



# The GoodNews Letter



Christiansburg Presbyterian Church, Christiansburg, Virginia

July 2019

*God calls Christiansburg Presbyterian Church to be a welcoming, loving, and diverse community that offers people the opportunity to journey toward the fullest expression of their Christian faith.*

## *Parsonally Speaking . . .*

*Many of you will remember Steve and Susie Hubbard and their children, Lauren and Philip. The Hubbards were very active and involved at CPC, until they moved away a number of years ago.*

*Philip just graduated from high school. We recently received a three-part email update about him from Steve and Susie, and I'd like to share it with you. It is lengthy, but well worth reading. I found it to be very moving, and I'm sure you will as well.*

Part 1: Cover note from Steve and Susie  
Dear Session and Members of CPC,

In November of 2000, Susie and I entered into a covenant with the congregation of Christiansburg Presbyterian Church and God to raise our son Philip to know and understand Jesus Christ, through the act of Baptism. As Philip is set to graduate, I think it important to share that this covenant has been met. As Susie and I started to bring children into this world, we found the need to find a church home to help us in this endeavor. CPC was an extremely welcoming home for us as we started this new chapter in our lives. And while your church family was instrumental in the foundation of both Philips's and Lauren's faith journey, they were even more impactful on a young couple finding their way back to God. We truly felt the love and grace of God within the walls of not your building, but in the community of members that choose that building for worship. For all of this, we will be forever grateful. I have enclosed Philip's Faith Statement and his Senior Message he recently delivered to the congregation of Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church.

*Yours in Christ, Steve and Susie Hubbard*



## Part 2: Philip's Faith Statement

I am a trombone. What are you?

I am a trombone in God's orchestra. God has blessed everyone and made them as instruments as well. There are flutes, pianos, banjos, triangles, wind chimes, bagpipes, and any other instrument you can imagine. Each of us is used differently and has our own unique sound and purpose in the music God has created us for.

God gives us the freedom to improvise. I can set my own tempo, I can play as fast as I like, or I can slow down. I can control my dynamic, I can blast as loud as I can play, or I can play as the sound of a whisper. I can choose the style in which I play, a smooth legato or a tight staccato. I can control my rhythm, a boring easy long note or a fun challenging fast 16<sup>th</sup> note run. Everyone is an instrument; we all can join the orchestra. We just have to ask Jesus to help let us in.

*(cont. on p. 4)*

## *Summer Opportunities for All Kids!*



See page 3 for an exciting new program for rising 1st through 5th graders here at CPC – **Voice, Body, and Spirit!** Angie Hagwood, our Youth Music Director, is offering a week of fun from 9 a.m. to noon July 8-12! Register your children or grandchildren for a week of music, movement, and spirit!

Then, July 22-25 from 6 to 8 p.m., the second annual **It Takes a Village** community VBS will take place at St. Paul United Methodist Church. This is a joint venture among CPC, St. Paul, and Park United Methodist. Plan to have fun in July at these two free programs!

## *A Place to Pray*

CPC's Prayer Chapel is located on the ground floor of the church building, next to the Multi-Purpose Room. Anyone who seeks a quiet space for individual prayer or meditation is invited to use the Prayer Chapel, which is available during regular church office hours (9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays) and any other times the building is open. To arrange use of the Prayer Chapel at other times, please contact the church office (382-2802).



## *Communion for Those Who Can't Make It to Church*

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is available for those who are homebound, hospitalized, or otherwise unable to attend worship. To have the sacrament brought to you, please call the church office (382-2802). Anyone who wishes to request Communion for a family member or relative who is not able to make the request her/himself may do so by calling the church.



## *Visit Us on the Web*

Web Page: [www.christiansburgpres.org](http://www.christiansburgpres.org)

Facebook Page: Christiansburg Presbyterian Church

E-mail: [cpchurch@usit.net](mailto:cpchurch@usit.net)

Presbytery of the Peaks: [www.peakspresbytery.org](http://www.peakspresbytery.org)

Synod of the Mid-Atlantic: [www.synatlantic.org](http://www.synatlantic.org)

Presbyterian Church, USA: [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org)



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107 W. Main St., Christiansburg, VA 24073  
Phone 540-382-2802; Fax 540-382-1106  
The Rev. Dr. Donald E. Makin, Pastor

### **Sunday Worship Schedule (New This Year!)**

Journey Groups will not meet during the summer.

