

# the Messenger

of Hilton Presbyterian Church (USA)

January 9, 2008

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## Sunday Schedule

9:00 am	Contemporary Worship
9:50 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Traditional Worship

*The Messenger* is published every other Wednesday unless noted. The deadline for the next issue is noon on **Monday, Jan. 7**. To submit news, leave items in the office mailbox marked *office manager*, call Sarah in the office at 595-1313 or email her at [SMcGinnis@HiltonPres.org](mailto:SMcGinnis@HiltonPres.org)

You can receive *The Messenger* the same day of publication and in color, emailed straight to your computer. Contact Sarah now!

**F**or most Presbyterian Churches, the last Sunday in the month of January is the time of the **Annual Congregational Meeting** required by the Book of Order. Other denominational churches whose polity is congregational (Baptist, United Church of Christ, Disciples of Christ, etc.) have regular congregational meetings and are involved in more decision-making. I have always preferred the representative government that the Presbyterian Church utilizes because it is more efficient, doesn't require an entire congregation to keep up with all of the details of each committee, and relies on representatives of the congregation to make those smaller decisions on behalf of the congregation. As you all know, the Presbyterian form of government is not a pure democracy, but a representative democracy, just like our nation's own system. In fact, our national government was patterned after the Presbyterian form of government. The downfall with representative government is always the possibility of not communicating well enough. Hence, the importance of the Annual Meeting *plus* excellent communication between such meetings! **The Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for January 27, 11:50am.**



Rev. Dr. Gary Bagley

Packets with one-page staff, committee, and program reports will be provided in the narthex prior to the first service. For churches with more than one service of worship, the problem is always, "What is the best time to schedule the Annual Meeting?" Session's decision last September to set the meeting at the end of the second service is the pattern followed by most multiple-served churches.

Committee, staff, and program reports will be limited to 45-seconds, with the exception of a brief Web Committee presentation and the Finance & Administration presentation. Your questions will be received and responded to by appropriate leaders at the end of the reports. Let me comment on two items of special interest.

**The Administration & Finance Report.** Actually, the A & F Committee is currently responsible for several areas of work— overall administrative process, budget administration, personnel, stewardship, technical support and website. Further in this newsletter is a Stewardship Update. Please look at it carefully. Due to some unavoidable circumstances, the normal follow-up to this year's stewardship campaign experienced delays. That aside, commitments for 2008 are behind what is necessary for a healthy budget *and* does not provide for an associate pastor. At the Annual Congregational Meeting, this committee will address both important issues related to this existing shortfall.

On a positive note, the **Website sub-committee** will "unveil" the new website. With no other advertising for the church, the website is the one place prospective new members can learn about HPC and "get a feel" for the ethos of our congregation. Many wonderful things go on inside our church. Communicating this is a challenge. Redesign of the website began several months back. I think you will be pleased with the new look. A big "thank you" to the individuals whose insight and labors several years ago put Hilton Presbyterian Church's profile on the internet, and a big thank you to those involved in redesigning the site. At the Annual Congregational Meeting, you will see a brief overview of the new site on the overhead screen.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary".

# upcoming events

## Senior High Ski Trip

February 15-16

## Senior High Beach Blast

March 7-9



Paperwork on both trips will be given out tonight during Wednesday Night *Live!* Deposits for the ski trip will be due **tonight, January 9**, and deposits for the beach trip will be due next Wednesday night, January 16.

The ski trip deposit is \$50.00. As in the past, the cost for the ski trip should run about \$130.00 for tubing one night, accommodations, and skiing the next day. If someone does not want to ski, then the estimated cost for the trip with tubing both days is \$90.00. We will be leaving on Friday late afternoon and coming back on Saturday night.

The deposit for the beach trip will be \$25.00. The total amount for the trip should run about \$40.00 to 50.00 per person- depending on how many youth pay the deposit by Jan. 16. We will leave late in the afternoon on March 7 and return Sunday afternoon, March 9 around 3 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Bob Sulzberger at 591-9634 or [rsulzberger@cox.net](mailto:rsulzberger@cox.net)

## 2008 Wednesday Night *Live!* Kickoff

There will be two important parent meetings tonight, January 9, and lots of fun for children and youth. At 6:30, parents and youth leaders of 1st through 5th graders will meet in the upstairs adult Sunday School room. We are excited about a new curriculum that we will be using for WNL and would like to share its goals and philosophy with you, and explain how you can help.

Parents of high school students going to Montreat this summer will be meeting at 7:00 in the confirmation room upstairs. Beth Jackson will discuss costs, fundraising, and other details of the trip.

