



FOREST HILL FAMILY

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Richmond, Virginia 23225
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MAY 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.

The Ministry of Members

In the coming weeks, we will be welcoming Nick and Rachel Varrell into our midst, more formally as members. As we celebrate getting to know them and ask anew what God is doing among us, let us also remember our own membership vows.

Our Book of Order explains Membership in this way.

G-1.0304 *The Ministry of Members*

Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church. Such involvement includes:

- Proclaiming the good news in word and deed,
- Taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation,
- Lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support,
- Studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life,
- Supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time, and talents,
- Demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church,
- Responding to God's activity in the world through service to others,
- Living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life.
- Working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment,
- Participating in the governing responsibilities of the church, and
- Reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one's membership, and considering ways in which one's participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful.

May we ever grow in our walk with God, day by day, and may our life of discipleship and personal ministry ever more reflect the love and grace we've received from our gracious Lord.

We are the body of Christ in our world today. Let us shine like lights in the darkness!

Thankful to be serving Christ with you,
Katherine

Session Meeting Highlights

April 15, 2018

Phylliss Moret, Clerk

- Patrick Carlin expressed his gratitude for his three years of service as FHPC's music director and Session thanked and congratulated him for making a difference in the church's music ministry.
- The Session unanimously approved new members Nick and Rachelle Varrell with joy and received them into our church on reaffirmation of faith.
- The family of Ginny Wrenn has asked that her memorial funds be used to add additional plants to the butterfly garden surrounding the labyrinth. Sneed's Nursery is to install the new plants the last week in April.
- Session approved the hiring of a summer seminary intern to revise the church's web site.
- Worship, Discipleship, & Member Care Committee: The new 2018 Member Directory is in development and plans are underway for FHPC's anniversary in June.
- Mission & Outreach Committee: Dog park participants will be invited to assist in the pick-up and distribution of free wood chips within the dog park. Plans are developing for Vacation Bible School in August.
- Stewardship of Property, Administration, & Finance Committee: The proposed new Covenant Pastor Agreement with Katherine Todd for the period May 28, 2018 – May 27, 2019, for 25 hours per week, subject to clarification of medical/pension expenses and vacation and continuing education leave, was approved. Session also approved payment for a building use advertisement on Craig's list.
- Child Care Center (CCC) Committee: Signs for the CCC have been ordered. An additional \$55 charge will be added to regular fees for summer enrichment activities.
- Next Session Meetings @ 12 noon: May 20 and June 10. All are invited to participate.

Congregation Meeting Highlights

April 29, 2018

Phylliss Moret, Clerk

- A quorum was present for the special meeting of the Congregation to receive the report of the Nominating Committee and elect new church officers for the Class of 2021.
- The members of the Nominating Committee were: Melissa Davis, Scott Mitchell, Phylliss Moret, and Pastor Katherine Todd.
- Appreciation was expressed to the Class of 2018 officers of the church whose 3-year terms conclude this summer: Ruling Elders Irene Roberts and Ed Spyhalski, and Trustee Anna Margaret Price.
- Guided by the Book of Order and the church's Manual of Operations, the Nominating Committee selected and reported commitments from this slate of nominees for the Class of 2021 to serve from July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2021:
 - o Kris Jones for a 3-yr term as Ruling Elder
 - o Ed Spyhalski for a second consecutive 3-yr term as Ruling Elder
 - o Nick Jones to a 3-yr term as Trustee
- Additional nominations were not offered by members of the Congregation.
- Upon a motion properly made and carried, the Congregation unanimously elected Kris Jones and Ed Spyhalski as Ruling Elders and Nick Jones as Trustee by acclamation.

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 13th

*A mother is clothed with strength
and dignity, laughs without fear of
the future. When she speaks her
words are wise and she gives
instructions with kindness.*

Proverbs

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

GRATITUDE STORY

(If you have a gratitude story you would like to share with us, please send it to the church office and we will include it in our next issue.)



MORNING COMMUTE

One morning my schedule was flip-flopped, so that I was traveling to a different work station. I found myself driving east out of Richmond on a very busy interstate during rush hour. Too early for me.

Forced to look where I was going (!) I met the most spectacularly vivid sunrise I had ever witnessed. A Grand Canyon sunrise could not have rivaled the sun emerging from behind the hills and the traffic before me. We think that we must be in the midst of Nature to experience it, but the mundane urban surroundings made the sunrise even more beautiful.

I wondered how many other drivers noticed it. Perhaps they are used to the show. Or perhaps it was God's special gift to me at a moment when it was needed.



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

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to the family and loved ones of Valerie Ashley (former child care center teacher) who passed away, Saturday, April 21, 2018

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.

Stewardship, Finance and Administrative Committee

Potholes in front parking lot need to be addressed. Quotes for both repair and resurfacing the parking lot will be requested. If you have a good contractor you could recommend, let us know.



FROM THE CHILD CARE CENTER

April was a fun and busy month. Thank you to all of you that came out to support us at our Chipotle Fundraiser! We made over \$400 that night.

Picture day was a big success and I can't wait to see all the adorable photos.

May looks like it will be just as exciting! Teacher appreciation week is May 7th- 11th. I know the parents have a few special things planned for us that week. We are doing a Mother's Day program on the 11th in the Fellowship Hall. On the 18th we are taking a Field Trip to Maymont Park. We plan to explore and have a picnic lunch while we are there. Our St. Jude's Trike A-Thon will be at the end of the month as well. We will be closed on May 28th for Memorial Day.

