

# July 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat 1
2 11am Worship Sanctuary FB Live Rev. Binder's 1st Sunday Refreshments following worship	3 Heidi- off	4 Independence Day-Church Office Closed	5	6	7	8
9 11am Worship Sanctuary FB Live	10	11 6pm Session Meeting (L)	12	13	14	15
16 11am Worship Sanctuary FB Live	17	18 6:00pm PW Evening Circle (L)	19 Newsletter Deadline— August	20	21	22
23 11am Worship Sanctuary FB Live	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 11am Worship Sanctuary FB Live	31					

# First Impressions

Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church  
Staunton, Virginia  
July 2023



## Welcome to Our New Interim Minister, Rev. Jeff Binder!



We are excited to announce that the Rev. Jeff Binder will be joining us as our Interim Minister beginning July 1. Reverend Binder will be in the pulpit to lead us in worship and the sacrament of communion on Sunday, July 2.

Originally from Ohio, Jeff has served congregations all over the country, including in Oregon and Florida. Most recently, he has completed an interim position in Lewisburg, West Virginia. He has a degree from the College of Wooster and did his seminary training at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. He has completed the PCUSA interim training and also many other educational opportunities, including training at Princeton University, Iona, Scotland, in the Holy Land, and at the Taizé Monastery in France.

Rev. Binder enjoys running and hiking, and has a special interest in the intersection of spirituality, church transition, and the outdoors. He is an experienced choir singer with a bass voice, and a fan of the Cleveland Browns and the Ohio St. Buckeyes.



There will be light refreshments on the lawn (weather permitting) following the service on July 2. As he gets settled in Staunton, Jeff hopes to organize some small group gatherings to meet and talk with folks more individually. Welcome Jeff Binder!

**FIRST IMPRESSIONS** is a publication of First Presbyterian Church  
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Rev. Jeff Binder, Interim Minister

## Updates from Session

- ◆ Session met on Tuesday, June 13, 2023.
- ◆ Congregational Care (Barbara Richardson) continues to provide cookies after the church service.
- ◆ Admin Committee (Hugh Sproul) arranged for an audit of the church financial records. A proposed budget was also submitted. Session members are in the process of reviewing it.
- ◆ The Annual Congregational Meeting was held on June 4, 2023. Many thanks to the Congregational Care Committee (Barbara Richardson) for arranging the meal.
- ◆ Presbyterian Women met on May 16 for a covered dish dinner and a study led by Barbara Richardson.
- ◆ Missions and Outreach (Stephany Morgan) will be having our first paper pantry on Wednesday, June 21 from 10am-12pm.



There will be a Session meeting Tuesday, July 11 at 6:00pm in the Library.

## Around Our Community



**Bible and Church Music Conference**  
**July 23-29, 2023**



A conference for all ages of worship leaders. Whether you are ordained or a layperson, there are plenty of opportunities to learn, practice, and worship together. The 2023 theme is "Instruments of Peace," as in the Prayer of St. Francis, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace."

Registration will close on **Friday, July 7, 2023**. Register today online at <https://massanettasprings.org/programs/bcmc> or by phone: 540-434-3829

If you have questions or need help with registration, please contact Sarah Grace Hall at [sarahgraceh@massanettasprings.org](mailto:sarahgraceh@massanettasprings.org) Questions about the conference? Contact Colleen Earp, Program Director at [colleen@massanettasprings.org](mailto:colleen@massanettasprings.org)

## Around Our Community



**Happy Birthday America 2023**  
**Sunday, July 2-Tuesday, July 4**  
**Happy Birthday America Pageant**  
**Gypsy Hill Park**

Happy Birthday America 2023 is coming July 2nd through 4th in Gypsy Hill Park! After the very successful live 2022 event with over 25,000 attending, 2023 will be larger and better. Local "Ambassadors of Traditional Country Music", Wil Reid and Langdon Reid and this year's Special Guest, Traditional Country Music Legend, Gene Watson, will perform July 4th at John Moxie Memorial Ball Field.

This year's Independence Day celebration will include many beloved community activities including the July 2nd Pageant, the July 3rd Vesper Service, the 5K race and the patriotic July 4th parade around the park as well as local vendors, concessions, rides, family-oriented activities and more. As always, the multi-day celebration ends with the free concert, salute to the flag and of course, the spectacular fireworks! This is a great tradition the area looks forward to each summer.

You can see the full schedule of events at:  
<https://www.happybirthdayamerica.org/copy-of-2022-schedule>

## Church News

### Church Office Closed Tuesday, July 4

The church office will be closed Tuesday, July 4 for Independence Day. Heidi will be off Monday, July 3. We hope everyone has a great holiday! The Congregational Life Committee also wants to wish everyone a safe and happy July 4th.




### Newsletter Deadline for August 2023

The deadline for submissions for the August 2023 issue of First Impressions is Wednesday, July 19. Please submit any info you would like to include by then. Thank you!

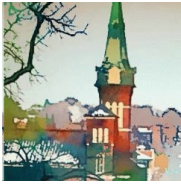
### Nancy Hall

Nancy Hall, one of our longstanding members, says hello to everyone! Our Congregational Life Committee keeps in touch with her, but she misses First Pres and would love to hear from our members and receive visitors. She currently lives at River Edge Rehabilitation and Nursing in Waynesboro, VA. For further info, please contact Heidi in the church office.

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



## Church News



### **A New Beginning—Check It Out! First Presbyterian Home Goods Community Pantry Now Open!**

First Presbyterian Church is now providing a Home Goods Community Pantry monthly from 10:00am-12:00pm, which began on Wednesday, June 21. We look forward to assisting our community with this new service!



The Home Goods Community Pantry is a new project of our Mission and Outreach Committee, approved and supported by our Session. We are beginning with basic household essentials and plan to expand to personal hygiene items and baby supplies as requests are received.

We covet support from each of you. Volunteers are needed to help with preparing shopping bags and helping on distribution day. There is a basket in the narthex to receive donations of products we are including in our shopping bags. Financial donations are appreciated and can be made to First Presbyterian with HGC Pantry on the memo line.

Our Home Goods Community Pantry will offer several essential household products, including:

- Paper towels—2 pack
- Toilet Paper—6 pack
- Tissues—small box
- Kitchen Trash Bags—15-20 count
- Dish Soap—18 oz. bottle
- Liquid Hand Soap—small bottle
- Laundry Detergent Pods—12 pack
- Disinfectant wipes—regular size

Thank you for your support with this new project!

## Church News

### **PW Evening Circle**

Presbyterian Women Evening Circle will meet Tuesday, July 18 at 6:00pm in the Library. We would appreciate a head count, so respond to the church office if you can make it. And feel free to bring guests - all are welcome!



If you have questions, comments, suggestions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Susie Lendermon.

We look forward to seeing you on the 18th!

### **Locks and Lights**



Just a friendly reminder to please ensure that all lights are turned off and doors are locked before leaving the church to conserve energy and for the safety of our members and staff. Thank you!