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Volume 24 Issue 8

September 2017

Steve's Slant

As part of our observance of the Labor Day weekend, and as we have done now for several years, we gathered for worship this past Sunday in the Morris Pavilion on campus. It was a particularly lovely day, with a hint of fall in the cool air. And I was reminded again of how special these outdoor services are.

As those of you who were present know, I had planned on preaching a rather traditional Labor Day sermon, one that highlights the value of work and explores the unique nature of the work we are all called to do as God's people, the Body of Christ in the world.

But this year, in light of the sheer volume of work there is to do in the wider world -- from hurricane relief, to resisting the spread of racism, to protecting the rights of immigrants and refugees, including the so-called Dreamers who are here under DACA -- I was moved to take a different approach.

I opted to focus instead on the need to follow God's own example and take a Sabbath.

Sometimes we just need to enjoy a respite, and to gather our collective breath (that is, to be inspired), so that when the time does come to resume our work, we can approach it with renewed energy, commitment and vitality.

Now that we've had a bit of time to enjoy that respite, the time has come to begin our work. In what follows, I'm not going to focus on the larger opportunities -- the macro level work, as it were -- that we're all facing as conscientious Americans. Instead, I again want to take a different approach.

Knowing that the fall season is rapidly approaching, some of you are probably wondering what all is going on at church these days.

The list below is intended to answer that question. I provide it here for two reasons. One, I simply want us all to be aware of all these activities that will soon animate our life together. And, two, I offer this information in case you want to join in on some of these opportunities that are open to congregational participation.

This week:

- Our Nominating Committee for next year's class of elders met yesterday (Tuesday).
- The search committee for our new Associate in Ministry met last night. They have completed their first round of interviews of with a slate of highly qualified candidates. I was able to confer with them last night, and their hope is to make a final recommendation to Session by the end of this month.
- Choir rehearsals have resumed, every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel. On Sunday, they will sing in worship for the first time this season. (Continued on page 6)

PRAYERS FOR: Edythe Wiener; Barbara Higgins; Rodney Lytle; Neil Satterfield; Dr. Steven Williams; Barbara Robinson; Calvin Clark; Chuck & Lue Stephenson and Mary Moorrees.

Church contacts:

Church Office 298-9092

Church Administrator; Donna Eagle Joslin 771-209 e-mail= deagle@Warren-Wilson.eduMinister; Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt 771-2095 e-mail= srunholt@Warren-Wilson.eduDirector of Music, organist; Vivian Hare e-mail= vhare03@gmail.comTreasurers; Jerry VanEman 258-1082 e-mail= jerryvaneman@gmail.comRay Stock 298-0955 e-mail= stoc5054@bellsouth.netAssistant Treasurer; Alisa White 2986778 e-mail= aliswht@yahoo.comBook Keeper; Nan Woodard e-mail= nan.woodard@yahoo.com

September Birthdays!

Liam Pulsifer

September 4

Lue Stephenson

September 5

Natalie Cowal

September 15

John Laney

September 23

Fritz Ackerman

September 25

Elizabeth Cook

September 27



Thanks to all who helped collect and update information for our new directory. If you still have changes to your address or e-mail etc. please contact the church office.

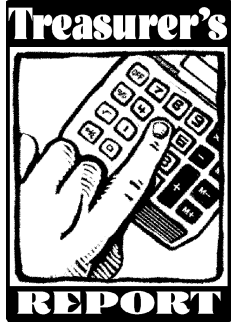
If you're wondering why the new directories are not out yet, you're not alone! A decision has been made to hold off on printing them so that we may include the new Associate in Ministry when that person is hired. Thanks for your patience during this process!

The Warren Wilson Book Group will meet at noon on Sept. 14th in the Fellowship Hall. It will be the Annual Salad Potluck Luncheon. Bring a favorite salad to share with the group - snacks and dessert will be provided. "The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend" will be discussed and led by Judi Repman. We will feast on special salads and enjoy a great discussion. Come join us.

**Come join the Choir!****Chapel Choir rehearsals have resumed...**

The Chapel Choir meets 7:00-8:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the sanctuary. We are a great group of folks who enjoy singing together and sharing our music in worship.

We welcome those who love music and enjoy singing with others as we offer our music for worship each week throughout the year. Our musical expression during worship includes choral anthems with a variety of sounds -- classical, spiritual, global music, Appalachian music, contemplative and more. Whether choir has been part of your life or you have never been in a choir before, we welcome you! If you are interested, please call Vivian [\(828\) 767-3921](tel:8287673921)



Treasurer's Report for January-June, 2017

The good news is that pledge income was up approximately \$12,000 during the first six months of 2017, and total expenses were down approximately \$3,500, for a net gain (relative to our budget) of approximately \$15,000.