This will also be a fun night for children and youth! High school and middle school students will hold a game night for younger kids from 7-7:30.

## THE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN of HILTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Join us for these upcoming events:

### Winter Retreat

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

Friday, February 22, 7:15-8:30 pm

Saturday, February 23, 8:30 am-3:30 pm

Retreat Leader: Rev. Margaret Starbuck Hausman

“Nurturing the Holy Spirit in Our Lives”

### Spring Gathering

Williamsburg Presbyterian Church

April 12, 2008

### Birthday Celebration

Hilton Presbyterian Church

Salad luncheon

April 12 12:30 pm

Five Circles meet one a month on three different days at varying times

Our year-long project is **Transitions**, a battered women's shelter

We are studying “Above and Beyond”, Hearing God's call in Jonah and Ruth

All women are invited to all our activities.

Call Diane Clear (596-3679) or Margaret Lassiter (244-4585) for more information.

# announcements

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to Barbara Matthews, whose sister, Gail Lambiotte, died on January 5. Condolences may be sent to Barbara at 115 Sloane Place, Newport News, VA 23606.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Jennifer and Gary Bagley on the birth of their grandson, Brooks Davis Mullen, on December 27. Their daughter, Lisa, John, and Anna live in Atlanta.

**THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** is scheduled for Sunday, January 27, at 11:50 am.

**2008 FLOWER DEDICATION CHART** is now posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. These flowers will adorn the sanctuary each Sunday. Cost is \$43 for each dedication. Your payment is due the Wednesday before the dedication.

**2008 PLEDGE ENVELOPES** are now available for pickup in the narthex. While envelopes are automatically provided for all HPC members, they are also available for anyone who wishes to participate in the financial support of our ministries. If you don't see your envelopes, please pick up a blank set and notify the church office of your number.

**THE KNITTING AND CROCHETING GROUP** will meet Thursday, January 17, at 1 pm in the Preschool snack room.

**HEIFER INTERNATIONAL** received a gift of a llama from former temporary pastor Tom Mainor and his wife Betty, in honor of the congregation of Hilton PC. According to the Heifer brochure, "Llamas are a terrific asset to farmers in the highlands of South America. Families weave clothing and blankets from llama's abundant wool fiber, and the nimble, intelligent creatures can survive on twigs and moss."

**RECENTLY MOVED** Harriet MacNeil has moved recently and would like to share her new address: 1020 N. Quincy Street, Apt. 716, Arlington, VA 22201.

**RECENTLY MOVED** Joey and Jessica Doherty have recently moved and would like to share their new address: 8B Luffberry Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89115.

## Lenten Adult Study

Wednesdays, beginning...

Ash Wednesday, February 6

led by Gary Bagley, Pastor

This seven-week study will utilize the 2006 book, *The Last Week*, by John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg. Using the chronology of the Gospel of Mark, the earliest gospel, this book provides a bay-by-day account of Jesus' final week—Palm Sunday through Easter.

In addition to local book stores, this book can be purchased at Amazon.com's "other vendors" for under \$4 plus shipping. Retail is \$13.95. No Adult Wednesday Evening Classes will meet until February 6. The first class will meet at 6:00 pm followed by the Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm. The remaining 7 classes are scheduled for 6:30 pm. The concluding study will be on March 26, following Easter Sunday.

Read what others have said about this book:

*If there is...one book for the redemption of Holy Week, this is it. This is a must read...*

—Peter J. Gomes Harvard University

*...Borg and Crossan show one of the most careful and insightful readings of the Bible I've ever come across.*

—Brian McLaren, author of *A New Kind of Christian*

*It is difficult to underestimate the importance of this volume...*

—Barbara Brown Taylor, author of *Leaving Church* and *The Preaching Life*

# remember in your prayers

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

Riverside Hospital: Roger Butler, Julia Futrell  
Riverside Rehab: Libby Smith  
Bayside Convalescent Center: Mildred Mathis  
The Chesapeake: Anna Moyer, Gertrude Kinney  
Colonial Harbor: Lauren and Virginia Bursch  
The Hidenwood: Pearl Hawk, Alice Wertheimer  
Mennowood: Allene Kidd, Arno Pauley, Charles Meissner  
Morningside: Ellie Argo  
NN Nursing and Rehabilitation: Angie Hodge  
St. Mary's Children's Home: Katie Jones

Having Surgery This Week: Nola Adkins, Sara Bowman

At Home/Recovering: Terry Rankin

Family: Ann Hurt (Janie Hurt's daughter)

Military: Robbie Casper, Joey Doherty, Brian Morris, Carl Ward, Jason Wood  
\*Deployed

