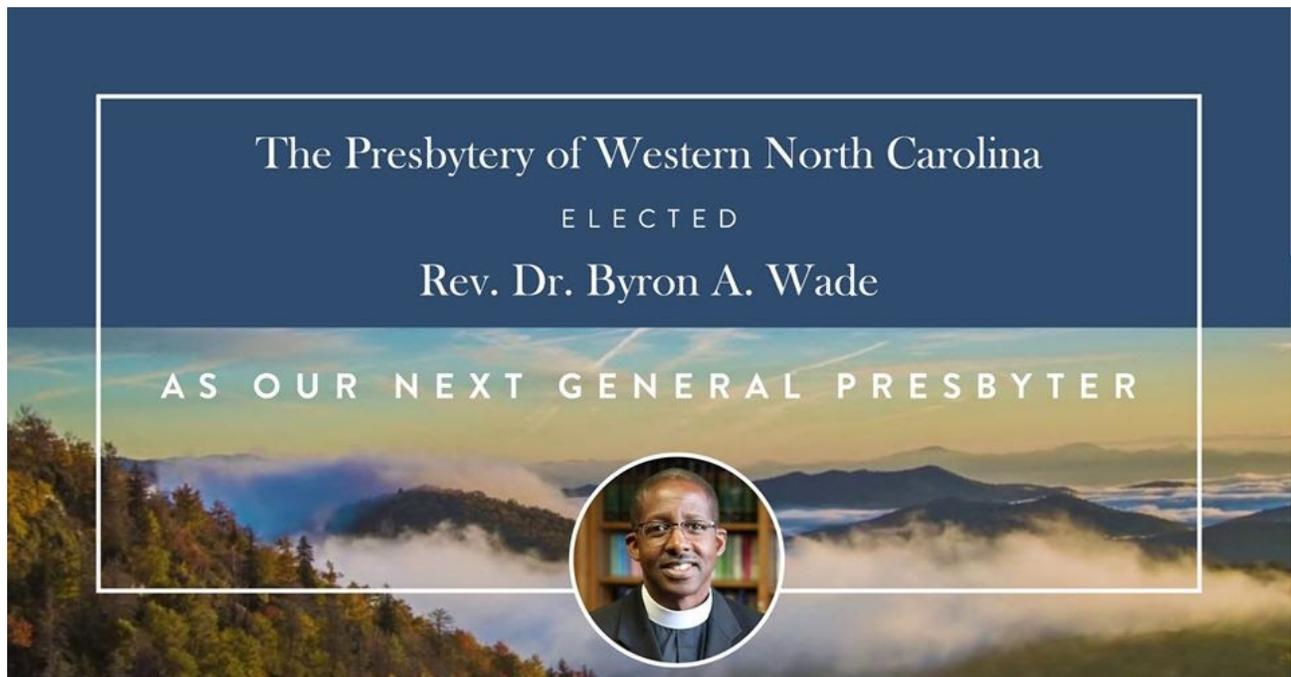


From the Pastor's Desk



Friday, July 31, 2020

**A Note from the Pastor:
Welcome Byron Anthony Wade,
Our New General Presbyter for the
Presbytery of Western North Carolina!**



The Presbytery of Western North Carolina gathered online via Zoom this week for its 124th stated meeting, which included the election of our new General Presbyter! **The Rev. Dr. Byron Wade** was elected unanimously and enthusiastically following a thorough examination. Dr. Wade currently pastors Davie Street Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, NC, where he has served for 24 years. He and his

wife **Regina** have one son, **Andrew**, who begins college this fall. Dr. Wade is slated to begin his duties with the Presbytery on October 1.

Many in our community know and love Byron Wade, and all will attest to his personable, pastoral kindness as well as his wisdom and countless leadership strengths. (Among many other associations, he is a member of the Montreat Conference Center Board.) The Spirit has brought him to us through a long, thorough, widely collaborative and deeply prayerful search process, and we welcome him and his family to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina.

Byron follows in the beloved footsteps of Bobbi White, God's dedicated and faithful servant of many years, and Cam Murchison, who is and has been a phenomenal administrator and faith leader in many roles, including as our current interim General Presbyter.

Congratulations, Dr. Wade, and thank you for responding to God's call to come and be our General Presbyter. We are excited to have you with us in PWNC!



