



Blacksburg Presbyterian Church

**Proclaiming God's Word
Growing in faith and understanding
Welcoming all
Extending comfort and grace
Working for justice and peace
Nurturing creation
Being generous stewards of God's gifts**

Elder Class 2018

Susan Bailey
Jack Call
Ami Jo
Brent Opell

Elder Class 2019

Jama Hayes
Peggy Kincaid
Brian Smith
Melanie Smith

Elder Class 2020

Heather Polikoff
Jimmy Ritter
Jen Stewart
Andrew Warren

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HIGHER EDUCATION SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 10, 2017**

✠ Please stand in body or in spirit.

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

“The only real harm that will come to a church community is to refuse to deal with conflicts. Conflicts do not kill churches. Refusing to deal with conflicts kills churches.”

– David Ewart, “*Holy Textures*” blog

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

The Prayers of the People are written by the congregation and read aloud as our corporate prayer. If you want to take part, write a one sentence prayer on the cards provided.

No signatures, please. The cards will be collected during the second hymn.

Together we pray whatever is on our hearts.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Catherine Taylor

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you. ... *(All are encouraged to sign the Friendship Pad in the pews. If you are a first-time visitor and leave an address, we can welcome you more fully.)*

INTROIT

Where Two or Three Are Gathered

BRUCE HARDING

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP

Ginny Pearson

Praise the Lord!

Sing God’s praise in the assembly of the faithful,

For the Lord takes pleasure in the people.

Let the faithful sing for joy.

✠ HYMN No. 637

O Sing to the Lord

CANTAI AO SENHOR

✠ PRAYER OF APPROACH

From the beginning until now, loving God, we have turned away from you, following lesser ways, pursuing a lesser life than the life offered to us in Christ. Yet you will not abandon us. You call out, warning and wooing us to turn, to return to you. Even when we fall away from brothers and sisters in the church, you remain present with us. Help us to love as you love—wholeheartedly—until we are reconciled to you and to our neighbor. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We tremble before you, O God, when we consider our broken and damaged relationships. You have made us for community, but we act as isolates. You seek our transformation and renewal, but we tend rather to conform to the world’s agenda. You call us to love that is genuine, and to affectionate devotion, but we have put self-interest first. You have called us to be zealous for the good, but we have become complacent about evil. You have given us gifts to use for the common good, but we have hoarded them for our advantage. Save us from our self-destructive ways. ...

(A time of silent confession follows.) In your mercy, Lord, **hear our prayers. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God has gifted us with life and calls us to spend it as followers of Jesus.

In Christ we find our true identity and experience the wholeness God intends.

God claims and forgives us!

Let us live our gratitude!

✠ GRATEFUL RESPONSE No. 637 v. 5 *O Sing to the Lord* CANTAI AO SENHOR

For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!

For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!

For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!

O sing to our God; O sing to our God.

✠ PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Worshippers may exchange signs of God's peace and children may come forward for a time of sharing faith together.)

HEARING THE WORD

SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

(Children 1st grade age and up are invited to remain in the sanctuary. Parents may take kindergarten and younger children downstairs to God's Garden or the nursery for nurture and care.)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 149

ANTHEM

O for a Shout of Sacred Joy
Adult Choir

ROBERT JORDAHL

O for a shout of sacred joy,
to God the sovereign King!
Let every land their tongues employ,
and hymns of triumph sing.

For Jesus now ascends on high,
His heav'nly guards around,
attend Him rising through the sky,
with trumpets' joyful sound.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:15-20

SERMON

Rev. Ginny Taylor-Troutman

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✠ HYMN No. 316 *Where Charity and Love Prevail* TWENTY-FOURTH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER The Congregation

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES

OFFERTORY

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether
Adult Choir

HAROLD FRIEDEL

Text may be found at Hymn No. 529.

✠ DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

✠ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✠ HYMN No. 547

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

AR HYD Y NOS

✠ BENEDICTION

✠ POSTLUDE

Introduction—Choral from **Suite Gothique**

LÉON BOËLLMANN

*please recycle your bulletin in the wooden bins on either side of the front doors.

Blacksburg Presbyterian Church
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ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

Welcome to all who gather for worship today. May each of us know something of God's grace and be moved toward deeper faith, sincere love, and service following Christ. No matter who you are, or what you are seeking, you are welcome here. **If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to explore all that happens in life and ministry in this church.**

We are grateful for Reverend Ginny Taylor-Troutman who is our guest preacher today on this Higher Education Sunday. Ginny is the Ukirk Campus Minister at Virginia Tech. Ginny Pearson and Matthew Anama are our liturgists today. We are grateful for all of the UKirk students who are participating in worship with us today.

