

the Messenger

of Hilton Presbyterian Church (USA)

July 9, 2008

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Sunday Schedule

9:15 am	Adult Class
10:30 am	Worship

The Messenger is published every other Wednesday unless noted. The deadline for the next issue is noon on **Monday, July 21**. 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!

Yesterday, a conversation to which I was privy suddenly turned to the topic of storytelling. Actually, the topic was more accurately about the *magic* of storytelling, or the *magic* of stories. Some of them are dead true, some contain elements of the truth but are wrought with great embellishment, and other never happened at all. Yet, the power in all three is there.

Just hearing the words, “Once upon a time...,” or “I remember when...,” or “Did you hear the one about...?” is enough for everyone in earshot to put their own conversation on pause, turn their heads, and give an addictive, undivided attention for the next few seconds or minutes.

Garrison Keillor is our generation’s “hands down” prince of storytelling. You know when he starts that an important nugget of truth will eventually surface, and you know from the start that whether the story happened exactly that way is beside the point. You’re eager to be carried to another place in time, hear how someone else encountered an element of life, and wait to be lifted to that invisible plain of reality which inspires, brings laughter, or evokes tenderness. Michael Mulkey would probably win the prize in our congregation for recalling and telling stories, with a touch of mystique. He is not alone. To tell a good story, one must be an observer of nature and have the ability to look beyond self.

Stories of life are all around. They are happening all the time. It is when they are missed or not seen for what they are that we indulge in temporary poverty. One of my tender memories from several years back occurred during a Sunday lunch. Our oldest daughter was home for the weekend from college. Several neighbors and members of the congregation were hosting the lunch. Not long after we arrived at the home, a grandmotherly woman sensing Kelly’s awkwardness at not knowing the group very well pulled her aside. She coached Kelly to two nearby chairs. With a big smile and eyes that pulled her in she said, “Now tell me all about yourself.”

Yesterday also, I witnessed the laughter of a large family gathering recalling stories of their father, grandfather, and great grandfather who had just died. In a later conversation, stories of a previous church mission trip to Chiapas were recalled with much delight, detail, and passion. Sunday in the narthex, a story was recalled about one’s golfing father who shot a 72 on his 70th birthday, almost claiming that desired prize of many golfers—shooting his or her age.

This past 4th of July, we joined other neighbors and friends in an annual parade of a fire truck, postal service truck, children’s bikes, dogs, lawnmowers, many waving flags and smiling faces. At the concluding point, snow cones were waiting for all. Dog stories were a dime a dozen. I even overheard a neighbor telling someone else about our own Sidney flawlessly fetching the newspaper from the driveway each morning—better than life! And once again, I heard the story of the neighbor who always hosted the refreshments for the neighborhood following the parade...at the end of her driveway. In her memory and honor, her appreciative husband continued the story.



Rev. Dr. Gary Bagley

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

upcoming events



Healthy Congregations Workshop

THIS Saturday, July 12 / 8:30-2:30

A continental breakfast and fellowship lunch will be provided for \$5

Led by Richard Short, General Presbyter

While especially appropriate for members holding leadership positions, this conference is designed for the entire congregation. The workshop is based on Peter Steinke's "system approach" model. Using video, case studies, and discussion, participants will focus on "responsible and enlightened behavior." In essence, the workshop will be on the "stewardship" of the congregation — "how people care for, respond to, and manage their life together." Steinke, a congregational systems consultant, an educator, a former parish minister, and a therapist speculates about the mood, tone, and spirit of a congregation being closely related to having a clear purpose. "When life is meaningful, people have more energy—and hope."

RAINFOREST ADVENTURE

VBS 2008 / July 14-18

*Every tree in the forest will
sing joyful songs to the Lord.*
- 1 Chronicles 16:33



announcements

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Sue Pollock on the death of her husband and longtime member, Ken Pollock. A funeral service will be held today at Peninsula Funeral Home at 2 p.m. Burial will follow at Peninsula Memorial Park. Condolences may be sent to 700 Hudson Terrace, Newport News, VA, 23605.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL will be July 13, 20, and 27 in the Fellowship Hall. Beginning at 9:15 am, Margaret Lassiter, Jay Taylor and Chuck Webb have teamed up to lead a class entitled "Prayer."

