

## The Year In Review (cont..)

### Church Growth Ministry Group

This ministry group is being revitalized. We have begun by acknowledging that church growth is both about building our membership AND about deepening our faith as a church. We have begun by asking:

What is unique about our church? What are other churches not offering in our area that we might offer?

Possible activities for community outreach as a way of thinking of our church, its members and friends and our staff and facilities as a kind of faith-oriented community center (for book clubs, community women's classes, dialog groups, classes of interest to the community like arts, gardening, photography, etc., kids' and family events)

"Invite, invite, invite" others to church

Connections among us that could be developed (new folks coming to the area as retirees and those who are recruited to our area to work)

Helping our church to be recognizable to the community for its beautiful and unique physical structure and in its unique and welcoming ministry to the area

Developing planned and sustainable ways to welcome visitors and to care for our members and friends

Offer spiritual development opportunities (worship and study) to our members and friends, as well as the community.

### Congregational Care and Ministry Group

Our purpose is to provide fellowship opportunities and member-to-member care through programs and services that nurture body and spirit.

In 2017, this ministry group planned/prepared/offered the following activities:

Souper Bowl of Caring Feb 5, 2017

Presbytery of the James Meeting of 200 elders and ministers, including breakfast and lunch, Feb 18, 2017

Lunch for the Community Lenten Service March 22, 2017

Refreshments for the Schubert cycle musical event, May 6, 2017

Annual River Service Picnic at Strathbrae (the Hughes' home) Sept 10, 2017

Luncheon after joint World Communion service with Mildred Presbyterian Church, Oct. 1, 2017

Contributed to ECT bake sale booth at the Farmers' Market Oct 21, 2017

Quarterly Men's Breakfast Oct 28, 2017

Refreshments and support for the Trunk or Treat activity, Oct 31, 2017

Family night supper and Chrismon-making activity, Nov 15, 2017

Refreshments for the Messiah Sing-along, Dec 3, 2017

Christmas Lunch December 17, 2017

Memorial service receptions for Edith Lawyer, Bea Stanford, and Jerry Colby services

# Wee Kirk Gazette

## Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

The Most Welcoming Presbyterian Church in Essex County

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## The Year In Review

### Christian Education Ministry Group Overview 2017 and 2018 Plans

2017: Our pastor provided the Time with the Young Church in worship every Sunday. The Christian Education Ministry Group offered Children's Church, in which the youth participated in lessons and activities with a volunteer teacher during the sermon portion of the service. Our youth participate in "building the table" at the start of worship each Sunday when they light the candles, lay the open Bible on the communion table, and fill the baptismal font with water.

In June 2017, we said good bye to Wendy Chishimba as Children's Ministry Chair. We began a rotation of children's church volunteer teachers (Sherry, Kathy, Jill, John C, Geoff). In Dec 2017, Mandy Matthews accepted the position of Children's Church teacher.

2018 plans include:

- developing the Children's Church teaching time with a planned curriculum and varied activities for learning

- developing a regular time for the kids with the pastor (other than the time with youth during service)

- completing training, policy awareness and background checks for all who work with our children (as mandated by the Presbytery of the James)

- developing appropriate locations and adult coverage for children's activities for the safety of all considering new ideas for children's ministries (VBS, after school programs, seasonal events)

- building on the positive intergenerational activities already in place

**"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."**

**Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**

## The Year In Review ( cont..)

### Mission and Outreach Ministry Group 2017 Annual Report

The Mission and Outreach Ministry Group again provided guidance and education to the congregation on many mission and outreach opportunities. Monetary contributions were made during the year to the Presbytery of the James benevolences, four special offerings during 2017, local benevolences which included the local foodbanks, Social Services Assistance Fund, Camp Hanover, and Operation Inasmuch. Our children continue to collect the Five Cents a Meal offering once a month, which is then divided between the Presbytery of the James Hunger program and local foodbanks.

Other projects/events that the M&O Group coordinated with the congregation's participation during 2017 included support of Essex Churches Together, in which over 35 churches work together on ways to better our community. We arranged the Souper Bowl of Caring, supported Operation Inasmuch in which over 30 churches and 500 volunteers worked on a one-day "mission blitz" to provide various forms of assistance to many in our county. Our group organized the Trunk or Treat 2017, which became an even bigger event this year as we were joined by three other churches and provided over 450 bags (and, of course, candy and other goodies) to children of our community, and we participated in the Christmas Mother program for which our congregation provided Christmas gifts for 8 children. Our Mission and Outreach Group has now taken over sponsorship of Banana Bingo at Essex House once a month, providing assistance (and bananas!) to the residents of this assisting living facility in our county. We collect and deliver magazines to the dialysis center and collect food in "Lucy's Basket" for the local food bank.

