

The Pastor's Part



"April showers bring May flowers." I love the spring with all its riot of color and its exuberance of beautiful smells wafting on the breeze. I especially loved my hometown of

Wilmington in the spring when the azaleas were blooming. Sometimes we had to use potted azaleas if they bloomed too early, too late, or we had had an extraordinarily cold winter. But most years, it was a beautiful town and not just with azaleas, but dogwoods blooming and more and more.



Many homes and estates with big flower gardens would be open for tours, and it was a point of pride if your home was on the tour. One noted one for decades was Airlie Gardens, but I think I only went once for the flowers were all around the city. My parents probably had fifty azaleas or more just in their yard. I could not begin to count the number of pictures my parents had in a drawer in the den that showed year after year of the bounty of blooms.



In many ways the color and vast number of the flowers is a God given reminder that life will renew itself, that winter is past, and its bleakness is gone for a while. Every time you stop and admire the azaleas and smell the roses, give a "Thank you, Heavenly Father, for this good earth".



Peace.

Preecha

Pastor

The Few-The Proud

Hebron Presbyterian Church has within its fold a new marine-Nathan James Alexander Moyer. Out of the six military branches composed of the army, navy air force, marines, space force, and coast guard, Nathan felt there was a special challenge to become a marine. At the present time, he will enter as an E2 rank. If he can persuade two more people to enlist, he will get a further promotion upon entering. Nathan has great respect for his grandfather, Donna's father, who was drafted into the army as a young man. Nathan says he notices the way his grandfather carries himself, and admires him for the valuable lessons in life that he learned through military service.



Nathan was born on November 6, 2006, in Guatemala. He is the son of Randy and Donna Moyer and came to the United States when he was seven months old. Upon arrival, he became a United States citizen since Randy and Donna had completed all paperwork declaring his citizenship prior to entering the United States.

Although he does not officially graduate from Wilson Memorial High School until May 20, Nathan actually completed all requirements for graduation in December of 2024. He has worked at Cracker Barrel for the last two years, and one may have seen him at the front desk checking out customers and providing various services. History was his favorite school subject with emphasis on the period of World War II to the present.

Nathan began his service career as a cub scout
(Nathan continued on page four, column two)

An Afternoon To Remember

Congratulations to Sarah Grove –Humphries for her impeccable performance on Opus 46 on April 13!



Approximately 125+ persons-Hebron members, Taylor-Boody personnel, Swoope neighbors, friends from other local churches, and music lovers attended.

Sarah played with such precision and skill and used a variety of different stops and registers to showcase the versatility and rich tones of our organ. Not only did she display her mastery of the organ, vocalist Nancy Dennis performed two compositions that Sarah wrote during the pandemic for solo voice and organ that further exhibited her exceptional musical talent.

E. Anne Willard, Ruth Chodrow, and Donna Kirtley arranged a lovely reception with cookies provided by the Hebron bakers to celebrate Sarah’s accomplishments in the Fellowship Hall where concert attendees could meet, congratulate, and thank Sarah for a lovely afternoon of music.

If by chance you could not attend the concert in person, you may view it on www.youtube.com/HebronChurch-Staunton at your leisure. We look forward to more musical concerts that Sarah may have in store for us in the near future

Elder of the Month for May

Randy Moyer will serve as Elder of the Month for May. You may reach him at 540.649.3823 when the church office is closed or in case of an emergency.



Thanks to Tracy Mayer for serving as the EOM for the month of April

A Thank You From Gracie



Gracie thanks you for contributing \$409 to the **One Great Hour of Sharing** initiative.

Good job, Hebron!

Operation Christmas Child All Year Long

For the month of May, the Christian Outreach Committee is seeking personal hygiene items for the **Operation Christmas Child** shoeboxes. Wash cloths, bath sponges, toothbrushes, combs, hair brushes, band aids, lip balm, nail clippers and files, small blankets, and water bottles are examples of needed items. Toothpaste and soap are not accepted.



In April, the committee asked for cuddly items such as stuffed animals, squishmallows, dolls, and finger puppets. Everyone enjoys something to cuddle. Perhaps you may find items in a clearance area that would be appropriate.

There is a collection box near the coffee machine in the Educational building for you to place items. All donated items should be in new condition. Thank you for helping with this project!

Coming Soon—Lemonade on the Lawn

With June approaching, one of Hebron’s favorite summertime traditions has been **Lemonade on the Lawn**, which will begin Sunday, June 1, and continue through August 31, after the worship hour. Last year, the event was held in the Fellowship Hall due to weather constraints, and was re-named **Lemonade on the Linoleum**. At this time, the designated area has yet to be determined.



