

Finley Focus

September 2011



The i-beam Cross at Ground Zero was pulled from the Twin Towers devastation on September 13, 2001. 10 Years later it is still on display outside St. Peter's Church opposite the WTC site, a sign of comfort for all.



No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8: 37-39)

Our Ministers Message - 'Where Were You?'

Greetings Everybody!

As we flip the calendar to September, it's hard not to notice that glaring spot on the 11th. It's been ten years since that terrible day. It was a day that has changed the entire trajectory of our nation, and has given new meaning what it means to be safe in this world!

I was working day-shift at the nuclear plant on 9/11/01 and was operating the Unit 2 reactor's feedwater polishing unit (a big filter before the water goes back to reactor to be heated back up again). I got a phone call when the first plane hit, but when the second plane hit, we were ordered to shut down. The nation was under attack; while no one was sure what was being targeted, a nuclear plant made for a pretty large bull's-eye.

After shutting down the plant, I was sent home as a safety precaution. The first thing I did when I got home was dig up the old flag in the closet and shot it up the flag pole in my front yard. I wept at the base of the pole, and prayed to God for his mercy and protection in this time of chaos!

While the events of that day were tragic, our resolve as a nation was magnificent! On September 12th 2001, we knew what was important to us: Faith, Family, and Country. How quickly those values eroded once 'American Idol' season 1 started in June 2002!...How I long for that resolve now!

I pray that as a Church and as a Nation, we will continue to reform ourselves to ensure Faith, Family, & Country remain the greatest desire of our hearts...lest we forget, making every person's death on that day an act of vanity!

The choice is ours; and the time has never been better!

Blessings,

Don LaRue

Rev. H. Donald LaRue



Finley Discipleship Training Series - with Rev. Don.

Starting Thursday, September 15th at 6:30pm and continuing for subsequent 8 weeks, the class will overview the history and content of the Old Testament. Aiding in our understanding will be 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.

The Curtain Torn	Exodus 26:31-37	Do Not Be Afraid...	Revelation 1:17-20
Darkness at Noon	Amos 8:9-12	Do Not Be Afraid II...	Matthew 14:25-32
In the Days of His Flesh...	Hebrews 5:7-10	Do Not Be Afraid III	Isaiah 41:1-10
Sermon Passage	Mark 15:42-47	Sermon Passage 1	Genesis 45: 1-15
'Grave with the Wicked'	Isaiah 53:8-9	Sermon Passage 2	Luke 12: 13-21
Joseph, The Secret Follower	John 19:38-42	How Foolish	Jeremiah 17: 11
'Ready to Fall'	Psalms 38:8-22	Unbelief runs through the generations	Psalms 95:7-11
Because of His Blood...	Hebrews 10:19-25	Warning Against Unbelief	Hebrews 3:7-19
Atonement	Zephaniah 3:14-20	An O.T. Great Commission	Isaiah 60:1-7
Sermon Passage	Mark 16:1-8	Sermon Passage	Mark 1:15
They Continued to Seek Him	Proverbs 8:17-21	Mark Major Theme: Miracles	Mark 1:21-28
'Let it be Known...'	Acts 4:5-12	Mark Major Theme: Kingdom of God	Isaiah 61:1-2

Augusta Regional Free Clinic Fund Raiser @ The Depot Grille, Staunton.

Have a delicious dinner while helping provide health care services and medicine to thousands of our community's medically uninsured. On Monday, September 19, 2011 the Augusta Regional Free clinic will host Depot Grille Tip Night starting at 5 pm at the Depot Grille in Staunton. Free Clinic board members and staff will greet you at the door, seat you at your table, serve you delicious drinks and dinner, bus your table and gladly accept your tip. Your 'tip check' may be made payable directly to the Augusta Regional Free Clinic to receive a tax deduction for charitable donation. Why not get some friends together, join us and help support this essential ministry.

Italian Wedding Soup

The weddings last month and a drop in temperature, gave me a taste for Italian Wedding Soup.