More good news-we have received approximately \$20,000 in gifts from current members during this period, some of which were specified to go into our operating fund and into our operating reserve fund, as well as into various endowment funds.

Combining all of the above allows us to easily meet our 2017 financial obligations to date, without borrowing any monies from the Memorial Fund, and to, in fact, start to repay the funds from which we had borrowed money to meet our 2016 obligations.

The best news-we recently received a bequest of approximately \$70,000 from the Waldrop family whose father attended Warren Wilson College and had fond memories of the chapel. Hopefully, this bequest will allow us to hire a replacement for Beth early in the fall.

If you have questions on the above, please contact Jerry VanEman.

When I wake up in the morning, I WANT my breakfast! Coffee, toast with peanut butter and jam, fruit. Yum. I also like my lunch, snacks... and dinner. Missing meals is not fun. For some in our area missing meals is all too common.

HUNGER ACTION MONTH is September. Sunday, September 10th is Hunger Awareness Sunday. Manna Food Bank, Bounty and Soul, and Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministries are all involved in a nationwide initiative to encourage action against hunger. To make our congregation aware please wear your previous Hunger Walk t-shirt on September 10th.

This year the SVCM hunger walk is Sunday, October 8th. As in the past, it begins at First Baptist Church with registration at 1:30 pm and the walk at 2. (There is time for the Warren Wilson Home Coming Lunch after church the same Sunday). There is a 1 mile and 4 mile option. We walk in the rain or sunshine.

New this year: 1) Please bring a nonperishable item to deliver to the SVCM office as we walk. 2) Of the 10% of funds raised that doesn't go directly to SVCM, 5% will be given to Bounty and Soul and 5% to Manna Food Bank. 3) For those who want to participate but can't walk, the rocking chairs in the historic area of Black Mountain will be available for a ROCK-A-THON on a first-come basis. Find a rocking chair on Cherry Street!!!

Thanks for your participation, Anne Dale

The Nursery Brigade Sign-up Sheet is available in the Narthex. Readers will begin Sept. 10th. The children will be hearing Old Testament stories of Samuel, Saul, David and Solomon. After the children's sermon, walk with the group to the nursery, read the story and talk with them about the characters and then return to the sanctuary. The Leaflets are always available a week ahead in the Nursery.
(Submitted by Sandy Brauer)

WWPC is hosting Room in the Inn September 10-16th. Sign-up sheets for dinner dishes, lunches, and overnight volunteers are in the narthex. Please sign up.
(Submitted by Paulette Heck)

Please pick up items left at church...

Folks should look at the coat rod in the FH and the table in the hall and claim anything in there that is theirs. Whatever is left in either place on Sat. 9-23-17 will be taken to SVCM.
(Submitted by Sarah Anne Eller)



Follow the footsteps of children and adults as they walk thru the Fellowship Hall and into the Adult and Children's Sunday School rooms on Sunday, Sept 10th at 9:45. Kristin Williams has designed a curriculum for the children that will coordinate with our Sunday Sermons. The children will display a Poster of the lesson and be available for questions and answers during the Coffee Hour. As you drink your coffee, chat with the children - you will be impressed. The Adult class will begin with Steve as leader and then members can suggest books or areas of interest they would like to read or discuss. See ya' on Sunday, Sept 10th at 9:45.
(Submitted by Sandy Brauer)



On Sunday, August 27 we welcomed the new president of the college Dr. Lynn Morton by blessing her with the laying on of hands. Everyone with a connection to the college was asked to come forward and participate in the blessing. Dr. Morton has been very gracious and we are so glad she's here!



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is in touch with presbyteries affected areas of Texas to offer assistance. We are standing by with resources and National Response Team members ready to deploy upon invitation and when it is safe to do so.

For those who wish to support PDA's emergency response and recovery efforts, gifts can be designated to **DR000169-Harvey**. We need your help. Please give generously.

If you prefer to mail a check, you may send it to:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

PO Box 643700

Pittsburgh, PA, 15264-3700

You may also call us Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EST), at 1-800-872-3283 and donate by phone. For updates, please go to pda.pcusa.org.

