First Report for “Faith in Action; an Entrepreneurial Ministry Project”

Last month, the session began a program to encourage putting faith into action through mission projects and then sharing stories about those experiences. Grants of up to $250, if needed to facilitate the projects, were made available, thanks to an anonymous donor. To read the guidelines for the program, see our November 2012 newsletter (pp.1-2): http://tinyurl.com/cuye3je.

Here is the beginning of a story yet to be told. The 4th and 5th grade Sunday School class started a “mission club.” They have decided to be a part of the Soup for Seniors Drive February 4-9, an effort to deliver 40,000 cans of food to 4,000 homebound elderly people in the Valley. Watch upcoming Second Sheets for more details. The children will learn about realities of aging and disability while being able to do something to help.

Construction

I’ve told many people how much I enjoy watching the process of renovation during the week and how eager I am for it to be completed on Sundays. I am impressed with how patient and understanding members have been. You have expressed excitement about what the renovations will mean in opening up our church for hospitality and enhancing ministry. Thank you for your support.

Trent Symposium Roster

Selecting participants for this year’s Kittye Susan Trent Symposium seemed more difficult than ever because so many highly qualified ministers applied. We look forward to welcoming eight more newly ordained ministers to our church March 15-20 to join Elizabeth Smith as the next group of participants. They are: Taylor Lewis Guthrie Hartman (Durham, NC); Caroline Anderson Jinkins (Virginia Beach, VA); Jeremy M. Jinkins (Virginia Beach, VA); David A. Jones, II (Columbia, SC); Emily Miller (Chesapeake, VA); Matthew Ruffner (Atlanta, GA); Andrew Thompson Scales (Davidson, NC); and Elizabeth Smith-Bartlett (New Canaan, CT).

Barkley Thompson to Houston

Barkley Thompson, senior rector at St. John’s Episcopal Church, has accepted the call to be the next Dean of Christ Church Cathedral in Houston, TX. Barkley has been a good friend and colleague to me during his five years of outstanding service at St. John’s. Clergy friends like Barkley help sustain me in my work. I certainly will miss him. St. John’s will miss him. Roanoke will miss him, and, because of our close relationship with St. John’s, Second Presbyterian will miss him. However, he is going to serve another vital church with the added benefit of being closer to both sides of his family.

May This Christmas Season be Sacred

I hope you and those you love have a Christmas with a spirit defined by the sacrificial love of God who, despite our faults and failings, unconditionally loves us and claims us by grace. I hope the worship, fellowship, and outreach of the church will be factors in building that spirit. I, and the rest of the pastoral staff, will be at all three Christmas Eve worship services, and we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus with our extended church family.

At left, scenes from the Nativity as portrayed by our Preschoolers.
'Tis The Season

AND THE STAFF OF SECOND WISH YOU

CHRIST’S PEACE* JOY* AND LOVE*

The Young Adult Ministry group met at Millie and George Anderson’s home in December. Some members brought along their precious new babies of 2012. Moms, from left: Sarah Bishop (husband Evan); Alice Light (husband Rich); Dana Bryan (husband Paul); and Amanda Collins (husband Steve).

Dear Church Family:

Whit and I wanted to write and thank you for your continued prayers for our daughter Maggie since her July 4, 2012, birth. We have always been grateful to be part of this church community, but were truly overwhelmed by your support and love during Maggie’s three-month stay at the hospital. Many days we would return home from our hospital visits and find notes, food, gifts, or one of you standing on our porch ready to walk our dogs.

You prayed for us, and Maggie, when we didn’t have the strength to pray ourselves. You also came to pray with us during our most difficult hours. Because of your heartfelt prayers and petitions, our Maggie is thriving today. What a gift you have given us! We are thrilled to report our gift is off the oxygen, loving life at home, and will likely be 10 lbs. by Christmas. Thank you for caring so much for us, and our daughter. We can’t wait until she is strong enough to come and meet you all this spring.

We are grateful,

Lauren and Whit Ellerman

Construction Updates

After the Preschool closes for Christmas on December 18, the power in the main church complex will be shut down so that AEP and the electrical subcontractor can switch the main power lines to the new electrical grid. This process could take two or three days. Our goal is to have the lights and heat back on by sometime Friday. Meanwhile, finish work continues in the administrative and classroom areas. Progress on the Great Hall foundation and wall support has been slowed pending the resolution of structural questions. As of today, Avis has the final drawings and construction will commence.

