

Adelphi Presbyterian Church News



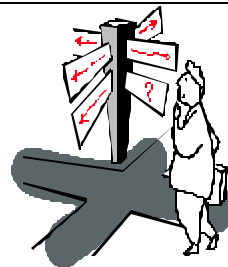
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NOVEMBER 2004

The Session assignment for 2004-2005
is as follows:

	Chair/Co-Chair	Vice Chair	Member
Worship	Comfort Anigboh	Stig Hammond	
Christian Education	Kathie James & Candace Farley		
Mission & Evangelism	Martin Ojong		
Congregational Care	Evelyn Jones		
Stewardship & Personnel	Bob Finzel	David Milligan	Stig Hammond
Facilities	Charles Yancey	David Milligan	
Community Program	Bettye Miller		



FAITH JOURNEY

By David Milligan

I've had faith since an early age, the struggle has always been to put it in context. My grandfather was an evangelist and religious scholar. He took tent crusades to Cuba, wrote books on Christianity and helped establish churches and Christian communities. He died while I was quite young and was not directly a major influence on my life. My grandmother though was a significant influence. She convinced me to ask God's forgiveness and salvation when I was a young boy. I took her advice, though if you knew her you would understand that I didn't have much choice other than to at least go through the motions. When I went to my room and prayed I felt something that I didn't expect and can't explain. I have known from that time that God exists and we are his children. So for me, to have faith or to not have faith has never really been an issue. The question has been what to do with it - how does it guide me in my life journey.

My parents were never that big on going to church when I was younger and so I often went to the church on the corner because of the convenience. My grandmother was not even as strong an influence on that

Moderator: Rev. Y. Eunice Yang

Clerk: Janet Dolan

Treasurer: Charles Yancey

Assistant Treasurer: Jake Masters

issue either. Although she was very religious, the institution of Church was much less important than her personal relationship with God. She would often just listen to the radio services on Sunday morning, pray and commune with God in her own way. She had an obvious evangelical bent and so did the little Church on the corner so that was a strong early influence although, one I never entirely felt comfortable with. I changed churches several times as I was growing up, going to a church a friend went to or going to the one that had the most popular vacation Bible school. I remember the Kool-aid and cookies as much as the Bible lessons. I spent some time in a church with a full baptismal pool, rode buses and vans and I kind of drifted into and out of a number of churches. When I was in high school I joined the Lutheran Church because they had a very good youth program for teens and a basketball league. The basketball was extremely important in Indiana. Here I took Catechism classes and attended the most formal services of my life. Communion was given from a chalice at the front of the Sanctuary and the bread was in the form of neat little round wafers stamped with a cross. I liked this church and would have stayed except that after high school I moved away and was married a year later.

Renee' had regularly attended her parents Presbyterian Church and felt comfortable with it. It had many similarities to the Lutheran Church. We were married in her church and attended it while we were living in Fort Wayne. After we moved away we were not nearly as consistent in finding churches and attending. Like many young adults we got more interested in belonging to an institution once we had children. We have been at Adelphi since 1991 or 2. Rachel was more connected with the church than Sarah, but there was a larger group of peers for her than Sarah has.

I am still struggling to put my religious beliefs in context. I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as my savior. I have a strong moral compass. It doesn't always keep me on the best path, but it at least it let's me know when I have strayed too far to one side or the other. I know there is a God when I look at examples of natural beauty in the world. Driving to Sarah's soccer game in Clifton, Virginia and looking at the rolling hills painted with autumn leaves, God's presence was felt. When I have

the opportunity to do good things for others it makes me feel good. It truly is better to give than receive. This is God's blessing and a reminder to me of what is important.

Where do I go from here? With all the activities and commitments I currently have, I sometimes feel like I'm on survival mode. I feel strong in my personal relationship, but am not sure how, when, what and where to share with others. I know I have been blest and I know their needs to be a next chapter in my journey, I'm just not sure when to put pen in hand and start writing.



