

# Adelphi Presbyterian Church News



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January 2006

**Minister: Every member of Adelphi  
Presbyterian Church**

Pastor: Rev. Y. Eunice Yang  
Clerk of Session: Janet Dolan  
Treasurer: Charles Yancey  
Assistant Treasurer: Jake Masters



## FROM THE PASTOR...

Dear brothers and sisters:

Happy New Year to all!!

First of all, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to your generosity and kindness through the cards and gifts for the Christmas season. I would also like to thank you for your ongoing encouragement and love that have strengthened my ministry in this place and this time.

I have witnessed much **GOOD** changes and transformation in all of us in many ways this past year. Our leadership is growing stronger. Both the Session and TCP team members have shown much enthusiasm and commitment to discern and follow God's vision and mission for Adelphi. Our members are assuming evermore responsibilities in various ministries. Our visitors also participate in our activities and some have expressed interest in joining the church officially. All of these are the work of the Spirit.

**God is Here** – in Adelphi – So I proclaim!!! The wind of the Spirit is sweeping in and through us. Let us continue to pray for the coming of the Kingdom of God in our church and in our community that all may sing

## The Session

### Class 2006

Candace Farley – Christian Education  
Kathie James – Stewardship and Personnel  
Charles Yancey – Facilities

### Class 2007

Comfort Anigboh – Worship  
Stig Hammond – Worship  
Bettye Miller – Community Outreach

### Class 2008

Renee Milligan – Evangelism and Mission  
Charlotte Ojong – Congregational Care  
Ernestine Tebong – Transforming Congregation

praises to the God who became flesh and dwelt among us!!

**Note:** I have learned that in African churches, there is no such thing as "membership." As long as you worship and participate in a church, you are a member of that church. The Presbyterian Church USA functions differently in that respect. We do have a "simple" procedure of becoming an "official" member of a PCUSA church. If you are interested, please speak with me or any elder.



## FROM SESSION CLERK ....

*janet dolen*

At the December Session meeting, the elders

- ? discussed the budget for 2006,
- ? approved two personnel matters,
- ? set the communion schedule for next year,
- ? approved two requests for the use of the church's facilities,
- ? discussed the Seventh Day Adventist's request for an increase in the use of the church in 2006,
- ? set the annual congregation meeting on January 29, 2006. Reports are due January 8 and annual report will be available for pick up on January 21, Sunday. All people who have "official" membership at Adelphi church have the "right" to vote and speak during the meeting. If you have any question about membership or what the congregational meeting is about, please speak with me or Rev. Yang

*(Upon the recommendation from TCP, the Session adopted the "blue" Presbyterian Hymnal as our main hymnal. The article below is an adaptation*

*from the introduction written by the hymnal committee.)*



## WHY *y. eunice Yang* PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL?

### INTRODUCTION

The "blue" Presbyterian Hymnal was published in 1990. It was a response of our denomination in the early 80s to the political, social, theological, cultural, and economic changes in the society. The changes have brought a different day, different agenda, and different constituency to the church. Thus, the birth of a new hymnal was imperative. While no one hymnal is "perfect," PH does have some characteristics that worth our embracing.

### CHARACTERISTICS

#### Reformed Theology and Presbyterianism

The "new" hymnal first and foremost reflects our Reformed doctrines, our understanding of sacraments, ordinances, and ministry and mission of the church.

#### An Aid to Presbyterian Worship

The blue hymnal is organized through 4 different categories: the season of the church year, Psalms, theological and ecclesiastical topics, and service music like "Amen" or "Doxology." It contains a full order of Service for the Lord's Day, and traditional and ecumenical versions of Apostles' Creed, Nicene Creed, and Lord's Prayer which expand our theological language – the way we express our faith.

#### Inclusiveness

The selection of PH hymns speaks to all God's people. They are sensitive to age, race, gender, physical limitations, and language.

For example  
PH 481 "Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show"  
Green 373 "Praise the Lord, His Glories Show"

The two hymns are the same except that PH changed all the male pronouns of God to simply “God” to remind us that God is neither male nor female. “God is *like* a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, *like* a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home” (*Brief Statement of Faith*) Others like Doxology, or PH 263/Green 319, deal with similar situations.

### **Diversity**

The effort to be inclusive does not mean to be homogenous. PH seeks to reflect our diversity in many different ways, including hymns old and new, traditional and contemporary, ethnically diverse, and offering expressions of faith both corporate and individual.

The cultural diversity includes hymns from Africa, Asia, Latin America, Native American, African American spirituals, and beautiful old European melodies. The corporate nature of our faith is expressed in hymns like “Today we all are called to be disciples (434)” “We are your people (436).” The hymns encompass from 9<sup>th</sup> century Latin hymn to hymns recently written in the 1980s by contemporary American hymnists.

## **TRANSFORMING CONGREGATION PROJECT CONTINUES...**

Please pray for the TCP team members and the Session as they lead Adelphi Presbyterian Church to discern God's will and God's mission for our church. Pray for openness and a spirit of trust and faith to follow the work of the Spirit of God in our midst. Below is part of a TCP summary report written by TCP co-chair Ernestine Tebong which was published in December 2005 church newsletter.

### **WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?**

- ? We have learned that change is hard.
- ? We have learned that we are a multi-racial church, and not necessarily a multi-cultural church.
- ? We have learned that our church is in the retirement stage.

