

the Messenger

of Hilton Presbyterian Church (USA)

JANUARY 7, 2009

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Worship

Lectionary Readings

January 11

Out of Chaos, Creation

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalms 29

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

January 18

“Week of Prayer for
Christian Unity”
Pulpit Exchange

The Rev. Terrye Williams,
Hilton Christian Church

I Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

I Corinthians 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

Some years ago, I discovered a poem by Samuel Shoemaker in *A Guide to Prayer for Ministers and Other Servants*—“I Stand by the Door.” Shoemaker was the rector at the Calvary Episcopal Church in New York City, and then later at Calvary Episcopal Church in Pittsburg. However, he is most known for his contribution to Alcoholics Anonymous—co-founder with Bill Wilson—and a significant contributor to the writing of “The Twelve Steps.”

Shoemaker was passionate in personal spiritual zeal. He knew all too well the power God’s Spirit can bring to an individual seeking the “abundant life”...and overcoming difficult circumstances. “The Twelve Steps” have been used and modified by many groups seeking the strength needed to conquer addictions of many types and for those with no addiction seeking a deeper life.

The uniqueness about his poem is the deep commitment to help people discover God and to stay close by as they hammer out the issues of spiritual growth.

Speaking of spiritual growth...during the week of January 19-20, I am scheduled to attend the “2009 January Adventure” conference. This will be my third year to attend this “emerging church” conference. Marcus Borg is returning, speaking on the subject of his soon-to-be-released book, *The First Paul: Reclaiming the Radical Visionary Behind the Church’s Conservative Icon*.

Diana Butler Bass will be a new face at this conference in its fourth year. A writer of a religion column for the New York Times from 1995 to 2000, she is currently a professor at Virginia Theological Seminary. Her distinction is her vision of congregational transformation and an intensive study of mainline church renewal. She, too, has a new book to be released in March: *A People’s History of Christianity: The Other Side of the Story*.

On another, but related note, Amie Hellauer has agreed to coordinate the “New Member Outreach” process at HPC. Several other volunteers will assist in this important ministry. Such includes everything from our visibility in the community, response to those who visit our church, Inquirer’s/New Member Classes, to assimilation in the congregation. A schedule of the upcoming Inquirer’s/New Members Class series is listed further in the newsletter. Be sure to give Amie a helping hand, if asked.

All of this brings me back to Shoemaker and the opening lines of his poem...

*I stand by the door.
I neither go too far in, nor stay too far out,
The door is the most important door in the world-
It is the door through which people walk when they find God.
There's no use my going way inside, and staying there,
When so many are still outside and they, as much as I,
Crave to know where the door is.
And all that so many ever find
Is only the wall where a door ought to be.
They creep along the wall like blind people,
With outstretched, groping hands.
Feeling for a door, knowing there must be a door,
Yet they never find it ...
So I stand by the door...*



Rev. Dr. Gary Bagley

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Gary". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

upcoming events

Inquirers/New Members Classes to Begin...

If you are interested in becoming a member of Hilton Presbyterian Church or are interested in learning more about the Christian faith, the Presbyterian Church, or programs and ministries of HPC, these classes are for you. Each class will meet during the Sunday School "hour" (9:15 a.m.) in Room 8 on the Lower Level. Classes are scheduled for February 1, 8, and 15.

Those desiring to become members will have the opportunity to do so on February 22. If you are interested in attending these classes, please contact Amie Hellauer, alhkmh@aol.com or the church office (Sarah McGinnis) SMcGinnis@hiltonpres.org phone: (757) 595-1313.

Choirs Leading in Worship

1/04 Adult Choir/Ensemble
1/11 Adult Choir/Ensemble
1/18 Adult Choir
1/25 Adult Choir/Ensemble

PORT Update

PORT at HPC has ended and God said, "It was good!" Again and again we hear about the hospitality that the members of this congregation offer to strangers. It is one of our church's spiritual gifts. Thank you for all that you did to make our guests feel comfortable during their stay with us. You cooked, served, checked-in, spent the night, hauled, cleaned-up, listened, and prayed. A special thank you to our partner churches Temple Sinai, St. Andrew's Episcopal, Our Lady Queen of Peace, and St. Paul AME. Also dedicated to service is Wilbert Massenburg, who came each day to make our church "clean and spiffy" for our invited guests! Thanks to each of you who responded to God's call during this Advent and Christmas season.

