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# THE GOOD NEWS

A Monthly Newsletter

August 2011

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## SESSION

Margaret Bolt, *Clerk*  
John Garlow  
Suzanne Glock  
Linda Grandon  
Michael Hohn  
Judy Lightner  
George Lilley  
Bill Mathias  
Barry McMillan  
Chris McClelland  
Patrick McGinley  
Marilynn Slaughter

## DEACONS

Katie Benders  
Brenda Ely  
Kathy Fisher  
Laura Gross  
Linda Hagerty  
Stacey Harper  
Kaye Leinaweaver  
Scott Lyon  
Beth Madison  
Michael Nikolaus  
Floyd Phillips  
Lorna Phillips  
Richard Schreiber  
Shirley Schreiber  
Rae Jean Sielen  
Judy Werner  
Nancy Whyte  
Amy Zeiders

## STAFF

David Allum, *Custodian*  
Ashlee Filkins, *Secretary*  
Larry Gary, *Sunday Sexton*  
Kristine A. Haig, *Co-Pastor*  
Janna Kisner, *Minister of Music*  
Steve Lightner, *Pastoral Associate*  
John W. Sonnenday, *Co-Pastor*  
Johnetta Velickoff,  
*Administrative Assistant to the Pastors & Bookkeeper*

Presbyterian Child Development Center  
Sharon Portaro, *Director*

**"The times, they are a-changing ..."**

- Sunday, Aug. 21**    **10:45 a.m.** Resume normal worship time of 10:45 a.m. (No Sunday school classes.)
- Sunday, Aug. 28**    **9:30 a.m.** Education Fair in Fellowship Hall (see below)
- 10:45 a.m.** Worship
- 12 noon** Brunch for Newcomers and New Students at Madeleine's
- 7 p.m.** Ice-cream Social in Parlor
- Sunday, Sept. 4**    **10:45 a.m.** Worship with Communion (no Sunday School)
- Sunday, Sept. 11**    **9:30 a.m.** Sunday school classes begin for children, youth, and adults
- 10:45 a.m.** Worship

## **R A L L Y D A Y ! !**

With the reopening of school, our church education program will also be getting started again. This year's Church School will kick off on Aug. 28 at 9:30 a.m. with an All-Ages Rally Day in Fellowship Hall. Come learn about what will be happening for children, youth, and adults this fall. Meet your new teachers, enjoy some music and crafts, and find out more about what is to come. Some of the other organizations and committees of the congregation will also be on hand to let you know about opportunities for fellowship and service in a variety of ways throughout the church and the community. Please join us for a congregation-wide kick-off to the new year.

## **It's ice cream social time!**

August is coming quickly and that means school will be starting. We are planning our annual college ice cream social for Sunday, Aug. 28 at 7 p.m., and need help with donations for the door prizes and goodies. If you have time to ask local businesses for coupons or if you can donate gift cards or any supplies a college student can use, your gifts would be greatly appreciated. Thank you. Donations can be dropped off in the church office or contact Kathy Fisher at 304-599-1501.



## We Need Help — Lots of it!

The Deacons are launching a new project. Just what we need, right? Something more to do! But this is an active church and we need you to pitch in to help. You won't be interested in every activity but you can probably find an event that piques your curiosity. To that end, the Deacons are placing a volunteer board in the parlor. Check it out and sign up to help with an activity that a group in the church is sponsoring.

Each committee in the church is invited to post opportunities on the volunteer board. Sheets will be available in the office to announce the event with a date, a place, a description of what is involved and a request for a specific number of volunteers.

Our intention is to provide space for two months of activities so you can see what opportunities are coming up. Then you can decide what will work for you. Sign up! You'll get a reminder by email or phone.

The deacons hope to enhance communication about the many ways this church reaches out to its members, to the community, and to the larger world. Check out the volunteer board and sign up as often as you can!



Thank you for your faithfulness!



On Monday, July 11, Chris McClelland, Steve, and I ventured to Flatwoods to deliver 30 birthday boxes that had been lovingly filled by members of First Presbyterian Church for those children who are in the foster care program through the Department of Health and Human Resources. We met with Amanda and Dennis Davis who will be the camp directors for the St. Albans area camp. They were truly excited about the boxes and thought that First Presbyterian Church was very well organized. Thank you for your participation in this project.