Our Pastor Nominating Committee for an Associate Pastor: Debbie Barber, Sam Heatwole, Jack Jackson, Lee Anne Sulzberger - Co-Chair, Drew Velkey - Chair, Hannah Weeks

Our Missionaries: Tom & Nancy Rach in Mexico  
Scott & Melanie Smith in India  
Dan Grimes, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

*...with heart, soul, mind and strength*

## 2008 Stewardship Update

		(2007 Comparison)
Number of Commitment Cards Returned	107	125
Amount Committed to 2008 Budget	\$288,386	\$337,451 (18% over 2006)
Average Commitment	\$2,695	\$2,700
Other Income	\$49,208	\$41,900
Adopted Budget	\$356,973	\$386,659
Difference in Commitments/Anticipated Income & Budgets	-\$26,687	\$0

(Due to the shortfall in commitments at this point, the 2008 Budget does not and cannot provide for an Associate Pastor position. Continuation of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee's search process is pending sufficient congregational financial commitment. If you have not yet submitted your 2008 Commitment Card or would like to increase your initial pledge, please consider doing so. Your commitments are critical to re-establishing the Associate Pastor position at HPC. You may contact Heather Wright, Treasurer, at (757) 595-1313, extension 15, or email her at [HWright@hiltonpres.org](mailto:HWright@hiltonpres.org). Our apologies for delays in the Stewardship Follow-up process and the negative impact such may have had on your commitments.)



Memorable moments from the Vivaldi Cantata on December 16: Left, Lois Reese and Debby Heatwole. Right, Lynne Peterson.  
*Photos by John Philbrick.*



### PORT 2007

Along with all her other duties, PORT Co-ordinator Kathryn Dabbs found time to take some pictures of our HPC volunteers at work. Read her follow-up on page 6.

## Spotlight on Missions

*People Offering Resources Together*  
Dec. 19-26

We celebrated our tenth year of hosting PORT! It was one of our most successful efforts. Last Sunday, Gary preached about how we have to forget our successes in order to live as Christ calls us to live. We have to strive to do our best at all times even when it's something we've done repeatedly. There is a level of comfort when doing a task for the second or third or tenth time but I think I understand Gary's interpretation of Paul's words from Philippians. There must be newness, an excitement, a renewed commitment each time to respond to God's call. I believe that our experience with hosting PORT this year was just that. We didn't just mindlessly go about the tasks that we have done year after year. We extended our hospitality to those who needed us, showing the love that we know through Jesus Christ. I am grateful to each of you who helped in small and large ways to minister to those in our community who find themselves homeless. I hope you will continue to pray for the PORT program and specifically for the clients who lives may be changed by those who feed them, check them in for the night, bag their belongings, or simply offer them a smile. Is it possible that God may have changed us, too??

*Blessings to you all,  
Kathryn Dabbs*

*We will be assisting the Korean Baptist Church with PORT Jan. 29-30. We will prepare and serve dinner, check-in, spend the night and serve breakfast. If you are willing to help in any way, please sign up Sunday in the narthex.*

## Blood Drive Update

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
January 21, 2-7 pm

On January 21, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the Red Cross Blood Drive will be held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church from 2-7 p.m. Maybe you are off work that day, making it easier to donate.

The appointment system for planning your donation is beginning to make the wait more reasonable and we appreciate the patience and tenacity of our committed donors. If you made an appointment, you will be contacted to remind you of your appointment time.

If making an appointment was not convenient for you, don't worry. Walk-ins are welcome and the Red Cross Team will not leave until all donors are processed.

As always, if you cannot donate blood, you may provide cookies or sandwiches for the event. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex.

In advance, I thank you for your support of this ministry -- the gift of life.

*Wanda Fletcher, HPC Blood Drive Coordinator*

# SESSION highlights

*At the stated meeting on January 7, 2008,  
Session:*

- Approved the minutes of the Stated Session Meeting held on December 10, 2007
- Entered the death of Lloyd Fisher on December 12, 2007 into the official church record
- Entered the marriage of Bill Banks and Clara Warren on December 28, 2007 into the official church record
- Approved a Facilities Use Request by Al-Anon to move their meeting location from the Arno Pauley Room to Room 102 for their weekly meetings due to the need for more space
- Approved that certain restricted funds be brought from a negative balance to a zero balance by applying up to \$1123 from the 2007 budget surplus as shown below. Use of funds from other committee accounts to accomplish some of this was also encouraged.
  1. Line item 8105, Middle School Summer Conference, \$242
  2. Line item 8702, Flower Fund, \$722
  3. Line item 8704, Christmas Tree, \$159
- Approved a revised 2008 budget as presented by the Administration and Finance Committee due to updated pledging figures

Next Stated Session Meeting February 4, 2008 at 7 pm.

