

Wee Kirk Gazette

Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

March 2014



In our lives, we have lots of times when we're preparing for one thing or another. Life is a flow of time from one BIG EVENT to another. It's no different in the church. We have a cycle of time called Advent that "flows" us into Christmas – a BIG EVENT. We have another one called Lent, that "flows" us into our ultimate BIG EVENT – Easter. Those are religious ones. There are other BIG EVENTS in our lives. Think about the First Day of School. We even get a "civil holiday" mixed in with that – Labor Day. Parents past and present know about shopping for school clothes, getting the required shots at the doctor's office (and maybe a physical), going to the school to register and to meet the teachers, etc. etc. Lots of preparation! And did you notice, as the day for the BIG EVENT approaches, the level of activity concerning preparation greatly increases? There are more things like Christmas Caroling, Christmas dinners, Christmas Eve candlelight services, Easter Egg Hunts, Walks With the Cross, Easter Vigils. As far as school, the things you have to do seem to get packed in to the last couple of weeks before Labor Day.

All of these BIG EVENTS function like a big "reset" button; things are different after the BIG EVENT happens. Especially with the First Day of School – no kids at home during the day! Most would consider that a big improvement.

Our church is, and has been, preparing for a BIG EVENT of our own. The day is almost here for us to move into our new church building, a BIG EVENT we've been preparing to enjoy for years. And as the day draws closer, the activity level, sure enough, has increased. If you've been tracking the work going on at the site, you know how the number of trucks on the parking lots has increased. Then there are all the things we've been doing, and the things we have yet to do, to prepare. Last Friday a group of us (Robbie Tavenner, Dave Jones, John Hardy, and yours truly) under the direction of Jamie Davis went to Louisa to pick up the church's organ and bring it back to our new building. It turned out to be an adventure! Severe storms hit us not 15 minutes out of Louisa, and I mean to tell you, that's as close to driving in a hurricane as I want to get! It was a BIG DAY, though; in my mind, and I'm sure the others, it made the coming BIG EVENT of our move to the new building very real.

There is yet more preparation to come. We're going to need to move a whole lot of stuff from our current location to the new church in the next few weeks. We'll need volunteers for that. That means you! We don't have an official date yet, but we'll broadcast it far and wide when we do. We'll need help putting out the chairs in the Sanctuary, in the classrooms, and elsewhere, and un-boxing and putting things where they belong.

There is one more bit of preparation to do, and it might be the most important. We have all been looking forward to this BIG EVENT for quite some time. It's easy for this kind of thing to become the foremost thing in our minds. Allow me to remind you that we're doing all of this because of the ultimate **BIG EVENT** of Jesus Christ, his death on the cross and resurrection, all done *for us*, so we could move safely and powerfully through all of our BIG EVENTS in this life, and have a BIG EVENT of resurrection into the next life with him. If that doesn't prepare your hearts, nothing will...

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Don". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Highlights of Stated Session Meeting

February 18, 2014



COMMUNICATIONS

- Three letters of appreciation from Camp Hanover for the \$400 sent from TPC upon request of the Mission and Outreach Ministry.
- A thank you from the children of Walther Fidler for the contribution to the Northern Neck Scholarship Fund of Hampton Sydney was received. It was announced that Mrs. Fidler, Martha, passed away a few weeks later.
- An email from the Rev. Judy Thompson at St. Andrews asking if there is interest in TPC participating in a retreat on Saturday, October 11 at Camp Hanover.
- Pastor Don relayed an oral invitation from Bill Woodhouse of Chandler Chevrolet to use their property for parking if the public shows up to watch the placement of the steeple. He will respond that TPC would like to take him up on the offer. TPC will provide shuttle service across the street, unless there is another plan.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer called attention to the fact that the CD's from Union Bank (\$53,000) have been used for partial payment to the contractor. The rest of the payment was made from Development Funds.

