

# July 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri 1	Sat 2
3 10am Worship Sanctuary FB Live	4 Church Offices Closed— July 4 Holiday	5	6 1pm PW Coordinating Team	7	8	9
10 10am Worship Sanctuary FB Live Congregational Mtg.— Immed. after Worship	11	12 5-8pm PW	13	14	15	16
17 10am Worship Sanctuary FB Live Session Mtg.	18 Newsletter Deadline— August	19	20	21	22	23
24 10am Worship Sanctuary FB Live	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 10am Worship Sanctuary FB Live Karen's last day						

# First Impressions

Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church  
Staunton, Virginia  
July 2021



## Final Letter from the Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As you know by now, I have accepted a call in the Presbytery of the James, to a church that is close to Luke and Ali and the kids.

I thank the original calling committee – Cindy Cooke, Mary Meade, Amanda Avery, Chuck Lendermon and Dan Layman for calling me to work with you to fulfill the mission vision from 2015.

I thank the officers who have labored beside me in love and mutuality for the good of the Kingdom of God.

I thank all the new folk who came into the church during my time here and brought your gifts and your children and your very selves to bear on the mission.

I thank those cradle to grave members of First who welcomed new members of the flock and continued to proclaim God's love in truth and in deed, many of whom I look forward to seeing in heaven.

I want to give a special thank you to those who hung in working for the good of the kingdom through all the pivots we had to make guiding the church during the emergence of Covid and dealing with massively difficult situations: Scott Wilson, JoAnn and Tom Tigert, Alice Herbst,

*(cont. on p. 2)*

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Rev. Karen H. Allamon, Pastor

## Letter from the Pastor

(cont. fr. p. 1)

Fay Knicley, Amanda Avery, George Laase, Mary Meade, Brad Furr and Gary Wilson, Bill Engle, Otto Pebworth, Heidi Marsh, Paul and Donna Goble, Louise Whipple, Alexandra Spencer-Lowell, Hugh Sproul, Amy Armstrong, Jim and Cindy Cooke, Eddie Homes, Joe Surratt and Mark Shore, Deb Norville and Renee Huff.

As I depart for a new call, for those of you who wish to stay in touch, I may only have contact with you as a friend. According to our Presbytery, departing pastors are not allowed to speak with you about the church, or to perform pastoral duties with you such as weddings or funerals.

May everything that we do give God glory as we strive to love as we have been loved.

Many Blessings,

*Karen*

## Congregational Meeting



### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The session calls a congregational meeting for July 10, 2022, in the sanctuary immediately following worship, for the sole purpose of voting on the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Rev. Allamon and the First

Presbyterian Church of Staunton, as required by our polity. You will find the Presbytery's expectations for parting clergy and their congregations in an insert in today's bulletin.

## Dan and Elizabeth Turk—Mission Co-Workers in Madagascar

### About Dan & Elizabeth Turk's History

Dan & Elizabeth Turk are mission co-workers in Madagascar since 1997. They write: "We are excited about working with the Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar (FJKM) in its ministries of healing and hope."



The Turks serve with the PC(USA)'s partner church, FJKM, as it ministers to the population in the areas of health, environment, agriculture and safe drinking water. FJKM believes that Christian witness should include ministry both to the physical and spiritual needs of God's people and care for all of God's creation. Dan and Elizabeth work as advisors to FJKM in the fields of environment and health, respectively.

Dan works with the FJKM's Fruits, Vegetables, and Environmental Education (FVEE) project. With per capita income less than \$250 per year, many Malagasy people have difficulty feeding their families. FJKM is responding to these needs by helping people grow fruits and vegetables to improve their nutrition and get out of poverty.

### Country context

Elizabeth's main focus with the FJKM is in the area of community health and HIV/AIDS, especially in training, program design and implementation. The FJKM's health professionals at rural dispensaries work to prevent and treat the major illnesses that threaten health: malaria, measles, diarrhea and pneumonia. The dispensaries also provide access to important services like family planning.