Believe it or not.....I'm asking for your help again! We are partnering with the Korean Baptist Church on Harpersville Road for their PORT week. Our responsibility is Thursday, January 22 for dinner and overnight, and then for breakfast on Friday, January 23. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex.

Kathryn Dabbs, HPC PORT Coordinator

January Circles (locations and times)

Circle 1: TBD
January 15, 7 pm

Circle 2: Margaret Lassiter
January 8, 10:30 am

Circle 3: Blythe Raines
January 12, 7:30 pm

2009 Basketball Schedule

Jan. 8	7:15 pm	@ Hidenwood PC
Jan. 10	10 am	@ Saunders Elem.
Jan. 17	Noon	@ Saunders Elem.
Jan. 20	7:15 pm	@ Hidenwood PC
Jan. 27	6:15 pm	@ Hidenwood PC
Jan. 31	10 am	@ Saunders Elem.
Feb. 10	7:15 pm	@ Hidenwood PC
Feb. 12	6:15 pm	@ Hidenwood PC
Feb. 14	Noon	@ Saunders Elem.
Feb. 17	8:15 pm	@ Hidenwood PC

Summer Job Opportunities at Makemie Woods

Working at **Makemie Woods Camp** is an amazing opportunity for college-aged young adults to develop essential leadership skills and serve God. All applicants need to be at least 18 and one year beyond High School. All staffing information is available for download online at www.makwoods.org

announcements

CONGRATULATIONS to those who were recently married this past month by Dr. Bagley: Cathy Butler and Alan Comstock were married December 20 at the Arbors; Rosemary Bowman (daughter of Sara & Clay Bowman) and Jim McLaughlin were married December 24 at HPC; Blair Smith and Libby Doan were married December 28 at HPC.

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Karen Velkey on the death of her grandmother, Audra Daughdrill, of Louisiana. Condolences may be sent to the Velkeys at 5812 Huntington Avenue, Newport News, 23607.

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is scheduled for Sunday, January 25, at 11:20 am.

RECENTLY MOVED Janie Hurt and daughter Ann are back in Newport News at their home on Villa Road as of mid-December. Their address is 109 Villa Road, Newport News, 23601. The new phone number is (757) 327-0061.

2009 FLOWER CHART is now available for dedications on the bulletin board in front of the office. These flowers decorate the sanctuary each Sunday. Cost is \$43 for each date and payment is due the Wednesday before the dedication.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE! will resume January 14.

HELP NEEDED LINK is in need of volunteers to assist with a new initiative, Hospice, which it will undertake in the near future. If you are interested and want to know more about this new initiative, please contact Lynne Finding at (757) 254-2424 or lynne.finding@gmail.com

DESSERTS NEEDED for Wednesday Night *Live!* Our kids sure do enjoy those homemade goodies! A sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex.

SPECIAL thanks

Dear Hilton friends,
We would like to express our deep appreciation for our church family and we are sustained with your warm thoughts, prayers, and kind words that support us during this time of loss of our grandson, Patrick.

Al and Judi Riutort

To our HPC friends,
Your prayers, concerns and support at this most difficult time have meant so much to us. We thank you for your expressions of love and sympathy which will carry our family into the future.

Steve & Ruth Lanning

Dear Hilton Presbyterian Church,
On behalf of the Hampton Roads Ecumenical Lodgings & Provisions Board of Directors and those we serve, thank you for your recent donation of \$750. H.E.L.P. values our partnership with donors such as HPC and we are thankful for the continued support provided throughout the year.

For the month of November, the Free Clinic located at 317 Rip Rap Road assisted 141 patients. During the same month, our pharmacy filled 142 new prescriptions and refilled 169. Our community supporters and member congregations allow us to serve the men, women and children who turn to us in times of crisis.

Betty Berge, Volunteer Coordinator

Giving Back

The United Campus Ministries at Christopher Newport University united the resources of religious institutions, community organizations and the University to promote and carry out an interfaith ministry to the entire University community through spiritual support, partnerships for service, liturgical celebrations and opportunities to connect faith and learning. Programs that they sponsor on campus include: Labyrinth (a spiritual meditation exercise), Forums (opportunities to explore theological issues on contemporary themes), Alternate Spring Break opportunities and Exam Breaks (an informal contact and caring ministry during exam week). In 2008, Hilton Presbyterian gave \$500 to this organization. More information can be found at <http://www.cnu.edu/ucm/>

remember in your prayers

Family, Friends and those Recovering will be kept on our pastoral care list for one month unless an extension of time is requested. Please notify the church office of any changes.

