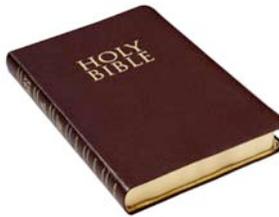


Wee Kirk Gazette

Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

OCTOBER 2011



CYCLE A OCTOBER LECTIONARY For the Lord's Day

10/2 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
World Communion Sunday
Exod. 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Ps. 19;
Phil. 3:4b-14; Matt. 21:33-46

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

10/16 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exod. 33:12-23; Ps. 99;
I Thess. 1:1-10; Matt. 22:15-22

10/23 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Deut. 34:1-12; Ps. 90:1-6, 13-17;
I Thess. 2:1-8; Matt. 22:34-46

10/30 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Josh. 3:7-17; Ps. 107:1-7, 33-37
I Thess. 2:9-13; Matt. 23:1-12

PASTOR'S PAGE: AN ORGANIZING PASTOR

WHEN I WAS ASKED to be the pastor of Tappahannock Chapel beginning October 15, 2005, the active membership was 27 with an average worship attendance of 19 in a very small rented room. The expectation of me was that I would be a part-time pastor "maintaining the status quo," restoring continuity of leadership, and pastor/people trust relationship.

SLOWLY BUT SURELY, however, there has been more! Today there are 53 members on the active roll and 45 average worship attendance in a larger but still too small worship center. By the grace of God TPC has grown numerically, financially, programmatically and missionally. Now it is time to plan for a permanent church building and a full-time organizing pastor.

BELOW ARE SOME KEY QUESTIONS that your Transitional Pastor Search Committee (and your congregational Pastor Nominating Committee a year from now) will want to ask in search of a Transitional Pastor and a full-time organizing pastor a year from now:

1. What is your faith story?
2. Share an example of something you've started from dream to reality that went well.
3. Share an example of something you've started that did not succeed. What was the result? What did you learn?
4. Tell about when you were recruited to a team. What was your part?
5. Tell of a time when you've recruited a team. How did you utilize the membership?
6. Tell of a time when you shared the Gospel of Jesus Christ with someone outside the church. How did you tell them who Jesus is?
7. Give an example of how you organize your week and prioritize your time.
8. Tell us how you nurture your own spiritual life.
9. What aspects of ministry energize you?
10. Tell us of a disappointment in your personal life and how you handled it.

- FROM Starting New Churches
PC(U.S.A.) 2009

Yours in Christ,
Bill

Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

Stated Meeting of the Steering Committee

Monday, September 19, 2011

COMMUNICATIONS

- An email from Rev. Jay Sanderford to Rev. Tom Coye, Rev. Al Moreau, and Rev. Bill Morris stating that the NCD Purpose Group requests that Rev. Coye visit the proposed site for TPC and make a recommendation to the NCD Purpose Group about land purchase.
- Rev. Morris' resignation letter to the congregation effective October 31 because of health issues
- Thanks to Bob Pryor, Director of Camp Hanover, for overseeing preparation for TPC to have the retreat there on September 17. A check was included.
- Email from Rev. Al Moreau, Chair of NCD Purpose Group, to that group, and Carson Rhyne, and Bill Morris indicating 6 affirmative votes and zero negative votes affirming to the Trustees their wholehearted support for the purchase of land.



TREASURER'S REPORT

- Plate Offering to date= \$68,095. Note: At this point some people are behind in their pledges. The Pastor's Discretionary Fund will be over-budget due to several large donations to people in need.
- Operating Account = \$9,351
- Development Account = \$7,073
- CD's at Union Bank (this is for the Development Account) - \$208,228
- Memorial Fund = \$5609.66



Anne and Kim Sydnor with Cole Sydnor

PASTORAL CARE CONCERNS

Thanksgiving was offered for the relative health of the congregation and healing occurring among family and friends of our members. Cole Sydnor's progress was celebrated. The pastor shared his chemo treatment regime which began today. The Steering Committee's prayers for healing go to him, and for support to his wife Pat.

PRESBYTERY REPORT

The next Presbytery meeting will be held October 15 at Fairfield Presbyterian in Mechanicsville. Dave Jones was elected Commissioner. Alice Roye and Susan Spage also indicated interest in going. This will be the meeting when Trustees will present to the Presbytery for vote as to whether POJ will purchase our requested site of land. (Hopefully there will be rejoicing after this meeting!)

NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT PURPOSE GROUP

Rev. Morris indicated it will be important to have a full showing of our membership at the NCD Purpose Group at their meeting in November to ask permission to proceed on with building on the site being purchased by POJ. At this time a written and verbal overview of Tappahannock Presbyterian will be presented to the NCD Purpose Group.