Dan and Elizabeth are members of Decatur Presbyterian Church in Georgia and West Raleigh Presbyterian Church in North Carolina. The Turks periodically visit the U.S. and are able to visit congregations as their schedule allows. Email them to extend an invitation to visit your congregation or organization.

## HEF Spring Newsletter Highlights

Check out HEF's spring newsletter at:  
<https://haitifoundation.org/newsletter.html>

Highlights include:

**HEF has a Hope and a Future.** Per Ancy Fils Aime, HEF Liaison to Haiti: "Continue supporting the work of HEF, and continue to educate the brothers and sisters in Haiti. That is the work that will outlive you and me."

**Spring 2022 Matching Funds Challenge:** Following their Fall 2021 Matching Funds Challenge, HEF was able to fully fund their unsponsored schools for the 2021-2022 school year, add four new 7th-9th grade programs, add to their university scholarship fund, and secure the cost to rebuild Notre Dame School. Following is a list of their new goals totaling \$200K:

**Ensure Teacher Pay**—Goal: \$70K

**Expand 7th-9th Grade Programs Further**—Goal: \$40K

**Extend University Scholarships**—Goal: \$20K

**Energize Teachers through Training**—Goal: \$20K/year

**Establish a Solar Maintenance Schedule**—Goal: \$10K/year

**Equip Students and Schools**—Goal: \$40K/year

### With Grateful Hearts

HEF is thankful for the partnership they have with Trinity Hope Haitian Feeding Program.

For several years, HEF has had the blessing of working with Trinity Hope Feeding Programs. This ministry is present in most of their schools to provide a nourishing meal each day for the students and their teachers. They are grateful to all of the partners who have stepped up to feed their schools' children and staff, and they are thankful for the donors who just desire to feed their children. There are a few more opportunities to feed children in their schools. Please reach out to them if you are interested in feeding.

### How Many Students They Support

HEF supports 34 primary schools and 4 high schools. Student enrollment is 6524, faithfully served by 580 teachers and administrators.



### An UPDATED New Revised Standard Version!

*from Adelle M. Banks*

*Religion News Service*

The New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition Bible is the result of a commission of the Society of Biblical Literature by the National Council of Churches, which includes dozens of denominations representing 30 million church members. "It is both ecumenical and interfaith, suitable in Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox and Jewish contexts. In a period of social and political divisiveness, it's a virtue to be celebrated."

Scholars made clear this was not a new translation. Some of the updated wording is based on what Kutsko called "new compelling textual evidence", including findings in the Dead Sea Scrolls that were located in the Qumran region of the West Bank.

Over 2 years, 7 general editors and 56 book editors held 76 two-hour meetings about the Hebrew Bible, New Testament and the Apocryphal/deuterocanonical books, frequently used by Catholic and Orthodox communities, before a final review of their recommendations. The NCC governing board approved the NRSVue in October. The new version was released by publishers on May 1, 2022.

## WORSHIP FOR JULY



**July 3, 2022, 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### **Communion**

Psalm 30:1-12

**Luke 10:1-11, 16-20, Galatians 6:1-16**

*"Do not be deceived; God is not mocked,  
for you reap whatever you sow."*

**July 10, 2022, 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### **Amos 7:7-17**

Psalm 82:1-8; Colossians 1:1-14

Luke 10:25-37

*"Give justice to the weak and the orphan;  
maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute."*

**July 17, 2022, 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Amos 8:1-12; **Psalm 52;**

**Colossians 1:15-28;** Luke 10:38-42

*"Continue securely established  
and steadfast in the faith."*

**July 24, 2022, 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Hosea 1:2-10;** Psalm 85:1-13

**Colossians 2:6-19;** Luke 11:1-13

*"See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and  
empty deceit."*

**July 31, 2022, 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107:1-9, 43

**Colossians 3:1-11;** Luke 12:13-21

*"Your life is hidden with Christ in God.  
When Christ who is your life is revealed,  
then you also will be revealed with him in glory."*



## Community Worship Event

**When:** July 30, 2022/7:00-8:30pm

**Where:** Gypsy Hill Park  
Bandstand/600 Churchville  
Ave.

**Featuring:** The Shenandoah  
Worship Collective

**Free** event for people of all ages!

Bring a chair or blanket and plan for a night of Christ-centered music and worship!

