



# New Monmouth News

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&  
Shenandoah  
Presbytery

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## Pastoral Perspective

The Apostle Paul wrote the following to one of his comrades named Titus. *To the pure, all things are pure, but to the corrupt and unbelieving nothing is pure; their very minds and consciences are corrupted. They profess to know God, but they deny Him by their deeds; they are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good deed. - Titus 1:15-16*

Wow, Paul! You're being a bit rough, aren't you? Corrupt? Unbelieving? Detestable? Disobedient? Unfit for any good deed?

That's a heavy thought from the man who wrote so much about grace. This sounds more like James who wrote that faith without works is dead. An honest assessment of our society, church, and individual lives may show just how deeply dedicated we really are in our Christian faith.

That is the premise of a book published earlier this year entitled *the Christian atheist* by Craig Groeshel. I mentioned it in worship a couple of weeks ago and several folks expressed interest in learning more about this concept. After further prayer and reading in this book, I have decided to use it as the basis for our Monday evening study this fall. We will begin on the first Monday after labor day and continue through the third Monday of November, (15<sup>th</sup>). That's 10 weeks. We will reserve the evening of November 22 as an extra study week, if needed.

I hope you will attend as many times as possible, because I believe this study

will, as Brad Lomenick, president of Catalyst, says, "challenge you, push you and disturb you. It will redefine your sense of purpose and focus as a Christian. . . . Too many of us live lives that don't truly reflect who we are as followers of Christ. But the good news is we can change."

Did he say change? Yes, I believe we can all move to a higher and deeper level of true Christianity. Are you willing?

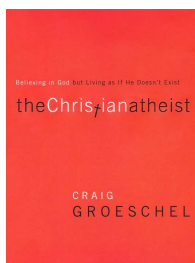
Here is a list of the topics we will be discussing. Each begins with the phrase

## When You Believe in God but . . .

1. Don't Really Know Him
2. Are Ashamed of Your Past
3. Aren't Sure He Loves You
4. Not in Prayer
5. Don't Think He's Fair
6. Won't Forgive
7. Don't Think You Can Change
8. Still Worry All The Time
9. Pursue Happiness at Any Cost
10. Trust More in Money
11. Don't Share Your Faith
12. Not in His Church

The upcoming lesson will be listed in the bulletin each week. Please make time for this opportunity to grow in your understanding and commitment to Jesus. I hope you will purchase your own copy at your Christian bookstore or online at [www.christianbook.com](http://www.christianbook.com). If you need help in obtaining one, please let me know. I will be glad to help.

Shalom,  
Martin



### Thanks and Warm Fuzzies to:

**Blane Reid** for painting new stripes on the parking lot and for trimming hedges around the church.



**Jim Connor** for the benefit concert to help Massanetta Springs and to **Ray Blouin** for helping MC and play for the concert.

**Jennie Gaines** and the fellowship committee for hosting the luncheon p-rrior to the concert.

**Cliff Wade** for providing balloon rides for our members and a show for Rachel Burner.

**Susan Bender, Karen Duff, Tim Hodges, Norvell Lapsley, & Gary Swink** for leading the worship service of *Stories & Hymns* on June 25.

**Charlie Cathcart & sons Trey & Cole**, for running our video equipment when Nathan & Ruthann are out of town.

### Note of Thanks

Dear Members and Friends of New Monmouth,

Thank you so much for your continuing support of us, as we go through this difficult period of our lives. Your calls, cards, notes, prayers and visits are a great encouragement. Special thanks for your attention to Rachel on her birthday. God bless you one and all. *Ray & Rachel Burner.*

### New Members

We extend a warm welcome to our newest members who were received during July.

**Janet Drake** and her son **Alex**

**Foresman** were received on July 11 by certificate of transfer from the Trinity United Methodist Church. Janet is a teacher in the Rockbridge County School system. Alex is at student at Dabney S. Lancaster Comm. College.