THE CELEBRATION FLOWERS are sponsored by Bob and Delores Hendricks to the Glory of God.

A Few Celebration Flower dates are still available: Oct. 8, 15 and Dec. 31. Please let Sherry know if you would like to sponsor one of these dates by email to sherry@blacksburgpres.org. Please include the date you'd

like to sponsor, color preferences, and what you would like to have printed in the bulletin. You may order an arrangement by Best Wishes, which will cost \$50, or you may wish the Flower Committee to make an arrangement for you, cost \$50, or elect to have the Peace Lilies in worship and donate the cost to a church program or charity of your choice.

Creation Care thought: “It would go a long way to caution and direct people in their use of the world that they were better studied and known in the creation of it. For how could [humans] find the confidence to abuse it, while they should see the Great Creator stare them in the face in all and every part thereof?” --William Penn (1644-1718), *Fruits of Solitude*

Announcement from the Creation Care Team about our Butterfly habitat. If you would like seeds for Swamp Milkweed, they are “ripe” in our garden out by the basketball goal—help yourself right away! If you would like seeds for Common Milkweed, please inform Sarah Windes by Sept. 3rd at swindes@vt.edu or 540-951-8005.

Fall Art Exhibit in Westminster Hall: Lucas Cranach, Artist of the Reformation with Bob Hendricks. One of the ways we remember the Reformation from 550 years ago is by the art work of Lucas Cranach the Elder, considered the most successful German artist of his time. He was a close friend of Martin Luther and he embraced the protestant reformation with enthusiasm. We are privileged to have the excellent photography of Bob Hendricks, who has studied and photographed Cranach’s work. Bob will display his photos in Westminster Hall through November with an **Art Forum on Sept. 24 following worship.**

Mark your calendars! A series of **New Member Classes** is being offered on the following dates: September 10, 17, and 24, for all who are interested (or even curious!) in joining Blacksburg Presbyterian Church. Classes will be held during the Sunday school hour from 9:00—10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

We are delighted that so many are visiting our church. Please greet warmly all those you may not know, and encourage them to take part in our lively congregation. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Kendra Crabtree at 552-2504, or e-mail her at kendra@blacksburgpres.org.

SERVING TODAY

Church Opener: Nancy Furr
Elder of the Week: **Today:** Jen Stewart **Mon-Sunday:** Jimmy Ritter
Ushers: Virginia Tech UKirk students
Coffee Hosts: **Volunteers needed!** Please see Peggy Kincaid if you can help.

THIS WEEK AT BPC - HCR-Hatcher Conference Room, WM-Westminster, FH-Fellowship Hall

Sept. 10 Higher Education Sunday
 Membership Class at 9:00 a.m. - Prayer Room
 SHIFT small groups meet at 9:00 a.m.
 Worship at 10:30 a.m.
 Fair Trade Items available today following worship
 Ukirk DC Presentation following worship - FH
 Youth Group at 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at BPC, Family Potluck- FH

Sept. 11 Staff meets at 11:00 a.m. – HCR
 Children’s Ministry meets at 12:30 p.m. – WM
 Lydia Circle meets at 1:30 p.m. –FH Catherine Taylor, Lesson;
 Winnie Drummond, Hostess
 Hildegard Circle meets at Nancy Furr’s home at 6:00 p.m.-708 Southgate Dr., BBrg

Sept. 12 Tuesday Morningstars Bible Study at 7:30 a.m.- HCR
 Quilters meet at 9:30 a.m. – FH

- Prayer Group meets at 11:00 a.m. – Prayer Room- All are welcome!
 Faith Circle meets at 7:30 p.m. at Katie Clark’s home, 195 Huff Heritage Lane, Cbrg
- Sept. 13 Caring for the Community meets at 9:30 a.m. – HCR
 Handbell practice at 6:00 p.m.
 Adult Choir practice at 7:00 p.m.
- Sept. 17 Membership Class at 9:00 a.m. - Prayer Room
 SHIFT small groups meet at 9:00 a.m.
 Worship at 10:30 a.m. – Hymn Fest
 Bread for the World
 Cents-Ability collection at BPC
 P.E.O. Chapter AU hosts a lecture with Professor David Gray at 2:00 p.m. - FH
 Youth Group meets at Cox’s Putt Around, 3500 Price’s Fork Road, at 5:30 p.m.
 /Dinner at Highway 55 –bring \$15 Pick up at 7:30 p.m. – 775 University City Blvd.
 Session meets at 7:00 p.m. - HCR

