



FOREST HILL FAMILY

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JULY 2018

Forest Hill Presbyterian church exists to serve God and all creation by growing together in love, extending sanctuary, and strengthening community so that all can know God's love.

Dearest Forest Hill Family,

Our larger governing body, the Presbytery of the James met for its 99th Stated Meeting in mid-June. A recap of the meeting can be found on the Presbytery's website. I wanted to highlight some items and announcements that may be of particular interest to you.

- Mission Co-Worker Ruth Brown of Ginter Park Presbyterian is being reassigned to Ghana. A brochure is on our bulletin board in the church foyer.
- Presbytery's new Communications Specialist Kelley Hope is available to also work with churches in their communications.
- A Strategic Planning Team for the Presbytery that will work with a new temporary General Presbyter/ Stated Clerk to vision the future of Presbytery will be elected this coming October.
- The Presbytery endorsed a Lilly Grant Application that has been submitted. If ascertained, the grant would be used to come alongside pastors in the POJ, with community, continuing education, and encouragement.
- A new purpose group has been formed called, "Dismantling Racism – Building Beloved Community." Churches are invited to join in this ongoing work of healing and reconciliation.
- Cultivating a Culture of Evangelism Purpose Group is inviting churches to join with them next Spring in a movement designed to reconnect congregations with the heart of the Gospel. John Vest is leading this effort, and we can decide whether or not we'd like Forest Hill to be a part.
- Camp Hanover is finishing up one phase of its Capital Campaign at the end of this year. There is still opportunity to be a part of it, if we would like.
- The Presbytery approved new compensation minimums for 2019.
- Union Presbyterian Seminary is offering classes about church administration.
- The Joyful Voices Chorus is a new chorus for those with dementia and their caregivers. It meets Thursday mornings at Salisbury Presbyterian church. Do spread the word to any you think may be interested!
- Retreats are coming up at both Camp Hanover and Richmond Hill. They sounded edifying, and I hope you will check them out online. A brochure detailing the Camp Hanover retreat is on the bulletin board in the church foyer and will feature our own Sally and Keith Johnston.

Again much more information is available online, so if you have curiosities or questions about other matters of business, I encourage you to investigate at www.presbyteryofthejames.com.

Serving alongside you,

Katherine Todd

Session Meeting Highlights

June 10, 2018

Phylliss Moret, Clerk

- Treasurer's Report: Financial reports through May 31, 2018, were shared and ample time allowed for questions and comments. To respond to Session's previous discussions of a payroll service and/or a part-time bookkeeper for the church and CCC, Dan shared a report of five payroll services companies, including base costs, total monthly costs, and performance assessments.
- Session completed a "Financial Health Assessment" offered by the Presbyterian Foundation. This information will be melded with the church's year-end statistical reports of the last 5 years to provide a finance, stewardship, and generosity assessment, according to best practices and peer data, to help the church know what needs critical attention now, what needs more attention, and what's working well.
- Worship, Discipleship, & Member Care Committee: The church's 94th anniversary celebration (1924-2018) will take place on June 24th with a potluck lunch in the Fellowship Hall following worship service. More info will soon be announced. The new membership directory will be released soon.
- Mission & Outreach Committee: POJ approved the church's grant application for the purpose of redesigning our web site and Facebook page! A summer seminary intern with website expertise has been hired for the job to work with the website revision team of Katherine, Gay, and Phylliss. Vacation Bible School is planned for August 13-17 @ 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. A hymn fest is being planned on Saturday, November 3 @ 1:00-2:15 pm, and will include Eastminster Presbyterian Church.
- Stewardship of Property, Administration, & Finance Committee: Many thanks to Sven Olsen for patching the parking lot and saving oodles of money by his generous knowledge, skills, and time! The windows in the Fellowship Hall will soon be scraped, painted, and caulked. Session reaffirmed the church's policy that smoking is limited to designated areas in front of the church and not permitted in other areas of the premises. Communications will to be provided to Envoy and users of the building to ensure the smoking policy is known and to seek their support and compliance.
- Child Care Center (CCC) Committee: The Center's financial report reflected revenues of approximately

\$7,900 every two weeks with expenses of approximately \$6,400 for payroll/FICA and \$1,500 for other expenses for the same period as they occur. A new parent/member needs to be identified to fill the vacancy on the committee due to a resignation. The Director of the CCC is working with the website revision team.

- FHPC will host the next POJ Small Church Forum in the Fellowship Hall on October 6, 2018, from 12 noon – 1:30 pm.
- Next Session Meetings @ 12 noon: July 8, August 19, September 16. All are invited to participate.

