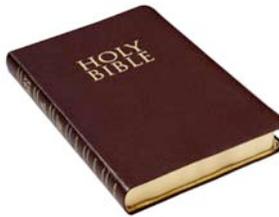


# Wee Kirk Gazette

Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

February 2012



CYCLE B  
FEBRUARY LECTIONARY  
For the Lord's Day

2/5 5<sup>TH</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
Isaiah 40: 21-31; Ps. 147:1-11, 20c;  
1 Cor. 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

2/12 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after epiphany  
2 Kings 5:1-14; Ps. 30; 1 Cor. 9:24-  
27; Mark 1:4-45



2/19 Transfiguration of the Lord  
2 Kings 2:1-12; Ps. 50:1-6; 2 Cor. 4:  
3-6; Mark 9:2-9

2/26 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent  
Gen. 9:8-17; Ps. 25:1-10; 1 Peter  
3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

## Pastor's Page

### LEAPING INTO THE FUTURE!

#### A BANNER YEAR FOR TAPPAHANNOCK PRESBYTERIAN

Once every four years February has twenty-nine days...and what an exciting time to have an extra day to serve God as part of his family in Tappahannock! From Groundhog Day (2nd), to the Souper Bowl of Caring (5th), to the Valentine Brunch (12th), to the Presbytery of the James' first meeting of 2012, to the Pancake Supper/Ash Wednesday service (21st), this month is a whirlwind of activity (yes, I know – “whirlwind” may be overstating it a bit for Groundhog Day, especially if the groundhogs don't decide to wake up). But there are great things going on at TPC – bring your family...bring your friends...bring your friends' friends!

#### PRESBYTERY MEETING IN RICHMOND

On Saturday the 18th at the POJ meeting at Grace Covenant Church the New Church Development Purpose Group will recommend to Presbytery that TPC proceed with the chartering process under the guidance of the Administrative Committee. Pray for the Presbytery.

#### OUR SIGN IS UP AT THE BUILDING SITE

A number of years ago I was driving regularly along a rural road in tidewater Virginia. For a year or so there was a large sign on a heavily wooded lot that boldly proclaimed, “FUTURE SITE OF THE CHURCH OF VICTORIOUS CHAMPIONS”. Eventually, the sign came down and nothing has yet been built there. The name always bothered me, even though I'm sure it was well intended. Jesus came to save the losers and the lost, which to some degree describes us all without Him.

The Iona Community in Scotland makes frequent use of the hymn “Come Host of Heaven's High Dwelling Place” that includes the following verse:

*Here may the losers find their worth, the strangers find a friend,  
Here may the hopeless find their faith, and aimless find an end.*

I believe you've already built this kind of church in many people's hearts. Let's pray we build the one with walls with the same spirit.

*John*

# Steering Committee Highlights

January 17, 2012

## COMMUNICATIONS

- Packet sent to Administrative Commission including last quarter Minutes and membership statistics.
- Annual report sent to Presbytery Of the James (POJ)
- Statement of Intent (\$10,407.00 undesignated; total \$15,328) sent to POJ
- Packet sent to New Church Development (NCD) Purpose Group
- Received thank you letter from Charlie Layne, Antioch Baptist Church, for donation to their food bank
- Letter sent to TPC congregation informing them of the budget for the coming year.
- Sent welcome letter to Rev. John Turner
- Received letter of transfer for Mary Wigmore and Kathleen Quigley from Zion United Methodist Church of Clarksboro, New Jersey
- Sent thank you to St. Andrews for their donation of \$1500.
- Sent letter to Mel Meadows, landlord, informing him of purchase of land and saying we would like to continue our lease through the third quarter (September) of 2013.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

- In the absence of the Treasurer Emerson Hughes referred to the January 2012 letter to the congregation which stated " Income for 2011 was \$164,495.00 and actual expenses were \$118,388. Total income designated for development fund in 2011 is \$26,624. The 2012 budget is \$133,993 against an anticipated income of \$127,950. This is a \$6,043 shortage which is anticipated to be overcome this year. If necessary it will be supplemented by the development fund."
- The Memorial Fund has \$5,936.88.

## PASTORAL CARE CONCERNS

Those having surgery and other special needs were lifted in prayer. Rev. John Turner (Pastor John) visited Judi Coats at St. Mary's Hospital. Other visits he has made in the 2 weeks he has been here include Roland and Betty Geddes. John Norton, Edith Lawyer, Lorraine Gustafson, Nancy Robinson, Cindy Glass, Floyd and Jo Dowdy, Randy Sisk and Lucy Collins, Susan and Bill Spage, Kathy and Em Hughes.

