

# APC Connections

Volume 10, Issue 4

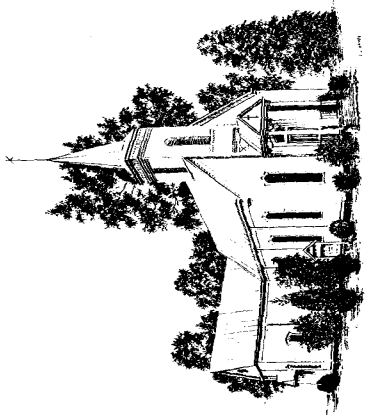
December 2017

**Pastor**  
Rev. Kerra English

**Admin. Assistant**  
Susan Vitale

**Director of Music**  
Karla Bloom

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ASHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

401 Virginia Street  
Ashland, VA 23005

### Upcoming Events

- Dec. 2— 9:30 AM Decorating the sanctuary /PW Wreath Making Party, 10:30 AM
- Dec. 10—Session meets 12:15 PM
- Dec. 17—Choral Christmas Celebration/Reception; Joy Offering
- Dec. 24—11 AM Morning Worship; 7 PM Christmas Eve Service
- Jan. 14 — Session meets 12:15 PM
- Jan. 15-19 — Sanctuary work



### Inside this issue:

- Upcoming Events 2
- Ushers/Greeters Birthdays 3

### Pastor's Page

This child, the Christ child, is a gift — the greatest gift — but remember, he is not ours alone. We cannot put him in a box, even with fancy paper and a bow. He must be free, set loose in the world to establish justice and righteousness, to grow in authority and usher in a time of endless peace. We want desperately for him to change the world, and again we are the ones who are changed. This makes us afraid. The one whom we name Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace renames us. He calls us brothers and sisters, the beloved sons and daughters of God Almighty. Live into those names. You were born to be exactly the person God has called you to be — by name — by talent, by circumstance, by authority, or lack thereof. This may be a story about one baby, and yet it is the story of all children, all people everywhere. New life is terrifyingly good news. Really, it is. Being born into the promise of God's love is terrifyingly good news. Really, it is. It will change the world — because it will change you from the inside out and from the outside in. Imagine the world that was startlingly new according to angels, and shepherds, and young parents, and wise travelers. It is amazing. Halleluiah! A child is born. Christ is born. (From: The Name, Christmas Eve meditation, 2013)

*As we wait for the gift, remember the love of the Giver. Blessings to you this Advent and Christmas season. Pastor Kerra*

### Donations for ACES

Our congregation will again be collecting items for ACES for the holiday season. Underwear and socks, for any age and size are needed. Larger sizes are particularly requested. Donations of disposable razors and toothbrushes (no toothpaste, please) would also be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your generosity!

Join us on Saturday, **December 2 at 9:30 a.m.** as we gather to decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season. The fellowship is great AND we have fun, too! Plus, many hands make light work!

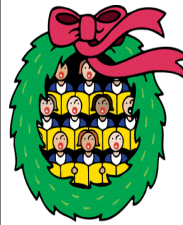


*Deck the Halls*



### PW Wreath Making Party: Something Different!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, **December 2** and join PW in **Lancaster Hall at 10:30 a.m.** for a Wreath Making Party led by our own Annette Shuff. In order for Annette to make sure there are enough materials, registration will be required at a cost of \$35. Lunch will be provided! We hope this will be a day filled with fun and creativity! A sign up sheet is in the narthex. **NOTE:** The Wreath Making Party is taking the place of the Annual Christmas Gathering and Cookie Exchange.



### Choral Christmas Celebration Sunday, December 17

Reception in Lancaster Hall following morning worship. You are asked to bring your favorite holiday snack!

### Christmas Eve Morning Worship December 24 at 11:00 a.m.

And

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service December 24 at 7:00 p.m.



There will be **NO** Sunday School on **December 24 and 31st.**

### Usher and Greeter Schedule

	GREETERS	USHERS	COMMUNION ELDERS	COMMUNION PREP & CLEANUP	LITURGIST	FLOWERS
12/03/17	J. Tate	K. Basilio, L. Campbell	K. Basilio, K. Dorgan, R. DuPriest, K. Hasbrouck	J. Glazebrook, S. Huff	A. Bowman	Neeley/Huff
12/10/17	S. Vitale	L. & R. Herring	<i>REMEMBER, If you cannot serve, please find a replacement and leave a message on the office phone, 798-5543.</i>			
12/17/17	L. Allison	R. Cole				A. Bowman
12/24/17	K. Basilio	R. English, C. Phillips, C. Schutte, J. Tate				Poinsettia
12/31/17	R. Bryan	C. Sthreshley				Poinsettia
<b>At the time of printing, schedules for 2018 had not been made. Please watch your bulletins for scheduling.</b>						

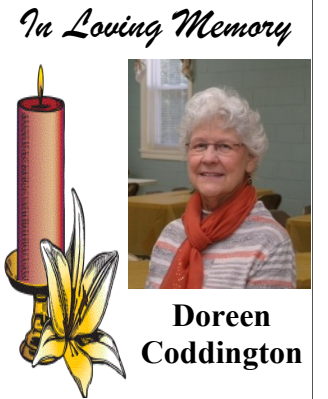


The staff and employees of Ashland Presbyterian Church wish all a safe and joyous holiday season!

*Pastor Kerra Andrew Bowman Susan Vitale Austin Wachsmuth  
Karla Bloom Marcia Davis Shelby Coleman Frey Dalton*

### Happy Birthday to: December January

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Stephanie Neeley | 6 Karen Dorgan      |
| Erin Phillips      | 14 Mike Carneal     |
| Max Shea           | 24 Chuck English    |
| 2 Kathy Basilio    | 27 Brian Phillips   |
| 13 Beverly Shea    | 30 Marsha Summerson |
| 22 Beth Mathes     |                     |
| 27 Kerra English   |                     |
| Elijah Hubbard     |                     |



**Doreen Coddington**

February 29, 1932  
November 20, 2017