The Center is planning to participate in the neighborhood **Yard Sale on June 2nd at 8:00 am**, so if you have any items that you would like to donate, please bring them to the Church. We will also have a Bake Sale that day, so make sure you stop by. Thank you! Emily



Mission & Outreach Committee

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

The focus of the meeting, held Feb. 18 at 11:30 am was to make recommendations to the Session for disbursement of the 2nd Mile Fund for 2018. Jim reported the earnings for the 2017 fund is \$17,300.00. The following are the committee's recommendations:

Local:

- \$3500 FHPC Good Samaritan Fund (\$1500 had already been disbursed, so an additional \$2000 is recommended.)
- \$500 Roses and Wings

Regional:

- \$1500 Presbytery's Hunger Fund
- \$1000 ACTS
- \$500 Camp Hanover

International:

- \$2500 Matthew and Teresa Lee-Wycliffe Translators
- \$3500 Cindy Corell-Presbytery of James missionary-Haiti

This totals \$13,000 recommended for disbursement for the first half of 2018. We will recommend the balance of the funds in September, 2018 to have funding for any disaster relief that may be needed. Other funding that will be considered in September, 2018 will be:

- Crossover Clinic
- Massanetta Springs Conference Center
- Hilliard House
- Habitat for Humanity
- Fisher House

The new Dog Park sign has arrived and has been put up.

Roses and Wings — Carol Stephens is hosting a lunch for the girls attending Roses and Wings on May 12. If anyone is interested in helping Carol, please give her a call.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL — We are beginning our planning of the VBS for this summer, since last summer's VBS was so successful. If anyone is interested in joining in on the planning and beyond, please contact Gay Olsen or Jayne Clement.



GOOD STEWARDS OF THE EARTH — We are aiming to inspire and mobilize **YOU** to play a more active role in being good and better stewards of the earth. Think about what you can and will do! As a church we now use paper cups and plates instead of styrofoam. Other options are being explored.

RECYCLE: old eyeglasses, cell phones and old/broken small electronic devices.

DONATE: The Child Care Center will accept your scraps of fabric, ribbon, yarn, used paper, used toys and books and used CD or cassette players.

Plant a tree, test your lawn soil before fertilizing and reuse, reduce, recycle, rethink. Use it up, wear it out, make it last, do without!

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LOOKING FOR A SUMMER CAMP?

As the outdoor ministry of the Presbytery of the James, Camp Hanover has offered Christian camps for elementary, middle and high school youth for over 60 years. Camp sessions range in length from short 2-night and 3-night programs for the youngest of campers, to longer 1-week and 2-week programs for older campers.

Located on 600 wooded acres in Mechanicsville, Virginia, Camp Hanover is about a 30 minute drive from Richmond.



Music Ministry

Pat Carlin, Director of Music

Happy Month of May – Mother’s Day, Pentecost, and Memorial Day!

Our May Worship will include:

May 6, 6th Sunday of Easter

Organ Prelude “Jesu Joy of Our Desiring” (J. S. Bach)

FHPC Women’s Ensemble “A Gaelic Blessing” (John Rutter)

Deep peace of the running wave to you. Deep peace of the flowing air to you. Deep peace of the quiet earth to you. Deep peace of the shining stars to you. Deep peace of the gentle night to you. Moon and stars pour their healing light on you. Deep peace of Christ, of Christ the light of the world to you. Deep peace of Christ to you.

Organ Postlude “Symphonic Postlude on Theme from Symphony No. 1 (J. Brahms/arr. R. Wilson)

May 13 7th Sunday of Easter/Mother’s Day

Organ Prelude “Canon in D” (Johann Pachelbel)

FHPC Women’s Ensemble “Canon of Praise” (Johann Pachelbel/Arranged by Hal H. Hopson)

All within me bless the Lord, bless God’s holy name. O bless the Lord, my soul, all within me, bless God’s holy name. O hear, you righteous, know that the Lord is good. We remember all his love, he crowns our lives with hope and truth. God the Lord is gracious, the same forever. As a father loves his children, so the Lord loves his own. Those who love the Lord shall claim his ever present help. O bless the Lord... (Adapted from Psalm 103)

Organ Postlude “Rigaudon” (Andre Campra)

May 20 Pentecost

Organ Prelude “Prelude on SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER” (Sam Batt Owens)

FHPC Women’s Ensemble “Come Holy Spirit” (Judith Snowdon)

Come, Holy Spirit, may your presence fill this place, may your fragrance pervade us and cleanse us by your grace. Come Holy Spirit, gracious giver of life, come renew us and heal us and fill us with your light. For we know that you promised you’d never leave us alone, that you’d always be with us, and make this house your home. Come, Holy Spirit, come and water this ground, so the fruit of your Spirit may in our lives be found. Come, Holy Spirit of truth, may you lead us and guide us, and show us what is good. Come to us, we pray.

Organ Postlude “Laudation” (Gilbert Martin)

May 27

Piano Prelude “Prelude” (Catherine Rollin)

Piano Reflection

Anna-Margaret Price, Piano Soloist

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

Pat C.



Day of Pentecost is Sunday, May 20. The Pentecost Offering will be received during our 10:30 am Worship service. This offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. **When we all do a litte, it adds up to a lot!**