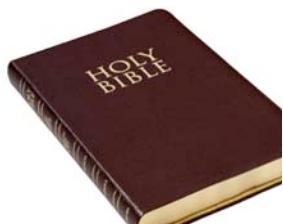


Wee Kirk Gazette



CYCLE B DECEMBER LECTORY

12/ 2 Jeremiah 33: 14-16, (Psalms 25: 1-10), I Thessalonians. 3: 9 – 13M Luke 21: 25-36

Sermon: *Jesus Is Coming*
The Rev. Dr. John Turner

12/9 - Malachi 3:1-4, Luke 1: 68-79,
Philippians. 1: 3-11
Luke 3: 1-6

Sermon: *Dreaming Dreams*
The Rev. Dr. John Turner

12/16 - Zephaniah. 3: 14-20,
Isaiah. 12: 2-6, Philip. 4: 4-7
Luke 3: 7-18

Sermon: *Like Father, Like Son*
The Rev. Dr. John Turner

12/23 **Lessons and Carols**

12/30 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26
Colossians 3:12-17
Luke 2: 41-52

Sermon: *Searching For Jesus*
The Rev. Dr. John Turner

Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

December 2012

Pastor's Page

A MONTH AND A HALF OF SUNDAYS

December 2012 marks a full year that I have shared with you Christian ministry through the place and the people known as Tappahannock Presbyterian Church. It has been an exciting year indeed! This will be the first Christmas TPC has a Session in place and fully operational. It will also be the first Christmas in eight years without your beloved pastor, brother in Christ, and friend, the Rev. Dr. William S. Morris. Last Christmas, Bill sent me a shepherd's crook tree ornament that he made, reminding me that I was to be your shepherd in the coming year. Bless him. Bless Pat. Bless you.

We will also miss Margaret, Lorraine, and John this Christmas. Remember Robert and Sims Ryland (Margaret's sons), Sherry Jones and family (Lorraine's daughter) and Ethel Norton and family (John's wife) especially this month. And for all of you, who count Christmases from the last one a spouse, child or other loved one spent with you, bless you – bless your memories of them.

THE ADVENT OF JESUS THE CHRIST

Yes, indeed, may God bless all our memories of loved ones that have left this life before us. But Advent is the season of new birth! Jesus coming into the world the same way all of us did. And it will be a virgin birth, as the birth of truth into the world of human beings is always a virgin birth, coming directly from God, and not from anything devised by us. If Advent is a time of anticipation, then it will last for us well beyond this month as we anticipate ground breaking at the new building site and, hopefully, a building functional before this time next year. And as your Pastor Nominating Committee continues its diligent work, you will be anticipating an installed pastorate to commence sometime in the coming year. Exciting time indeed! Enjoy them with all your heart, mind, soul and strength. And though my name isn't Tim, and though no one in memory has called me "Tiny", "God bless us everyone", anyway!

Blessings,

John

November Session Highlights

COMMUNICATIONS

- Letter from Carson Rhyne, Stated Clerk of Presbytery of the James, giving information about what Presbytery does for churches and how combined efforts from churches can accomplish more than individual churches
- Email from Campbell church Community Mission Program asking for specific expenditures which they can pay. This will be addressed by Emerson Hughes upon his return to the country.
- A thank-you for the \$250 contribution from TPC to the *Christmas Mother* program.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- There has been no receipt of funds from supporting churches thus far this year. These checks usually come at the end of the year. In addition, there are pledges that have not been paid as of October. This results in a variance of \$12,553 from expected income.
- At the end of October the Memorial Fund has \$11,512.22.
- Capital Campaign has received \$17,875 so far. \$43,375 was pledged for 2012.
- Stewardship – Eleven commitments were received November 18, pledge Sunday. The budget is made up from pledges, so this information is vital. Total of 22 pledges is anticipated.
- Asking budget is almost completed. A letter will go out to the congregation January 6 informing them of the budget that was approved at the December 20 Session meeting.

SUMMARY OF THE 82nd MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF THE JAMES

- Three new ministers welcomed, a candidate examined and approved for ordination, candidate for ministry received in POJ
- New Executive Director of Camp Hanover introduced,
- Established administrative commissions for four churches to work with congregations that have expressed their desire to withdraw from the PC(USA): Spotsylvania, Christ, St. Giles, and New Hanover.