TEAM APPOINTED FOR Transforming Congregational Project

The Session in its October 18 stated meeting appointed with gratitude and enthusiasm the followings to serve on the Transforming Congregation Project for the year 2005-2007:

Bob Finzel, Tad Jembere, Martin Ojong, and Ernestine Tebong. They will meet about 4 Saturdays each year with other churches going through TCP process and also on a monthly basis or every 6 weeks. They will report regularly to the Session their progress and findings. Congregational meetings may be scheduled for the purpose of discussing transformation in our church. We look forward to their faithful service and contribution for the next 3 years.



ALL SAINTS DAY – OCTOBER 31

“All Saints’ Day is a time to rejoice in all who through the ages have faithfully served the Lord. The day reminds us that we are part of one continuing, living communion of saints. It is a time to claim our kinship with the glorious company of the apostles . . . the noble fellowship of prophets . . . the white-robed army of martyrs (Te Deum). It is a time to express our gratitude for all who in ages of darkness kept the faith, for those who have taken the gospel to the ends of the earth, for prophetic voices who have called the church to be faithful in life and service, for all who have witnessed to God’s justice and peace in every nation.”

“To rejoice with all the faithful of every generation expands our awareness of a great company of witnesses above and around us like a cloud (Heb. 12:1). It lifts us out of a preoccupation with our own immediate situation and the discouragements of the present. In the knowledge that others have persevered, we are encouraged to endure against all odds (Heb. 12:1–2). Reminded that God was with the faithful of the past, we are reassured that God is with us today, moving us and all creation toward God’s end in time. In this context, it is appropriate for a congregation on All Saints’ Day to commemorate the lives of those who died during the previous year.”

—From *Companion to the Book of Common Worship*, edited by Peter C. Bower, © 2003, Office of Theology and Worship, Congregational Ministries Division of the PC(USA).

Therefore, names of Jesse Broughton and Barbara Kline will be mentioned during the Great Prayer of Thanksgiving for communion.



RECAP OF SEPTEMBER PRESBYTERY MEETING

By Charles Yancey

On Tuesday, September 28, Rev. Eunice Yang and I attended the Presbytery meeting held at The National Presbyterian Church. The Lord blessed us with good attendance and a good meeting in spite of the rainy weather.

Mission Fair

One of the highlights of the meeting was a Mission Fair. Exhibits were set up by many of the local mission projects/programs supported by the National Capital Presbytery. Included among the exhibitors were: Presbyterian Women of NCP, Mission Interpretation and Coordination Committee, Church Development Committee, and Anti-Racism Team of NCP. All of the exhibitors had brochures and other literature to hand out and they were eager to discuss their respective programs with attendees.

Worship Service

The sermon for the inspiring worship service was delivered by Rev. Dr. Theodore Wardlaw, President of Austin Theological Seminary, one of the ten Presbyterian Church seminaries. The topic of the sermon was “Sacred Space, Bloody Business.”

General Assembly Commissioner Reports

Each of our Presbytery’s Commissioners to the General Assembly (GA) held in Richmond, VA, gave short verbal reports. There were 550 Elder and Pastor Commissioners attending the GA. The Commissioners served on various General Assembly committees (e.g. Church Polity and Health) and they reported on the topics coming before their respective committees by way of Overtures from presbyteries. The reports were very interesting and provided good insight to how the General Assembly conducts its business.

Candidate Interviews

Rev. Stephen Smith-Cobbs, Pastor, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Herndon, VA, presented three Inquirers recommended by the Committee on Preparation for Ministry as Candidates for ordination and one Candidate for ordination. All four candidates related their faith journeys and responded to questions posed by Rev. Smith-Cobbs and other meeting attendees. Inquirers Elisa Owen, Carol Steele and

Dwight Christenbury were approved as Candidates and Candidate David Williams was approved for ordination.

Committee Reports

In addition to the written reports in the handout package, oral reports were given by the Committee on Ministry, Presbyterian Women of NCP and the Social Justice Committee. The 2003 Financial Report of NCP was distributed to attendees.