**Patrick Welsh**, son of Tim and Janeen and grandson of Danny & Elizabeth, was also received on July 11. Patrick is a student in the rockbridge county system and has been very active in many of the programs of New Monmouth. He established his membership through profession of faith. Patrick has two brothers: Dylan & Nathan.

**Susan Kathleen Bender** united with New Monmouth on July 18 by certificate of transfer from New Providence Presbyterian in Raphine. Susan is the owner of *Blue Sky Appraisals*.



### Layered Ice Cream Dessert

4 (1ounce) squares of sweet baking chocolate

1/2 cup butter or margarine

2/3 cup sugar

1 (5.33 ounce) can evaporated milk

1/8 teaspoon salt

2 teaspoons vanilla extract

24 chocolate wagers, crushed

1/4 cup butter or margarine, Melted

1/2 gallon vanilla ice cream, softened

1 cup Whipped Cream, Whipped

1/4 cup chopped pecans

Melt chocolate and 1/2 cup butter in top of a double broiler; stir in sugar, evaporated milk, and salt. Bring Chocolate mixture to a boil; reduce heat, and cook 4 minutes, stirring constantly.

Remove from heat; stir in vanilla. Let cool.

Combine chocolate wafer crumbs and melted butter; press firmly into 13 x 9 x 2 pan. Cool.

Spread ice cream evenly over crumb mixture; top with chocolate sauce. Spread with whipped cream; sprinkle with pecans. Cover and freeze until firm.

Let stand room temperature 5 minutes before slicing and serving. Makes 15 servings

*Recipe by Robert L. Ralston*

*Parkersburg, West Virginia*

Article submitted by Sue Hotinger

### An Invitation from a Sister Church



You are invited to join the entire Maury River Mission Community, Sunday, September 26th for an end-of-summer hour of music at Mt. Carmel Presbyterian at 3:00 PM. There will be two "acts" in the event: 1) Mt. Carmel's Jewish cantor/folk singer from Baltimore, Linda Baer, and 2) The Timber Ridge Bell Choir, which is a great bell choir under Jane Vaughan's direction. We are air-conditioned and have plenty of seating!

### The Widows Web

Widows Web will meet Tuesday August 3rd at Niko's grill on Main Street. All widows are invited to attend.

### Sympathy

Our Christian love and sympathy is extended to the family of **Larry Knick**, who passed away on July 27. Larry was the nephew of Mary Brogan.

## Presbytery, Synod, & GA News



### Update on Hunger

**Program** - On the fourth Sunday of each month we receive a Four-Cents-Per-Meal Hunger Offering. Here is an update on where those

pennies go to help relieve hunger:

Received by presbytery: 2003 -2009 = \$600,752  
2010, Jan-May 18 = \$ 50,044

Disbursed by presbytery: 2010 (Jan - May)

International (65%) = \$32,529

National (28%) = \$14,013

Advocacy (7%) = \$ 3,503

These figures represent 75% of the total money collected by our churches. 25% is distributed by the churches for local needs. We give to RARA. The total collected since 2003 in Shenandoah Presbytery is approximately \$867,728. With each of us doing a little bit, great things can be accomplished. Thanks for your generosity.

*For details, go to [www.shenpres.org](http://www.shenpres.org)*



The time is drawing near for The Big Event which will take place at Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center on September 11, 2010. It is a combination of the P. W. Fall Gathering, a Mission Fair, & Leadership Training Workshops. This an event designed to replace several smaller events throughout the year. There will be something of interest for almost everyone of any age. A few copies of the brochure are available in our church office, however it can be obtained easier by going online to [www.shenpres.org](http://www.shenpres.org). To learn more and download a brochure, go to our presbytery web site and click on the logo shown above. I encourage you to register early. You don't want to miss out on this event.

