



# Bricks & Cones

## *Pastor's Pen* by Larry Lyon

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And you thought I was gone! Actually, I am.

In my eight years and eight months here, I think I said about everything I have to say. Except I will never be able to say this enough: thank you.

Thank you for being the people that you are: joyful, humble, kind, and loving. It is hard to beat those characteristics.

Martha and I will look back at our years at West End and Seven Lakes as monumental. From the period November 2006-2015, on a personal level, these things happened:

*Kaylor and Donny were married, Hannah and Michael were married, Clara, Xavier, Caroline, Oliver and Daniel were born, Martha's Dad died, my Mom died, and Martha's sister died. Our "empty nest" never really did take shape. Martha fought off breast cancer.*

In our church, we confronted the realities of the housing crisis and the Great Recession as growth in the area slowed dramatically. We brought on an associate pastor, Chip Pope, and together he and I forged a strong working relationship. We celebrated joyfully the church's centennial anniversary in 2012, we underwent much staff turnover in 2014, and several years of planning resulted in the "Growing Our Church For Tomorrow Campaign" that has brought in nearly \$700,000 in gifts and pledges.

I personally think the church is in great shape. The renovations in progress are so exciting. We have a strong Session and a wonderful Board of Deacons. Our staff, including Kris Adler-Brammer, Cindy Graham, Jennifer Thomas, Kathy Hess and Paula Montgomery, are so professional in the care they bring to their work. I have every confidence that a good interim pastor is headed to WEPC, followed by a new installed pastor who will bring new energy and enthusiasm to all things WEPC.

All in all, I think WEPC was a great match for me and for the things for which I stand. I hope most of you feel I was a good match for the church.

We will miss you. We say thank you.

We will be in the area through July 8, although on July 3 and 4 I am taking advantage of the Washington National baseball tickets the church gave me. (Thank you!) On July 9, Martha and I and our two dogs head for Northern Michigan for a month. Our plans remain somewhat uncertain from mid-August through mid-October, but soon after that we hope to be in our new home in Cornelius, NC, a fast-growing bedroom community near Davidson College, Lake Norman, and most important, all five of our grandchildren!

Peace be with us all,

Larry

## Got info?

Submit newsletter articles to Cindy in the church office.

Deadline for article submission is the 16th of each month. Early submissions are always appreciated!

## *Family Promise* by Jackie Kinney



I remember the Session meeting back in the early 90s when Dudley Crawford presented us with a new mission opportunity, at that time known as the Sandhills Interfaith Hospitality Network (now Family Promise). It would be a big commitment on our part but one we decided God was calling us to answer. It has been a mission that we have been able to continue, with help from three supporting congregations.

However, it does come with challenges. Because of the renovations in the education wing, the big one this time is making the parlor wing available to

several homeless families for a week. Another huge obstacle is finding volunteers to make it work.

I have found this to be a rewarding experience through the years. In fact, when the call came for someone to help Pam Koll coordinate the week (and after the much deserved retirement of the wonderful Merial family), I volunteered because I felt strongly that we have to make this work. MANY thanks to those wonderful folks who keep signing up. But I am asking that more of you make a commitment to try this once. If it isn't your cup of tea, then that's okay. However, you may be

surprised how these children tug at your heartstrings. They love the attention....and they deserve it. It's something none of us can understand and we should be thankful for that. I think it does make us realize how very lucky we are that we have had opportunities that allow us to be independent.

Please take a little time to give to those who have not had those same experiences in life that we have had. It is a mission opportunity worth your time. If we don't do this, who will?

**For more information, call Pam Koll at  
(910)639-0411 or Jackie Kinney at (910) 639-2188.**

### **Playground Update**

Amalia Harsany would like to say a big thank you to all those who have helped her begin the installation of the new toddler playground. In order for her to complete the 80 hours required of her to achieve the Girl Scout Gold Award, she will be completing the remainder of the project on her own. Look forward to August when she will have a celebration event inviting everyone to enjoy the completion of the playground!



