

the Messenger

of Hilton Presbyterian Church (USA)

November 21, 2007

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Sunday Schedule

9:00 am	Cont. Worship
9:50 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Trad. Worship

The Messenger is published every other Wednesday unless noted. The deadline for the next issue is noon on **Monday, December 3.**

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

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

As I write this article, Jennifer and I are spending some vacation days at the beach. **Last Friday, we closed the sale on the house in Atlanta** after many months. We also had pre-Thanksgiving dinners with each of our extended families in the Atlanta area. Thanks for your prayers, emotional support, and financial support during the nineteen months of two house mortgages.

The news of Advent Workshop's success traveled quickly to me. Thanks to the many of you for making this happen, and especially to Doris Slagle, Michelle Schuler, and Susan Banning who led the effort.

Also earlier today, I learned of the death of **Jim Moyer**, longtime Hilton PC member. Please remember Anna and their family in your prayers during this time of loss. Details of his memorial service are in the Announcements on page 3.

Another report that made its way through my email was that of Heather Wright's (Treasurer) with a statistical update of **Stewardship Commitments for 2008.** According to her statistical report dated November 19, eighty-seven cards have been returned so far, totaling \$257,346. Many thanks to those of you who have already turned in your projected commitments for next year, and an added thanks to those who have been able to significantly increase your pledge.

Your response last year enabled Session to place a half -year's compensation for an Associate Pastor whose focus will be Youth and Christian Education Ministry. In order for the budget to remain healthy (meaning practical and reachable), the overall pledge total needs to experience a 13% to 15% increase. The average annual pledge last year was \$3,019 ranging from \$50 to \$12,750.

Hilton Presbyterian Church has been getting back on track during the last few years... and you have been doing so wonderfully. Hilton PC is a congregation of devoted volunteers, generous in mission giving, vibrant with youth, passionate in music ministry, and eager to learn and grow spiritually. Our growth in stewardship is a key factor in removing those things that prevent us from doing our best...for the sake of God's Kingdom. Please help us realize this dream more quickly by returning your Commitment Card (if you haven't done so already), or by increasing your commitment even if you have already returned it.

Jennifer and I will be back for the first Sunday of Advent. Looking forward to seeing you then.



Rev. Dr. Gary Bagley

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary".

upcoming events



by Antonio Vivaldi

a Christmas Cantata

presented by

Hilton Presbyterian's Adult Choir
Accompanied by organ and orchestra

Sunday, December 16, 11:00 am
(only one service on this day)



Poinsettias & Wreaths

Festive poinsettias (\$8 each) and wreaths (\$25 each) are available for purchase. They will decorate the church during the holiday season. A sign-up sheet is located in the church narthex. The deadline for orders is December 2.

Spotlight on Missions

People Offering Resources Together

An opportunity to join a local mission project
Dec. 19-26

The PORT season has begun! We at Hilton Pres have an opportunity to share Christ's love with those who find themselves without a home this Christmas season. Hilton opens its doors Wednesday, December 19 through Wednesday, December 26. Prior to that you may donate items for their gift bags - especially socks and warm gloves. Place them in the large basket in the narthex. Volunteers will be needed to cook, clean, check guests in and out, and spend the night! If you are unencumbered part of Christmas Day, please consider "sitting the desk" so our friends will have a safe place to stay. Sign up in the Narthex.

Kathryn Dabbs

Advent Open House

Sunday, December 16, 3-5 pm
at the home of Gary & Jennifer Bagley



Directions from HPC:

Left, Warwick Blvd, 3.2 mi

Left, Hiden Blvd., .9 mi

Bear **Left**, Blount Point, 0.3 mi

Left, James Landing Road, 0.3 mi

Left, Settler's Road, 0.2 mi

71, on right

If you would like to bring a dish or need a ride, please sign up in the narthex.

announcements

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Anna Moyer on the death of her husband and longtime member, Jim. A memorial service will be held Wednesday, November 28 at 3:30 pm in the Chesapeake Room at The Chesapeake. Condolences may be sent to Anna at 955 Harpersville Road, Apt. 1038, Newport News, VA 23601.

KEENAGERS will meet on Thursday, December 6 at 11:30 am at the Smithfield Inn. The Inn is located at 112 Main Street, Smithfield, Va. The cost of the luncheon is \$15.95 and includes tax and gratuity. Debby Heatwole has agreed to be our special guest again this year. Please call Nola Atkins at 838-0352 to reserve your place.

