

FOREST HILL FAMILY

Forest Hill Presbyterian Church
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AUGUST, 2017

Summer Sunday School Class - We will meet again at Cafe Zata's on Sunday August 13th at 9:00 a.m. to continue our discussion and create wording for our addition to that suggested for the next Presbytery of the James meeting in October. Below is the Position Paper as proposed. In our discussion on Sunday July 23rd, we felt that the involvement of mental health issues was omitted and we agreed that it was an important aspect to be considered. We hope that you will be able to join us then. We would like to continue to have our Sunday School class meet at Cafe Zata's on the second Sunday of the month in the future. Please put it on your calendar so you can join us!

Presbytery of The James Position Paper on Gun Violence

What We Believe: The gift of life and the responsibility to nurture and protect human life lies at the foundation of the Christian faith. As Christians we strive to forgive, and not to avenge; retribution takes a back seat to redemption; and God repeatedly delays or forswears justice to give people a second chance. While these values may not be popular, living them out is the task of people of faith. Opposed to these values is a culture divided politically, ethnically, and economically, afraid of neighbors unlike ourselves, and lured by the prospect of solving problems with violence.

Too many people die in America from gun violence. Although guns have a role in society for self-protection, public safety, and sport, they are far too often used in preventable tragedy. These tragedies include, but are not limited to accidents, domestic abuse, gang violence, suicide, assault and mass shootings. Doing the work of Jesus Christ in the Presbytery of the James calls us to challenge the present culture of gun violence in the United States.

What We Intend to Do: Therefore, The Presbytery of the James:

- A. asks its congregations to engage in conversation about gun violence with a goal of raising awareness and working locally to reduce its impact and
- B. encourages congregation members to contact federal and/or state legislators and request that they enact sensible laws that:
 - 1) Require background checks for all gun sales
 - 2) Reinstate and strengthen bans on military-style weapons and large capacity ammunition magazines
 - 3) Remove restrictions on and provide increased funding for research into the causes and prevention of gun-related violence.
 - 4) Improve enforcement of existing gun-related laws

Some resources for further study: Gun Violence Gospel Values: Mobilizing in Response to God's Call. <https://www.pcusa.org/site/media/uploads/acswp/pdf/gun-violence-policy.pdf> This report was approved by the General Assembly of the PCUSA in 2010.

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Rev. Katherine Todd is in the office on Thursdays from 9:30-12:30 pm with additional times by appointment.

YOU AND MISSION

Jim Irving, Phylliss Moret, Donna Stafford, Jayne Clement, Gay Olsen

Our committee work serves two Great Ends of the Church:

- > Mission - to be a servant to the local and world community; and
- > Outreach - to actively seek others to join us in our Christian walk of faith.

As God's disciples, what can you do in August to be a local missionary, right here, right now?

- ★ **On August 13th-17:** Vacation Bible School!!!
6:30 pm -8:00 pm. Come one, come all---it's for ALL AGES!!
- ★ **On August 6-27th:** To be a servant to the local community and make a difference in the lives of others, contribute **back-to-school supplies** to our sister church, Eastminster Presbyterian Church (EPC), who assists underserved children of the Church Hill area. Richmond Public Schools lists these needed school supplies:

Crayons, large & regular, 8-24/box
Pencils, primary & # 2
Colored pencils (8/box)
Pens, black, blue, red
Markers, washable (8/pkg)
High lighters
Erasers
Pencil sharpeners
Elmer's glue
Glue sticks
Loose-leaf paper
Spiral notebooks (70-100 pgs)
Composition books (black/white)
Pocket folders
3-ring binders
Scissors, blunt tip
Rulers
Protractors
Index cards
Zip pencil pouches
4-function calculators
Pocket dictionary & thesaurus
Tissues
Backpacks

For students' needs on their first day of school (September 2), we'll collect your contributions through Sunday, **August 6th**. Please place your items in the collection area in the narthex **by August 27^h**.