BIBLE BREAKFAST

By Kathie James

On October 17, an almost record high number of people attended - 24 in all. They ranged in age from pre-schoolers to senior citizens and all in between. Children recited the verse from the previous lesson, "The Lord is my strength and my song." We read the story of Ruth in the Old Testament, then the story of Jesus loving all the children in the New Testament. We sang "Jesus loves the little children...red and yellow, black and white..." Our overall lesson focused on bread, since the second story of Ruth told about her gathering wheat in the fields. The memory verse for November 21 is John 6:35: "Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life.'" Our craft for the day was actually making bread to take home as a reminder of Ruth's work and of Jesus' being the bread of life. (We know Ruth didn't have a microwave, but we used one anyway to be safe and quick! Thanks to the Tembundes for the microwave they donated.)



MUSIC BOX

by Kathie James

October opened with World-Wide Communion, and our music reflected the international flavor of our congregation. We enjoyed African, Chinese, Spanish,

Caribbean, and Pakistani music. Charlotte Ojong and her sister sang the offertory, and Promilla Almas sang the Psalm of the day in Urdu. On October 17, we were delighted to have Ayuk Ojong play "Circle of Life" on his saxophone. We are always pleased to have our young people participate in the musical worship of our congregation.



REPORT ON

A NATIONAL CONSULTATION OF RACIAL ETHNIC WOMEN IN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

By Marlene Donaldson

On October 15-17, I was able to attend a mini-consultation in Atlanta, Georgia for a group of racial ethnic women in the Presbyterian Church (USA). The gathering was geared towards developing strategies that will impact the church and to invite various entities in the Presbyterian Church into meaningful conversation with women of color so that PC(USA) could be more effective and relevant to the needs of racial ethnic women.

The participants were divided into ten small groups, each addressing a particular issue that impacts the lives of women of color in the church and society. The topics ranged from Breaking Down Cross Cultural Barriers, Racial Ethnic Church Growth Strategy, Developing a Theology for Money to Immigration, Women and PC(USA). I was selected to participate in mini-consultation for Immigration, Women, and PC(USA), which is relevant to Adelphi Presbyterian Church.

On Friday, October 15, 2004, there was a Panel Discussion on the History of Racial Ethnic Women in the PC(USA). We learnt that there were as many as 53 churches represented in the synod of Puerto Rico. It was also noted that the mid-eastern ministries was created in 1993. It appeared that large group of individuals with the same background have established

their own church. There is the Hispanic Presbyterian Women and Native American in PCUSA, for example. On Saturday, October 16, 2004, prior to the mini-consultation workshop, there was also a panel discussion on immigration. Dr. Charles Gallagher, associate professor of Sociology at Georgia State University gave reasons for migration including religious persecution and escaping poverty. Reverend Angel Suarez, born in Venezuela and associate for Immigrant Groups Ministries in the U.S.A., also reported that PC(USA) membership group is growing from new immigrant population. Nicolas Menchu, a Mayan who grew up in Guatemala, stated that many immigrants require the service of an immigration lawyer since there are difficulties in understanding the law. Rev. Mercy Assa Rumengan, associate pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen, New Jersey provided in written handout that the current immigration laws are affecting the new immigrant community and there are difficulties that new immigrant faces. These difficulties as expressed by Rev. Rumengan include language barriers, difficulty in finding immigration lawyers who understand their culture and speak their language, family separation and losing church membership. Rev. Rumengan stated that the church can educate the new immigrant groups on new immigration laws, work close with the community of people in seeking protection: Asylum, Cancellation of Removal and Battered Women, the church can give letters of recommendation to the Court, give out Church ID, educate our church members, provide translation service and organize support groups.

The example of giving out church ID with the picture was fascinating. The example was as follows: “Last year, some Indonesian men in New Jersey were stopped by the police and asked: “what is your nationality?” They answered: ‘Indonesians’. The police said: “Oh, you are from a “Terrorists country”, then they showed the Church ID and the police let them go.

Rev. Mercy Assa Rumengan, *National Consultation of Racial Ethnic Women*, Pg. 3.