- Recommendation of the Office Park Task Force, distributing from the proceeds of the sale of the old presbytery office property in Glen Allen about \$1,800,000, approved.
- Proposed 2013 budget discussed and partially approved.

PASTORAL CARE CONCERNS

Members with health concerns and other needs were discussed.

OLD BUSINESS

- Update from Pastor Nominating Committee: Pastor Information Forms (PIF) are being received and reviewed.
- Recruitment for Standing Committees ongoing. Duties for Personnel; Property, and Stewardship and Budget committees being prepared..
- Discussion of policies to enter into the TPC Operating Manual as required by the New Form of Government/ Book of Order.

MINISTRY REPORTS

1. Worship and Music

Barbara Cullom, Moderator

- Next communion Sunday, November 25
- Advent begins December 1. Rev. Turner will invite TPC families to read a short prayer and put the panel of the week on the Advent Banner.
- The Sisk-Collins wedding is December 8. Some greens will be placed in the worship area then.
- Greening of the Church is December 15
- December 23- Lessons and Carols- readers will be asked for that service and music will be coordinated with Kathy Hughes.
- Monday, December 24 there will be a prayer service at 6:00 PM.
- Nativity sets, one given by Mary Wigmore and one being made by Pat Morris, will be displayed. Barbara Cullom may share some from her own collection to be displayed during Fellowship time in December.

- 2. Congregational Care and Fellowship**
Robbie Tavenner, Moderator
- The Men's Breakfast was a success in November
 - Many people in the congregation are contributing to the wedding reception for Lucy and Randy on December 8.

3. Christian Education
Susan Spage, Moderator

- The Adult Christian Education "What Presbyterians Believe" will conclude November 25.

4. Mission and Outreach
Sherry Jones, Moderator

- 5 cents a meal is a little behind anticipated income. Children will pass a separate basket for this offering the 3rd Sunday of the month.
- Stop Hunger Now will be done during 2013 Inasmuch, with TPC leadership
- Christmas Mother- TPC has taken 11 children to provide specified gifts for. The tree will go up November 18 and the angels with information on them will be placed on the tree by November 25. Gifts are due by December 9.

NEW BUSINESS

- John Turner requested vacation the week of December 31-January 4. He will not miss any Sundays. Approved.
- Disposal of communion elements was discussed. After considerable discussion it was decided that the present system, that is throwing away left-over grape juice and allowing Randy and Lucy to take the bread back home with them is sufficient. They supply the bread and grape juice; Jill Robertson of Worship and Ministry, will check with them about reimbursement.
- Potential ways to conserve money: have generic bulletin covers rather than purchase bulletin covers (save \$89 a year); ask congregation who would be willing to receive newsletter by email; publicize address for Presbyterians Today on our website and TPC pay subscription price for that rather than receive it in the mail.

*By acclamation the treasurer, **Dave Jones**, was commended by the Session for his excellent service to TPC, particularly in his efforts to develop an operating budget (without pledges) and a building budget (without commitments from churches).*

- nFOG (New Form of Government) discussion, based on meetings John Turner attended last week. TPC Policy Manual to be completed as much as possible. An ad hoc committee will bring policy recommendations to the next Session meeting.
- The Session agreed with John Hardy that it would be advantageous to both our travelling pastor and the nursery if there were a recliner in the nursery. **A donation request is (hereby) being made in the newsletter.**

Or....How About Email?

Would you be willing to receive the *Wee Kirk* newsletter on your computer?

In an effort to be good stewards of our financial resources as well as paper it has been suggested the newsletter could be read online on the TPC website each month. You could print it off if you desire a hard copy. Many churches do this, sending an email around to let you know the newsletter is up.

Check out our website: www.tapchapel.org and look at past newsletters. They are posted every month.



Order Memorial Poinsettias

By December 14 please sign up in the Fellowship Room or call the office (443-9977). Give the name of the donor as well as the name of the person(s) in whose memory or honor they are being given. Price to be announced; it will be *around* \$6 per plant.

So Much to Remember this time of year...

