

“BUILDING **PARTNERSHIPS IN CHRIST**, TO EMPOWER COMMUNITIES OF FAITH TO BE THE BODY OF CHRIST FOR THE WORLD.”



Presbytery Meeting

Feb. 18, 2021

[Register here.](#)

Materials will be available on the Presbytery Webpage under Meeting Information this week.

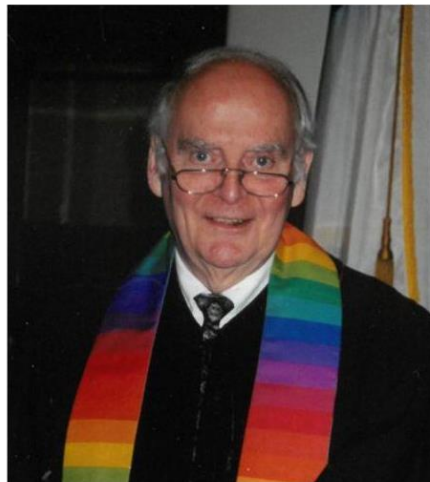
**SESSION RECORDS FOR
REVIEW SHOULD BE MAILED
TO:**

**Shelda Wills, Session Records Workgroup
Chair, Christiansburg PC, 107 W. Main St.,
Christiansburg, VA 24073**

OR:

**Email (include Session Records Review Form)
to: swills@usit.net**

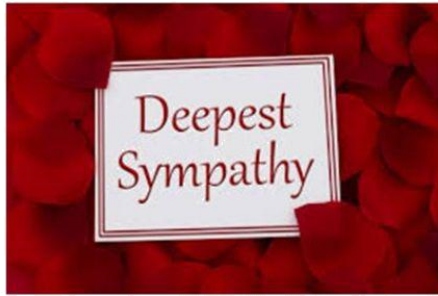
**PLEASE DO NOT SEND RECORDS TO
THE PRESBYTERY OFFICE.**



Please extend sympathies to the family of Robert "Bob" Wilson, 82, who passed away Jan. 25, 2021.

During 39 years in the ministry, he was Associate Presbyter for Blue Ridge Presbytery and served churches in NC and VA: Westminster Presbyterian, Lynchburg, VA; Second Presbyterian, Salisbury, NC; Shiloh and Dixon Presbyterian, Grover, NC; Unity and Machpelah Presbyterian in Lincoln County, NC.

A memorial service will be planned for a later date.



The Reverend Sherwood Finley Smith, Jr. of Lynchburg, Virginia, a beloved Presbyterian died at the age of 94 on February 8, 2021 from complications of Alzheimers disease. at the age of 94. He was

the husband of Kathleen Murchison Smith and a resident of Westminster Canterbury Lynchburg.

Following his ordination as a Presbyterian minister, he served his first pastorate at Parkview Presbyterian Church in Newport News, Virginia. After marrying Kathleen Murchison, the daughter of a Presbyterian minister, he continued to serve pastorates at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Richmond, Virginia, Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church in Huntington, West Virginia, Westminster Presbyterian Church in Lynchburg, Virginia, Overbrook Presbyterian Church in Richmond, Virginia, and First Presbyterian Church in Dunedin, Florida. All of these churches were blessed with his passionate preaching and pastoral spirit. He briefly retired in 1987 and was then called to serve many Interim Supply Pastorates throughout southwest Virginia.

Due to pandemic concerns, his ashes will be placed in his burial plot at The Presbyterian Cemetery and a memorial service celebrating his life will be planned for a later date.

A Lenten invitation...

Take Up Your Pen and Write – Forty Days of Written Prayer is an invitation to practice written prayer over the 40 days of Lent. Here is an opportunity to connect your body, mind, and spirit in prayer for a 40-day journey, and it is a chance to explore a new way to pray.

Each day during Lent and Holy Week, usually early in the morning, receive an e-mail with a verse of scripture, a prayer written by me inspired by that scripture, and a prayer prompt to guide you in writing your own prayer should you wish.

Participants may want to have a prayer journal & pen and a Bible at hand.

