



Finley Focus

October 2011

Our Ministers Message - 'Where Were You?'

Greetings Everybody!

With the arrival of the fall comes a fresh time of peace and relaxation...That's right, my son is has started Preschool!!

A couple of days ago, my wife Jenn, and my son Philip, we're driving home from school. Philip had a confused look on his face. Jenn asked him what was wrong when he made the following comment, "The leaves not changing colors!" (Note to reader: Never ask a 4 year old what they are thinking unless you really want to know the answer). Now Jenn shared the same confusing look, so he asked, "Philip, why should the leaves be a different color?"

Philip fires back with a more than a hint of agitation by such a nonsensical question, "Because today is fall!"

My son had learned in his class that the beginning of fall was upon us. He also learned that during this season, leaves change colors. What he had failed to grasp is that the process takes time (something I'd wish he'd learn with other things). It may have been the first day of fall, but trees don't run by the dates on a calendar. The whole process starts when they feel the temperature change.

Our spiritual lives aren't much different from the trees: only when the temperature changes in our hearts, will we see a change in behavior. Anything else that we do is simply ineffective. My experience has taught me that rehabilitation is not possible. We can all try to be better people, love more, or have more compassion. But without a supernatural transformation of the heart, its wasted effort. Trying to change without God's help is as hard as a tree to drop its leaves in the summer!

I hope that as you see brilliant transformation of fall, it encourages you to ask for a transformation of the heart. A transformation that can only occur from the grace and mercy of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Our inner beauty is only a prayer away!

Blessings,



Rev. H. Donald LaRue

Finley Discipleship Training Series - with Rev. Don.

Thursday Evenings @ 6:30pm

The class in an overview of the history and content of the Old Testament. To aid our understanding, we will use extra-biblical content such as archaeological evidence and geological understanding of the area.

If you've always said you want to learn more about what the Bible says: now is your chance!

Last Months Bible Reading & Study Suggestions

The weekly bulletin features a daily, different passage of Scripture given to reinforce themes highlighted from our last worship. On Thursday, the passages shift to reflect the anticipated sermon. Including this simple outline as part of your daily devotions, it is my hope that you will further enhance your spiritual nourishment by immersing yourself in Scripture. May it continue to be a 'lamp to your feet', illuminating your journey with our Lord, Jesus Christ.

A New Disclosure	Romans 16:25-27	In God We Trust	Psalms 25:2-3
Mystery of His Will Disclosed	Ephesians 1:8b-12	'It is time for the Lord to Act'	Psalms 119:121-128
A New Kingdom	Daniel 2:44-45	Lift Up the downtrodden	Psalms 147:1-6
Sermon Passage	2 Corinthians 11:16-33	Sermon Passage	Ephesians 1:1-6
Story of Saul	Acts 7:54-8:3	Before the Foundations of the World	Deuteronomy 7:6-11
Saul To Paul	Acts 9:1-22	Blessed Be Thy Name	Nehemiah 9:6-11
Saul to Paul, Part 2	Acts 13:1-12	'But for the Sake of the Elect'	Matthew 24:15-28
Interaction w Peter	Acts 15	'Blessed be his glorious name forever'	Psalms 72
Paul's Interpretation	Galatians 2:1-21	'For This Reason'	2 Peter 1:3-8
Sermon Passage	Romans 8:28-39	Sermon Passage	Ephesians 1:3-14
'I Wait Quietly...'	Habakkuk 3:16-19	'In Him, we have been Redeemed'	Job 33:12-26
'My Soul Continually Thinks of It'	Lamentations 3:20-23	Mystery Revealed	1 Timothy 3:14-16

Baby Spinach & Chicken Salad with Raspberry Vinaigrette

Having a new baby I just could not resist a recipe with 'baby' in the title. This is a simple but delicious salad, and spinach is so nutritious, especially if you are an expectant Mom or a new Mom like me.