## *Music Notes* by Jennifer Thomas Danis

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### **In Praise Of A Unique Voice**

As I sit here at my desk attempting to write this month's article, I am surrounded by the sounds of hammers, electric saws and men yelling as well as the smells of freshly cut wood and new paint. As our new wing and offices are under construction, I am reminded that nothing stays the same and that truly the one thing we can all count on is change.

This summer marks my fifth year at West End Presbyterian and I must admit I love it here more and more with each passing year. We've had some ups and downs and certainly have had some changes in that expanse of time but one thing for that has remained constant has been Larry. Oops...I guess I spoke too soon.

As with many of us, Larry has been a source of comfort and reliability, he has brought joy and laughter to us with his droll sense of humor and has never ceased to be real – real laid-back, real sincere and just plain old real. With Larry, what you see is what you get and I have really come to appreciate that in a leader, in a boss and in a pastor. He isn't afraid to speak his mind or occasionally to stir the pot by addressing sticky issues that need addressing and he picks some pretty good hymns too. Most of all, Larry is real in what he preaches so beautifully, so succinctly week after week – the plain old Truth, the Gospel of Peace.

I am reminded of an aria from Handel's "Messiah" that I have had the great pleasure to sing many times over the years – "How Beautiful Are the Feet" with the text from Isaiah 52:7.

"How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace,  
and bring glad tidings of good things."

While he is no Brad Pitt or Colin Firth, Larry's not a bad-looking guy...but he really must have pretty good-looking feet.

We will miss you Larry. Godspeed and God bless.

**Jennifer Thomas Danis**

**Director of Music**

**Jennifer@westendpres.church**

**Ext. 4003**



## *Christian Education* by Kris Adler-Brammer

Kris Adler-Brammer

Director of Christian  
Education

Kris@westendpres.church

Ext. 4002

### **Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference**

The third week of June some of our middle schoolers attended Massanetta Springs Middle School conference. The theme for the week was *“Wear Love.”* Through keynote sessions, workshops and recreation, the middle schoolers learned what it means to wear love using the following passage from Colossians – *“therefore, as God’s choice, holy and loved, put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Be tolerant with each other and, if someone has a complaint against anyone, forgive each other. As the Lord forgave you, so also forgive each other. And over all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.”* Those who attended the conference are Coy Paul Holland, Rachel Miller, Duncan Munro, Kris Berry and Kris Adler-Brammer.



# Middle School Conference Pics



*A good time was had by all.*



*Through keynote sessions, workshops and recreation, the middle schoolers learned what it means to wear love....*





## *Building Our Church for Tomorrow*

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If you have been by the church recently you can hear the sounds of hammers and saws. Bill Reaves & Company are hard at work renovating the office/classroom/choir room area (Phase 1 of our capital campaign planning) . The job is being monitored by our own Pete Chase (thank you Pete) and is moving along well within our schedule. Bill plans to be finished

before Labor Day and everything will be in place by the time Sunday school starts in September. As of June 28<sup>th</sup>, Larry's last Sunday, the Capital Campaign, which his vision generated, has raised over \$685,000 in gifts and pledges. While this is well short of our goal of \$800,000, we are encouraged because only about half of our membership (81 families)

has made a commitment. If you are in that half, we sincerely thank you. If you haven't yet joined in, please bring your gift or pledge to the church office and Cindy will mark you down as helping to insure our church's tomorrow. Thanks you in advance for your prayerful consideration.

*Bud Sales, Chair*

## *Session Summary - May/June*

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- The Session held a special called meeting on May 26<sup>th</sup> to appoint an interim pastor nominating committee consisting of Kent Droppers (Chair), Paige Brown, Linda Dunning, Joanie Jones, and Avery Schaefer. Two candidates for interim pastor have been identified as of June 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Worship & Music ministry team announced that they have successfully secured substitute pastors for all but one Sunday through August.
- The Capital Campaign currently stands at \$680,000.
- Pastor Larry Lyon announced that Pastor Deck Guess of Old Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church in Laurinburg will serve as moderator for the Session until an interim pastor starts work at WEPC.
- The Session approved a construction contract with Bill Reaves Construction for Phase I renovations. The contract is on a cost-plus basis for up to a stated maximum amount. Construction is to start the week of June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- At the joint Deacon/Elder meeting on June 14, special thanks were given to Deacons Leslie Kaloostain and Donny Kaemba and Elder Becky Watkins for their dedicated service to WEPC. All three have resigned due to planned relocations.