It is imperative to report the views of church members in addition to the consultation. Prior to going to the conference, I received input from some of our members concerning their view on how immigration has impacted

the church life, obstacles, and what need to change so as to be representative of the constituency. Some of the views expressed were that being in a multi-ethnic society as in the DC Metro area, the church has to change over a period of time to support the different cultures. One member commented that the church has to change to survive, as we cannot continue to support the type of cultures that have been in 1800 or 1900 and some of the hymns need to change. Another member commented that there was not much change as it is the same Presbyterian Church that they were accustomed to, except that there is a lot more music, they missed the psalms and there are differences in language. One member commented that it has made the church family diverse. One member commented that we have to transplant into American concept of worship and help American churches that are willing to incorporate methods of worship and accommodate the constraints that people bring from home countries including rhythms, language, accents etc.

During the mini-consultations, we first went around the room and spoke about our background. I spoke about how I came to Adelphi church. When my father was a college student he came to Adelphi Presbyterian Church. At that time, the church was majority white/Caucasian. When I came in the early 1990s based on my father’s recommendation, there were a few blacks, mainly interracial couples, Ethiopian, African-American and a larger percentage of whites, if I recall correctly. Over the years, as I have gone away and came back to Adelphi, there have been changes. We now have a very diverse group within our church with various ethnic backgrounds. Furthermore, the community has changed around Adelphi Presbyterian Church. There is a large Hispanic community.

So is this topic relevant to our constituency? Of course it is. During the mini-consultation we were broken down into small groups to identify the barriers that immigrant faced. I was the recorder for the group and we had a large list. Some of the barriers identified at the consultation included language, legal issues, economic issues, cultural barriers, different expectations, transportation, rituals, lack of communication, prejudices/sexism – not in our church. With respect to different expectations, some immigrant

population have busy schedules and do not have as much time to spend on church activities.

It was recommended that churches with a high population of immigrant hire an English as a Second Language (ESL) instructor or have retired individuals or persons who stay at home – An example was given of Pakistani women who normally do not work outside the home, could assist by taking non-English speaking person to the grocery store and the person could learn by assimilation. Another option is to form relationship with local area colleges - teaching department who may be able to let students obtain credit for teaching. There is also recommendation that the Presbytery hires an immigration attorney. It is also recommended that the church implement picture ID for church members. In terms of dealing with economic issues which includes lack of jobs etc., it is recommended that jobs are posted on the church website and church congregation notify individuals if they are aware of any jobs. Some issues that may be relevant to regular Presbyterian church may not be relevant to Racial Ethnic Presbyterian church e.g. worshipping styles/rituals. It was also recommended that there should be a coordinator who addresses the concerns of immigrants. This may include teaching new immigrant how to use public transportation. It was also stated that the ministers could also provide counseling, as needed, to new immigrants.



PC(USA) leaders disavow comments made by delegation members in Lebanon

October 20, 2004

Visit with Hezbollah leaders reignites animosity among Jewish groups

by Jerry L. Van Marter

LOUISVILLE — Three top officials of the Presbyterian Church (USA) issued a statement today disavowing comments made by members of a Presbyterian delegation during an Oct. 17 visit to a

former Israeli prison that is now a Hezbollah-run museum and memorial in southern Lebanon.

News that the delegation — comprised mostly of members of the denomination's Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy (ACSWP) — had met with a group on the U.S. government's watch list of terrorist organizations has further eroded relations between Jewish groups and the PC (USA).

One ACSWP delegation member — Ronald Stone, a recently retired professor at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary — was quoted as saying: “As an elder of our church, I'd like to say that according to my recent experience, relations and conversations with Islamic leaders are a lot easier than dealings and dialogue with Jewish leaders.”

General Assembly Stated Clerk Clifton Kirkpatrick, General Assembly Council Executive Director John Detterick and General Assembly Moderator Rick Ufford-Chase said “the visit to Hezbollah and the comments on that occasion by members of this Presbyterian group do not reflect the official position of the Presbyterian Church (USA) on peace in the Middle East.”