MULTIMEDIA needs your help! Young or old, anyone is welcome. If you can create PowerPoint from word documents you are needed to help during Contemporary worship. Contact Francie Pearce at faapearce@verizon.net or 596-6012.

NURSERY help is needed for the 7:30 pm Christmas Eve service. Please call Linda Philbrick at 930-0668 if you can help.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH deposit of \$25 for next summer's Massanetta retreat is due by December 12. Middle Schoolers will travel to Massanetta June 20-24. This deposit is non-refundable and can be mailed to the church office, dropped in the offering plate or given to a youth leader. Please note child's name and "Massanetta" on the check. See Beth Jackson for more information.

YOUTH FUNDRAISER Wall calendars for 2008 are on sale to help support future retreats for our middle school youth. Each month has a beautiful picture and inspirational Bible verse. Cost is \$8 each. Consider giving them as gifts to your friends and family, as well as buying one for your home. The calendars are available in the narthex. Thank you for your continued support of the youth programs at Hilton.

RECENTLY MOVED Drew and Karen Velkey have moved and would like to share their new address: 5812 Huntington Avenue, Newport News, VA 23607.

RECENTLY MOVED Ed and Mary Cotton have moved and would like to share their new address: 75 Beulah Drive, Raphine VA 24472.

SESSION *highlights*

At the stated meeting on November 5, 2007 Session:

- Approved the minutes of the Stated Session Meeting held on October 1, 2007
- Approved a facilities request by Wanda Fletcher (Hilton PC Blood Drive Coordinator) for use of the Fellowship Hall and Kitchen on November 17, 2008 from 12:30PM-9PM to host the blood drive
- Approved a facilities request by Sandra Dekker for use of the Fellowship Hall by the Neighbors of Historic Hilton Village on November 15, 2007 (6:30-8:30 pm) for an organizational meeting and discussion
- Received the report of the Commissioners to the October 23 Presbytery Meeting. Report provided by Rev. Bagley, Charles Slagle, and Mike Moonis
- Adopted the Cash Receipts Policy presented by the Administration and Finance Committee
- Approved use of the *Saving Jesus* DVD series for Solomon's Café
- Approved Hilton Presbyterian Church Property Committee Mission and Organization document
- Approved the scheduling of one service on December 16 at 11:00 am due to the cantata

Next Stated Meeting: December 10, 2007 (Note change from original schedule)

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.

- Bayside Convalescent Center: Mildred Mathis
- The Chesapeake: Anna Moyer, Gertrude Kinney
- Colonial Harbor: Lauren and Virginia Bursch
- Green Field Home: Harriet MacNeil
- The Hidenwood: Pearl Hawk, Alice Wertheimer
- James River Convalescent & Rehab: Lloyd Fisher
- Mennowood: Allene Kidd, Arno Pauley, Charles Meissner
- Morningside: Ellie Argo
- NN Nursing and Rehabilitation: Angie Hodge
- St. Mary's Children's Home: Katie Jones

At Home/Recovering: Nelson Farley, Robert Oglesby, Roger Butler

Family: Iona Sanders (Diane Davis's mother), Betty James (Kathy James-Webb's mother), Dotty & Gordon Sanborn (Kevin Sanborn's parents)

Friends: Sylvia Melson, Stephen Bartley King (friend of the Sanborns)

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

The Gray/Bruce families in the ongoing process of their brother's/son's death.

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

SPECIAL thanks

Dear Ones:
You will never ever know how much I miss you. The prayers, the cards, the phone calls, have all been wonderful. I have learned the sound of the mailman's car coming up the mountain and I so look forward to the cards and notes he brings. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

*"Sometimes I'm up, sometimes I'm down.
O' yes, Lord, but still my soul
is heavenward bound. O' yes, Lord!"*

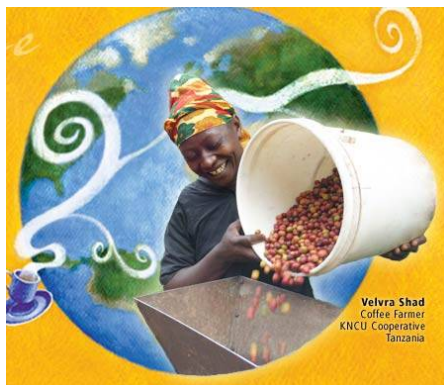
I took a poll and two people (one is an Elder) want HPC to move up here on this mountain (called Pinnacle Mountain). There is plenty of room now, but it is building up fast...

