

The View

Madison Presbyterian Church

June 2022



A Story of Service and a Challenge to DO SOMETHING

submitted by Jean Pearson

Many years ago I had the pleasure of working with a retired church leader. He was in his ninetieth decade of life. He surprised and inspired me with his continued dedication to church service.

He was wheelchair bound, care dependent and was living in an Assisted Living Facility when I met him. He had outlived his children and, if memory serves, his grand-children as well.

He explained that he had a busy day ahead and had been busy all morning. I was curious to learn what kept him busy, so I asked. He was calling people from his congregation and from his lifelong contact list to provide encouragement and offer to pray for and with them. I sensed that he had become quite skilled in his telephone conversational presence based on his impactful conversation with me...a stranger.

His brief conversation with me has motivated me for decades. His point was this: DO SOMETHING. Use your gifts and talents throughout your life. As your gifts and talents and abilities change, continue to use your gifts in talents in new ways, but above all DO SOMETHING.

I visited a bible college in Chicago, Illinois in 1981 when I was considering college options. I read a note hanging outward for all to see on a cubicle wall which said:

“I am only one. I cannot do all things, but I can do some things. Because I cannot do all things, I cannot refuse to do the some things that I can do.”

Twenty years later I learned that this was a paraphrase from Helen Keller. In summary, DO SOMETHING and use your gifts and talents as you are called. Blessings will follow.

Spring is here. After a long and very cold winter during an international pandemic the flowers are blooming, the tree frogs are croaking and chirping, birds are singing, and the dormancy of the past two years is beginning to lift. What happens next is up to all of us. But it's time for change.

Ecclesiastes 3 describes **"A Time for Everything"**

3 There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:
² a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
³ a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
⁴ a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
⁵ a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
⁶ a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
⁷ a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
⁸ a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.

⁹ What do workers gain from their toil? ¹⁰ I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. ¹¹ He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. ¹² I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. ¹³ That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God. ¹⁴ I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him.

¹⁵ Whatever is has already been,
and what will be has been before;
and God will call the past to account.^l

¹⁶ And I saw something else under the sun:

In the place of judgment—wickedness was there,
in the place of justice—wickedness was there.

¹⁷ I said to myself,

"God will bring into judgment
both the righteous and the wicked,
for there will be a time for every activity,
a time to judge every deed."

¹⁸ I also said to myself, "As for humans, God tests them so that they may see that they are like the animals. ¹⁹ Surely the fate of human beings is like that of the animals; the same fate awaits them both: As one dies, so dies the other. All have the same breath^[c]; humans have no advantage over animals. Everything is meaningless. ²⁰ All go to the same place; all come from dust, and to dust all return. ²¹ Who knows if the human spirit rises upward and if the spirit of the animal goes down into the earth?"

²² So I saw that there is nothing better for a person than to enjoy their work, because that is their lot. For who can bring them to see what will happen after them?

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So what do we do now? We look for opportunities to use our gifts to go forward. We await the outcome of the Pastor Nominating Committees search for a new minister to lead our congregation. We pray for discernment for ways to use our gifts in talents and look for realistic opportunities to do so.

Do you know what your gifts and talents are? I Corinthians 12 may offer some insight.

Concerning Spiritual Gifts

¹² Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. ³ Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶ There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

⁷ Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸ To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, ^[a] and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ^[b] ¹¹ All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

Unity and Diversity in the Body

¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by ^[c] one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

¹⁵ Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, ²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. ²⁸ And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues ^[d]? Do all interpret? ³¹ Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

Love Is Indispensable

And yet I will show you the most excellent way.

Where does MPC need your talent?

Please contact any member of your session or committees of interest to offer your talents, to ask questions, to offer creativity and ideas. Begin the conversation today. We can't wait to hear from you!

