

the Messenger

of Hilton Presbyterian Church (USA)

February 21, 2008

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Sunday Schedule

9:00 am	Contemporary Worship
9:50 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Traditional Worship
5:30 pm	Covered Dish

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

The season of Lent intentionally stirs the water within the minds and hearts of many Christians. The church season is meant to encourage a reflective spirit. Tradition encourages believers to “give something up” during those forty days plus six Sundays. The purpose of such deprivation is to remind one of God as he or she is “doing without” a normal comfort.

Engaging in a positive activity is another way of enriching one’s life—reading a special book, participating in a book or Bible study, observing a daily pattern of meditation, involving oneself in a special community or church service to name only a few ways. The basic premise is to respond to the question: “What can I do during the season of Lent to deepen my relationship with God?” The purpose of any spiritual discipline is to put yourself in a position to more readily encounter God.

Last Friday evening, Jennifer and I went to see the movie *Atonement*. In addition to Jennifer having read the book, I knew enough about it to be assured that it did not delve into some of the unhealthy theories of Jesus’ death that I had just as soon bypass.

While the movie by Director Joe Wright deals with the deep, subtle issue of sin and forgiveness, the story is about a bad choice made by a 13-year-old girl. Her decision to make a false accusation against her sister’s boyfriend results in his being arrested and first placed in prison before being sent to the front lines during World War II. This selfish decision ultimately results in the young man’s death as a result of the war and her sister’s death during an air raid over London. For the rest of her life, this younger sister must live with the consequence of her mistake—her sin—and struggle to somehow “atone” for her wrongdoing. The story concludes with the unmistakable reality that “forgiveness is God’s alone to deliver,” to use the words of James Wall, former editor of *The Christian Century*.

So initiating a reflective and prayerful “season” in one’s life this Lent could be a prelude to deeper healing and the discovery of a constructive use of one’s mistakes.

Sunday nights’ Solomon’s Café’s Lenten series and the Wednesday evening adult book study of *The Last Week* in Jesus’ life could also be a catalyst of personal growth during the weeks left.

As a side note, don’t forget this Sunday evening’s “Covered Dish Supper.” In addition to enjoying the favorite recipes of Hilton members and friends, it’s a great time to enjoy the fellowship of the congregation.



Rev. Dr. Gary Bagley

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

upcoming events

Solomon's Café

Christian Community, Discussion,
and Wisdom with Every Cup!

Open to All
Beginning February 10
7 pm - 8:30 pm



*Ever feel like Jesus has been kidnapped
by the Christian Right?*

Join us Sunday nights at Hilton Presbyterian Church as we unblinkingly explore what it means to be Christian in the third millennium. What is the popular definition of a Christian and who defined it? Would Jesus agree with America's understanding of Him? Why has our modern model of Christianity become increasingly un compelling to the Western world, and dare we admit it - to ourselves? What then are we to do?

Using video excerpts from the series "Saving Jesus" as a launching pad for discussion, we will enjoy the candlelit comfort and coffee-house atmosphere that we have come to expect from Solomon's Café. Each Solomon's Café topic stands alone, but we encourage you to come to them all and bring a friend!

February 10	How was Jesus defined through the Ages?
February 17	Who exactly was Jesus?
February 24	The World into Which Jesus Was Born
March 2	What Can We Really Know About Jesus
March 9	Teachings of Jesus: Wisdom Tradition
March 16	Jesus' Program: The Kingdom of God
March 23	Jesus' Ministry of Compassion
March 30	Why Jesus Is Worth Saving

Lenten Opportunities

<i>The Last Week</i> , book study Marcus Borg & Dom Crossan	Wednesdays, beginning Feb. 6, 6pm Thereafter, 6:30pm, Room 8
Solomon's Café <i>Saving Jesus</i> series	Sundays, 7pm, beginning February 10 Narthex
Palm Sunday	March 16, 9am & 11am
Maunder Thursday Service	March 20, 7pm
Good Friday Service "Stations of the Cross"	March 21, 12 noon St. Andrews Episcopal Church
Easter Sunday	March 23, 9am & 11am