*Love you,
Janie and Ann Hurt*

Stewardship Statistics

2007 Annual Budget	\$386,659
Year-to-Date Requirements	\$342,045
Year-to-Date Receipts	\$304,724
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$304,402
Net Income	\$323
November 18, 2007 Receipts	\$8,157

Equal Exchange coffee, tea and cocoa 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.



Blood Drive News

Guess what had . . .

7 trained staff people, lots of equipment, computers, medical supplies, chairs, tables, sandwiches, pretzels & cookies, paper goods, soda, juice and water, 14 smiling volunteers giving a total of 38 hours of their time, 56 patient people willing to donate the gift of life with 47 viable units of blood collected – 7 over the goal, and one great feeling for helping others?



Nelson Farley

I bet you guessed it was the Red Cross Blood drive held at HPC on November 5. We had a hard working team of professionals and volunteers and so many wonderful, willing donors. It was a great day. The waiting time improved, especially during the early hours of the drive. It was a real thrill to work with a young woman who gave blood for the first time and was so frightened, but determined, that her feet were literally shaking as she waited to begin. She did a great job!



Joe & Sue Hogue

Thanks to the following folks from Hilton who so generously gave of their time:

Dot Turner, Barbara Matthews, Sue Hogue, Jackie Peters, David & Wanda Fletcher, Dorothy Crute (Wanda Fletcher's mom), Jackie Connor, Claire and Ty Hubbard, Margaret Lassiter, and Francie Pearce.

Thanks to Julie Richter and Eleanor Day for the really good brownies.

Thanks to the 24 fabulous blood donors representing HPC (out of a total of 56 from all six churches) who were patient, brave life-givers: Julie Richter, Barbara & Bill Blowe, Debbie Barber, Wanda Fletcher, Doris Slagle, Leslie and Gary Leser, Rev. Gary Bagley, Sarah McGinnis, Nancy Petters (teacher in our preschool), Kathryn Dabbs, Sam Heatwole, Patti Caccavale, Sue & Joe Hogue, John Hubbard, Chuck Paul, Francie Pearce, Nelson Farley, Michael Mulkey, Allison Mulkey, Jonathan Hurd (Allison's friend), and Lori Adams.



Claire Hubbard & David Fletcher

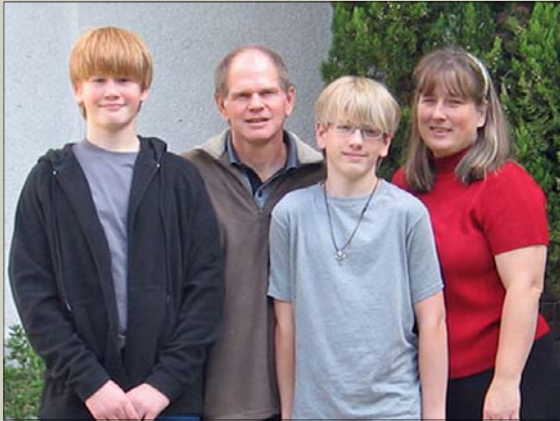


Ty Hubbard & first-time donor, Christina

Wanda Fletcher
Hilton PC Blood Drive Representative



MISSIONS *update*



November 2007

(The Rachs were at Hilton PC on November 11, sharing their mission experiences during the Sunday School hour.)

Time for a long-overdue update!

We are currently in Newport News, VA visiting churches and friends. We will be heading back to Michigan this Sunday after our visit with Hilton Presbyterian Church (this photo was taken November 11, the day the Rachs visited!). We have had a great time here in Virginia catching up with old friends and sharing with supporters what we have been doing this past year. If anyone still wants to see us, you can contact us via email to get on our calendar. Virginians will have to catch us quick to get a cup of coffee before we leave! We will be in Michigan through the end of December so if any of our home churches want to see us or have an update, please let us know!

Tom has been doing a fine job presenting our ministry at churches. He has been sharing pictures and stories of families that have received our tanks this past year. It has been refreshing to have him share the presentations! He has been using a slide format this year rather than a PowerPoint presentation.