OLD BUSINESS

1 Building committee Update (as of 2/18)

given by Emerson Hughes.

- Phone and burglar alarm system was installed today.
- On February 28 there will be a walk-through by Em, the architect and the contractor and it is possible a certificate of occupancy will be given on Friday, March 7 and then the moving-in process can begin.



- A tentative date for the steeple installment is March 19.
 - The organ will be brought to the new building on February 21. After discussion it was suggested TPC offer the present organ to the church in Louisa which has housed our "new" one.
2. **Update from Furnishings Committee** given by Susan Spage.
- Furniture Placement document to be used by movers- indicates destination of much of the furniture and where specific stored items are to go
 - Recommended by the Session that the Memorial Committee consider using up to \$10,000 of the existing \$12,000 to pay for the 2 crosses and sanctuary furniture being built by Jamie Davis.
 - Appliances ordered, to be delivered by March 17. Consideration of purchasing folding chairs with vinyl seats and backs that are easily cleaned.
 - Purchase of 50 folding chairs and 40 sanctuary chairs approved by Session. Folding round tables for the Fellowship room.
3. Study of Fusion;
- Suggestion that everyone in church receive invitation to participate in training all together to enhance communication in discussions
 - Combine study of Attracting People Under 40 While Keeping People over 60.

4. **Personnel Report** given by Jill Robertson. Job Description of Nursery Attendant approved. Job Description of Pastor approved with some editing.

MINISTRY REPORTS

1. **Worship and Music** 
 - March 23 possible date for first service in new building (revised to March 30)
 - May 4 suggested date for Pastor Don's installation; to be confirmed at Presbytery meeting March 1
 - Pancake Supper/ Imposition of Ashes Tuesday March 4
 - Pastor Don will lead community Easter Sunrise Service at St. Margaret's Dining Hall at 6:30 AM April 20; music led by Kathy and Emerson Hughes
 - April 18 Good Friday Tenebrae Service
 - April 20 Easter Sunday- flowering of the cross; memorial Easter lilies
 - Communion dates approved: 3/2; 4/13; 6/8; 7/20; 10/5; 11/23; 12/24
 - New hymnals have arrived; members of the congregation are "buying" memorial bookplates for the inside covers
 - TPC will use own bulletin covers beginning in April
 - Dedication of the new church to be held September 7; Worship & Music Ministry working with Pastor Don to plan the service

2. Christian Education

- Study of *Fusion and Reaching People under 40 While Keeping People Over 60* going on; Pastor Don to announce dates
- Bible study of **John** in the summer time. Maybe study **Revelation** in the fall.
- Leah Epps, Seminary Student, has agreed to help with Children's Sunday School when children come.

3. Church Growth

- Looking at "pass it on" discs to be handed out in the community
- Kathy Hughes and Mary Wigmore to design for ad on Bella's placemats
- Community Day September 6 10:00-2:00; events planned outside to attract attention and invite people to visit the building
- Kathy to check with *Hearth and Home* magazine about getting article about TPC

4. Congregational Care and Fellowship

- Good job with Ladies' Valentine brunch, headed up by Dave Canby
- Robbie Tavenner to order new pens with Tappahannock Presbyterian church for visitors

5. Mission and Outreach

- Souper Bowl of Caring a success: \$74.75 and 46 pounds of soup
- *Operation Inasmuch*- April 12- forms for volunteers being distributed
- Assistance to schools- being investigated by Mary Wigmore
- *One Great Hour of Sharing* offering on Easter April 20

DEDICATION COMMITTEE REPORT



- Price for September 6 and 7 rent of tent is \$1,782.50. Other equipment available for rent. Decision to go with Prue Davis for catering; Margaret Broad will coordinate with her about menu and supplies
- RSVP will be on invitations; some phone follow-up may be needed. Save-the-date cards to be mailed in advance
- Plan is for everyone to gather outside at 3:45 and then all go into the church at one time at 4:00. Worship Committee is planning the service.
- Congregation given an opportunity to write down prayers for the new church that will be used in the Dedication Service

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request from *Operation Inasmuch* for permission to use TPC for the closing ceremony on April 13 approved by Session.
2. Discussion about having Session packet prior to the meeting in order to have a chance to read reports ahead of time. It was agreed the Moderators' reports and Agenda will be sent to Elders the week prior to the meeting and they are asked to print their own agenda and reports in preparation for the Session meeting.



