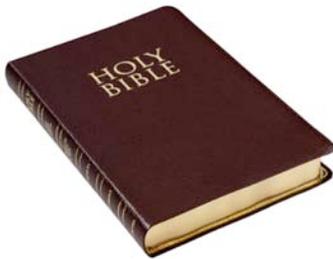


Wee Kirk Gazette

Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

AUGUST 2011



CYCLE A
AUGUST LECTIONARY
For the Lord's Day

8/7 8th Sunday after Pentecost
Gen. 37:1-4; 12-28;
Ps. 105:1-6, 16-22, 45(b);
Rom. 10:5-15; Matt. 14:22-33

8/14 9th Sunday after Pentecost
Gen. 45:1-15; Ps. 133;
Rom. 11:1-2a, 29-32;
Matt. 15: 9:10-20) 21-28

8/21 10th Sunday after Pentecost
Exod. 1:8-2:10; Ps. 124;
Rom. 12:1-8; Matt. 16:13-20

8/28 11th Sunday after Pentecost
Exod. 3:1-15;
Ps. 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c
Rom. 12:9-21; Matt. 16:21-28

PASTOR'S PAGE:

THE FIVE PURPOSES OF THE CHURCH

PAT AND I have been reading Rick Warren's book, **THE PURPOSE DRIVEN CHURCH**. We find the following Biblical statements to be an excellent summary:

PURPOSE #1. LOVE THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART.

The word that describes this purpose is worship. The church exists to worship God. When we express our love to God by ourselves, in a small group, or with a congregation, we're worshipping God. Matthew 4:10 and Psalm 34:3

PURPOSE #2. LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.

The word that describes this purpose is ministry. The church exists to minister to people. The church is to minister to all kinds of needs: spiritual, emotional, relational, and physical. Ephesians 4:12.

PURPOSE #3. GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES.

This purpose is called evangelism. The church is to tell the whole world of Christ's coming, his death on the cross, his resurrection, and his promise to return. Evangelism is more than our responsibility; it is our great privilege. The church should not seek growth for its own benefit, but because God wants people saved.

Matthew 28:19-20

PURPOSE #4. BAPTIZE THEM.

This purpose is called fellowship – identification with the body of Christ. As Christians we're called to belong, not just to believe. Baptism is not only a symbol of salvation, it is a symbol of fellowship. We have each other for support. We are members of God's family – brothers and sisters of Christ. Ephesians 2:19

PURPOSE #5. TEACH THEM.

The word commonly used to refer to this purpose is discipleship. The church exists to educate God's people. It is the church's responsibility and privilege to develop God's people to spiritual maturity. Ephesians 4:12-13

THE CLEAREST EXAMPLE OF ALL FIVE PURPOSES is the first century church in Jerusalem described in Acts 2:37-47. They taught each other, they fellowshiped together, they worshiped, they ministered, and they shared their faith with others – evangelized. Today the church's purposes are unchanged.

From The Purpose Driven Church, p. 103-107
- by Rick Warren

Steering Committee Highlights

July 18, 2011

COMMUNICATIONS

- Letter to *Hands Across Middlesex* regarding Pentecost offering to be given to their Food Bank
- Thank-you letter from Linda Cryer, Director of *Hands Across Middlesex* Food Pantry
- Letter to Bob Carter regarding potential church property next Fitness Center
- Thank-you letter from Paul Oswell, director of Essex Social Services

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Plate Offering to date= \$56,966
- Operating Account = \$9,351
- Development Account = \$7,073
- CD's at Union Bank (this is for the Development Account) = \$201,155
- Memorial Fund = \$5,595.97



NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT PURPOSE GROUP

The next meeting of the POJ NCD will be July 28, 2011. Alice Roye, Susan Spage, Dave Jones, and Rev. Morris will attend. The Rev. Shannon Kiser has been appointed coach for the NCD Purpose Group and she has been especially trained to help Presbyterians start new churches. TPC representatives will find out what sort of report and/or presentation would be expected at the October POJ meeting. It is the goal that by then due diligence will have been performed on potential church property in Tappahannock and POJ Trustees will be in the position to request funding for it.

PRESBYTERY REPORT

Jill Robertson and Rev. Morris attended the Presbytery meeting June 21. The outline of the day, including topics of discussion throughout the day, was included in the Steering Committee packet.

(Presbytery report continued)

The Belhar Confession narrowly passed by POJ but was rejected by PC (USA). A new funding pattern had its first reading and the Committee on Ministry recommended a 2.5% increase in salary for 2012.

CHURCH SITE TASK FORCE

A letter has gone to Bob Carter, Environmental Engineer, with the following information

1. Bill Smith has secured verbal permission from Billy Cooke, the property owner/seller, to take soil samples to determine suitability for building
2. Bill Smith also secured the property plat showing the property consists of 5.94 acres; this is included in the letter.
3. Trustees of the Presbytery of the James will actually purchase the property and pay the due diligence fee. The congregation is then responsible for building the first phase of the church plant.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Worship and Music

Jill Robertson and Rev. Bill Morris, Moderators

- July 31 will be summer communion and a 5th-Sunday Song Service.
- Sunday, September 11 will be the 10th anniversary since the 9-11 attack on the US. The Steering Committee suggested part of the service be devoted as a memorial service including a message on "how not to hate." That will also be the date of installation of new Steering Committee member Emerson Hughes and continuing Steering Committee member Jill Robertson.
- The Worship by the River will be September 18. Rev. Morris will invite Rev. Claude Tate of Zion Baptist Church to deliver the sermon, and their church will again be invited to join us for "Down by the Riverside" worship at the home of Em and Kathy Hughes.