In the next few weeks, access to the Sanctuary on Sunday will change. The current access, by the hallway beside Gerald’s old office and the flower room, will be closed. From the parking lot entrance, the new access will be down the hallway towards the Chapel, then a left towards the new handicap ramp into a new hallway leading to the stone corridor and Sanctuary. It is easier than it sounds! Thanks to all for your continued cooperation and patience.

– Kelly Speas

OUT with the old air exchange unit (top), and IN with the new streamlined unit (below) in the Children’s Choir Room.

Rooftop-mounted heating and air conditioners (at left) bring new efficiency and power savings.

From the education building roof . . . partial view of Columbarium (right) and Preschool playground (to left) as separated by pathway built for bringing construction materials onto site.

In contrast . . . Construction alongside a Place of Rest.
Christian Education

Advent Family Workshop

Many thanks goes to those families and volunteers who helped make the December 2 Advent Family Workshop such a wonderful experience. Thirteen families created Advent wreaths for their homes, decorated angels and ornaments for their Christmas trees, and created cards for shut-ins. These weeks of Advent are a time for preparation, when we prepare our hearts and homes to celebrate Christ’s birth. I hope that this season might be a time for you and your family to reflect on Christ’s presence in Christ’s birth. When we prepare our hearts and homes to celebrate the true joy of the season.

4th and 5th Grade “Faith in Action”

The 4th and 5th grade Sunday school class will visit South Roanoke Nursing Home on Sunday, December 16, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The youth will meet in their classroom at the regular Sunday school time, and then travel with their Sunday school teachers to the nursing home to spread some Christmas Cheer. Afterwards, the class will return to the church in time for an Advent lesson and some fun, food, and fellowship with their classmates. Parents may pick up the students in the classroom at 12:00 noon after the late worship service concludes. Of course, since the students will miss the 11:00 a.m. service, they are encouraged to attend the 9:00 a.m. one! Permission forms have been mailed to each student’s home, but if you need one, please contact Marybeth Robinson (588-5790, wtr27@verizon.net).

January 6 Pancake Breakfast:

Say “Thanks!” to a Sunday School Teacher and “Welcome!” to 2012’s New Members

On Sunday, January 6, members and visitors of all ages are invited to attend this very special pancake breakfast during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday school hour in Fellowship Hall. This breakfast is sponsored in partnership by the Christian Education Committee and the Congregational Life Committee. Let us take time to share a meal together, get to know recent members and confirmands from the 2012 year, and give thanks to those Sunday School teachers who work tirelessly all year long. Regularly scheduled Sunday School classes will not meet on January 6.

There will be plenty of hot pancakes, bacon, and other breakfast goodies. Make this Sunday an opportunity to join in fellowship and to recommit to the 2012 Sunday school year!

Kids’ Fellowship

Our next meeting is January 26 (6:30-8:30 p.m.) at The Intersection where it’s “Movie Night” again! (Different date chosen due to Family Promise hosting the week prior.) Kids’ fellowship is designed for ages four through fifth graders, but parents are always welcome and so are friends! We’ll have a great movie and fun refreshments! RSVP plans to attend to philandlindsay@hotmail.com or call 772-7685 if you have any questions.

News & Notes

Flowers

On November 18, the flowers were given to the glory of God in loving memory of Jim Robertson and John Robertson by the family. . . . On November 25, the flowers were given to the glory of God by Alice and Rich Light in honor of the baptism of their daughter, Ann Colston Light. . . . On December 2, the flowers were given to the glory of God in loving memory of Judge Beverly T. Fitzpatrick by his wife Helen. . . . On December 9, the flowers were given to the glory of God in loving memory of James Revercomb by the family. During the Advent and Christmas season, the live boxwood wreath was given in loving memory of Charlie Loftin by his family.

Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Nancy Clark Tune of Roanoke, VA, who died November 13, 2012. . . . Sympathy is conveyed to Lucy Reed (wife), Judi (daughter) and Paul Anderson, and their sons Drew, Tyler, and Blake and family on the loss of John Everett Reed of Roanoke, VA, who died December 4, 2012. . . . Sympathy is expressed to Brian Elswick, Selina Elswick, and Pamela Elswick and family on the loss of their mother, Selma Deen Elswick of Roanoke, VA, who died December 3, 2012. . . . Sympathy is extended to the Rev. Dr. Nancy Dawson, General Presbyter of the Presbytery of the Peaks, on the loss of her mother, Gloria Bernardi of Ft. Thomas, KY, who died November 26, 2012. . . . Sympathy is expressed to the family of Richard Harrison McCord of Richmond, VA, who died December 7, 2012. He was the only son of Harriet Peach and Llewellyn P. “Mac” McCord. “Mac” served Second Pres for many years as associate pastor with senior pastor Dr. Hollingsworth.