In Sympathy: Karen Velkey on the death of her grandmother, Audra Daughdrill.
...also to the family of Betty Luce, who died on December 31.

Bayside Convalescent Center: Mildred Mathis

The Chesapeake: Gertrude Kinney, Anna Moyer

Colonial Harbor: Lauren and Virginia Bursch

The Hidenwood: Pearl Hawk, Dorothy Hogue, Alice Wertheimer

Mennowood: Allene Kidd, Arno Pauley

Morningside: Ellie Argo

NN Nursing and Rehabilitation: Angie Hodge

St. Mary's Children's Home: Katie Jones

St. Francis Nursing Center: Charles Meissner

At Home/Recovering/In Treatment: Janie Hurt, Alice Wertheimer, Claire Hubbard, Jessica Doherty, Diane Davis, Ann Sharp, Terry Rankin

Family: Karen Wilkenfeld (Patti Grayson's mother), Linda Whitehouse (Carole Taylor's sister)

Friends: Rick Duncan (friend of Cindy Baker), Lois Bennett (friend of Nelson Farley)

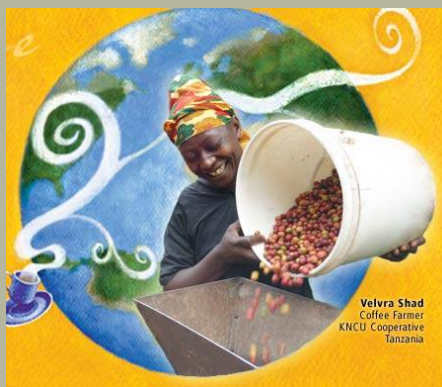
Military: Robbie Casper* (Chris Cann), Joey Doherty, Mike Roane* (Lynne Peterson), Jason Wood*

*Deployed

Our Sister Church in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Brikin Church, Kinshasa

Our Missionaries: Tom & Nancy Rach in Mexico
Scott & Melanie Smith in India

Equal Exchange coffee and tea for sale! Through the *Presbyterian Coffee Project*, your purchase directly supports these co-ops of small farmers who grow these delightful drinks across the globe. Check out the many flavors located outside the Fellowship Hall. Great for gifts!



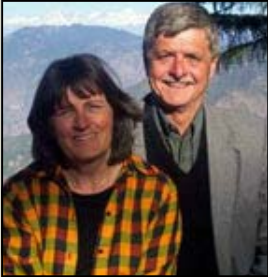
JANUARY birthdays

- 1 West Ailsworth, Bill Rosser
- 2
- 3
- 4 Charlotte Knipp, Tim Wertheimer
- 5 Mary Hellauer, Richard Jordan
- 6 Roy Crooks
- 7 Rick Clark
- 8 Mark Ailsworth, Ty Hubbard, Kyle Sulzberger, Alex Trimble
- 9
- 10 Bob Coleman
- 11 Bette Coleman, Megan Wood
- 12 Richard Jerrils
- 13 Margaret Lassiter, Cheryl Steele, David Fletcher
- 14 Pearl Hawk, Anna Moyer
- 15
- 16
- 17 Cindy Baker, Jessica Doherty, Tony Palumbo
- 18
- 19
- 20 Anita Byrd
- 21
- 22 Clay Bowman
- 23 Matt Caccavale, Joey Doherty
- 24 Bill Blowe, Judy Knight, Todd Woven
- 25 Carey Crooks, Audrey Sulzberger
- 2 Jessica Jerrils
- 3
- 4 Harriet MacNeil
- 5 Nola Atkins, Dorothy Tew, Mike Moonis
- 6 TJ Paul
- 7 Kim Blowe

If your name is not listed, please contact the church office so we can celebrate your birthday too!

MISSIONS *update*

Scott & Melanie Smith, India
December Update



From reading this letter you will find out we are retiring from our work under the PC(USA) in 2009. Please know that we have felt loved and supported by all our church friends over the last 30 years. Although much has changed, both with us and with the PC(USA), over these years it has been a privilege and a blessing for us to have been in partnership with you to some of the most needy communities in south Asia.

We will continue working in India in a new project, based in Dehradun, that develops small businesses linked to three economic sectors; horticulture, medicinal plants, and tourism. These sectors are particularly important to the mountainous state of Uttarakhand where we have been living for most of our time in India. We are looking forward to leading this new effort that will benefit those who have not yet gained from the improving markets in India. The project is a joint venture between the government of Uttarakhand and the German government. It will be different working in a secular organisation after working in church sponsored projects. This change itself causes some anxiety but in many ways I am looking forward to the challenge.