Soon, a sign-up sheet will be posted on the main bulletin board beside the church office for family or friends to provide a sweet treat and beverage for the congregation. This event has given members and friends of Hebron a chance to meet, greet, and socialize a bit after church services during the summer months.



Spring 2025

Dear Friend,

If you haven't learned it through some other source, this letter will let you know that the ministry area of World Mission will conclude in March. All mission co-worker positions have been concluded. Jenny and I will be taking advantage of provisions provided as part of our severance to continue our work at least through June of this year. Our goal is to bring Keila and Annika through at least the first half of the February—November school year. We are looking at other options to allow them time to finish the school year and to provide the Green UBL team with support as it transitions.

At the same time, the Green Initiative of the Latin American Biblical University (UBL) continues to develop and expand. In January, the Green UBL team and community members helped receive a mission group from Covenant Presbyterian Church, near Columbus, Ohio. Community walks, coffee at Guiselle's house, bible study and other reflections made for a moving time for the six-member team.

Jenny has also been working with a small team to establish clearly marked points for recycling in several spaces throughout the campus. An exciting moment happened the week before last when Jenny found the optimal bins for the front of the building, replacing make-do bits of plastic barrels that have been the "recycling center" for more than five years. The next step for the recycling program will be mini workshops to focus on how to recycle better and, beyond that, how the team can advocate for reducing the use of plastics and other materials.

The women who keep the garden moving along are also into exciting things. On Saturday, February 22, they met with a team from the local municipality to move forward in terms of gaining official recognition by the city ("the muni"). This would mean the group can participate in craft fairs sponsored by the city ("the muni"). Based on a number of workshops held last year, the garden group is now able to make their own soap, sour-dough bread, herb-infused oils, and kombucha, all products they could sell at a municipal craft fair. The relationship with the muni might also give the group access to funds to make certain improvements in the garden and to fund the purchase of organic supplements.

The women also have set up the workshops and activities they hold on the last Saturday of each month. Already this year, they held a workday with the Green UBL team to help finish building a "prayer walk" through the campus. Participants macheted the paths, straightened up the beds, pulled out old bamboo in the bamboo chapel, filled the paths with mulch, and helped build a labyrinth. Each of the seven sites has an associated meditation and a call to action. At the end of the workday, we followed the path together for our first trial run, and the group gave excellent feedback. The work was done just in time to receive participants in an international eco-theology seminar. Coming from 10 or 12 countries in Latin America, the Green UBL team led the 20 participants on the walk. Some of the participants in the seminar came back the next day to receive a mini workshop on ecological gardening from the gardening team.

Also on Saturday, February 22, the women organized a bat ecology workshop focused on children. The leaders of the workshop were from our team of Costa Rica University students doing their social service with us. Kenlly, José Gabriel, David, (**Mission** continued on page four, column one)

(**Mission** continued from page three, column two)

And Richard put together all the materials for the kids and their adults to draw images of the good that bats do and to create bat masks. The students also split the group and took each group on a walk, showing photos up on a clothesline of different species and their young, and into the garden to talk about the plants bats use for food and how they use banana leaves to create their homes. I could tell it had been a success when I saw four or five of the kids sticking around to ask more questions and to keep working on their masks.

In April of this year our third international agricultural student will be coming from HAFL university in Bern, Switzerland. In addition to providing support for the garden, Janina Zbaeren will be working with garden members to identify strategies for attracting greater participation and more long-term commitment to the day-to-day garden work. Last year Noemi Hauser studied the effects of organic supplements and in 2023, Vera Imhof looked at agroecological practices in home gardens. These internships are supported by an ecumenical partnership with Mission 21, based in Switzerland.

The main garden beds of the Sunflowers Garden are in the form of a mandala, circles in circles. It feels more and more like the work of the Green UBL is becoming circles within circles of interconnections, stretching from the theological education of the university through the garden and out into the community, the region and the world.

There is no way that Jenny and I could express sufficiently our gratitude for your support over many years that has allowed us the privilege to be part of such wonderful work in Nicaragua, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and, for this final period, in Costa Rica. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

God's grace be with you.
Mark, Jenny, Keila & Annika

(**Nathan** continued from page one column two)

and working his way through the scouting ranks to become an Eagle Scout in 2023. His service project consisted of revamping the fire pit area of our church property. Now that his scouting days are over, he particularly enjoys the outdoors as hunting, fishing shooting, and archery are among his hobbies. He has set his music and guitar playing on the back burner for the present time.