Congregation Care and Fellowship

Susan Spage, Moderator

- Following the July 31 worship service a pot luck lunch will be held at the home of Steve and Sally Reger.

Christian Education

Anne Sydnor, Moderator

- Five youth from TPC and 1 counselor are attending Camp Hanover this summer.
- A party for the young people is being planned by Kim and Anne Sydnor at their home on the Mattaponi River. The date is August 21.
- Sunday School teacher Judi Coates requested that there be no Sunday School for youth during August since most will be in camp. This was approved by the Steering Committee.

Outreach and Service

Janice Canby, Moderator

No report this month

Church Growth

Kim Sydnor, Moderator

No report this month

director

Dates for Summer Transition Schedule and Leadership Training

- Officer training- Sunday afternoons August 21 and 28
- Installation of Steering Committee members- September 11
- Planning retreat at Camp Hanover- September 17

OTHER BUSINESS

- The Steering Committee approved giving a church key to Essex Florist to facilitate delivery of Sunday flowers.
- The Pastor's second three-year term will be completed October 15. The Personnel Committee (Alice Roye, Sherry Jones, Jill Robertson) will meet to consider ways to receive input from the congregation.

Needed: Air-conditioners \$ 125

Thank you for your generous donation to Hands Across Middlesex. Your donation allowed us to provide food to the families that were impacted by the Tornado.

Our present mission is to provide air conditioners to clients who are ill and have been medically advised by a physician as to needing air conditioners.

Any and all aid you can help us is greatly appreciated and we thank you in advance.

Jackie Sears, President of Hands Across Middlesex

Note: A gift of \$125 allows them to purchase an air-conditioner at discount.

Thank-You from Hands Across Middlesex

Dear Pastor Morris,

On behalf of Hands Across Middlesex and the many clients we serve, thank you for your generous gift to our Food Pantry. Your support makes feeding hungry family a reality.

As you pointed out we can obtain general food items from the Central Virginia Food Bank for .19 a pound BUT...We are often able to get selected items from them for considerable less including chicken at .05 a pound. The result, we can use your donation to acquire close to two tons/4000 pounds for distribution.

Linda O. Cryer,



Sunday, July 31, following Morning
Worship

Adjourn to the home of
Steve and Sally Reger on Water Lane
for a Fellowship Dinner. Sign-up sheet
is in the fellowship hall.

Note: 40% of the Pentecost Offering was \$331.20. This amount was sent to Hands Across Middlesex to aid that community after it was struck by a recent tornado.

Lay Readers



August and September

August 7	Louise Poling	September 4	Ralph Poling
14	Margaret Ryland	11	Anne Sydner
21	Kim Sydnor	18	Barbara Cullom
28	Roland Geddes	25	Deb Booze

Greeter Sherry Jones
Ushers Susan Spage, Janice Canby

Greeter Herb Sebren
Ushers Bill and Vivian Smith

Happy August Birthday to

Jo Dowdy 9
Susan Spage 23



Within Our Church Family

We continue to hold the sisters of Janice Canby and Barbara Cullom in prayer for healing from cancer. Jill Robertson is recovering from knee surgery.

Our prayers are with Rev. Walter Winegar and his family and Mildred Presbyterian Church for his healing after three back surgeries. Mildred PC is in Sharps and is the Mother Church of Tappahannock Presbyterian.

We look forward to the fellowship times ahead, at the covered dish luncheon at the Regers July 31 and the Worship by the Riverside at the home of the Hughes on September 18.

And don't forget to mark your calendar for the Church-wide Planning Retreat at Camp Hanover on Saturday, September 17.

Johnny's mother looked out the window and noticed him playing "church" with their cat. He had the cat sitting quietly and he was preaching to it. She smiled and went about her work. A while later she heard a loud meowing and hissing and ran back to the open window to see Johnny baptizing the cat in a tub of water. She called out, "Johnny, stop that! The cat is afraid of water." Johnny looked up at her and said "he should have thought about that before he joined my church."

I chuckled about Johnny's pre-condition for joining "his" church. And then I thought about all of the labels and conditions and expectations we place on others, based on our personal values.

Paul Oswell, Director of Essex Department of Social Services, wrote to thank TPC "for your generous donation to the SAP (Special Assistance Program) Program. These funds will enable us to help the citizens of Essex County with emergency situations that may arise and help them get back on their feet to a brighter future."

This fund is to help people who are not otherwise on the books of Social Services. Illness and job loss are two of many reasons people find themselves needing a hand to get through a rough spot. The Special Assistance Fund is not a hand out, but a hand up, and there is expectation that the recipient will pay back as he or she is able the amount loaned so that someone else may be given the same opportunity.

Tappahannock Presbyterian Church has been a leader, through *Essex Churches Together*, in the effort to have churches contribute to this fund in lieu of hand-outs to pay bills. This does not in any way restrict the individual church's community missions and contributions but it centralizes the place to seek funds rather than requiring the frantic search from church to church month after month. In addition, Social Services can steer the person to other sources of help they might not have been aware of: job openings, vocational readiness training, parenting classes, furthering education, money management, to name a few. Our church budgets, through the Mission and Outreach Ministry, \$800 a year, paid in installments to Essex Social Services. Slowly, other churches are following suit.

Alice Roye, Editor

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