Ingredients

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 6 cups prewashed baby spinach | 1 small red bell pepper, thinly sliced |
| 1 nectarine, cut into 1-inch chunks | 3 tablespoons Raspberry Vinaigrette |
| 1/3 cup canola oil | 1/4 cup raspberry vinegar or red-wine vinegar |
| 3 tablespoons orange juice | 1/4 teaspoon salt |
| Freshly ground pepper to taste | 4 grilled chicken breasts |



Add oil, vinegar, orange juice, salt and pepper to a jar with a tight-fitting lid; shake well to combine.

Combine salad ingredients and toss with the vinaigrette. Serve with warm sliced grilled chicken

Serves 4

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER - September 2011

Sept 2011 Financials (Cash Account register)

Beginning balance	2501.69
Total receipts	10,769.04
Transfers	0.00
Sub Total	<u>\$13,270.73</u>
Less total expenses	(8,742.12)
Ending balance	<u>\$4,528.61</u>

Sept 30, 2011 Balance Sheet Figures

Checking Ac balance	4,528.61
Money market general fund	8,084.51
Money market building fund	1,112.77
Tech Upgrade fund	300.03
Paving fund	21.92
Pavilion Fund	1,708.10
Mission & Outreach fund	113.16
Cert of deposit #1	6,258.75
Cert of deposit #2	12,233.75
Savings Ac	26.46
Total Current Assets	\$34,388.06

The above numbers are correct pending September interest which is not available until October 3rd.

In addition to the above tithing receipts you also gave \$140.00 for Jacob Flickinger's Eagle Scout project. This amount has been sent to Jacob. If you have not already done so, check out his project information in the Narthex of the church.

Our ending checking account balance is higher than its been for a while. Let's keep it up going this fall. **You listened! Good Job!**

As we begin the fourth quarter I would ask that you prayerfully remember the other projects we have going on such as Jacob's Eagle scout project, the A/V update second phase, and the Christmas Sacrificial offering.

Finley is moving—All aboard! Jack



**We will be collecting
in October for
Calvary Food Pantry,
the following:**

**Please give as generously as you
feel called. Thank you!**

Oct 02 - Cereal

Oct 09 - Zip top or Plastic Bags

Oct 16 - Egg Cartons

Oct 23 - Pasta & Sauce

Oct 31 - Stove Top any flavor

Congregational Care - Update

On September 11, we handed out the forms for completion and submission of all your information.



If you still have your forms, please return them to the church office or after service on Sunday.

If you did not receive the forms, please let Debbie McCormick know.

Thanks to everyone for taking the time to complete the forms. We appreciate your involvement with this important date base update.

- Debbie McCormick

PERSONNEL AND FINANCE - UPDATE

Recently, we informed the congregation that Finley's expenses were exceeding its monthly income. The session voted to impose a two month freeze on discretionary spending to give this committee time to evaluate the current expenses.

Donald Splaun spoke to the congregation about this problem explaining that in order for Finley to both meet monthly expenditures and continue to do the work that our committees carry out, we, as a congregation, would need to increase our tithes and offerings.

We are pleased to inform you, that this committee has seen an increase in giving over the past month. This increase together with the freeze on discretionary spending has put our budget problem back on track for now.

We encourage each of you to evaluate your current giving to Finley and increase it if your financial situation allows it. We want to continue to provide the services and missions that this church has so lovingly done in the past.

We ask that you pray for Finley and allow God to work through this congregation in order to sustain Finley's financial needs.

This committee will give a complete update in early October when we have all the actual figures to share.



The Presbyterian Women will meet on Tuesday, October 4th, at 7 pm.

We are studying the Beatitudes. Our lesson will be the second lesson, "Greatly Honored Are the Mourners", taken from Matthew 5:4; Luke 6:21,25.

All Women are invited and encouraged to come. We look forward to seeing you there.

Save the Date
Pavilion Dedication Service
October 16th

Outdoor Service in the Pavilion
weather permitting



Introducing Finley's newest member



Josiah Bruce LaRue joined the Finley Family on
September 23rd at 11:06pm
weighing 8lbs 9oz

Congratulations to Mom & Dad - Jenn & Rev. Don
& big brother Philip.