Thanks to the men of TPC for serving the ladies a lovely Valentine's brunch! A wonderful tradition at TPC.

Photos by Jill Robertson

Looking at the space with Em so that plans can come about as to what goes where. The people "in charge" of the areas to be moved will be "in charge" of packing and un-packing. They will need LOTS of HELP. Please contact them and offer your time and muscle-power. Proper labeling is important, as is the order in which things go over to the new building.



Admin office- Susan Stephenson

Treasurer's files- Dave Jones

Pastor's Study- Don McLean

Music and choir - Kathy Hughes

Christian Education- Susan Spage and Sherry Jones

Worship (hymnals; worship aids)- Barbara Cullom and Jill Robertson

Chairs and large furniture- John Hardy

Pianos- Emerson Hughes

Kitchen and serving equipment- Robbie Tavenner and Susan Spage

Library- Alice Roye

MARCH AND APRIL



* Worship Assistants will read both scripture and prayer of dedication.

March 2 Randy Sisk
 9 Jill Robertson
 16 Beth Perry
 23 Roland Geddes
 30 Deb Booze

April 4 Mary Wigmore
 13 Anne Sydnor
 20 Bill Smith
 27 Tyler Sanders

Greeter Herb Sebren
Ushers Bill and Vivian Smith

Greeter Anne Sydnor
Ushers Chuck and Betty Dyer

March Birthdays

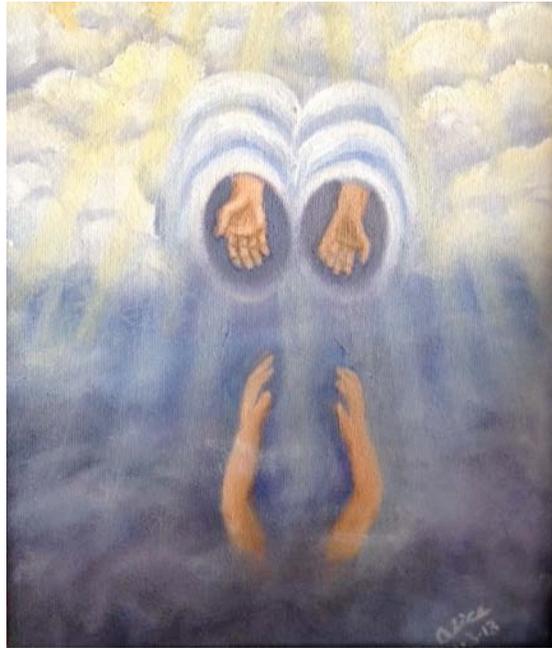
Dave Canby 9
Anne Sydnor 14
Carys Perry 16
Ann Colby 16
Kathy Quigley 19
Sydney Jones 27
Edith Lawyer 30
Barbara Cullom 30



Church Family News

- Congratulations to Heidi Wilson on the birth of her first grandchild, Elias Charles Phucas, born January 29. He is the son of Heidi's daughter Kaitlin and Nick Phucas. They live in Gainesville, Virginia.
- Don's usual office hours are Tuesday-Thursday 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM. You can also call church (443-9977) and make appointments for other times, or reach him on his cell phone (757) 254-8517. His email address is nancy4don@verizon.net. Put this information in your Church Directory for reference.
- Two ways to honor your family and friends: purchase a book plate for the new hymnals and purchase memorial / honor lilies for Easter Sunday.





Let us remember-
All to the Glory of God



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