— Judy Lightner and the Mission Committee

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## **Support The Shack and Have Some Fun with the Shack Quack Duck Race**

Last chance !!! "Adopt" a duck or even a flock of ducks for the great Shack Quack Duck Race on Saturday, Aug. 6 You can sponsor one duck for \$5 or six ducks for \$25. Other price-breaks for even larger flocks are available.

At approximately 3 p.m., the ducks will "race" from one side of the Star City Bridge to the other side.

Cash Prizes: First \$1,500    Second \$500    Third \$250

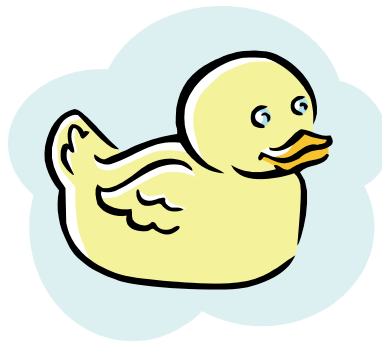
Other prizes will be awarded.

Everyone is invited to enjoy music, food, and other festivities at the Star City Marina near the Star City Bridge starting at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 6. However, you need not be present to win. (Our Mavis Grant-Lilley once won a toy.)

You may "adopt" your ducks at the Star City Marina on the day of the race until about 2:30. Or you may contact Chris McClelland at 304-292-5555 or at <chrismcclelland1@yahoo.com> to arrange for your "adoption."

All proceeds from this event benefit the Shack, which is a continuing mission of our congregation

**Thanks for your support**



Session Meeting Minutes  
July 10, 2011

Session met on July 10, 2011 immediately following worship. The worship service served as its Formation.

- Westminster House Project Committee continues to meet and has begun work with Progressity, Inc. to determine the feasibility of a capital campaign.
- Margaret Bolt was elected Clerk of Session and she and Michael Hohn were appointed as commissioners to Presbytery and will coordinate to assure that the church is represented at Presbytery meetings.
- The following were appointed to represent Session:
  - Endowment Committee – Barry McMillan, as liaison; committee to elect own chair.
  - Evangelism – Suzanne Glock and Linda Grandon, co-chairs.
  - Finance & Legal – Michael Hohn, chair.
  - Mission – Chris McClelland, chair.
  - Nominating, George Lilley, chair.
  - Personnel – Pat McGinley, chair and Marilyn Slaughter.
  - PCDC – Barry McMillan, liaison; Mavis Grant-Lilley, chair.
  - Property – Bill Mathias, liaison; John Garlow (David Burtner, chair).
  - Stewardship – George Lilley, chair.
  - Westminster House – John Garlow, liaison; Chet Parsons, chair.
  - Worship – Marilyn Slaughter and Judy Lightner, co-chairs.

