

# The Sampler April 2010

From the  
Pastor



## Alleluia, Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed!, Alleluia!

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body {of Jesus}. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood

beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground. Luke 24:1-5

Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? Isaiah 43:18-19

After dealing with a couple weeks of health and energy challenges, I finally made it back to the swimming pool in the early morning hours. As I was putting on my swim suit, I said to myself, “How wonderful to be getting back to normal.” Then I realized that there actually is no normal.

Easter, Resurrection Sunday, is here again, a normal reoccurring event in both the Christian and secular calendar. The Holiest of Holy Days, the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus three days after his crucifixion on the cross. The fulfillment of the promises made by God and Jesus. The event that changed history forever.

During a Children’s Sermon, Mary Glenn talked about the fun part of Easter: chocolate bunnies, marshmallow chicks, egg hunts, and new clothes. She then tried to impress upon the children the original reason for all the celebration – the resurrection of Jesus and the promise of new life. Something that adults are supposed to know.

The scripture from Luke about the very first Easter tells how the women were initially perplexed and confused and then terrified. They went to the tomb of Jesus expecting to find a body to tend in the traditional manner of their culture. They had gathered the necessary supplies and were planning to complete the job with sorrow but also with understanding. There were tears of grief in their hearts if not also in their eyes, but a task needed to be accomplished, probably something that they had done too many times before.

‘BUT’ – the reality that messes up so much of life. Like the women, we have learned to deal with what occurs, feeling sorrow or joy, and having a degree of confidence in knowing what is what when it happens. ‘BUT’ – the usual is no longer usual and becomes something new. The carefully constructed plans are no longer functional, and we become perplexed and confused and even terrified. The expected, the typical, the predictable, the normal is no more.

God has been making things new since the beginning of time. Creation itself was a new thing. Abram was called to a new land and given a new name as were several others in the ancient history of Israel. Isaiah told of God declaring the new He was doing. Jesus tried to use words to prepare his followers for what was going to happen. Why were they surprised and perplexed and confused and terrified? Why are WE surprised and perplexed and confused and terrified when a new thing occurs?

Celebrate the joy of Easter every day with the faith that the Risen Savior is doing a new thing in your life. Something so filled with love that whatever ‘BUT’ you encounter, you can still respond with a heartfelt joyful Thanks be to God! Alleluia!!!!

*Pastor Barb*

## The April Sampler

*Scribe's Scribbles*



### NEWS FROM THE SESSION

The session held its monthly meeting on Monday March 8, 2010 after having not met in February due to weather. At the meeting, the following items were reported:

- Letters of thanks were received from Massanetta Springs and Davis Stuart for recent donations.
- The Summer Sensations director's position would be offered to Melanie Ogu. If she declined, the position would be advertised as soon as possible.
- One half of the Shared Mission Support of Presbytery contribution would be sent in March 2010 and the remaining half sent in October 2010.
- The missionary allotments for the year would be paid in April 2010.
- A donation would be sent to the Romney Volunteer Fire Department.
- The insurance adjuster had visited the church to assess the snow and ice damage to the guttering, fascia, snow birds, outside water facet, and windows. A contractor had been engaged and was preparing estimates. The damage to the shrubbery would probably not be covered under the church's insurance policy.
- Selected communion services will include several congregation members reading parts of the Prayer of Great Thanksgiving.
- Jane Wright Slocum reported on the 144<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Presbytery of Shenandoah which she attended as commissioner. The meeting was held on November 10, 2009 at the Tinkling Spring church in Fishersville, VA.
- The Year End Statistical Report had been completed. Copies of the Church Report Form were distributed.

The following actions were taken:

- Scheduled Vacation Bible School for June 20-24, 2010. Alana Hartman will be director.
- Approved the One Great Hour of Sharing offering to be received on Easter Sunday.
- Approved the Ash Wednesday service that was held on Wednesday February 17, 2010.
- Approved a Christian Seder meal for Maundy Thursday, April 1, 2010.
- Approved the Romney Ministerial Association's Community Easter Sunrise Service at Romney Presbyterian Church on Easter Sunday April 4, 2010 at 7:00 a.m.
- Approved the following dates for communion in 2010:
  - April 1, 2010 (Maundy Thursday)
  - April 11, 2010 (Second Sunday of Easter)
  - May 23, 2010 (Pentecost)
  - July 11, 2010
  - August 22, 2010
  - October 3, 2010 (World-Wide Communion Sunday)
  - November 28, 2010 (First Sunday in Advent)
- Approved the purchase of 16 new shorter, light weight tables for the fellowship hall at a cost of approximately \$2448.00 plus shipping cost of approximately \$350.
- Approved Memorial Fund money for purchase of the new tables.
- Assigned session members to audit the 2009 financial records of the various organizations of the church.
- Approved the request for transfer of membership of Rebekah Hott (Cookman), Jackson Cookman, and Samuel Cookman to the Hott's Chapel United Methodist Church.
- Appointed Bob Allen and Donald H. Cookman to the 2010 Congregational Nominating Committee.