From Jean Pearson, Elder and Session member

Session Members

Sue Strahan, clerk	(540) 718-4156
Gay Lee Einstein, moderator	(804) 874-2098
John Quinley	(540) 948-4304
Dana Edelman	(434) 825-1726
Clarissa Berry	(540) 718-0000
Bill Pattie	(540) 718-0441
Allan McLearen	(540) 407-1158
Jean Pearson	(434) 825-2355

ADMINISTRATION

Building & Grounds

Nick Humphrey
Heidi Sage
Joyce Humphrey
Bill Pattie
John Quinley (supporting
Session member)

Finance

Allan McLearen
Mike Willis
Dana Edelman
Sam Strahan
Allan McLearen (supporting
Session member)

Stewardship

Sharon Weakley
Kim Barnes
Mary King
Bill Pattie
Bill Pattie (supporting
Session member)

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Christian Education

Bobbie Carroll
Mary Linda McLearen
Cindy Pattie
Clarissa Berry (supporting
Session member)

Care & Support

Mary Linda McLearen
Bobbie Carroll
Heidi Sage
Sharon Weakly
Sharon Carter
Clarissa Berry (Session member)

Fellowship

Frank King
Gene Corbin
Joan Corbin
Eli Johnson
Mary King
Clarissa Berry (Session member)

WITNESS

Green Team

Mary King
Jill Quinley
Rives Wetsel
Betty Berry
Jean Pearson (supporting
Session member)

Mission

Betty Berry
Frank King
Jane Lamar
Jean Pearson (supporting
Session member)

Outreach

Kim Barnes
Jean Pearson (supporting
Session member)

COMMUNICATION

Newsletter

Lynn Gore
Dana Edelman (supporting
Session member)

Website

Valerie McLearn
Dana Edelman (supporting
Session member)

Technology

Dana Edelman
Sam Strahan
Valerie McClearn
Clarissa Berry
Dana Edelman (Session member)



PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

Thank you for your energy and support in promoting the Pentecost Offering. Let us celebrate the fulfillment of God's promise to us through the coming of the Holy Spirit by guiding our young people toward a brighter, faith-filled future.

40% of your Pentecost offering remains with the church to support ministries with children and youth in our church and local community.

25% goes to Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) experience.

25% supports ministries with youth, ages 12-18, and those called to accompany them.

10% supports the "Educate a Child, Transform, the World" national initiative.

At Pentecost, we celebrate that God offers more than we can plan. Our gifts to the Pentecost Offering connect with God's hope and future, supporting ministries with children, youth and young adults by building a life of faith. Through the Young Adult Volunteer program, Presbyterian Youth and Triennium, the "Educate a Child, Transform the World" initiative, as well as [LOCALLY SUPPORTED MINISTRY OF YOUR CONGREGATION], we join in ministries that connect young people with one another and with caring communities, helping them shape a life and a future beyond even the one we could plan.

Session Minutes from May Meeting

The Stated Meeting of the Session of Madison Presbyterian Church was held at 7:00 on May 10, 2022 in the Fellowship Hall. Those present were Moderator; Gay Einstein and Elders; Sue Strahan, Clarrisa Berry, Dana Edelman, John Quinley, Allan McLearn and Jean Pearson. Bill Pattie was excused. A quorum was present.

Gather with Scripture and Prayer

Clerk's report -There is a Called meeting of the POJ on 5/17 for the Nominating Committee. Jean Pearson agreed to attend and follow up with a report next month.

Pastor's Report: Calendar review. Gay reminded us that Pentecost is coming on June 5th. She discussed ideas to celebrate.

Treasurer's Report;

April 2022	Actual	Budget	YTD budget
Income	\$8,115	\$10,583	\$42,332
Expenses	\$9,424	\$13,419	\$53.676
Difference	\$(1,309)	\$(2,836)	\$(11,344)

Area & Team Reports

Administration— items for June newsletter needed by May 23. Photos from Madison Day and a recap of event for Lynn. Clarissa said Jane Lamar has the pictures. Lynn needs the Session minutes, memo from Session for the newsletter, an update from one of the areas / committees and any other updates."

