

Newsletter

Appomattox Court House Presbyterian Church
November 2015



Railroad Festival Hotdog Sales



From the Pastor *Rev. Gene Beverly*

Being with this congregation beginning this past Easter Sunday as a supply preacher and as your Interim Pastor for the last three months has been a very meaningful and joyful experience. Thank you for receiving me so graciously and allowing my family and me to be a part of your wonderful fellowship.

It was my pleasure to be with you through the Easter Season and now as we face the Seasons of Advent and Christmas I am overjoyed to share these experiences with you. Let us pray that we may not be so consumed with the commercialization of Christmas that we miss the real meaning of God's entering the sphere of human existence to show us the way to His salvation. Let us gather the world in this endeavor by opening the doors, turning on the lights, letting the music pour

forth and inviting all who will come to share the Peace and Hope we enjoy in these seasons.

I ask your prayers for me as I continue as your Interim Pastor. I wish to eventually visit each of you in your homes at your invitation. Please let me know if there is a need I can meet.

Railroad Festival

\$1,131.50, which was added to the Missions Funds.

The 43rd Annual Appomattox Railroad Festival held October 9-11 was deemed an overwhelming success drawing an estimated crowd up to 25,000 people (according to the Times-Virginian). And ACHPC was there!

After setting up on Friday evening, volunteers from the church were ready for the crowds. With perfect weather the festival was a great success with over 1400 hotdogs sold. The aim of the church was to

provide families with an economical alternative to the higher priced food vendors. Even with the low prices of food and drink, a profit was seen in the amount of

Thanks to all who gave their time and energy to make this a successful event.

From the Session *By John Redding*

The Session has begun the process of readying for the selection of a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). The first step was to produce a historical financial report which also includes a projection of three years into the future to demonstrate the financial capability for calling a full-time minister. This is ready to present to the Committee on Ministry (COM).

A second step will be to direct a church Mission Study wherein

the purpose of the church, its vision for its future and the process to get there are approached. The Session is actively seeking input and involvement from congregation members in this effort.

Once the above steps are completed, the COM will be petitioned for permission to establish a PNC and the search for a new minister can begin.

At the Congregational Meeting on November 15, the Elder Class of 2018 was elected. The class is comprised of Debbie Rush, a first time Elder, and John Redding who will return to the Session after an absence. The Session thanks the outgoing Class of 2015 of Gayle Williams and Ken Swanson for their service.

The Session spent some time discussing inactive members that Rev. Beverly might be interested in visiting. Should you know of anyone in this category, please let Gene know.



Stew Sales

November 14 brought together volunteers to produce a stew beyond compare. The process isn't easy and takes the hands of many.

One group met Friday evening at the church to prepare the vegetables and have them ready

for Saturday morning. Sorry I don't have all the names, but a hardy "Thank You" is extended.

At 5:00 a.m. the "best cooks in town" met at Brod's parking lot on Confederate Blvd. Joel Carnefix, Brod Pack, and Tom Evans arrived before dawn mixing the ingredients and lighting the fires. Earl Martin, Gene Beverly and Jerry Foltz arrived at 6:30 a.m. to help with cooking and filling containers.

The result was definitely worth the effort. Over 200 quarts of stew were sold, and a profit of \$1,513.00 was added to the building fund. A huge "Thank You" to the all connected with the stew sale.



Choirs

By Karen Gibson

Both the Choir and Bell Choir are preparing music for Thanksgiving and Christmas. The Christmas Joy Gift Program will be December 13 and will be sung as part of the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The Bell Choir will be playing the prelude and the Choir will sing "Praise Noels" arranged by Don Marsh. This work mixes traditional carols with worship songs: for example "Joy to the World" is paired with "I Could Sing of Your Love Forever".

The Choir enjoyed having Elizabeth Hice play flute with the choir. She has been invited to return soon and play a solo

number and accompany the Choir. Elizabeth is a 9th-grade student at Fuqua and was recommended to us by her band director, Camille Rabon.

We are looking forward to celebrating Christmas and are already preparing some new numbers for January.

4-H Bell Choir

By Karen Gibson

The 4-H Bell Choir will be participating in worship on December 6. This group is directed by Bonnie Tillotson. Last year they added such youthful exuberance to their playing it was a joy to have them.