10:30 a.m. – Worship

Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 20th of each month.

Articles may be submitted in writing and left in the *GoodNews Letter* box next to the church office or submitted by email to Kathie Hollandsworth at [luraedythe@gmail.com](mailto:luraedythe@gmail.com).

The *GoodNews Letter* is distributed via an email message linked to CPC's website. If you would like to receive a hard copy by mail, please call 540-382-2802 or email the church office at [cpchurch@usit.net](mailto:cpchurch@usit.net).

## *Ushers for July*

Sue Farrar, Cyndi Hamilton, Lawson Hamilton, Savannah Hamilton,  
Kim Rhodes, Steve Rhodes, Tay Taylor

👉 ANNOUNCING 👈

# *Voice, Body, and Spirit*

*(not your typical VBS!)*

Christiansburg Presbyterian Church is excited to share a new summer opportunity for children in the New River Valley – a week long, half-day music and movement camp for rising 1st-5th grade children.

It's a new kind of VBS – **V**oice, **B**ody, and **S**pirit!

This is a time to come together to make music,  
learn new songs and dances,  
leave with a craft or two,  
and make new friends!

Who: Rising 1st-5th grade children (fall of 2019)

When: Monday-Friday, July 8-12, from 9 a.m.-12 noon

Where: Christiansburg Presbyterian Church (107 W. Main St.)

**Register: Online at <https://forms.gle/2BhePECff1MP5NuY6>**

**-or-**

**Pick up a hard copy registration form in the Church Office.**

Questions?

Contact Angie Hagwood at: [angiehagwood@gmail.com](mailto:angiehagwood@gmail.com)

or call the Church Office: 382-2802

# Parsonally Speaking (cont.)

## Philip Hubbard's Faith Statement continues:

When I first started to learn how to play my trombone, I was awful. I had a horrible tone. I could not articulate, and I had bad technique. It took me a while to even play a true note. I got better with a lot of practice and hard work. I'm still not as good as I want to be, but I keep trying and seek help along the way when I get stuck or have a hard time. I have musical mentors.

When I first started to understand church, it was in Sunday school. I was 5 or 6 and had Miss Sunwall as a group leader. I couldn't answer any questions. I did not know about God or faith. I didn't want to go. My Mom says I cried when she said I had to go. But I learned about God in Vacation Bible School and Sunday school with Neil and the Webbs. I was confused when I first started to learn about faith. It has taken me a while to understand God and how he works in my life. I don't understand everything yet, but I have faith mentors. I still need to practice to make my faith better.

I am a trombone. I am God's Trombone. I am his instrument. My faith is changing; it is improving. I can play a note with it. Can I do a perfect solo with a fast tempo? No, not even close. But I can play now, when at one point the neighbors would tell you I could not. My skill and my faith are growing. They both need practice. I still need mentors, so I can continue to be the instrument God has made me to be, so I can understand how I can best be used to contribute to his orchestra, so I can let myself be conducted by his will.

I am a trombone in God's orchestra.

## Part 3: Philip's Senior Message

Newsflash: God changes. Yes, you heard me right... God changes. And before anyone gets mad at me, let me explain to you how God has changed throughout my life. The first memories I had at this church – I'm going to be honest with you – were of not wanting to go to Sunday School, not wanting to go to choir, and not wanting to go to children's church. In my first years at Quaker, I had a resentful relationship with God.

As I grew older, I started to become closer to God through Vacation Bible School and Advent activities. These interactions help me see God

lived out in other people's faith. Members like the Webbs, the Jennings, the Cawthorns, and many more were examples of lives lived within God's faith. Through these interactions, God changed for me. I saw God through relationships. And through these relationships, my relationship with God changed. And my resentment towards God slowly went away.

