



Presbyterian Link

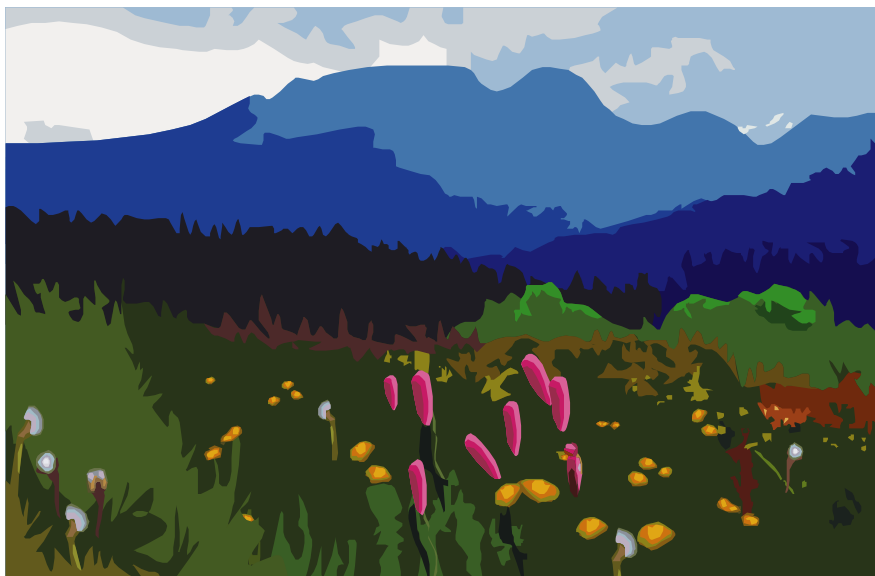


**FROM THE
PASTOR'S
DESK**

Well, if you were at worship on August 2nd, you heard a report on the week that Elaine and I had at Montreat with Georgie Roark, Alison Mabry, Erin Baker. What an absolutely fabulous time for our young people. Along with over 1100 other young adults they grappled with the fires around the world that are causing pain and agony among God's people. Genocide in Liberia, Global Warming, Illegal immigrants dying in the desert were just three of the "fires" that are calling Christians to commit themselves to changing the world

for God. It is a spine tingling experience to hear over 1100 teens singing about God's Love and Peace. These young people are the future of God's Church and especially of the Presbyterian Church (USA). We were blessed with strong biblical teaching and rich global insights. Each youngster came away with the understanding that they can do something to change the global fires that would destroy us. The conference we attended was the fifth week of a six week program. All in all over 6800 youth attended during the six week program. Next year the theme will be:

"Through the Waters" and will explore some of the biblical images of God's people as they passed through water, even our own Baptism. Pray for our young people and the possibility that we can send twice as many next year. Love and Peace, Bob Button



**REMINDERS FOR
AUGUST**

- August 2 ~ Picnic at Janiak's following Worship
- August 4 ~ Men's lunch at Main St. Emporium
- August 4 ~ Committee Meeting Night
- August 16 ~ Children's Church
- August 16 ~ Special offering for Habitat for Humanity
- August 16 ! States Session Meeting following Worship
- August 24 ~ Link deadline

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SESSION HIGHLIGHTS JULY 19, 2009 MEETING

Altavista Presbyterian Church

- Reviewed of the June, 2009 Financial Report.
- Approved minutes of the June 14, 2009 Stated Session meeting and the July 5, 2009 Called Session meeting as presented.
- Discussed section W-3.3600 (The Sealing of the Word: Sacraments) from the Book of Order. Attention was called to:
 - Sub-section W-3616 (d. The Serving): “The bread and the cup may be served by ordained officers of the church, or by other church members on invitation of the session or authorizing governing body.” Following discussion, approval was granted for Kevin deBernard, Allison Mabry, and Georgie Roark (Non-ordained Active members of APC) to serve Communion during the 2009-10 Church year. In addition, approval was granted for Megan Ingram, Holly Roark, and Faith Mari Tucker to accompany a parent as the parent serves Communion.
 - Sub-section W-3.3616 (Lord’s Supper: Preparing): “... If the Lord’s Supper is celebrated less frequently than on each Lord’s Day, public notice is to be given at least one week in advance....” It was decided that an announcement of the Celebration of Communion for the first Sunday of each month would be included in the Bulletin the last Sunday of the prior month.
 - Sub-section W-3.3619 (Disposition of the Elements): “When the service is ended, the communion elements shall be removed from the Table and used or disposed of in a manner which is approved by the session, and which is consistent with the Reformed understanding of the Sacrament and the principles of good stewardship.” The Worship Committee was asked to bring a recommendation back to Session regarding this matter.

