



PresbyPress

*"Every day is the day the Lord has made —
Rejoice! And be glad in it!"*

September 2011

September 11, 2001

Why is it important to remember?

I was sitting and writing in my office when the telephone rang. It was Paula. She told me about a terrible accident that had occurred. A plane had hit one of the twin towers in New York.

We talked for a moment. Then I went back to writing. A few minutes later she called again and the world changed. Another plane. Another tower. Something horrific is unfolding, she spoke in tears. Please come home, she asked me. I hung up the phone, left my writing on the desk, sent the church secretary home, and closed the church. I went home and spent the morning watching television. The Pentagon under attack. A plane down in Pennsylvania. Rescue workers and firefighters rushing into the burning twin towers. Jumpers leap out of the buildings. The towers collapse. The dust. The debris. The anguish. The tears. The heroes. The saints. The dead.

The next Sunday the church worship was full. I read from the Book of Lamentations, the fall of Jerusalem. Elsewhere, the Bible has a haunting passage of remembering:

By the waters of Babylon, we lay down and wept.

In exile in Babylon, they were sad as they remembered Jerusalem, their former home, the way it had once been, proud and beautiful, now in rubble, destroyed by human hands, so many dead.

Often memory can trigger painful and disturbing emotions. But memory also celebrates life, however brief and raw. The innocents as well as the heroes must not be forgotten.

Sunday Breakfast September 11th

Join us for breakfast
at 9:45 am

Bring your favorite breakfast bread, muffins, or breakfast casserole dish to share.

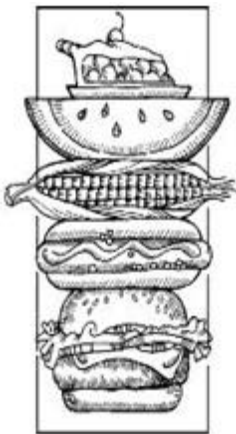
Rally Day is our time to come together to kick off a year of studying GOD's Word.

After a youth presentation, all children and adults will go to their classes. We look forward to an exciting year of new beginnings!



Churchwide Retreat at Bluestone October 28 - 30

Mark your calendar today and watch your upcoming bulletins and your October Presby Press for the Retreat registration form along with more details.



Sunday, September 18th Picnic! Picnic! Picnic!

Everyone is invited to our Annual Picnic
We gather together at Little Creek Park,
Shelter #2

Fun and games begin at 3:00 pm

We eat at 4:00 pm

Music by Appalachian Celtic Consort

Hot dogs, hamburgers, fixin's, drinks,
and paper products provided

BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND A COVERED-DISH!



**You are invited
September 11
Fall Kickoff!**

Rally Day is a time
to “rally” back
to Sunday School

New stories!
New projects!
New experiences!
New friends!

**9:45 am Breakfast
in the Fellowship Hall**

bring your favorite
breakfast bread,
muffins, or breakfast
casserole to share

After Breakfast

**Youth Art Work
Presentation**

&

Balloon Launch

*Presented
by the Youth Group
and Children*

Come & bring a friend
and you can be
a part of God’s Story

Music for your Life

The Chancel Choir

7:00 pm August 24
7:00 pm August 31
7:00 pm September 7
7:30 pm September 14

No need to be
a seasoned soloist
to be part of this family
All you need is to
enjoy making a
joyful noise to the Lord!

Among the many projects,
the choir will be preparing

***An Old-Fashioned
Christmas Eve***

with many of your
favorite Christmas songs

The Handbell Choir

rehearses at 12:30 pm
every Sunday
beginning Sept 11th

To be part of this group,
you need to be able to
count to 4 (sometimes 6)

Come give us a try!
Don’t just sit there!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The power of a simple gift to a child living in poverty, war torn countries, and orphanages or living on the streets is amazing. You can provide that simple gift by filling a shoebox with toys, books, stuffed animals, toiletries, etc. and letting that child know someone cares and putting a big smile on their face. We have a lot of shoeboxes to fill, and you can help by buying gifts, paying for the postage, filling a shoebox yourself, or giving money for someone to do the shopping.

Since the month of November is so busy, we will collect donations for the shoeboxes in September. There will be a box for donations located in the Mizpah Room marked **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**.

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love.

If you fill a box yourself, please include a Christmas card, and tell the child a little bit about yourself, which will make it special. (When YOU receive a gift, there's a card with it.) It makes the gift so much more personal, and the child loves receiving the card.

The following is a list of the items needed:

- Cars, trucks, soft balls, stuffed animals, legos, baby dolls
- Coloring books, crayons, notepads, story books
- Yo-yo's, hackey-sacks, action figures, puzzles
- Socks, caps, t-shirts, hairbrush, combs
- Purses, barrettes, jewelry, wallets
- Journals, pens, pencils, calculators
- Tooth brushes, tooth paste
- Soap, wash clothes



We give thanks to God for those who placed flowers in the sanctuary on Sundays in July and August



Flowers were given by **Sandy Melton** to the glory of God and in honor of her husband, **John**, on his birthday

Flowers were given by **Dave & Becky Smith** to the glory of God and in honor of their daughter, **Jan**, on her birthday

Flowers were given by **Gene & Carol Anderson** to the glory of God and in celebration of their **35th Wedding Anniversary**

Flowers were given to the glory of God by the six children of **Jim & Genevieve Halstead** in celebration of their **66th Wedding Anniversary**

Flowers were given by **Bruce & Joyce Jeffries** to the glory of God and in celebration of their **58th Wedding Anniversary** and the blessings of their life together.