As I moved into "big" I started a faith journey with a peer group that was on that same path. Laura Jones showed me how learning about God's ways can be fun. And I started to think of God almost as a friend.

When my family moved to Memphis, on our last Sunday at Quaker, Luke did a send-off for us. This was an emotional day for me and my family. It made me realize how strong a relationship I had with the members of this church, and how this church had helped me along my faith journey. By this time in my life, I started to see God more as a loving God. And that love was shown through the members of this church and their interactions with me.

When we moved to Memphis, my relationship with God changed drastically. I did not have a supporting group of people who shared the same memories that I once had at church. As we searched for a new church family, I found it harder and harder every Sunday to go to a new church. At this time in my life, I had a distant relationship with God. I

missed the relationships I had at Quaker and forced myself into relationships that weren't entirely healthy for me. I formed a relationship with a group of friends who were really bad influences on me. At times I felt uncomfortable and I didn't feel like myself. At times I did things that I regretted and things that I felt ashamed to tell my parents about. I felt guilty towards God.

Moving from Memphis to Texas was a great thing for me in my life, because it helped me break away completely from those relationships which were not healthy for me at all. In Texas I got a clean start and developed some new friends in band. Right before we moved back to Virginia, I had started to get back into church and was playing trombone with the choir, which helped me understand how music and faith can be intertwined.

(cont. on next page)



Philip Hubbard's Senior Message continues:

Coming back to Quaker was like coming back to home. And all the old relationships came back. Going through Confirmation helped me understand the changes I had gone through since leaving and coming back. Once back at Quaker, I again saw God through his love.

So, through my life, God has changed from a God of blessings... to a God of power that is to be feared... to a God of relationships... to a friend... to a God of guilt... to a God of Second Chances... and then to a God of love.

Going to Montreat was a very eye-opening experience for me. I saw the faith of others openly displayed and their willingness to share. I saw that God was different for different people. I found that while my faith was unique, it was not wrong, because it was my faith. My second year at Montreat I signed up for the Jeremiah Project, and this brought everything together for me. I felt pride in my faith and was able to stand in front of a large group of people and express it. I felt the same loving relationships at Montreat that I felt at Quaker.

I told you that God changes... but the more I think about it, maybe God doesn't change... maybe I'm the one who changes. Maybe it's me who's changing, and God's the one who's adapting to me. God adapts to us. God's not the one that's changing. God's not changing us. God gives us the chance to change ourselves through the situations and relationships he gives us. God gives us the opportunity to be who we want to be, knowing that we will constantly change for better or worse. And though God gives us the opportunity to be who we want to be, he puts us in situations that strengthen our relationship with him and others around us. God shows his love for us through our relationships. Through our family. Through our friends. Through our congregation.

God doesn't change. God has never changed. I'm the one that's changing. We are all changing. Though we may not be going through the same level of change, we still are changing. And God adapts to change and supports us in different ways.

So, at this moment God for me might not be the same God that you have at this moment, but that's okay. God can be whoever you need at any



moment, a friend that you look up to or someone you cope with after a loss. God is a constant being who has the ability to adapt to our needs. And that he will do, the same for each and every one of you. And as I continue to grow in my faith, I know that God's love will adapt and meet my changing needs. I know I will continue to grow in my changing faith.

This year's youth theme is Change, and change can be a very scary word. But if we listen to the verse from James, we know that God can be a constant for us in our lives if we let him, and we know he brings gifts. I want to take the time to thank God for the gifts he has given me: the gift of a loving family that protects and supports me; the gift of TRUE friends who challenge me and keep me humble; the gift of this congregation that has taught and mentored me.

*(Don again): What stirring words! It's wonderful to know that CPC has played a positive role in the life and faith of the Hubbard family. And how good it is that we are ALL one in God's family!*

*Don*



## *Presbyterian Women News*

Presbyterian Women are taking a break from circle meetings in July and August. Meetings will resume in September, with the Merry Hearts Circle meeting at 6:00 p.m. on September 9, and the Bethany Circle meeting at 10:45 a.m. on September 10. Both circles will begin a new *Horizons* Bible Study entitled *Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments* by Eugenia A. Gamble.