- 1) Complete your 2012 pledge for the Capital Campaign
- 2) Complete your TPC pledge for 2012
- 3) Complete your Commitment Pledge for 2013



December 2012 and January 2013



Dec.	Scripture	Prayer of Dedication	Jan.	Scripture	Prayer of Dedication
2	Chrissy Orrock	Cindy Glass	6	Anne Sydnor	To Be Assigned
9	Tyler Sanders	John Hardy	13	Bill Smith	
16	Beth Perry	Jill Robertson	20	Randy Sisk	
23	Pat Morris	Anne Sydnor	27	Tyler Sanders	
30		Barbara Cullom			
Greeter	Bill Spage		Greeter	John Hardy	
Ushers	Randy and Lucy Sisk		Ushers	To Be Assigned	

Happy December Birthday to

Ralph Poling	3
Lucy Collins	6
Herb Sebren	9
Judi Coats	10
Peggy Crittenden	10
Chuck Dyer	12
Frank Rossi	25 (Mary Wigmore's son in the Navy)
Jessica Sisk	31



Church Family News

- ❖ Anna Mae Sanders has returned home. Hooray! Call before visiting, but someone will be there to answer the door.
- ❖ We are keeping family members of Barbara Cullom (sister Gayle), Janice Canby (sisters Tammy and Theresa), Susan Stephenson (father Albert Lindley) and Deb Booze (brother Emerson Saunders, mother Sarah Sanders, son Jeff Booze), and friends of Randy Sisk, in our prayers for healing and peace.
- ❖ Keep Cindy Glass in your prayers as doctors work to find causes for her ailments. Praise to God for Lucy's recovery from kidney infection.
- ❖ Kylee Kate Sisk was born on November 27, weighing in at 7 lbs and 5 oz . Kylee is the daughter of Brian Sisk and Heather Mason. Brian is Randy's son. Brother Dylan, 8 and sister Hannah, 7, recently paid us a visit at TPC. Baby Tempie Akers, Lucy and Randy's "older" new granddaughter, is doing well, up above 5 pounds, and has gone home to her parents.
- ❖ Nell Burrough is staying with Mary Hood, her daughter, in Nashville, for the winter months. We'll be happy to see her in the spring! Her address, meanwhile, will be c/o Mary Hood Burrough 1090 Gen. George Patton Road Nashville, TN 37221



Christmas Joy Offering

Whether providing financial assistance to current and former church workers and their families or enabling deserving students to attend Presbyterian-related racial ethnic colleges and schools, your generous gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering will bring Good News of Great Joy to the poor in circumstance or spirit.

At Year's End- So Much to be Thankful For

God's grace has been shown to us in bountiful measure this 2012. Through leadership, determination, and support from many sources Tappahannock Presbyterian Church was chartered in October. Dreams for our own worship building are closer to reality. Our missions have been many, our blessings many more. We now have the opportunity to show our thankfulness that we were spared the wrath of "Sandy" by giving to **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)**. You can write your check to **Tappahannock Presbyterian Church** and designate it in the memo for DR000148- hurricane relief.

Much about our church family could become taken for granted as talents are used from year to year. **Vivian** Smith and her "crew" faithfully lead Banana Bingo at the Essex House, and not only are games enjoyed but also visits. Vivian also quietly shares her artistic talents with seasonal changes on the bulletin board that greets us every Sunday. **Kathy** and **Em** Hughes give their talents to us in music, and so many other ways, and we are blessed for it. **Chuck** and **Betty** Dyer's gift of keeping the coffee cofers full, **John** Hardy's special delivery of the Rappahannock Times to our pastor each week, **Anne** Sydnor's watering of the flowers and sweeping the sidewalks, **Lucy** and **Randy** preparing the communion table, **Jill** Robertson and **Barbara** Cullom and **Herb** Sebren tending to cleaning the worship space. **Lynne** Orrock faithfully comes to care for any little ones who need attention during the morning service. Extraordinary culinary talents are shared at fellowship time each week. Leaders give their time in committees in our church, in Presbytery, and in community missions. We count on the smiles from **Johnny** Frischkorn and **Nell** Burrough to make our worship time complete.

God Has Blessed Us, Every One

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The Rev. Dr. John Turner, pastor
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