

# APC Connections

Volume 5, Issue 6

April 2013

### Upcoming Events

- Apr. 7 — Congregational meeting
- Apr. 7 — Harold Starke's 95th birthday celebration, 12 noon — 1:30 pm
- Apr. 7 — Outreach meets
- Apr. 9 — 11 AM PW Circle meeting
- Apr. 9 — Session meeting 5 PM
- Apr. 20 — Spring Cleanup Day, 9 am
- Apr. 27 — Rain-date for Cleanup Day

### Pastor's Page

Who were those women who came to Jesus' empty tomb? In all four gospels, Mary Magdalene is there. Of course she is. It is apparent throughout scripture that she loved Jesus and that Jesus loved her. In John's gospel account, the relationship is especially pronounced. Mary is the one who anoints Jesus with her tears and her costly perfume pre-burial, and she finds herself weeping at the tomb because he is gone. She was his disciple, his friend, his devoted student, and loyal to him like none other.

In Luke's gospel, Mary's friend Joanna is there. Perhaps she was there because best friends support each other when a loved one dies, or maybe she was there because Jesus healed her. These two women who experienced the blessings of demons cast out, of sins forgiven had a lot in common. Jesus changed their lives. Joanna was also the wife of Herod's household manager, Chuza. What had she seen in Herod's house? Had she become a spy to the cause? If so, she too was a woman of great bravery.

In the synoptic gospels, mothers show up. Salome, mother of James and John is there. Mary, mother of James the less is there. I find it interesting that these mothers of sons who were identified as the disciples of Jesus came to the tomb when their sons did not. The disciples were afraid, and rightfully so. If Jesus could be crucified, they might be next. But the mothers had to know, had to see, had to mourn this death because their hearts wept with Mary, who lost Jesus, God's only son Jesus who had come to save the world. Mary must have been inconsolable. How could her friends bear this pain with her? They went to the tomb. They went because her heartache became their heartache. Like any mother hearing heart-

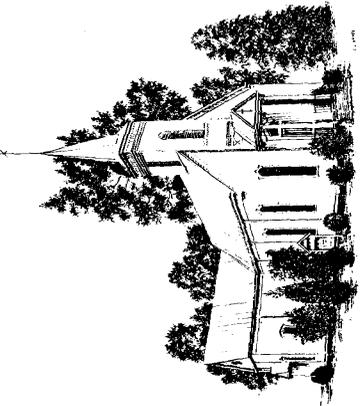
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**Tem. Supply Pastor**  
Rev. Kerri English

**Secretary**  
Susan Vitale

**Director of Music**  
Karla Bloom

**Organist**  
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(Continued from page 1)

wrenching news about a boy like yours, you think to yourself, “It could have been my son.”

And the other women...

There were other unidentified women. According to our Lenten speaker this year, (Thanks Sandra!) who taught us about Christian women through the centuries, I know now that there are always other women. They went together to the tomb so their grief would be shared. They went out of their love for Jesus, or their love for their friends, or their love for their own sons. And by following their sadness all the way to the grave, they were entrusted to share the message of new life. Jesus is not here, but is risen.

These women were the witnesses who told the story first, and then financed the campaign to get the good news out into the world. It is no idle tale. The compassionate bonds of these women helped to keep the message of Christ’s love alive. Mothers and grandmothers are still telling the story, giving to the church, and remembering the Son who died for them. Thanks be to God.

With a mother’s heart – know that the tomb is empty.

The peace of Christ be with you.

Pastor Kerra

### Adult Sunday School

On April 7, we will go back to our study entitled *Discovering the Bible: A New Generation*. This study attempts to introduce The Bible as a whole – emphasizing the inter-connections among the many parts of the entire Bible. **The class meets at 9:30 in Lancaster Hall.** — Marcia Summerson, CE Chair



### Buildings and Grounds



**Kitchen Clean-up:** The kitchen in Lancaster is overdue for a good cleaning and reorganization of cabinets. Some of this work may be done on April 20 (Clean-Up Day), but it is likely that some will also be done on weekday mornings, over a period of weeks. This project is being led by Doreen Coddington, Grace Arey, and Karen Cole. If you can help out, please contact one of these members to get more details.

— Karen Dorgan, Chair

## Usher and Greeter Schedule

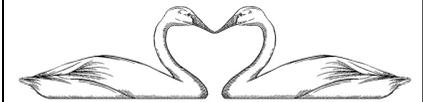
	GREETERS	USHERS	COMMUNION ELDERS	COMMUNION PREP	LITURGIST	FLOWERS
4/ 7/13	B. DuPriest	T. Blair, E. Shea				Schutte
4/14/13	J. Glazebrook	B. Shea, J. Tate				Hasbrouck
4/21/13	K. Hasbrouck	M. Carneal, R. Cole	<i>REMEMBER, If you cannot serve, please find a replacement and leave a message on the office phone, 798-5543.</i>			Coles
4/28/13	S. Henderson	K. Basilio, L. Herring, V. Neeley, C. Schutte				Neeley
5/5/13	L. Herring	S. Henderson, J. Tate	R. DuPriest, S. Moncol, E. Simpson, J. Tate	V. Neeley		Neeley

### Milestone: Harold Starke’s 95th Birthday Celebration

In honor of Harold Starke’s 95th birthday on March 31, the congregation is invited to a reception on **Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>** in Lancaster Hall immediately following worship (12:00 – 1:30). Please join his family in celebrating this joyous occasion.

