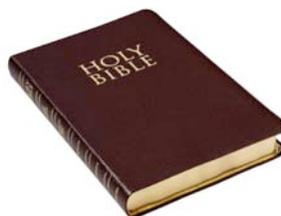


# Wee Kirk Gazette

Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

November 2011



CYCLE A  
NOVEMBER LECTIONARY  
For the Lord's Day

11/6 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Josh. 24:1-3a, 14-25; Ps.  
78: 1-7; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Matt. 25:1-13

11/13 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Judges 4: 1-7; Ps. 123; 1 Thess.  
5:1-11; Matt. 25:14-30

11/20 Christ the King Sunday  
Communion  
Ezek. 34: 11-16, 20-24; Ps. 100;  
Eph. 1:15-23; Matt. 25:31-46

11/27 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Isa. 64:1-9; Ps. 80: 1-7, 17-19; 1 Cor.  
1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37

Begin Lectionary Year B

## The Presbytery of the James



unanimously voted on October 15, 2011

to purchase land for  
Tappahannock Presbyterian  
Church

## TPC is on the move!

# Highlights of the Steering Committee

October 17, 2011

## COMMUNICATIONS

- Letter from Margaret Hall Boone, Special Offerings, General Assembly Mission Council, thanking TPC for the contribution of \$885 for the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering.
- Letter to the congregation from Rev. Morris regarding Stewardship month.
- Letter to the Administrative Commission members with the quarterly packet which includes the Minutes from the Steering Committee meetings for July, August, and September.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

- Plate Offering to date= \$78,127. This is \$2,582 less than budgeted for this date.
- Operating Account = \$4,349
- Development Fund= \$210.206
- Memorial Fund = \$5616.30
- The 5 cents a meal offering was \$228.79 this month.

## PASTORAL CARE CONCERNS

Members of the congregation who are dealing with special health or life issues were remembered in prayer. Susan Spage, Moderator of Congregational Care and Fellowship, will be the lynch pin for seeing that members are tended as needed until we have constant pastoral support.

## PRESBYTERY OF THE JAMES REPORT

- **Of special note was the approval of the request from the Tappahannock Presbyterian Church that 10 acres of land on route 360 be purchased by the POJ Trustees. The vote unanimously affirmed the request.** . (see article)
- Rev. Morris received a standing ovation of appreciation as he announced his retirement to those in attendance at the Presbytery meeting

## NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT PURPOSE GROUP

- Dave and Sherry Jones, Alice Roye, Em Hughes, and Susan Spage attended the September 28 NCD PG meeting. Shannon Kiser presented a workshop for the first hour-theme: Who is Jesus and What is the Church. Alice told the Purpose Group that TPC
  - 1) will call a transitional pastor with the intention of calling a full-time organizing pastor as soon as possible,
  - 2) requests to be chartered at the number of 60 members rather than the customarily required 75 (the initial response did not sound promising) ,
  - 3) requests a commitment of funds from NCD (the response was favorable), and
  - 4) requests assistance with identifying other sources of funding (response favorable). (see article)

## PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CHURCH SITE TASK FORCE

- Em Hughes reported that the only work left to do is the TOPO survey and this will be done after the soybeans have been harvested. POJ voted to purchase the property; what remains is for the Trustees and 360 LLC to close on the contract. Hopefully this will happen by the middle of November.
- Em cautioned that at present there is no access to the property nor suitable parking available. There will need to be plans for the building and a site engineer will determine where the access to the property will be. Then access and parking can be arranged. We must wait on VDOT approval for that.
- The motion was passed that the Church Growth Ministry Group be given the responsibility for the design, construction, and purchase of a sign to go on the property. Upon Steering Committee approval, the sign can go up as soon as the closing has occurred.

## PROGRESS REPORT ON PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Alice Roye reported that the Personnel Committee recommends to the Steering Committee that Louise Poling be invited to serve as temporary volunteer Administrative Assistant for the office and that her hours be from 9-12 Wednesday and Friday, allowing for some flexibility if needed. The motion was passed. Treasurer Dave Jones is in the office on Mondays.