Baptisms

On November 25, 2012, M. Alice Bickley Light and Richard Colston Light presented their daughter, Ann Colston Light, for the Sacrament of Infant Baptism during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The presiding elder was Gerald Carter; Ann Foust Bailey came forward to present the baptism Bible to the family. During the Advent and Christmas season, the live boxwood wreath was given in loving memory of Charlie Loftin by his family.

Elders of the Class of 2013 will be Ordained/Installed at the 11:00 a.m. Service on Sunday, January 13, 2013

At that time, we will welcome to service: Vickie Bibe
BT Fitzpatrick
Nancy Henry
Susan Leivy
Janet McDowell
John Moore
Kipper Nottingham
Bill Stevens

The Worship Task Force feels it is time to seriously consider moving forward from our 1955 hymnbook. We are giving serious consideration to the about-to-be-publicized Glory to God hymnal since it is the work of our denomination. We will have articles in the Second Sheet, introduce some hymns in worship, and offer opportunities for education and feedback. George Anderson and Marianne Sandborg will lead a POP-UP Sunday School class in Fellowship Hall on February 10. An open forum will be held the first part of the Worship and Music Committee meeting (5:30 p.m.) in the Chapel on February 20 and all are welcome to attend. Members of the Task Force are Doug Althouse (chair), George Anderson, John Robinson, Barbara Turner, Kathy Gilchrist, Doug Settles, Beth Vaught-Jenkins, Marianne Sandborg, Elizabeth Smith, and Elizabeth Howell.

– Doug Althouse and George Anderson

elizabeth howell

Allison, Tyler, Madison, Kevin, Grayson, and Campbell Bloomfield, Rebecca Bivens

On December 2, Nicole Marie Kinzie and Ashley Bryant Kinzie presented their son, Alexander Mize Kinzie, for the Sacrament of Baptism during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The presiding elder was Carol White.
Welcome Sarah Gardner, New Member of Second Church

Sarah Gardner has returned to the Roanoke Valley. She is pictured here with Pam Kreger and Fred Genheimer who formed the Commission of the Session to welcome Sarah into membership. Sarah will be featured in a future edition of the Second Sheet.

Men’s Fellowship Breakfast for 2013

Please mark your calendars for these dates at 7:30 a.m. at The Roanoker Restaurant. Note that our January gathering will be on the second Wednesday, January 9, rather than January 2, since New Year’s Day falls on the day before the first Wednesday.

January 9, 2013

Jan Smyth, Executive Director, Voice of the Blue Ridge, an organization which advocates for those who are blind or have vision limitations.

February 6, 2013

The Rev. R. Paul Henrickson, Chaplain at Roanoke College.

March 6, 2013

Janet McDowell, PhD, speaking on Medical Ethics.

April 3, 2013

Dr. William R. Klein, Pastor Emeritus, Second Presbyterian Church, on a topic of his choice.

May 1, 2013

Debbie Pitts, Executive Director of Explore Park, update on what’s happening with the park.
Youth and Young Adults  elizabeth smith

Youth News
The Youth Club has been busy ministering to others in recent weeks. On November 18, they loaded up a record number of Hunger Buster bags to deliver to the Presbyterian Community Center. Thanks to the generosity of the congregation, the donation they delivered was worth $2,519.09! Cheryl Poe, the Director of Volunteer Services at the PCC, said, “Excellent Hunger Buster collection...” We are so very thankful for the support we receive from Second Presbyterian Church!”

On December 2, Youth Club made Christmas crafts for Second Pres members who can’t get out much. While they were doing that, Senior Highs were busy making cards for the college students. Each college student (whose address we’ve received) will receive a card with a gift card as their end-of-the-semester “care package.” We are grateful for the members of the College of Elders who generously donated gift cards for this project. Thank you for supporting our Second Pres college students!

Our Beth-El Mission Trip team is complete!! We have a great team of youth and adults. There are still plenty of spaces on the other Summer 2013 trips, so please keep turning in your forms. The intersection will be open and available to catch up with your church youth group friends from 4:00-6:00 p.m., Sunday, December 30! Bring friends. Former and current Sunday School teachers and Youth Advisors are also welcome. Elizabeth Smith will provide appetizers and drinks. Suggested Cover Charge: 1 canned food item for the PCC.

