



# Northside NEWS

Northside Presbyterian Church

January 2018

Blacksburg, Virginia

## *From the Pastor's Desk.....*

Dear Friends,

The arrival of the New Year generally causes us to pull out whatever we have in our storehouse of hope. We hope for peace, love, joy, the keeping of resolutions, friendship, health—you name it, we have high hopes that this year will be different—and better.

Often, though, it is hard to feel hopeful. We look around and see orphans and families fleeing the war-torn city of Aleppo, we watch as trucks plow through festive Christmas markets, we watch with apprehension the “changing of the guard” in our political system; we see among our own families and friends sickness, broken relationships, death, and many adverse happenings.

At one time in my life, I felt overwhelmed by the circumstances of life, and for many years, lived by the theme of an old Simon and Garfunkel song: “I am a rock. I am an island. And a rock feels no pain. And an island never cries.” It took a long while to realize that rocks and islands also lose hope and love and joy. We cannot be islands or rocks to avoid the tears. It is only when we fully engage ALL there is of life that we truly live. As John Donne said, “No man is an island.” We are deeply connected.

Parker J. Palmer said well what we must know as we enter the new year: “The deeper our faith, the more doubt we must endure; the deeper our hope, the more prone we are to despair; the deeper our love, the more pain its loss will bring; these are a few of the paradoxes we must endure as human beings. If we refuse to hold them in the hopes of living without doubt, despair, and pain, we also find ourselves living without faith, hope, and love.” (*A Hidden Wholeness: The Journey Toward an Undivided Life*)

So Happy New Year, beloved friends! May you find faith, hope, and love this year, as well as whatever comes along with it. And may Jesus Christ, hope of all the earth, fill your hearts.

Peace,  
*Linda*

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:00 A.M. – Morning Worship  
11:15 A.M. – Sunday School

### USHERS

Jan. 1: Drew & Eli Taylor  
Jan. 8: Steve Cole & Ron Pearson  
Jan. 15: The Frimpong Family  
Jan. 22: Sue & Ernie Bentley  
Jan. 29: Lisa Garcia & Ty Stephenson

### FLOWERS

Jan. 1: Nedra Underwood  
Jan. 8: COMMUNION  
Jan. 15: Sue & Ernie Bentley  
Jan. 22: Caryl & Gail Gray  
Jan. 29: Jean & Andy Robeson

### Officers On Call

Jan. 1-7: Clark Gaylord. 540-641-1439  
Jan. 8-14: Heidi Harper, 540-392-0057  
Jan. 15-21: Sue Bentley, 540-651-3170  
Jan. 22-28: Bruce Harper, 540-231-4360  
Jan. 29-Feb.4: Paul Ruzsler,  
540-951-0123

***An apology is the superglue of life. It can repair just about anything.***

-Lynn Johnston

**LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR JANUARY:**

**Jan. 4:** Isa. 63:7-9  
Psalm 148  
Heb. 2:10-18  
Matt. 2:134-23

**Jan. 15:** Isa. 49:1-7  
Psalm 40:1-11  
1 Cor. 1:1-9  
John 1:29-42

**Jan. 8:** Isa. 42:1-9  
Psalm 29  
Acts 10:34-43  
Matt. 3:15-17

**Jan. 22:** Isa. 9:1-4  
Psalm 27:1,4-9  
1 Cor. 1:10-18  
Matt. 4:13-23

**Jan. 29:** Micah 6:1-8  
Psalm 15  
1 Cor. 1:18-31  
Matt. 5:1-12

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**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS !**

- 1 Nancy Oakey
- 2 Steve Conner
- 3 Matt McCoy
- 4 Janis Brown
- 8 Constance Hull  
Linda Jilk  
Cynthia Sowers
- 14 Steve Cole
- 19 Menzo Kaldro-Bridge
- 21 Mary Rhodes
- 28 Sandra Gaylord
- 31 Avery Jones



*If your birthday is not listed here, you probably have not given it to us. We want to have everyone's birthday on file. Please give us a call at the church office and tell us the date of your birthday. We promise not to ask the year!*

***HAPPY, HAPPY BIRTHDAY***

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**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

The Interfaith Food Pantry needs help in stocking their pantry.

**Let's remember to bring food to the church to fill our barrel and help those less fortunate**

## Session Highlights December 18, 2016

Discernment Committee did not meet in December. There will be more discussion of the discernment process at the Officers' retreat on January 21, 2017.

The annual Church Audit has been completed by Steve and Rosemary Cole. It was approved by the Session.

The goal is to have the church's Annual Report ready to be distributed January 8, 2017, so that everyone will have a chance to read it before the Annual Meeting scheduled for January 15, 2017.

The 2017 budget for the church was approved.

The Session approved the following Minister's Terms of Call to be recommended to the congregation for approval at the January 15, 2017, Annual Meeting.

|                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| Salary                 | \$36,218 |
| Housing Allowance      | \$25,364 |
| Self Empl. Tax reimbur | \$4,711  |
| Total Cash payment     | \$66,294 |

|                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Dental Insurance      | \$905   |
| Long Term Health Care | \$1252  |
| Total other benefits  | \$2,157 |

|                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Board of Pensions medical | \$15,616 |
| Death & Disability        | \$7,649  |
| Total BoP benefits        | \$23,265 |

|                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Total salary and benefits | \$91,716 |
|---------------------------|----------|

Sue Bentley  
Clerk of Session

**DATES TO REMEMBER IN January:**

- January
- 1: New Year's Day (Carol Service, NO Lord's Supper)  
(NO Sunday School)
  - 2: Last Day for Annual Reports to be in the Church Office
  - 4: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
  - 6: Epiphany of the Lord
  - 8: Baptism of the Lord  
Annual Reports to be distributed to the Congregation  
COMMUNION  
2 Cents-A-Meal Offering  
Committees to meet
  - 11: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
  - 12: Women's Bible Study, 1:30 pm in the old kitchen
  - 15: ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
Session Meeting following Sunday School
  - 16: Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday (Church Office Closed)
  - 18: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
  - 25: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm

**Check Us Out...**

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Email Address: [secretary.northside@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.northside@gmail.com)

Minister's Email: [dickerson.northside@gmail.com](mailto:dickerson.northside@gmail.com)

Website URL (<http://www.nsidepresburg.org>)