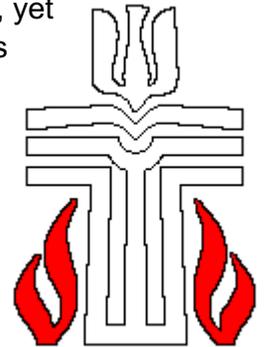


Mitchells Presbyterian Church Monthly Newsletter

June 2022

Pastor's Corner

As we start this new month, we begin with the celebration of Pentecost, sometimes known as the birthday of the church, as it was the time in which the tongues of the world were given to the disciples, so that the message of Christ may be spread throughout the whole of the earth. The apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit as it appeared over them as tongues of fire (I have seen birthday candles used in worship to visualize this occurrence). The fire is like that of the fire that surround the bush which called out to Moses in the book of Exodus. A burning fire, yet a non consuming fire in which everything is enlightened by its flames but nothing is harmed. ***This flaming spirit is symbolized in our own crest of the PC(USA)***, yet all too often the Spirit is something that falls by the way side for those who find themselves in the pews of a Presbyterian Church. It's one of those things that is better left to those folks that wiggle around in church, like the Pentecostals or the Quakers. Let them deal with the mystery of the Spirit in their disruptive ways of worship.



However, as today's worldwide environment, along with the state of our own country, seems to continue to grow darker and more unpredictable, it seems like we could use a little disruption from our "odd" siblings in Christ who seem to have a closer relation with the Spirit than the Presbyterians stereotypically have. For if we are to embody the leaders of the early church, such as the disciples, then we could use a little non-consuming fire in our lives, so that it may be brought into the world around us. We need to bring that which is dark to light, so that Justice and Righteousness may flow down upon these things and wash them clean. In the light, they will be brought to justice, not in their destruction. That is the difference in the fire of the Spirit and the fire of man.

When we seek to do things alone, to bring about retribution to dark things through our fire, whether that be "cleansing" fire, warfare fire, or fire from our mouths, we do so in a humanly flawed manner. "An eye for an eye, makes the whole world blind". Human Fire fought with human fire will always leave a wake of destruction. Yet, the fire of God, the Holy Spirit, has the power, the power to enliven our lives and the lives of others. Not through destroying what is old, or what was in the past, but by bringing to light the dark, so that all may be seen. The good and the bad, all under the same light, where all can find a place of equity in God's kingdom. That is God's season of Pentecost, and that is the time in which we now enter. May we use the Spirit's flame to brighten our lives, and brighten the lives of those around us. Blessings – Pastor Patrick

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that." – Martin Luther King Jr.

Session News

- Heard reports from the various committees
- Approved Caitlin Weaver's request to support her in her efforts to earn the Girl Scout's Gold Award by promoting and distributing prayer bears to the hospital, police, fire & rescue, and other services working with children who are injured or in distress.
- Approved the request of the Eastern Orthodox Mission Church to use one of the Sunday School rooms for their worship services from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., providing this is approved by their church's hierarchy. The initial agreement will be for 3-months subject to renewal by Session. A rental fee will be charged to offset utilities and cleaning. Dates to be determined.
- Received for reading a preliminary report with appropriate forms for use of church facilities by members and non-members. Discussion and vote is scheduled for the June Session meeting.

Presbyterian Women

The Mitchells Presbyterian Women will meet June 14 at **5:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a devotional, and then Hazel Eakin will lead us in Lesson 2, "Responding to Sorrow" in *Grace for Every Trial* by Betty Henderson. We will also have a brief business meeting.

During the month of June, we will be collecting single-serve food items (pudding, pasta, soup, fruit cups, veggies, cereal etc.) for the Culpeper Food Closet. Children will be out of school and these items will allow them to have lunch and/or breakfast without cooking). If you wish to donate any of these items, please leave your donation on the table in the Fellowship Hall outside the Security Room. Thank you to everyone that donated baby diapers and children's books during the month of May.

