

Fincastle Presbyterian Church

Ring in the New Year!

Have you made a resolution for 2025?

(Mine is to get out a newsletter for FPC every month.
Patsy)

Consider the poem by Howard Thurman
(re-printed from previous newsletters, but
worth repeating)



After Christmas

a poem by Howard Thurman

"When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks, the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart."

...from David's Desk

Volume 6, Issue 1
Fincastle, Virginia
January 2025

"A New Year Has Possibilities!"

2025

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation is come. The old has gone, the new is here!" (2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV)

Once upon a time, actually, about 15 years ago, Dr. Glenn Hall, (the first pediatrician who served southwest Virginia) told me a great definition for "crazy". "Crazy", he said, "is when we do the same thing over and over again, but we keep expecting a different result." Think about it.

Have you, as I have, ever said anything like the following: "I am going to lose this excess weight!"; but, we keep on snacking on the same old bag of chips and ordering the same old cheese burger for lunch (I had one just today!); or "I am going to start "chair yoga" and walking daily to get in better shape!"; but, we settle into our recliner to "binge-watch yet another British detective series" (I just watched "Luther" last week); or "I am going to pay-down my credit card debts!"; but it's Christmas, or one of our kid's or our grandchild's birthday, so ... "Swoosh", we whip out the Visa card and dive into debt a little deeper? (I'm not going to embarrass myself by confessing my short-comings in that category!) (NOTE from Patsy—As I type this all I can think about is David, you've stopped preaching and gone to med-dling!)

Has anybody else in our FPC family ever committed to any of those worthy goals, only to keep on doing the same old things—and yet we keep hoping for different results? Hmm. I think Dr. Glenn Hall knew us "crazies" pretty well. (He was a very wise and very experienced physician after all.)

St. Paul, in 2 Corinthian's 5:17, proclaims the good news that: if we are "in Christ", that is to say, if Christ is indeed our Lord as well as our Savior, than we can (with His help) stop doing the same old self-destructive things over and over again. All that we need to do is: to trust in our Lord's teachings about living the simple life; teachings about honoring our bodies for they are a temple to the Lord; teach-

ings about ourselves, and God's Creation; and His teachings about everything!

Trust in Jesus, and we can (with His help) become a new creation. The "old" can be relegated to the past. The "new" can become our present and future reality. The choice is ours! Do we persist in our "craziness" and persist in doing the same old thing over and over again? Or, will we do a new thing and trust in Jesus and change our "old" ways and move into the new creation that our Lord is calling us to be?

Recently Patsy saw a church's bulletin board that read simply: "A New Year, New Possibilities!" Let's do some new things that need doing, for our Lord's sake, for our neighbor's sake, and for our own sake.

Happy New Year!

David



Pacific Palisades
Presbyterian Church
Rev. Heidi Worthen
Gamble

This is one of the many buildings that has been destroyed by the wild-fires in California this month. The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, wildfire account # is **DR000165** (Please note this # on your check.)

January Calendar



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Baptism of our Lord	13 HFI—10 am Worship Comm.—3:30 pm (fell. Hall)	14 Women's Bible Study—2 pm Fellowship Hall	15	16	17	18 Men's Breakfast at North Star 9 am
19	20 Communica- tion Comm. Meeting—10 am HFI—6 pm	21	22 Wellness and Healing Ser- vice—5 pm	23 Session Meeting 7 pm	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Remember, Feb. 2 is Communion Sunday

MondayMandala.com

Thank you to the Elder Class of 2024 for your service to FPC:

Cathy Goad; Paul Phillippe; "Bo" Trumba

Congratulations to the new Elder Class of 2027:

Cathy Goad; Patty Vari; Teri Walker

Views around FPC

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Fellowship after Church hosted by
David and Patsy Dickerson
12/22/24 after Lessons & Carols



Christmas Pot
Luck 12/8/24

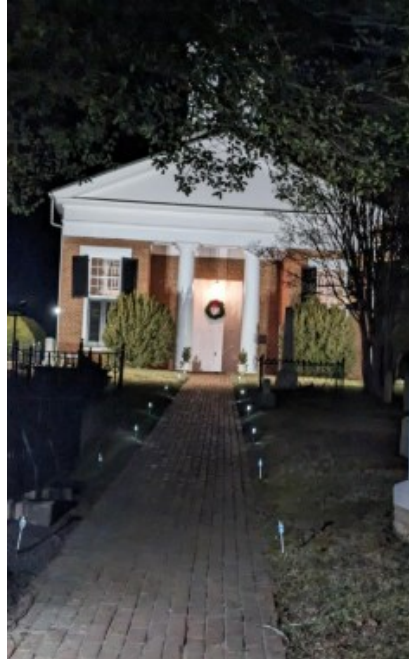


Views around FPC

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On the left: David preparing for advent.



On the right: Christmas Eve 2024



Thank you Wyatt for doing such a good job clearing the walks and parking lots for the January snow and ice storm.



Pacific Palisades Presbyterian Church (minister Rev. Heidi Worthen Gamble) is one of the many buildings that has been destroyed by the wildfires in California this month. The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, wildfire account # is **DR000165 (Please note this # on your check or donate electronically using the QR code in the bulletin each week.)**