Dulcimer Trio

By Lois Eaton

The Dulcimer Trio will be returning to play during the worship service. No specific dates are available at this time.

A performance is scheduled at the Memorial United Methodist Church on Court Street, Wednesday, December 2 at noon. This is a part of the Concert at Noon program.

Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Eve Service will be held December 24 at 4:00 p.m.



Christmas Decorating

By Gayle Williams

Everyone is invited to participate on November 28 from 9:00 a.m. until noon in decorating the church and the tree for Christmas.

Angel Tree

By Gayle Williams

Decorating the Angel Tree and making of Angels will also be part of the decorating actives on November 28. Angels will be for a family whose name is given by Social Services.

Adopt an Angel! The Angel Tree program helps families who may not be able to provide gifts. Help make their holiday season a little brighter.

Website

By Gayle and Bonnie

Bonnie Swanson, Susie Fisher, and Gayle Williams met with Cheryl Microusticos of WOW Graphics Designs on November 20 to start updating the web site. Cheryl has been our web designer for the past few years, but Loren keep it current. Hopefully, we will have everything updated in January.

A calendar will be added to the website for the congregation to know what's going on in our church and in the community. Pictures and events can be sent to Bonnie to add to the website.

Facebook

By Bonnie Swanson

A Facebook page is in the making, so people can get into

the habit of sharing photos and comments.

Square Dance

Ken Swanson reports that this event is still in the making. No definite plans have been set at this time, but the idea is still being considered.

Parking Lot

Lawhorne Brothers has delayed the paving of the parking lot. My source (and husband) tells me their plan is to pave the church lot at the same time they pave the lot at the hotel. No date has been scheduled.

Girls Day Out

By Lois Eaton

Lois Eaton will host Girls Day Out for the next three months.

December 16

January 20

February 17

Each meeting is scheduled for Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. Please contact Lois for additional information concerning study materials.

Gleaning

By Judy Sauls

No ACHPC support team will be needed by Gleaning for the World (GFTW) for November. GFTW is closed the day after Thanksgiving, which would have been the day we normally provide a support team. Also, they are covered the remaining days for the month of November. I did ask them to notify me if anything changed so I could see if ACHPC could get

a team together if support was needed on another evening.

Also, during December, volunteers will be needed for a team on Friday, December 18. Our normal Friday support that month happens to be December 25th. Of course, we won't be able to meet the 25th, and GFTW is closed!!

I will send out a reminder regarding December at the first of the month. I know it is a busy month, but hope some of you can spare some time to help Gleaning and have a wonderful fellowship while supporting those in need around the world!!



Swanson's Living Room at Baines

Join Ken and Bonnie, Debbie Rush, and other band members for a Christmas Sing-Along at Baines Books and Coffee Shop Saturday, December 12 from 7:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.

Liturgist

Nov	29	Shana Richardson
Dec	06	Gayle Williams
Dec	13	Jerry Foltz
Dec	20	Bonnie Tillotson
Dec	27	John Redding
Jan	03	Mike Hacker

Church Family Ministry December

Bonnie Swanson

No entries were found for 2016. If you are able to serve, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.

Men's Fellowship Group Meeting

Dec 22 No Meeting
Jan 26 Earl and Walt



Coffee Hour

Dec 6 Caldwell
Dec 13 Joy Gift Program
Dec 20 Miller
Dec 27 Jeannie Beverly
Jan 3
Jan 10 Cousins
Jan 17 Foltz
Jan 24 Williams
Jan 31 Sauls
Feb 7 Martin
Feb 14 Gibson/Rush
Feb 21 Pack
Feb 28 Swanson



Maybe Christmas
Doesn't come from a store
Maybe Christmas
-Perhaps-
Means a little bit more
The Grinch

Birthdays

December

Dec 2 Cindy Redding
Dec 8 Frank Wooldridge
Dec 11 Wade Adams
Dec 13 Virginia Cardwell
Dec 21 Brenda Sauls
Dec 21 Charles Crawley