Please keep in mind as you clean out your unwanted items and as you begin knitting, crocheting, sewing, jewelry making or whatever your talents may be, we will have our rummage/craft sale on October 8, 2022 (rain date October 15). All proceeds will go to the Pavilion Fund.

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic 2022 Summer Gathering on Zoom will be held Friday, June 10 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, June 11 at 9 a.m. If you want to register, here is the link: <https://mailchi.mp/a2be992a0f62/pw-2022-synod-summer-gathering-heres-the-latest>

Happy Summer and blessings to all, Debbie Long-Smith

Men of the Church

The June meeting will be held on Thursday the 2nd at 7:00 p.m. Please contact Steve Hicks if you plan to attend.

The May meeting was very laid back. The meal was centered around Cinco de Mayo (held Thursday, May 5) and included chicken fajitas, Mexican rice, refried beans, and Tres Leches cake for dessert. Then the guys sat around and shot the breeze for an hour and a half. A well-deserved break given the time and effort spent preparing for the Living Last Supper program for Maundy Thursday.

Message from Rev. Mike Clang

Steve Hicks received the following from Mike Clang and, with his permission, is sharing it with the Mitchells family:

Grace to you and peace! Hope all is well. Loved seeing the “Living Last Supper” on YouTube! Having heard about it being performed in the past, it was nice to finally see it. Great job by all!

Wanted to let you know that Tracie and I are “officially” relocating to Salt Lake City. I will be working as a chaplain for Episcopal Community Services which contracts with several hospitals up and down the front range. Our new address (official May 8) is 11774 South Littler Road, Sandy UT 84092.

Safety and Security Committee (SSC)

Nothing new to report.

Church Events/Information

Pavilion Update – Buildings and Grounds

The pavilion project continues to be a work in progress. The installation of the electrical conduit in the shelter and the underground conduit which supplies the shelter with utilities are under way. The concrete work has been delayed for now due to unforeseen circumstances but hopefully we’ll see a concrete truck out back soon. Thanks to everyone for their support, prayers, and patience.

Daniel Grotz’s Organ Concert at MPC July 17, 2022

Mark your calendar and invite your friends to Mitchells Presbyterian at 3:00 Sunday July 17, 2022, for an amazing experience. Our own Daniel Grotz will present an organ concert entitled *Four Pillars* “featuring repertoire by four of the most influential organ composers –J.S. Bach, Cesar Franck, Charles-Marie Widor, and Paul Manz.”

Daniel was an accomplished pianist when he graduated from Eastern View High School, and he continued piano studies and began organ lessons while at UVA.

He is currently organist for an Episcopal Church in Charlottesville. In August he will begin a two-year program at the University of Cincinnati Conservatory to earn a Master of Organ Performance degree. He will also be an apprentice at the Episcopal Cathedral in Cincinnati. We are grateful to Daniel for offering to share his musical expertise with us.

Congregational Life and Ministry Committee

The Committee is coordinating a Graduate Luncheon for Seth Massey in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, June 5, after church. There will be a basket in the Fellowship Hall that day if you would like to leave Seth a congratulations card. The church is furnishing hamburger sliders and cake. There is a sign-up sheet in the kitchen if you would like to bring a side dish to go with the hamburger sliders. Past graduates are welcome and we encourage everyone to attend and congratulate Seth.

The “after church social” continues every Sunday through the summer months. If you would like to host one of these, there is a sign-up sheet in the kitchen. We ask that the host just bring a drink and one platter of cookies or snacks. More information will be provided later this summer for the official start-up in September.

Next month there will be more details about a 5th Sunday fellowship scheduled for July 31.

MPC Spotlight

Spotlighting Vivian and Vera

By Kaye Inskip, Congregational Life and Ministry Committee Member



How do I even begin to tell the story of these two beautiful strong women who have lived their life for their God and their family.



