

# November 2022



# First Impressions

Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church  
Staunton, Virginia  
November 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 All Saint's Day	2	3	4	5
6 11am Worship Sanctuary FB Live H.D. Scoggins preaching Congregational Meeting	7	8 7pm Session Meeting – Library	9	10 7pm WSO Dress Rehearsal (S)	11	12 7pm WSO Chamber Music Concert
13 11am Worship Sanctuary FB Live H.D. Scoggins preaching 3pm SHS Winter Concert	14	15 Newsletter Deadline- December	16	17	18	19
20 11am Worship Sanctuary FB Live Rachel Hamburger preaching	21	22	23 Heidi- off	24 Thanksgiving Day-Church Offices Closed	25 Church Offices Closed	26
27 11am Worship Sanctuary FB Live H.D. Scoggins preaching	28 5pm MBU Annual Holiday Festival Rehearsal (S) 7pm Christmas Parade Party	29	30 5pm MBU Annual Holiday Festival Rehearsal (S)			

## Congregational Meeting Sunday, November 6

There will be a Congregational Meeting in the Sanctuary immediately following Worship on Sunday, November 6 for the purpose of receiving and voting on a report from the Elder Nominating Committee.

## November Birthday List

- 10 Betty Richmond
- 11 Joseph Clem  
Sandy Kirtley
- 16 Susan Myers  
Bob Driscoll
- 17 Eleanor Supple
- 30 Peter Tillen



## Flowers



The flowers in the Sanctuary Sunday, November 6, are given in loving memory of Fulton B. Kegley by his children Mary Huffard, Sarah, and Fulton B. Kegley II.

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## Updates from Session

- ◆ The Administrative Committee from Presbytery joined the October meeting. Session had a chance to discuss ways the Committee could help us.
- ◆ The Administrative Committee reminded us that we have a lot to give thanks for and that we should take the time to be thankful.
- ◆ We are working through the process of the Interim Pastor search and have sent our information to Presbytery.
- ◆ The air conditioning units are being installed.
- ◆ The pulpit has been filled through Christmas.



There will be a Session meeting Tuesday, November 8 at 7:00pm in the Library.

### From the CDC:

#### Signs point to an early start for flu season, with cases already ticking up in parts of the U.S.

According to the New York Times (eff. October 24, 2022):

Flu transmission has been low since the start of the pandemic, but an odd spurt of activity in April, May, and even early June of 2022 — which coincided with the onset of an early and robust flu season in Australia — suggests that flu may be making its way back.

In fact, the influenza trackers at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are seeing signs that flu activity is picking up in parts of the country, along with RSV cases..

#### Key Points

- This is the first FluView of the 2022-2023 influenza season.
- Influenza activity is low but increasing in most of the country. Regions 4 (southeast) and 6 (south-central) are reporting the highest levels of flu activity.
- An annual flu vaccine is the best way to protect against flu. Vaccination helps prevent infection and can also prevent serious outcomes in people who get vaccinated but still get sick with flu.
- CDC recommends that everyone ages 6 months and older get a flu vaccine, ideally by the end of October.
- There are also prescription flu antiviral drugs that can be used to treat flu illness; those need to be started as early as possible.

## COVID-19 News

According to the New York Times (eff. October 24, 2022):

### Latest trends

- ◆ The community level of COVID-19 in Staunton is **low** based on cases and hospitalizations, according to the most recent update from the CDC on October 18..
- ◆ The number of **hospitalized COVID patients** has fallen in the Staunton area. **Deaths** have remained at about the same level.
- ◆ The **test positivity rate** in Staunton is **high**, suggesting that cases are being significantly undercounted.

Higher test positivity rates are a sign that many infections are not reported — even if they are tested for at home. This results in a more severe undercount of cases. The number of hospitalized patients with Covid is a more reliable measure because testing is more consistent in hospitals.

People may choose to wear a mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.

## Augusta Health Pain Management Opioid Stewardship Team—Fentanyl Alert

Augusta Health's Pain Management Opioid Stewardship Team has shared the following link from the DEA with our community regarding the dangers of Fentanyl, an enforcement surge by the DEA, and additional resources: <https://www.dea.gov/onepill> Please note that the only safe medications are ones prescribed by a trusted medical professional and dispensed by a licensed pharmacist.

## Church Info

### Church Worship Info—November 2022

Following is information on who will be preaching for the month of November 2022:

- ◆ November 6: Rev. H.D. Scoggins
- ◆ November 13: Rev. H.D. Scoggins
- ◆ November 20: Rev. Rachel Hamburger
- ◆ November 27: Rev. H.D. Scoggins

### Thanksgiving Holiday

The church offices will be closed Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25 for Thanksgiving. We hope everyone has a wonderful and safe holiday!



### Christmas Flowers



It's that time of year again! If you would like to remember or honor a loved one at Christmas, we will have the poinsettias again during the advent season. An insert will be in the bulletin by which you can give the name or names of the person(s) you wish to remember. Then put your check in the collection plate and mark it "Christmas flowers." The deadline for donating, and to be published in our bulletin insert, is **Monday, December 5**. Thank you for helping our sanctuary look beautiful during this special season!

## Upcoming Events

### Waynesboro Symphony Orchestra Chamber Music Concert

The Waynesboro Symphony Orchestra will perform a chamber music concert in our sanctuary on Saturday, November 12 at 7:00pm. We hope you can join us for this beautiful performance!



### Staunton High School and Shelburne Middle School Choir Concert



The Staunton High School and Shelburne Middle School choirs will be performing in our sanctuary on Sunday, November 13 at 3:00pm. We hope you can be there!

### Free Pop-Up Clinic—Remote Area Medical (RAM) Fishersville, VA November 19-20, 2022



There will be a free clinic offering free medical (general medical, women's health, and more), free dental (fillings, cleanings, extractions), and free vision (eye exams, glaucoma testing, and eyeglasses made on-site!), on Saturday, November 19 and Sunday, November 20 via RAM, 277 Expo Rd., Fishersville, VA. There will be no ID required. The clinic is first-come, first-served. They will be following CDC guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting for COVID-19.

RAM is also seeking volunteers at their clinic. They also need meals or monetary donations/gift cards to purchase food/drinks for the volunteers. For additional info, please visit [ramusa.org](http://ramusa.org), or contact Sydney Williams, Co-CHG Lead of the Fishersville, VA RAM Clinic at 804-837-2975, email: [spw2en@virginia.edu](mailto:spw2en@virginia.edu)

## Additional News & Upcoming Events

### Newsletter Deadline for December 2022

The deadline for submissions for the November issue of First Impressions is **Tuesday, November 15**. We need material, so please submit any info you would like to include by then. Please note that Heidi will be off Wednesday, November 23-Friday, November 25, so this is a hard deadline. Thank you!

### Fall Back!

It's that time of year...daylight savings time ends Sunday, November 6. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour!



### Virginia Dept. of Aging and Rehabilitative Services

The Virginia Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services wants to know what's working for you and what resources you need. For further info or to get access to the survey, please visit: <https://www.whsv.com/2022/10/18/new-survey-asks-older-virginians-about-services-they-need/>

### Honoring Virginia's Military Veterans

Veteran's Day Lunch  
Tuesday, November 8  
12:00pm-1:00pm  
Staunton Alliance Church  
560 New Hope Rd., Staunton

The Staunton Alliance Church invites you to an annual luncheon honoring all of our veterans in our community. Seating is limited, so we ask that you register as soon as possible. Reserve your seat today and bring a guest. To register, please visit <https://www.stauntonalliancechurch.org/veterans>