## PRESBYTERY REPORT

- The next Presbytery meeting will be held 9:00 AM February 18 at Grace Covenant in Richmond.
- Susan Spage is the elected commissioner. The Steering Committee is encouraged to attend and Pastor John will explain the procedure to occur at Presbytery regarding the TPC request for charter and will encourage as many of the congregation as possible to attend. Car pooling will be from the church 7:30 AM to get there for the 9:00 AM registration.

## NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT PURPOSE GROUP

- The January 11 visit to NCD Purpose Group by the Steering Committee and Rev. John Turner and Rev. Tom Coye was discussed. The outcome of the meeting was that the NCD will recommend to Presbytery the TPC be chartered with 50 people at the discretion of the Administrative Commission.
- The Steering Committee discussed for quite a time what "evangelism" means and what our plan is. It is agreed that we have a plan regarding *Essex Churches Together* but it needs to be better articulated. Rev. Tom Coye will be consulted on this further. The Steering Committee agreed with the statement "Evangelism is leading people to Christ by how we live."

## ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION

- Because of the new charge potentially given to the Commission by Presbytery it was decided to hold off on the annual dinner meeting for the time being. Rev. John Turner and Rev. Tom Coye will be meeting to discuss the plan from here.
- A committee from the Steering Committee will work with the Commission on the financial plan and evangelism plan.

## OLD BUSINESS

- The **Church Site sign** is in place, put there in 33 cold degrees by about a dozen hardy souls. Em Hughes says the sign can be unbolted from the top and bottom and slipped out the frame if there is a threat of damage from high winds. Everyone complimented him on the lovely sign and hard work. It was recommended that the picture of the church sign (without people) be submitted with the article for the *Vine*.
- **Task Force Report on Gathering Information-** report given by Susan Spage. Moderators have been informed of request to ask their ministry groups about wishes for the new building in order to carry out their goals and responsibilities. These reports will come into Susan. The second part consists of 4 sessions with the whole congregation to be held during Sunday School time, following fellowship, beginning February 26. "Discerning God's Plan for TPC" will be led by Em Hughes, Pastor John, and Alice Roye. The Steering Committee approved this plan.
- **Personnel Committee Report-** Jill Robertson distributed Minutes from the Personnel Committee meeting recommending Bekah Hughes-Davis be hired as Administrative Assistant, 12 hours a week at \$15.00 an hour. She is being oriented by Louise Poling and Alice Roye. The Steering Committee approved this appointment.
- **Selection of members of the Facilities Task Force and Funding Task Force** was discussed. Moderators will begin appointing members soon.

## MINISTRY REPORTS

### 1. Worship and Music

Barbara Cullom, Moderator

- Preaching schedule:  
Rev. John Turner will preach each Sunday as called Transitional Pastor. He requested the week of June 22-30 off and this was granted by the Steering Committee. Pulpit Supply will be arranged for June 24 .
- The Steering Committee approved the *Ash Wednesday* Service to occur just after the *Shrove Tuesday* Pancake Supper on February 21.
- A *Good Friday* service will be discussed at the upcoming Worship Ministry meeting on January 22.

### 2. Congregational Care and Fellowship

Susan Spage, Moderator

- Men will serve the women a Valentine brunch on February 12. Dave Canby is in charge of this.
- The Ministry Group is planning the Pancake Supper to be held Shrove Tuesday, February 21.
- Susan Spage will coordinate the Community Lenten Lunch with Rappahannock Christian Church. She says the menu will substitute "Nell's recipe for ham salad" for the traditional chicken salad.

### 3. Christian Education

Judi Coats, Moderator

- Anne Sydnor has agreed to be Interim Moderator until Judi is able to resume her duties. Anne will talk with Pastor John about securing a children's teacher from Presbyterian School of Christian Education.
- "Discerning God's Plan for TPC" will be the Lenten Study this year.
- Anne reminds everyone to use the Lenten Study found in this month's *Presbyterian Today* entitled "A Lenten Pilgrimage" as their personal guide for daily prayer during this Lenten season.

### 3. Mission and Outreach

Sherry Jones, Moderator

- Joy Gift receipt- \$847.
- Souper Bowl luncheon is being coordinated by Janice Canby. Lucy Collins will introduce the 2012 *Operation Inasmuch*.
- TPC provided gifts for 12 children of incarcerated caregivers and an additional family known to Sherry Jones the week before Christmas
- Discussion was held about features wanted by this ministry when the new building is being planned.
- St. Andrews is going to work on another shower trailer for a mission site. Janice Canby will find out more about that.
- Treasurer Dave Jones will check with Sandy Baytops about when Community Services could best use an additional monetary donation from TPC. In response to a request by the Perry family a motion was passed to authorize disbursement of funds to two area rescue squads. See article.