The Presbyterian Women of Hilton Presbyterian Church

Join us for this upcoming event:

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"

*Food for the Body & Spirit * Music & Workshops * Arts & Crafts*

Covered Dish Supper

This Sunday
February 24, 5:30 pm
In the Fellowship Hall

Hilton Presbyterian is known for friendliness and good cooking! Come, bring your favorite dish, and take time to enjoy fellowship and a delicious meal. (A recipe card on the side would be a bonus.)

*Sponsored by the Congregational
Care and Fellowship Committee*

In the Swing

with the

KEENAGERS

Who: Anyone over 55

When: March 6, 11:30 am

Where: Mike's Place
Warwick Village Shopping Center
Newport News

Please call Nola Atkins at
838-0352 for more information
or to reserve your place.

announcements

CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED BY SESSION FOR THE FOLLOWING DATES: The March 9, 11:55am meeting is for the purpose of electing a Congregational Nominating Committee and hearing a report from the Administration & Finance Committee concerning the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee search possibility; the March 30 meeting will be for the purpose of electing elders to the Class of 2011.

WANTED! Volunteers to help lead activity centers for 1st - 5th graders at Wednesday Night Live! No experience required. The activities are EASY, and materials and directions are provided. If you can help out just one week during the spring quarter, it will be greatly appreciated! Please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex or contact Judy Knight or Patti Moonis for more information.

PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY FOOD DRIVE As a WNL! service project, 1st-5th graders are asked to bring in peanut butter and jelly for the Food Bank of Virginia Peninsula. These are two of the most needed items. Children may bring their donations (plastic jars and bottles preferred) on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings through the end of February. We encourage everyone else to participate!

ATTENTION MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS AND PARENTS The next payment of \$50 for Montreat needs to be paid by March 31 and can be refunded if the youth cancels. The money is needed to help pay expenses that will be paid before all the fund raising events are done. By the end of April, each participant will know any additional costs. Please turn money into Beth Jackson so that everything gets credited for the participant.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME begins Sunday, March 9. Please mark your calendars!

Equipping the Saints 2008

Saturday, March 1, 8 am-4 pm
Royster Memorial PC in Norfolk

The Presbytery of Eastern Virginia (PEVA) is providing its annual opportunity to learn, lead, grow and become a better informed workshop.

Equipping the Saints for 2008 promises to be a grand event; it will lift up Christian Education and its importance in the life of Christ's Church. The Christian Education Committee, Chaired by Lou Ventura of Suffolk Presbyterian Church, has worked above and beyond the call of duty to provide an excellent event for PEVA.

Christian Education is the theme for 2008, calling upon the gifts of people throughout the Presbytery, and beyond, to share their gifts for the good of all of us in PEVA.

The *Keynote Speaker* is Dr. Y. Dianne Wright, President for A.P.C.E., and a Christian Educator, Professional Dancer, and Elder in the PCUSA. Dianne has served the PCUSA on all levels, including local, presbytery, national, and international. She is a talented professional, outstanding servant for Jesus Christ, and a sincere, committed Christian person. We are excited about her presence with us this year.

After registration and breakfast refreshments, enjoy the worship and creative talents of the Praise Dancers of Community Presbyterian Church Portsmouth, the instrumental music talents of Matthew Krammes of First South Norfolk Presbyterian Church, and the dancing magic of the Spirit Loving Dancers of PEVA and Hampton Roads. The Christian Education Committee is planning an opening and closing worship that will give glory to God and inspire all who attend.

Some of the workshops this year are: Adult Bible Study; The Bible for a Visually-Oriented Culture; Baroque & Classical; The Creative Art of Christian Education; Liturgical Gifts; Educating Churches about Hunger; Presenting VBS, and much more!