## PROGRESS REPORT ON TRANSITIONAL PASTOR SEARCH

Alice Roye, Moderator, reported the Church Information Form (CIF) has been submitted to Carson Rhyne and now they await names of candidates

## MINISTRY REPORTS

### Worship and Music

Barbara Cullom, Moderator



- Rev. Carson Rhyne will preach October 23, as planned before Bill's necessary resignation. He does not accept any honorarium. The Steering Committee agreed with the suggestion that the check be made out to his emergency ministerial fund. Alice will talk with him about that.
- Rev. Al Moreau will preach October 30.
- November 6 is Dedication Sunday for Commitment of Pledges for 2012.
- Christ the King Sunday is November 20. Communion will be served then. This marks the end of the liturgical year. Advent follows.

### Congregation Care and Fellowship

Susan Spage, Moderator

- Susan Spage and her Ministry Group were thanked by the Steering Committee for the outstanding job of coordinating the retirement party for Bill and Pat Morris. Good food, good weather (!), the tent outside, the music from Bill's grandson's band, close to 100 attendees- all added up to a heart-warming and beautifully executed affair.
- The Men's Breakfast will be Sunday, November 6 at 8:30 AM. (This is the day the time reverts to Eastern Standard Time.)

- Shepherding groups are being assigned with each member of the Congregational Care and Fellowship Ministry heading up a group of members.



Knitters, and those who want to learn, or look on and visit, are invited to **Betty Geddes' home on Monday, November 14**. All will be taught the easy and attractive pattern for making hats and scarves.

- The Christmas party will be held **December 18 at the Riverside Condo**.
- The next meeting of the Ministry Group will be in January.

**Christian Education** Judi Coats, Moderator



## Adult Education Angel Series Begins

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| October 23  | <b>Angels: Love</b><br>Discussion led by Roland Geddes         |
| October 30  | <b>Angels: Prayer</b><br>Discussion led by Anne Sydnor         |
| November 6  | <b>Angels: Forgiveness</b><br>Discussion led by Barbara Cullom |
| November 13 | <b>Angels: Doubt</b><br>Discussion led by Jeff Orrick          |
| November 20 | <b>Angels: Guidance</b><br>Discussion led by Kim Sydnor        |



### **A Time for Singing, and Smiling, and Photos**

Joe Hilling surprised Bill when he brought his country music band down from Shenandoah University to serenade Granddaddy at his retirement party held on the lawn of the Worship Center

### **Mission and Outreach**

Sherry Jones, Moderator

- The Peacemaking Offering was \$885.00; the 5 cents a meal offering was \$228.79
- Members of the Ministry Group volunteered to take responsibility for seeing that certain activities of the Ministry were carried forth:
  - ✓ 5 cents a meal- Randy Sisk (children will be encouraged to take up this offering)
  - ✓ Christmas Mother Angel Tree- Beth Perry and Lucy Collins
  - ✓ Christmas Joy Offering- Ralph Poling
  - ✓ Souper Bowl- all will help in coordinating the soup lunch on February 5. Randy promises more of his superb chili!
  - ✓ On-going stamp collection- Lucy Collins
  - ✓ Contact for *Operation Inasmuch*- John Hardy and Lucy Collins
- John Hardy, Ralph Poling, and Sherry Jones volunteered to help if called to unload the USDA food trucks that come to the Community services.
- The next meeting date is Friday, November 11 at 10:30.

### **Church Growth**

Thanks to Robbie Tavenner who has agreed to serve as Moderator of this Ministry.

### **OTHER CONCERNS**

1. Stewardship Chairman is Roland Geddes. October is Stewardship education month. Commitment Sunday is November 6.
2. November 6- Ministry Group Asking Budgets due into the Church Treasurer
3. Discussion of New Church Development Process. All members of the Steering Committee plan to meet with the NCD Purpose Group in Tappahannock on November 9.
4. Discussion of TPC unity during this transition time
5. Remind all Moderators that all actions must be ratified by the Steering Committee before announcing plans.