At a special session meeting held on Wednesday February 24, 2010, the session approved the hiring of Melanie Ogu as youth director.

#### Treasurer To Date Snapshot February 2010

Total Income - \$ 6,936.89  
Total Expenses - \$11,117.97  
Loss Income - \$ 4,181.08

Accounts  
Money Market - \$13,278.52  
Now - \$29,228.17

## The April Sampler

### **YOUTH NEWS...**

**Congratulations** to the following Social Studies winners: Bryson Dolly, first place; Trevor Shaffer, first place; Abbie Nester, first place and Jay Nester, second place from Romney Elementary School. Danielle Slocum, first place from Augusta Elementary School. Katy Allen first place at the Middle School. Trevor Shaffer winner for the Young Writers.

**Bryson Dolly**, son of Britton and Karena Dolly, has lived his entire life in Romney and has always attended Romney Presbyterian Church. He is a 4<sup>th</sup> grader at Romney Elementary School, where science is his favorite subject; he loves working on science experiments. He also likes math and won First Place last month at the County Math Field Day. Certainly, his math and science interests will be helpful when he studies meteorology, a field he would like to pursue when he finishes his education. Perhaps Bryson will be able to predict those monster snows in the future! Outside school, Bryson's number one sport is soccer, which he plays indoors at the YMCA in the winter and participates outdoors on the soccer team. He also enjoys running; in fact, in the 2009 Great Pumpkin Race, Bryson and his other 4<sup>th</sup> grade teammates placed first overall. Bryson is an outdoorsman who has fun skiing and biking; furthermore, hunting is one of his hobbies—he is especially partial to hunting deer and birds. When not in the mountains, Bryson loves the beach, his favorite vacation spot. At Romney Presbyterian Church, Bryson has been involved in the Youth Choir, the Lighting of the Advent Candle, and the 2009 Christmas Program. In the Christmas Program Bryson performed in the “12 Days of Christmas” skit singing the part of the “11 Pipers Piping.” Moreover, the audience thoroughly enjoyed his piano solo of “The Little Drummer Boy.” The piano lessons he takes once a week provide him with the confidence and skill to perform beautifully, and we at Romney Presbyterian Church are fortunate that he shares his talent with us. Bryson's annual spring piano recital will be coming up soon. He is without a doubt a multi-talented youth who is active in school, sports, music, and church. Hats off to Bryson, our Youth in the Spotlight!

**Evening Circle** invites the ladies of the church to join them for their monthly meeting on April 13th, 7:00 p.m. in the church library. Mary Glenn will have devotions and Vida Simon will be the leader for Bible Lesson 8. Margritt Mason will be the hostess.

**Presbyterian Women of Shenandoah Spring Gathering 2010** April 10<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Highlights will be registrations, displays, coffee and donuts; 9:45 Annual Business Meeting, Election, Installation of Officers: Linda Livick, Special Music, Worship: Ramona Bosserman, Communion and 12:30 Lunch.

**PW Save the Date! The Birthday Offering Service** is tentatively scheduled for **Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Join in the study of our final lesson (9) of Joshua: A Journey of Faith, prayer, hymns, and the offering. The Birthday Offering Service will be followed by refreshments. All circle members and friends are invited to attend!

**Hospice of the Panhandle** will hold its annual Hampshire County Community Auction, Country Ham Sandwich, Hot Dog, Vegetable Soup, and Bake Sale **Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>** at the Romney Fire Hall. Come at 11:00 a.m. when the doors open, enjoy the food, and browse the auction tables; the auction begins at 12:00 noon. Raffle tickets for a quilt created by Community Quilts, a Country ham donated by County Pride, and fishing gear donated by Reed's Drugstore are on sale now. Call the Romney hospice office at 304-822-8813 for more information.

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**Congratulations...** Lauren and Logan Lindsey are the proud parents of a daughter, Nina Jane Lindsey born on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Grandparents are George and Sue Brandon.

*Deepest Sympathy* to Sally Kuykendall and family in the death of her brother-in-law, Denny Slane.

**Memorial Gifts** in memory of Charles Herriott by Betty Rice, Garry and Bonnie Long, Kelley Thompson, Karen Heier, Marilyn Corker, Sarah Stelzl, Gennie Heatwole, Anne Hill, Robert and Martha Fisher.



**Vacation Bible School**  
**Mark your calendars for June 20-24, 6-8:00 p.m.**

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**The Sampler**  
**April 2010**

Return Service Requested

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