You can attend all or part of the activities, but the fee of \$15 covers continental breakfast, worship, workshops, lunch and the closing. Share this day with people from the 64 congregations throughout PEVA — it's a wonderful experience that will energize you for the rewards and challenges of your church.

The registration form is available in the narthex and at www.pcusa-peva.org/what.htm Click on What's New

The deadline to register is February 25. Fee is \$15.00 and payable at the door or in advance. Child care will be provided. For more information call the church office at 595-1313.

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: Becky Lupton

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

Riverside Convalescent Center: Libby Smith

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

Having Surgery This Week: Patti Moonis

At Home/Recovering: Steve Lanning, John Greenlee, Nola Atkins, Jo Pollock, Roger Butler

Family: Allison Dodd (daughter-in-law of Shelby Dodd), Lewis Bailey (nephew of Janie Hurt)

Military: Robbie Casper (Chris Cann), Joey Doherty, Tommy Edison*/Josh Runnels/Dennis Peterson (Heather McHale), Brian Morris, 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
Pax and Lucy Goodson, Honduras

SPECIAL thanks

Dear Hilton,
A special thanks to you and Judy Knight for the lovely flowers brought last Sunday. We are enjoying them very much!

Virginia and Lauren Bursch

I would like to thank my Hilton family for all their support, prayers, calls, cards and the church flowers. Your prayers are definitely felt.

Diane Davis

Friends in Need

Dear Hilton,
Our dear friends, Carlos and Adrianna Sanchez and their 4-year-old daughter Andrea are moving to Newport News from Venezuela. Carlos is already here (staying with us) and teaching at Maury High School in Norfolk. Adrianna and Andrea will arrive in late March. Although they plan to stay in the U.S., moving household goods is prohibitively expensive so they are starting from scratch beyond what they can fit in their suitcases! The Sanchez's need everything — couch, beds, rugs, kitchen items, you name it. Carlos and I are already haunting the thrift stores and will be doing the yard sale circuit with dedication but the more people donate, the more resources they will have for all the miscellaneous expenses of setting up housekeeping. Contact me if you have anything you wish to pass on.

*Thanks in advance,
Sarah Davis*

14 Cale Circle
Newport News, VA 23606
H: 757-599-4757
M: 757-593-1745

Pancake Supper 2008

Shrove Tuesday's Pancake Supper and silent action was a great success bringing in \$316 for the Senior High Youth. Along with the delicious meal (who can resist breakfast for supper?) was a tempting array of desserts, teas and coffees for auction donated by our members. Keep up the good work!



Photos by Sarah McGinnis



MUSIC notes

Chime In!

Our new chime choir is forming. We will begin rehearsing on **Thursday, March 6, from 6:00 – 6:30 pm.** This is for anyone in 4th grade through adult who is interested in learning to ring. If you are a non-music reader and want to learn to ring this is the place to start! We've heard our chimes as accompaniment to the Adult Choir on Christmas Eve. The Youth Choir learned the "Westminster Chime" in one rehearsal and weren't they beautiful in the "Prayer for Humanity" as played by our Handbell Choir in February? The possibilities are endless. Please sign up in the narthex so Lois can have enough music for everyone.

Youth Jam

It is time to crank it back up! We resume rehearsals this Wednesday, Feb 20 at 5:30 pm. More drums are on the way so bring a friend. We have something special planned for our first united service on March 30th with the drums and adult choir, so come be a part of the fun.

