

APC Connections

Volume 8, Issue 10

August 2016

Upcoming Events

- Aug. 7—Outreach meets 12:15 PM
- Aug. 14—Session meets 12:15 PM
- Aug. 21—Rev. Dr. Paula Parker preaches
- Aug. 28—Rev. Sandi Goehring preaches



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Pastor’s Page: A Year with Evangelism: Article #6—The Mission of Radical Hospitality

“Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.”

Friends,

Most of us are familiar with the parable of the sheep and the goats, which is also known as the *judgment of the nations*. The NATIONS and their PEOPLES will be judged, separated by God, into those who care for their people and those who don’t. God will recognize those who have fed the hungry, welcomed the stranger, clothed the naked, and cared for the sick and imprisoned. I’m not sure how well NATIONS do at this. I’d hate to be judged on US public policy or Virginia’s track record with delivering health care to her citizens. I’d rather rally around the work we do as a church in partnership with various agencies, missions, and programs that care for those who have great needs. Let’s remember to hang out with those folks when it comes to judgment time to make sure our good works will be recognized!

Oftentimes social justice work and evangelism get pitted against each other. You’re in one camp or the other – saving bodies or saving souls – but the two are the same work really. To talk to hungry people about Jesus without addressing their hunger, to tell thirsty people about where to get living water without offering them a glass of refreshment is to miss the whole point

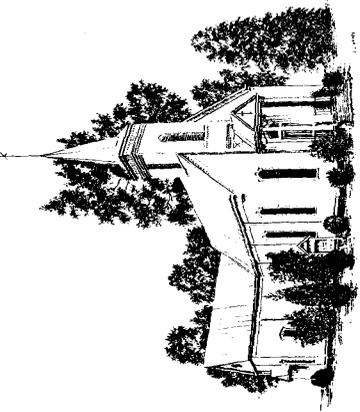
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of the good news of God’s love. Our job at the church is not only to care for people “like us” or to invite those in who can help us pay the light bill. It is to be ministers, all the time, of God’s grace.

When we do that well, the good news of Ashland Presbyterian Church will spread! Recently the mother of one of Ryleigh’s friends found out where I work. Immediately, she asked me, isn’t that the church that is helping with the hotel situation in Ashland? Good to know that word gets around. I was able to tell her about our connection with kids going to the YMCA for the Summer AND explain that we were working with a number of other congregations as well to talk about and work on both short term and longer term solutions to the difficulties of hunger, and clothing, and shelter in our own community. That’s evangelism right there dressed in social justice clothing.

Young people today are more interested (I think) in what churches are doing more than they are in what kind of theology they have. I’ve been surprised by that – but it also makes sense. God, in this parable from Matthew for sure is more interested in how we treat others than in what we have to say about any particular religious doctrine. Feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, and visit those who are hurting. That’s what people, churches, organizations and nations are all called to do.

Hospitality goes deeper than being a good host in house. It’s about believing completely that we have been called to do those things which others say cannot be done. Keep up the good work – Ashland Presbyterian – and when God describes the inheritance of the Kingdom – you will be able to say that you were there for the least of these.

Peace, Pastor Kerra

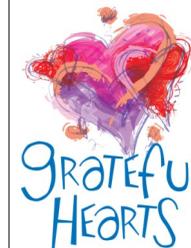
News and updates:

- ◆ The Session’s current “work in progress” is the development of a plan for building renovation that will accentuate our commitment to hospitality and welcoming all who come in our doors. What will it take for us to be a church growing into the future? How can our buildings that are a blessing for us also be a gift for others? Watch for more information to come and your opportunities to offer input!
- ◆ Registrations for the Ash Grove Women’s retreat are now open to all participants (August 1). Please feel welcome to invite friends to this special event. This year we have 30 overnight spots reserved that will be assigned in the order of payment received. If you or someone you know would prefer to be a day participant only – talk to Sherri, Ginger, Karen, or Kerra about making that reservation and adjusting

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Usher and Greeter Schedule

	GREETERS	USHERS	COMMUNION ELDERS	COMMUNION PREP & CLEANUP	LITURGIST	FLOWERS
8/07/16	D. Coddington	L. Allison, D. Coddington	G. Young	J. Aderhold, S. Henderson	P. Dunn	Coddington
8/14/16	K. Cole	K. & R. Cole				Young
8/21/16	K. Pugh	D. & P. Dunn	<i>REMEMBER, If you cannot serve, please find a replacement and leave a message on the office phone, 798-5543.</i>			
8/28/16	E. Phillips	D. Dunn, R. English, S. Henderson, C. Phillips				
9/04/16	S. Moncol	S. & D. Moncol	D. Dunn	S. Carneal, S. Huff		Basilio



Members and friends of Ashland Presbyterian Church,

I would like to thank everyone for the cards, support, and prayers you have given for/to me and Ardie over the last three, actually probably five,

years. I am still not in a place where I can stand up in church and thank everyone, but please know I am very grateful for everyone’s support. I also want to thank AA for dragging all the chairs from the other building downstairs and loading my truck and to Judy and Rob for helping me drag all the chairs back upstairs. And if everyone didn’t already know this, the most supportive group here is the choir without whom I would have had a much more difficult time.