**Benefiting** The Dodge family and their medical expenses for their toddler, Natalie Dodge, as she continues to receive treatment from St. Jude Children's Hospital for cancer.

AND

Isaiah 61 Ministries, a non-profit community organization that provides free pastoral counseling and support for the individuals and families of the Augusta County area.





## 2022 Schedule of Events (preliminary)

### Saturday, July 2

#### Happy Birthday America Pageant

Gypsy Hill Park Gymnasium—1pm  
Details TBA

**July 3 & 4:** All food vendors, retail vendors, children's activities, games, tent, & picnic tables will be located on the large parking lot adjacent to the football field and John Moxie baseball field.

### Sunday, July 3/Entertainment & Vesper Service

John Moxie Stadium Baseball Field

4:00 pm Gates Open/(Free admission—bring your own lawn chairs)

6:30pm Vesper Service begins/approx. 9:30pm service concludes

### Monday, July 4

6:00am Ball field gates open

**Firecracker 5K Run/Walk**/Details and registration info TBA

6:30 am Registration/7:30am Start

#### Parade

Grand Marshall for 2022—All Essential Workers in COVID

Gypsy Hill Park Loop/10:00am

#### 4th of July "Parent-Child" Baseball Games

Youth Baseball Fields inside Gypsy Hill Park Loop

Time: Immediately after the parade concludes

#### Stonewall Brigade Band Performance

Gypsy Hill Park Bandstand/2:00pm

#### Posting of Colors

John Moxie Stadium Baseball Field/4:00pm

Opening Ceremony on main stage

#### Entertainment/Local Artists

John Moxie Stadium/2:00—7:00pm

#### Feature Performance by Wilson Fairchild and special guests

John Moxie Stadium/7:30pm

Veteran Salute/Retiring of Colors/Taps/approx. 9:30pm

#### Fireworks

Gypsy Hill Park/At conclusion of concert/approx. 10:00pm



## Virginia Dean Lowe

**November 27, 1933-May 19, 2022**

Virginia Ellen Dean Lowe was born on November 27, 1933 in Washington, D.C. to Richard Campbell Dean and Ann Marguerite Dean. They lived in Silver

Spring, MD. She graduated from Bethesda Chevy Chase High School and The University of Maryland. Ginny married her husband John Hardin Lowe in 1956. They were married for 65 years until his death in 2021. Ginny is survived by her sister Barbara Dean McNamara as well as her four children: Sally Lowe Ashburn (Don), Stephen Campbell Lowe (Kristi), Samuel Hardin Lowe (Denise) and James Ross Lowe. She also leaves behind many adoring grandchildren.

The Lowe family moved to Staunton in 1966 and lived in their family home on Opie St. for 53 years. Ginny was a dietician and later a bookkeeper for The Statler Brothers. She served on the Staunton School Board in the mid-seventies. Ginny was very active with First Presbyterian Church for many years. Ginny's life was centered around family, friends and Church. In her later years, Ginny worked for Home Instead helping elderly families in the community. Ginny lived at The Legacy at North Augusta for the last year of her life.

Gifts in her memory may be left to First Presbyterian Church or The Legacy at North Augusta.

### Congratulations Graduates!

There are several graduates from our congregation of whom we should be very proud. Some are clarifications/updates from our June 2022 newsletter:



**James Garrison:** Graduated from Hampden-Sydney College as Valedictorian.

### Clarifications/Updates

**Ronald David Lowman III:** Graduated from Hampden-Sydney College *Magna Cum Laude*.

**Anne-Charles Dod:** Graduated from Appalachian School of Law *Summa Cum Laude* and was Valedictorian.

Congratulations to all of our graduates, and kudos for all your hard work!

July Birthdays	
4	Betty Kegley
14	Eddie Homes
19	Dan Layman
22	Sidney Supple
23	Doris Dixon
27	Margaret Mackay



### Church Offices Closed Monday, July 4

The church offices will be closed Monday, July 4 for Independence Day. We hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday!