The following recipe is easy, tasty and a great work night supper dish.



- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 2 tablespoons good olive oil | 1 cup minced yellow onion |
| 1 cup diced carrots (3 carrots), | 3/4 cup diced celery (2 stalks) |
| 10 cups homemade chicken stock | 1/2 cup dry white wine |
| 1 cup small pasta such as tubetini or stars | 1/4 cup chopped fresh dill |
| 12 ounces baby spinach, washed and trimmed | |
| 1 1/2lbs frozen precooked meatballs | |



Heat the olive oil over medium-low heat in a large heavy-bottomed soup pot. Add the onion, carrots, and celery and sauté until softened, 5 to 6 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add the chicken stock and wine and bring to a boil. Add the pasta to the simmering broth and cook for 6 to 8 minutes, until the pasta is tender. Add the meatballs to the soup and simmer for 10 minutes. Taste for salt and pepper. Stir in the fresh spinach and chopped dill and cook for 1 minute, until the spinach is just wilted. Ladle into soup bowls and sprinkle each serving with grated Parmesan cheese.

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER - July 2011

July 2011 Financials (Cash Account register)

Beginning balance	1651.91
Total receipts	11,607.46
Transfers	10,105.22
Sub Total	<u>23,364.59</u>
Less total expenses	(21,808.89)
Ending balance	<u>\$1,555.70</u>

The transfer in July of \$10105.22 was from the Tech fund. The total expenses for the month includes the payment of \$9,769.69 to Integrity for our phase 1 audio upgrade.

Total tithing and offering contributions for the first seven months is down \$6,576 compared to 2010. 2011 year to date total is \$66,768.00 compared to \$73,344.00 in 2010.

July 31, 2011 Balance Sheet Figures

Checking Ac balance	1,555.70
Money market general fund	8,082.64
Money market building fund	1,112.52
Tech Upgrade fund	0.00
Paving fund	21.91
Pavilion Fund	1,707.70
Mission & Outreach fund	113.13
Cert of deposit #1	6,258.75
Cert of deposit #2	12,233.75
Savings Ac	26.46
Total Current Assets	\$31,112.56

Recently, I visited a church in Blacksburg and noticed that an older member of the choir was holding his music differently. He was holding his music downward and it appeared he had his music memorized. On closer inspection, I realized his music was written in Braille and he was "reading music" in an entirely different way than most people would.



I left that church with a stronger resolve that, if people really want to sing and are really "called to the ministry of worship through music," they can and will find a way to do just that. Blindness and age did not hold this man back and it (or other excuses) should not hold you back from answering God's call to the ministry of worship through music.

So, please come to Finley's first Fall-Winter choir practice on Wednesday, September 7 at 7:30 p.m. In addition to preparing weekly anthems, we will again collaborate with the Calvary United Methodist Church early service choir to present the Christmas Cantata "Lead Me Back to Bethlehem" on Sunday, December 11.



Plan now to attend choir practice on Wednesday nights and or Sunday mornings: one hour each Wednesday night beginning at 7:30 p.m. and 40 minutes on Sunday mornings beginning at 10:15 a.m. The choir needs your voice and God needs you to answer the call! - Elise Blacka

Summerlee, WVA Mission Trip 2011 The 25th year!

This year the Summerlee Mission trip participants left for West Virginia on Sunday, July 10 and worked through Friday, July 15, 2011. Our work started Sunday afternoon with setting up the camp dining tent, kitchen tent, and running electric power to both. The kitchen set-up includes moving in a freezer, three refrigerators, an ice machine and three cooking stoves. This year we fed over 100 hungry youth and adult workers a hot breakfast and a hot evening meal. You don't want to stand in the way of these hard workers when they are hungry!!

We worked on three different projects this year and folks were assigned to a project based on their talents and preferences. The first project was to replace a house roof, rebuild the side porch, and add a ramp. The front porch was painted and new railings built.