## Stewardship Statistics

2007 Annual Budget	\$386,659
Year-to-Date Requirements	\$386,659
Year-to-Date Receipts	\$359,768
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$345,021
Net Income	\$14,746
December 30, 2007 Receipts	\$5,807
Christmas Joy Offering (total)	\$1109
PORT (total)	\$695

# 2008 Activities at Hilton Presbyterian

## Sunday Morning

Beginning January 6

9:00 am Contemporary Worship  
9:50 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Traditional Worship

Coffee is available in the kitchen following the first service.

New Member/Inquirer's Class for Adults: TBA  
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 - 1st Grade**  
Room 203

**2nd & 3rd Grade**  
Room 205

**4th & 5th Grade**  
Room 207

**6th & 7th Grade**  
Room 204

**8th & 9th Grade Confirmation**  
Room 202

**10th - 12th Grade**  
Youth Room, lower level

### Adults

**Discussion Class**  
Fellowship Hall

A lively group who enjoy reading and discussing books on today's Christianity and related subjects. *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time* by Borg. Led by Fred Caccavale, Rick Kerns, 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**  
Arno Pauley Room

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

**Berean Bible Class**  
Room 102

Now studying Ray Vander Laan's *Faith Lessons*, which includes three or four video series over the course of the next year.  
Led by Chuck Webb.

## Wednesday Night *Live!*

Beginning January 9

Please join us each Wednesday night for dinner at 6 pm, with music and Christian education classes. 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

6:30-7 pm/Junior Jam (1st-5th grades)  
7-7:30 pm/Class

### Youth

5:30-6 pm/Youth Jam (6th-12th grades)  
6:30-7:30 pm/Class

### College & Career

6:30-7:30 pm/Class  
Led by Tim & Diane Davis, this class is for those who have finished high school and want to continue developing their faith through fellowship.

### Adults

(6-7 pm February 6)  
6:30-7:30 pm/Class February 13-March 26  
Led by Gary Bagley, Pastor  
*The Last Week* by John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg  
(see page 3 for more information)

## Choirs

### Junior Jam

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. Led by Lois Reese and Patti Grayson.

### Youth Jam

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. Music led by Lois Reese, Debby Heatwole, Riki Murphy.

### Adult Choir

Wednesdays, 7:30 - 9:00 pm  
The Adult Choir is responsible for leading our congregation in 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.

### The Ensemble

Alternating Thursdays, 7:30 - 8:30 pm  
These are the leaders of our contemporary music. We have 4-5 singers and a group of instrumentalists including congas, guitars and bass.

### Handbell Choir

Thursdays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm  
6th grade and up  
This is an intergenerational group 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 look forward to the possibility this year of joining 50 other choirs at the Hampton Convention Center for the AGEHR Area III Handbell Festival.



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 Postage PAID  
 US Permit # 95  
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## Laity Assistant Schedule

	<b>Week of January 13</b>	<b>Week of January 20</b>
Greeters	Rachel Herrmann, Helen Mitchell	Edith Elliott and Louise Frehafer
Ushers	(9:00) Patty Gibbs, Andy Grayson, Rick and Philip Schwarting (11:00) Pax Goodson, Mike Moonis, Al Pearce, Jay Taylor	(9:00) Patty Gibbs, Andy Grayson, Rick and Philip Schwarting (11:00) Pax Goodson, Mike Moonis, Al Pearce, Jay Taylor
Counters	TBA	TBA
Nursery	(9:00) Patti and Tyler Caccavale (11:00) Renee DiPasquale, Catherine Goodson	(9:00) Francie Pearce, Chip Shefelton (11:00) TBA
Moments for Children	Renee DiPasquale	Wanda Fletcher
Multimedia	Francie Pearce, Winston Davis	Francie Pearce
Coffee Fellowship	Charlie Slagle	Bill & Barbara Blowe
Worship Leader Lay Reader	(9:00) Melissa Goodson (11:00) Wanda Fletcher	(9:00) Lisa Schlickemeyer (11:00) Randy Herrmann
Flower Delivery	John Philbrick, Martha Hunt	John Philbrick, Martha Hunt
Giving Flowers	Kathryn, Bobby and Alexis Dabbs	Jackie & Andy Connor
WNL Team	Charlie & Doris Slagle (spaghetti)	Fred & Patti Caccavale (subs)