### Schedule for the day:

8:00-9:00 am Registration in Stewart Hall  
Mission Fair

8:45 am Singing in Stewart Hall

9:00-9:50 am Worship in Stewart Hall

Preacher: Rev. Fred Holbrook

10:00-11:30 am Morning Workshops

11:45-12:30 pm Lunch in Hotel Dining Room

Dessert served at the Mission Fair

1:00—2:30 pm Afternoon Workshops

2:40—3:00 pm Closing Celebration and Sending

### Workshops being offered:

Morning:

**1 Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today** (Horizons Bible Study - workshop repeated in afternoon) - Rev. Bill Cox

**2 Writing A Church History and A PW History** - Elders Mary Campbell & Bill Blair.

**3 Church Treasurer Training** - Elder Lucille Gohdes

**4 Making Music & Media Matter** in the church - Martin Stokes

**5 Stepping in to the Global Christian Movement** (missions) - Rev. Jen Haddox

**6 Creative Puppetry for Children I**

**7 For the Hearts of Children** - Elder Mary Lou Cox

**8 Exploring Best Practices in Stewardship** - Sally Hinchman

**9 Together in Service** (PW Mission) - Elders Dot Bowers and Irene Estes

**10 Healthy Churches: Grounded and Growing** - Revs. David Whitt & Lisa Webb.

**11 Connecting through Facebook and Other Social Medias** - Rev. April Cranford

Afternoon:

**12 Revelation ... repeated** from morning

**13 Becoming A Missional Church** - Rev Malcolm Brownlee

**14 Peacemaking in Northern Ireland**- Elder Joyce Tipton and Rev. Sally Robinson

**15 Mission Communities: Expanding Our Mission Opportunities** - Elder Karen Thatcher and Rev. Dr. Randy Webb

**16 Partnering in God's Mission Where Few Know Jesus** - Mike Robison

**17 Creative Puppetry for Children II**

**18 Presbyterian Women Ins and Outs and Officer Training** - Elder Dot Bowers, PW Moderator, Elder Mimi Moring, a past PW Moderator, Elder Joan VanBrunnt, PW Vice-Moderator, and Elder Gladys Wonderley, PW Treasurer.


**19 Clerk's of Session: Unsung Heroes of Congregational Narrative**

**20 Exploring One's Spirituality** - Elder Mary Lou McMillin and Rev. Skip Hastings.

*For more details, go online to our presbytery web site: [www.shenpres.org](http://www.shenpres.org).*

# New Monmouth Schedule & Birthday Calendar

## August 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p><i>Kayla Foresman</i></p> <p>9:00 Sun. Sch 10:00 Worship</p>	2	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p><i>Ruthann Hodges</i> <i>J. P. Welsh III</i></p> <p>1:00 Widows Web @ Niko's</p>	4	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p><i>Janet Irvine</i></p> <p>7:00 Choir Prac</p>	6	7
<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>9:00 Sun. Sch. 10:00 Worship 2:30 Maury River Mission Comm. Planning Team at Collierstown PC</p>	9	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p><i>David Slough</i> <i>Marshall Smith</i></p>	11	12	13	14
<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p><i>Danny Welsh</i></p> <p>9:00 Sun. Sch 10:00 Worship</p>	16	17	18	19	20	21
	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p><i>Karen Duff</i> <i>Allison McCoy</i></p>				<p style="text-align: center;">Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p>9:30 a.m. <b>Presbytery</b> <b>@</b> <b>Franklin,</b> <b>WV</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p><i>Jeb Barbour</i></p> <p>9:00 Sun. Sch 10:00 Worship 11:15 Session</p>	23	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p><i>Michael Wilson</i> <i>Bart Bellairs</i></p>	25	26	27	28
				<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p><i>Carl Bird</i> <i>Danielle Pruett</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p><i>Danny Snider</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p><i>Angela Sayer</i> <i>Jennie</i> <i>Gaines</i></p>
<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>9:00 Sun. Sch 10:00 Worship <b>Music</b> <b>Sunday</b></p>  <p><b>Lake Robertson</b> <b>Church Picnic</b></p>	30	31	September 1	Sept 2	Sept 3	Sept 4
					<p style="text-align: center;">Pastor's Day Off</p>	

For corrections or changes, contact Martin at 463-1921 or email [martinstokes@comcast.net](mailto:martinstokes@comcast.net)