The second project was enclosing a side porch and replacing the floor, stabilizing the basement stairs; install a stair railing, and installing a door and frame on the doorway on the main floor at the top of the stairs. We also replaced the door and frame to the bathroom here.

Our third project was painting a former mining company store building that has been converted to a non-profit museum to preserve the history of the area. A lot of restoration had already been done on the interior and roof of the building but the exterior still needed to be painted. The clapboard structure had fallen into disrepair after many years of neglect. The painting of the exterior of this structure was done by most of the youth attending with some adults assisting as well as this was quite a big project. As news of this effort spread through the community, a bucket truck was loaned to the group to make painting of the second story more accessible, especially to areas the ladders could not reach.

There is something for everyone to help with at the Summerlee Mission. No matter what your talents are, they will be used. You can help as little or as much as your desire – that is left to you to decide.



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

Sept 04 - Rice or Pasta

Sept 11 - Cereal

Sept 18 - Canned Fruit

Sept 25 - Canned or Packet Soup

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

Everyone is very tired at the end of the week and with some sore muscles, but with a warm spot in the heart knowing our time was well spent helping others. You can just feel the hand of God working in Summerlee!

Come join us next year! The trip is generally scheduled for the first full week after the 4th of July each year, so mark your calendar if you think you might be interested. Stay for a day, or a couple of days, or the whole week – you will return with more than you left home with!!

God Bless,
David and Linda Cohron

Volunteers Needed

The American Cancer Society needs volunteers to assist people to get to medical appointments or help with someone's grocery shopping.

Contact Carrie Klamut ACS Community Manager
call 540 434 3360 email Carrie.Klamut@cancer.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL

STARTS SEPT 11TH 2011

Our Sunday School program resumes Sept 11, 2011 at 9:30am. We encourage you to come, we are certain there will be a class that will suit you and your family. Try being a student again, the Teacher is waiting for you. He loves you; He loves us all. - CE Committee

Infant Nursery Care

Is your infant or toddler still too young for the Pre-School class? Don't let that hold you back from attending Sunday School!

Bring them with you; *Yvonne Simmons and Darlene Bowles* would love nothing more than to hold and play with your wee ones while you attend the class that's right for you.



Pre-School Class

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me." Help introduce your child to the Savior through age-appropriate Bible stories, memory verses, crafts, songs and games.

Kathy Boswell, assisted by *Pat Brubaker* will be teaching how God created our families and keeps us safe.



K-3rd Grade Class

Amber & Linda will be leading this class teaching creation, the Old Testament and stories of Abraham and Noah.

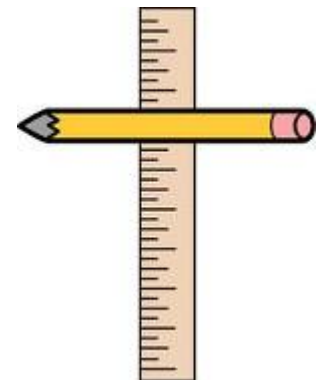
Your child will also learn about loyalty, generosity, trustworthiness, faith, kindness, wisdom, friendship and more! For children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade.



4th-6th Grade Class

Lisa Seaman and Sue Brubaker will lead this class.

The focus will be 'a travel guide to the armor of God' and learning the books of the New Testament.



SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY SEPT 11TH - 9:30AM

PLEASE COME AND BRING FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND ENJOY BREAKFAST FUN & FELLOWSHIP!

faith Cafe

Young Adult Class



Jenn and Leslie continue to lead Faith Cafe, reading and discussing issues of God in the daily life of young adults and families.

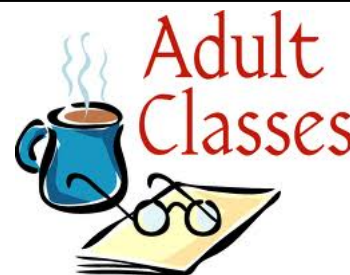
7th -12th Grade Class



Middle and High School students get ready to spend in depth time in God's Word, as well as talk through some of the issues they face today. Amanda Alexander will lead this class.