QUARTERLY CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS will be mailed Tuesday, July 8 to those who pledged for 2008. Please contact Church Treasurer Heather Wright, at 595-1313 ext. 15 if you have any questions or concerns with your statement.

FURNITURE NEEDED Within the past 3 weeks LINK has placed 10 families in housing; however, LINK has NO furniture and NO household goods to give to these families. Persons who have furniture and/or household items which they can donate should call 595-1953 ext 212 or ask for Brenda Moore. Thank you for your willingness to extend a helping hand.

FAIR TRADE COFFEE & TEA on sale outside the Fellowship Hall. Many flavors to choose from and you'll be supporting a great mission of HPC.

Stewardship Statistics

2008 Annual Budget	\$330,286
Year-to-Date Requirements	\$171,495
Year-to-Date Receipts	\$196,411
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$174,241
Net Income	\$22,170
July 6, 2008 Receipts	\$9,515

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: Sue Pollock on the death of her husband, Ken.

Bayside Convalescent Center: Mildred Mathis

The Chesapeake: Anna Moyer, Gertrude Kinney

Colonial Harbor: Lauren and Virginia Bursch

The Hidenwood: Pearl Hawk, Dorothy Hogue, 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

At Home/Recovering/In Treatment: Charlie Slagle, Patti Moonis, Renee DiPasquale, Kathy Young, Terry Rankin, John Honeycutt, Diane Davis, Julia Futrell

Family: Mildred Bagley (Gary Bagley's mother), Alan Bobbe (Francie Pearce's father), John Davis (Tim Davis's father)

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

*Deployed

Our Christian Education & Youth Ministry Search Committee/APNC: 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

MISSIONS *update*

Scott & Melanie Smith, India

June Update: Move to Delhi

Time for another news update. For those that do not know, I (Melanie), decided to accept an invitation to work in a struggling but growing Fair Trade company in Delhi, as the Office Manager. I really enjoy the challenge. We have just made the big move from a beautiful cool vacation paradise to the sweltering congested city of Delhi.

Scott is away for a week (in Fatahpur) doing training for the community health staff who are hoping to develop women's groups in the communities. The staff worked on the technique of focusing the community on one problem at a time. They worked on the real problem of the inaccessibility of the hospital to women at time of birth. They discovered several ways of addressing the problem such as proposing the hospital have special rates for the 40th week so the mothers-to-be can come to the hospital early, talking to the whole family, including the mother in-law, on making a delivery plan. (who and when to take the mother to the hospital, who to phone, care before delivery, etc)

Melanie

See our website for their full letter and new address.



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 US Permit # 95
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Laity Assistant Schedule

	Week of July 13	Week of July 20
Building Security	Pax Goodson/Michael Mulkey	Pax Goodson/Michael Mulkey
Greeters	Aderon & Patty Gibbs	Eleanor Day, Johnnie Chai
Ushers	Patty Gibbs, Andy Grayson, Ellen & Pax Goodson, Mike Moonis, Jay Taylor	Patty Gibbs, Andy Grayson, Ellen & Pax Goodson, Mike Moonis, Jay Taylor
Counters	Paul Clear, John Philbrick, Kaitlin/Kevin Clear	Priscilla Bele, Leslie Leser, Susie Banning
Nursery	Leslie Trimble, Vickie Signorelli	Lee Anne & Audrey Sulzberger
Moments for Children	Renee DiPasquale	Wanda Fletcher
Multimedia	Francie Pearce	Francie Pearce
Liturgist	Lisa Schlickemeyer	Debby Heatwole
Flower Delivery	John Philbrick, Martha Hunt	John Philbrick, Martha Hunt
Giving Flowers	Patti Grayson	Knight family