With gratitude, Karla

Happy Birthday to: August

- 5 Carly Phillips
- 9 Clyde Johnson
- 10 Roger Cole
- 18 Ron Bryan
- 20 Michael Raymond
- 24 Ella Mae Simpson



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beautiful part of the country, but one that was remote and had tough winters. When given the opportunity to move farther south, they relocated to the Richmond area.

Liz took early retirement from EDS in 2007. The next year, she was hired by UNOS, United Organ Sharing in the IT/process improvement group. When she was promoted into a management position, she decided after two years that it was time to leave the career behind and retire a second time.

Not one to sit around doing nothing, Liz jumped into various volunteer positions. As a Hanover Virginia Master Gardener since 2006, she has over 1500 volunteer hours and has been a Membership Chair for Hanover Master Gardener Association. At the present time, she is in a temporary paid position at the Hanover Cooperative Extension office, as a volunteer coordinator. She has also done volunteer work at Lewis Ginter, assisting the education staff with school field trips and with special events.

Liz's life took an unwelcome turn several years ago when she went through cancer treatment...and is now a survivor. This experience put the focus on healthy lifestyle, especially because of what she has learned through speakers at her cancer support group at Memorial Regional Hospital. Even before her cancer, she was a devoted walker; in 2004 she participated in Team-in-Training which prepares people to take part in the Leukemia-Lymphoma Society's endurance training team events. She completed the first of her five half-marathons at Disney World and has continued to compete in 10K races. She also practices yoga and is a regular at the local YMCA.

Inspired by a member of her cancer support group who emphasized a life philosophy of "helping others each day", Liz has continued to look for ways to contribute through volunteer activities. She has completed training through Senior Medical Patrol (SMP), a federal funded program that helps senior citizens protect their Medicare information and detect and report Medicare fraud. She now can do presentations for community groups and health fairs, and yes, I have asked her about doing one at Ashland Presbyterian sometime this fall!

If you notice that Liz occasionally disappears for periods of time, it's because she and John escape to their lakeside cottage on the Upper Peninsula of Michigan during the hot and humid months. (Note the "UP" and 906 stickers on the back of her car!)

As a new member at APC, Liz brings a plethora of experience and knowledge that will no doubt make her a valued member of our little family. Welcome, Liz!

— Karen Dorgan



Many thanks to everyone who carried dinner or contributed money to the dinner at the Free Clinic at St. James the Less on July 13. In the midst of hot summer days, I am very grateful for the refreshing help of Linda Allison, Liz Campbell, Karen and Roger Cole, Karen Dorgan, Kathleen Pugh, Ella Mae Simpson, and Julie Tate. Thank you, Ginger Young

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the cost accordingly. An electronic version of the brochure is available by contacting the office if you need to send an invitation by email.

- ◆ Remember that our website www.ashlandpresbyterian.org and Facebook page are ways you can connect folks to our church.
- ◆ Guest preachers in August will be The Rev. Dr. Paula Parker who teaches spirituality at Union Presbyterian Seminary and has been on staff at Richmond Hill (August 21), and our good friend Sandi Goehring (August 28).

Meet New Member, Liz Campbell

Liz, who was raised outside Detroit, MI, has been a resident of Hanover County for the past 17 years. She and her husband John live in Ashcreek with their Standard Poodle Logan. While they have no children of their own, they are considered to be "second parents" to their two nieces and a nephew who, among them, have seven children.



Liz's mother was a teacher, and that's the path she originally thought she would follow. She graduated from Niagara University with a major in English Education and minor in History. However, her student-teaching experience in a high school English class made her realize that was not the path for her. She proceeded on to graduate school in English, working as a graduate assistant teaching a college Freshman English course, which she enjoyed more. Like many students, though, she found that she needed to get serious about a paying job, and she took a position as an administrative assistant for an information technology company. Over the eight years with that company, she gradually learned about systems design and systems analysis through work experience and college level courses. John was an art and photography teacher in high school and college during those early years of marriage and took on a new adventure by going to the Culinary Institute of America and embarked on a career as a chef.

For seventeen years, she worked in the IT field in Western New York State. When the economy collapsed, she lost her job at Dunlop Tire. She moved on to a summer job as a tour guide at Niagara Falls, driving tourists around in a van! While spending a summer in that position, she submitted her resume to various IT companies, and she was surprised one day with a phone call from a recruiter in Detroit who wanted her to interview for a job with EDS, Electronic Data Systems (founded by Ross Perot). She was hired as a computer auditor, and she and John moved back to Michigan. John took a position as a corporate chef with Blue Cross/Blue Shield, while Liz moved up into other positions within the company.

One aspect of life at EDS was the opportunity to move into different positions in different parts of the country. She and John lived for awhile in the Adirondacks, a

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