Scott

Mel's Musings

I am not sure how many years I have been writing Mel's Musings. I started them to share about our home life and what goes on behind the scenes of a "missionary" family living in Nepal and India. I sometimes have the opportunity to explore how I feel and make decisions in life. This time I have to tell you about a big change in our lives. We have retired after 25 years working with the Presbyterian Church. This was going to happen next summer but will now happen from February 2009. It feels a bit like jumping out of the boat, but the shock is wearing off, like getting used to cold water. Scott's new office will be on the top floor of the Inderlok Hotel in Dehradun, just 30 km. from Mussoorie, where we have lived for most of our time in India.

Scott's new job will be as team leader of a joint project of the German and Indian Governments. The project will be helping strengthen small business in the state of Uttarakhand (which is the state that Woodstock School is located). He is the team leader but also called the long term international expert and has several other "experts" working with him in the areas of off-season vegetables, education tourism, and medical herbs, which are the potential growth areas for employment and income for people living in this remote hill state of North India. This type of business development has its own vocabulary and processes, is so totally new for Scott and is really pushing his comfort zone. However, we are excited about the practical help this will be for poorer hill based communities, developing the new team, and all the new knowledge that Scott will absorb about "value chains", market development, branding, etc. He has the advantage of living in these hills for 8 years and has a knowledge of village life in the area.

My new work in Delhi has not turned out to be easy. The chaos that was exciting and challenging has turned into frustrating and anxiety making. As Office Manager, I can manage very little change as I do not have the authority that goes with the responsibility. My co-workers are great and mean well, but it gives me a sort of indigestion working around such spontaneous activity.

When I left Woodstock to work in the city I was concentrating on what I was going to "do". Again I am asking myself, and others are asking, what I am going to do now? Scott is moving back north to Dehradun, but I came to Delhi for a reason, so I am not in a hurry to move again after five months. So I am choosing not to answer that question at present. I am going to try to work on just "being" rather than "doing", and see what comes my way. Scott will be on the road quite a bit but will manage most weekends here unless I visit him there. The trains are very comfortable and there are several each day from Dehradun to Delhi and back the other way.

We wish you all peace, and joy and strength for new beginnings in this season that reminds us of God's total commitment.

Melanie

SPRING ACTIVITIES AT HILTON PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday Morning

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship

New Member/Inquirer's Class for Adults:
Feb. 1, 8, 15
Room 8, Lower Level
RSVP to the church office

Children/Youth

Our children's classes are using the
Faith Weaver materials this year.

Crib - 4 Years Old
Room 104

5 Years Old - 2nd Grade
Room 203

3rd - 5th Grade
Room 204

6th - 8th Grade
Room 202

9th - 12th Grade
Youth Room, lower level

Adults

Berean Bible Class
Room 102

Continuing Ray Vander Laan's acclaimed video series *Faith Lessons*, this class will journey through the Holy Lands and the Bible. Each class stands alone. Led by Chuck Webb.

Discussion Class
Fellowship Hall

A lively group who enjoy reading and discussing books on today's Christianity and related subjects. Now studying Celebration of Discipline by Richard J. Foster. Led by Fred Caccavale, Jay Taylor, Margaret Lassiter.

Faithlink Class
Room 208

This class provides a Christian perspective on contemporary issues using Scripture, Christian tradition and open thinking to guide the discussion. Led by Jennifer Bagley, Michael Mulkey, Drew Velkey.

Men's Bible Class
Library Classroom

This class uses the Standard Bible Series for study, questions and discussion. Led by Charlie Slagle.

Wednesday Night *Live!*

Please join us each Wednesday night for dinner at 6 p.m., with music and Christian education classes following. All WNL participants will be given the opportunity to be good stewards of their time and talents by being leaders in worship through song, movement, reading, drama, instruments or whatever creative ideas they come up with.

Children (Grades 1-5)
6:30-7 p.m./Junior Jam
7-7:30 p.m./Class

Youth (Grades 6-12)
5:30-6 p.m./Youth Jam
6:30-7:30 p.m./Class

Adults
TBD

Choirs

Youth Jam

Wednesdays 5:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Grades 6-12

Teamwork is what it is all about here. We learn to sing music in three and four parts and play drums with as many as seven parts at a time. This takes great focus and discipline.

Junior Jam

Wednesdays 6:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Grades 1-5

In Junior Jam, young people learn about worship and prepare to lead in the Sunday morning service of worship. We will explore new ways to share our talents in addition to singing, by using instruments and movements.

