

January 19th

Marty Bishop & Amy Helm

January 26th

Roger Thompson & Ann Shank

A yearly greeter schedule can be found in the narthex.

Keeping our kids warm!

The hat and mitten tree has appeared in the narthex and is ready to be adorned with warm & fuzzies! This Christmas give the gift of warmth!

Need help or inspiration?

The Prayer Shawl Knitting Group meets at 3:30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Monday.





Prayer Requests

Jim Altizer Lois Jean Cox Glenn Dulaney Lu Graham Sally Harestad Elijah Harman – 3 yr. old w/kidney cancer Louise Hayes Karen Young Hodge Anita Hubbard Martin Dean Hylton – Lydeana's brother Kenneth King Janet Kromminga Betty Lineberry Ellie Miller John Mitchell Mary Moore Roger Pauley - heart attack Tim Peters Tim Vest Donna Slusher Jennifer Williams-Ray David Zitta – Vic's brother Jo Zitta – Vic's sister The family of Christopher Lucas The family of Les Peters

All in harm's way

Installation and Ordination

of session members George Lane and Roger Thompson will be held during worship service on January 12th.

Announcements & Newsletter Items

Do you have an announcement or prayer request? Celebrating a birthday or anniversary? If you would like to be included in our bulletin please see Jodi or email office@pcfloyd.org.



News from the Nurse The Quiet Beauty of Nature in Winter

Just because the weather has turned cold doesn't mean nature isn't still filled with inspiring lessons. by **Holly Lebowitz Rossi** Posted in **Positive Living**, Dec 13, 2019

In a sense, once we pass December 21, the shortest day of the year, each day of winter brings with it a little more light, a little more hope. Viewed another way, though, late December is only the beginning of the cold season, and as such it is a good moment to reflect on how we will sustain our inner warmth and positivity until the ground warms once again. One way to keep our focus positive is to consider the quiet beauty of nature in winter. It might require some extra layering in our wardrobes and some extra time spent walking carefully without slipping on shiny sidewalks, but it is worth these extra efforts to notice the trees, hills, ponds and sky that keep us inspired the rest of the year, even as they may seem to be hibernating for winter.

The poet Mary Oliver who so vividly captured the awe-inspiring power of nature in her work, offers the image of a flock of starlings leaping from a telephone wire. In her poem "Starling in Winter," she writes:

"Chunky and noisy, but with stars in their black feathers, they spring from the telephone wire and instantly they are acrobats in the freezing wind. And now, in the theater of air, they swing over buildings."

In her trademark way, Oliver captures the minutiae of the natural world, even in a city setting and at a time of year when we might not take the time to notice nature in the same way we seek it out in spring, summer and fall. From there, she reflects inward, doing the positive and powerful work of taking in what nature has to teach us:

"Ah, world, what lessons you prepare for us, even in the leafless winter, even in the ashy city."

The poem ends with a stunning image of the wild beauty of a simple observation:

"I want to think again of dangerous and noble things.

I want to be light and frolicsome.

I want to be improbable beautiful and afraid of nothing, as though I had wings."

Best Wishes in 2020, Jane Zitta

Young Life & WyldLife

Both Young Life and Wyldlife are looking forward to growing in 2020.

Questions about Young Life?

Trey: 703-408-1538 Carolyn: 757-450-0327



Questions about WyldLife?

Trey: 703-408-1538 Taelor: 804-386-4954



Women's bible study will be held on January 14th at 1:00 pm, continuing the study of "Love Carved in Stone" a new and different look at the Ten Commandments. Following bible study, the first quarterly meeting of 2020 will take place at 2:00 pm.

Molly Koon,



Moderator

The Presbyterian Women meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm in the fellowship hall.



Ladies' lunch is on the first Wednesday of each month at 11:30 am and meets at Parkway Grille.





Notes from the Church Mouse



Poinsettias

If you have not already done so, you may take your poinsettia home.