Flowers were given by **Rick & Lora Hayes** to the glory of God and in celebration of their **41st Wedding Anniversary**

Flowers were given by **Jim & Judy Lowe** to the glory of God and in celebration of their **41st Wedding Anniversary**

Flowers were given by **Dwight & Marilyn Sherman** to the glory of God and in celebration of their **48th Wedding Anniversary**



Young at Heart 2011-2012 Schedule



September 12 – 12:00 noon
The Appalachian Rounders

October 24 – 12:00 noon
History of South Charleston

December 5 – 6:00 pm
George Washington High School Choir

March 5 – 12:00 noon
Stonewall Jackson

April 2 – 6:00 pm
Travelogue on Australia with The Meltons & The Smiths

May 7 – 6:00 pm
The Men of Praise & The BluesStones



Sept 2	Joan Eads	Sept 17	John Starr
Sept 3	Barbara Clark		Jeremy Calderwood
Sept 6	Doug Calderwood	Sept 18	Tom Sweeney
Sept 7	Maxine Hamilton	Sept 22	Tom Titus
Sept 10	Katherine Tucci	Sept 27	Ellen Bush
	Aaron Johnson	Sept 29	Jonathan Lowe
Sept 15	Ron Bryant		

News from the Pews

Our Christian Sympathy and Support to

Margaret Byer & her family at the loss
of her husband, **Wilson Byer**

Ron Bryant & his family at the loss
of his sister, **Fanny Jane Hayes**

Thank You

I would like to thank our church family for the many cards and expressions of love and concern I received following the death of my sister, Marjorie Benton.

Graham Shook

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks for the many cards, thoughts and prayers during my recent hospitalization. It is truly a blessing to have such a wonderful church family during this challenging time.

Pat Kent

We would like to thank our church family for their cards, calls, and visits we have received following Bob's recent hospitalization. Your many expressions of care and concern have meant so much to both of us.

Bob & Barbara Cruickshank

Congratulations and Godspeed

Greg Smith has accepted a new job in El Dorado, Arkansas, and we wish him and his family the very best.

Greg & Susan, Stephen and Jaclyn, have contributed much to the life of this church: Treasurer, Elder, Youth Group, Handbells, CD Ministry, VBS support, and more



Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering

John XXIII Pastoral Center
Charleston, WV

September 17, 2011

There will be a brunch and time to browse the displays from 10:00 – 11:00 am. The Gathering will begin at 11:00 am with keynote speaker, Ms. Kathy Reeves, who joined the Staff of Presbyterian Women as Associate for Missions in 2008. Kathy's topic will be "God is Doing Wonders Among You." Rev. Cinda Harkless will lead Communion in the Chapel. There is no registration fee, but you need to register. Contact Joan Eads by September 8 if you plan to attend.

PW Circles

Circle of Faith will meet Thursday, September 8, in the Mizpah Room at 12:00 noon. The theme will be "A Tribute to 9-11." The Bible Study for this year will be "Confessing the Beatitudes."

Circle of Love will meet Tuesday, September 13, in the Parlor at 7:00 pm for their annual Tail Gate Party. Please bring a friend and your favorite tail gate food to share. Becky Nelson will present our Bible Lesson.

Scholarship Applications

The Stewardship Committee is now accepting scholarship applications for the 2011 Fall Semester. Application forms are available in the church office.

Presbyterian Women *Mission in Action*



Heart Pillows Given to Local Hospital

Making heart pillows for breast cancer patients and heart surgery patients was a mission project of the Presbyterian Women this spring. The purpose of the pillow is to make the breast cancer patient feel more comfortable by placing the pillow under their arm to ease pain from the surgical incision and for heart patients to support their chest during coughing and to provide comfort. This was suggested by Lora Hayes.

Barbara Cruickshank, Pat Snyder, and Sarabeth Wickert sewed **70** heart pillows and a number of women stuffed them with polyfill fiber. The pillows will be given to the patients following surgery at Women & Children's, Charleston Memorial, and Thomas Memorial Hospitals. Each pillow has a heart logo with the Bible verse: "God is love." 1 John 4:16 and will include a First Presbyterian Church brochure. With this gift, patients know they are not alone and that others are thinking of their needs and remembering them in prayer.

During our worship service on September 18th the pillows will be on display for all to see, along with a special dedication before the pillows are given to the hospitals.

Bible Study Series

Each Wednesday, 6:35 pm, beginning September 14

Many folk are discontent with their relationships, their jobs, their health, their finances, their spiritual life. Discontent weighs us down and strips us of joy, and if we are not careful we miss the many blessings that come to us from God daily.

Let's explore those blessings.

God's Extravagant Generosity

First Presbyterian Church
508 Second Avenue
South Charleston, WV 25303

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PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

Non-Profit
Organization
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