Bibles & Bricks 2013
Elizabeth Smith and Vickie Bibe are still recruiting for next year’s Bibles & Bricks team! Our team is quickly growing, but there’s still space for more youth and adults. If you’ve traveled before and want to return, now’s your chance. If you’ve never been but want to see how God is working in another part of the world, now’s your chance too!

The team will travel to the Dominican Republic on July 13 and return on July 20. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Smith at esmith@spres.org. We hope to have our team complete by the start of 2013!

Young Adult News
The Young Adult Ministry group continues to meet each Tuesday evening in different homes. A Thanksgiving celebration was hosted on November 13 by Morgan and Jeff Morris. On December 4, Millie and George Anderson hosted the group for a special night called “BYOB – Bring Your Own Baby!” (see p. 2) Several of our young adults have had babies this year, so it was a fun way to catch up while getting to hold adorable babies. The Christmas party will be held on December 18 and then the group will break until January 8. If you’re interested in learning more, please contact Elizabeth Smith at esmith@spres.org.

REUNION
Reunion at The Intersection!
If you’re a college student back in Roanoke over Christmas break, come enjoy an unstructured evening of fun, fellowship, and the opportunity to see people whom you haven’t seen in a long time! The Intersection will be open and available to catch up with your church youth group friends from 4:00-6:00 p.m., Sunday, December 30! Bring friends. Former and current Sunday School teachers and Youth Advisors are also welcome. Elizabeth Smith will provide appetizers and drinks. Suggested Cover Charge: 1 canned food item for the PCC.

Important Dates:
December 16 - Christmas Parties for the Youth Club and Senior Highs, 5:00-6:30 p.m., The Intersection.
December 17 - Youth Advisor Christmas Potluck, 6:00 p.m., The Intersection.
December 23 and 30 - No Youth Club or Senior Highs.
January 9 - Youth Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., The Intersection.

Second Presbyterian Women
River of Hope Conference
Modeling and Mentoring: Building a Framework for Leadership Development
By Deborah Vaughan
2012 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women July 18-22, 2012; Orlando, FL

This workshop covered the following: 1. Are we as passionate about Jesus Christ as we are about Presbyterian Women? Is our leadership Christ-centered? 2. How can we strengthen our PW group and mentor leaders in the next generation? 3. How can we reach out to younger women in our congregation?

We used Philippians 2 as text for Christ-centered leadership. We were asked to underline phrases that spoke to us about leadership and define their meaning. These are some of the phrases that spoke to us and how we defined them: “Being one in spirit and of one mind” – Be a Lover; “Let CHRIST be the center; “Do nothing from selfish ambition or vain conceit” – Be selfless; “Value others above yourselves” – Be humble; “Not looking to your own interest but each of you to the interests of others” – Be a servant; “Do everything without grumbling or arguing” – Be a peacemaker; “Hold firmly to the Word of Life” – Be a believer; “I have no one else like him, who will show genuine concern for your welfare” – Be a lover of others.

How can we strengthen our PW Group? We can remember the PW purpose: Forgiven and freed by God in Christ, we commit ourselves to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study; to support the mission of the church worldwide; to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God’s kingdom. We talked about ways that each of us can mentor. Are you willing to be a disciple and make a face-to-face request asking women to join you at circle? Could we reach out to inactive members and friends who aren’t currently involved in PW? How about asking the woman sitting near you at church if she would like to join you for Bible study and Fellowship? Can you offer to give a woman a ride? We also talked about sharing our Bible study with those who are homebound by visiting, calling, or sending them a note in the mail.

How to reach younger women in our congregations? Nationally, there is a missing gap of women under 40 in PW. How do we reach them? Many can’t meet during the day due to work schedules. Some don’t have the energy to meet at night after taking care of other responsibilities. Could we have a circle that met quarterly instead of monthly? How about a virtual circle? “We are all Presbyterian Women.” This is one of my favorite quotes by the Reverend Elizabeth Howell. In putting Christ first, we can celebrate multi-generational events like GALS GATHERING, which is not an official PW activity. Linda Shiner and her team do an outstanding job of bringing us all together. This past year, the ages of participants ranged from 23-94.

Elizabeth Howell and Elizabeth Smith are teaching a “Hungry Women”; Bad Girls of the Bible multi-generational class. Don’t you just love the name? The Reverend Elizabeth Smith has a list of our young women who are away at college. Would you be willing to mentor to one of them by sending notes and cards on a regular basis?