**Set your clocks back one hour Saturday night, November 6 . Men, you have an extra hour to get ready for the 8:30 breakfast the women will be serving.**



**Ministry Group Asking Budgets due to the Treasurer November 6**

# I Was Just Thinking....



(10/21/11) I drove in yesterday morning from the Northern Neck to Elkridge, MD. I left about 4:45 am and even the traffic reports then are low key, barring some traffic/infrastructure snafu.

So when WTOP played it's musical "heads up" of "Breaking News", I didn't expect any great "good news." WTOP was reporting the fall of the city Sidhe, Moammar Gaddafi's home town. A bit later, the unconfirmed report that Gaddafi had been injured was given, and then an unconfirmed report that he had died. By now, of course, this has been confirmed.

Now I like to think of myself as a decent Christian person, or at least one who tries, but when I heard those words I experienced an odd "Yes!" (with fist pump) moment - "a new arrival in Hell!" (I do believe hell exists, but I also think that very few people are actually there, given God's penchant for forgiveness. I kind of imagine Hitler, Genghis Khan, Pol Pot, Timothy McVeigh, etc., some of the real BAD examples of humanity rattling around in an ugly, nasty place, thoroughly sick of one another.)

Yes, with my Biblical background I know full well that "There is more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over 99 who have no need of repentance." Yes, one of the brigands crucified with Jesus was told that he would be more than remembered by Jesus, he would be welcomed home by Jesus. But I DO hope that people who made their own co-citizens and co-religionists miserable, don't get a welcome.

And I regretted the loss of the 20 and 30-something version of myself that would have hoped that Gaddafi did repent, did stop at times and question the choices he was making, did wonder if Allah would be really glad to receive his soul.

And I regretted, and continue to do so, that I was glad to hear that news and that I feel relieved that one fewer Bad Guy walks this world.

And I wonder, what does that make me?

Barbara

*Ed. Note: Barbara Cullom is an ordained pastor in the United Church of Christ. An important part of our Tappahannock Presbyterian Church family, she sings in the choir, teaches Sunday School on occasion, and this year serves as Moderator of the Worship and Music Ministry. Her personal thoughts are shared with permission.*



## STAMPS FOR MISSIONS

October 21, 2011

There have been a couple of times this year when I thought that Stamps for Missions was going to cease. Then several large boxes arrived and we were back in business of processing stamps. In August we had received small amounts of money from sale of the stamps that we had and I thought we would finish the year with the poorest returns in the last ten years. Then I got a note from a stranger who went to a meeting of Abingdon Presbytery and saw a flyer about stamps. She had worked some years ago in the Admissions Office at Va. Tech. She had seen such pretty stamps on many envelopes and she began to save them. She wrote, "I believe that I was saving the stamps for you." Strangers from N. Dakota, Oregon, and Colorado began sending stamps. How did they hear about Stamps for Missions? A lady in Harrisonburg had stamps that her grandmother had saved and she didn't know what to do with them. She called someone in Richmond and they told her to call me. Result: A nice large box of older **commemoratives**. A stamp Club member from Lynchburg contacted me that she had large boxes of stamps to donate, could we make arrangements to pick them up.

Large or small stamps began to come in from all directions of our U.S. and we have stayed more than busy. The result **we have to date received \$5200.59 from the sale of stamps**. We have sent **\$1000.00 to the theological seminary which was facing emergency needs, \$900.00 for scholarships. We have paid \$1000.00 for the publishing of three books to help in women's work: Circle Bible lessons, Children's Bible stories, How to do women's work**. We have helped with **medical expenses for a pastor's wife**. The evangelism department has indicated that the greatest need right now is for a **small hymnal of selected hymns** which congregations can use. (We don't have the funds to reprint the larger hymnal). Money for the smaller edition goes out this weekend. We have distributed **hundreds of Bibles over the past three years**.

Hunger and unemployment are the two major issues right now. Parents do not have the money to feed their families nor do they have money to pay for the children to be in school. The government has not paid teachers, so the teachers have to collect money from the children. Families are living hand to mouth with what they can gather in the forest or harvest from their gardens during the rainy season.