Lois Reese,
Music Director



SESSION highlights

At the stated meeting on February 4, 2008 Session:

- Approved the minutes of the Stated Session Meeting held on January 7, 2008 and the minutes of the Congregational Meeting held on January 27, 2008.
- Entered the death of Harry Stinemeyer on January 23, 2008 into the official church record.
- Approved a Facilities Use Request for the Fellowship Hall submitted by Preschool assistant Jami Parsons for a practice session of the Hilton Elementary "Odyssey of the Mind" team on Feb. 9 from 1-5 pm.
- Facilities Use Request for the Sanctuary from Rachel Middleton (granddaughter of Harvey & Sadie Hubbard) to use the Sanctuary on June 20 and 21, 2008 for the purpose of a wedding rehearsal and ceremony.
- Received a report of the Commissioners to the January 26, 2008 Presbytery Meeting
- Approved a motion that the Christian Education Committee be authorized to move ahead with planning for a mission trip to Philadelphia August 10-14, 2008.
- Approved a motion put forth by the Worship Committee worship be unified into a single service, with a half hour of fellowship between Sunday School and worship, beginning on March 30, the Sunday following Easter, with the backup date, if needed, of April 27.
- Approved March 9 and March 30 as Congregational Meeting dates for the purposes of electing a Congregational Nominating Committee (March 9) and for nominating the 2011 Class of Elders
- Appointed Charlie Slagle, Kathryn Dabbs, and Kevin Clear as Elders from the Class of 2008 to serve on the Congregational Nominating Committee
- Agreed by common consent to defer holding a Service of Wholeness and Healing until later in the Spring

Next Stated Session Meeting March 3, 2008 at 7pm.

Stewardship Progress Report

As of the printing of this newsletter, a number of new or increased pledges have been received. Last fall's Commitment Card shortfall of \$20,000 has been made up, and approximately \$16,719 of the total \$60,000 compensation needed has been committed beyond this year's budget. \$7,600 of that is committed specifically to the associate pastor position.

The Session-established deadline for making an added financial commitment is February 24. At the March 9, 11:55am Congregational Meeting, the Administration and Finance Committee will provide a report on this challenge to the congregation and the feasibility of moving forward.

Stewardship Statistics

2008 Annual Budget	\$330,286
Year-to-Date Requirements	\$44,462
Year-to-Date Receipts	\$51,201
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$54,889
Net Income	(\$3,687)
February 17, 2008 Receipts	\$5,239

Attention Adults!

Haven't been to Sunday School lately? Not sure you agree with where the church seems to be going? The Adult Class that meets in the Fellowship Hall is not a lecture class but a lively discussion group led by Fred Caccavale, Rick Kerns and Margaret Lassiter. We invite you to join us at 9:50 am each Sunday as we start a new book entitled "**Presbyterians Being Reformed: Reflections on What the Church Needs Today**"— a series of thirteen perspectives on the theme from a wide range of leading Presbyterians.

*What do YOU think the church needs today?
Join us to hear and be heard.*

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. *Presbyterians Being Reformed: Reflections on What the Church Needs Today*. 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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Laity Assistant Schedule

	Week of February 24	Week of March 2
Greeters	Bryan & Sarah McGinnis	TBA
Ushers	(9:00) Kevin Clear, Josh Perry, Bob & Kyle Sulzberger (11:00) Fred Caccavale, Doug Chapman, Aderon Gibbs, Randy Herrmann, Bill Sharp	(9:00) Francie Pearce, Margaret Lassiter (11:00) Bill Banks, Bill Blowe, Paul Clear, Jackie Peters
Counters	George & Debbie Barber, Dot Turner	Eleanor Day, Fred & Patti Caccavale
Nursery	(9:00) Lynn & Chelsea Gray (11:00) Leslie & Sarah Leser	(9:00) Chip Shefelton, Karen Velkey (11:00) Kim & Mark McKnight
Moments for Children	Lisa Schlickemeyer	Kathy James-Webb
Multimedia	Francie Pearce, Jack Doerner	Francie Pearce
Worship Leader Lay Reader	(9:00) TBA (11:00) Sarah McGinnis	(9:00) TBA (11:00) TBA
Coffee Fellowship	Bill & Barbara Blowe	Kathryn Dabbs
Flower Delivery	Judy Knight, Al Riutort, Kevin Clear	Debby Heatwole, Blair Smith
Giving Flowers	Open	Margaret Hurt
WNL Team	Fred & Patti Caccavale (subs)	Michelle Schuler (chicken sandwich)