We are currently using Facebook to reach out to a broader base of women. More than half of the Presbyterian Women, Second Presbyterian Facebook page members are not currently involved in a PW circle. We’d love to have you join us on Facebook and you don’t need to be a member of Second Presbyterian. Here is the link: https://www.facebook.com/groups/secondprespw/ Questions? Contact me at deborahv@comcast.net or 772-3035.

If you like learning, good food, and fellowship, visit a circle. There’s no obligation to join and you don’t have to be a member of the church. Call or email Deborah Vaughan, Moderator, 772-3035 or deborahvz@comcast.net.
Contributions to Second Presbyterian Church – November 2012

Music Fund
In memory of George McLeod by: Pat and Charles Houghton
Columbarium Fund
In memory of Charlie Loftin by: Jodi and Ron Ayers
Property, Maintenance and Repair Fund
In memory of Sallie Brown Garst by: Dr. and Mrs. George C. Anderson
                     Patricia and Robert Bethune, Jr.
                     In memory of Billy Hagan by: Monika and Marshall Mundy
                     In memory of Nellie S. Davis by: Martha and Raymond Shifflett, Jr.
                     In memory of Nancy Tune by: Dr. and Mrs. George C. Anderson
                     In memory of Rosemary Ross Caldwell by: Nell B. Hopkins
Help Fund
In memory of Miriam Wall by: Elizabeth W. Martin

Other funds are available for your contributions.
Please contact Phil Boggs at 343-3659 for a complete list.

We sincerely regret any errors or omissions in this list. Please contact Phil Boggs in the church office at 343-3659 to help us get it corrected. Contributions received and/or recorded after month’s end will be included in next month’s list.

Got Extra Cash AND a Special Interest?
Here are some of the Designated Gift accounts that congregation members frequently use to help special causes. Don’t see your favorite? Call Phil Boggs; we have more!

- Blanket Appeal, RAM, Presbyterian Community Center, Missionaries, Pastor Counseling Center, Habitat, Youth Camps & Conferences, Summer Enrichment, West End Center, Mission Possible, DR Construction or Hospital, Bus, Youth Music, Medical or Youth Mission Trips, Flowers, Music, temporarily un-designated, and MORE!

The main church entrance under the Portico will be open for services on Sun -days. Please exercise normal caution when walking through work areas. For meetings during the week, please use the new ramp entrance on Third Street.

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Please Turn In Receipts Before Year-End
Do you have receipts for things that you have purchased for the church? Please turn them in as soon as possible. If you do not need a cash reimbursement, please turn them in for “Gift-in-kind” credit. Thanks.

Budget Watch 2012 - Cumulative Year to Date

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Thank you to everyone for your participation in the Children/Youth Music Groups and Handbell Choirs the past few months! All of these groups will resume in January 2013. Check below for schedules and important dates. If you have any questions, contact Beth Vaught-Jenkins, bjenkin@cox.net.

**Children’s Choirs**

- Rehearsal on December 16 for the December 24, 5:00 p.m., Christmas Eve service. Let Beth Vaught-Jenkins know if your family will be in town. No rehearsals on December 23 and 30. Rehearsals will resume on Sunday, January 6. All of the Children’s Choirs will sing on Palm Sunday, March 24, at the 11:00 a.m. service.

**Youth Choir**

- Participate in worship on Sunday, December 16, at the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services. Rehearsals will resume for this group on Sunday, January 6. This group will participate on Youth Sunday, February 10, at the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services. We are searching for a date in the spring for the Youth Musical; watch the Second Sheet and bulletins for more information.

**Youth Instrumental Ensemble**

- This group will participate in the 9:00 a.m. service on December 16. Our next rehearsal will be on Sunday, January 6; we will begin preparations for Youth Sunday, February 10, at the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services.

**Handbell Choirs**

- All of the Handbell Choirs will resume in January; watch the bulletins and January Second Sheet for more information.

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**Montreat Worship and Music 2013**

The 2013 Montreat Conference on Worship and Music is open for registration! This is an incredible week of music learning/performance opportunities as well as worship, Bible study, and recreation in beautiful Montreat, NC. We organize a trip for rising 4th graders through high school age youth; plus we welcome adult chaperones. If you would like more information, contact Beth Vaught-Jenkins (bjenkin@cox.net) or check out the link: www.presbymusic.org/montreat.html.