Moderator’s Report

- Adopted the Mission Study with the following changes to the Summary: (1) In the third paragraph, last sentence, replace the word “etc.” with “and activities”, (2) make the margins for the beginning of paragraphs four and six consistent with those of paragraphs one, two and three.
- Asked the Worship Committee to bring back to Session a proposed slate of members of the Nominating Committee for the 2009-10 church year.

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

	June 2009	YTD
Pledges	\$9,822.00	\$61,620.00
Non-Pledges	\$901.00	\$5,576.00
Plate Offering	\$263.00	\$2,144.00
Total Expenses	\$11,905.19	\$65,441.29



Children's Church Needs Teachers

Anne Mabry is working on the Children's Church teaching schedule for this year, September through May. The class is K - 2nd grade and usually has 6 children.

There will be a new curriculum with which the Christian Education Committee will help you become familiar.

The children love having new teachers. Our church is full of wisdom which need to be shared! Please consider helping in this way.

If you are willing to teach for one month, please contact Anne at:

admabry@comcast.net

Operation Christmas Child Update

We now have a closet in which to store items for our shoebox ministry! For those of you who may not be aware, our church participates in the Operation Christmas Child mission sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest children's Christmas project. Shoeboxes filled with small toys, school and hygiene supplies, candy and other gifts are collected and sent to the distribution center in Charlotte, NC. From there they are distributed to needy children around the world. Since 1990 this project has brought the joy of Christmas to more than 60 million boys and girls throughout the world. In 2007, the first year we participated as a church, APC put together 33 shoebox gifts. Last year we donated 63 and I'm hoping we can increase that this year!

Our "Christmas Closet" is located inside the adult Sunday school room (and also opens into the nursery). There's a lot of shelf space so we encourage you to purchase items throughout the year when you find good sales and bargains and bring them to add to the shoebox supplies. The closet will remain locked, but our secretary, Carolyn, will have a key in the church office or you can get with Barbie Andrews for access.

We will keep a list posted on the bulletin board of appropriate items for the shoebox gifts. There will also be an inventory listing on the closet door so you can see what items are needed as we go along. This list will be updated every couple of weeks until we reach our "packing" day in early November. (More about that later)

For those of you who enjoy purchasing items and packing an individual shoebox gift, we hope you will continue to do so. We just wanted to provide storage space for those bargain shoppers who want to purchase items for "mass assembly".

For now we'll continue to have the empty shoebox drop-off in the classroom behind where the choir sits. We already have a good start with 22 boxes for this year! Later on I'll be asking folks to take some shoeboxes home to wrap and return so we'll have them all ready to be filled on "packing" day.

Thanks to Bill Ferguson for putting the locks on the closet doors for us and to Gary Andrews for his hard work cleaning out the closet. And thank you, APC, for your continued support of this mission. It may seem like a small thing, but it's a huge blessing that is felt around the world!

For Your Information

Casual Sunday at APC ~ Sunday, August 2

Dress in your comfortable picnic clothes and make plans to go to a barbeque at the Janiak's farm on Marysville Road immediately following worship.

Meat and drinks will be provided for all. Members may bring a side dish or dessert to share. Bring lawn chairs, towels and swimsuits as needed.

Hope to see you there!!



Next Committee Meeting Night

August 4



Wanted

The choir is on vacation for the summer. Volunteers with musical ability - vocal or instrumental - are wanted to help provide music for the summer Worship services. Please contact Stephanie Moehlenkamp if you can help.



