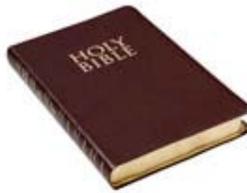


Wee Kirk Gazette

Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

July 2013



CYCLE C JULY LECTIONARY

July 7 7th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 5:1-14; Galatians 6:7-16;
Luke 10:1-11,16-20

“Reliance on God”

The Rev. Dr. John Turner

July 14 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7:7-17; Colossians 1:1-14;
Luke 10:25-37

“Anyone Who Needs You”

The Rev. Dr. John Turner

July 21 9th Sunday after

Pentecost



Amos 8:1-12; Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

“Catching Up with Jesus”

The Rev. Dr. John Turner

July 28 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 1:2-10; Colossians 2:6-15
Luke 11:1-13

“Learning to Pray”

The Rev. Dr. John Turner

Pastor’s Page

“Cousin America has run off with a Presbyterian parson!” So said England’s Prime Minister, Horace Walpole at the beginning of the American Revolution in 1776. Walpole was referring to the highly respected clergyman, professor and personal mentor recruited from Scotland to be the president of The College of New Jersey (now Princeton University) who had a profound influence on a number of framers of the constitution and founding fathers, especially James Madison. The Rev. Dr. John Witherspoon was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, a member of Congress and author of the Introduction to “The Form of Government and Discipline of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.” So this July we should remember this founding father often forgotten or never known by the majority of America’s citizens.

We should also be aware that July is now the month that many other countries celebrate their independence from someone or other:

Independence Day	Somalia	July 1
	Belarus	3
	U.S.A.	4
	Algeria	5
	Venezuela	
	Argentina	9
	South Sudan	
	Bahamas	10
Bastille Day	France	14
Independence Day	Colombia	20
	Belgium	21
	Maldives	26
	Peru	28
	Vanuatu	30

For Christians, every Sunday is when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the promise of independence from sin and death through him. Praise be to God!

Blessings,

John

Session Highlights

June 17, 2013

Communications:

- ❖ Note from the Rev. Starke Cauthorne of the Presbytery of the James thanking TPC for the April 2 donation (a quarterly donation made by our church) to help fight hunger. The money goes to regional food banks
- ❖ Greetings from Nell Burrough
- ❖ Acceptance from Rev. Claude Tate for the invitation to Zion Baptist to attend the Worship on the Riverside on September 15 .
- ❖ Card announcing "Seminary for a Day," a day at the seminary "Equipping Church Leaders for Ministry", which includes an inspiring keynote address and workshops on Saturday, September 28 from 9:00 AM to 1 PM. Registration \$25 by September 17. See POJ website for details.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Dave Jones has sent in an addendum to the General Assembly updating the construction cost information.

- ✓ The expected cost of the building, without the steeple \$942,652.
- ✓ Architect fees \$62,000
- ✓ Furnishings, site engineer, and well and septic systems \$44,626
- ✓ Estimated contingencies \$145,500.

Treasurer's Report for TPC through May

- ❖ Development Fund \$ 13,320
- ❖ CD's at Union First \$210,257
- ❖ Operating Account \$ 12,202
- ❖ Memorials \$ 12,207
- ❖
- ❖ Total assets \$247,986

It was noted that to date \$65,755 has been spent for building expenses, which includes fees for architect, surveying, and site licenses.

Presbytery Meeting Emerson Hughes, appointed Commissioner, and Susan Spage, Ruling Elder, will attend the POJ meeting in Blackstone on June 18.

News Flash

On June 18 the Presbytery of the James awarded to Tappahannock Presbyterian Church a gift of \$300,000, with an additional loan of \$50,000 if needed.

OLD BUSINESS

Building Committee

Emerson Hughes, chair, reported on the building progress.

- ✓ There was great celebration at the official Groundbreaking ceremony June 16
- ✓ The architect, contractors, and Emerson have gone over the specs for the building to determine where costs could effectively be reduced, a process called "Value Engineering." A decision approved by the Session is to forego the installation of a steeple for now but all supports and lightning protection will be in place in the roof when the time is ready.
- ✓ The motion was passed that the \$250,000 bond that would cost \$10,000 be omitted.
- ✓ A revised design for entrance and placement of the building is awaiting written approval from VDOT although verbal approval has been given. This revision was required because of lines from Verizon and Metrocast buried along Kino Road that conflicted with the initial entrance location.



Incorporation Update

Dave Jones reports that the State Corporation Commission has certified the incorporation of Tappahannock Presbyterian Church. The Trustees have been selected and a bank account will be set up for the Trust. Signers will be David Jones, Emerson Hughes, and Jill Robertson. One signer will be required for all amounts up to \$10,000 and 2 signers will be required for amounts above \$10,000.



Down by the Riverside Worship Sunday

Rev. Tate of Zion Baptist, Chance, has agreed to bring the message to the two congregations that will assemble at the home of Em and Kathy Hughes on September 15.

