



First Presbyterian Church Mount Airy

The Grapevine

February 2022

Greetings from your Session! In an effort to connect with our church members, we will be re-starting the church's newsletter, The Grapevine. The publication will be put together by the Communications and the Administration Ministry Committees with help from the office staff. If you have questions, concerns, or something to add, contact Beth Pequeno at beth.pequeno@gmail.com

Session News:

The Session is currently conducting a **Congregational Health Survey** and would like each individual to fill one out. Deadline has been extended to Monday, January 31. More information and link to the survey: [Congregational Survey](#)

The **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will be held after the service on February 28. This meeting will cover Griff Gatewood's terms of call and the church's annual budget. We hope you can be there. This meeting will include a meeting of our church corporation (which is a legal entity the state requires the church to have.)

Election of new Elders:

On Sunday, January 23 there was a congregational meeting in which we elected five new Elders to our Session. These new elders are Valerie Parker, Barry Schneider, David Rives, Lydia Taylor, and Beth Pequeno. We are still in need of 1-2 more elders, so if you are interested please contact our Clerk of the Session Bob Keck at bkeck_2000@yahoo.com or Moderator of the Session Griff Gatewood at griff@fpcma.com.

Missions Ministry Committee would like to remind you of the following:

- **Yokefellow:** Our food for the month of February is Rice and Mayonnaise. Any donations of non-perishable food is welcome. Collection basket is located in the hallway.
- **Pennies for Hunger** will be collected on February 6.

Note from the Communications Ministry Committee

We will be using Realm Connect as our main communications tool. You do not need a smartphone to use Realm. If we have your email, you're already in the system. By signing up for the app on your smartphone or computer, you have access to the many things Realm offers and you can go to

“settings” and choose how you’d like to receive notifications from the church: text, email, and/or on the Realm app. Having the Realm app gives you access to many great features including being able to make and track donations. To log on or create an account use this link:

<https://onrealm.org/fpcma/Account/Start?ReturnUrl=%2Ffpcma%2FTextNotifications%2FSetup>

Questions? Need help getting set up? Contact Blanton Youell at blantonyou@gmail.com

Stewardship letters will be mailed very soon. Please be watching the mail for yours.



Sign-ups for Flowers and Scripture Readers 2022

We have many spots available for the coming weeks! Please consider signing up for one of the available slots using the sign-up sheets in the hallway or contacting Anna Bush at anna@fpcma.com.

	Readers	Flowers
Jan. 30	Derek Higgs	Nicole Harrison
Feb. 6		
Feb. 13		
Feb. 20	Brenda Ferry	Bobby & Sylvia Chilton
Feb. 27	Nicole Harrison	Nicole Harrison
March 6		

Volunteer Opportunities

Greeters: We would like to have at least two greeters to welcome people as they come to worship services. There is a sign-up sheet in the hallway, or contact Anna at anna@fpcma.com. This is a new effort, so every Sunday is available. Ideally people would sign up to volunteer for an entire month.

Little Church: Loida is looking for volunteers to assist her during her time with the children during Sunday morning worship services. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board or contact her directly at loida@fpcma.com

Nursery Volunteers: We have hired Julie Marshall and Charlotte Ann Banfield to take care of the nursery during church services, however, Julie cannot be here every Sunday. We need adult volunteers to help Charlotte Ann for when she is not working so we have at least two people in the nursery. Assistants need to be at least 12 years old. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board or contact Loida at loida@fpcma.com

Do you knit or crochet?

Beth Pequeno is collecting scarves for Scarves Around Surry which are donated to local charities like Surry Medical Ministries and the Shepherd’s House. Hospice is also in need of lap quilts. Contact Beth for more information. beth.pequeno@gmail.com



A note from First Steps:

Thank you for your continued support of First Steps! We very much appreciate all of the donations church members have made to the program. We couldn't do it without you!

We have a few openings in our two-year-old classrooms. Applicants must be two on or before August 31, 2021.

Lastly, we are hiring a long-term substitute to cover a maternity leave in a two-year-old classroom for the months of April and May. Please contact Christie Sheppard for more information at christie@fpcma.com.



In Sympathy:

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Blanton Youell and his family upon the death of his mother Kathy Youell on January 10th.

The sympathy of the congregation is also extended to April Horton and her family upon the death of her uncle Terry Marion on January 16th.

Prayer List: The family of Kathy Youell, The Tate family, Mae Turpin, Mike Shumaker, Mark Johnson, Carol Coalson, Kelley Jackson, Bobbie Hinton, Loida's dad: Acacio Pereira



Live Streams of Worship Services

We continue to provide live streaming of worship services through our Facebook page. You do not need to be a member of Facebook to access. To see past or live streams, use this link:

https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresMtAiry/live_videos/

COVID-19 Precautions - The Session requires everyone to wear a mask as we worship indoors during this Omicron spike in the Covid-19 Pandemic. As the Omicron wave dies down, the Session will be re-evaluating our Covid Policy.

Do you have any extra church keys you don't need?

If you have a key to any building of the church that you no longer need, please turn it into the office. We are down to only a few keys to the building left, and the master keys are costly to replace. Thank you for your attention to this matter.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Pennies for Hunger will be collected on February 6.



Ash Wednesday Service will be held at 7pm on February 21.

Children and Youth Discipleship:

Older Beacons (7th-9th grades) meet on Sundays from 4-6pm in the Scout Hut for a weekly Bible study and fellowship time.

New Beacons (5th-6th grades) meet on Mondays from 4-5pm in the Scout Hut for their Bible study/confirmation class. First class will be meeting on Monday, Jan. 31st.

Godly Play (ages 3 yrs-1st grades) meet on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 5-7pm in the Scout Hut for Godly Play Bible stories, curriculum, Bible verse memorization, and time for song and dance.

Faith Friends (ages 2nd-5th grades) meet on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 5-7pm in the Scout Hut for SPARK Rotation Bible stories, curriculum, Bible verse memorization, songs, and activities.

Adult Discipleship

Odds and Ends Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10am. The classroom is located across from the upstairs restrooms.

The complete church calendar can be found at [News & Events](#)

March Grapevine: deadline for submitting information is Feb. 23. Please send to beth.pequeno@gmail.com.

February Birthdays:

2- Maggie Beal
3- Tony Stoltz
 Simon Bush
7- Linda Gatchel
12- Marissa Petri
13- Thomas Reisinger
15- Logan King
16- Kim Branch
18- Pam Sinclair
20- Bobby Chilton

21- David Petri
22- Daniel Horton
24- Brian Bennett
 Scott Kniskern
 Foster Harrison
 Lauren Wishart
25- Ladonna McCarther
26- Bobbie Hinton
28- Beth Pequeno

February Anniversaries:

17- Tim and Theresa Minter

Useful Links:

Church Calendar: [News & Events](#)

Church website: www.fpcma.com/

Office Email: office@fpcma.com

Bulletins: www.fpcma.com/worship.html

[Facebook](#): @FirstPresMtAiry

[Instagram](#): fpcmountairy

Live Stream videos: https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresMtAiry/live_videos/

Realm Connect:

<https://onrealm.org/fpcma/Account/Start?ReturnUrl=%2Ffpcma%2FTextNotifications%2FSetup>

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Pastor: Griff Gatewood
Office Administrator and Music Director: Anna Bush
Director of Youth and Children's Discipleship: Loida Slate
Director of First Steps: Christie Sheppard