

# APC Connections

Volume 10, Issue 1

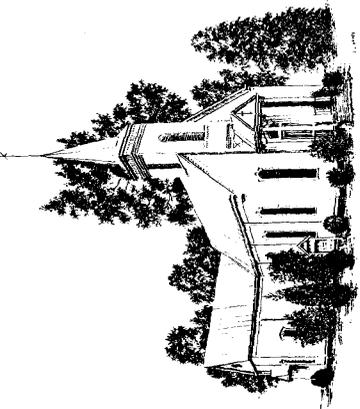
September 2017

**Pastor**  
Rev. Kerra English

**Admin. Assistant**  
Susan Vitale

**Director of Music**  
Karla Bloom

**Organist**  
Elizabeth Hargrove



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ASHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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### Upcoming Events

- Sept. 3 — 9:30 AM Breakfast; 12:15 PM Fellowship honoring Elizabeth
- Sept. 6— 7 PM Choir rehearsals resume
- Sept. 10 — 9:30 AM Sunday School resumes; 12:15 PM Session meeting
- Sept. 12—11 AM Circle meeting & luncheon



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### Pastor's Page

Friends,

Last month, I pointed out that you are a congregation well-balanced in heart, mind, and body. You have heart in how you care for each other, and you are out in body doing active work in the community. But here, you also make learning and teaching important priorities. You are a teaching church – with our student interns, and now we are looking to launch a Spring retreat to teach about how we have learned to be a small and VIBRANT congregation in today's world. I love that!

But being good teachers is a direct result of being eager learners. It's stunning to me to find out how many people never crack a book after graduating high school, but it's even more devastating to find out how often Christian learning stops after Confirmation. An over-emphasis is put on teaching morality to our children, and once they have the rules down, it's assumed that they've got it, that their learning in faithfulness is complete.

But learning the stories in Sunday School is only the beginning. A mature faith develops, and grows, and changes over time. We learn more than just the rules, we

#### Please Note:

- **Remember to wear your name tags in September!** Andrew Bowman, our new intern, will be learning your names, and we will be making the invitation to college students to come and worship with us.
- **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fellowship in September** – Randolph Macon College students will be invited to come and worship with us and join us in fellowship after.

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learn how to be who we are in the world. Allowing our minds to grow by listening to other's perspectives is a gift. We learn that we don't have all the answers, and that the rules are simply guideposts for getting to a place of living our lives in love.

As Andrew begins his internship with us, know that he has a lot of experience in working with young people, of stoking the fires of a newly forming faith. But now, he's interested in learning from you, from those who have lived and loved, who have lost and found, who have known the reality of God and the absence of feeling God next to you. We will learn and grow with him – just as we have learned and grown from the gifts and talents of each passing intern.

You faithfully bring your minds to worship, to fellowship, to study, and to sorting through the details of being the church. Thank you for that. It's part of what makes you who you are.

Peace, Pastor Kerra



## Join Us For An End of Summer Breakfast

September 3, 2017

For an end of Summer, beginning of Fall event, we will be having a potluck breakfast for fellowship and to **introduce seminary intern, Andrew Bowman**, on Sunday, **September 3 at 9:30 a.m.** Bring something to share and wear your name tag!

## AND ... Congratulating and Honoring Elizabeth Hargrove:

Congratulations to Elizabeth Hargrove on her new position as organist at Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church! We wish you all the best, and yet, know that you will be missed.

We will celebrate Elizabeth's work with us on **Sunday, September 3** following worship with a time of fellowship.

Choir rehearsals will start on Wednesday, **September 6 at 7 p.m.** and the choir will be back in the loft on Sunday September 10. New members are welcome to come and sing!



