

Adelphi Presbyterian Church News



9401 Riggs Road
Adelphi, Maryland 20783
(301) 434-6337

Web Site: www.adelphipc.org

OCTOBER 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		

A "Few" Words from the Pastor ...



For the last two sermons I preached in September, some of you said they were "zesty." Some said inspiring. Others said depressing. Yes, people listen to sermons and usually come out with very different understanding and interpretation of what the sermons are about.

First of all, I want to say that I preached from the texts through the locale where we are journeying as a community of the "faithful." Secondly, each and every sermon is an attempt to point you to God, to let God speak directly to you wherever you are in your lives. Certainly, people come up with different interpretations.

No matter what your interpretation is, I hope these sermons get you "think" and "ponder" of what it means to be a disciple of Christ, what it means to be a member at Adelphi, how God calls you to serve in this particular

Moderator: Rev. Y. Eunice Yang

Clerk: Janet Dolan

Treasurer: Charles Yancey

Assistant Treasurer: Jake Masters

community or not to serve here, and what it means to be church here.

I hope we can all learn to put down our prejudices and perspectives and learn to see things through a kaleidoscope. For those of you who think there is only one way of worshipping, open your mind to emerging worships or recovered century old worships. For those of you who think there is only one kind of music to play or sing, open your ears to different musical traditions. For those of you who think there is only one style of ministry, open your heart to the needs of your neighbors. Hear their cry and see their needs. Let us “think” together what and how you would like to serve our community as Christ has called us to serve. It is always more blessed to give than to receive.

I have sensed some tensions in the church. We need to start acknowledging those tensions between the old and the new, between the aged and the young, between the traditional American and the immigrant cultures, and among different immigrant cultures and different classes. Facing tension and conflicts honestly can be a great way for transformation and growth. The Spirit often has to disorient and stir up among us before we could grow and mature.

For example, some of you have said our singing or our music feels like a funeral procession. Is it the organ? Or is it the fact that we do not want to learn “new” hymns or simply “old” hymns that we have never learned? Do not think that I am proposing “contemporary” service or “contemporary” worship. I am NOT proposing anything of that sort. I am a very liturgically grounded theologian. But we need to acknowledge that there is a worship war out there. We don’t need a war, but we need to open our minds to listen to each other, to honestly say what we think, to discuss different options and possibilities, and to learn from those who have studied the trends of worship and have recovered lost traditions of the first few centuries when Christianity was not a tool of politics or western colonialism. We want a worship that is rooted in traditions yet speaks to the 21st century context as well as our context in Adelphi.

I invite you to pray more, to listen to God, to open your minds, to put down your long-held “positions” of any sort. Do not fear what the Spirit is doing and will be doing. No one can hinder the Spirit!! The Spirit only brings new life and new blessings to us!!



FAITH JOURNEY

by Martin Ojong, M.D.

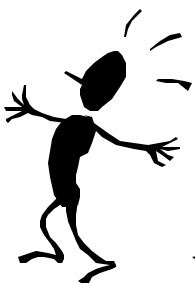
I was born in a small village in the English Speaking part of Cameroon to John Ojong and Alice Tambetta. My father probably made contact with Christianity while attending Basel Mission school about 10 miles from our village many years before I was even a concept. I don’t know when the transition occurred but I remember joining him, many years later, Bible study with Jehovah Witnesses in my pre-school years. I later got enrolled in the local Catholic Mission school in my mother’s village. It was very convenient since I could stay with my grandparents who lived less than a block away. That marked the beginning of my faith journey. Religion was part of the curriculum and every student was expected to study the catechism. I later got baptized and confirmed as a Catholic in 5th and 6th grades respectively.

I maintained my membership with the Catholic Mission throughout secondary and high school. In fact I once led a youth group from my high School Lenten retreat at a nearby Seminary. I must have appeared very serious about my religion since my schoolmate nicknamed me “Pastor”. But along the way I had come in contact with non-believers who won me over to communist ideology and other school of thoughts that assimilate Christianity with colonialism and called for complete rejection of Western culture. Colonialism is one of those horrible things no one is sympathetic with. It was therefore a logical to reject it and other Western values including Christianity. I stopped going to church and had little to do with all foreign religion for most of my college and early professional years.

