

The Sampler

October 2011

Co-Editors
Diane Crane
John Mason

Special points of interest:

- Pastor's Page
- Faith Community Nurse
- Committee's Communication

Inside this issue:

Session News	2
Prayers	3
Join the Choir About and Beyond	4
Committee's Communication Christmas Shoe- boxes	5
AFSP Walkathon	6

The Continuing Future

Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." John 14:23,27

The scripture above was part of my communication in the June Sampler. I return to writing for a Sampler that looks a lot different. Many thanks to Dottie Wood for being willing to learn a new program, Cindi Nestor for instructing her, and Diane Crane and John Mason for assuming editorship of this monthly newsletter.

I missed everyone while on my twelve week sabbatical and am still in the process of getting back into the rhythm of routine activities. If you have ever taken a week or longer vacation from work, you might remember how it was for you and how it is with me right now.

The visit with my grandsons, daughter and son-in-law in Brisbane, Australia, was wonderful until I caught a cold. Remembering my breathing struggles from October of last year through about March, I got scared and actually left earlier than planned so I could hibernate in the manse with hot tea, lots of tissue and sleep in my own bed. Then I scheduled a normal eye exam to get a stronger prescription but ended up with cataract surgery in early August. The health issues of the surgery are fine, and I may have finally got the reading glasses straightened out.

Of what value was my sabbatical? Time with family, time for my eyes to heal, time for reflecting on the past six years and attempting to see into the future. Most of you remember that Romney Presbyterian Church is my first and only call as an ordained pastor. The members of this congregation were and continue to be so gracious with some of what I now realize were wacky suggestions.

One thing became very clear as I considered my future ministry. Pastoral care and loving people are my greatest strengths. I hope to spend more of my time with members of the congregation as well as with people in the nursing homes and hospital during the coming year. While I will be serving on a presbytery committee, attending Romney Ministerial meetings, and moderating the Session here, I will be spending more time in sermon preparation and Bible study as well. During my sabbatical, I learned how busy I had been with things and how neglectful of personal time with God.

I am still available when needed. Office, manse and cell phone numbers are in the directory. Please call me any time. I am back on duty after the blessed gift of time given by this congregation.

Pastor Barb

News From the Session

The Romney Presbyterian Church Session held its stated meeting on Monday, September 12, 2011. A congregational meeting was held on Sunday, September 18, 2011. Following is a summary of business conducted:

Congratulations to Beth Herriott on her election to the elder class of 2013.

We thank the nominating committee for their service.

A huge "THANK YOU!" to David Allen for volunteering to become our new Youth Director.

The youth group is for 6th through 12th graders.

A warm welcome to Vida Simon as she assumes the role of Sunday School teacher for the adult class.

Donna Baker and January Iman Thatcher have both agreed to be directors for the Christmas Sunday School Play. They can always use more help. Please see them if you can assist with the play!

Diane Crane and John Mason will co-edit the monthly newsletter. It is the desire of the Commitment & Witness committee that this method of correspondence connect all our church families and friends in a timely and informative way.

A copy of the Shenandoah Presbytery (Heritage of Service) will be placed in the library.

This book will be of great interest to members interested in the Lexington and Winchester Presbyteries which joined to form the Shenandoah Presbytery in 1973.

Following the example of the First Presbyterian Church, Harrisonburg, Va. praying for congregations in our Presbytery, we are asking Pastor Barb Johnson to select of the 110, one each Sunday to be included in our pastoral prayer.

Brothers Tree Service has been contacted to remove dead maple tree and do some trimming around the church.

A Buzzer, similar to the one on the office entry doors, will be installed on the kitchen doors. John Hott has been contacted to perform this task.

Cleaning of gutters and down spouts was completed by Chris Smith.

Flower beds were weeded and shrubs were trimmed by Danny Corey.

Fellowship door closure was adjusted. It should not close as fast.

On September 20, 2011, Diabetic Educator, Beth Herriott, will be providing a workshop for the public from 5:00 pm until 7:30 pm.

On Wednesday, October 20, 2011 the Family Crisis Center will hold a remembrance for victims of abuse service at noon.

On October 16, World Food Bank Day, the congregation is encouraged to bring in food items for the local food pantry.

The Session approved the transfer of membership of Elizabeth Gedling to the Slanesville Presbyterian Church.

The Session approved the closure of the Indian Heights Chapel.

The next stated Session meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 10, 2011, at 6:00 p.m.

Financial Spotlight — August 2011

Total Income — \$8,926.98 Total Expenses — \$18,376.58 Loss Income — -\$9,449.60

NOW Balance 9-8-2011 — \$7,226.19



From Your Faith Community Nurse

Happy Fall. October is here. The leaves are turning to show their beautiful array of colors, the days are getting shorter, the air is crisper, football season is in full swing and the mums are showing up everywhere. These are all signs that fall is here. Get out and enjoy this beautiful season to its fullest.

How did you do with the steps and walking in September (Step-tember)? Did anyone accomplish the 10,000 steps/day? If so, congratulations! Fall is a great time to get out and go for a walk. Enjoy the fresh air, the beautiful leaves and

the pretty mums everywhere.

Another thing that comes to mind in the fall is the flu and pneumonia vaccines. The flu vaccine is a yearly vaccine as the viruses change each year. The vaccine this year contains three different viruses. One of these is for the swine flu which has already been identified in West Virginia and Pennsylvania. The flu vaccine does not prevent you from getting the flu, but it makes your body more able to fight the virus and hopefully not be as ill so be sure and get your flu vaccines as soon as possible.

The pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (Pnuemovax is one brand) provides 85% protection against *Streptococcus pneumoniae* in those under the age of 55 for five years or longer. Immunization is suggested for those at highest risk of infection, including those 65 years or older. Generally the vaccine should be a single lifetime dose.

The current guidelines of the American College of Physicians call for administration of the immunization between ages 2 and 65 when indicated, or at age 65. If someone received the immunization before age 60, the guidelines call for a one-time revaccination.

If you are unsure about the flu or pneumonia vaccine for you, a child or other loved one, talk to your physician to see what they recommend.

Again, happy fall to everyone. Be sure to get out and enjoy the beauty God provides for us and keep those walking shoes busy!

A.S.A.P. (Always Say A Prayer),

Beth



Friends and family recuperating...

Dorothy Kerns — in Morgantown recovering from back surgery.

College students – encouragement

Hampshire County School personal and children



The Prayer Chain seems to be experiencing a few breakdowns lately. Callers are encouraged to call the person whose name follows theirs, even if it is the next group. If no answer and if possible leave a message **AND** then go to the next person on the call list, and so on until you speak with someone.



We've Heard Your Excuse for not joining Choir
and We're NOT impressed

It's never to late to join the Adult Choir which meets every Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will soon be working on our Advent music and Christmas Cantata.



“About and Beyond”



Congratulations to Drs Terry and Heather Stein of Milton, Vermont, who both recently passed their medical board exams in Family Medicine. Terry and Heather both began jobs in August as Family Medicine Physicians in the Burlington, Vermont area.



Lydia Moodispaw, granddaughter of Jeannie Hampton just passed her National Boards on September 7th and now she can add BC to her FNP, after her name. Lydia (Family Nurse Practitioner, Board Certified), and her RN husband, Forrest live in Morgantown and work at Ruby Memorial hospital.



Congratulations to Jeannie Hampton for receiving red ribbons on her acrylic paintings at the HCAC Fine Arts Show at the Bottling Works in Romney.



Trevor Shaffer has donated a fiction book for the Young People Shelf in our Church Library. Titled, **“Monday with a Mad Genius”** by Mary Pope Osborne, finds Jack and Annie flying off in the magic tree house for Florence, Italy to spend the day with the great artist and inventor of all time—Leonardo da Vinci! Check it out today.



COMMITTEE 'S COMMUNICATION

Agenda Item for Annual Business Meeting in December

Property Committee Report to the Congregation

A member of the Congregation requested that the Property Committee consider disposing of the Indian Heights Chapel property. John Dan Sitar, Magdalene Sitar and Pastor Barb have not conducted worship at Indian Heights Chapel in over a year and the possibility of anyone else using the building for religious services in the future is unlikely.

The property has been in poor condition for many years and needs extensive repairs. The electric bill, lawn mowing and insurance continue to be paid from the town maintenance and insurance budgets.

Pastor Barb contacted Shenandoah Presbytery and was told that Romney does not have to ask permission of the Presbytery to sell or buy property, and since the chapel is under the responsibility of the session, they may choose to close it as a worshipping outpost.

At the September 12 Session meeting, after a lengthy discussion, the Session approved the closure of the Indian Heights Chapel. This item of business was referred back to the Property Committee to investigate liquidating the property.

The congregation will be asked at the Annual Business Meeting in December endorse the Session's action in closing Indian Heights Chapel and to approve the plan to liquidate the property. The Property Committee will keep the congregation informed of progress.

The **Christian Education Committee** is pleased that Mr. David Allen has agreed to serve as volunteer youth director for Romney Presbyterian Church. We appreciate all he has done and continues to do for this church. The youth are sponsoring the annual Fall Fling which will be October 23, 2011 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Please let David know that you are delighted with his work with the youth. Pray for our youth and give help to the youth group if you are asked.

Presbyterian Women's News

Evening Circle will be meeting at Nancy Bowman on October 11 at 7:00 p.m.

Mary Glenn will have the Bible Lesson 2 on "Bless those that Mourn"

Matthew 5:4.

SAVE THE DATE: Both Afternoon and Evening Circles will be meeting together on Tuesday, November 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for the Thank Offering Service. Our service will include Lesson 3 of "Confessing the Beatitudes".



IT'S TIME FOR SHOEBOXES AGAIN

Again this year, start looking for the logo for Operation Christmas Child around the church. After October 20, the logo, along with a special friend, may be a part of a shoebox that will be sent to a child somewhere around the world. Each of these simple shoebox gifts is an expression of our caring and most of all God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ. Look for more information in the November newsletter.

Ja'Naye Corbin & Maggie Mason



The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) is the leading national not-for-profit organization exclusively dedicated to understanding and preventing suicide through research, education and advocacy, and to reaching out to people with mental disorders and those impacted by suicide.

**The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
Walkathon
October 23, 2011
2:00-4:00 p.m.
Hampshire Park, River Road
Registration Time—1:00-2:00 p.m.
Balloon Release—4:15 p.m.
Questions—Contact Shirley's Diner 304-822-3904
Trisa Hott 304-822-7344 or Angie Clower 304-813-2094**

Romney Presbyterian Church
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Return Service Requested

Back issues of the Sampler are available on our Website www.romneypresbyterianchurch.org.
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