Please join us in praying for courage for those who are suffering; wisdom and diligence among agencies and individuals assessing damage and directing relief efforts; and for generosity to flow as powerfully as rivers and streams, as we respond to the deep human needs left in the wake of the storm.



Help beautify our Church both inside and out for us and for Homecoming. The clean-up day is Saturday, Sept 23 from 9:30 am until 4:00 pm. Work will focus on the interior of the Church building, the Fellowship Hall, the Sunday School Rooms and hallway AND landscaping -- especially around the Fellowship Hall. There will be a coordinator for each of these areas. You may sign up for one or more specific areas. You may sign up for a half day or a whole day. If you sign up for all day, please bring a bag lunch. Also, bring gloves and any tools you may need for the area or areas you plan to help with. Either the College Heavy Duty Cleaning Crew or a vendor will clean the outside windows. No one will be standing in a chair or on a ladder to reach higher—safety first. (Submitted by Kay Stockdale)

Come and enjoy helping to spruce up for our homecoming guests!

THE NORRIS/HUNTER partner family for Habitat Presbyterian/Methodist House # 26 will visit our service on Sept. 24 for a Habitat Moment for Mission. We will also receive a special offering that morning to help purchase building materials for this house.

Steve's Slant continued...

- Our first Habitat workday starts on Wednesday of this week, and our slate of workdays on the Presbyterian House continue through November.
- The Stewardship Planning Team is meeting this Friday, to continue planning our fall stewardship campaign.

This Sunday:

- Children's and Adult Sunday school classes start this Sunday at 9:45 a.m.
- Room in the Inn also starts this Sunday.

This month:

- Our buildings and grounds action team is sponsoring an all-church work day on Saturday, September 23rd.

Finally, more generally....

- The Forward Planning Leadership Team has been meeting with our five main Goal Teams to assess the next steps we need to take in each area to live into the goals of our Ministry Plan. As a reminder, these are our main goal teams: Congregational Care; Community Engagement; Faith Development; and, finally, Sustainability.

These are just the opportunities I know about. I'm sure there is good work going on all the time--work that shows the world and our neighbors who we are, what we value, and what we are called to do as a family of faith, a community of God's people.

Thanks be to God!

Guatemala Microloan Project

SEPTEMBER 2017



A joint project of Presbyterian Women from the Presbytery of Western North Carolina and Suchitepequez and Sur Occidente Presbyteries

**Goal: Helping women find opportunity, hope, freedom,
and economic resources for themselves and their families**

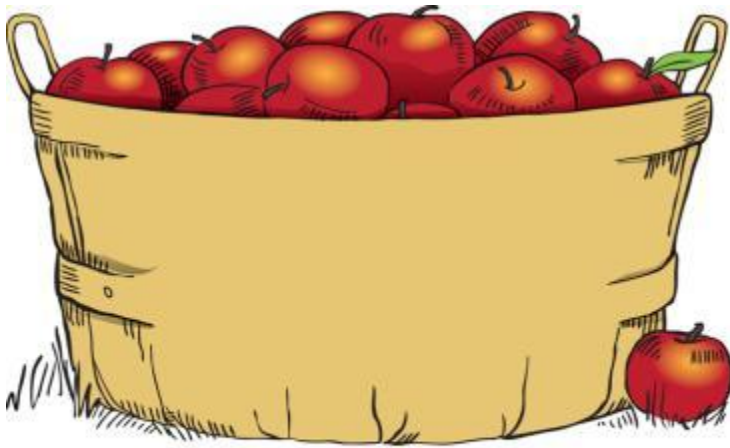
Prayers for Microloan Trip to Guatemala

Please pray for Ellen Dozier, Susan Maveety, and Mimi Michael as they travel to Guatemala September 6-13, 2017. The purposes of the trip are:

- To visit all four microloan groups to listen, learn, provide support
- To meet with the presbytery leadership and with the women's leadership of Suchitepequez and Sur Occidente presbyteries to dialog, discuss, foster understanding and facilitate cooperation
- To meet with the ADEHGUA staff who administer the microloan project to discuss present and future plans

Please pray for good dialogue and understanding so the project can move forward with even more strength and effectiveness.

Presbyterian Women will be having their Spring Gathering here (in the Chapel and in Ransom Fellowship Hall) on Saturday, April 14, 2018. If you would like to be a volunteer for this event, please contact Corise Gambrell or Cathy Rouse.



September

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!

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church
CPO 6355/PO Box 9000
Asheville, NC 28815-9000
01-0001-1320

The Extended Family