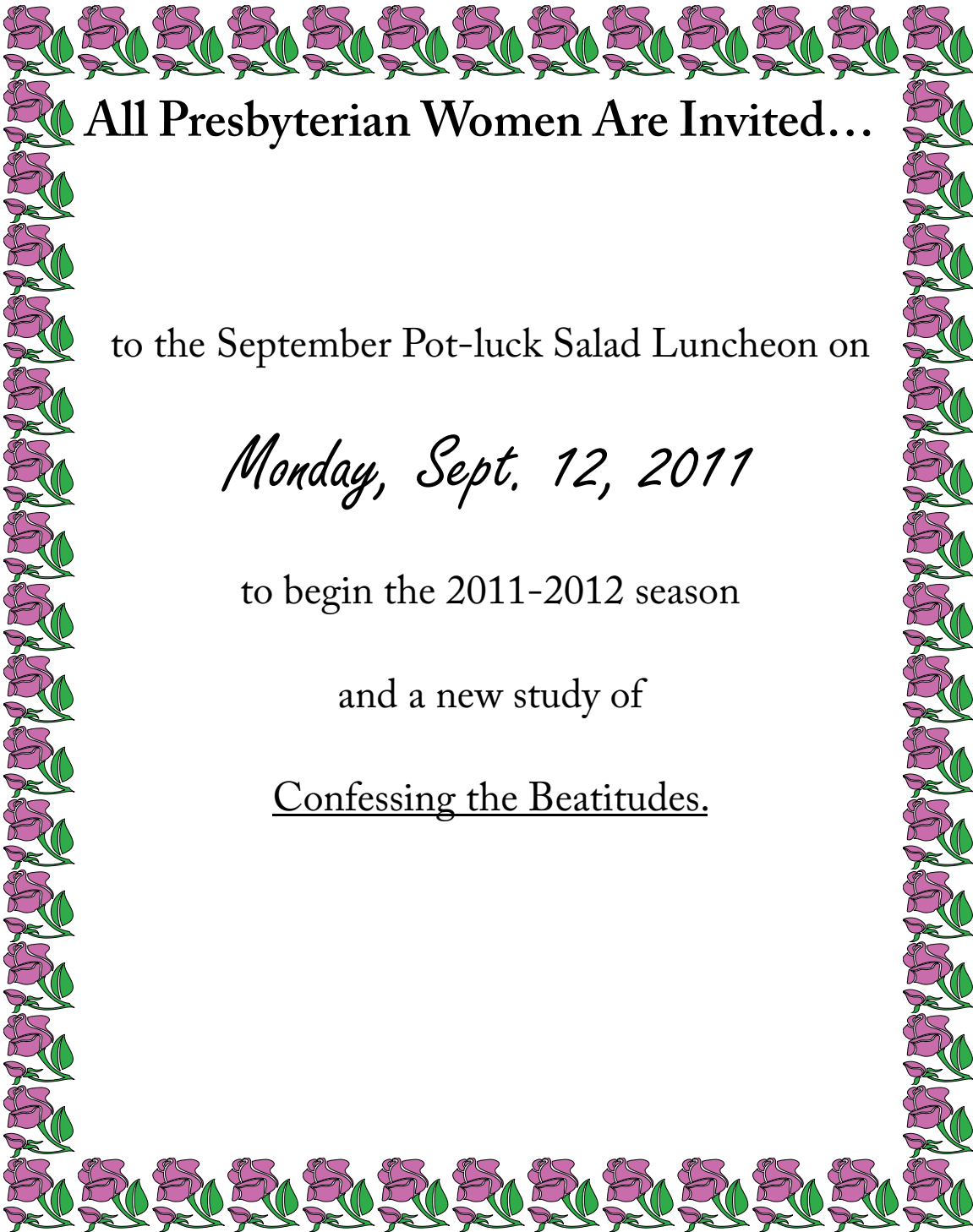
Campus Ministry – Chris McClelland, liaison.

The Nurture & Learning Committee will now operate as three teams that will report to Session: Adult Education Ministry Team, Youth Ministry Team and Children's Ministry Team.

Session received updates from the PCDC Renovation Project and Organ/Balcony Project and approved splitting the cost of unbudgeted expenses incurred by PCDC from monies given in memory of Ruth Garlow and Louann Mohrman. The Organ/Balcony project was funded from contributions to either the Organ Fund or the Music Fund.

Session began work on the Annual Church Calendar.

Session closed with prayer



All Presbyterian Women Are Invited...

to the September Pot-luck Salad Luncheon on

*Monday, Sept. 12, 2011*

to begin the 2011-2012 season

and a new study of

Confessing the Beatitudes.

## **WESTMINSTER HOUSE PROJECT**

August Update

### **SOME HISTORY**

The Presbyterian Child Development Center, created by the First Presbyterian Church in 1968, is one of the most highly respected child care institutions in Morgantown. Since its inception, PCDC has used the playground of the Central School. Outdoor playground space is a condition of maintaining PCDC's state license. The Westminster House project originated when the county Board of Education announced that it would be selling the Central School. Since the Church owns no other land suitable for a playground, we immediately began seeking ways to replace the lost space and concluded that the best option was to purchase the Central School site and develop the land in a way that would generate the income needed to cover the purchase and support the expansion of the PCDC.

### **THE VISION**

Our goal is to build a student residence of faith-based housing that will generate enough income to pay all construction costs and accumulated debt, and support a campus ministry space of 3,000 square feet, and to include on the grounds a 12,000 sq. ft. playground for PCDC.

Originally, we had hoped to build two residence halls, including a new facility for PCDC, but it was impossible to secure funding for a project of that magnitude. Therefore, we have decided to focus on building one residence hall, with some space for campus ministry, while leaving the PCDC in its current space within the church building. The intention is to place the building on the site in such a way that there would be room for future building, perhaps including a new PCDC facility.

