



THE EXTENDED FAMILY

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A Word from Steve Williams

For many of us, looking back to 1981 seems like ancient history, but as I reflect on my time as one of the musical leaders of the Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church it seems like it was only yesterday when I wandered into the chapel completely unprepared for my audition before Fred Ohler, Louis Miles and Bob Keener! I arrived at the chapel without organ shoes or music scores thinking I was just going to discuss the job with that team. Since I was there, they said, I should try out the instrument and then we'd talk, so I went to the loft and "played around" on the organ for about 10 minutes. They stopped me and asked if I would play a few hymns. Each wanted to hear their favorite hymns and it became something like a hymn sing; I don't recall how many I played for them, but I quickly realized how important hymn playing and congregational song was to this church. Before I got to my parent's home in north Asheville, they had called offering me the job! I began right away as organist at the church and as the accompanist for the College Choir.

I quickly found myself among friends and like-minded colleagues, along with a congregation with a deep passion for music as a vital aspect of the worship experience. After a year at the church, a position in the college's music department opened and I was selected to fill the position. Bob Keener and I worked together at the church for a few years before some re-organization in the music department allowing me to take on the music program at the church while Bob took on more responsibilities within the college. Jump some 30 years to the present and we see similarities with my transition to cover more needs in the music department.

While I must avoid singling out any individuals, a collective "thanks" to all the members of the Chapel Choir is necessary. Many have participated in this group since I became its director in the mid-1980s. We have been a happy family of committed singers without any of the internal bickering I hear about from many of my colleagues around the country! I can't thank them enough for singing their hearts out for me – and for you – in our services and in the many services we have provided music for the V A Hospital (a tradition WWC has maintained for 50+ years!).

The organ, of course, has been central to my work for the church. The instrument of 1964 was an excellent instrument though, seemingly, designed more for teaching than church music-making. It was well-maintained and then began showing its age in the early 2000s. (Continued on page 7)



PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS: Neil Satterfield; Kari Fernald, Lisa Mallory's mother; Bob Keener; Salyna Morgan; Barbara Robinson, Jack Ballard's mother; Chuck & Lue Stephenson and Mary Moorrees.

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Music Transition and Search Committee

Beginning June 11, we will have substitute organists.

Most of the summer will be covered by David Foster, formerly with First Baptist, Asheville; and by Michael Knoll, formerly with Swannanoa Presbyterian. Vivian Hare-Grogg, from New Hope Presbyterian, will play July 10.

The Session has approved a Search Committee: Diana Sanderson, Doug Orr, Beth Meriweather, and Corise Gambrell. Joyce Ackerman and Steve Williams have worked together on a job description. The Search Committee will use the job description, data from Forward Planning, and a congregational survey as we begin to consider the future of the music program at Warren Wilson.

June Birthdays!

Eagle Joslin	Emma	Jun. 1
Spencer	Mary Fran	Jun. 6
Sigmon	Bob	Jul. 12
Roberts	Fran	Jun. 13
Garrison	Nancy	Jun. 16
Dale	Anne	Jun. 17
Legerton	Fitz	Jun. 20
Satterfield	Neil	Jun. 21
Marvin	Gina	Jun. 22
Williams	Kristin	Jun. 25
Wintle	Jackie	Jun. 25
Hamilton	Steven	Jun. 27



In celebration of Steve Williams' thirty-five years at Warren Wilson and an opportunity to say thank you and goodbye we are planning a glorious day on June 5. Beginning at 10:15 there will be lots of beautiful music, prior to our regular worship service at 11:00, and followed by really good food and an opportunity to laugh and maybe shed a few tears with Steve as we say our goodbyes and best wishes.



May “Back Porch Session”...



A new tradition that celebrates story, song, faith, the joys of living and our partnership with the college!

Back Porch Sessions will begin again in September.



The Top Ten Things We’ll Miss Most about Steve Williams

Granted, the following list could go on for many entries and, granted, Steve will be working just across the street at Warren Wilson College, but as we prepare to say good-bye to our good friend and esteemed colleague, here, in no particular order, the top ten things we’ll miss most about Steve Williams as submitted by several of his not-so-secret admirers:

1. His playing and his passion for music
2. His impish boyishness
3. His dedication to perfection
4. His love of dogs
5. His fun personality and devilish sense of humor
6. His love of God and truth
7. His generosity and caring
8. His love of parents and best friends
9. The sense of community he built in the choir
10. His interpretation of Widor’s Toccata



The Social Outreach Committee welcomed Sarah Thomas to speak and to describe the growth and expansion of the Home at the May meeting.

Programs are designed to provide a home and care for abused, abandoned and neglected children and family foster care for a child at the request of his or her parents or legal guardian or by order of the court or child-protective agency.

The Independent Living Program offers youth who are in the care of the home to pursue higher education / training with housing provided on the main campus. Currently the village provides housing for 32 young adults and 3 staff members with construction underway to add two cottages to house up to 16 youth and one cottage for two additional staff members. During the fiscal year 2012-13 a total of 96 youth were served from birth through college education.

Tom Campbell, President, writes "When youth come into our care, 'hopeful' is not a word that usually describes them. They may not be able to sense hope, but we're doing all we can to find hope for the future". He writes, "This is one of the blessings of serving in a ministry like black Mountain Home. It is priceless to see a child suddenly grasp his or her potential, to see that spark of hope that they are capable of doing well, learning new things and being successful".

*"Put your hope in God for I will yet praise him,
my Savior and my God". Psalm 42:5*

He continues, "While we try to renew hope in the lives of our youth, we also point them to our ultimate never-failing source of hope in Christ Jesus".

