



# THE EXTENDED FAMILY

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## *Steve's Slant*

*Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves, like locked rooms and like books that are now written in a very foreign tongue. Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. And the point is, to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer.*

If you were in worship on the Sunday when we welcomed the students back (August 26<sup>th</sup>), you may recall that this quote, from the German poet Rainer Maria Rilke, is the source of the theme for our current sermon series, "Living the Questions."

We began the series that day by exploring the question: "Who do you say that I am?" The question of course comes from Jesus. Nearing the end of his ministry, which is to say, after three years of teaching and traveling together with his disciples, he pauses and asks his main group of followers: *Who do you say that I am?*

We started the series there because, as a Christian congregation, that may be the most foundational question of all.

Last Sunday, we took a step back -- all the way back -- to the first creation story in the book of Genesis. As you know, that story begins, with this famous and familiar line: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. (This is from the King James translation, the most familiar rendering of the Bible's opening verse.)

We noted that the author of the story presupposes God's existence, takes it for granted, as if the reader would know who it is that he (the author) is talking about when he refers to this God.

So we paused, right there, to ask: God who? Who is this God of whom the author of Genesis speaks? Who is this God of the Hebrew tradition?

In both of these services (and this will also be true in the weeks to come), we give you a chance to reflect on, and answer, these questions for yourself. We are going to make a display of your responses, so that we can all read, enjoy and benefit from them together.

But I want to give you a sampling here, just so you can see the richness of your offerings, as we live these questions together.

We start with: Who do you say that I am?

*A new beginning*

*Peace and hope*

*A mighty fortress*

*The light within and around us*

*Accepting of all*

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**September Birthdays!**

Liam Pulsifer      Sept. 4  
John Laney        Sept. 23  
Elizabeth Cook    Sept. 27

Natalie Cowal     Sept. 15  
Fritz Ackerman    Sept. 25



The Warren Wilson Book Group will meet on Thursday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Each year in Sept, the group begins the Sept. meeting with a Salad Luncheon. Rather than a sandwich, bring your favorite salad to share with the group. It is a fun time for all. Corise Gambrell will lead the discussion of "The Comfort Food Diaries" by Emily Nunn.

**SPIRITUAL NURTURE GROUP**

The Spiritual Nurture group meets on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Parlor. All are welcome.



**ROOM IN THE INN** will start Sunday, Sept.9 thru Sunday morning Sept./16. We have signup sheets in the Narthex where Jackie Wintle is there to help. Paulette is recovering so there is need for other help. We can use some help on Sunday setup (see note on table). I will not be in town on Fri, 9/14 or Sat. 9/15. The Sat. overnight volunteer will help coordinate with the students to return the rooms to their original setup Sunday morning. Thanks. Susan Laney [shlaney@aol.com](mailto:shlaney@aol.com)



Fair Trade orders for coffee, tea, olive oil and chocolate will be taken on September 9 and September 16 with delivery on September 23.  
Thanks, Anne Dale

**NURSERY** The nursery is available in the CE building beyond Ransom Fellowship Hall from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm beginning September 9.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL RECAP “In the Name of Love” July 30-August 2

Ten of our children and youth (and some of their friends) gathered at 5:45 pm each night for music, supper, and a lesson. Vivian Hare led music; Bob & Corise Gambrell, John & Susan Laney, Jane Corbin, and Steve & Robyn Castellani-Runholt provided meals; Sandy Brauer, Sandy Drake and Grace Boyer lent helping hands; and Kristin Williams and Lisa Mallory designed and led the lessons. Each lesson included Bible passages, games, art and mission projects.

**Monday** the scripture was 1 Corinthians 13 and the topic was “Types of love.” After counting to 13 to help the young people remember which chapter in Corinthians, the group looked at some of the attributes of love, and the “Agape” love of the God. Then they read notes sent by their church buddies and wrote and decorated notes in return. **Tuesday** they looked at John 13:31-35 “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” The topic was “Loving loud” by letting your actions show your love. They brainstormed service projects, and created paper flowers to be delivered with Meals on Wheels and to our Highland Farms nursing home residents. **Wednesday** they acted out the Good Samaritan story from Luke 10:25-37 and the topic was “Finding the courage to love, even when it’s hard.” They then worked on heart magnet to give to others. **Thursday** the community garden service project was rained out, but spirits were not dampened! The group instead reviewed the lessons of each day and finished up their art and mission projects. On **Sunday**, the children and youth shared some of their songs and experiences with the congregation. Thank you to all the parents who brought their wonderful children for this week of VBS.



## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

In September, the Adult Class will focus on Jesus' "I Am" statements in the Gospel of John. John is a word-made-flesh gospel where Jesus uses aspects of daily life—like bread, light, vines, shepherds, gates—to help people touch and understand who he is and who God is. The class will look at what these metaphors would have meant in Jesus' day and explore how they might still resonate in our world today.

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### JOIN THE CHOIR!

The Chapel Choir meets 7:00-8:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the sanctuary. We welcome those who love music and enjoy singing with others as we offer our music for worship. All are welcome!

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### A note from SVCM about upcoming Shelter dates

Good morning !

It is shelter planning time again here at the ministry!

I am excited to share with you that we have had 4 of our shelter men that were regular guests last year, move into housing over the summer.

