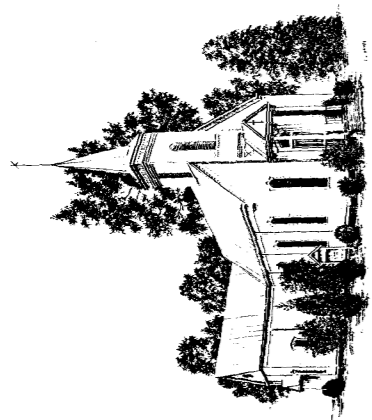


S A V E T H E



The Ash Grove
at Richmond Hill



Friday-Saturday,
November 15 – 16, 2019
Sponsored by Ashland Presbyterian
Church

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

ASHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

401 Virginia Street
Ashland, VA 23005

Pastor
Rev. Kerra English

Admin. Assistant
Susan Vitale

Director of Music
Karla Bloom

Organist
Austin Wachsmuth

D A T E

APC Connections

Upcoming Events

- May 11—Clean Up Day, 9 AM; Austin's Junior Organ Recital, 7 PM at Duncan Memorial
- May 14—PW Circle, 11 AM
- May 19—Session, 12:15 PM



Inside this issue:

Upcoming Events	3
Session	4
Ushers/Greeters Birthdays	5

Pastor's Page

Friends,

In the third chapter of 1st Timothy, Paul is writing words of advice for the leaders of the church, specifically naming Bishops, Deacons, and Women. For all three, he suggests that they be serious and not lovers of money (overly obsessed with money is how I read that). Also, he talks about them being able to keep their own households in order as well as taking responsibility for keeping the church "house" in order. The leaders of the church (by all means including women) have responsibility for the practical matters of church business, and therefore, I consider it a good thing to regularly ask throughout the year – how are we being both generous and responsible with the money of the church???

Though I am not a trained or gifted financial planner – I had a depression era Grandfather who was both apt at pinching a penny, and generous in matters that were important to him. If I were to develop a theological ethic for church finances – I'd probably give it my grandfather's name and highlight those two gifts – frugality and generosity!

Therefore, in calling to mind advice given to Timothy and advice from my grandfather (The *Bob-o* principle), I'd like to thank you for times you have been frugal AND generous.

I love your frugality...

- ◆ You found and chose to buy used pews for the sanctuary renovation. I tell that story often!
- ◆ You manage well with having a part-time pastor, and respect that it is part-time!

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

- ◆ You appreciate the value of a good potluck lunch or breakfast where each person contributes their own delicacies.
- ◆ You make the effort to return church curriculum when we have “overbought” in number, and share books where you can!
- ◆ You find it important to keep about a year’s budget in reserves for that “rainy day” – but you don’t use that as an excuse to hoard an excessive endowment.
- ◆ Wisely, you used money you already had from proceeds of the manse to complete renovations that will serve us well for years to come!
- ◆ You tend to over-budget and under-spend – which means you plan ahead for what we *may* need, but can be satisfied with what we *actually* need.

I love your generosity...

- ◆ You helped Presbyterian Women give over \$500 in supplies and gift cards to Hanover Safe Place.
- ◆ You always keep the food pantry well-stocked.
- ◆ You give especially generously to the Pentecost offering and support the summer programs of the Patrick Henry YMCA because of it.
- ◆ You support the church generously with your regular contributions to its mission and ministry.
- ◆ You are willing to act with financial courage when it comes to ways that we serve the larger community – starting retreats, taking on student interns, supporting mission both local and beyond. Though the money may not always be “in hand” –you trust God to provide when we are in service mode.
- ◆ You may not have any full-time staff, but you seek to pay fairly and appropriately those who serve the church with their time and talents, including the speakers and musicians who come through during the year for one-time appearances.
- ◆ You help people - because you love people. Things are far less important to you. (My grandfather wore pants with holes in them, and repaired his TV with a toothpick – but helped my sister and I buy our first homes. THAT may be a little bit who you are.)

Balancing these two gifts is a challenge. Some people are savers, others are spenders. We NEED both in the leadership of the church – those who will remind us to be cautious with our finances, and those who will remind us that it’s only money! Thank God here we have both – which sometimes complicates our decision-making process around financial issues – and yet, those disagreements help us make very balanced decisions in the end.

You are a very *Bob-o* kind of church – and trust me – I consider that to be about the highest compliment I can give. Peace, Pastor Kerra

Usher and Greeter Schedule

	GREETERS	USHERS	COMMUNION ELDERS	COMMUNION PREP & CLEANUP	LITURGIST	FLOWERS	
5/05/19	N. Morgan	R. Bryan, S. Vitale	R. Bryan	S. Henderson		Tate	
5/12/19	E. Pepper	K. Basilio, P. Shinnamon				Cole	
5/19/19	E. Phillips	T. Blair, Debbie Moncol	REMEMBER, If you cannot serve, please find a replacement and leave a message on the office phone, 798-5543.				
5/26/19	W. Rainey	R. English, C. Phillips, M. Raymond, M. Summerson					
6/02/19	J. Raymond	S. & M. Carneal	M. Summerson	K. Basilio			



Happy Birthday: May

- 3 Sheila Henderson
- 11 Pete Shinnamon
- 16 Annette Shuff
- 17 Ellie Shea

Save the Dates!!