## Usher and Greeter Schedule

	GREETERS	USHERS	COMMUNION ELDERS	COMMUNION PREP & CLEANUP	LITURGIST	FLOWERS
9/3/17	S. Moncol	S. & D. Moncol	D. Dunn	S. Carneal, S. Huff		Basilio
9/10/17	V. Neeley	V. Neeley, M. Summerson				Simpson (or)
9/17/17	J. Paiser	L. & R. Herring	<i>REMEMBER, If you cannot serve, please find a replacement and leave a message on the office phone, 798-5543.</i>			Simpson
9/24/17	E. Pepper	L. Allison, R. English, C. Phillips				Tate
10/01/17	E. Phillips	S. Henderson, M. Summerson	D. Coddington, S. & D. Moncol, C. Schutte	K. Basilio, C. Schutte		

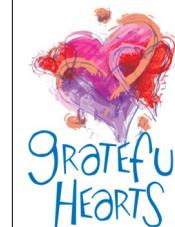


## Happy Birthday September

- 2 Terry Alexander
- 3 Wendy Doyle
- 7 Bob Lybrand
- 14 Sallie Moncol
- 20 Grace Arey  
Pat Dunn

Remember to check out our website at: [ashlandpresbyterian.org](http://ashlandpresbyterian.org) where you can find Kerra's sermons, current (and old) newsletters, and upcoming events.

You can also find us on Facebook!



I am very grateful to my wonderful church family for all your thoughts, prayers, and good wishes. Your cheerful cards, calls, visits, and gifts have surely promoted healing and recovery. See you soon! – Emily Pepper

**The Ash Grove  
at Richmond Hill**  
Friday & Saturday,  
November 10—11, 2017

*Finding Strength at the  
Broken Places:  
Connecting with  
Resilience Within.*

Guest Speaker:  
Brenda Burgner

## Older Adult Fall Retreat

Reconciliation and Embracing Aging

September 28, 8:45 a.m. — 3 p.m at Camp Hanover

The Keynote speaker will be Samuel L. Adams whose interests include the Wisdom literature of the Bible and beyond, wealth and poverty in the biblical world, apocalypticism, the Dead Sea Scrolls, Egyptology, biblical theology, and the Bible and film. He has published several books and his current book projects include a commentary on the Jewish sage Ben Sira and editing a comprehensive introduction to wisdom literature. As an ordained minister in the PCUSA, he has served churches in New Haven, Connecticut, Chicago, Illinois, and here in Richmond.

Breakout discussion groups will be led by Rev. Janet James, *Reconciliation with modern technology and the aging process*; Lillian Rhudy, *Reconciliation with changes in our independence and aging*; Rev. Rebekah Johns, *reconciliation and maintaining relationships with family and friends*; and Rev. Jock O'Connell, *Sharing our own reconciliation with the potpourri of aging*.

**Cost:** \$20.00. **Registration deadline:** September 22.

Register at [www.presbyteryofthejames.com](http://www.presbyteryofthejames.com)

or

call the church office, 798-5543 for a brochure.



SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS

**World Communion Sunday, October 1, 2017**

The Peace & Global Witness Offering is received during the Season of Peace, which ends on World Communion Sunday. A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.



## Sunday, September 10

Join us Sunday, September 10 as we kick off a new year with our Rally Day celebration. This year, there will be no breakfast. Instead, Sunday School for both adults and children will begin. Classes will be held in Lancaster Hall and start at 9:30 a.m.

### Back to School

Like so many of God's children, we, too, will be heading back to school in September. Adult Sunday School classes will resume with a new curriculum entitled Feasting on the Word. Each week we will study the lectionary readings associated with that Sunday. The curriculum explores the historic background and meanings of the Scripture readings that Pastor Kerra will preach on that same Sunday.

We will also be offering a Sunday School program for elementary age children called Growing in Grace and Gratitude.

If you have an interest in leading one or more of the adult Sunday School lessons through the year, please contact Roger Cole.

**Let's get ready to study God's Word.**



### Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women would love to have you join Circle members as they kick off a new year of study with a covered dish luncheon Tuesday, **September 12 at 11:00 a.m.** in Lancaster Hall. Drinks will be provided.

### You're Invited to Discover How God Used an Operation Christmas Child Shoebox in the Life of Elena Hagemeyer



Come join us on Saturday, **September 16, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.**, at First Baptist Church, 800 Thompson St., to hear Elena's powerful story of how God used a simple shoebox gift to touch her life.

**Stay tuned to find out how YOU can change a child's life!**