Forest Hill PC's Session is composed of six ruling elders and one moderator/teaching elder:

Ruling Elders:

Irene Roberts and Ed Spyhalski (2015-2018)

Stephen Davis and Gay Olsen (2016-2019)

Phylliss Moret and Carol Stephens (2017-2020)

Moderator/Teaching Elder:

Katherine Todd

FROM THE CHILD CARE CENTER

Our Summer Program is off to a great start! We have had Ms. Monica come in and do Music and Movement Classes with us. We are getting ready to start Art and Spanish classes for the month of July, and we are very excited about that. On July 13th Jonathan the Juggler will be here at 4 p.m. to put on a show for all the families. We will follow the performance with a pot luck dinner. Our themes for the month of July include 4th of July, Let's Go Camping, Nursery Rhymes, Fruits and Veggies and Under the Sea. We will also be taking some walks to the park and enjoying some splash days during these hot summer months.

We will be closed on Wednesday, July 4th for Independence Day.

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## Stewardship, Finance and Administrative Committee

Our rental income is on track and the agreement with the leasing agent for the Church Manse is being looked at for possible changes.

The painting of part of the church's exterior windows has been completed. The rest will be done as soon as we can comfortably afford to.

The Second Quarter statements will be available the first week of July.

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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Sign up** in the Fellowship Hall to **host a Sunday reception** as many of our church families do. Check the sheet to see when the next available date is.

**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.



### Mission & Outreach Committee

Jim Irving, Katherine Todd, Phylliss Moret, Donna Stafford, Jayne Clement, Gay Olsen, Sydney Gustafson

**They will know we are Christians by our love.**

### Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Since our VBS last year was such a success, we are doing it again this summer!! It is scheduled from 6:30-8:00 pm on August 13-17. We will use the curriculum, "The Avengers". A VBS preliminary meeting is planned for Sunday, May 28 after church in the conference room. All interested in helping out are invited to join us. Jayne Clement is heading this up again this year.

### Friday Food, Fellowship, Faith and Family Update

We are planning to invite local food truck vendors to come on Friday evenings to sell their food in the church parking lot. We are hoping to attract neighbors around the church as well as all of us to join in on the fun. Tables and chairs will be set out on the lawn and we hope to also have music from a local singing group. The target date is for July 6 and continuing on Fridays through August 31.

Sydney Gustafson is coordinating these events.

### Mark your calendars for this Fall:

Back to School collection for Eastminster— August 5-26

Pet Blessing in Phideaux Field—Oct. 20

Hymn Fest—Nov 3, 1:00 pm-2:15 followed by lunch on the lawn

Eastminster will join us with their choir and the Wings and Roses girls will perform their "faith dancing". John Vest will cook barbecue. Side dishes will be provided by our congregation as a pot luck-type set up. It should be a wonderful event. Mark your calendars!!!

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

### NEW WEBSITE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Thanks to a grant from the Presbytery of the James we have contracted with a seminary student who is designing a new website for us. The new site will be easier to use and more attractive to those who visit our site. We should be up and running by the fall.



**Music Ministry**  
Pat Carlin, Director of Music

Happy Month of July and Happy Father's Day!

Please save this date for an upcoming Free Concert:  
Saturday, July 14, 2:00 PM  
FHPC Fellowship Hall  
"Second Seasons" Concert  
Featuring two 70 year old performers and one almost-70 year old performer, voice and piano students of mine

Our July Worship will include:

**July 1**  
Prelude "Sonatina" (J. L. Dussek)

Reflection "America the Beautiful"(Katherine Lee Bates & Samuel A. Ward)  
Elijah (Eli) Davis, Vocal Soloist

**July 8**  
Prelude "Sonatina in G Major" (M. Clementi)

Reflection "O Rest In The Lord, from ELIJAH (Mendelssohn)  
Carol Stephens, Vocal Soloist

**July 15**  
Piano Prelude "Allegro moderato," from Sonata in G (Haydn)

Reflection "It Is Well With My Soul"(Horatio G. Spafford & Philip P. Bliss)  
Jayne Clement & Nicole Kline, Vocal Soloists

**July 22**  
Piano Prelude "Andante," from Sonata in Bb (W. A. Mozart)

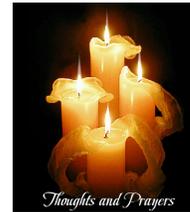
Reflection  
Rev. Katherine Todd, Vocal Soloist; Incy Teoh, Guitar Soloist

**July 29**

Prelude & Reflection, Suzanne Maertz, Cello, Director of FHASE (Forest Hill Adult String Ensemble) that meets weekly at FHPC.

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**, 13500 N. Gayton Road, Rm. 147, Richmond, VA 23233

**Greg Jones**, at home — Envoy of Westover Hills, 4403 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, VA 23225



**GOOD SAMARITAN FUND**

As summer gets into full swing, the need for utility assistance increases. Your donations help us to aid as many people as possible with their situation. Your donations are much appreciated.

**Month of June:**

**Beginning balance: \$3,004.53**

**Total distributions: 205.02 (three families)**

**Balance: \$2,799.51**