Elections are to be held this month. Already there is tension, fear, and attempts to eliminate the opposition to the present officials Please remember Congo and her people in your prayers. Blessings, **Peggy Reinhold**



## Fall is a Busy Season for the Mission and Outreach Ministry

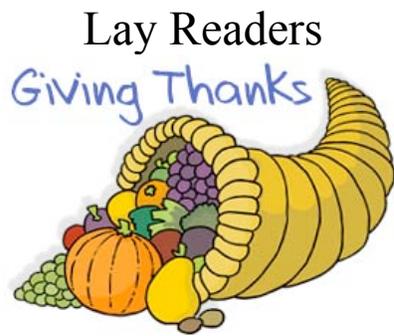
The Mission and Outreach Ministry Group met in the fellowship room of the church at 10:30 a.m. on October 5, 2011. Present were: Ralph Poling, Randy Sisk, Lucy Collins, Alice Roye, John Hardy, and Sherry Jones. Excused were Beth Perry, Kathy Hughes, and Janice Canby. The meeting was opened and closed with prayer.

- **Peacemaking Offering**—\$885 was received this year
- **The 5 cents a meal offering** was \$228.79 this month. Randy Sisk is taking responsibility for reminding people each month. We will again ask some of the youth to pass the basket for the 5 Cents a Meal Offering.
- **Angel Tree**- we will still have the Angel Tree but instead of receiving names of the children of incarcerated care-givers the names will come from the Christmas Mother data bank. Those children, along with other referrals, will go into the bank and be assigned to organizations and individuals who want to see that these children get a Christmas. This will make a more complete collection of names and will prevent some children from being gifted several times at the exclusion of others.
- **Christmas Joy Offering**—the offering will be taken on December 18. Ralph Poling will oversee this offering and will make sure the bulletin inserts are used on appropriate Sundays and a Minute for Mission regarding this offering is done.
- **Souper Bowl**—The Mission and Outreach Ministry sponsors the soup lunch that is served on Super Bowl Sunday. People bring canned food and money on that particular day which this year is February 5. This is also the kick-off for our participation in *Operation Inasmuch*.
- Lucy announced from the ECT meeting that often the **USDA truck arrives at the Community Services unannounced** and a few women are on site to unload the van. John Hardy, Ralph Poling, and Sherry Jones offered to be called when that occurs and they are usually available to go down and help offload.

- John Hardy will be the ***Operation Inasmuch Church Contact***, and he and Lucy will begin to collect names of those interested in being team leaders for this year. The soup supper for the organization of these leaders will be on January 9, 2012.
- Lucy plans to have a November feature on the **on-going collection of stamps that are sold for African missions**. This will bring the congregation up to date on this mission to other parts of the world. (See article)
- Lucy will also announce the **resource information corner** located in the Fellowship Room which will provide information on mission opportunities and community resources. Nearly every ECT meeting the speaker for the evening has hand-outs about their organization and resources. Information about missions such as the Heifer Project and Wells projects can be found back there as well. Since our church is a leader in *Operation Inasmuch* we don't expect that everyone will do everything, but some people like to do these foreign mission projects especially at Christmas time in honor of or memory of a loved one.
- And speaking of Christmas gifts- don't forget the peanuts that are sold from Zuni. They make wonderful gifts and Christmas snacks. Look for the information on the resource table.

**Next Meeting Date: Friday, November 11 at 10:30 a.m.**





## November and December

November    6 Sherry Jones  
                  13 Robbie Tavenner  
                  20 Scott Orrock  
                  27 Tyler Sanders

December    2 Scott Martin  
                  9 Anne Sydnor  
                  16 Kim Sydnor  
                  23 Chrissy Orrock  
                  30 Sherry Jones