Nathan is hoping to make the Marines a career move and retire in twenty years. Then, he has hopes to retire in a second job. He has already spent a weekend at Quantico with 700 other recruits in orientation, and one day each month, he maintains physical requirements such as pull-ups, planks, and one and a half mile runs which he has already passed. He reports to Paris Island, South Carolina, in July.

Hebron wishes all the best to Nathan as he embarks upon this journey. It will be a rough road to travel, but with his positive attitude, prayers from Hebron members, and God's arm around him, Nathan will be a success.



Semper Fidelis, Nathan!

Uncle Sam Wants You!



Randy Moyer, chairperson of the Christian Outreach Committee, has posted a sign-up sheet by the office bulletin board for those Hebron members interested in participating in the **Happy Birthday, America** parade scheduled for Friday, July 4, in Gypsy Hill Park. A number of people have already committed to this project. Please consider being a part of this event to show our community the spirit of Hebron!

If you have questions, please contact Randy at 540.649.3823.

HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATED SESSION MEETING
(Draft)

March 30, 2025

5:00 PM

Present: Elders Robert Christian, Larry Mayer, Tracy Mayer, Lina Smith, Glenn Mader, Randy Moyer, David Obenschain, and Clerk of Session Robin Moyer

Excused: Sandy Showalter

Guests: Treasurer Hannah Bush and Rev. Patrick Pettit, (joined later in the meeting)

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Henry D. Scoggins

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm. A quorum was declared present, and the Moderator opened the meeting with prayer.

Clerk's Report:

- Session approved the agenda for this meeting.
- Session approved the minutes from the Stated Session Meeting of February 23, 2025
- Communion was served on March 2, 2025
- Request was made to use church facilities for bike events on June 13 and 14, 2025, Renewing Homes of Greater Augusta, and October 20, 2025, Allen Turnbull of Williamsburg. Session agreed to the use of the parking lot and a port-a-john, and no access to the building. Hannah said she and Joann would follow up.
- The date for the next Stated meeting was scheduled for May 18, 2025. Rescheduled from regular scheduling because of Pastor Hank's vacation and Memorial holiday in May.

Treasurer's Report:

- Hannah Bush handed out financial statements for the month of March, Balance Sheet, and Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual. As of March 30, 2025, we have

Presbytery Meeting: Minutes can be found at <https://shenpres.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/81/2025/03/Minutes-Feb-25-2025.pdf>

Committee Reports:

- **Christian Outreach Committee:** There was discussion on the Hickey Endowment Fund and the Hebron Youth Scholarship Fund. A change will be made to have the Christian Outreach Committee and not the Christian Education Committee to manage both the scholarships. Changes made to the Hebron Youth Scholarship are, youth can only receive scholarship twice, maximum age to apply raised from 21 years of age to 22, and the deadline to apply moved from May 15 to May 1.
- Plans are moving forward to put a truck in the July 4th Parade again this year.
- **Communication Committee:** Tracy Mayer will now be managing the live stream on the fourth Sunday of each month.
- **Congregational Life Committee:** No report
- **Finance Committee:** No report.
- **Personnel Committee:** No report
- **Property Committee:** The rent on the Manse has been increased. Rent for the months of May and June will be \$1050/month, and \$1200 for the next six months.
- The cemetery fence along John Wise's property has been replaced, and two headstones have been repaired. A spring clean-up date will be set soon.
- **Worship Committee:** Easter flowers will be bought to put in front of the sanctuary instead of donations. Donations can still be made to the usual funds. The cross will be put out on Palm and Easter Sundays.

(Session continued on page six column one)

(Session continued from page five column two)

Moderator's Report: Pastor Scoggins will be on vacation the two weeks following Easter. Mark Wilson will be in the pulpit April 27 and May 4.

Old Business:

- Rev. Patrick Pettit joined us at 5:52pm to give information and advise the Session on looking for a new pastor.

New Business: There was no new business at this time.

Closing and Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Rev. Pettit at 6:57pm.

Our next Stated Session Meeting will be May 18, 2025, at 12:15pm.

Robin Moyer
Clerk of Session

A "Grand" Gift

Have you seen the new piano in the Fellowship Hall? Hannah's neighbor, Edward Plott, has moved to the Philippines and has donated his Kawaii 6' grand piano to Hebron Presbyterian Church.

Due to its size, we could not put it into the sanctuary so we replaced the Young Chang upright piano that had been donated to Hebron by the Hewitt family in memory of E. M. Hewitt Sr. We moved the Young Chang piano up into the choir room replacing the Baldwin studio piano that had been purchased when Ed Gayhart was pastor and Margaret Gayhart was choir director. The Baldwin piano is going to the Heifetz Institute for their summer program.



