

Notes from Richard

The Session fulfills its call to care for the spiritual, physical, and emotional help of the congregation through the Congregational Care Committee. We are all called to pray for each other and attend to each other's needs; the Congregational Care Committee just does it a bit more formally. As part of their call, in the last few months members of this committee have occasionally been leading the congregation in the 'Prayers of the People' during regular worship.

I've crafted a prayer to be used for this purpose. It's an intercessory prayer. We ask things of God. It's also a prayer of thanksgiving. We affirm that when we ask, God answers. May it also be for us a prayer of growing faith, as we learn to understand that God really does bless, comfort, save, transform, and reconcile the world—and does it through us.

Gracious God, we pray for creation and for all creatures;
for those whose names we know
and for those whose names we do not know.
Heal those who are sick in mind, body, or spirit;
strengthen those who care for them.
Console the dying;
comfort those who mourn their dead.
Rescue victims of natural and man-made disasters;
relieve victims of war and violence;
defend victims of oppression, injustice, and racism.
Assist all men, women, and children who lack good food,
good water, a good home, a good education, or a good job.
Guide our church and the church around the world;
sustain our sisters and brothers at CPK Anunga.
Bless people of other faiths;
bless people of no faith.
Bless and guide the leaders of all communities, states, and nations.
Protect people in uniform;
fortify all those who dedicate their lives to the service of others.
Bless widows and orphans;
bless the humble and the meek;
bless peacemakers.
Bless strangers and foreigners;
bless refugees and immigrants.
Bless pilgrims and wanderers;
bless prisoners.
Bless our friends and families;
bless those who have neither.
Bless our neighbors;
bless our enemies.
Dear God, bless and keep all your children
now and forevermore.
Teach us all to be faithful bearers of your love,
your grace, your mercy, and your forgiveness;
Teach us to heal, to comfort, to challenge, and to cherish each other
in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

In Christ, Richard

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Please be praying



for...

See updated list in each Sunday bulletin.

November



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 3 – Megan Cheatham | 7 – Sue Harper | 11 – Debbie Moncol | 13 – Jack Doy |
| 14 – Cathy Crider | 15 – Agnes Krest | 15 – Maryann VanArsdale | |
| 16 – David Tubbs | 18 – Sarah Stephens | 19 – Terry Siviter | 23 – Sarah Walz |
| 24 – David May | 27 – Barbara Taylor | 28 – Narendra Pleas | |



- November 7 – Maryann & George VanArsdale
 November 17 – Donna & Scott Wilhoit – 25th
 November 25 – Jeanne & Harold Costner
 November 26 – Dawn & Curt White
 November 27 – Ellie & Sandy Campbell – 55th

SUNDAY HELPERS



Daylight Savings Time Ends!!!

Sunday, November 1, 2009

Greeter – Bonnie Young; Ushers – George VanArsdale & Bruce MacCall; Acolytes – Sarah Gibson & Lili Robichaud; Worship Class – Carol Matthews; Counters – Sue Harper & Cindy Black; Fellowship Hosts – Gwen Bushnell.

Sunday, November 8, 2009

Greeters – Petie & Jack Slawson; Ushers – George VanArsdale & Jeff Black; Acolyte – Josh Gibson; Worship Class – Carol Matthews; Counters – David Scholefield & Jules Robichaud; Fellowship Host – (PW Luncheon).

Sunday, November 15, 2009

Greeter – Kathyryne Valentine; Ushers – George VanArsdale & Tim Green; Acolyte – Lili Robichaud; Worship Class – Carol Matthews; Counters – Sue Harper & Dave Tubbs; Fellowship Hosts – the Munsons.

Sunday, November 22, 2009

Greeter – Kay Sawyer; Ushers – George VanArsdale & Scott Wilhoit; Acolyte – Jake Gibson; Worship Class – Carol Matthews; Counters – Tim Gibson & Cindy Black; Fellowship Hosts – Kathyryne Valentine & Kay Sawyer.

Sunday, November 22, 2009, Evening Thanksgiving Service, 7:00 p.m.

Greeter – _____; Ushers – George VanArsdale & _____; Acolyte – ?; Counters – Cindy Black & Tim Gibson; Fellowship Hosts – Presbyterian Women.

Sunday, November 29, 2009

Greeter – Laura Neal; Ushers – George VanArsdale & Jules Robichaud; Acolyte – Robert Scott; Worship Class – Carol Matthews; Counters – Kathyryne Valentine & David Scholefield; Fellowship Hosts – Dave & Ruth Tubbs.

Committee Information

Session Report



Stated Session Meeting of September 24, 2009

⚡ The banner from CPK-Anunga is to be hung at the back of the sanctuary, and B&G has been requested to take care of this.

⚡ Our church will be hosting the ecumenical Thanksgiving service on the evening of Sunday, November 22nd. The Presbyterian Women have volunteered to handle decorations and fellowship after the service.

⚡ A hymn sing will be part of the service on every fifth Sunday in a month.

⚡ John Bartlett will re-paint the parking lot stripes in the near future.