### **CONDITIONS OF SALE**

The conditions of the sale of Central School to the church by the Monongalia County Board of Education are that it cannot be sold to a profit-making entity for five years from date of purchase, which was April 23, 2008. Prior to that time, it can be sold only to another non-profit or public entity. Therefore, we cannot put the property up for sale on the open market until April, 2013.

### **CURRENT FINANCIAL LIABILITIES**

1. We have an outstanding loan of \$2.35 million from Centra Bank which covered the \$1.5 million purchase price of the Central School property plus the pre-development costs for the original building project under the previous developer SCA, for which we could not secure funding. The interest on this loan is approximately \$12,000 a month. (We are paying interest only.) The loan is due in April of 2013.

2. We have a \$480,000 line of credit from Centra Bank on which we are drawing to pay the monthly interest, \$480,000 being the maximum amount we will need to cover the interest payments until April 2013.

3. We have accrued \$83,000 in deferred legal fees.

4. We have \$8,000 in unreimbursed Westminster House expenses owed to the church.

Therefore, any future plan must include the capacity, over time, to pay off the entire indebtedness, which by 2013 will total approximately \$2.8 million.

#### OPTIONS

The WH Board and the Session have considered three options as to how to proceed at this time. Option 1 is to wait until April 2013 and sell the land on the open market. There is no guarantee that we could receive enough to retire all of our debt. Given the slowness of the VFW to sell at an asking price of \$2.5 million, there is good reason to believe that we would not.

Option 2 is to create something like our original design by partnering with a developer who can secure outside investors. The purpose of the investors would be to provide the amount of capital necessary to get a bank to loan us the balance. Outside investors, however, would mean turning over at least partial ownership to others, giving us less control over the programming in the space and a smaller share of the income, with the result that we might not be able to pay off the debt. And we would not have long-term ownership.

Option 3 is to raise the necessary capital ourselves and hire a developer who would receive a development fee but have no long-term interest in the project.

We believe the best option for us is #3. It stands the best chance of meeting both our ministry and financial goals. It means, however, that we would have to raise around \$2 million. We have been in conversation with a professional fund raiser about the possibility of raising this amount of money. She believes that it may be possible to do so by targeting the entire state, as well as WVU alumni around the country.

Therefore, the Session has approved the hiring of *Progressity*, a fundraising consulting firm located in Charleston, WV, to conduct a feasibility study to determine the likelihood of a successful fundraising campaign of this magnitude. The firm is led by Kathleen DuBois, who has much experience in this field, including in the fundraising office of the College of Engineering at WVU.

The Westminster House Board has also begun serious conversations with Richard Lane of Petropolis Lane, a local development company that has developed a number of major projects in Morgantown, including the new events center. He is currently working on the creation of a plan that would meet our current goals.

As these plans and the fundraising study proceed, you will be hearing more about each. In the meantime, please let us know any thoughts or questions you may have, and keep all of us and this exciting project in your prayers.

#### The Westminster House Board

Chet Parsons, *Chair*  
John Garlow  
Linda Hagerty

Lee Mullett  
Bill Riley  
Jerry Stone  
Ellen Trovato

Shelly Barrick Parsons, *Campus Pastor, ex-officio*  
Sharon Portaro, *Director, PCDC, ex-officio*  
John Sonnenday, *Co-Pastor, ex-officio*

# Another Opportunity with Br. Stefan

*Many who enjoyed the visit of Br. Stefan in April may want to consider this opportunity to join him for a few days when he returns to West Virginia in August.*

## **Pilgrimage of Peace—Aug. 1 - 14**

For the past two years, each summer, hundreds of people from all over the country have come together to experience the peace of daily song, chant, silence, reflection, rest and work in the beauty of nature in what is called a Pilgrimage of Peace. This daily rhythm in a loving community brings healing and refreshment to both body and soul. This summer from August 1 - 14 we will gather at Still Point on the beautiful grounds of Rolling Ridge near Harpers Ferry, West Virginia for the third annual Pilgrimage of Peace. Part of a new monasticism, this gathering offers a deep welcome to all people of all faiths and traditions. Together we search for the sources of peace: peace of heart and peace in this world.

