



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

ASHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

401 Virginia Street
 Ashland, VA 23005

Regular Schedule Resumes
Sunday, September 8
 Rally Day Breakfast, 9:15 AM
 Worship, 11 AM
 Sunday School starts Sept. 15
 At 9:30 AM

Pastor
 Rev. Kerra English

Secretary
 Susan Vitale

Director of Music
 Karla Bloom

Organist
 Elizabeth Hargrove

Ashland Presbyterian Church

APC Connections

Volume 6, Issue 1

September 2013

Upcoming Events

- Sept. 8 — Rally Day Breakfast, 9:15
Worship, 11 AM
- Sept. 10 — PW Circle lunch/study, 11 AM
- Sept. 10 — Session, 6:30 PM
- Sept. 12 — Missionary Ruth Brown visits
- Sept. 15 — Sunday School, 9:30 AM
- Sept. 18 — Food for St. James
- Sept. 22 — Welcome new Intern, Rachel Jenkins

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Pastor's Page

“My deepest awareness of myself is that I am deeply loved by Jesus Christ and I have done nothing to earn it or deserve it.”

— Brennan Manning, *The Ragamuffin Gospel*

Friends,

I hope and pray for the same kind of awareness as spiritual author Brennan Manning expresses in this quote. If I am able to learn nothing else, or teach nothing else, this would be enough. That's why Jesus was born. That's why Jesus died. We talk about salvation from sin, but salvation from sin IS knowing how deeply we are loved by God, and recognizing that nothing, not one thing, can separate us from that love. We have not earned it by being good people. We do not deserve it because we are somehow better than other people. God's love simply embraces us as we are. It is a radical concept. It takes a lifetime to let that kind of love sink in.

It may seem like an overworked concept, but I can't say it enough, Jesus loves you just as you are, and Jesus loves you too much to let you stay that way. Too often we imagine that Jesus loves us very little, but he will keep at us until we understand, until we are overwhelmed and overjoyed at that love. Be aware in yourself. Jesus loves you completely, and you don't have to earn it, you don't have to deserve it.

May the love of Christ be known to you this day, and forevermore.

Pastor Kerra

Mark Your Calendars!



RALLY DAY
Sunday, Sept. 8
9:15 Breakfast
11 AM Worship
 Sunday School begins
 Sept. 15 at 9:30 AM

Presbyterian Women



The PW Circle will meet on **Tuesday, September 10 at 11 AM** in the Lancaster Hall for study and lunch. Bring a sandwich. Beverages and dessert will be provided. — Doreen Coddington



Ruth Brown to visit APC

Ruth Brown, Mission co-worker in Congo will present a program at Ashland Presbyterian **Thursday, September 12 at 7 PM**. Everyone is invited to see the power point slides of her work, which our church supports. You can talk with Ruth further at a social hour following the presentation.

Meet Our New Intern, Rachel Jenkins

Rachel Jenkins is getting set to begin her ministry with us. We will officially welcome her during our 4th Sunday fellowship Hour on **September 22**.

Committee Meetings

Outreach — Sun., Sept. 1 after worship
 Session — 6:30 PM Tues., Sept. 10
 Worship — Sun., Sept. 15 after worship
 Congregational Care — Sun., Sept. 15 after worship

World Communion Sunday, October 6, 2013

Food for St. James volunteers

We will be providing food for the St. James the Less Clinic volunteers on Wednesday, **September 18**. If you can help, contact Ginger Young.



Usher and Greeter Schedule

	GREETERS	USHERS	COMMUNION ELDERS	COMMUNION PREP	LITURGIST	FLOWERS
9/01/13	K. Pugh	K. Dorgan, G. Young	K. Basilio, M. Carneal, B. Lumpkin, V. Neeley	S. Carneal		K. Pugh
9/8/13	L. Allison	L. Herring, V. Neeley			V. Neeley	K. Basilio
9/15/13	T. Blair	K. Basilio, J. Glazebrook	REMEMBER, If you cannot serve, please find a replacement and leave a message on the office phone, 798-5543.		K. Basilio	
9/22/13	K. Basilio	L. Allison, S. Henderson, B. & E. Shea				
9/29/13	N. & R. Bryan	R. Bryan, J. Tate				J. Tate
10/06/13	S. & M. Carneal	C. Sthreshley, M. Summerson	K. Basilio, M. Carneal, B. Lumpkin, V. Neeley	J. Tate		



Happy Birthday to: September

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 3 Wendy Doyle | 20 Grace Arey |
| 7 Bob Lybrand | Pat Dunn |
| 10 John Carswell | 21 Ellen Albertson |
| 14 Sallie Moncol | |

Have You Registered?