When I later traveled to Europe for further studies something must have happened to cause a change of mind. My family resumed fellowship with Jehovah Witnesses. For the first time we studied the Bible and discovered the Truth: Christ died on the cross for the salvation of all believers irrespective of race, social standing, sex, or educational background. That really opened our minds to the all-inclusive nature of Christianity.

When we traveled to the U.S. we were without a church up to January 1998 when the Cameroonian community lost a member of the Adelphi Presbyterian Church. Rev. Sam Alexander, who presided over the Funeral service, gave a astounding sermon that caught our attention. We started inquiring about APC on the spot and stumbled on Cherry and Dick Smith who we gave us directions. We attended service for the 1st time one wet morning the following month. The welcoming atmosphere, multicultural membership, and pervading spirit of fellowship made us return many more weeks. We later decided to join Adelphi Presbyterian Church.

In the past six years Adelphi has become our home away from home. My family and I have shared our good times as well as the not so good times with fellow members of this church who have always been very supportive in countless ways. Although I am new to the Presbyterian way of worship I am ready to learn a little more every day. God willing, I hope to continue my faith journey in the nurturing environment that Adelphi has been to my family thus far.



WELCOME BACK Magdalene Esemé

Magdalene joined Adelphi many years ago, but moved away to Baltimore area later and was put on the church's inactive list. Now, she is back and is happily to

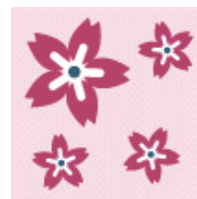
be restored to active membership. Magdalene, welcome back. We will hear more about her story in the next issue of the church's newsletter.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY



OCTOBER 3

October 3 is World Communion Sunday. Come to celebrate the diversity among us and to experience the coming Kingdom of God where all people, all races, all classes will join together at the feast of the Lord's Table.



WHAT IS WHOLENESS SERVICE?

by Y. Eunice Yang

Our first Wholeness service will be held on **Wednesday, October 6 at 7:00PM**. Hope that the following will give you an idea of what a Wholeness service is.

“Healing was an integral part of the ministry of Jesus which the church has been called to continue as one dimension of its concern for the wholeness of people. Through services for wholeness, the church enacts in worship its ministry as a healing community.” (W-3.5401, Book of Order)

All of us are in need of healing and wholeness. Our faith journey is characterized by temptations, by challenges and frustration, by enormous pressure to compete, by

anxiety, by uncertainty, by chaos, by threat. In a way, if not our bodies, our souls and spirits are worn out in all of these. Wholeness and healing is the gospel's promise through Jesus Christ. Those who seek him will find him; those who are thirsty or hungry will be fed.

Wholeness/Healing service will focus more on prayers, which will be a response to the Word read and proclaimed. Enacted prayer in the forms of laying on of hands and anointing of oil has biblical foundation (James 5:14). The promise of wholeness in Christ will be sealed in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

As Reformed Christians in Presbyterian Church, we firmly believe that the source of healing is not from the healer who prays and anoints the oil. The source of healing comes from the Triune God, our creator, redeemer, and sustainer. We believe that healing and wholeness is not of our own doing through our faith, but a gift and grace of God who is sovereign above all. "Healing is to be understood not as the result of the holiness, earnestness, or skill of those enacting the prayers, or of the faith of the ones seeking healing, but as the gifts of God through the power of the Holy Spirit." (W-3.5405)



MUSIC BOX

by Kathie James

Oh, my goodness! One of our young people recently said that the hymn singing on Sunday mornings sounds like we are at a funeral! On top of that, someone else noted that funerals are becoming more upbeat and positive, so is our singing worse than a funeral mood?

Even a small congregation can "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord." Let's acknowledge that "God Himself is With Us" and listening to our singing; we want to praise Him loudly! He doesn't care if we sound good or not; He cares about our spirit and our enthusiasm, so let's be strong and joyful!

You may notice a few small differences in the music during worship. First, there will be some "gathering music" for the minutes before the service starts in order to set the tone. Worship will begin the moment that music stops, so we should be prepared. Second, the Prelude, which is played after Joys and Concerns while the acolyte is lighting the candles, will extend a bit longer so that we can meditate and prepare our hearts and minds to focus on God. Third, we are no longer singing "Amen" at the end of hymns; see Rev. Yang's expanded explanation in the bulletin.