### Worship and Music Ministry Group

Worship and Music continued to plan services and provide music for this congregation to worship our Lord. 2017 was a year full of praise and new beginnings.

On 02/18/17, TPC hosted the POJ quarterly meeting at Tappahannock High School Auditorium. This took the combined effort of every member to not only host the meeting, but to provide continental breakfast and lunch for all attendees. TPC led the worship service, arranged meeting activities, and offered a satellite nursery for children at the church.

Deb Booze continues to assign communion servers and distribute communion dates and a servers' list throughout the year. Barbara Cullom and John Frischkorn prepared the Lord's Supper elements faithfully all year.

John Frischkorn helps the young people who are learning to be acolytes at the start and end of each service. This includes lighting the candles, pouring water into the baptismal font and placing an open Bible on the offering table.

The ordination service for Rev. Dr. Vicki Murdock took place 04/02/17. It was a thrill to plan and for us to be there to support her during this event.

Various members have donated money for all the new banners that now hang in the church during the different liturgical seasons and special holy days.

Kathy Hughes made arrangements and presented wonderful music throughout the year. May 6, the Rev. Hyung Moon performed Schubert's Three Cycles, accompanied by Kathy on the piano. On Dec. 3, we all sang the choruses with joy for the Messiah Sing-along, as wonderful soloists, guest organist, and our own harpsichordist performed, with Em Hughes joyfully directing it all!

### Prayer List for January, 2018: Please pray for these loved ones of our church.

The family of Robbie's niece Andrea, Lelia's family, Dave, Bruce, Dan, Roland and Betty, Jo, Lucia, Zelinda, John and Ellen, Dorothy and Walter, Wendy and Charity, Jill and Hunter, Cindy and Ron and Cindy's mom, Rebecca and her family, Alice, Beccy, James, Jean, Pam, Robin, Virginia, Brady and his family, Dave and Sherry, Bill, Joey, families involved in violent events, and refugee families.

A joint service was held on World Communion Sunday Oct 1 at TPC. We were joined in worship by the members of Mildred Presbyterian Church, who also remained to enjoy lunch with us.

TPC annual planning retreat on 08/19/17 and the joint River Service with Zion Baptist church on 09/10/17 were both hosted by the Hughes at "Strathbrae."

09/02/17 TPC celebrated the wedding of John and Ellen Hardy's son John and his bride Kat.

Two services were led by elders in the absence of Reverend Murdock, including once in April and on 12/31/17 to finish the Advent-to-Epiphany season. In addition, Rev. Dr. Tom Coye and Rev. Dr. Skip Murdock led worship for us in 2017.

### FEBRUARY CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY 1PM, A STUDY OF PARABLES,** Feb 6- Luke 9: 57-62; Feb 13- Luke 10: 25-37; Feb 20- Luke 12: 13-31; Feb 27- Luke 13:1-9; Mar 6- Luke 14: 15-24; Mar 13; Luke 15:11-32.

**Souper Bowl of Caring:** We will have a soup lunch after church on **February 4** to support this fund raising event before the Super Bowl. Favorite soups will be provided alongside appetizers and desserts. The cost for the meal will be a can of soup and \$1. During the luncheon the DVD of last year's Operation Inasmuch will be viewed.

**February 13, 2018-** Shrove Tuesday pancake supper at 6pm and service of ashes at 7pm.

**February 20, 2018-** Session will meet at 6pm.

**February 21, 2018** -TPC will host the community Lenten luncheon at the Methodist church. Lunch is at 11:30am or 12:30pm with a brief Lenten service at noon. Vicki will offer the devotion that day.

**February 24, 2018-** Men's Breakfast at 8 am at TPC.

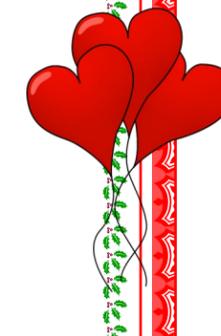
**February 26, 2018-** Christian Education Ministry Group will meet at 7pm. Please join us in this important ministry.

### \*Important Reminders\*

- **Essex County Social Services is still in need of children and adult books.**
- **SDA Community Services is in an immediate need of warm coats.**

### February Birthdays

**Lucas Sisk 11**  
**Jake Perry 18**  
**Margaret Broad 14**  
**Louise Poling 20**  
**Kathy Lam 15**



### March Birthdays

**Dave Canby 9**  
**Carys Perry 16**  
**Ann Colby 16**  
**Sydney Jones 27**  
**Barbara Cullom 30**