January

Jan 9 Bonnie Swanson
Jan 12 J. B. Drinkard
Jan 22 John Redding
Jan 23 Connie Carwile
Jan 27 Ted Godsey

February

Feb 3 Dewitt Goin
Feb 15 Paul Harvey
Feb 16 Earl Martin
Feb 17 Brod Pack
Feb 18 Bill Briggs
Feb 18 Sue Pulliam
Feb 21 Barbara Briggs
Feb 28 Jane Pack

March

Mar 2 Jerry Foltz
Mar 4 Cecil Harvey
Mar 5 Barry Sauls
Mar 10 Wanda Simpson
Mar 12 Nancy Conner
Mar 19 Tom Evans, Jr.
Mar 19 William Pack
Mar 19 Bonnie Tillotson
Mar 20 Anne Miller
Mar 26 Robert Tillotson
Mar 30 Eleanor
Wooldridge

A Note from Ted

By Judy Sauls

Ted Godsey says hello to all. He is at Lynchburg health and rehab in room 84. He needs to be there for a couple of weeks to get his strength back. His kidneys had an infection and were failing him. Ted misses you all and hopes he will see you soon. Visitors are welcome.



Thanksgiving

With an abundance of food mixed with great fellowship ACHPC marked the beginning of the Holiday Season on November 22.



John and Ginny Fedison

The church will be losing two very loved members. John and Ginny Fedison will be moving to Roanoke December 8. This move will benefit them in two ways. They will have the joy of one-level housing and the advantage of being close to their children.

In 1971 Appomattox Court House Presbyterian Church was in transition and so were John and Ginny Fedison. Having just moved to Appomattox, they needed to find a church. Their first choice was Appomattox Court House Presbyterian Church. Rev. Millard Stimpson was Pastor at the time, however, John and Ginny's first Sunday at the church was Rev. Stimpson's last Sunday. The church being without a minister and the Fedison's need for a nursery for their children were deciding factors that caused the Fedisons to look in a different direction.

In 1973 John, Ginny and their three children made the move to attend the United Methodist Church, and remained there for the next 12 years. During that time John's parents moved to Appomattox and John recommended that they attend ACHPC. Shortly thereafter, in 1985 the Fedisons moved their

membership to ACHPC and have been loyal members since.

Music was one of the Fedisons' many talents. Ginny immediately joined the choir, with John following later. In later years a children's bell choir was established by Renee Martin. After Renee's death, Ginny was successful in securing a grant from the Presbytery to form the Adult Bell Choir. The bell choir serves as a memorial to Renee, and visible at every performance is a plaque displayed in her honor.

ACHPC has benefited in other ways by the dedication of the Fedisons. John served as deacon, elder, and more than 2 terms as clerk of session. Ginny has served as elder and director of the bell choir. Not stopping at the local level, each has served in the Peaks Presbytery for nearly two decades.

When asked to recall some of their favorite memories at ACHPC, they didn't hesitate to respond. The performance of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat was their first choice. This event was for one performance in the new fellowship hall. Ginny remembers paying royalties to obtain rights for the production. Another favorite was acting out The Last Supper in full costume. And there were happy memories of decorating and even un-decorating the church for Christmas.

When asked if they would like to say anything to the congregation, Ginny stated, "We're going to miss everybody extremely." Best wishes to the Fedisons as they embark on this new adventure.



Academic Cafe

While wandering the streets of Appomattox during the Railroad Festival, I stumbled into the Academic Café and was amazed at what I found. Located on Harrell Street, just steps away from Church Street the café was warm, charming and inviting.

The owners, Paul and Jane Raymond, kindly gave me a tour, and I could not believe what I was seeing. Behind the entrance to this lovely café, was a world of books, resource materials, private study rooms, an art studio, a chapel, Children's Library, and more!

Video conferences allows students from around the country to see what's happening within the classroom as well as see the instructor.

Jane teaches art with a twist. Instead of focusing on "expressing your inner-most emotion," she teaches that art is another form of giving. You paint with someone else in mind, and give of yourself through your artwork. Her walls are a backdrop for local artists to display their works.

Thank You!

A special thank you to everyone who took the time to talk with me, send emails and/or notes filled with information to be posted in the newsletter.

Cindy Redding



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