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Sept. 21 Caring for the Community at 9:30 a.m. – HCR
 Sept. 24 Art Forum with Bob Hendricks following worship – WM
 Sept. 25 KnitWits gather at 1:00 p.m. – WM
 Sept. 27 Caring for the Community at 9:30 a.m. –HCR
 October Global Missions Focus

**Volunteers Needed!
 Ushers and Coffee Hosts**

Summertime is difficult to get volunteers to help during worship. **Coffee Hosts:** If you can help make coffee on Sunday mornings (Coffee Fellowship is from 10:00-10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings) please contact Peggy Kincaid at fellowship@blacksburgpres.org or (540) 808-6154.



Ushers are also needed every Sunday. Four people are required to make this opportunity to serve go smoothly.

It is a great way for your family to be a part of worship at BPC! Single folks too!
 Contact Rob Kincaid at rbk0831@gmail.com or the church office at 552-2504.
 Please do your part by being involved at church. It’s who we are!



**A Call to Action:
 Presbyterians Witness in Washington
 September 12, 2017**

Now more than ever your voice is needed in the nation’s capital!
 As our political leaders move to pass policies that would devastate the most vulnerable – both in our own country and abroad, it is critical that we speak truth to power.

**Come to Washington to demand a
 Faithful Budget!**

- 9:00: Briefing*
11:30: Press Conference
12:30 – 3:30: Meetings with Congressional Offices
3:30: Closing Worship and Debriefing
Live Streaming on OPW Facebook page

Save the Date!
Advocacy Training Weekend

April 20-23, 2018

Compassion Peace and Justice Training Day – April 20

Ecumenical Advocacy Days – April 20-23

Contact Melanie Smith if you'd like to carpool at melscofam@gmail.com.

P.E.O. Chapter AU Event September 17, 2017

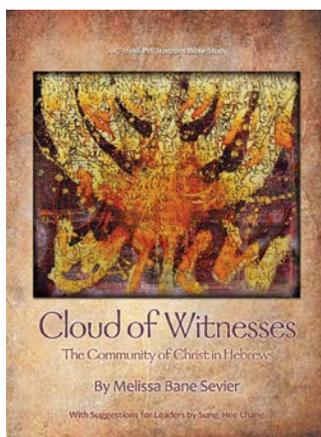
P.E.O. Chapter AU will sponsor a lecture by David Gray, Professor of Law at the University Of Maryland Carey School Of Law in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, Sept. 17 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at BPC. Professor Gray's lecture will be based on his recently published book, *The Fourth Amendment in an Age of Surveillance*. David grew up in Blacksburg and was a member of Northside Presbyterian Church.

Copies of his book will be available at the lecture.

P.E.O. is an International Philanthropic Educational Organization of "Women educating women". They provide scholarships, loans, grants and own a college. Proceeds from the sale of the speaker's book will add to chapter scholarship funds.

Hildegard and Lydia Circles, Presbyterian Women: Our new Horizons Bible Study, "Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews" booklet will be available in the Gathering Space this Sunday. Circles begin this study in September. The price is \$10.00. Checks may be made to BPC-PW. In nine lessons, author Melissa Bane Sevier invites us to explore major themes found in Hebrews, relate these themes to other parts of our faith tradition, and tie them together with the overarching motif of "community."

Lydia Circle, co-chairs, Elva Miller and Sylvia Echols, meets at 1:30 in Fellowship Hall, usually on the first Monday of each month. Hildegard, Nancy Furr, chair, meets at the church or in homes. **THIS SEPTEMBER, LYDIA'S MEETING DATE WILL BE SEPTEMBER 11 at 1:30 p.m., BECAUSE OF LABOR DAY.** Catherine Taylor will lead the lesson and Winnie Drummond will be the hostess. All women are invited to join us for fellowship, service, prayer and study.



Hildegard Circle meets on Monday, Sept. 11 at 6:00 p.m. for a shared meal and fellowship and a Bible study at 7:00 p.m. at Nancy Furr's home, 708 Southgate Drive, Blacksburg, VA. Phone: 540-951-8219. All are welcome! For more information contact Nancy Furr, Chair of Hildegard Circle.

Faith Circle meets on Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Katie (Durham) Clark's home, 195 Huff Heritage Lane, Christiansburg, VA 24073. For more information contact Katie (Durham) Clark at 540-968-6758 or katie09@vt.edu.