Wednesday, June 26 and
Thursday, June 27



A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex soon!

Partnering with New Hanover PC

We will be co-hosting Presbytery on October 19 at New Hanover PC. Save the date if you are able to be a greeter, parking lot attendant, lunch server (no cooking necessary) or can otherwise volunteer time on that Saturday!



On Easter Sunday, we welcomed Wendy Rainey into our fellowship. Wendy comes to us by way of Alaska, and we are so happy to get to know her. Wendy’s address and contact info is: 209 Hollyside Dr., Ruther Glen, 22546; 907-268-9364, stormyincr@gmail.com.



Farewell to Intern Caitlin Hahn

For the 8 months Caitlin was with us, she taught a pre-confirmation class with Ryleigh and Carly two Sundays of each month (Jacob came for the ride!) One of their projects was making a banner conveying our mission statement *Called to Love; Sent to Serve* which was presented to the congregation on Caitlin's last Sunday, April 28. The banner features a cross surrounded by birds symbolizing the Risen Christ, flanked by hands

of servitude, and surrounded by hearts of love. It now hangs in the sanctuary!

After presenting the banner, Caitlin presented the children with bibles and book-marks. And, so she could never forget them, the children in turn presented Caitlin with a mug that featured the picture above. Thank you Caitlin for your loving spirit and guiding hand! Our youth have been greatly blessed to have had you in their lives!

Session Sound Bites

The following is an overview of our April 14 Session meeting;

- ◆ Our newest member, Wendy Rainey, was introduced to the session.
- ◆ The 2019 Nominating Committee was approved to move forward for a Congregational vote.
- ◆ Caitlin Hahn was thanked for her 8 months of service to our church as a student intern.
- ◆ New Hanover Presbyterian Church has requested our help with serving food, greeting guests and assisting as parking lot attendants as they host the October 19th POJ meeting.
- ◆ A discussion was held regarding the various functions that are a part of our church's life and an understanding of responsible parties for those functions.
- ◆ Adult Sunday School classes will focus on the book of James.
- ◆ A financial audit committee is being formed.
- ◆ A brick for the Memorial Garden has been ordered in Judy Aderhold's memory.
- ◆ May 11 is Spring clean up day.
- ◆ The Ash Grove Retreat will be held on November 15 & 16 at Richmond Hill.
- ◆ The next stated session meeting will be held following worship service on May 19, 2019.

Feel free to contact any Session member for clarification on any of the above items.

—Roger Cole, Clerk of Session



PW Thanks You! Thanks to all of you for giving so generously to Hanover Safe Place! The staff was amazed at how much we had collected, from toilet paper to gift cards. And thanks to the choir for loading up my car to the brim! You all made our PW Spring Community Project a success. Cheers, Ginger Young



Mark Your Calendars

PW Circle

Please join Presbyterian Women for our May Circle when we celebrate and receive the Birthday Offering. Circle will meet Tuesday, **May 14th at 11:00** in the Church Parlor. Pastor Kerra will lead Lesson 9: God with Us. Bring a sandwich; dessert and beverages will be provided. —Linda Allison



Come on out Saturday, **May 11 at 9:00 a.m.** to help with sprucing up the church grounds. Bring your garden tools and gloves as there is weeding to be done. Special attention will be given the Memorial Garden! **Rain date:** May 18!

Christian Ed: Adult and Youth Sunday School

Through Sunday, **May 12**, the Adult class will finish their study of Galatians and James, *Faith and Works*. On May 19, they will begin a new study *An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor. Kerra has some books and more can be purchased as needed. Electronic copies are available for those who want to read on an iPad or Kindle. The Youth Class will be meeting for Sunday School; scheduling yet to be determined.



Dear People of APC, Thank you all so much for the kindness and welcome you've shown me over these past 8 months. Thank you for encouraging me, supporting me, and giving me space to grow in areas in which I was lacking confidence. Your non-judgmental, imperfection-welcoming attitude allowed me to try new things and to feel safe doing so. You truly are a very special congregation with a real gift for hospitality and mentoring. I am so thankful that I got to spend this time with you. I will miss you all. Please feel free to keep in touch.

As I prepare to graduate from seminary next month, I am applying to jobs around the Richmond area working with kids and/or youth in churches and other organizations. Jacob, Carly, and Ryleigh, the relationships we formed are so special to me. Kids like you are why I feel called to ministry!

Thank you all for the love, kindness, and welcome you showed me. This has been a very meaningful and beautiful experience for me and I hope it has been for you all.

Blessings, Caitlin.