Also with Hope for Tomorrow up and running , we have 6 homeless families with children enrolled in this goal oriented program!

This community has certainly gotten the name of being doers and are growing stronger relationships by Gods Grace.

Training this year for volunteers has been scheduled as follows:

Monday , October 8, @ 6:00 FBC Black Mountain

Tuesday, October 9, 6:00 FBC Black Mountain

Tuesday, October 16..same time and place.

I hope to see many of you soon and look forward to serving alongside again this winter.

If you know of anyone who would consider volunteering with us this year, please bring them along. We always need new volunteers to keep this service running.

Thank you for all you do!

Sonny Moore  
SVCM



**RAPID PROGRESS ON HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PRESBYTERIAN/METHODIST HOUSE # 27;  
PARTNER FAMILY WILL ATTEND OUR SEPT. 30 WORSHIP SERVICE**

Volunteers from our church began working on Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity's Presbyterian/Methodist House # 27 in Arden on July 27, and over the first four weeks of construction contributed more than 70 hours of work on four different dates.

Building continued through August 25, and then resumed after a week off. Faith partner volunteers will continue to help through September with work including siding, porch framing, flooring, stucco, paint and trim. WWPC members and friends are scheduled to work on five different dates during the month.

Just past noon on Friday, Sept. 21, Habitat will host a special "kickoff" event for this house as well as the Interfaith house also being built in Arden. A potluck lunch will be served, and all volunteers who have worked on either house or are scheduled to work are invited to attend.

On the final Sunday of the month, Sept. 30, the future owner of Presbyterian/Methodist house # 27, Shaketia Simpson, and her children, DaMarion and Mahogani, will attend our worship service and be introduced to the congregation. A special offering to help with the purchase of building materials for the house will also be received that morning.



*Shaketia Simpson, and her children, DaMarion and Mahogani, will visit our worship service on Sunday, Sept. 30.*



*Bob Gambrell, Jerry Vaneman and Larry Griswold worked on the house on Aug. 22 doing interior Framing and helping prepare for installation of the roof.*

## CLERK'S REPORT



Although the activities of the church slowed down during the summer, the session did hold its regular stated meetings. At the June meeting, the session took the following actions:

1. Agreed to split the cost of a new HVAC system for the fellowship hall and church offices with the college and to appoint action teams to assess other capital needs and to develop a plan to pay for them.
2. Established September 30 as the date for special offering for Habitat for Humanity and the visit of the family who will live in the Presbyterian-Methodist house.
3. Elected Sandy Brauer as its second commissioner to the July presbytery meeting.
4. Approved hiring a student worker for the summer.
5. Revised the personnel policies of the church.
6. Authorized the head of the facilities action team to spend moneys in the designated maintenance fund for emergency repairs.
7. Adopted a leave policy for the Director of Music.

In July, the session met with Fraser Penny, our visitor from Scotland. Its only formal action was to authorize paying the local portion of the Pentecost offering to the Apprentice program of the Black Mountain Home for Children.

At the August meeting, the session took the following actions:

1. Named Sally Broughton and Nancy Garrison as co-chairs of the 2018 Stewardship Campaign.
2. Approved adult Sunday school classes through October 7.
3. Approved Kristin Williams preparing weekly children's classes based on the scripture texts used in the worship service.
4. Agreed to place sliders under the communion table and either sliders or wheels under the table used for the candles of concern.
5. Accepted with regret Jerry Vaneman's resignation as treasurer and appointed Leslie Sayyar as his successor.
6. Approved a form for requesting checks from the church bookkeeper.

If you have any questions about the work of the session, please contact the pastor, clerk, or any elder on active service.

Ken Murchison, Clerk

*Steve's Slant continued...*

*Light of the world, hope  
Inner peace of love within us all  
My alarm clock--time to wake up!  
God's gift to us all  
Love embodied*

And now: God who?

*A call to love in action  
Omnipotent creator  
God gives permission, God creates, God desires us, God is a verb  
God, present in every possibility, the hand reaching down when we stumble, the love  
rippling from you to me to the end  
God is the source of my breath, the source of the rhythm of my pulse, the source of any  
wisdom and life that arise within me.  
Great indescribable spirit  
The answer to the questions I don't even know to ask  
Love*

See what I mean? These are wonderful! This is only a small sampling of the responses you've offered so far. But even from these, I think you can see the value of this process of exploring these questions together.

We have five more weeks -- five more questions -- to go. I can't wait to see where this journey takes us!



**PLAYGROUND IDEAS MEETING**

September 9th after worship. If you have ideas about a possible children's playground, or would like to be a part of a group looking into it, or someday help with any construction of it, please meet with Derron Daugherty after worship on Sept. 9th in the pews closest to the piano in the sanctuary. We will keep this meeting short,

and there will be a chance to write down your ideas or interests if that works better for you.

**KEYBOARD NEEDED FOR YOUTH** "Do you have a simple electric piano keyboard in your garage or basement that you are no longer using? If it is in good working order, please let Vivian Hare know. We need one by September 9 to help teach music to the children and youth."



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-and  
everything in between.

Together we are the  
many faces of humanity,  
yet as a joyful, caring  
and loving community of  
faith, we are committed  
in our diversity to be one  
in Christ!

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