2020 Sanctuary Flowers

A sign-up sheet has been placed on the bulletin board in the narthex for those wanting to provide **flowers** for the **sanctuary** for the months in 2020. You may sign up by week, weeks or month.

2020 Greeter Schedule

The **greeter schedule** for 2020 has been posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please arrange a substitute if you cannot greet on your scheduled date.

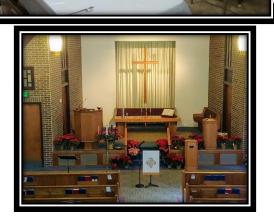
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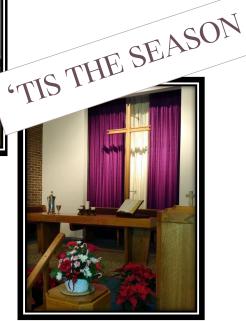
The Installation and Ordination of session members George Lane and Roger Thompson will be held during worship service on January 12th.



The fellowship hall decorated for the Woman's Club Christmas dinner







Blacksburg Master Chorale

Spring Concert - Moss Arts Center Friday, April 3, 2020 7:30pm - 8:30pm

Premiere of a new work, composed by Dr. Dwight Bigler, to be sung with the Virginia Tech Choirs. Celebrating 33 Years in the New River Valley.

The Blacksburg Master Chorale is a diverse community organization that welcomes singers 18 and over who want to have fun, sing, perform contemporary and classical pieces (and the occasional commissioned piece or local composition), and participate in the local arts community. The Blacksburg Master Chorale typically has between 80-100 active singer members. The Chorale was established in Blacksburg in 1987 and has been singing ever since. Learn more about our Mission Statement, By Laws, and Members Handbook.

Under the baton of Music Director Dr. Dwight Bigler, the BMC performs 3-4 major concerts per year at venues including the Moss Arts Center on the Virginia Tech campus; the Blacksburg Presbyterian Church; and occasionally outside the New River Valley.



How Mr. Rogers Spread God's Love

by **Joanne Rogers** From Guidepost Posted on Nov 12, 2019

The first time I set eyes on Fred Rogers was in 1947. I was a student at Rollins College in Florida, and he was a freshman at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, who decided that he wanted to major in music. Dartmouth did not have a music degree program at that time. A music professor there suggested he come down to Winter Park to see Rollins. Our music composition teacher said we should all go greet him, so we piled into a very big, elderly Franklin car to meet this new prospect at the airport. And so it was that this unhappy Dartmouth student was welcomed by a dozen happy Rollins music students!

It must have worked because he decided to transfer to Rollins. We became good friends, then a couple. He impressed us because he could sit at the piano and play all kinds of music by ear that none of us could play without the score. After I graduated in 1950, I went to Florida State University for a master's degree in music. After Fred graduated in 1951, he moved to New York City to do an apprenticeship at NBC in this new thing called television. I got a letter from him in late spring proposing marriage! I felt he deserved a quick response, quicker than writing back, so I went to a phone booth on campus.... I must have put in a million dimes! "Yes!" I said. "Yes."

The wedding was July 9, 1952. Fred and I spent our first year together in New York, and Fred continued at NBC. In 1953, he heard from his father about plans for an educational TV station in Pittsburgh—near their home in Latrobe. Fred landed a job with this brave group and joined the first community educational television station, WQED. And so we settled in Pittsburgh.

He worked behind the scenes at first, then in front of the camera. He launched a children's show in Canada that was called *Misterogers*—all one word like that—and developed a lot of the characters he would use in *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, which he produced back in Pittsburgh. People ask if I helped him create any of it or collaborated with him. I have to confess that I was too busy.

I taught piano, gave recitals and was soon preoccupied with raising our two young sons, Jim and John. Sometimes the three of us would go to the studio and see Fred at work, which we loved. When the boys were young, running around the house, and the show would come on, they would point to the TV and the man in the cardigan sweater and say, "Other Daddy." Their daddy was a father figure for children all over the United States.