# Vacation Bible School

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## Vacation Bible School For 3 Yrs - Completed 5th Grade

August 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>

9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

VBS is getting closer and closer! We hope you will be able to join us for a week of fun and learning. This year, our theme for VBS is *“The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss.”* Throughout the week, we will focus on a Dr. Seuss story daily and tie it to a scripture lesson. We are all familiar with Seuss stories and, in some cases, we hear them daily. By tying scriptures with these beloved stories, we can integrate our faith into those things we do every day. Then, on Friday, we have an extra special treat planned. While we will still focus on Dr. Seuss and the Bible, our activities on Friday will be standalone activities. This means children can register for the whole week of VBS or they can register just for our Friday activities. We hope by doing this, we will be able to accommodate those children that may already be in school.

In order for us to have a wonderful week, we need two things – CHILDREN & VOLUNTEERS. If you might be interested in volunteering to help with VBS, we would love to have you! You can volunteer for the whole week, just a couple of days or even just one morning. We can also use some volunteers to help us set up prior to August 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will have volunteer sign up opportunities in the Sunday bulletin or you can contact Lois Ann Eisel at [loisanneisel@yahoo.com](mailto:loisanneisel@yahoo.com).

We are looking forward to a full house for VBS this summer! We hope you will join us and invite your friends and neighbors to join us. This year, we will use our church website for registration. Please go to [www.westendpres.church](http://www.westendpres.church). Once on the home page, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the green that says *“VBS Registration”*. Once you have the form pulled up, just fill in the applicable information and hit submit. We would like to have registrations in by July 20<sup>th</sup>.

It should be a great week and we are VERY excited about the surprises we have in store for Friday. If you have questions regarding VBS, please feel free to contact Lois Ann Eisel or Kris Adler-Brammer at [kris@westendpres.church](mailto:kris@westendpres.church).



## *Stop Hunger Now*

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** Once again West End Presbyterian Church is partnering with other local churches to sponsor “Stop Hunger Now”, a meal packaging event. Stop Hunger Now gets food and life-saving aid to the world’s most vulnerable people, and is working to end global hunger in our lifetime. Based in Raleigh, NC, they have provided over 180 million meals in 65 countries since 1998.

Our goal this year is to package 80,000 meals. In previous years we have successfully packaged 23,000 meals (2012), 42,000 meals (2013) and 63,000 meals (2014). Please help us to reach our goal of 80,000 meals in 2015.

Each meal costs \$.29 so we need to raise a total of \$23,200 to reach our goal.

Church’s partnering with WEPC to make this a successful event are Seven Lakes Baptist, West End UMC, and Chapel in the Pines. The band will play again this year and Grandma’s Donuts will be served. Yum!

Sign up in the information center off of the narthex at church or register/donate at:

<http://events.stophungernow.org/WestEnd>

or you can send donations to:

West End Presbyterian Church at P.O. Box 13, West End, NC 27376. Be sure to write “Stop Hunger Now” in the memo line.

**Contact Holton Easter for more information at 673-1429.**



*The above pictures are from the 2014 Stop Hunger Now Event. As you can see it was well attended. We need you to make it successful again this year!*

## Thank you *From Jackie Kinney*

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This is a mother's thank you for the kindness and generosity shown by this congregation regarding Lauren's trip to Turkey. She thanked you in a recent *Bricks and Cones* article but I wanted to take this opportunity to say how much it meant to me, as well. I often tell people about this congregation....how there is an abundance of love and concern for those growing up here. It truly is a community of believers who act upon God's

commandment to love one another. It is a community of believers who take seriously the charge to look after one another. It is a place where believers are willing to help when a need is known. Just ask.