“The Ash Grove”
 at Richmond Hill:
 A Woman’s Retreat
November 22-23, 2013
 (Friday 4 PM—Saturday 4 PM)

Guest Speaker Janie Walker:
 Spiritual Healing.
 Cost is \$75.00. Payment due by
 Oct. 31, 2013

Registration forms are in the narthex or call the church office to obtain information

Congregational Care Committee

The newly-formed Congregational Care Committee held its first meeting on June 9. At that meeting, members examined and revised the statement of committee purpose and responsibilities and worked on lists of members of our church family who may need special support or assistance. They also agreed that “congregational care” means the care of **everyone** in our church family and it was suggested that more opportunities for fellowship can provide that added touch of caring that we all need from time to time. So look for a calendar of events for the coming year that we hope will entice you to connect with people, get to know newer members better, and have some fun!

We still need members! The next meeting will be on **Sunday, Sept. 15**, right after worship, and anyone willing to help is more than welcome! At this meeting, we’ll be working on the calendar for the coming year and brainstorming ideas to keep in touch with our shut-ins and with those who are going through difficult times. Please join us!
—Karen Dorgan, Chair

The Food Chain — Recipe provided by Ginger Young, via *Sunset Picnics and Tailgate Parties Cookbook*.

Overnight Layered Chicken Salad

Ingredients:

- 6 cups shredded iceberg lettuce
- ¼ pound bean sprouts
- 1 8 oz. can water chestnuts, drained and sliced
- ½ cup thinly sliced green onions
- 1 medium-size cucumber, thinly sliced
- About 4 cups chicken, cut into strips
- 2 packages frozen Chinese pea pods, thawed (I used edamame)
- 2 cups mayonnaise
- 2 teaspoons curry powder
- 1 Tablespoon sugar
- ½ teaspoon ground ginger
- ½ cup Spanish peanuts
- 12 to 18 cherry tomatoes, halved.

Spread lettuce evenly in a shallow 4-quart serving dish (9x13 pan). Top with bean sprouts, water chestnuts, onions, cucumber, and chicken. Pat pea pods dry and arrange on top. In a small bowl, stir together mayonnaise, curry, sugar, and ginger. Spread mayonnaise mixture evenly over the top. Cover and refrigerate until well chilled or until next day. Transport in a cooler. Just before serving, garnish with peanuts and tomato halves. Makes 10-12 servings.

In Gratitude for Your Graciousness, Thank You!

I confess it felt strange not to be in worship with you this past Sunday morning. Strange, and a little bit sad. But life marches on, and with ordination exams to take this weekend (Aug. 23-24) and the semester starting on September 9, I do have plenty of work cut out for me.

I am overwhelmed still by the graciousness of your reception of us this summer. We are greatly thankful for your warm embrace of us, me as a wannabe pastor trying to figure out how not to mess up too badly and Julia also finding opportunities to contribute to the life of the church. We are also awestruck by your extreme generosity – in spirit and in more tangible ways as well!

Thank you for taking us in, for providing useful feedback, and for being so willing to roll with some different things as I found my way through the process of learning how to be a pastor. We love you, and we miss you already.

Charles (& Julia) Freeman



From Building and Grounds Committee:

THANKS to Judy Aderhold and to Pat Dunn for their work in dealing with the lack of air-conditioning in the dog days of summer! We think the problems with the system are solved, but please help by being sure that the doors to the sanctuary are kept closed as much as possible, to keep the cool IN and the heat OUT.

And throughout these steamy days, our churchyard has been kept up by Delores Dunn’s son Trey. He cuts the grass, pulls weeds, and keeps the yard in order for us. THANKS, Trey!

Finally, after numerous trips to deal with water on the floor in the Sunday School building, Pat has concluded that the water heater has reached its end. THANKS to Ross Herring who will be installing a new one.

Upcoming activities include continuation of painting and window replacement, as funds permit, and of course the annual Fall Clean-up Day in mid-October.

—Karen Dorgan, Chair