## 5. Church Growth

Robbie Tavenner, Moderator

- Bill Spage has prepared a list of names and addresses of those people living in neighborhoods adjacent to the new property. That will be turned over to Robbie and the Church Growth ministry.
- Pastor John will write follow-up notes to visitors
- Mary Wigmore and Kathy Quigley will join the church by transfer of membership on January 22.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Pastor John will be in Tappahannock usually two days of the week. These will vary depending upon his meetings and commitments here. He will not be here on Monday nights as this is his regular rehearsal with the Richmond Philharmonic Orchestra.
2. The Constituting Covenant, the petition to charter, has been prepared by Sherry Jones and signing will begin January 29.
3. Jill Robertson will develop a flow sheet to indicate the timeline for activities of TPC within the year. This will include such goals as developing a financial plan and an evangelism plan, becoming chartered by the Administrative Commission, selecting an architect, breaking ground for Phase I building. This will be displayed in the fellowship room.



Tappahannock Presbyterian members will begin signing the Constituting Covenant (petition for charter by the Presbytery of the James) January 29.

The signing will begin during the worship service with the first 10 people who were with the church from the very beginning. Members will continue to sign during the Fellowship time and the document will be taken to those not present for their signatures.



Beth and Andy Perry give thanks to two rescue squads for saving the life of their son, Mark.

"I volunteer with Mattaponi Volunteer Rescue Squad but live in King William Volunteer Fire and Rescue's service area," says Beth. "I would like to raise some money that can be split between the two agencies, to King William VFR for coming to our rescue without delay, and to Mattaponi for providing (I received it free!) (CPR) training needed to help Mark when he needed it.

"If you are able to contribute, any amount is appreciated and will be combined with donations from us and our families to be presented to the squads after the first of the year, when Mark can pay them a visit and will be better able to enjoy all the fire trucks and ambulances as he likes to see them--from the outside, and feeling just fine!"

If you would like to contribute you may make your donation to Tappahannock Presbyterian Church with memo: honor of Mark Perry. Treasurer Dave Jones will see that they are sent to the appropriate places.



Sunday, February 5, Janice Canby is again coordinating the Souper Bowl luncheon immediately after worship service. The now-traditional menu is Randy Sisk's chili and Janice's chicken noodle soup. Mrs. Campbell does not help with this home-made soup in the least, although everyone is reminded to bring at least one can of soup (Campbell's will be ok for this, as well as other brands) and a dollar to go to this PC-USA (Presbyterian Church USA) initiative to fight hunger in our community.

This year Presbytery of the James is having a weigh-in and the number of pounds of soup collected at each church will be entered into their website along with the dollar amount. Our youth will be in charge of weighing the proceeds on a scale to be brought to church that day and putting the results on the website.



January 7 was a blustery 33<sup>o</sup> when the hearty crew gathered in prayer together and then set out to dig holes in what had been a soy bean field only a few weeks earlier. Floyd and Jo Dowdy were on hand to cheer on the laborers. “We came to the first meeting at Ferebees in 1995,” said Jo. “We were going to see this sign go up, in spite of the weather!”

Emerson Hughes coordinated the development of the sign, approved the design, and built the posts. There were plenty of post hole diggers (as Bill Smith said, “There were lots of PhD’s around that day”) and everyone took a turn with digging, lifting, holding, measuring, and digging some more. Linda Ball and Barbara Cullom worked right along beside the men with the heavy lifting and digging. John Hardy and Ralph Poling took their turns. Jill Robertson was there to photograph this historic event.



Matt Jones and daughter Sydney were there to help. Sydney and Shamika tried out the “playground” as they raced around the partially trimmed area. Em is overseeing the next step, that of coordinating with the site engineer and VDOT to see that a culvert is built to support an entrance to the property for cars and people. Excitement mounts as people have ideas of what can be done there in the way of assembly even before the building is constructed. Neighbors in the nearby neighborhoods will be visited and invited to join TPC as we embark on this next phase of our life as a Presbyterian congregation.

# Discerning God's Plan for TPC

A Lenten Study to be held following worship on four consecutive Sundays. Everyone is urged to attend. You'll see why.

## February 26

### Session 1 ***Meet Tappahannock Presbyterian Church***

For the past few months your Steering Committee has been meeting with the New Church Development Purpose Group of the Presbytery to inform them of the status of TPC, the hopes and dreams of having our own house of worship, and where we want to go now. In those discussions the subject of chartering has come up, and with great fervor and advocacy for this small but mighty congregation TPC has been introduced by booklets, hand-outs, and a video. At the same time the Steering Committee served as Search Committee for a Transitional Pastor, and completing the Church Information Form served as one more piece in the self-study that has been going on. All of this, and more, will be shared with the congregation in this session.