# *Notes from the June Session Meeting*

- Session members discussed Chapters 7 and 8 of *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory* by Tod Bolsinger.
  - The Session decided to proceed with stage one of re-working the main hallway to create “The Gathering Space” by removing the quilt and repairing and painting the walls in that area.
  - The Session approved a recommendation from the Compassion Ministry Team that Judi Schneck and Don Conner be selected as the two new CPC representatives to the UKirk Board of Directors, effective in August.
  - The Framework Ministry Team reviewed the income and expense report for May that showed income of \$19,192.29 and expenses of \$22,708.96, for a deficit of \$3,516.67. Year-to-date income is \$114,566.67, and expenses are \$124,095.49, for a deficit of \$9,528.82. The team also reviewed the May 2019 designated accounts report. Team members will review the various properties for needed maintenance.
  - The Togetherness Ministry Team reminded everyone of the all-church picnic and worship service June 30, at Nellies Cave Park in Blacksburg.
  - The Pastor reported that he conducted the funeral service and committal for non-member Dorothy Hollandsworth, mother of John Hollandsworth, on May 30; and that Emily Sutphin is working this summer with the Presbyterian Office of Public Witness in Washington, DC, before starting seminary this fall.
  - The Session approved recommendations from the Pastor that Emily Sutphin be invited to preach/lead worship on Sunday, August 25; and that starting this fall and continuing throughout her years in seminary, CPC offer financial support for Emily, who will begin the M.Div. program at Princeton Theological Seminary this fall.
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## *Memorial Gifts*



In memory of **Tony Antonio** by Elbert & Boots Kinzie

In memory of **Thomas Moles** by Elbert & Boots Kinzie

In memory of **Sue Little** by Elbert & Boots Kinzie and Shelda Wills

In memory of **Gerald Neal** by Elbert & Boots Kinzie and Shelda Wills

In memory of **Peggy Walker** by Frances Bower, the Dunn Family,  
Elbert & Boots Kinzie, Gary & Joyce Overstreet, Shirley Steele,  
Shelda Wills, and Margaret Woolwine

## *Designated for the Sanctuary Piano Fund*

In memory of **Creede & Ferrell Taylor, who loved this church**, by Jim & Sue Taylor

## *Designated for the Voice, Body, and Spirit Fund*

In memory of **Dorothy Hollandsworth** by Ron Graham & Mary Zvonar,  
Elbert & Boots Kinzie, and Shelda Wills

# July Brings Hot Celebrations!

## Birthdays

July 2 Mary Ann Bircher  
Joe Pomrenke  
Scott Urch  
Linda Woodyard  
July 4 Virginia Yates  
July 5 Erin Rhodes  
July 7 Richard Alley  
July 8 Maggie Lawson  
Jonathan Taylor  
July 11 Meredith Dabney  
Sean Young  
July 12 Aaron Harris-Kirby  
July 15 Mallory Rhodes  
July 16 Debbie Brame  
Doug Jones  
July 17 Betty Mattice  
July 18 Kara Smith  
July 19 Susan Daniels  
Julia Hurley

July 20 Pam Miller  
Stephen Osten  
July 21 Tamera Meredith  
July 23 Erin Little  
July 24 Taylor Baldwin  
July 25 Ryan Brame  
David Williams  
July 28 Katelyn Beamer  
Kathie Hollandsworth  
July 29 Sue Taylor  
July 30 David Bower  
Marina Craft  
Beth Newman  
Mary Sission  
Allison Snow  
July 31 Barbara Duke

## Anniversaries

July 1 Jerry & Jennifer Smith  
July 3 Taylor & Chelsea Peeples  
July 4 Ken & Julia Hurley  
July 5 Bob & Julie Styne  
July 20 Eric & Sara Snow  
July 24 Anderson & Ginny Peeples  
July 25 Joel & Claudia Pugh  
July 26 Tay & Kathy Taylor



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## *Spiritual Direction Available*



Jennifer Makin is available to assist individuals seeking to deepen in their personal relationship with God or who find themselves in the midst of spiritual crisis. The spiritual life is one of "formation" characterized by periods of healing, growth, and transformation as we gradually allow ourselves to know and be known by God. During such periods, it can be extremely helpful to have a spiritual companion or director who provides faithful listening in the context of a safe and trusting relationship where confidentiality is held in

sacred trust. Jennifer is a developmental psychologist, spiritual director, massage therapist, and healing touch practitioner. As such, she has many tools and resources to draw upon to assist those on the path to wholeness. To make an appointment, you may call her at 382-2390, or email her at ringbearer01@hotmail.com.