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CHURCH SITE TASK FORCE

1. Soil borings have indicated good soil and drainage over most of the property. This week Wyn Davis will identify a potential drain field in both the potential property and that which is left to the owners. Two plots 100-square feet side by side must be identified, and this will be apparent on the deed. We are not bound to put the drainage field there if another place is also appropriate.
2. Peele Dillard has been given the OK (by Carson Rhyne) to do the survey. He is going to delay the topo until after the soy beans have been harvested; that isn't necessary until after the contract has been signed.
3. Jeff Hodges, building inspector, will give a certificate indicating it is approved for a church to be built on that lot.
4. **Rev. Morris and the Steering Committee commended Emerson Hughes on his excellent work and getting all of these reports scheduled. His follow-through is making it possible for all of the work to be done by presentation time.**

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

1. The Personnel Committee has asked Kathy Hughes, Director of Music; Dave Jones, Treasurer; and Pat Morris, Administrative Assistant, for job descriptions.
2. The Personnel Committee reviewed the feedback from the congregation regarding the completion of Rev. Bill Morris' second three-year term as Evangelist to Tappahannock Presbyterian. The Personnel Committee agrees with the evaluations that Rev. Morris has continued to lead this congregation in a most competent and caring way both in our personal growth and in church development. This service has culminated in being prepared to seek POJ purchase of land with anticipation of putting a church facility there. Further, our congregation has become stable and strong and is in a position to encourage new membership that will allow the Chapel to become chartered.
3. The Personnel Committee reviewed the performance of Pat Morris, the Administrative Assistant, and agreed that Tappahannock Presbyterian has been blessed with one so dedicated and skilled with keeping the church office running in a superior fashion.

Alice Roye, Sherry Jones, Jill Robertson,
Personnel Committee

We request that the Minutes show that, speaking for the congregation of Tappahannock Presbyterian, we are grateful to God for having provided such leadership to our church family. Pat and Bill have taught us by word and example how to live as Christ has commanded, to love the Lord and each other, and their competence has led us to the brink of establishing a chartered Presbyterian Church in the very near future.

PROGRESS REPORT ON TRANSITIONAL PASTOR SEARCH

Alice Roye, Clerk of the Steering Committee, reported that the Steering Committee, acting as Pastor Nominating Committee for a transitional pastor, met with Rev. Carson Rhyne September 13. With his advice and instruction, together with that of Rev. Jay Sanderford at a meeting on August 31, and Rev. Bill Morris's advice about seeking a transitional pastor, the committee feels well-equipped to fill out the requisite forms and begin the search. They will meet on September 20 to jointly work on the Church Information Form (CIF) with the goal of having it completed by next week.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Worship and Music

Barbara Cullom, Moderators
The Worship by the River at the home of Em and Kathy Hughes was a windy but joyful success. Rev. Claude Tate of Zion Baptist Church delivered the sermon and their choir provided the music. Many thanks to Em and Kathy for lending us their lovely home and garden for the event. Bill and Pat Morris will be on vacation the last two weeks of October. General Presbyter Carson Rhyne will deliver the sermon on October 23 and Rev. Al Moreau will deliver the sermon on October 30. Rev. Carson Rhyne has been asked to preach the first two Sundays in November and he is checking his schedule.



Jill Robertson and Emerson Hughes are installed as Steering Committee members. Susan Spage, right is standing with the other members of the Steering Committee.

Congregation Care and Fellowship

Susan Spage, Moderator

The meal for the church picnic was copious and delectable with contributions from everyone there

- Schedule of Coming Events was distributed (see article)

Christian Education

Judi Coats, Moderator

- Continue with "One Room Sunday School" curriculum
- Recruit two more teachers, who along with Judi Coats will rotate regular teaching duties
- Christmas Pageant December 18
- Look for opportunities to work the children into the mission programs of other Ministry Groups
- Explore another Confirmation Class with the Transitional Minister
- Brad Coats will continue to offer Bible Studies for Youth
- Adult Education- offer a Fall and Spring Adult program, each 6 weeks long. The Fall 2011 will combine 4 dates with the Films of the Angel Series along with a two-week Bible Study of one of Paul's letters. (see schedule in article)
- The Spring 2012 Series is tentatively going to be about Prayer. Anne Sydnor will investigate an educational format that is suitable. Tentative dates are 2/26, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1
- Camps Hanover will continue to be a prime opportunity to educate our children and adults. We will encourage all our children to attend in 2012. We will also look for Adult Conference opportunities, in coordination with other Mission Groups
- Periodicals continue to enrich the spiritual lives of our congregation through free access to Christian issues and Presbyterian news, such as *The Vine*, *Presbyterians Today*, and *These Days*.

Mission and Outreach

Sherry Jones, Moderator

All members of the Ministry group were present at the Retreat. After reviewing the 2011-2012 Organizational Chart and seeing where Mission and Outreach fits in the plan we discussed and updated the Duties and responsibilities of our Ministry Group. One of our items on our next meeting's agenda will be to develop a calendar of events, list of special offerings, duties, etc. and who will take charge for these various responsibilities. We reviewed the 2011 Operating budget. Janice Canby provided great assistance in understanding how some of the items are determined. We will be working with the church treasurer to complete our part of the church budget in October.



