



NOTES FROM THE FIELD

With special thanks to the wonders of technology, my mom and I are playing a long-distance game of *Scrabble*. She's in San Francisco and the moment she places her letters on the board and clicks "send" on her *Ipad*, it shows up on my board on my *Ipad*. Amazing.

We can see and talk to each other, too, and it's like we are around the same table. Katherine and I were talking to her last week and it was like the three of us were in the same room. I have really appreciated what the *Ipad* has enabled us to do as a family in recent months.

You might have a similar experience with a digital tablet (*Ipad* or otherwise). The Martins' gadgets remind me of two ways we are using high-tech stuff in the church.

Since Palm Sunday, Green Spring Church has been sending the worship service out over the internet. You might have noticed the video camera in the back of the church. Our live "webcast" has given some folks a way to share in the worship service when they couldn't be in church.

The idea originated with a family who had been receiving our weekly audio CD of the service, but felt like Sunday morning at 11:00am was their "church time." They said it didn't feel the same to listen to a CD of the service later in the week. Is there a way to watch

the service live?, they asked. That got the wheels turning! Since that first webcast, we've fixed some of the hiccups, and the Session has approved this new facet to our mission, so now we are ready to promote it to a wider audience: the entire world! This is very exciting.

A second example of the church using technology comes from the denomination. When the General Assembly meets in Pittsburg (June 30 to July 7)



technology will provide a way for all of us not there to learn about what's happening. We will be able to watch some of the meetings live. I want to encourage you to take a look at the denominational website during and after the assembly.

So what do these two examples mean for us? First, we can reduce the limitations of distance. Distance doesn't vanish, but with technology, seeing and talking to someone across a wide space can be a lot like talking to them at the same table. I like that.

Also, distance can be geographical, but it can also be theological. We are a diverse

church and, for example, when nine hundred faithful Presbyterians meet in Pittsburgh, we will see and listen to conversations and debates we would not see otherwise. We might learn from what we see and hear.

Technology can improve how we communicate. It doesn't replace talking to someone in person, but it can be a next best thing. That seems like what the early church thought, too...

When the church in Jerusalem learned of the tremendous growth of the church in Antioch, they used the most advanced form of technology available to them to share their encouragement and counsel: a hand-written, hand-delivered letter. (Acts 15)

The church, from its early days, has worked through the limitations of distance. It has always understood itself to be more than only local. We are not only Jerusalem or only Antioch or only Abingdon. We are catholic. And so we affirm this in the creed we recite. As Presbyterians we are connected to a wide church.

There is one universal church that speaks a word of hope. Green Spring now sends that hope into the world in a high-tech way. Let's pray that all who see our webcast find a hope-filled word for their lives and feel closer to Christ and his Church.

Together in Christ, Jon

Responding to the Good News

Date	Attendance	Offering
6-03-12	118	\$3,868.00
6-10-12	134	\$4,447.54
6-17-12	119	\$3,188.00
6-24-12	122	\$3,105.85

Find us on Facebook:
Green Spring Presbyterian
Church, Abingdon, Virginia



Nursery Helpers for July / August

July 8- *Barbara Quesenberry* and
Bonnie Keller

July 15-*JoAnn Kilbourne* and
Jennifer Puckett

July 22-*Sylvia Keller* and
Sue Gibson

July 29-*Linda Hall* and
Angie Cooper

Aug. 5-*Phyllis Briscoe* and
Lea Combs

Aug. 12-*Retha Robinette* and
Sandra Wimmer

Aug. 19-*Sally Brown* and
Lisa Bailey

Aug. 26-*Judy Briscoe* and
Carol White

The Richard Briscoe Memorial Golf Tournament

for Project Crossroads is set for August 18, 2012 at Holston Hills Country Club in Marion, Virginia. The deadline to enter is August 10, 2012. All the proceeds will go to Project Crossroads. Richard served Project Crossroads in many ways for many years. We hope you will join in remembering him and play for this great cause. For more information about the tournament, please call the Project Crossroads office at 276-782-3339.

Homecoming

August 12, 2012

11:00am

Guest Minister: Rev. Dr. Miller Liston

A Magnificent Covered-dish lunch to follow.

