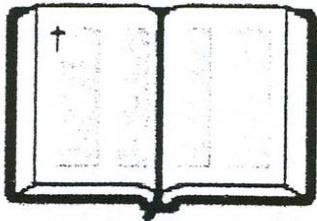


Wee Kirk Gazette

Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

OCTOBER 2008



CYCLE A OCTOBER LECTIONARY For the Lord's Day

10/5 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exod. 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20;
Ps. 19; Phil. 3:4b-14;
Matt. 21:33-46

10/12 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exod. 32:1-14; Ps. 106:1-6, 19-23;
Phil. 4:1-9; Matt. 22:1-14

10/19 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exod. 33:12-23; Ps. 99;
I Thess. 1:1-10; Matt. 22:15-22

10/26 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Deut. 34:1-12; Ps. 90:1-6, 13-17;
I Thess. 2:1-8; Matt. 22:34-46

PASTOR'S PAGE: FUTURE GOALS

ON OCTOBER 15th I will complete a three year term as Pastor/Evangelist of Tappahannock Presbyterian Church. It has been a joy to worship and work with you. God has blessed this ministry and mission with strong and capable lay leadership, wonderful opportunities, material resources, numerical growth and celebrative events. Our worship of God in Christ is especially joyful because of dedicated and talented musicians who lead us in God's praise. Our work has been effective because of a hard working Steering Committee that plans ahead and uses the talents and gifts of a committed congregation. Peace and unity continue to be God's gracious gifts to us.

THE LAY/CLERGY MINISTRY ASSESSMENT PROCESS IN AUGUST, which 32 people participated in, was very positive and constructive. This Congregational Health Inventory helped us focus on all areas of church worship and work. It provided an opportunity for all of us to discuss the past and plan for the future. What a good experience it was for all.

ONE OF THE CHALLENGES we face in the near future is a chartered Presbyterian Church. As we continue to grow in membership, the Presbytery of the James will officially reclassify us from a new church development chapel to a chartered Presbyterian Church. Currently our membership stands at 54 communicants. The Presbytery guidelines call for a minimum of 75 active members to petition them for chartering. Sound budget building strategies, a pattern of annual officer and teacher training events, community mission and outreach programs, and a plan for continued evangelism efforts are all required when a new congregation is chartered.

I BELIEVE WITH GOD'S HELP the chartering goal is reachable in the next two or three years. It is my conviction that faithfully working together as pastor and people, God will continue to lead us forward into a larger and stronger fellowship. Therefore, let us continue to pray as if everything depends on God, and continue to work as if everything depends on us, and the Holy Spirit will lead us into a new day.

PAT JOINS ME IN THANKING YOU for your love and support these past three years. We look forward with excitement towards the future God has planned for Tappahannock Presbyterian Church.

Peace, Bill

Steering Committee Highlights

The monthly stated meeting of the Tappahannock Presbyterian Chapel Steering Committee was called to order on September 15 by the moderator, the Rev. Dr. William Morris. He led the Steering Committee in meditation.

COMMUNICATIONS

- A letter from Bill Morris to Carson Rhyne, General Presbyter; Albert Connette, Tom Coye, Butch Harlow, New Church Development; and Charles Grant and Bill Brownfield, Committee on Ministry was shared with the Steering Committee. The letter states that in October he will complete a three year, part-time ministry at Tappahannock Chapel. He suggested it would be appropriate for members of the congregation and POJ, NCD, and COM to meet and discuss a ministry assessment some time in September.
- A brochure about the Older Adult Ministry Retreat on October 9 was distributed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer indicated the financial health of the Chapel is good.

PASTORAL CONCERNS

Members and friends of the congregation who are recovering from surgery and suffering from ill health or have special needs were lifted in prayer by name.

OLD BUSINESS

- Discernment Project- the Ministry Assessment of TPC was discussed. See article in this newsletter.
- Recording Equipment- Em Hughes has ordered equipment for amplification and recording that comes under the \$3000 limit.

MINISTRY REPORTS were received by Steering Committee members.



Worship and Music

Kathy Hughes, Moderator

- The Rappahannock Area Presbyterian Churches will meet October 5, World Communion Sunday at Campbell in in in in

in Weems. The TPC choir will participate with the combined choirs. Three plates of cookies are requested from our church; they will be supplied by Jill Robertson, Sherry Jones, and Alice Roye. David Jones and Alice Roye will serve as Elders for Communion.

- The outdoor worship "Down by the Riverside" held at the Hughes' home was a wonderful experience for all, with 67 total in attendance. Of that number 11 were guests from Zion Baptist Church. Many people had family members and other guests with them.

Fellowship and Congregational Care

Pat Morris, Moderator

- The covered-dish picnic following the outdoor service was a great success. Thanks to Bill and Susan Spage for preparing the barbeque ribs and supplying the fried chicken.
- The congregation is invited to the Morris' home for a picnic lunch following the World Wide Communion combined service at Weems on October 5. Maps will be provided for both Campbell Memorial and the Morris home.
- As the planning retreat scheduled September 6 was cancelled due to forecast of storms from Hurricane Hannah, the retreat is re-scheduled to be at the church on September 21. A lunch will be served. Dress will be casual. There will be an informal worship service, lunch, and work groups, ending between 2:00-3:00 PM.