Submitted by M. Hannah Bush

Hebron Presbyterian Church Inc. Profit & Loss — Budget vs. Actual January through March 31, 2025

	ACTUAL	BUDGET
6000 General Giving	24,657.11	138,250
7000 Benevolent Giving	200.00	11,250
Total Income	24,857.11	149,500
1100 Church Admin.	2,058.50	14,170
2100 Christian Outreach	2,452.94	15,100
2300 Congregational Life	72.84	1,100
2500 Worship Committee	189.53	2,480
3000 Minister Comp.	10,334.40	45,630
4000 Personnel	8,543.25	36,940
5100 Property Committee	18,199.75	38,520
Total Expenses	41,851.20	153,940
Net Income	(16,994.09)	

M. Hannah Bush

Treasurer

The negative Net Income is due in part to some expenses paid for the year, but only three months of pledges have been received. Pledges are down compared to previous years. If you have questions or would like greater detail, call Hannah Bush, Treasurer.

A New Congregational Life Chairman

David Obenschain has volunteered to serve as the chairman of the Congregational Life Committee. He will coordinate fellowship events for the congregation.

Edna Stone and Joann Weikert will continue to monitor our shut-ins and those who are ill. Please keep these ladies informed of those who may need help in our congregation and community.





May 2025

Hebron Presbyterian Church

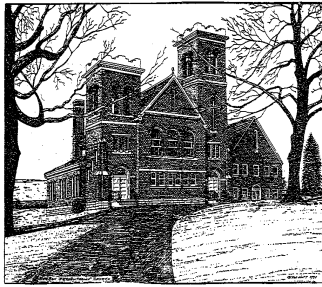
Sunday School 9:55 A.M.

Worship 11:00 A.M.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1  National Day of Prayer	2	3
4 Worship 11:00 A.M. Choir 10:00 A.M.	5  CINCO DE MAYO	6	7	8	9	10
11 Worship 11:00 A.M. Choir 10:00 A.M. Mother's Day 	12	13 Bible Study 11:00 A.M.	14	15 Chocolate Chip Day 	16	17
18 Worship 11:00 A.M. Choir 10:00 A.M. Session Mtg.	19	20 Bible Study 11:00 A.M.	21	22	23	24
25 Worship 11:00 A.M. Choir 10:00 A.M.	26 Memorial Day 	27 Bible Study 11:00 A.M.	28	29	30	31

HEBRON HERALD

Hebron Presbyterian Church
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Staunton, VA 24401
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Email: myhebronpc@gmail.com
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/HebronPCUSA
YouTube:
www.youtube.com/HebronChurch-
Staunton



Website: www.hebronpres-stauntonva.org
Ministries available to all ages
Sunday School 9:55 A.M.
Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.
Supply Pastor - Dr. Henry Scoggins
Editors of **Hebron Herald** for May— Joan Clemmer Wright
and Joann Weklert



May Birthdays

- 2 Linda Harvey**
- 11 John "Sammy" Lyle**
- 14 Donna Moyer**
- 16 Janet Wiseman**

A Birthday Invitation!

You are invited to a drop-in birthday party to celebrate Janet Wiseman's 80th birthday on May 16, in the activity room at Shenandoah Nursing and Rehab, 339 Westminister Drive, Fishersville, Virginia at 2:00 P.M. Your presence is the only present required for this occasion. But if you would like to bring or send a card, Janet would especially like that as a special remembrance! In addition to the address listed above, please add her room number— #408.

Please RSVP by May 8, to Lois Durham English at loisdenglish@att.net if you will be able to attend.



SACRA and Valley Mission Updates

The Hebron congregation donated forty-two items to the SACRA food pantry during the month of April. The reality of hunger in the Blue Ridge is broader and deeper than you might expect. Many area residents are aware that people experience hunger every day across the nation, but they don't know it's also happening right here. One in 10 people in Staunton and Augusta County are living with hunger, which is higher than Virginia's statewide average. The numbers are even bigger for area children. Seniors, families with children, and people on fixed incomes are more at risk when costs rise.

Donations to Valley Mission totaled six for the month. Each year Valley Mission serves as many as 58,000 meals and provides emergency food boxes to 150 families. Meals are provided at no cost to clients and community members thanks to donations of local individuals, churches, businesses, and food manufacturers. At the moment, the Mission is in need of baking donations such as cake mixes, frosting, vegetable oil, cookie mixes, etc.

Please place any donations you have in the boxes provided at the door of the Educational Building. Both agencies appreciate your help.