### Happy Birthday to: April

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 4 Riley Doyle    | 20 Kevin Doyle  |
| 6 Ardie Browne   | Linda Herring   |
| 13 Flo Streshley | 22 Nate Hubbard |
| 15 Ann Dexter    | 23 Ginger Young |
| 17 Caitlin Blair | 24 Julie Tate   |
| Erin Blair       |                 |
| Rob DuPriest     |                 |



*Congratulations!*

Congratulations to USAF 2nd Lt. Max Shea and Miss Grace Fetty on the occasion of their wedding in Panama City, Florida on Wednesday, March 13. Max is the son of Beverly and the late Russell Shea.

*(Continued from page 3)*

part-time at Randolph-Macon, leading the college glee club and the Duncan Memorial Church choir. Her mother stayed at home, raising Emily and her two sisters Shearer and Elizabeth, returning to the teaching profession after the girls were grown, first as a teacher in Hanover County and later in Chesterfield County.

After graduating from Henry Clay High School after 11<sup>th</sup> grade, as was typical in those days, Emily at age 16 found herself taking classes at Randolph-Macon. After two years, she transferred to Mary Baldwin College from which she graduated with a double major in Economics and Sociology.

The following year was an exciting one for Emily. She moved to Washington, DC and worked at the CIA. (No, she was not a spy!). While living the life of a young professional woman in the big city, she met her soon-to-be husband Newit Pepper, who was temporarily working in DC on a project with the Navy Department to design a nuclear-powered carrier. When his time on the project was done and he was ready to return to his home-base at Newport News Shipbuilding, he asked her to marry him and move to the Peninsula. They were married at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, "The Church of Presidents" by The Rev. Dr. George MacPherson Docherty.

The next years were busy, with Emily staying home to raise three children. Sherry, the oldest, is now on staff at the US Department of Energy in Germantown, MD, providing support services to scientists in the High Energy Physics department. Daughter Ann is an assistant principal in Newport News Public Schools and is the mother of Emily's only grandchild Christine, a student at Thomas Nelson Community College. Son Jack is married and lives in California, working as a supervisor for the Los Angeles Parks and Recreation department.

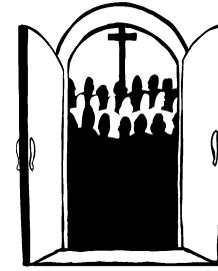
During the time the children were young, Emily volunteered at their schools, and as they became more self-sufficient, she returned to the world of work as a part-time secretary at Riverside, and later Hidenwood, Elementary School in Newport News. This led to a full-time job as secretary of Carver Elementary School, where she stayed for ten years until her retirement.

Having moved into her new home at Arlington Square in September, Emily is still getting settled into life in Ashland. In her spare time, she enjoys reading Flo Sthresley's book, playing bridge, and visiting with her family members who include sister Shearer Luck, who still lives in town.

Emily states that she really "enjoys the church services with the beautiful music and flowers and other attentions by acolytes, bell ringers, communion servers, greeters, ushers, and special pastor, too". She also has found the Sunday School and Circle meetings to be "great gatherings".

Welcome back to Ashland, Emily! We're glad to have you come home.

— Karen Dorgan



**Congregational  
MEETING**

**Sunday,  
April 7**

immediately following morning worship for the purpose of electing Judy Aderhold to the Class of 2014 to fill a vacancy on Session.

### Calling All Painters!

Buildings and Grounds' next project is painting the hallway behind the sanctuary. If you are willing to contribute a few hours of work, please contact Pat Dunn to volunteer.



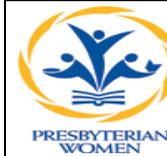
**Spring Clean-Up  
Day**

**Save the Date!  
April 20, 9:00 --?**

Calling all able-bodied members to join us on Saturday, April 20 to do our annual spring-cleaning. Can you help with.....

- General yard clean-up: raking, trimming, weeding?
- General indoor cleaning: scrubbing sills and trim work, glass cleaning, etc.
- Kitchen cleaning and organizing?

Join us for a morning of fellowship and service!



### Presbyterian Women

The PW Circle will meet on **Tuesday, April 9 at 11 AM** in the Lancaster Hall for study and lunch. We will be studying Lesson 7 in Dispatches to God's Household, "The Children." Bring a sandwich. Beverages and dessert will be provided. — Doreen Coddington

### Welcome, Emily Pepper!



In welcoming our newest member Emily Pepper to our church family, we should really say "Welcome back!" Emily is a native of Ashland, having grown up in town and having attended Hanover County Public Schools. Following an adventurous period as a musician, traveling around entertaining in New York City and on a cruise ship through the Panama Canal, Emily's father William S. Troxell settled in Ashland as the music teacher at Henry Clay High School. He also worked

*(Continued on page 4)*