

APC Connections

Volume 8, Issue 9

June/July 2016

Upcoming Events

- June 5—Outreach meets 12:15 PM
- June 7, 8—CARITAS
- June 12—Dr. John Vest, guest teacher & preacher
- June 14—11 AM PW Circle at Do-reen Coddington's/ Presbytery at Providence Forge
- June 18-25—GA Meeting in Oregon



Inside this issue:

<i>Upcoming Events</i>	3
<i>Save the Date</i>	4
<i>Ushers/Greeters Birthdays</i>	5

Pastor's Page: A Year with Evangelism: Article #5 — Communication

Friends,

It's about time I got to the point, right? If we are going to be serious about evangelism, we have to be willing to talk about our faith. We have to communicate honestly who we are and what we are about. Otherwise, we will stay the best kept secret in the Center of the Universe, our light well hidden under a basket!

As we tell our story, some of that communication will be public, and some of it will be face-to-face.

On the public side, we've made some serious strides in the four years I've been here to get our information out there. A big shout out to those who were insistent about having a professionally done, user-friendly website! Most folks attending a church for the first time nowadays say that they wouldn't go to a church WITHOUT knowing something about it from a webpage. Also, thank you to those who have improved our signage to the church and around the church facilities. You have put us, literally, on the map. We have dropped out some of our print media ads of yesteryear, the kind that cost a lot and yield so little. But there are opportunities for us to use social media (Facebook) and other broad communication tools to reach those who might not know about us otherwise. Our historic building is attracting young couples for weddings, and every time we show them grace and hospitality, word gets around.

We also do public evangelism whenever we show up in places where the community needs us – Caritas, the Free Clinic, the motel conversations, the food ministry conversations, Circles of Ashland, and others. With our actions, we demonstrate who we are as followers of Jesus. As St. Francis is often quoted, whether he actually said it or not, "Preach the gospel at all times, if nec-

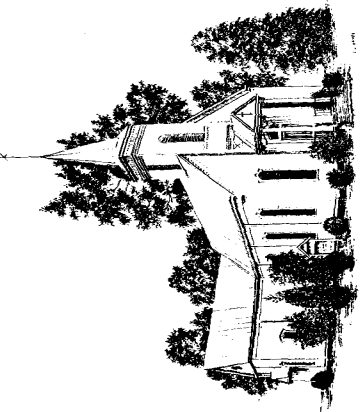
(Continued on page 2)

Pastor
Rev. Kerra English

Secretary
Susan Vitale

Director of Music
Karla Bloom

Organist
Elizabeth Hargrove



804-798-5543
 email: ashlandpres@aol.com
www.ashlandpresbyterian.org

ASHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 401 Virginia Street
 Ashland, VA 23005

(Continued from page 1)
 essary, use words.”

But then there’s the scarier part. How do I have that face-to-face conversation about what I believe and why I attend Ashland Presbyterian Church? Who do I tell? What do I tell? Again, much of that we are already doing. Think about those who already know that you come to this particular church. Do they know what it means to you? Do they know what kind of time commitment you already have here? Maybe one of those people would like to know more. You can introduce him or her to the website, or to a worship service, or just talk about what inspires you by knowing the people that you know here.

If you already come to Sunday school or if you’ve ever talked about church at Sunday lunch – you’ve been practicing how to talk about your faith. Sometimes those who are sitting next to you at the Caboose, or Track side Grill, or Ironhorse, or El Azteca might overhear the words you say about your church and what it means to you, or how it challenges you. Keep talking to those you know, and maybe someone you don’t know will ask to know more.

And then keep each other in the loop about events and opportunities the church is offering. Again, another shout out is due to those who brought us the *One Call Now* system. Now we can connect with the whole congregation, the Session, or a committee, or the choir with just one phone call that reaches everyone signed up for that group. Those reminders about dinners, and speakers, and clean up days may give you a reason to invite someone new to participate in an activity the church is offering. But that doesn’t mean you are completely off the hook. What guy that you know needs a personal nudge to come to the Men’s Breakfast? What friend needs to hear about our Women’s Retreat in the fall? Again, talk mostly about what you really love. People are always looking for that five star review! They want to be a part of events and organizations that are worth the time they put toward them.

And remember, most of all, the “sell” is not about getting more people to come, (though it’s nice when they do), and it’s not about getting people saved, (because Jesus already did that), the “sell” is the love and joy you have found in being a part of a community called to follow where Christ is leading. Your gratitude will be contagious, I guarantee it.