And since EPC helps children year-round, school supplies purchased at deep discounts after the back-to-school rush will always be welcomed at EPC year round!

Remember, 1 John 4: 19: "We love because He first loved us." So all we do as believers flows from gratitude!



INTERGENERATIONAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SUNDAY AUGUST 13TH – THURSDAY AUGUST 17TH 6:30pm – 8pm

WooHoo!!! Bible School is going to be a fun time for all ages!! There will be Bible stories and songs and crafts and a mission project. Mark your calendar, so you won't miss a minute of it!

If you would like to donate items for craft projects, please drop these off near the sign up sheet at the entrance of the church fellowship hall:

glue sticks
small regular size envelopes 6 1/2 in
zipper lock quart size bags
tea lights - battery operated
black construction paper
tin pie pans

If you would like to donate something for our nightly refreshments, please contact Irene Roberts @ 317-2125

There will be a registration sheet in the fellowship hall and another one on the hall bulletin board (just to give us a general idea on how many to expect).

See You There!!!



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Sign up in the Fellowship Hall to **host a Sunday reception** as many of our church families do. The next open dates are: August 27; Sept. 10 and 24.

Volunteers are needed to serve as Duty Officer ushers and greeters for our Sunday morning worship services. Please call the church office to sign up.

If you would like to be a lay reader for our Worship Service please let Rev. Todd know. She would welcome your help!

See Anna Margaret Price to help prepare **communion** as some of our members do.



FHPC helped to settle a refugee family of 7 in July. Our donations of kitchenware, a portable crib, sheets, comforters, stuffed animals, high chair, shower curtain and pots and pans were quickly put to use for a family arriving on July 21st. We still have some bedding and a set of dishes in our storage for the next family. If you have any items, even paper towels etc. cleaning supplies, small kitchen appliances etc. please bring them to the church and let Carol Stephens know.

Thank you to those of you who have already donated!

CWS does not have a truck to pick up items to be delivered to the apartments of the families that they are settling. Presently we have a bed, two wing back chairs, a coffee table, floor lamp in a second floor room.

If you have a truck and can help to deliver those items when they identify the need, please let Carol know.

CHILD CARE CENTER

Jan Clarke, Director

The summer is rolling along! In August we have our Bible School during the mornings and learn about baby Moses, feeding the 5,000, Jonah and the whale and the Devil and Jesus! We will have crafts, songs, and snacks to go along with the stories.

On August 25, we will have a Splash afternoon with water tables, sprinklers and water balloons. Our Teach Work Day is on Sept. 1 to gear up for a new school year on Sept. 5.



MUSIC MINISTRY

Patrick Carlin, Music Minister

I hope these Summer months are providing you and your loved ones with some time for relaxation and

rejuvenation!

During our August Worship, guest soloists and members of our FHPC Faith Community will offer their musical gifts.

Music during our August Sunday Worship will include:

August 6

Piano Prelude "Theme & Variations," from Sonata in G (Haydn)

Reflection "How Beautiful Are the Feet," from MESSIAH (G. F. Handel)

Carol Stephens, Vocal Soloist

August 13

Suzanne Maerz, Cello, Guest Artist, Music Minister, Saint Gabriel Church, Chesterfield County, and Director of FHASE, the Forest Hill Adult String Ensemble that meets weekly at our FHPC.

August 20

Grace Laidlaw, Piano, Guest Artist, Piano Student of Patrick Carlin

August 27

Elisabeth Carlton Dowdy, Guest Vocal Soloist, Voice Student of Patrick Carlin

God's Blessings on you, your loved ones, FHPC, and our shared ministry of evangelization - being Christ in the world! Pat C



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Mary Jane Unterzuber, Morningside of Bellgrade, 2800 Polo Parkway, Midlothian, VA 23113, #254

Sol Wrenn, at home.

Our Sympathy is extended to the family and loved ones of Thelma Hollingsworth who passed away in Newport News, Virginia last month.