A number of American Jewish groups have been at odds with the PC (USA) since the denomination's General Assembly voted in July to “initiate the process of phased, selective divestment” from corporations contributing to the Israeli government's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

The process includes dialogue with corporations and the filing of shareholder resolutions in an attempt to bring about changes in corporate behavior. The earliest actual divestment of stock could occur is June 2006, when the next General Assembly meets in Birmingham, AL.

Some Jewish groups have been sharply critical of the General Assembly's decision and demanded that it be rescinded. Now, word that a delegation sponsored by the PC (USA)'s Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy met with Hezbollah representatives at a Palestinian refugee camp in southern Lebanon on Oct. 17 — and comments attributed to delegation members

in the international press — has created a firestorm of condemnation.

The full text of the statement:

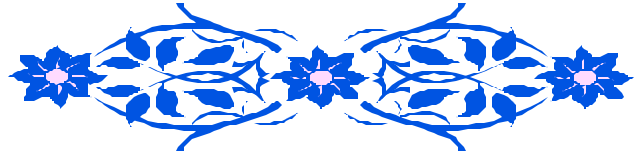
“A group of Presbyterians currently visiting the Middle East has received media attention by international press, as well as reporters in the region about their visit with Hezbollah leaders in South Lebanon. The Presbyterian group consists of members of the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy (ACSWP) and staff support for the committee. ACSWP is an advisory committee that develops social witness policy for the PC (USA), which it in turn recommends to the General Assembly for action.

“So far, the group’s itinerary has included stops in Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan. At the request of church partners, the group visited the Khiam Detention Center in South Lebanon, a former Israeli prison now controlled by Hezbollah, a group that has been associated with terror attacks.

“The visit to Hezbollah and the comments on that occasion by members of this Presbyterian group do not reflect the official position of the Presbyterian Church (USA) on peace in the Middle East. The reports of this visit should not be interpreted in any way as lessening our deep commitment to continued Jewish-Christian dialogue, Muslim-Christian dialogue, or Jewish-Christian-Muslim dialogue.

“The 216th General Assembly (2004) of the Presbyterian Church (USA) called “terrorism — whether state, group, or individual — immoral because it wrongfully and deliberately attacks innocent civilians,” and is “a dead-end alternative to a negotiated settlement of the conflict.”

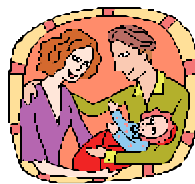
“We pray regularly for all those in the Middle East who live with the constant threat of violence. The Presbyterian Church (USA) continues to work for a just peace for all peoples, including Israelis and Palestinians.”



OUR CONDOLESCENCES TO ...

The families of Barbara Kline, who died on October 3. A funeral service was held on October 8 at John F. Herron Funeral Home in Bethlehem, PA. Barbara was a faithful member at Adelphi and came every Sunday and loved to sing in the choir. For many years, she was on STRETCH (Strengthening of the Church Committee, which is now called Congregational Care Committee). Barbara is survived by two daughters Janice and husband Rich Edwing in Germantown, and Judy and husband Jeff Mills in Waldorf.

Evelyn Jones and Rev. Nancy Clark on the death of their father, Charles Martin Boylan, on Friday, October 15 after a long illness. The viewing took place at the Cunningham Funeral Home in Grove City, Pennsylvania on Tuesday, October 19 and the funeral/memorial service was held at the Ebenezer Presbyterian Church in Grove City on Saturday, October 23.



CONGRATULATIONS!!

A girl, Kylee Rae Thomas, 7 lb. 3oz. 20.5 in. long, was born to Katie Rodman and Brad Thomas. Proud grandparents are Gail and Randy Rodman.

Meals on Wheels



by Cherry Smith

Volunteers are needed. If you are able to donate a few hours once a week, don't hesitate to call Cherry Smith. Her number is 301- 384-0775. Please feel free to leave a message on voice mail if she's not available to answer the telephone. She will get back with you as soon as possible.