⚡ A yard cleanup day will be left until late November or early December, after the leaves are down!

⚡ Heather Templeton was hired as a Youth Minister Intern, with the voted approval of Session.

⚡ The Nominations Committee is having some difficulty with getting people to commit as elders. Those being asked to consider becoming elders are encouraged to speak with current session members about any questions they might have.

⚡ Joan Scholefield and Karen Pleas were elected as commissioners to the next Presbytery meeting.

Stated Session Meeting of October 22, 2009

⚡ A letter will be sent to PEVA urging them not to cut funding of the college ministry program, but to look elsewhere for budget cuts.

⚡ There will be a potluck dinner on the evening of Sunday, November 15th.

⚡ A day and time for the Hanging of the Greens will be announced after the next Music & Worship Committee meeting of November 3rd.

⚡ Daryl met with the church's insurance agent who recommended some small changes to coverage, such as having a higher deductible. These were discussed and approved.

⚡ 12 Thanksgiving baskets will be given out again this year, with families' names being supplied by the Department of Social Services.

⚡ The Stated Session Meetings for November and December are both moved one week earlier because of the holidays, so the next meeting will be November 19th.

Christian Education & Nurture Youth Group

It has been an exciting month working and learning with the youth. We've spent time in fellowship each week exploring our faith and how the Bible relates to our lives. We are looking forward to many more Bible studies, activities and events to come. The Youth Group will be meeting every Sunday throughout the month except for November 1.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed in helping Youth Sunday be such a success. We will be planning the next Youth Sunday for early spring and I welcome any comments or suggestions from the congregation on how to make the special service even better.

The youth have decided that they would like to really focus on increasing their participation in missions and service projects within the next year. We have been brainstorming ways they can best become involved and lend a helping hand. For November the youth will be taking an active role in assisting with the Thanksgiving basket program with the church. We welcome any other projects or suggestions of how we can best serve the church and community.

Just as a reminder the High School Retreat at Makemie Woods will be coming up on Friday, November 20 at 8 pm through Sunday at 2:00 pm. This weekend retreat is for grades 8-12 and is sure to be a fun filled weekend of connecting to Christ and the community. Please see me for more details on the event and how to register. The Middle School Retreat is planned for February.

Heather Templeton, Youth Ministry Intern

Administration, Finance & Stewardship

Budget Report:	September	YTD
Income:		
Envelope Offerings	\$ 10,675.00	\$ 100,182.00
Loose Offerings	291.10	2,768.61
Other Offerings	50.00	2,659.32
Investment Withdrawals	5,000.00	50,000.00
Interest	.50	3.47
Total General Income:	\$ 16,016.60	\$155,613.40
Expenses:		
Admin., Fin. & Stewardship	\$ 9,203.34	\$ 92,081.89
Buildings & Grounds	3,273.23	32,868.29
Christian Education & Nurture	419.50	1,118.63
Communications	0.00	0.00
Congregational Care	0.00	0.00
CC: Presbyterian Women	0.00	176.85
Hospitality & Fellowship	0.00	0.00
Missions & Social Action	833.34	7,736.67
Music & Worship	1,405.50	13,140.60
Personnel Review	0.00	0.00
Total Expenses	\$ 15,134.91	\$147,122.93
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	\$ 881.69	\$ 8,490.47

The deadline for the next newsletter's articles and for the December calendar is 9:00 a.m. THURSDAY, November 19th. This is an early deadline because of Thanksgiving the following week. Deadlines for all newsletters and calendar information are posted on the FYI board in the Fellowship Hall.

Lost: Has anyone seen the extra computer router that we had for the office computer? It was either sitting right behind the computer or was in the cupboard above the computer. Call Diane if you know where it is. Thank you!

Hospitality & Fellowship



Please join us on November 1st, at 9a.m. for breakfast.

All men are VERY welcome to participate in the cooking of these monthly breakfasts. Also, we'll be having a potluck dinner at 6:00 on Sunday, November 15th. And a heads up ... we're thinking about going **caroling: 7-8pm on Sunday, December 13th**. This would be followed with refreshments in the fellowship hall. Please call Joan Scholefield or Ruth Tubbs, or talk to them when you see them, to indicate your interest in this event.

Congregational Care

Around the Circles



Morning Circle:

The second Morning Circle study was stimulating to the max! We jump back and forth in our discussions of various topics, but miraculously Richard gets us back to the question at hand. Y'all have to come join us to find out how we emulate "The View"!