Directory Photos

The Mission Within the Congregation committee is planning to update the APC directory of members and friends by the end of the year. New photos will be taken in September and October for those who want to update their photo or for those who have not had a photo taken.

Stay tuned for more information!

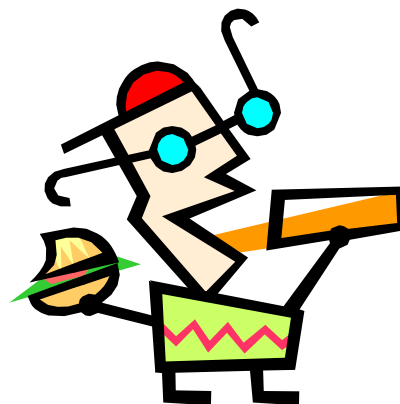
Men's Luncheon

Main Street Emporium

Tuesday

Aug 4

11:45



MARK YOUR CALENDAR**AUGUST 2009****AUGUST 2 SUNDAY**

9 am Sunday School for Adults
 10 am Worship/ Communion
 Canned Food Sunday
 2 Cents-A-Meal Offering
 Picnic at the Janiak's following worship

AUGUST 4 TUESDAY

10 am Circle I meets in the Parlor
 11:45 Men's luncheon at Main Street Emporium
 7 pm Committee Meeting Night

AUGUST 5 WEDNESDAY

9:30 am Prayer Fellowship - Pastor's Study
 11 - 12:30 Second Helping Lunch

AUGUST 9 SUNDAY

9 am Sunday School for Adults
 10 am Worship

AUGUST 11 TUESDAY

7 pm Circle II meets in the Parlor

AUGUST 12 WEDNESDAY

9:30 am Prayer Fellowship - Pastor's Study
 11 - 12:30 Second Helping Lunch

AUGUST 16 SUNDAY

9 am Sunday School for Adults
 10 am Worship
 Children's Church
 Special offering collected for Habitat for Humanity
 Stated Session Meeting immediately after Worship

AUGUST 19 WEDNESDAY

9:30 am Prayer Fellowship - Pastor's Study
 11 - 12:30 Second Helping Lunch

AUGUST 23 SUNDAY

9 am Sunday School for Adults
 10 am Worship

AUGUST 24 MONDAY

September *Link* Deadline

AUGUST 26 WEDNESDAY

9:30 am Prayer Fellowship - Pastor's Study
 11 - 12:30 Second Helping Lunch

AUGUST 30 SUNDAY

9 am Sunday School for Adults
 10 am Worship



**ALTAVISTA PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

707 Broad Street
Altavista, VA 24517

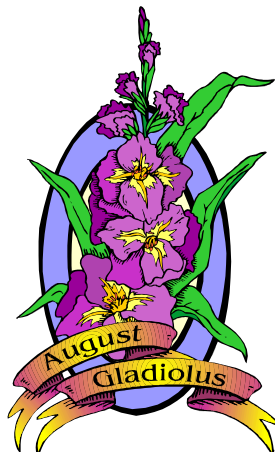
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Return service requested

PRESBYTERIAN LINK

August 2009

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Janet Sodders | 16 John & Patty Eller |
| 2 Lynn Copes | 20 Gary & Barbie Andrews |
| 3 Jerry Sodders | 25 Chuck & Brenda Mocsiran |
| 4 Brenda Mocsiran | 26 Sang-il & June Lee |
| 6 Garry Taylor | |
| 8 Micah Geyer | |
| 10 Diann Martin | |
| 13 Joshua Larkin | |
| 15 Frances Harvey | |
| 19 Rebecca Kauffman | |
| 19 Louise Phillips | |
| 23 Jessicah Collins | |
| 23 Emma Hanson | |
| 26 Lauren Bogert | |
| 29 Sue Simmons | |
| 30 Andy Berger | |



LINK STAFF

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Editor

Ministry Within the
Congregation Committee

*Previous Links can be found on the
website
www.altapres.org*