- ? There will be conflict during transformation, and that conflict if seen as a tool for discussion is good.
- ? There are those who will embrace change and those that will resist.
- ? Our history is important, and we should learn from it and draw from it, but not let it hinder our transformation.

### **WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED SO FAR IN OUR TRANSFORMATION?**

- ? We had an energetic and spirit-filled Wednesday night prayer in the month of September where we prayed for various activities that take place in every room of our church. We also prayed for all the people that call Adelphi their church home, and those in the community around us. We prayed for our pastor, and our leaders.
- ? We have started experimenting with different styles of music.
- ? We have changed our hymnals to the Presbyterian hymnal.
- ? Sunday school is more active, and consistent
- ? We have had five new members.
- ? We are paying more attention to our visitors.
- ? We are building stronger relationships by having each member of session to have undershepherds, and report monthly to session about contacts.
- ? TCP team is working on building deeper relationships by meeting in each other's homes.
- ? Individual members of congregation report personal transformations, and a closer relationship with the Lord.
- ? We are learning new ways to help one another with our spiritual journeys...through sharing our faith journeys, and giving testimonies about how God is working in our lives.
- ? We had a series of Advent Soup and Study on being "A Praying Congregation" which was led by the 4 TCP team members.

### **WHAT'S NEXT?**

- ? Continuing to find out what God wants for us individually and as a congregation.

- ? Looking forward to second year of transformation with different kinds of training.
- ? Working more closely with session and congregation to determine our vision and mission.
- ? Getting to know one another in more meaningful relationships perhaps through the development of small group ministry.

## Happy Birthday



January 1	Ayukossa Onjong
January 1	Tambetta Onjong
January 8	Patti Masters
January 9	Candacy Farley
January 15	Larry James
January 24	Celina Nchako
January 29	Betty Bridges
January 30	Nikki Rodman
January 31	Ernestine Tebong

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Sunday School

First Sunday – 11:30AM immediately following Children's moment

Second Sunday – 11:30AM immediately following Children's moment

Third Sunday – 9:30AM Bible Breakfast Club

Fourth/Fifth Sundays – The whole family of God joining together for worship

**January 10, 2006 Tuesday 7:00PM** – Session

**January 15, 2006 Sunday**

– Special Worship service commemorating Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King

-- 6:00PM International Night Dinner

**January 22, Sunday**

– Food Sunday and Coffee Hour

**January 24, Tuesday 10:00AM**

– Presbytery Meeting

**January 29, Sunday**

– Annual Congregational Meeting (**All reports due**

**January 8.** Thank you for your cooperation and promptness in submitting the reports. Annual report will be available for pick up on January 22, Sunday)

**English as a Second Language** continues on Tuesday 10:00 – 11:30AM and Thursday 6:30 – 8:00PM.



January 6 Jerome Candace Farley



### Help By Phone Menu

Beef Stew Macaroni & Cheese Spaghetti Pork & Beans	Jell-o Pasta Soups Peanut Butter Fruit	Dry Milk Coffee Tea Cocoa	Pudding Pancake mix Pancake Syrup
Dried Northern Beans Tuna Jelly	Apple sauce Baby food Cold Cereals Grits Oatmeal		Red, Green & Yellow Vegetables Rice Pudding

## LECTIONARY READING



### 1<sup>ST</sup> Sunday after Christmas

#### Jan.1

Isa. 61:10-62:3

Ps. 148

Gal. 4:4-7

Luke 2:22-40

### Baptism of the Lord

#### Jan. 8

Gen. 1:1-5

Ps.29

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Jan. 15

1Sam. 3:1-10(11-20)

Ps.139:1-6,13-18

1Cor. 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Jan.22

Jon.3:1-5,10

Ps.62:5-12

1 Cor. 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20

### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Jan. 29

Deut. 18:15-20

Ps.111

1Cor. 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28



## BIBLE BREAKFAST CLUB

*kathie james*

What a wonderful group we had for our meeting on December 18! All tolled, there were 19 young people (early teens down to little ones) and more than seven adults who attended and/or served breakfast. We opened by singing Christmas carols and "Happy Birthday" to Jesus. Everyone recited the last memory verse - Psalm 100:4. Prayers suggested by those present included thanks for birthdays and for gifts, as well as petitions for a safe and nice holiday, for the homeless, for health, for new babies just born or on the way, victims of natural disasters, and all those in Iraq. Breakfast was prepared and served by Renee Milligan, Michele Thurber, and Candace Philander. Stories included the angels' visitation to the shepherds, the shepherds' visit to the manger, and old Simeon in the temple seeing the baby Jesus as the Messiah. Our craft was an ornament that said "Jesus Loves ....." with space for each child to place his or her name with a marker, then hang on the tree at home. Our next BBC will be on January 15 at 9:30; everybody come!

	GREETERS	USHERS	LITURGISTS
<b>January 1</b>	The Milligans	Paul Tembunde Neil Wiltshire	Comfort Anigboh
<b>January 8</b>	Gail Rodman	Janet Dolen Deborah Penot	Matilda Che
<b>January 15</b>	The Lancasters	Jerome Farley Tad Jembere	Bob Finzel
<b>January 22</b>	Vida Agyei- Obese	Jake Masters Gail Rodman	Chester Guild
<b>January 29</b>	Bettye Miller	Winton Almas Hudson Lancaster	Larry James

## **Adelphi Presbyterian Church**

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Pastor: Rev. Y. Eunice Yang

Director of Music: Kathie James

Administrative Assistant: Mildred Fon