Maysville Presbyterian Church Newsletter February 2025



Calendar:

February 2 - Worship 11:15 a.m.; Communion

February 9 – Worship; 5-Cents-A-Meal Offering

February 16 - Worship 11:15 a.m.; Session

meeting after worship

February 23-Worship 11:15 a.m.; fellowship

lunch after worship

Nursery Duty:

Feb. 2 - Margaret Thomas

Feb. 9 – Marianne Dennison

Feb. 16 - Marty Martin

Feb. 23 - Nancy Stuart

Sanctuary Flowers: Nancy Stuart

Bulletins: Debbie Davis

Ushers: Larry Davis & Lou Thomas

Sunday School Opening Exercises: Louis Family **Communion**: Pattie Bailey & Marty Martin

Happy Birthday:

February 1 - Carson Butwin

February 1 - Casey Butwin

February 4 - Irene Ellis Leech

February 6 – Timothy Martin

February 7 – Emily Thomas Smith

February 13 – Spencer Adams

February 14 – William Jamerson

February 16 - Lindsey Jamerson Wayland

February 19 - Ben Louis

February 23 - Calvin Wallace

February 24 - Don Moseley

Happy Anniversary:

February 5 – Bernie & Jane Hall Jamerson

February 14 - Phil & Pattie Bailey

Fellowship Lunch on February 23

Even if it's cold outside, it will be warm inside with delicious varieties of soup for lunch on Feb. 23. Join us for a fellowship lunch after worship. Please sign up if you plan on attending.

In February, we hope that you will participate in our "Gifts of the Heart" project. Along with many other Presbyterian churches, our church is collecting hygiene kits to be used in disaster relief. Each hygiene kit should contain:

- -1 hand towel (approximately 15" by 30")
- -1 wash cloth
- -1 wide-tooth comb (with at least 6 inches of teeth; no pocket combs, picks, or rattail combs)
- -1 nail clipper (unwrapped)
- -1 bar of soap (bath size in original wrapper)
- -10 standard size band-aids
- -1 toothbrush (Thanks to Buckingham Family Dentistry for providing the toothbrushes.)
 Please put these items in a one-gallon plastic zip-lock bag and place them in the designated box in the new fellowship hall by March 2.
 Alternately, if you would like for Nancy Stuart to purchase all of the items needed to assemble a kit, contact her for details. The cost will be \$7 per kit. If paying for your items by check, checks should be made payable to Nancy Stuart, and if paying in cash, Nancy would appreciate exact change.

Congratulations to our very own Irene
Stoneman Ellis who was recently presented the
Buckingham County *Lifetime Achiever*Award by the Buckingham County Chamber of

Commerce. This award was presented to Irene based on her life of service to her community, church, youth, and agriculture. Many members of her family were on hand at the Chamber's presentation banquet on January 21, 2025.

Thank you to Donna McRae-Jones for donating a vacuum cleaner to the church.

Blue Ridge Mobile Food Pantry

The Blue Ridge Mobile Food Pantry, which originated at Maysville Presbyterian Church as the first mobile food pantry in the Commonwealth, continues to make local distributions. The distribution site was moved to the Crystal Cathedral property in Dillwyn due to the need for a safer traffic pattern. Volunteers are always needed and welcome. Come join us from 9:30 to 11:30 am on the second and/or fourth Friday of each month to help with the distributions. Between 300 and 400 families in our community supplement their food needs from these bimonthly deliveries. Contact Don Williams if you have any questions or if you can help.

Pastor's Pondering

"God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them" 1 John 4:16β (NRSV)

I'm sure you've heard that February is the month of Love. I'm also sure you know why popular culture claims this month in the name of Love — you got it — Valentine's Day. For me, however, February is a month of love for some additional reasons. Oh, sure, I don't ignore Valentine's Day and I try to remember to make or do something special for Genevieve. But, February is also the birth month for many of my beloved family members: It begins with my youngest son, followed by my youngest granddaughter, then a niece and her eldest son, a nephew, his father, my oldest brother, and then his sister who was born on Leap Day, but she always celebrates her birthday in February, regardless of the year.

All of this is leads me to think about John the Elder who wrote three letters to the congregations under his care. He was very aware that while God is challenging to imagine, let alone understand how we can know and believe in, the most accessible way to know God is through love. God loves us; we love others — family, friends, even strangers (in a platonic way...); so that, in turn, we love God. By abiding, that is, remaining or living in a state of love for God and for each other, we are strengthened, comforted, and enabled to live out God's call to be the people of love, grace, peace, and hope.

May this month of February be one where your love for God and others abides and God's love will be made visible to the world.

Peace.

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Buckingham, VA 23921

Address Correction Requested