They were born August 1, 1928, twin daughters of Irving and Bernice Walker. Vivian and Vera are the eldest of 7 children. The first 17 years of their life they were raised on Meander Farm (now The Meander Inn) in Locust Dale.

They each have wonderful memories of growing up and a lifestyle most would consider being poor, but they never considered themselves poor because it was the typical rural farm life their friends and neighbors also lived. Their parents worked hard to provide them with a loving home on the farm and according to Vera the “Good Lord provided everything else”. When they

left Meander Farm, they moved to the community of Mitchells where their father worked at Carpenter's Seed Cleaning Plant and they joined Mitchells Presbyterian Church. This is where Vera met her husband Robert (Bob) Somerville. Vera said when she saw him in his Navy whites, she knew he was going to be her husband. Vera and Bob have two children Patricia Anne and Walker. Vivian met her husband William (Bill) Colvin when she moved to Mitchells also. They have three children Granville, Linda Lohr and Brenda Jamison.

The sisters were given complementary names Vivian and Vera but were not necessarily known as the "Twins". Even though they were very close and naturally did many things together at an early age they established their own identities. They could not separate the inherent traits of their love of being a good mother and wife, and they were never afraid of hard work. Both ladies have always loved to dress nice and have their hair done for Sunday outings. They are amazing cooks and never was there a swatch of fabric and a needle that they could not create a piece of handwork. Vera, not one to sit still, goes out in her yard every day. She enjoys her flowers, hand stitching Yo-Yo quilts, and caring for her 30+ African violets. Vivian loves to crochet and has made all of her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren their personal afghan blankets. She is very creative and loves to paint and do arts and crafts.

Their story is ongoing, soon to be 94. They are happy to be so lovingly cared for and appreciate their immediate family and their church family. Living apart from each other they still have close communication. They talk often and are so thankful they still have their sisters Irva Southard and Ellen Graves. It was just heartwarming to hear their gratitude for life and all the blessings from God they have received. Please remember them in your prayers. Everyone needs to take time to visit and hear the sweet simple stories of their lives in our little community of Mitchells.

Worship Committee

Nothing new to report.

MPC Bible School

BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING BACK...YAY!!!

August 5th: Older youth overnight lock-in with pizza and fun activities (time to be announced).

August 6th: All day bible school with biblical craft stations, bounce house, water slide, cookout and a dusk movie (time to be announced)

More information to come at a later date!

Donations to MPC

Any donations to the church can be mailed to:

Mitchells Presbyterian Church
P. O. Box 98
Mitchells, VA 22729

All mail is being picked up twice a week and deposits are being made by Ron Evans, the church treasurer.

Mitchells Presbyterian Email Prayer Chain

Patti Weaver has agreed to monitor and maintain the prayer chain email account. Thank you Patti for your service to MPC.

If you would like to receive notifications of prayer requests via email, please send an email to:

prayersofmitchells@gmail.com

Your email address will be added. This is open to members, regular attendees, friends, etc. Just have all requesters send an email and they will be added.

Prayer requests mentioned at church will try to be added, but it is best if you could just send them to the prayersofmitchells@gmail.com email address.

June 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Doug & Diane Ray	2 Tom Nixon Mary Lou Phillips	3	4 Stephen & Lara Grotz
5 Conley & Vickie Wallace	6 Alan & Susan Wohlleben	7 Vic Squire	8 Crystal Settle Posey & Betty Ann Howell	9 Vicky Tidman	10 Virginia Pannill John & Dottie Clatterbuck	11
12 Barbara Waters	13 Warren Gallahan	14 Larry & Linda Brooks	15	16 Ronnie & Debbie Settle	17	18 Bill & Beth Alexander
19	20 Kemper & Wanda Hulvey	21	22	23 Denita Cuccherini Roxy Mitchell	24	25
26	27 Elizabeth Nixon	28	29	30		

Scheduled Usher: Scott Mitchell Scheduled Acolyte: Tommy Cuccherini