Bonnie and Ruth led a great meeting as well. Among the projects talked about were:

- 1) The PW Fall Gathering on 11/8. We are to bring salad and condiments to toss in. All ladies of the church are invited to join us at this time for a lovely luncheon, followed by a crafts bazaar with gift items for Christmas. So come on out and join both circles for the Fall Gathering.
- 2) We will be the host church for the combined Thanksgiving service with Thalia United Methodist and Thalia Lynn Baptist on 11/22. We need to get that kitchen cleaned up prior, so ladies, if you can spare some time to help out, please call Bonnie Young at 340-4952 or Ruth Tubbs at 351-2015 to volunteer. Thanks. Also, we want our finger food reception to be successful, so you may volunteer for that as well. Just let the ladies mentioned above know what you're bringing. Thanks.
- 3) The Morning Circle ladies were advised of the up-and-coming Thalia Trinity Cookbook. We're hoping all the women of the church will be sharing their favorite recipes for the new cookbook, hopefully coming out next fall – just in time for Christmas giving! Speaking of favorite recipes, the plan is to combine the first cookbook with the new one, and to incorporate some helpful hints we've all learned throughout the years to share. Sounds like a fun project and a delicious cookbook!
- 4) We also discussed the Winter Shelter and we are claiming Wednesday night ... and we are making chili. The Morning Circle has dibs on this, after the fiasco of last year! 'Nuf said.
- 5) We even planned our Christmas luncheon! It will be on 12/8 at 12:00 p.m. at the Coastal Catering at Willis Wayside. Mark your calendars and let Bonnie know you're coming.

I don't know about you, but I'm getting tired, but we're not through yet! Sara Lane sent in 22 pounds of calendars for the Ugandan paper-into-beads project. And ... if we keep collecting from now until Thanksgiving, Cindy Hiddemen has graciously volunteered to take them up to DC, which will save us a lot of postage. Thank you everyone for your donations! Sara also suggested a couple of things to earn money for our missions projects: a bake sale and a flavoring sale ... more about this later.

We will once again be collecting \$25 from our active members by Sweetheart Day, Feb. 14th. This is our love offering for domestic/local and foreign missions. We also stopped bringing in "goodies" to our meetings and instead we contribute \$5 that goes into a special fund to be used for postage for the calendars and rolled bandages. (Speaking of which, we are a little behind in our "ripping and rolling". So let's get back to that for a while again.)

Our prayers are with Morning Circle members Mary Downs and Doris Cunningham. If there are any other circle members who need prayers, please let Bonnie or Ruth know.

Last, but certainly never least, we said the first of our goodbyes to Catherine Williams who informed us that this was her last meeting before moving to Floyd, Virginia at the end of October. Although we will miss her smiling face, her phone calls and her lovely personality, we wish her the best of health and the best of luck in her new home.

Evening Circle:

The Evening Circle met on October 12th at the home of Cathy Crider with 15 women in attendance. Richard led us in a lively discussion that started off with "What is Hell?" and touched on many age-old questions. We're looking forward to continuing this path at our next meeting.

We were reminded to work on crafts and collect items for the bazaar and luncheon that will be held after the service on Sunday, November 8th.

Circle members were encouraged to read *The Shack* before our January meeting. We will be using that widely-read and controversial book as the basis for our discussions in the new year.

Our community project this year will be providing some deserving local families with food and gifts during the holidays and beyond.

We have an interesting year planned and invite any women of the church to come join us for discussion, fellowship and food! Our next meeting will be at the home of Fay Green on Monday evening, November 9th, at 7:00 p.m.

Missions & Social Action

It's that time of the year again ...



Once again we'll be preparing Thanksgiving baskets for families whose names are given to us by Social Services. Everyone in the church is invited to participate in this holiday project. As in past years, we will use three Sundays in November to collect the following items:

November 8: Staple goods. (Biscuit mix, 5# bags of flour, 5# bags of sugar, cereal, jelly, peanut butter, Jello mix, pudding mix, and stuffing mix.)

November 15: Canned fruits and vegetables. (Applesauce, peaches, pears, cranberries, peas, beans, corn, yams or sweet potatoes.)

November 22: Cash and check contributions marked "for Thanksgiving Baskets" to purchase perishables, such as turkeys, pies, milk, eggs, margarine, bread and fresh vegetables.

If you should miss any of the above Sundays, you may bring everything at one time on the final collection day, November 22nd. Food items may be placed in the marked areas beginning Sunday, November 8th. The day of assembly and handing out the baskets will be Tuesday, November 24th, and **we need at least two volunteers** to come and help with these tasks! We have one person already, so one more would be greatly appreciated. (Those receiving baskets come by the church to pick them up, so we need at least a couple people here to give them to the recipients.)

If you can help with the above, or with the shopping, please contact Karen Pleas or call the office. (We understand the Youth Group will be helping with some of this.)

There will be reminders of the items needed in the Sunday bulletins in the coming weeks.



Mail and other news ...

Dear Church Family,

It is with a grateful heart and sincere gratitude that my family and I want to thank you for all you did for me --- and for making my husband Curly's memorial reception so very special.

God bless all of you,
Bonnie

Dear Ladies & Gentlemen of Thalia Trinity,

On behalf of our less fortunate students, I would like to thank you for the school supplies that you donated to Thalia Elementary School. It sends a strong message to these children that people care and will help. What an important message that is!

With much appreciation,
Joanie Wood, Guidance Counselor

Congratulations!

... to **Todd Wright** who passed the Florida Bar examination in July and was admitted to the Florida Bar on October 5, 2009. Your church family is proud of you for achieving this goal.

... and best wishes to **Sarah Stephens** and Sung Choi who were married October 10th in New York City in a lovely garden wedding.