Vacation Bible School

July 9 –13, 9:00am to Noon

**A church full of adults and children!
Children will be singing in church on July 15!**



Saturday evening, July 21

Gather at 4:00pm

Eat at 6:00pm

bring something to share



Church Picnic

Washington County
Park, picnic shelter #3



July 8 – Green Spring Harmony

July 15 – The Virginians

July 22 – Joyful Noise

July 29 – Eddie Shelton and Christi

...at Watauga Chapel. Sunday evenings at 6:30pm

M o r n i n g Worship



greenspringchurch.org

Sunday mornings at 11:00am (GMT – 5)

Meet a Missionary Family!

July 29, 2012 at 9:45am

Combined Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall!

Patrick and Jody Hilt

and daughters: Emma, Mimi, Callie, and Zoe

Missionaries to Ethiopia with SIM (Service in Mission)



Birthdays/July

July 2-Emory Robinette
 July 3-Elizabeth Wade
 July 3-Preston Brown
 July 9-Susanne Martin
 July 10-Kolby Jackson
 July 11-Sally Brown
 July 16-Lois Gillespie
 July 17-Kevin Flannagan
 July 20-Maria Briscoe
 July 21-Patty Clark
 July 21-Jonah Martin
 July 24-Mary Jane Crosby
 July 25-Loni S. Reynolds
 July 26-Mavis Brown
 July 26-Sue Elkins

Anniversaries/July

July 2-Tim & Holly Briscoe
 July 4-Earl & Lea Combs
 July 7-George & Barbara King
 July 14-John & Linda Dickens
 July 16-Jasper & Rita Reynolds
 July 18-Christopher & Teresa Halsey
 July 24-Eric & Melissa Eller
 July 25-Mack & Lisa Bailey

From the Choir Director

From June 24-June 29, I had the privilege to attend the Montreat Worship and Music Conference sponsored by the Presbyterian Association of Musicians in Montreat, North Carolina. I learned a great deal during this wonderful week of attending meaningful worship services, singing in a large 500 voice choir adult choir, a small select 30 voice Chamber Choir and attending classes on global music and choral conducting. I have come home with many ideas that I want to use in our worship and music that I want to teach to the adult and children's choirs. A huge thank you to the Session for allocating money for me to be able to attend this wonderful conference.

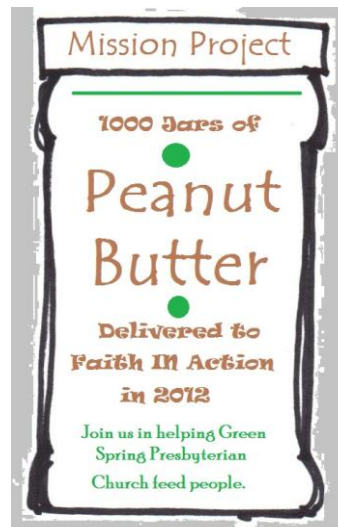
Kevin Flannagan

Sunday School SCHEDULE

9:45-10:40am

July 2012

Pre-school	<i>We Learn to Follow God's Ways</i> Teacher: Jeanie Evans
Primary	<i>We See God's Power at Work</i> Teacher: Patty Clark
Middle School	<i>All About the Bible</i> Teachers: Jane Prater and Erin Evans
Adult Bible Study	<i>Justice Enacted</i> Teachers: Tom Deaton and Jasper Reynolds
Warner Room	<i>Heaven!</i> Teacher: Tim Briscoe



Peanut Butter Offering

June 3	35
June 10	62
June 17	21
June 24	33
June Total	151
So far in July	36
Overall total	795

Prayer List

Janet Martin, Karen Combs, John Blake, Sally Brown, Ann Lowry, Meredith Haga, Donna Abel, Lois Gillespie, Carter & Emerson Hale, Kitty Pelfrey, Leroy Jones, Emma Barton, Helen Garland, Elizabeth Ponder, Barbara Adams, Doris Poe, David King, Bob Lowe, Lynn McConnell, Nancy Thompson, Barbara Knight, Jim Groseclose, Sara Lawson, Carolyn Deaton, Virginia Thompson, Tom & Connie Counts, Edna McConnell, Bill & Marge Margerum, Sandra Wimmer, Lena McVey, Janet McCauley, Erma Combs, Rhonda Moore, Barbara Blevins, Edith Ratliff, Eva Bailey, Bo Miller, Phyllis Garner, Nancy Greary, Rickey White, Terry White, Roberta Richey and Helen Carter.

Flower Calendar Openings!

Sign up for a Sunday in the church office.