

Wee Kirk Gazette

Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

July 2010

PASTOR'S PAGE: THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

BETWEEN 1904 AND 1910 the Presbyterian Church of North America developed The Six Great Ends of the Church. Today we find this statement in Chapter I of the Book of Order:

The great ends of the church are:

- 1) the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind;
- 2) the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;
- 3) the maintenance of divine worship;
- 4) the preservation of the truth;
- 5) the Promotion of social righteousness; and
- 6) the exhibition of the kingdom of Heaven to the world.

THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH (read Chapter III of the Book of Order) is the worship and work of the church. Mission is ministry. The Mission of the Church is God's activity in the world as told in the Bible and understood by faith. The Church is literally the body of Christ (mouth, ears, hands, feet, mind and heart) involved in telling and demonstrating God's love for the world.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC IS MISSION. Whenever God's people come together around the Word and Sacraments worship takes place. The chief aim of life is "to worship God and to enjoy God forever." Reading God's word and responding to God's grace in faith through prayer and song is church mission.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IS MISSION. Presbyterians are people of the Word- -who attempt to "rightly divide the word of truth." From the days of John Calvin educated ministers and lay people have lead congregations in the study of scripture, church history, morality and ethics, and social justice. A sound educational program for all ages enables God's people to mature in the likeness of Christ. Christian Education is mission.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND FELLOWSHIP IS MISSION. The last verses of Chapter 2 in Acts reads, "All who believed were together and had all things in common. . .they would sell their possessions and distribute the proceeds to all as any had need. . .they spent time together in the temple. . .and they broke bread at home." Sharing in worship, education, meals, prayer, money, etc. was an important part of the early church even as it is today. Caring, sharing and bearing is mission. Acts 2:43-47.

SERVICE IS MISSION. Jesus' ministry of compassion to the poor, the lame, the blind, the outcast, the "widow and orphan" was monumental. Today the church reaches out beyond its doors and walls through monetary gifts and hands-on-ministry to the community and the world in Christ's name. Outreach and service is mission.

EVANGELISM IS MISSION. Telling about God's love through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus brings good news, hope, joy and peace to others. Acts of kindness and a good deed in Christ's name speaks sermons. Church growth is mission.

**THINK OF CHURCH MISSION AS A WHOLISTIC PROGRAM OF WORSHIP AND WORK
MINISTERING TO EACH OTHER AND THEIR WORLD IN CHRIST'S NAME.**

Peace,
Bill

Steering Committee Highlights

June 21, 2010

COMMUNICATIONS

- A thank-you note was received from Nell Burrough expressing the appreciation of her daughter Mary Hood Burrough and herself for the prayers and check received from TPC to Mary Hood on the occasion of the recent flood in Nashville, TN.
- A note from Mary Alice Keller to Bill and Pat Morris was read. Mary Alice expressed her deep appreciation for the support she had received from her TPC church family and explained the need to transfer her membership to National Presbyterian in Washington DC since she no longer resides in Tappahannock.
- The letter of transfer was received from National Presbyterian receiving Mary Alice Keller into their membership.
- An email from Bill Morris to the POJ New Church Development Committee was attached.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Dave Jones reported this month there was considerable income, \$14,782, received during the month because one member paid the tithe and special offerings through the year. He reported that the total offering for Pentecost stands at \$743. In May the 5 cents a meal offering was \$110. As the church is not sponsoring the golf tournament this year there is \$1500 that was earmarked for that which is now freed up to be used as mission money elsewhere.

Jill Robertson reported that upon the deposit of \$50 received today the balance in the Memorial Fund is \$5151.88.

When Rev. Carson Rhyne visited TPC June 6 he mentioned during Sunday School that there was money at the Presbytery for local food banks. David Jones and Alice Roye are following up on that.

PASTORAL CARE CONCERNS

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

PRESBYTERY REPORT

Susan Spage and Rev. Bill Morris attended the June meeting of the POJ in Chase City, a 5-hour drive away! She reported the meeting was very interesting and she was glad she went. She submitted a written synopsis of the meeting. She reported there is a new POJ Structure that involves focus groups rather than committees. More will be reported about that as time goes on.

NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- The next meeting of the POJ NCD will be July 1, 2010.
- Stated Clerk Carson Rhyne and Brad Coats will meet with the Essex County Planner the second week in July.
- Rev. Rhyne would like a report of the meeting June 27 when members are gathered to discuss the issue of whether to continue renting space or proceed with purchase of land and building. He has indicated he would like to come back in July to meet with the Church Site Task Force.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Worship and Music

Jill Robertson and Bill Morris

- Summer Communion will be served July 25
- Home communion was served to Nancy Robinson by Bill Morris with Alice Roye, Pat Morris, and David Crittenden in attendance.
- The *Worship by the River* date is to be determined soon.

Congregational Care and Fellowship

Susan Spage

- The next meeting of the knitting group will be Monday, June 28 at 2:00 PM at Deb Booze's house.
- The next CCF ministry meeting (they meet every other month) will be Wednesday, July 7 for lunch

Christian Education

Anne Sydnor

- The One Room Sunday School curriculum continues with Judi Coats as primary teacher. Brad Coats is teaching the older students using a computer based Christian Education program

- Scott and Crissy Orrock, Jacob Perry, and Logan and Sam Hudnell will be attending Camp Hanover in August
- Rev. Barbara Cullom taught three sessions on "Faith and Finance" which was completed June 6
- Fall Adult Class- the Ministry Group is soliciting suggestions from the congregation

Outreach and Service

Janice Canby

- The celebration of high school graduates Alyson Claiborne and Corey Sisk was much appreciated. Each received an appropriate plaque and a \$100 gift certificate.
- Giving for the 5 cents a meal is down and Janice Canby says she will work on reminding people about it. A notice will go in the newsletter that canned goods may be brought by any time.

Church Growth

Kim Sydnor

- Dr. Jack Haberer's sermon and workshop were "excellent" and "very helpful" according to Steering Committee members
- The next meeting of the Church Growth Ministry is Wednesday, July 21 at 6:00 PM.

OTHER CONCERNS

- Alice Roye is updating the webpage and asked for input. Jill Robertson, Janice Canby, Sherry Jones and Susan Spage will review the website, review the draft changes Alice has made, and make suggestions for additions.
- The Summer Transition Schedule was reviewed. In July a Congregational meeting will be called to act on the Nominating Committee Report. The pastor will meet with Ministry Moderators. In August reports from the ministry groups will be made to the congregation. Members will be asked to sign up for the same or a different group to be a part of. Steering Committee Training (open to all) will be held two Sunday afternoons in August.
- The Planning Retreat at Camp Hanover will be Saturday, August 28.
- A Work Day will be planned in September to tend to the building and grounds.
- There will be a gathering of the congregation on Sunday, June 27 to discuss the issue of rent or buy property.

- The Pilgrimage Walk will be September 30-October 3. Those who attended last year are learning about how to sponsor new Pilgrims.

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Welcome to our newest member, Susan Hillyer. She came to us May 16 from St. Mark's Episcopal in Richmond. She is a dental hygienist by vocation. She enjoys woodworking and at present is working at Lowes Hardware. She has returned home to Essex County after living away for awhile, including a stint in Maine for several years.

To the Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

Dear Bill and Members,

Your letter of May 17th to daughter May Hood (and copy to me) was so very special to the Burrough family.

The prayers and best wishes from the congregation, as well as the monetary gift, touched our hearts. Your words of encouragement, hope and the concern of the entire congregation lifted our spirits and definitely will be our theme forever.

We thank you and the Tappahannock Presbyterian Church. May the peace of Christ be with each of you always.

Nell Burrough

What the Pilgrims are saying....

It was the day of the walk. It was raining and Alice was on her way to get me. I could have thought of 100 excuses not to go. We got to the place we were staying and I was more scared than ever. When I saw some people there my heart started to slow down and I felt good. They made me feel very welcome and that was nice. I learned so much about my self in those 3 days; then I knew myself. The 3 ladies I was with I got to know so much better, plus the other people that were there. I know I was touched by God. I felt like I was in a special place, just God and me. The last day we were there was so special. I saw all the people that loved me enough to pray for me for days. I will never regret going on the walk. What a different person I was when I came home knowing that my life was changed in a good way. I enjoyed the time I was there and would do it again and tell every one to go.

Lucy Collins

September 30- October 3

Weekend Theme HAVE THINE OWN WAY, LORD

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a
new creation... 2 Cor 5:17



<http://www.pjpilgrimage.org/website.htm>

Plans are being made for the next Presbytery of the James Pilgrimage (Sept. 30 - Oct. 3) and I want to encourage everyone to prayerfully consider attending. Pilgrimage is an opportunity for spiritual enrichment and growth through fellowship, song, laughter, and conversation. I was certainly inspired by the MANY activities, the commitment of my new friends, the fun, fellowship and surprises along the way! The weekend left me refreshed and with a sense of renewal that I hope others can experience too. Lucy, Deb, Susan, and I had a wonderful weekend and would love to share this unique experience with others.