Adult Class

This fall, we will be using the book, *The Thirteen Apostles* by J. Ellsworth Kalas. In this book, an entire chapter is devoted to each of Jesus' apostles, including Matthias, successor to Judas Iscariot. The lessons are drawn from Scripture as well as historical writings and tradition to paint a portrait of each apostle as a servant in ministry, a human being, and an individual. Each chapter features a key passage of Scripture and books will be available for pickup from Sarah Splaun. Class will begin on Sept. 11.



Adult Classes



Faithful Friends

Led by Janice Garrison, Faithful Friends is a study of Attentiveness. The study will be a 6-week video series followed by 6 weeks of study on how to incorporate these lessons into a life of faith.

Join your Faithful Friends as, through our bible study, we learn attentiveness and how to grow our relationships with God...together. We will learn how He is present in our lives and how we can listen to God's voice. He has a plan for our lives, and we need to "be still" and listen.

This is a video based and round table discussion study series, featuring Listening to the Right Voices, Keeping Time, Self Awareness, Spiritual Disciplines, Behavioral Changes To Make and Listening Alone, Listening Together.

At the end of the 6 week study, we will then plan our 6 weeks of "go & do"

We will have a variety of special speakers, community involvement, movies, and possibly field trips.

Faithful Friends will meet in the Fellowship Hall Sofa Area. We look forward to sharing, studying and growing in Christ with you!



Anne Ait & Roy Rotenberry

Tinkling Springs Presbyterian Church

Anne and Roy exchanged vows in front of three hundred family and friends, in a ceremony officiated by our own Rev. Don LaRue.

August 20th, 2011 was a perfectly beautiful day, as was the happy couple's wedding, from beginning to end.

Finley would like to congratulate Mr and Mrs Rotenberry and we wish upon them, God's many Blessings for their future happiness.

4th Annual Finley Talent Show - September 11 @ 7pm

Our Talent Show is always a big hit and it will soon be time once again to showcase the many talents of our congregation!! Do you have a talent to perform or to display? We Want YOU! Sign-up for our Talent Show. We're looking for:

- Singers and dancers
- Ringers, pickers, strummers, drummers
- Magicians, musicians, comedians
- Writers, readers, actors

We're also looking for people who knit, sew, paint, write, draw, photograph, build, craft, scrapbook, travel, and create. We'll have tables set up to display all these wonderful hobbies and interests.

Sunday, September 11th - 7-9:00 PM.

featuring a 'bring your own desserts' dessert buffet preceding the program.

A sign-up sheet is on the Fellowship Committee bulletin board under the Windows 3. AND mark your calendars. You won't want to miss this!



We would like to remind everyone that we begin our new year Tuesday, September 6th at 7pm. Our study will be Confessing the Beatitudes, Lesson one, Greatly Honored Are the Poor! This is taken from Matthew 5:3, Luke 6:20,24. All women are invited and encouraged to come and study with us.

There will be a conference at Massanetta Springs on September 10, 2011. Entitled, The BIG Event, "Beautiful Attitudes", it is sponsored by Shenandoah Presbyterian Women, and will be held at Massanetta Springs Conference Center. If you are interested in this conference, there are applications on the table in the hallway. The applications are time sensitive so if you have an interest, don't wait.

Purple Door 2011

On Friday, August 12th Finley's Youth Group headed off to Lebanon Valley, PA for a weekend of Christian music, food, friends and fun. The Purple Door Arts and Music Festival is an annual 2-day concert that takes place at the Lebanon Valley Expo Center. There were three stages, (two of them were indoors), skate park, and plenty of food and merchandise vendors. In addition to bands, various speakers gave devotionals during breaks in the music, and representatives from organizations such as Compassion International were on hand so the youth could explore various service opportunities.