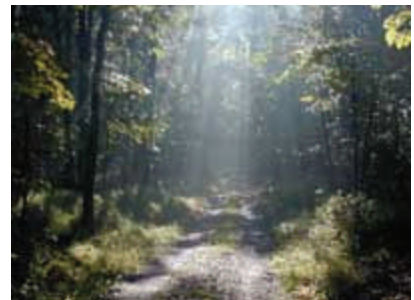
In order to welcome all people we offer this event on a donation basis. There is no set cost. People with little share little and those with more share from what they have. This is in keeping with the Spirit of Jesus who welcomes all at the table.

So, come to the Pilgrimage of Peace 2011. Stay for as little or as long as you wish, accommodations are available on site and you are welcome to camp on the grounds. Come for a day or an evening, a weekend, a week or the entire time. This is your time to make your personal Pilgrimage of Peace.

Come for a part of a day, a day, a few days, a week or more. Bring your own musical instruments to join in the song. Come alone or with your friends. Come with your children or your animal friends. All are welcome. There is no set fee for this time, though we will take up weekly contributions to help out with the food expenses.

Stefan Andre Waligur is a contemplative musician/composer, retreat leader, and peace activist connected for many years with the Church of the Saviour in Washington DC. For the past 10 years Stefan has been going to Taize, an ecumenical Christian monastic community in France, where most weeks during spring and summer between 1,000 and 6,000 young people descend upon the small community to join three times a day in simple chants, common meals, reflection on questions of spirituality and social justice, and simple work and play.

For more information on the Pilgrimage of Peace, visit <http://conta.cc/ku78Nn>





## August Birthdays

2 Chris Haddox  
Caulton Irwin  
Katherine Zuercher Kirby  
4 Betsy Mullett  
6 Lemley Mullett  
8 Floyd Phillips  
14 Margaret Bolt  
Mary J. Raese Moroney  
15 Jean Dailey  
Tyler Zundell  
16 Amy Zeiders  
20 Wilson Gross  
21 Angelyn Gemmen

23 Ann Hutchison  
Dake LaSala  
Stefanie Vanhorn  
27 Susan Shumaker  
Jeremy Zeiders  
28 Beverly Shumaker  
30 Neil Bolyard  
Laura Gross  
Stacey Harper  
Sharon Hughes  
Sharon Santos  
Christine Witt  
31 Patrick Kirby  
Kaye Leinaweaver

## August Baptism

Adam Weissman  
8/23/2009



# August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 12:00 PM Presbyterian Women	2 10:00 AM Dulcimer Group 5:30 PM Habitat 6:30 PM Youth Ministry Team 7:00 PM NA	3 6:00 PM Property Management 8:30 PM AA	4 5:00 PM Presby Dancers 7:00 PM Mission Committee 7:15 PM Nurture & Learning 8:30 PM AA	5	6 4:30 PM NA 6:00 PM NA
7 8:00 AM Community Breakfast 10:00 AM Worship - Communion	8	9 10:00 AM Dulcimer Group 7:00 PM NA	10 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast 6:30 PM Finance & Legal 8:30 PM AA	11 5:00 PM Presby Dancers 8:30 PM AA	12	13 4:30 PM NA 6:00 PM NA
14 8:00 AM Community Breakfast 10:00 AM Worship 6:30 PM Living the Questions	15 Good News Deadline	16 10:00 AM Dulcimer Group 7:00 PM NA	17 8:30 PM AA	18 10:00 AM Sew & Sew Stitching Group 12:00 PM Mon Valley Homeless Initiative 5:00 PM Presby Dancers 6:30 PM Prayer Shawl Group 8:30 PM AA	19	20 4:30 PM NA 6:00 PM NA
21 Cents-Ability Offering 8:00 AM Community Breakfast 10:45 AM Worship 12:00 noon Deacons	22	23 10:00 AM Dulcimer Group 7:00 PM NA	24 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast 7:30 PM Adult Choir 8:30 PM AA	25 5:00 PM Presby Dancers 8:30 PM AA	26	27 4:30 PM NA 6:00 PM NA
28 8:00 AM Community Breakfast 9:30 AM Rally Day 10:45 AM Worship 12:00 PM Last Sunday Inquirer's Brunch 7:00 PM Campus Ministry Ice Cream Social	29	30 10:00 AM Dulcimer Group 7:00 PM NA	31 7:30 PM Adult Choir 8:30 PM AA			