I also wanted to share with you the website for a blog Lauren wrote about her trip. She journals each day of the trip and what it meant to her. You can see how your donations were put to use....how they were transported to "another world" essentially and how

your acts of kindness were beneficial to these incredibly brave children. For those who don't know what I mean by blog, it is a website created by someone who wishes to share experiences, etc. with others. The link is [adventuresincar.wordpress.com](http://adventuresincar.wordpress.com).

Please visit.

Again, thanks from the bottom of my heart and Lauren's. We were once again touched by WEPC....a place to love and be loved.

## Finance Corner *by Bud Sales*

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By the time you read this, our congregation will have bid a fond/sad farewell to Pastor Larry and his bride, Martha. We all wish him "God's speed" in his "next" life in Davidson. His leaving will have a significant impact on our budget for the fiscal year since something more than a quarter of our annual funding covers the pastor's salary, housing allowance, pension and other benefits. Your Finance Team will be meeting in early July to review all of those numbers and make whatever adjustments are required.

May 2015		
	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
Income	\$166,633	\$165,333
Expense	<u>\$169,987</u>	\$171,003
Bottom line	-\$ 3,354	



## Ice Cream After Worship 7/12

Reverend Jordan Davis, Church Relations Officer, from Union Presbyterian Seminary in Virginia, is preaching on Sunday, July 12. We thought it would be nice if people would linger afterwards for ice cream and allow him to visit more with folks with the intention of strengthening a relationship with our congregation. We hope you will be there!



Mark & Jordan Bare presented their daughter, Ainsley Elizabeth Bare, for baptism on Sunday, June 28. Pastor Larry Lyon administered the sacrament. With joy and thanksgiving the congregation welcomed Ainsley into its family and into the church of Jesus Christ.

### SPECIAL PRAYER CONCERNS

#### Members or Participants of this Congregation:

Joyce Auman, Phil Bare, Eva Clark, Tom Eberly, Gin Hearn, Sue Hannel, Marie Hruby, Harrell Johnson, Spence Johnson, Harold Jones, Barb Lewis, Pat Lott, Neil MacDonald, Lynne Maroun, Pen Pendleton, Bill Reaves, Peg Miller, Bill Schmidt, and Jan Thomas.

#### Our Military:

Jeff Shafer (Army Ranger in Afghanistan)

#### Our Extended Church Family\*:

Vera Breazeale (Lynn Graham's mother), Richard Burns (Dottie Boothe's brother-in-law), Grace Campbell (Gayemell Shephard's mom), Patti Clark (friend of Marion Evans), Dick Colegrove, Bob Cook, Pat & Nancy Enright's grandson, Jack Enright (Kris Berry's friend), Arlene Evans (friend of Bill & Mary Price), Jennifer Evans (Marion Evans daughter-in-law), Terrie Furr (Gary Lewis' sister), Jeff Glasser (Sue Capps' brother), Irene Grossheim (Paula Taggart's friend), Kathy Hartley (Patricia Allen's daughter), Sandra Henning (friend of Lois Ann Eisel), Mike Jones (brother of Missy Holland), John & April McDuffee, missionaries in Spain, (daughter & son-in-law of Larry & Betty Strong), Rose Milillo (Ellie Lyons' sister), Vicki Pendleton Spang (sister of Pen Pendleton), Joe Rutledge (Marie and Mike Hruby's son-in-law), Kim Tew (Judy McNeill's daughter), Larry Wann (Carol McDonald's brother-in-law), Noralee Weinstein (Gloria Williams' sister), and John White (friend of Pat Wylie).