Adult Choir

Wednesdays 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

The Adult Choir is responsible for leading our congregational song as well as singing responses and anthems. We sing everything from Bach to Bernstein and Mendelssohn to Ray. We do two major musical works a year, at Christmas and in the spring.

Ensemble

Alternate Thursdays, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

These are the leaders of our contemporary music. We have 4-5 singers and a group of instrumentalists including congas, guitars and bass.

Hilton Ringers

Thursdays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm
6th grade and up

This is an intergenerational handbell choir for youth and adults. A basic knowledge of reading music notation is helpful to join this group. This choir adds to the worship experience through playing anthems, accompanying other choirs and hymns, and doing processions. We are celebrating our 10th anniversary this year!

Chime Choir

Sundays, 11:45-12:15
4th grade and up

This is the group if you want to learn basic music reading and ringing. No prior knowledge or experience is necessary. All that is needed is the daring to try something new and the willingness to have a little fun along the way.

January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Activities in parenthesis are not HPC activities. ◆ WNL = Wednesday Night Live! ◆ PS = Preschool 						
4 Communion 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	5 9 am soup kitchen Noon Newsletter deadline 7 pm Session	6 Preschool resumes 4 pm Soup Van (6:30 pm Hilton Heights mtg)	7 (10 am ALANON) 6 pm WNL Leader Meeting 7:30 pm Adult Choir	8 10:30 am Circle 2 6:30 pm Handbells 6:30 pm Property Committee 7:30 pm Ensemble	9 9 am soup kitchen	10 (6 pm Yadkin)
11 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 Chime Choir	12 9 am soup kitchen 7:30 pm Circle 3	13	14 (10 am ALANON) 5:30 pm Youth Jam 6 pm WNL 7:30 pm Adult Choir	15 6:30 pm Handbells 7 pm Circle 1	16 9 am soup kitchen	17
18 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 Chime Choir	19 OFFICE CLOSED No Preschool 9 am soup kitchen 7 PM Christian Ed Committee	20 7 pm Admin/Finance com- mittee	21 (10 am ALANON) 5:30 pm Youth Jam 6 pm WNL 7:30 pm Adult Choir	22 6:30 pm Handbells Committee 7:30 pm Ensemble 7 pm Worship Committee	23 9 am soup kitchen	24
25 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:20 Annual Congrega- tional Meeting 11:45 Chime Choir	26 No Preschool 9 am soup kitchen	27 7 pm Congregational Care Committee	28 (10 am ALANON) 5:30 pm Youth Jam 6 pm WNL 7:30 pm Adult Choir	29 6:30 pm Handbells	30	31
				1 OFFICE CLOSED (No Keenagers)	2 9 am soup kitchen	3 10 am PW Board mtg



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Laity Assistant Schedule

	Week of January 11	Week of January 18
Building Security	Pax Goodson	Pax Goodson
Greeters	Bill & Ann Sharp	Karan & Michael Mulkey
Ushers	Patty Gibbs, Andy Grayson, Kathryn Grayson, Mike Moonis, Al Pearce, Jay Taylor	Patty Gibbs, Andy Grayson, Kathryn Grayson, Mike Moonis, Al Pearce, Jay Taylor
Counters	Eleanor Day, Patti & Fred Caccavale	Paul Clear, John Philbrick, Jackie Peters
Nursery	TBD	TBD
Moments for Children	Mike Moonis	Renee DiPasquale
Multimedia prep/op	Doug Baker/Francis Pearce, Jack Doerner, Kathryn Grayson	Doug Baker/Francis Pearce, Jack Doerner, Kathryn Grayson
Lay Reader	Drew Velkey	TBD
Flower Delivery	John Philbrick, Martha Hunt	Debbie Barber, Doug Baker, Jane Day
Giving Flowers	Andy & Jackie Connor	Sara Bowman
WNL Cook Team	Jay Stockard (hot dogs)	Charlie & Doris Slagle (spaghetti)
WNL Desserts	Carol Bruce, Teresa Crowson, Renee DiPasquale	Julie Richter, Help needed

The Messenger is published every other Wednesday unless noted. The deadline for the next issue is noon on **Monday, Jan. 19**. To submit news, leave items in the office mailbox marked *office manager*, call Sarah in the office at (757) 595-1313 or email her at SMcGinnis@HiltonPres.org. You can receive *The Messenger* the same day of publication and in color, emailed straight to your computer. Contact Sarah now!