We arrived Friday night right on schedule and made 'camp' on the outskirts of the main stage. This area is a place where at least one youth leader is available to tend to the needs of the group. After a brief reminder of what was expected from them, the youth explored the festival.

After the concert Friday night, it was back to the hotel after a quick junk food run. Early Saturday morning, after a very early exercise regiment & a swim for some of the youth, (pastor Don slept in!) we headed back for an afternoon of more God-honoring music that varied from loud to *really loud*. Of course, it rained, thus closing down the main stage. But with the indoor stages were still on-line so the festival didn't miss a beat!

An airbrush artist was on hand custom making T-shirts...but for 1 or 2 bucks a person, he would airbrush the face of anyone crazy enough to try! The man was cleaning up!! Each of the youth got their faces painted in a way that artist saw emanating from their clothing and personality. Some of the results of such expressions are located on the back cover!

We closed out our trip on Sunday with a devotional led by Pastor Don. All in all, I found the trip to be a special bonding moment for our Finley youth. It will be an experience that they will not soon forget! Thank you for making it a reality!

Special thanks to Brandon Blythe, Katie Forbes and her friend Andrew Christie for helping chaperone. And to all our Youth, who made this trip an easy one to enjoy! We've got a great bunch of youth...the future is bright!

~Don and Jenn LaRue



Congregational Care Update

The Congregational Care Committee is working on creating a directory for Finley. Part of this project involves a major overhaul to our technologically outdated data base system. We want to provide everyone with current information of our members and to this end, we are going to need your help.

On Rally Day we will be asking **all** members of Finley, old and new, to provide us with their information. To make this task easier, we will be handing out a form for you to complete. A sample of the information we will be asking for is listed below. This information will be used to create our new data base and a new church directory. We understand that not everyone will want all their information to be published, so you will have choices as to what information you would like published in the directory. The information we will ask you to provide is for **Finley use only**.

Some of the information that you will be asked to provide is:

Name; Physical Address; Mailing Address; Email address
Home phone; Cell phone; Emergency contact; Can you receive a text
Birthday (no year); Anniversary.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance with this project. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please talk with either Debbie McCormick, Laura Latimer or Rev. Don.

Who's Who At



Staff & Key Folk

Session Members

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.

The *Finley* Calendar

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

Notable Dates

- | | | | |
|---------|--|---------|--|
| Sept 04 | Men's Breakfast 8:30am
Finley Hunger Relief | Sept 20 | Christian Ed 7pm |
| Sept 05 | Labor Day | Sept 21 | Handbell Practice 6:30
Choir Practice 7:30
Mission & Outreach 7pm |
| Sept 06 | Presbyterian Women | Sept 22 | Ray & Jane Schumin Anniversary |
| Sept 07 | Handbell Practice 6:30
Choir Practice 7:30 | Sept 23 | Mike Peery Birthday |
| Sept 10 | Brubaker / Edwards Wedding | Sept 28 | Daniel Alexander Birthday
Handbell Practice 6:30
Buildings & Grounds 7pm |
| Sept 11 | Rally Day 9:30am
Communion Sunday
Talent Show 7pm
Art & Shirley Hendrickson Anniversary
Matthew Alexander Birthday | Sept 30 | Keyon Landon Swink Birthday |
| Sept 13 | Session 7pm | Oct 1 | Randy & Allison Fink Anniversary |
| Sept 14 | Philip LaRue Birthday
Handbell Practice 6:30 | Oct 2 | Keith Boswell Birthday
Men's Breakfast 8:30
Finley Hunger Relief |
| Sept 16 | Amanda Willey Birthday
Amy Allen Birthday
Tony Forbes Birthday | Oct 3 | John & Jo Ann Elmore Anniversary
Fellowship 6:30 |
| | | Oct 4 | Presbyterian Women |



Finley Youth pictured at the Purple Door Festival.
See page 9 for Rev. Don's report on Purple Door.