Church Growth

Pat Morris, Moderator

The meeting at the Retreat was moderated by Pat Morris who opened by giving some statistics regarding our membership and talking a little about the need for numbers. She used quotes from the book, The Purpose Driven Church by Rick Warren on why we count numbers of people. Pat also gave some ideas that she had planned to suggest for church growth in the year 2012. Due to family health concerns she will not be able to continue as Moderator of this Ministry group and Kim Sydnor agreed to serve as Interim Moderator until someone steps up. The budget was reviewed and adjustments made to reflect goals for 2012.

**OTHER CONCERNS DISCUSSED
AT THE STEERING COMMITTEE**

1. Stewardship education begins in October.
2. A Facilities Task Force was discussed.
3. Duties and Responsibilities of a Funding Task Force were discussed.
4. Susan Spage, Sherry Jones, and Alice Roye are going to POJ Clerk's Training in Petersburg on November 6.
5. The motion was passed that the Steering Committee give official notice to the New Church Development Purpose Group that
 - ❖ We intend to call a full-time organizing pastor
 - ❖ We will ask if we will be allowed to charter at 60
 - ❖ We will present a time frame for TPC to become chartered
 - ❖ We will ask NCD for a commitment of funds and ask the length of time of that commitment
 - ❖ We will ask NCD for guidance regarding additional sources of funding

Schedule of 2011 Events

- October 2 World Wide Communion at St. Andrews and afterwards a picnic at the Morris's home in Kilmarnock
- October 16 Celebration of Rev. Morris' six years with TPC- held at TPC
- November 5 Men's breakfast (served by the Women of the Church)
- December 18 Christmas luncheon at the Condo (Christmas Pageant that day at church)
- February 2 Souper Bowl Lunch (Not CC&F)
- February 12 Valentine's Brunch served to the women by the Men of the Church
- February 21 Shrove Tuesday pancake supper at TPC
- March 18 Youth of the church visit Essex House
- April 29 Day after *Operation Inasmuch* come to church "dressed up" in old clothes
- May TBA Progressive dinner
- June/July TBA Dutch Treat or Pot Luck Lunch

**Adult Sunday School
October 9-November 20**

- October 9- **Angel Series: Guidance;**
Discussion led by Kim Sydnor
- October 23 **Adult Bible Study**, one of Paul's Letters (suggestions sought)
Discussion led by Brad Coats
- October 30 **Adult Bible Study**- one of Paul's letters Discussion led by Brad Coats
- November 6 **Angel Series: Forgiveness**
- November 13 **Angel Series: Doubt**
- November 20 **Angel Series: Love**





Left to right-Beth Perry, Robbie Tavenner, Scott Martin, Bill Morris, Louise Poling, Ralph Poling learn what it means to have “too many bags in the air”- a communication game with bean bags. Twenty seven people were in attendance.

John Hardy, Dave Jones, Sherry Jones, Scott Martin, Lucy Collins listen intently to Bill as he gives everybody the game plan for the day. All 5 Ministry Groups met and worked on plans for 2012 and discussed budget needs for the coming year: Worship and Music, Christian Education, Congregational Care and Fellowship, Mission and Outreach, and Church Growth.



Em Hughes, Ralph and Louise Poling, and Kim and Anne Sydnor contemplate Bill’s advice about how to proceed with getting feed back from the congregation about the type of church activities and building that is desired and how to go about funding such an endeavor. TPC is hoping the request to Presbytery of the James to purchase property on Route 360 will be granted on October 15 at the POJ meeting.

Lay Readers



October and November

October	2	at St. Andrews	November	6	Sherry Jones
	9	Jeff Orrock		13	Robbie Tavenner
	16	Vivian Smith		20	Scott Orrock
	23	John Hardy		27	Tyler Sanders
	30	Randy Sisk			
Greeter	Anne Sydnor		Greeter	John Hardy	
Ushers	Betty and Chuck Dyer		Ushers	Jo Dowdy, Tyler Sanders	

Happy October Birthday to

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



Within Our Church Family

We lift our pastor Bill as he deals with cancer. We pray for healing and comfort and peace for Bill, and for comfort and peace and courage for Pat.

We continue to hold Cole Sydnor in prayer for healing. Kim and Anne Sydnor are his grandparents. We pray for continued miracles for Cole and for comfort and strength for his parents, brother, and all who love him.

Thank you each and every one for your cards, phone calls, e-mails and especially your prayers. I haven't gotten any deviled eggs yet, but I will forgive you for that. Pat reminded me this morning that we are very wealthy; we have hundreds of prayer partners asking for strength and peace in these days of chemotherapy. The journey has just begun this past week. Thank you for walking with me down this path.

*Yours in Christ,
Bill*