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## *Remember Our Shut-In and Out-of-Town Members*

(For contact information on any of our shut-in or out-of-town members, please call the church office at 382-2802.)

*Dorothy Beasley*

*Judy DiIoià*

*Ray Obenshain*

*Estelle Chandler*

*Lois Morris*

*Helen Parrish*

*Charlotte Davis*

*Edith Reed*

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# *We Welcome All Who Worship with Us*

We welcome all visitors to our worship services and activities. If you are a visitor, please know that your presence among us is noted and appreciated. We hope to see you again. Members, if you see neighbors or co-workers visiting us, please extend your personal greeting, and invite them to return. Let's be sure all our visitors know that they are welcome and needed here!



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## *Need a Helping Hand Around the House?*

CPC's Men's Group is dedicated to offering assistance to anyone in the church who may need a little help from time to time with small jobs at home. Need some furniture moved? A leaky faucet fixed? A running toilet repaired? A hard-to-reach light bulb replaced? Furnace filters changed? Smoke detector checked? Pictures or mirror hung? We would love to help... no charge!

Please call the church office (382-2802) to make your request. Your information will be passed on to us, and we will be in touch to set up a time. While we are not able to perform routine yard work (such as mowing, trimming, raking) or major repairs or renovations, we are eager to pitch in with the many smaller odd jobs that crop up around the house all the time.

Please do call the church office to let us know how we can lend a hand!

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When I was down beside the sea  
A wooden spade they gave to me  
To dig the sandy shore.  
My holes were empty like a cup.  
In every hole the sea came up,  
Till it could come no more.



How do you like to go up in a swing,  
Up in the air so blue?  
Oh, I do think it the pleasantest thing  
Ever a child can do!  
Up in the air and over the wall,  
Till I can see so wide,  
River and trees and cattle and all  
Over the countryside —  
Till I look down on the garden green,  
Down on the roof so brown —  
Up in the air I go flying again,  
Up in the air and down!

*Robert Louis Stevenson*



Christiansburg Presbyterian Church  
107 West Main St.  
Christiansburg, VA 24073

# July 2019

540-382-2802  
cpchurch@usit.net  
www.christiansburgpres.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Office Staff Meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> – <i>Church Office closed for Independence Day holiday</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship	<b>8</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Office Staff Meeting <b>9:00 AM</b> “Voice, Body, and Spirit” Music Camp – Youth Center (till 12 noon)	<b>9</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> “Voice, Body, and Spirit” Music Camp – Youth Center (till 12 noon)	<b>10</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> “Voice, Body, and Spirit” Music Camp – Youth Center (till 12 noon)	<b>11</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> “Voice, Body, and Spirit” Music Camp – Youth Center (till 12 noon)	<b>12</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> “Voice, Body, and Spirit” Music Camp – Youth Center (till 12 noon)	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship <b>11:30 AM</b> Potluck Brunch with Homemade Ice Cream	<b>15</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Office Staff Meeting	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>
<b>21</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship	<b>22</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Office Staff Meeting <b>6:00 PM</b> Community Vacation Bible School at St. Paul UMC (till 8:00 p.m.)	<b>23</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Community Vacation Bible School at St. Paul UMC (till 8:00 p.m.)	<b>24</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Community Vacation Bible School at St. Paul UMC (till 8:00 p.m.)	<b>25</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Community Vacation Bible School at St. Paul UMC (till 8:00 p.m.)	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship	<b>29</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Office Staff Meeting	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			