Byron, with spouse Regina and son Andrew

*Respect those who labor among you,
and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you;
esteem them very highly in love
because of their work.*

*Be at peace among yourselves.
And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers,
encourage the faint hearted, help the weak,
be patient with all of them.*

*See that none of you repays evil for evil,
but always seek to do good to one another and to all.*

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

*Do not quench the Spirit.
Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything;
hold fast to what is good;
abstain from every form of evil.*

*May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely;
and may your spirit and soul and body
be kept sound and blameless
at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

I Thessalonians 5:12-23

Summertime Blessings

A Service of Witness to the Resurrection, giving thanks to God for the life of Fred Hale, will be distributed this Saturday afternoon, August 1 at approximately 3:00 P.M. The service is a collaboration among staff members of Givens Highland Farms and Montreat Presbyterian Church, and will be issued by both entities. It originates--without attendants present, and observing all health and safety protocols including masks and social distancing on the part of the worship leaders--from Upper Anderson, and is led by Lynn Bledsoe and Keith Grogg, with music provided by Vivian Hare and Clara Hare-Grogg.

Fred's full obituary can be found [here](#). His was a most remarkable

life, and he lived it with a most remarkable faith.



This Sunday (August 2), the Sunday morning worship service should be accessible at 10:30 A.M. or any time thereafter. Links are provided below for

- Church Chat at 9:30 A.M.
- The Summer Worship Series service at 10:30 A.M.
- Hymn Sing at 7:00 P.M.

Next Sunday, August 9, will be the concluding service of the MRA/MPC Summer Worship Series. The following Sunday, **August 16, the Montreat Presbyterian Church service will be distributed by 10:00 A.M.** If you are receiving our weekly Memo, occasional Evening Prayer services, and "From the Pastor's Desk," you are already signed up to receive the online worship services that will begin on August 16.

FOR THIS SUNDAY, August 2:

9:30 A.M. Church Chat

[Click here to join friends before the service for Church Chat,](#)

an online Zoom opportunity to see friends and check in before worship. Drop in and leave as you feel comfortable. A convener will simply make sure that everyone who wants to check in and catch up can do so. Feel free to join even if you think you want to be a silent participant. Everyone is welcome!

*

10:30 A.M. Worship:

For this week's service, please go directly to the Montreat Conference Center [Worship page](#) and find the link for this week's service there.

Look for a box that will have the words "Join Sunday's Service Here," and click on that box.

The **bulletin** can also be downloaded from the Conference Center's Worship page.

(Please note: **the bulletin is sometimes not updated until the morning of the service.**)

<https://montreat.org/events/summer-worship-2020>

Look for a box that will have the words "Download an Order of Worship" and click on that box.

Last Sunday's service (July 26) can be seen in its entirety [here](#).

*

7:00 P.M. Montreat Hymn Sing

We welcome Kris Bartman, Director of Music at Christ Community Church, as our leader this week!

The summer hymn sings are held "in real time" and you can **use [this link to join](#)**.

For a PDF to accompany the evening's hymn sing, [click here](#).

A special "virtual" Montreat Wednesday has been scheduled for August 12 at 5:00 P.M. The touchstone of the program, *A Conversation on Race*, is a video produced by the Second Presbyterian Church of Roanoke, Virginia entitled *A Conversation with Dr. William Lee on Racism in America and the Aftermath of George Floyd's Death*.

Mainly in that discussion we're hearing Dr. George Anderson of Second Presbyterian, the son of our own Jane and Eade Anderson, offer questions for his friend and colleague,

and Dr. Bill Lee speaking from his experience and observation.

We invite you to view this illuminating conversation in advance of the Montreat Wednesday presentation. It can be found online at any time at this link: <https://youtu.be/czuAvOtruKA?t=319>.

The purpose of our program is specifically to have an opportunity to reflect on the conversation between Bill Lee and George Anderson.

Our panelists for that reflection will be
Ann DuPre Rogers, LCSW,
executive director of Resources for Resilience,
and Heath Rada, moderator of the 221st General Assembly
of the PC(USA), 2014-15,
with MPC pastor Keith Grogg serving as moderator.

Details of how to "virtually attend" the online presentation will be announced next week.



*I waited patiently for the Lord;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.*

*He drew me up from the desolate pit,
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.*

*He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.*

Contact Information

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**Clara Hare-Grogg,
Young Adult Volunteer**

Clara's YAV Weblog page [Link](#)

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