Margaret Ryland

Growing up a child of a Presbyterian minister, I have been taught the Word since day one, specifically the Presbyterian version. Through a set of unfortunate circumstances I have been away from the church as an older adult. Since finding Tappahannock Presbyterian I have been rewarded greatly in that we have a teaching minister, because I wanted desperately to hear the Word again. I went on the Pilgrimage with that hope as well, to hear, hear, hear and learn, learn, learn. I am here to tell you that the experience answered my prayers and fulfilled my hopes. Hearing the story of God's love and sacrifice for us (me) in the way the Pilgrimage presents it is an experience I pray everyone will have.

Try it. You'll like it. **Susan Spage**

Lay Readers July and August



July 4 Pat Morris
11 Scott Orrock
18 Randy Sisk
25 Susan Spage

August 1 John Hardy
8 Sherry Jones
15 Roland Geddes
22 Cindy Glass

Greeter John Frischkorn
Ushers Margaret Ryland and Barbara Cullom

Greeter Sherry Jones
Ushers Susan Spage and Janice Canby

Janice Canby 12
Lynn Orrock 14
Betty Dyer 15
Jamie Davis 23
Deb Booze 27
John Hardy 28



Church Family News

- How wonderful to have Floyd and Jo Dowdy back! We've missed you, Dowdys! Anne Sydnor is continuing to regain her strength and it's great to have her back at church.
- We share the sadness of the family of Joe and Cora Sue Spruill on the death of their 43 year old son Bill. Cora Sue plays the piano and organ from time to time in Kathy's absence. We send our Christian love to them.
- Thanks to Anita Harrower for substituting at the piano for Kathy Hughes while she and Em were on vacation in New England.
- We remember our special members Frances Garrett and Verla Coats who shared the same July birthday. They both "graduated" this past year, as Bill's mother said. We miss them, and we miss Bill's mother Lucille Morris as well.
- Mary Alice Keller has transferred her membership to National Presbyterian in Washington DC but she will always be part of our church family and we look forward to her visits back to Tappahannock.

Weight Loss Method Guaranteed No Exercise or Food Deprivation Required

After my first child I experienced dieting for the first time, and again after my second child. When my sister was getting married I tried yet another diet so that I could get into a beautiful, but sleek, matron-of-honor dress. I came close, but never reached my goal. I tried other diets. I joined groups and learned more about healthy eating. I tried packaged food, and read books, and asked questions of experts. I pondered. And now, years later, **I HAVE FOUND THE ANSWER AND I WANT TO SHARE THE ANSWER WITH YOU!!**

Oh, how I wish that were true. The diet part, that is. You can bet if I found that magic diet I would share it with everybody I talked to.

Now let's change a few words.

I didn't have a conversion experience, or become "saved" on a specific date. I went to Sunday School as a child, taught children younger than I when I was in Middle School because there weren't others my age (well, there were some mean boys, one of them a PK {preacher's kid}, but that's another story). I was in youth groups and I went to church camp. I joined church and publicly professed that I believed in Jesus when I was around 12, but frankly, the part I remember most was being immersed and coming up with wet hair, much to my embarrassment. As a teen-ager I marched down the stands at the Richmond Stadium to the strains of *Just As I Am* to give my life to Christ at a Billy Graham event, but I don't remember the date. I joined study groups as an adult, and I talked to my pastors. I explored other approaches to religion such as meditation. I pondered.

I have come to know that the God I was searching for is present within me in that "God-shaped vacuum," a concept with which I can relate. Sometimes I have felt the guidance of the Holy Spirit while making difficult decisions. I experienced the presence of Christ in a mystical and beautiful way as I sat with a cousin who was dying, and now I have a better understanding of "eternal life." I have endured heartache and exhaustion that I could not have come through without support from my family and friends who were God's servants, His angels.

But am I **as** willing to tell "the man on the street" about my relationship with Jesus as I would be if I had discovered the perfect diet? I wouldn't want to offend someone or invade their privacy. I'm Presbyterian.

Alice Roye

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The Rev. Dr. William Morris, pastor