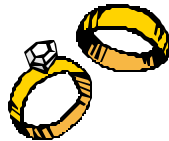
"Help by Phone"

DINNER MENU

Beef Stew	Rice	Jello	Dry Milk
Spaghetti	Northern Beans	Pudding	Coffee
Macaroni & Cheese	Red, Green & Yellow Vegetables	Fruit	Tea
Pork & Beans	Baby Food		

All foods must be canned or dried and in sealed containers to meet health department regulations. Please bring the above items and place them in the grocery basket in the back of the sanctuary.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



Paul & Joan Tembunde – Saturday, December 20th
Neil & Michelle Wiltshire – Tuesday, December 27th
Winton & Promilla Almas – Tuesday, December 30th

BIRTHDAY WISHES



- Les Wattay – Tuesday, December 2nd
- Uche Anigboh – Friday, December 5th
- Martin Ojong – Friday, December 5th
- Charles Yancey – Sunday, December 7th
- Neil Wiltshire – Wednesday, December 17th
- Joan Roming – Thursday, December 18th
- Stig Hammond – Friday, December 19th
- Carl Coburn – Sunday, December 21st
- Dave Milligan – Monday, December 22nd
- Angela Bouie – Thursday, December 25th
- Marlene Donaldson – Thursday, December 25th
- Jennie Cardin – Tuesday, December 30th

LECTIONARY READING FOR NOVEMBER

November 7, 2004
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Hag. 1:15b-2:9
Ps.145:1-5,17-20 or
Ps.98;
Thess. 2:1-5,13-17
Luke 20:27-38

November 14, 2004
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isa.65:17-25
Isa. 12;2
2 Thess. 3:6-13
Like 21:5-19

November 21, 2004
CHRIST THE KING/REIGNS of CHRIST
Jer.23:1-6
Luke 1:68-79

Col. 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

November 28, 2004
1st. Sunday of Advent
Isa. 2:1-5
Ps.122
Rom.13:11-14
Matt. 24:36-44



November 2 Tuesday
10:00AM ESL
7:00PM Stewardship Committee

November 3 Wednesday
7:00PM Healing Service

November 4 Thursday
6:30PM ESL

November 7 Sunday
11:00AM Worship

November 8 Monday
7:00PM Session

November 9 Tuesday
10:00AM ESL

November 10 Wednesday
7:00PM Study 6
7:30PM Adelphi Pool Annual Meeting
North Adelphi Citizens Assoc.

November 11 Thursday
6:30PM ESL

November 14 Sunday
11:00AM Worship
6:00PM International Night Dinner

November 16 Tuesday
10:00AM ESL

November 17 Wednesday
7:00PM Study 7

November 18 Thursday
6:30PM ESL

November 21 Sunday
9:30AM Bible Breakfast Club
11:00AM Worship with Communion

November 22 Monday
7:00PM Facilities Committee

November 23 Tuesday
10:00AM ESL
6:30PM ESL (subject to change)

November 24 Wednesday
7:00PM Study 8

November 25 Thursday
Happy Thanksgiving

November 28 Sunday
11:00AM Worship
3:00 PM Memorial Service
for Barbara Kline

November 30 Tuesday
10:00AM ESL

NOVEMBER SERVANTS DAY

Date	Greeters	Nursery	Ushers	Acolytes	Liturgists
November 7th 11:00 a.m.	The Milligans	Janet Doeln	Paul Tembunde Neil Wiltshire	Wesley Tembunde	Charles Yancy
14th 11:00 a.m.	Gail Rodman	Martin Ojong	Janet Dolen Deborah Penot	Abigail Jembere	Comfort Anigboh
21th 11:00 a.m.	The Lancasters	Dick Smith	Jerome Farley Tad Jembere	Jeremy Wiltshire	Jenny Cardin
28 th 11:00 a.m.	Vida Agyei- Obese	Candace Farley	Jake Masters Gail Rodman	Lauren Wattay	Bob Finzel

Adelphi Presbyterian Church

9401 Riggs Road

Adelphi, Maryland 20783

Pastor: Rev. Y. Eunice Yang

Director of Music: Dr. Kathie James

December Newsletter Deadline Date: November 21, 2004