#### \*Extended Family Prayer List

*We are happy to have your family and friends on this list. We list the names of both those in need of prayer and the petitioner (indicated by parenthesis). As petitioner, you will be a valuable resource in providing information allowing for intelligent prayer by those actively praying in the church body. This list will be reset from time to time. Please let us know if a name is removed that you would like reinstated. Also, as an act of respect, please seek a person's permission before asking us to add a name.*

# July Schedule of Summer Events

## July Birthdays

### Recurring Weekly:

Day	Time	Event
Sunday	10 a.m.	Summer Worship Service <i>(June - August)</i>
Tuesday	7 p.m.	Weekly Bible Fellowship (off site)
Thursday	3:30-5:30 p.m.	Farm to Table

### Recurring Monthly:

Day	Time	Event
1st Sun.	8 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
1st Tues.	6 p.m.	Christian Education Meeting
2nd Mon.	5:30 p.m.	Music & Worship Team Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	Deacon's Meeting
3rd Mon.	11 a.m.	Finance Meeting
	6 p.m.	Session Meeting

### Special Events/Meetings for July:

Day	Time	Event
3		Church Office Closed for Independence Day
3-11		Chetimaul, Mexico Mission Trip
5-12		Family Promise Week
12	11:15 a.m.	Ice Cream after worship.
20-25		Montreat High School Conference

Day	Name
1	Gavin Holland
1	Sara McBride
1	Robert Pfeifer
2	Shirley Standahl
3	Bob Williams
4	Honey Kohn
8	Amy Blondin
8	Sandra Easter
9	Herbert Koehnke
9	Bill Reaves
10	Kaitlyn White
11	Rachel Miller
12	Pam Lee
13	Edie Barrett
16	Gary Miller
17	Ryan Fox
17	Liz Sales
20	Nell Judge
21	Devon Graham
22	Virgil Reid
22	Larry Strong
23	Richard Von Canon
24	Logan Williams
24	Doug Williams
25	Chuck Ridenour
26	David Terry
27	Angus McDonald
27	Bob Pitts
28	Amalia Harsany
28	George Holderfield
29	Frank Land
29	Blaine Rowland
29	Bud Sales
30	Ryland McCloskey

## July Anniversaries

Day	Name	Day	Name
2	Daniel & Rachel Copeland	15	Bill & Ellie Lyons
4	Gary & Susan Miller	19	Jim & Pat Davis
5	John & Kelly Wilson, III	24	Jack & Mary Ann Allen
9	Adley & Sara Hemphill	24	Dale & Gayemell Shepherd
10	David & Deanna Petrie	30	Fred & Carol Allen
12	Ed & Lana Schempp	31	Dick & Lois Dole

### Third Quarter Nursery Schedule

To see when you are scheduled to work in the nursery this third quarter, please go to the home page of [WEPC](#), scroll to the bottom, and click on the "2015 nursery schedule" link. Please remember, if you cannot work the nursery when you are scheduled, it is your responsibility to find a replacement. Thank you and God bless for serving in this vital area!

# Larry's Farewell Sunday









## West End Presbyterian Church



*PO Box 13  
275 Knox Lane  
West End, NC 27376*

*Phone: 910-673-4341  
Fax: 910-673-0120  
Website: [www.westendpres.church](http://www.westendpres.church)*

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**This newsletter is sent with a blessing and  
a prayer to:**

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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### Follow us on Twitter and Facebook!

We are up to 51 followers on Twitter. Our handle or screen name is @westendpres. If you are on Twitter, you should follow us, and if you are not on Twitter, it is easy to join at twitter.com.

We “seek to tweet” daily from Monday through Thursday. The tweets mostly concern prayer concerns or upcoming events or events just past. It’s a fun way to keep up with the life of our congregation!

**And don’t forget about Facebook!** Once you have joined Facebook, search on “West End Presbyterian Church” to find us. There you will find, current church news and pictures surrounding the ministries of WEPC.

These social media tools are to help you stay connected to your church and to your church family!



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## West End Presbyterian Church

### THE CHURCH STAFF:

Cindy Graham	Church Administrator	<a href="mailto:cindy@westendpres.church">cindy@westendpres.church</a>
Jennifer Thomas	Music Director	<a href="mailto:jennifer@westendpres.church">jennifer@westendpres.church</a>
Kris Adler-Brammer	Director of Christian Education	<a href="mailto:kris@westendpres.church">kris@westendpres.church</a>
Paula Montgomery	Finance Administrator	<a href="mailto:paula@westendpres.church">paula@westendpres.church</a>
Kathy Hess	Sexton	

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

The church office is opened Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day.