That zippered sweater became his trademark on camera. Off camera he was more likely to wear a bow tie. That bow tie once led to an amusing case of mistaken identity. Fred came home from a trip one day with a big smile on his face. "What are you smiling about?" I asked.

"Something that just happened on the trip home," Fred said.

"What was it?"

"I was getting on the plane, going up the ramp, and the flight attendant kept staring at me. You could almost see the wheels going around. She knew she knew me but was trying to remember how. When I came up to her, I smiled and she said, 'I just love your popcorn!" They called him Orville (Redenbacher) at the office for a week after that!

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

Fred was a lot more patient than I ever was, especially with our children. The boys would tell you he never once raised his voice. I'm afraid that wasn't always true for me. One day, my mother was visiting and the boys were horsing around. They were making such a ruckus that I just let them have it! My mother looked shocked. How could I yell at my own darling children? John saw she was upset and crawled up on the couch, whispering, "Never mind, Nana. It just goes in one ear and out the other." The boys got their father's patience and sense of humor.

Fred would get up early in the morning to read the Bible and pray. He was much stronger in his faith than I was, although we prayed together every night at dinner. He's been gone now for almost 17 years—he died of stomach cancer in 2003—but we still say that prayer when we gather as a family at Thanksgiving:

Come, Lord Jesus, be thou our guest, Our morning joy, our evening rest. And with thy daily bread impart, Thy love and peace to every heart.

Fred gave wonderful presents. The nicest present he gave me was a double piano bench for our Steinway, so that I could play duets on it. My piano partner and I loved it. Fred liked to talk about that bench and liked me to mention it. He was like a child that way, enjoying his own generosity.

He named one of his puppets after me, Queen Sara Saturday. Sara is my first name, though I usually go by Joanne. He used McFeely, his middle name, for another character. Of all the characters he created and all the puppets he made, my favorite is Daniel Tiger. Daniel Tiger reminds me so much of Fred. His sensitivity, his thoughtfulness and kindness. That was the most important value of all for Fred. He wanted to spread kindness in the world.

I think about what the show did for the children—and their parents—who watched it over the years. It gave them a safe place, a nurturing place. It reminded me of sitting on my grandmother's lap. I knew I was loved and cared for. Young children are always going to need that, whether it's today or a hundred years from now. They need to know they are safe and loved.

A new movie has just come out about Fred, A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood, the title coming from the song he sang on every show. Tom Hanks acts the part of Fred, and I was grateful to have a chance to talk with him. I found him gracious, outgoing, easy to be with. He did have one question about my husband: Did Fred always talk that slowly?

Yes, I had to say, he did. On TV and off. He wanted to be sure he was understood. I've had people come up to me, people who came to this country and didn't know English, and say they learned our language by watching Fred's show.

Fred was an ordained Presbyterian minister and a man of great faith, but he rarely talked about it. It was more important to show it. To his family, to the people he worked with, to audiences through the characters he created and the stories he told. That's what mattered most. He spread God's love in everything he did. His life was his sermon.

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood is now showing in theaters nationwide.

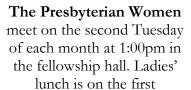












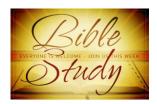
Wednesday of each month at 11:30am and meets at Parkway Grille.

All are welcome!



We are on our **regular** worship hours with Sunday school beginning at 10am followed by worship service at 11am. Sunday school has two classes: adult and youth.

Bible study is held on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 pm, in the fellowship hall. All are invited to attend and learn more about His word.





The Men's Prayer Breakfast is held every Wednesday morning at 7:00 am in the fellowship hall. For more information contact Mark Allen.



Please remember to donate food to our local food banks. We have two collection tubs located in the back hallway, by the fellowship hall. Canned vegetables or fruit: dried beans, rice, peanut butter and any non-perishable food items are accepted. Tubs are delivered to Plenty! and New River Community Action.



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FLOYD
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