Greeter     John Hardy  
 Ushers     Jo Dowdy, Tyler Sanders

Greeter     Brad Coats  
 Ushers     Randy Sisk and Lucy Collins

## Happy November Birthday to

Betty Geddes	2	Scott Orrock	14
Kathy Hughes	17	Ayden Pepin	23



### To Our Church Family

Pat and I have no words to adequately express our joy over last Sunday's worship and luncheon. It was inspiring to hear you sing with me some of my favorite hymns. And didn't the Joshua 1 passage fit in beautifully to help us celebrate the gift of land for TPC voted into reality the day before at the POJ meeting. Matthew's passage about the "rejected stone becoming the chief cornerstone" (Jesus) allowed you and me to look forward to a first phase building for a Christ-centered mission headquarters. Didn't the choir sing so very well in perfect timing a difficult but meaningful hymn, "God Is Working His Purpose Out As Year Succeeds to Year." Barbara gave a beautiful blessing which brought tears to both our eyes. I read it several times a day and weep with joy all over again. It is in God we trust in all things for he supplies the strength for our faith journey.

Pat counted 90 people at TPC Sunday - standing room only. Kathy Hughes said she hopes to see that many in regular worship some day each Sunday. Twenty-one friends from Campbell Church came to celebrate with us. They will return home with glowing reports of our worship and work. My family from Philadelphia was there in force. My grandson, Joe Hilling, a graduate student in music engineering, sound and reproduction from Shenandoah University, surprised me with his folk band. He had been apologizing the week before for booking a gig late Saturday night which would prevent his attending our festivities. And then he walked in during the organ prelude and I knew his gig was for me and Pat and our church family. The food for the luncheon was delicious and plentiful. My hat goes off to the cooks.

The Christmas tree with your hand-made ornaments is now aglow with white lights sitting in our bonus room over the 2 garages. This is where we spend most evenings with TV, computer, and our infamous one-owner dog, Autumn.

Thank you so much for a two Sunday celebration of our memorable six year ministry at TPC. It could not have been more festive. Please share this same God-given love you have given to Pat and me with your 1 year Transitional Pastor and your full-time installed pastor. I have always said it's the congregation that makes the pastor, not the other way around. Always remember that fact. God bless you all---and thanks so much.

# ESSEX CHURCHES TOGETHER

Representatives from 16 churches representing 7 denominations and different races met on September 27 for the regular monthly meeting held at Beale Courthouse. The group has outgrown the library! Members introduced each other by telling what was the favorite mission activity of their church.

Dawn Douglas, chair of the fundraising committee, reported \$350 was made by the bake sale and baskets for sale and raffle. Grace Baptist sponsored the August table, First Baptist Loretto sponsored the October table and the newest church to join ECT, First Union Baptist, will sponsor the table in November. Other fund raisers planned include a breakfast with Santa at Beale Baptist Church on December 3 from 8-11 AM. Tickets are \$5. A Pancake Breakfast at Applebees will be held March 1

*Operation Inasmuch* will be April 28 and 29 this year. The second date, Sunday, is included so that churches will see this as a mission week-end, incorporating mission in their morning service and then attending the OIAM closing service Sunday afternoon. January 9 will be the Soup Supper at which time Church Contacts and Team Leaders will receive training. It is important to attend even if the job has been done before; things change. John Hardy will be the TPC church contact along with Lucy Collins. No team leaders from TPC have been identified yet, although Kathy Hughes again heads up the Core Planning Team.

Social Services still wants children's books to put in the waiting room and then to give to the child when they leave. This is very popular!

School clothes and school supplies can still be given to Community Services so they can continue to equip children who need help

Coats and gloves are needed by Community Services now, especially for children. Although St. Timothy's is a regular contributor of these items, more can be used

Ellen Baker, Christmas Mother, said referrals are being taken now and a central data bank is being developed. The procedure for churches to apply for families to gift will be coming out shortly. (see separate article).

*Note: I will be going back to school in the spring and would like some help with ECT. Please see me if you would take a turn at going to the meetings and reporting back to TPC. You'll love it! Lucy Collins*

**Tappahannock Presbyterian Church**  
**1924 Tappahannock Boulevard**  
**P. O. Box 983**  
**Tappahannock, VA 22560**  
**The Rev. Dr. William Morris, pastor**  
**(804) 443-9977**