Who's Who At Staff & Key Folk

<u>Session Members</u>	
Clerk of Session	Allison Fink
Buildings & Grounds	Buck Earhart 2011 Gary Brubaker 2013
Christian Education	David Seaman 2012 Linda Peery 2013
Congregational Care	Debbie McCormick 2011 Sheri Nelson 2013
Fellowship & Stewardship	Keith Boswell 2011 Beth Gibson 2012
Finance & Personnel	Debbie McCormick 2011
Mission & Outreach	Yvonne Simmons 2011
Worship & Music	Jenny Coyner 2012 Tony Forbes
Presbyterian Women	Karen Brown, <i>Moderator</i> June Craft, <i>Co-Moderator</i> Esther Winton, <i>Treasurer</i> Joan Batten, <i>Secretary</i>
Treasurers	Jack R. Blacka, <i>Disbursing</i> Ann E. Willey, <i>Receiving</i>
Trustees	David Brubaker Dan Hatter Donald Splaun

Minister	Reverend Donald H. LaRue
Music Director	Kelly Ward Hughes
Choir Director	Elise Blacka
Bell Choir Director	Jenn LaRue
Church School Supt.	David Seaman
Administrator	Laura Latimer-Nolan

We're Here	
Sunday School	9:30am
Sunday Morning Worship	11:00am
Church Office	Tue - Fri - 9am - 2pm
Choir Practice	Sunday 10:15am - 10:50am 1st & 3rd Wednesday 7:30pm
Handbell Practice	Wednesday 6:30 - 7:30pm
Session	2nd Monday 7:00pm
Men's Fellowship & Devotions	1st Sunday 8:30am
Women's Bible Study	1st Tuesday 7:00pm

Contact Us














Mailing Address
P.O. Box 256,
Stuarts Draft, Virginia 24477

Actual Address
24 Finley Drive
Stuarts Draft, Virginia 24477

Church Office Telephone:
(540) 337-3561

E-mail addresses:
Office: finleypc1@verizon.net
Pastor: fmpcpastor2@verizon.net

Web address: www.finleypres.org

- Please call or email the church when.....**
-  A member of your family is admitted to the hospital.
 -  There is a death in your family.
 -  Your class or group would like to use the church facilities.
 -  Your address, phone number or email address changes.
 -  You or your children get engaged or are getting married.
 -  There is a birth in your family.
 -  A member of your family leaves for college or the military.
 -  You change your name.
 -  You have news / information piece for the Finley Focus.
 -  You have an announcement for the weekly bulletin.
 -  You have news about our community or a community event.
 -  You have ideas for growing our Church Family.
 -  You need assistance from Rev. LaRue or any church staff.

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The *Finley* Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Oct 02	03	04	05	06	07	07
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	Nov 01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11

Notable Dates

- Oct 2 Keith Boswell Birthday
Men's Breakfast 8:30
Finley Hunger Relief
- Oct 3 John & Jo Ann Elmore Anniversary
Fellowship 6:30
- Oct 4 Presbyterian Women
- Oct 5 Hand bell practice 6:30pm
Choir Practice 7:30pm
- Oct 7 Lisa & David Seaman Anniversary
- Oct 9 Brandon Argenbright Birthday
Josiah Bruce LaRue Baby Shower 12:00
- Oct 10 Columbus Day
Jo Ann Elmore Birthday
- Oct 11 Session 7pm
- Oct 12 Hand bell practice 6:30pm
- Oct 13 Paige Allen Birthday
- Oct 15 Kim & Robert Cheek Anniversary
- Oct 16 Hunter & Kelly Hughes Anniversary
Jessica Edwards Birthday
Pavilion Dedication Service 11:00
- Oct 19 Hand bell practice 6:30pm
Mission & Outreach 7pm
- Oct 23 Maggie Marie Henderson Birthday
- Oct 25 Sally Ratcliffe Birthday
- Oct 26 Anna Grace Henderson Birthday
Brandon Brythe Birthday
Hand bell practice 6:30pm
- Oct 30 Mike R. Birthday