Each of us must walk the way for ourselves. No one can walk the way for us, but none of us can walk our way alone. Won't you walk with me this Lent? I look forward to the journey.

To participate, please contact me, Rev. William Hal Strong, at rev.whs@gmail.com.

Rev. William Hal Strong

[\(rev.whs@gmail.com\)](mailto:rev.whs@gmail.com)

Rev. Strong is an ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament in the United Church of Christ serving two Presbyterian (PCUSA) congregations in Prince Edward County, VA.

Rev. Strong graduated from Union Presbyterian Seminary ('14) where he studied spiritual direction with the Rev. Dr. Charlie Brown and is a 2020 graduate of the RUAH School of Spiritual Guidance in Richmond, VA.



Partnership Possibilities

THIS is what the Presbytery of the Peaks can do through partnership...

COVID-19 continues to ravage Guatemala, as it does elsewhere. They have no vaccines. A recent visit of the IMF (International Monetary Fund) noted lasting economic damage and social ramifications as direct foreign investment was cut in half. In addition, the informal economy (shining shoes, selling souvenirs or food, making crafts, etc.) which is about 70% of the population, has all but halted. Tourists cannot visit. The IMF report notes that the result will be increased migration. In the areas hit by the hurricane, farmers have no crops, no homes, and flooded land. They are forced into crowded spaces where it is easier for the virus to spread.

In the midst of dire conditions, CEDEPCA continues its Disaster Response. It cannot be everywhere, but it can reach people in the numerous villages, some of which are quite remote, where CEDEPCA and their partners work. They continue to bring health and hygiene items, supplies, blankets, and food. They work in partnership with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and other international organizations. They have reassigned staff in the Intercultural Program to assist in the Disaster ministry because of the increased need. When CEDEPCA comes they offer not only emergency aid, but their presence and prayers, extending God's love and continuing care. This support in the name of Christ is a critical component.

At the same time, CEDEPCA is committed to keeping all their staff, many of whom are part time. Donations to CEDEPCA help all of their ministries to continue, to women, to pastors, to partners as well as to those in direct need--both COVID related and Hurricane related. Those whom CEDEPCA reaches find community, faith, and hope. As a result no one has chosen migration.

The Presbytery of the Peaks has been in partnership with CEDEPCA for more than 30 years. If you would like to learn more, contact Beth Mattson ejlamontm@gmail.com. Many thanks to Beth and Mary Jane Winter, Friends of CEDEPCA, for sharing the above information.

Covenant Presbyterian – Roanoke
presents
A Virtual Steel Drum Concert with
The Bahama Mamas



***Join us live on Facebook –
this Wednesday, February 10th @ 6 PM***

***Invite your friends & tune in for
“From the Heart”
a special program of spiritual & popular music
with a Caribbean flavor!***

facebook.com/CovenantPresbyterianChurchRoanoke



Covenant Presbyterian Church
1831 Deyerle Road SW, Roanoke VA 24018
covenantroanoke.org

Presbytery Calendar

2-09-20	2:00 p.m.	Peacemaking
2-11-20	9:30 a.m.	Committee on Ministry
2-18-20		Statistical Reports due in
2-18-20	9:00 a.m.	Presbytery Meeting (registration opens at 8:30)

2021 Presbytery Meeting Dates
Feb. 18, 2021 (Thursday)
May 1, 2021 (Saturday)

August 14, 2021 (Saturday)
November 18, 2021 (Thursday)

Peaks Postings is published each week on Tuesday.

Please submit news, events, or prayer requests by noon on Mondays to Julie Burnett at julie@peakspresbytery.org for inclusion in the following issue.

Guidelines for announcements or news items to be featured in Peaks Postings:

- Keep the information to one page or less.
- Use links to web sites rather than including lots of details.
- Please obtain permission from the people pictured in your photos before submitting them to Peaks Postings.

Peaks Postings Editors reserve the right to:

- feature or not feature an article. Our first priority is to feature activities within POP churches and the Presbytery.
- edit submitted articles/announcements.
- limit the number of weeks an article/announcement is featured.

Past issues of Peaks Postings are archived for about six months on [our website.](#)

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - THURSDAY

8:30AM - 4:30PM

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