So go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere. Go! Tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is love. (and Lord)

Peace, Pastor Kerra



Many thanks to the women who carried dinner over to the Free Clinic at St. James the Less on May 18. In the midst of gray, rainy days, I am very grateful for the sunshining help of Linda Allison, Kathy Basilio, Jane Glazebrook, Sheila Henderson, Suzanne Huff, Emily Pepper, Caroline Schutte, and Ella Mae Simpson. Thank you, Ginger Young

Usher and Greeter Schedule

	GREETERS	USHERS	COMMUNION ELDERS	COMMUNION PREP & CLEANUP	LITURGIST	FLOWERS
6/05/16	F. Sthreshley	S. & M. Carneal	D. Coddington	J. Aderhold, C. Schutte	K. English	Neeley
6/12/16	J. Tate	T. Blair, J. Tate			K. English	Allison
6/19/16	M. Summerson	E. Shea, M. Summerson	<i>REMEMBER, If you cannot serve, please find a replacement and leave a message on the office phone, 798-5543.</i>			
6/26/16	G. Young	K. Dorgan, R. English, C. Phillips, G. Young				
7/03/16	D. & P. Dunn	D. & P. Dunn	R. Cole	K. Basilio, S. Huff		
7/10/16	K. & L. Hasbrouck	K. & L. Hasbrouck				
7/17/16	R. DuPriest	R. DuPriest, S. Vitale				
7/24/16	J. Aderhold	R. English, K. & L. Hasbrouck, C. Phillips				
7/31/16	K. Dorgan	K. Dorgan, G. Young				

Happy Birthday to:

June

- 4 June Lybrand
- 9 Jeanette Paiser
- 22 Ryleigh English
- 25 Jacob Phillips
- 29 Charlie Blair
- Karla Bloom



July

- 7 Sherri Carneal
- 16 Betty Carswell
- 20 Peter Ritchie
- 22 Nita Bryan
- 25 Emily Pepper

We collected \$1530.00 for the Pentecost Offering. Forty percent of this stays with APC to be used to help children at risk. Our portion, \$612, is being sent to the Patrick Henry YMCA to help send children to camp for the summer!

Outreach



Remember to bring **food for the pantry** on the first Sunday to "fill the altar". Due to the displacement of persons living at the Apple Garden, Social Services is sending more people our way for food as many of the motels they are currently being housed cost a lot more to stay in per night. Therefore, lots of food is being distributed through the office this spring and supplies are getting low. Many of these people are

working with Circles Ashland which in turn is working with ACES to help assess needs.

Circles Ashland, a program to assist families trying to pull themselves out of poverty, began the first series of weekly training sessions on May 5 at Duncan Memorial Methodist Church. This includes adults and a specially designed curriculum for the children. We will be assisting with dinner on June 23 for these families. Look for further details in the bulletin soon. —Delores Dunn, Chair

Massanetta Springs Bible Conference

Pastor Kerra will be attending the Massanetta Springs Bible Conference in Harrisonburg, Virginia from July 25 through July 30. The keynote speaker will be nationally renowned preacher Tony Campolo, and the Bible Study leader will be Carson Brisson – Kerra's former Hebrew professor at Seminary. If you are interested in finding out about this conference to see if you'd like to go, Kerra can pass along more details.



SAVE THE DATE!
*Ash Grove Women's Retreat
will be held at Richmond Hill on
November 11-12, 2016.*

Congratulations, Rachel!

On Sunday, May 22, Pastor Kerra travelled to Marlinton, WV to preach at Rachel Jenkins Shepherd's installation service. Please keep Rachel in your prayers as she begins this new call.



Evangelism Sunday with Dr. John Vest

On Sunday **June 12**, Dr. John Vest, who is partnering with both Union Presbyterian Seminary and the Presbytery of the James to teach and preach about evangelism in our Presbytery, will be here with us for Sunday School (9:30 a.m.) and Worship (11 a.m.) So if you've ever wondered what evangelism is, or if you might be good at it – come participate in the morning discussion. I think you'll be surprised to find out that you've already been talking about your faith, and might find courage to do more of the same.

Presbyterian Women

PW Circle will meet Tuesday, **June 14 at 11:00 a.m.** at the home of Doreen Coddington. Plan to meet at the church at 10:45 a.m. to car-pool. Lunch will be provided!



Actions by the APC Session:

The following actions were approved by the Session at April and May meetings:

- * The church will pay the organist's fee for funerals held at the church for APC members; the contracted fee rate in effect at such time will be used.
- * The job title of the church secretary/treasurer will be changed to Administrative Assistant.
- * The Stewardship Chair will be elected to serve as church Treasurer. Drew Moncol was elected as Treasurer for a one year term.
- * The former church library, adjacent to the narthex, will be repurposed to accommodate the needs of parents with young children during worship service.
- * Speakers will be installed in the rooms adjacent to the narthex, allowing occupants, such as parents with young children or attendees at weddings or funerals, to hear events in the sanctuary.
- * A wall-mount television will be purchased for the education room in Lancaster Hall.
— Julie Tate, Clerk of Session



The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA
convening in Portland, Oregon from June 18-25.