Em Hughes, Moderator

## March 4

### Session 2 ***Who Are We Now?***

In 1995 when people in Essex County first gathered to start a Presbyterian Church everyone came with preconceived ideas of a Presbyterian Church based on differing experiences in other Presbyterian churches, large and small, rural and metropolitan, long-established and recently formed. In this session we will examine who we are, as a body of Christ, in relationship to God and in relationship to our mission. How will we of Tappahannock Presbyterian answer the call to go forth and make disciples of all men?

We will explore what the church means to you. Who is Jesus? "Who do say that I am?" How does that view affect the kind of church we are? What do we, as a congregation, believe?

Rev. John Turner, Moderator

## March 11

### Session 3 ***Where is Our Mission field? Who Will We Serve?***

In November 2011 the NCD Purpose Group visited Tappahannock/ Essex County and the Steering Committee members introduced them to the community- in WalMart, in Lowes, in local restaurants, in driving tours around residential areas.

Concurrently the Church Growth Ministry has been looking at where our present members live and what areas are "fertile soil" for membership. They are considering the neighborhoods next to our new 10-acre home on Kino Road.

And at the same time all of the Ministry groups have been looking at their goals and responsibilities and how the construction and planning of the new building will help them carry out their mission. Will the space be used for a basket ball court, or a concert hall, or place for Bingo and Book Reviews? How big should the kitchen be, and how many people do we expect to feed? Does our mission plan include over-night accommodations for youth, or for shelter in emergency? All of this information will be shared in this session. There will be methods for continuing input from everyone.

Alice Roye, Moderator

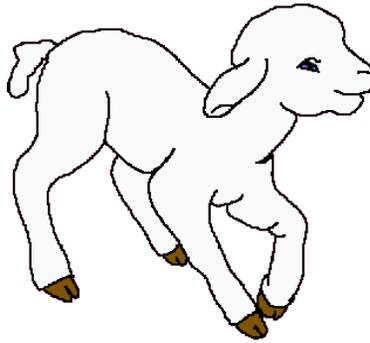
## March 18

### Session 4 ***What are our Building Options?***

What are some ways our all-purpose building can be both a worshipful sanctuary and a purposeful mission center? What are some ideas for design? What does the congregation want the building to look like? There may be an assignment prior to this session where people draw on paper the vision for their church, from Phase 1  completed building.

Em Hughes, Moderator

# March and April Worship Leaders



## Layreaders

March	4	Deb Booze	April	1	Chrissy Orrock
	11	Janice Canby		8	John Hardy
	18	Jeff Orrock		15	Kim Sydnor
	25	Tyler Sanders		22	Robbie Tavenner
				29	Beth Perry

Greeter Herb Sebren  
Ushers Bill and Vivian Smith

Greeter Anne Sydnor  
Ushers Chuck and Betty Dyer

## Happy March Birthday to

Kathy Quigley	3	Carys Perry	16
Dave Canby	9	Edith Lawyer	30
Anne Sydnor	14	Barbara Cullom	30
Carys Perry	16		
Edith Lawyer	30		
Barbara Cullom	30		



Pray for each of these people on their birthday.

### ***Within Our Church Family***

It was especially exciting to have church members introducing their family as they joined our TPC family on February 12. Linda Ball and Barbara Cullom have been active friends of the church for several years. Anna Mae Sanders has come for about year with her son Tyler and Virginia Hillyer has been coming with her daughters Sue Hillyer and Linda Ball. Matt Jones has been well represented for years by daughter Sydney and his parents Dave and Sherry. Welcome All!

Please add these people to your Directory:

Virginia Hillyer- 550 Ware Avenue Tappahannock, 22560 443-3533

Matt Jones- 665 River Place Dunnsville 22454 212-8902

Bekah will be making an update sheet for your Directory so if there are changes in any contact information call her at church or leave a message- 443-9977.

We continue to keep Judi Coats, Bill and Pat Morris, Margaret Ryland, Barbara's sister Gayle in our prayers for healing.



Tappahannock Presbyterian Church is launching a membership drive, inviting all who do not now have a church home to visit and consider becoming a charter member. The church presence has been known in Tappahannock since 1996.

Tappahannock Presbyterian is one step closer to becoming chartered within the next few months. On January 11 the TPC Steering Committee, along with the Rev. John Turner and the Rev. Tom Coye, met with the New Church Development Purpose Group at the Presbytery of the James office in Richmond. The outcome of that meeting was that the NCD Purpose Group will recommend to the Presbytery that TPC be chartered by the Administrative Commission, acting on behalf of Presbytery, when the requirements for a financial plan and an evangelism plan have been met. This is a highly unusual recommendation given the usual requirement for membership is 75 and TPC has 53 on its roll at present. This does not negate the need to increase membership; in fact it underscores the necessity to increase membership so that Tappahannock Presbyterian can proceed with its plans to build phase 1 of a church plant as well as support a full-time NCD pastor and support staff.

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