Session Retreat

After discussion it was decided

- ✓ Wait for the new permanent full-time minister to be a part of the retreat for both the Session and the Congregation
- ✓ Re-schedule the August 24 church planning retreat for when the new minister arrives; meanwhile ministry groups are to continue to plan activities a couple of months in advance
- ✓ Go ahead with the Session training on August 24. Rev. Turner contacted Camp Hanover to change the reservation to a smaller site- the Koinonia house.
- ✓ For Session training have 6 hours- 1 hour devoted to history of Presbyterianism, rest of the time devoted to Session responsibility for Worship as set forth in the Book of Order and an over-view of the Book of Order for the benefit of the new Session members elected in July.
- ✓ Training for Ministry Group Moderators will be scheduled as soon as possible. It was decided this should be a twice-a-year event, in July and January. Rev. Turner will contact Ministry Group Moderators to meet Sunday, June 30 after fellowship. Lunch will be provided. Session members will attend.

MINISTRY GROUP REPORTS

1. Congregational Care and Fellowship

Susan Spage reported there is some consideration of having a progressive lunch or Dutch treat lunch at a restaurant one Sunday in the summer.

2. Christian Education

Susan reported the study of the book of John is favored for the fall Christian Ed study

3. Mission and Outreach

Sherry Jones, Moderator

- ✓ Pentecost offering was \$740. 60% of this has been sent to the presbytery and 40% is for children in need. As there are no candidates for community children to send to camp it is recommended that this amount be sent to Camp Hanover to add to their scholarship fund. The Session supported this decision.
- ✓ 5 cents-a-meal offering during May was \$68. The offerings have been sent in to POJ for the quarter.
- ✓ TPC contributed baked goods and personnel to the ECT bake sale at the May Farmer's Market- \$400 was netted.
- ✓ Flyers are being distributed for people to have dinner at Applebees on the 4th Monday of the month- 10% of the meal cost will go to ECT for *Operation Inasmuch*.
- ✓ A thank-you note was received from the Rev. Katherine Todd for sending money which will allow her to rent a space for a July worship event in Carytown in Richmond.
- ✓ Banana Bingo continues the 3rd Thursday of the month at Essex House.
- ✓ A September Mission/ Fellowship Project is being planned for September 22. PCUSA mission projects will be featured. The presentation will be made immediately after the worship service and fellowship refreshments will be provided by Mission and Outreach Ministry Group.
- ✓ Additional information will be shared about the Intercept Summer Program to be held at Essex Intermediate School. Information will be received at the June ECT meeting.
- ✓ Attention was directed to the bulletin board which contains notices from ECT and other activities

NEW BUSINESS

1. Decorating/ Furnishing Committee



Moderator, Susan Spage, announced her committee thus far consists of Jill Robertson, Deb Booze, Barbara Cullom, and Vivian Smith. This committee will work with the building committee about décor and furnishings desired.

- a. The Memorial Committee, consisting of Alice Roye, John Hardy, and Pat Morris, will be consulted about possible use of memorial funds for items, particularly for
 - art to go in the glassed in area of the narthex
 - a pipe organ
 - the steeple.
- b. Art work in the glassed in area will be lighted and be a central part of attracting people to our house of worship.
- c. John Turner has

been in touch with George Payne and his wife who are renowned organ builders/ re-builders. They may have information about an organ that is

being replaced and could be refurbished to go into our worship space. It is possible a \$300,000 organ could be obtained for \$25,000-\$30,000. He was thanked by the Session for this gesture and encouraged to continue the dialogue with the Paynes.



2. Continuing with Fund-Raising

- ✓ A bulletin insert will be produced that includes the plans for the new church and the financial needs. It will include a picture of the front elevation as well as ground-breaking. It will be used not only in our church but sent to other potential supporting churches to request benefactors in our cause
- ✓ Em Hughes attended the Milden 150th anniversary representing TPC and accepted from them a check for \$5000. Alice Roye, Clerk, will send a thank-you note to them.
- ✓ Churches who have indicated they will send financial support were named and return visits to their sessions will be requested. The time for promised support is now.

2. Election of Elders this Summer

- a. Jill Robertson, moderator of the nominating committee, will contact the committee to begin work on establishing nominees for elder for the class of 2015. Sherry Jones and John Hardy complete their terms in 2013.
- b. A congregational meeting will be called for July 21. This stands as the first official announcement of this meeting.
- c. Training of elders will occur August 24
- d. Installation of elders will be in September.