As to the rest of us, David studied hard to memorize the first 5 chapters of Galatians in order to qualify to quiz with Berrien Center Bible Church quizzers in Pennsylvania. He qualified and joined the teams. The quiz meet was changed from Pennsylvania to the Detroit area. Each church involved brought multiple teams (3 kids per team) to the meet. David's team took first place amongst all the teams. Way to go, David! His next meet will be November 16 & 17 at the Great Lakes Quiz. David will be 14 years old on November 29! Kids really do grow up fast. Joey, 12, has gone through a growth spurt and is now taller and heftier than Tom, though not as broad shouldered. Joey has been busy practicing his piano and giving mini-recitals for interested family and friends. He is also doing puzzles in his free time. He just finished a large puzzle of the Aztec Calendar. Nancy keeps busy coordinating the family schedule and taxi service. The boys continue to home school while we are stateside, though a bit interrupted by various commitments.

Our last update we told you our great news about our residency being finalized and telling you about Tom needing a Chiapas driver's license. The last installment of that story is that Tom was unable to get his license. The law is well written and we are entitled to have licenses. The department of motor vehicles' internal paperwork is where the problem lies. They have a guideline book they follow that lists who can have licenses. They inadvertently left our category off the list. Anyone in the process of immigrating can have one but once they reach that goal, they aren't listed (probably because no foreigner in Chiapas was willing to put up with 10 years of red tape until we came along). It is a silly error on their part but they stick to it like it is the constitution. We only need our Chiapas licenses when we are purchasing insurance for our truck when in the US. The fees vary greatly if you only have a US license rather than a Chiapas license. The Lord intervened this trip and allowed us to have the lower rate in spite of the fact that Tom's Chiapas license expired last December. We plan to pursue the license issue when we get back to Chiapas. You can pray for wisdom and intervention when we begin the process.

Several people have emailed to inquire about the flooding in Tabasco and the mudslides in Chiapas. We don't have much that we can say. What we know is what we have gleaned off the internet and a brief conversation (before the flood & mud) with our neighbor back in Comitan. The flooding was caused by heavy rainfall, not related to any hurricanes. Betty, our neighbor, had told us that it was raining nonstop in Comitan for about a week. To the best of our knowledge, everyone in Comitan is fine. It is located in a fairly safe area of the state and not usually directly affected by problems like these. Please pray, though, for all the folks affected by these floods and disasters in Mexico. Unlike the US, the majority of people have no insurance and their entire livelihood is swept away. Many of the affected are children and senior citizens who are unable to just go find work and replace what was lost. Pray for families that have lost loved ones.

Thank you once again for your interest and prayers for our family and ministry. The Lord uses you greatly in our lives!

*Joyfully journeying with Jesus,
Tom, Nancy, David and Joey*

Fall Activities at Hilton Presbyterian

Sunday Morning

Beginning September 9

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 September 19

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

6:30-7:25 pm/Class / Room 8, lower level / Gary Bagley

A study of *The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith* by Marcus J. Borg. While controversial in many ways, *The Heart of Christianity* has provided re-education for many Christians who have become discouraged with the Church still living in the 19th century. Please bring your own copy.

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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Laity Assistant Schedule

	Week of November 25	Week of December 2
Greeters	Aderon & Patty Gibbs	Paul & Diane Clear
Ushers	(9:00) Susie Banning, Eleanor Day, Lynn Gray, Michelle Schuler (11:00) David Fletcher, John Philbrick, Pete Jones	(9:00) Rick Kerns, Blair Smith (11:00) Al Pearce, Greg Raines, Terry Rankin, Douglas Wolff
Counters	Paul Clear, Eleanor Day, Kaitlin/Kevin Clear	Charlie Slagle, Mike Moonis, Lynn Gray
Nursery	(9:00) Francie, Annie Pearce (11:00) Mark & Kim McKnight	(9:00) Patti Caccavale (11:00) Carole Taylor
Moments for Children	Pam Daetwyler	Kathy James-Webb
Multimedia	Jack Doerner, Katie Grayson, Francie Pearce	Francie Pearce
Coffee Fellowship	Kathryn Dabbs	Margaret Lassiter
Worship Leader Lay Reader	(9:00) Blair Smith (11:00) Renee DiPasquale	(9:00) Melissa Goodson (11:00) Kathryn Dabbs
Flower Delivery	Kathryn Dabbs, Jay Taylor, Bob DiPasquale	Mike Moonis, Doug Baker, Jane Day
Giving Flowers	Kevin & Anita Sanborn	Gary & Jennifer Bagley
WNL Team	Fred & Patti Caccavale (subs)	Michelle Schuler
Lawn Care	Craig & Vicki Signorelli	Craig & Vicki Signorelli