Sarah made several suggestions of opportunities for donars to give to children:

- 1) Contributions to "everyday fund" to provide basics like food, clothing, shelter and education with decreased government support.
- 2) Welcome baskets – laundry basket with sheets, towels, toiletries, stuffed animal or toy and (age appropriate) Bible. These help make children feel at home.
- 3) Dine & Shop event by visiting shops and restaurants which will donate a portion of the days proceeds to Everyday Fund to help children in need to be held on Thursday before Father's Day JUNE 16. Look for the list of participating shops and restaurants in the Parlor.

It is with gratitude that our church is committed to this outreach for children.

(Submitted by Pat Crumpler)

Advance Care Planning

The next quarterly Advance Care Planning workshop will be held Thursday, June 16, 7 - 9 pm at The Reuter Center on the campus of UNC-Asheville. Call 251-6140 for directions to The Reuter Center. This popular, free program uses a live panel presentation on this subject with an attorney, MD, ethicist and chaplain who will respond to your questions. They are also available for assistance as you complete your Advance Directive form. The North Carolina short form will be used. Notary Publics are on hand to witness your signature allowing you to complete this important document during this time, all at no charge.

End of Year Christian Education Picnic at Montreat

On Sunday May 22, following church, a large group of members drove to Montreat to enjoy an end-of year picnic with Christian Education. As you can see below, several “kids” enjoyed the swings and the nearby creek. On a beautiful day, fun and fellowship was shared by all.



Who are these swingers...?

Treasurer's Report

This is primarily a report on the 2015 budget year. This report is later than it should be getting to you because I was new to the job of Treasurer at the beginning of this year. I am very thankful for Nan Woodard who started working as our bookkeeper about last October and now is proficient in how to set up and keep our financial records. Next year we will get this report to you much sooner. And, I appreciate the support of Tom Eller and Bill Corbin who have done this in the past, and Mike Levi of the Budget and Finance Committee.

A brief summary narrative follows. I will get full spreadsheet reports to anyone who asks.

Under the category of "Ordinary Income," actual pledging for 2015 exceeded the budget by just over \$3,000. This speaks well of members meeting their pledging commitments last year. Loose plate offerings and of course the Warren Wilson College contribution to our budget were on target with the budget. It should be noted that our covenant with the College calls for less College contribution to our budget over a several year period such that in the near future we will not receive any money from the College. Regular unpledged income was just over \$4,000 less than budgeted. However, a positive note more than compensating for this is that the 2015 budget was prepared calling for a transfer from the Memorial Fund to meet operating expenses and the actual Memorial Fund withdrawal was substantially less than budgeted to support the operating budget.

Regarding benevolences, there are about two dozen denominational and community funds in the budget to which we donate, and all of them received their budgeted amount exceeding \$17,000. In addition, there are about 10 other denominational and community special offering categories to which the congregation contributes (such as Souper Bowl, One Great Hour of Sharing, Nickel a Meal, Joy Gift, and several others). In 2015, the congregation gave \$9,750.00 for these special offerings. Thus total benevolence giving for denominational and community programs exceeded \$26,000 for 2015.

In summary, 2015 was a good year for the church financially. For 2016 and future years, we need to work toward even less reliance on income sources such as borrowing from the Memorial Fund. However, the congregation responded well with their giving in 2015 and the church pastor, parish associate, administrator, and various committees did well in managing expenditures.

For the first quarter of 2016, the bottom line for all sources of income and all paid expenses for January through March is income over expenses by just under \$6,000 while budgeted income over expenses for this period is just over \$3,000. However, not much weight should be given to this reported surplus at this time due to all expenses and payments not being prorated evenly for each month. In summary, our financial picture for the first quarter of 2016 looks reasonably good, and I will have more detailed evaluations as the year progresses.

If you would like more budget details than appears in this brief narrative, I would be pleased to either meet with you to go over the financial spreadsheets, or, send you these spreadsheet reports. The three reports available are: 1) Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual for 2015, 2) Balance Sheet for end of 2015, and, 3) Profit and Loss Budget Performance, January through March, 2016.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church as one of several members active in our treasury work,

Bob Gambrell

Treasurer

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A Word from Steve Williams continued...

Basically, it became an outdoor instrument during the summers before we got the new heating/cooling system; modern organs are rarely intended for outdoor use and aren't designed to tolerate the high heat and humidity of summer. And hot it was! Frequently the temperatures in the balcony and organ chamber would be well into the 90+ degree range. This accelerated its ageing and necessitated major care. With generous donations, we were able to save this instrument and give it a new life with the renovations in 2008-2009. The chapel now houses one of the finest instruments in the area. I was delighted to hear from a member of the congregation who lovingly said "Wow, we now have a cathedral organ in our chapel!"

It must be noted that, really, I am not leaving or going away. I will still be across the street with plenty to keep me busy in the music department. I will still use the instrument for my own practice and performance along with teaching college students. And I imagine I will be on the list of substitutes for church services in the future (knowing how difficult it is to find substitute organists!). Many have asked if I would be available for weddings or memorial services as the needs arise, and of course I would be glad to help in any way I can.

It has been a great joy in my life to be a part of this music-loving congregation all these years. I will dearly miss our weekly gatherings, but wish you ALL the best as you move into the next chapters in the life of this church.

With so much love...Steve W.

More fun at the CE picnic!





June

At Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church we are mothers and fathers, single and married, gay and straight, young and old, black and white, prosperous and poor, uncertain and sure, broken and whole. We are the many faces of humanity-yet as a community of faith, we are committed in our diversity to be one in Christ!

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