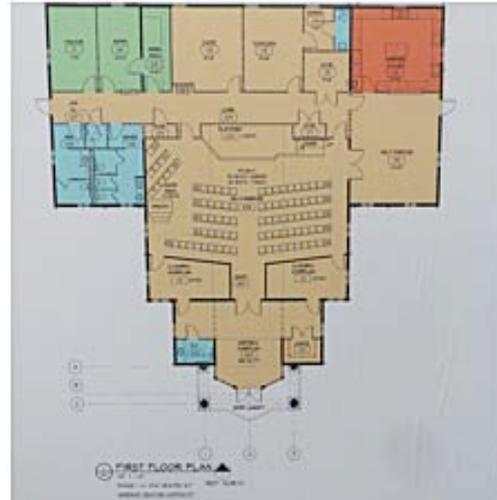
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Would you host a summer progressive luncheon course?



Contact Robbie Tavenner 317-0189 or Susan Spage 493-7483.

Your Fair Share?



The Dream is Coming True

At the June Session meeting there was discussion about the need for continuing fundraising, with the goal being \$450,000. This is the amount of loan that will be taken from the Church Loan company if necessary. It will be paid back as quickly as possible to prevent unnecessary interest rates, but ideally it wouldn't be borrowed at all, or at least not all of that amount.

Some TPC members have made generous commitments and will be helped along with their contributions by periodic statements from the Treasurer. It is helpful to have reminders periodically about the status, particularly if the commitment is over a 3-year period.

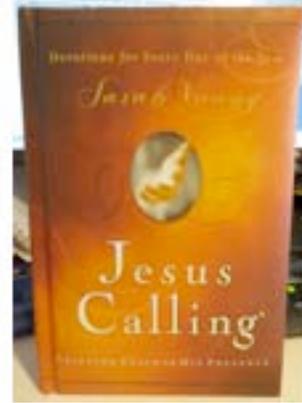
There was also discussion about the number of members who have not pledged anything yet. While the "campaign" was last year the need is on-going, and this is a gentle reminder that if you have not made your commitment to the building fund, this summer is the perfect time to do so

You may also have some ideas of gifts you would like to give. For example, there may be benefactors who would like to give the steeple (\$30,000), or the pipe organ (\$30,000) or the artwork that will go in the glassed in space over the door (\$30,000?). Perhaps you have a special interest in landscaping. While many cannot make a large donation there may be a particular area you would like to contribute to and have your name included as one of the donors to that particular furnishing. Susan Spage is heading up the Decorating and Furnishing Committee. Speak to her.

Sharing Thoughts

This year I have been enjoying a daily devotional book entitled Jesus Calling: Enjoying Peace in His Presence written by Sarah Young.

In her forward she states *"I had been writing in prayer journals for years but that was one-way communication: I did all the talking. I knew that God communicated with me through the Bible, but I yearned for more. Increasingly, I wanted to hear what God had to say to me personally on a given day. I decided to listen to God with pen in hand, writing down whatever I believed He was saying... This practice of listening to God has increased my intimacy with Him more than any other spiritual discipline, so I want to share some of the messages I have received... The messages have been written from Jesus' point of view; i.e., the first person singular always refers to Christ.... I have included Scripture references after each daily reading. As I listened to God, Bible verses or fragments of verses often came to mind. I have interwoven these into my messages...."*



As I look back over this past year it has been one of tremendous change for many of us at Tappahannock Presbyterian Church. We have had deaths in our own families, marriage, losses to our church family from people moving away, and several families are anticipating downsizing and moving to new residences. There have been tremendous changes for our church collectively as well. We have planned, and waited, and planned, and waited, and planned and waited some more. We have been unable to make things happen more quickly, but we have held each other up with the knowledge that things are working in God's time.

As we were recently reminded, change is not comfortable, or put another way we'd rather deal with devil we know than the devil we don't know. Building a new church will be a challenge for us. Sometimes now we are somewhat cramped with members and visitors during special occasions, and sometimes we have been too empty to be comfortable, There is a sense of uncertainty about filling up a new and larger space when our attendance has slacked off this summer for a variety of reasons.

I am not a patient person, as most of you know, but I have received support and peace and yes, even some patience, as I have listened to Jesus' messages to Sarah Young and to me. May I share with you a message that seems comforting to me when I become impatient, wanting God's answer- and action- now.

Alice Roye

"I speak to you continually. My nature is to communicate, though not always in words. I fling glorious sunsets across the sky, day after day after day. I speak in the faces and voices of loved ones. I caress you with a gentle breeze that refreshes and delights you. I speak softly in the depths of your spirit, where I have taken up residence.

You can find ME in each moment, when you have eyes that see and ears that hear. Ask My Spirit to sharpen your spiritual eyesight and hearing. I rejoice each time you discover My Presence. Practice looking and listening for Me during quiet intervals. Gradually you will find Me in more and more of your moments. You will seek and find Me when you seek me above all else."

Psalm 8:1-41; Psalm 19:1-21; 1 Corinthians 6:19; Jeremiah 29:13



The ground was hard but Pat Morris managed to come up with a shovel-full. Did she have some extra help?" June 16 marked the official beginning of preparation and construction of the new TPC home.

46 People turned out for the Groundbreaking Ceremony to signal the arrival of our long-awaited dream coming true.



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