Christian Education

Anne Sydnor, Moderator

- Christian Education for Children- "The One-Room School House" curriculum began on September 7 with six children.
- Adult Education- The Fall study for adults will be Adam Hamilton's "Christianity and World Religions," a study of the claims of Christianity will be held each Sunday following Fellowship from October 12 through November 16.
- The CE Ministry will meet on October 26.

Mission and Outreach Ministry

Janice Canby, Moderator

The Peace-Making Offering will be the second week-end in October, the 12th, since the Rappahannock Churches' worship service will be October 5. The loose offering collected that day will be used for local benevolence. (TPC members are reminded not to put their TPC offering in the plate that day.)

Church Growth

Bill and Vivian Smith, Co-Moderators

- An assessment instrument "New Member Assimilation" will be completed by attendees at the September 21 retreat.
- September 21 is New Member Sunday. Bill and Susan Spage will be joining the church.

The next Steering Committee meeting will be held the SECOND Monday in October, October 13.

** ** ** ** **

Do you have some thoughts to share about how we can let people know about our church? Send in an article to share in the next newsletter about how you go about bringing up the subject of church attendance. Send to alicer2@verizon.net.

To Moderators and others who have announcements for the next newsletter, a reminder. Information should be in by October 20 for the November *Wee Kirk*.

Older Adult Retreat



October is a great time to enjoy Camp Hanover. The Older Adult Retreat will be held there on Thursday, October 9 from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM. A \$14 registration includes a sit-down lunch served by the Camp Hanover staff.

Registration deadline was September 25, but if you are interested call Presbytery at 877-262-2074. There is likely a place for you!

Who Me?

Do Evangelism?

I'm Presbyterian!

At our in-house retreat on September everyone took a "test" to rate Tappahannock Chapel in efforts to recruit, assimilate, and retain new members.

There is, shall we say, a lot of improvement possible in those areas. Particularly in recruitment. Our congregation is still small enough that visitors are readily recognized, and one of our assets is the genuine friendliness and warm greeting extended to people once inside our door.

There was good discussion and some soul searching about why we don't seem to invite people to come to our church. A major part of that, it seems, is that most of us do not have unchurched friends. And if our friends are unchurched we assume that because they used to want it that way, they still do. Times change. Needs and interests change. Priorities change.

The story is told about a preacher visiting in the home of an elderly couple. The husband had come periodically and volunteered occasionally, but had never joined. The minister asked him if he would like to join the church and he said immediately, "Yes." When his surprised wife asked him why he hadn't done it before he replied, "No one has ever asked me to before now."

Who will you see this week who would be pleased, even thankful, to be invited to meet you at TPC next Sunday?

I recently met a lady who comes to the Dialysis Center three times a week. I told her that I go to church in the other half of that building.

"Oh, do you?" she said. "The people there seem to be so nice and friendly. They come over sometimes and sing for us." She then went on to say her sisters take her to their church (Antioch Baptist) on Sunday. When we parted I thought, "If only we can live up to our reputation."

Tell someone this week that you go to the Presbyterian Church in Tappahannock.

You'll be surprised at their response.

Alice Roye

Lay Readers October and November



October 5 Deb Booze
12 Susan Spage
19 Roland Keeting
26 Jeff Orrock

November 2 Alyson Claiborne
9 John Hardy
16 Anne Sydnor
23 Frances Garrett
30 Beth Perry

Happy October Birthday to

Chrissy Orrock 2
Vivian Smith 10
Linda deLamorton 11
David Jones 21
Roland Geddes 22
Pat Morris 23



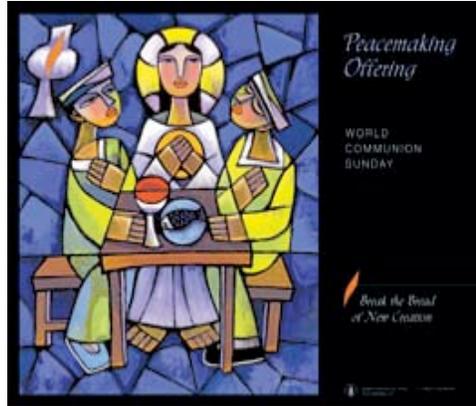
Within our Church Family

Pete Roye is in Carrington Place, 1150 Marsh Street, Tappahannock, VA 22560.
He will be very pleased to receive visitors and cards.



Set your clock back November 2 and enjoy an extra hour of sleep!

Peacemaking Offering



The Peacemaking Offering was created in 1980 to support the efforts of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to live out a deeper commitment to peacemaking as part of our faithfulness to God. It is one of four special offerings designated by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s General Assembly.

Most churches receive the Offering on World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday in October, which this year is October 5. As we will be at Campbell Memorial that day TPC will receive the offering the following Sunday, October 12.

Each congregation is encouraged to retain 25 percent of the Offering it receives to use for local ministries of peacemaking within the church and its community. Twenty-five percent is used by presbyteries and synods, and 50 percent is used by the General Assembly ministries through the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program.

Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

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The Rev. Dr. William Morris, pastor