Clarissa asked if the Church may want to consider having solar panels placed. We will ask the Green Team to do some research

Congregational Life, events being planned for summer: National Prayer Day

report from John. He felt it went well and that we should plan to do it again next year. He suggested open hours from 1-6 pm and more advance publicity. The next event is the Madison Business Expo at the Fire Hall on 5/19. Kim Barnes and Clarissa have worked together on the plans.

Old Business – Dana reports that the discussion about replacing the office printer may need to be revisited as Lynn reports it is making load noises.

PNC update – Clarissa reports good progress on the PNC.

Next Stated Session Meeting, Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Prayer and Adjournment

Save the Date

August 7th

For

Fun with Family and Friends Day

Craft Sale **Food**
Games

Our Mission for this event will be a donation to Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands.

Please plan to join us for an afternoon of

Fun with Family and Friends!



Madison Business Fair

Kim Barnes and her mother, Lucy Marx hosted MPC's booth at the recent Madison County Business Fair. They took the opportunity to tell people about our church and all the fun things we have done.

Attention All Crafters!

Christian Ed is sponsoring an event in August that will include a craft sale to benefit the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands.

There will be a few days we will get together to craft, so watch for announcements of dates. And, we would love to have donations of your crafts to help raise money for this cause.

Contact Bobbie Carroll for more details.



Would you like to donate flowers?

We still have open dates for flower donations in July and August. If you would like to give flowers for a Sunday, please sign up on the poster in the narthex or contact Lynn in the church office at 540-948-6972 or office@madisonpresbyterian.com.

THANK YOU!

To everyone who helped with
Roadside cleanup!





JUNE



BIRTHDAYS

Avery Bartczak	6/3	Linda Braun	6/17
Nan Coppedge	6/14	Nick Humphrey	6/30
Jean Pearson	6/14	Owen McLearn	6/30
Tom Rees	6/16		

ANNIVERSARY

Bland & Linda Sadler 6/13
58 years



Social Services Needs for June

The needs for June are for
Infants and Children

- baby and toddler foods of all kinds
- Spaghetti-O's
- soup
- mac and cheese
- instant oatmeal
- diapers
- wipes
- peanut butter
- jelly
- fruit and Jell-O cups
- juice boxes
- cereal

You may bring your donations to the Church Fellowship Hall and place them in the big red tub. Your donations are distributed to Madison Social Services.



Some Green Tips for Summer ...

- * Use a ceiling fan or circular fan in conjunction with an air conditioner. They circulate the air much better, allowing you to feel cooler when the temperature is higher.
- * Close your shades during the day. "When completely closed and lowered on a sunny window, highly reflective blinds can reduce heat gain by 45%".
- * Wait to use heat-generating appliances (like computers, TVs, lighting, stoves) until after dark. If you want to cook in a less heat-generating way, use your outdoor grill.



Madison Presbyterian Church
1236 Fishback Road
Madison, VA 22727
540.948.6972






Church Administrator: Lynn Gore
office@madisonpresbyterian.com

www.madisonpresbyterian.com



June



			1 	2	3 Card Group 10am	4
5 Pentecost Offering 10am Worship/ Communion 5:30 pm AA	6	7	8	9	10 Card Group 10am	11
12 Trinity Sunday 10am Worship/ Communion/ 5 cents a Meal 5:30pm AA	13	14 Session	15	16	17 Card Group 10am	18
19 10am Worship/ Communion 5:30 pm AA	20	21	22	23	24 Card Group 10am	25
26 10am Worship/ Communion 5:30 pm AA	27	28	29	30		

Lectionary:

5th: Acts 2: 1-21; Psalm 104: 24-34.,35b; Romans 8: 14-17; John 14: 8-17

12th: Proverbs 8: 1-4; Psalm 8: 1-9; Romans 5: 1-5; John 16; 12-15

19th: 1 Kings 19: 1-15a; Psalms 42 & 43; Galatians 3: 23-29; Luke 8: 26-39

26th: 2 Kings 2: 1-2, 6-14; Psalm 77: 1-2, 11-20; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 5: 51-62