Your comments and suggestions are welcome. They may be given to the Pastor or the Music Director.

THE BIBLE BREAKFAST CLUB



By Kathie James

Our Bible Breakfast Club met on September 19, with 21 people in attendance, from our youngest children to our senior citizens. We sang some favorite songs, recited the Scripture verse for the day (Hebrews 13:2), and looked at our prayer list to see how God had given answers. We offered more prayers and will talk about God's answers next time. We continued our study of Samson by reviewing the stories we had read in August and then participating in several activities in our Bible workbooks. Younger members colored several pictures about Samson while older members worked on puzzles and word games. Our Scripture verse to be memorized for next time is Psalm 118:14a: "The Lord is my strength and my song." We thank Renee Milligan and Michele Thurber for providing a great breakfast, and we thank the participants who read Scripture verses in different languages. You are invited to join us for our next Bible Breakfast Club, which will be on

Sunday, October 17, at 9:30. Come and bring some friends; see you then!



ENGLISH AS THE SECOND LANGUAGE

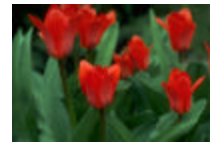
“...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me...” (Matthew 25) As part of the Session’s vision for Adelphi to serve the community and to reach out to our neighbors, to share with them what God has bestowed upon us, we will be launching English as the Second Language classes. It is FREE! Open to everybody who is interested. The classes will begin on Tuesday, October 19, 9:00 – 11:30 AM and Thursday, October 21, 6:30 – 8:00PM. Tell your neighbors about this exciting program. The first training session drew about 15 people into the room. 4 people made a regular commitment to teach the classes. In the same time, people are calling in to register. Please keep this ministry in your prayers as we tend to the needs of our neighbors as commanded by Christ, our Lord. If you think God may be calling you to serve our neighbors this way, please drop in on October 19 or 21 to greet our neighbors and to find out whether this is a ministry where God calls you to be!



GUEST PREACHER ON OCTOBER 17

Rev. George Taylor will be our guest preacher on Sunday, October, 17th. He is recently retired as pastor of Hyattsville Presbyterian Church in neighboring Hyattsville. He served in our Presbytery formerly as pastor of Takoma Park Presbyterian Church and Poolesville Presbyterian Church. In his retirement he works part-time as a Hospice Chaplain with Heartland in Landover, Maryland. He is married and has two children in Takoma Park, Maryland. He is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary. He enjoys jogging, swimming, reading and going to first run movies.

A CHURCH GARDEN COMMITTEE



Would you be interested in this Stewardship Service? We would very much like to beautify the church grounds with new landscaping and flowers. This will be a labor of love.

If you can do any one of the following, please join the committee:

- ? Make suggestions as to what plants you thing would be appropriate.
- ? Be available to do some planting and transplantings.
- ? Make donations fo the committee to buy plants, mulch, etc.
- ? Care for the plants by watering, weeding, etc.

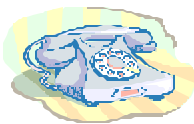
To join, just put your name on the sign-up sheet in the back of the Sanctuary. Please sign up during the summer so we will know if there will be a Garden Committee. Our First meeting will be September. The Garden Committee will come under the Facilities Committee. You may call Janet Dolen, 301-572-7353, or Joyce Finzel, 301- 572- 7956, if you have any questions.

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

Soup	Peanut Butter	Jelly	Dry Milk
Applesauce	Juice	Pudding	Coffee
Baby food	Cocoa	Fruit	Tea

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.

BIRTHDAY WISHES



- Joyce Finzel - October 2
- Barbara Kline - October 4
- Kevin Romig - October 5
- Priscilla Lancaster - October 7
- Ruth Potter - October 13
- Alex Parisi - October 14
- Kathie James - October 17
- Cameron Bouie - October 18
- Janet Dolen - October 20
- Helen Longen - October 21
- Christopher Hong - October 22
- Jay Gorden - October 25
- Leah Hammond - October 27
- Gail Rodman - October 27
- Payton Bouie - October 30

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- Tom and Jennie Cardin - October 14
- David and Sharon Anderson - October 19
- Carlton and Ruth Potter - October 23



October 2, Saturday 8:30 PM to 5PM
Fall Workshop Sponsored by Presbytery
At Falls Church

October 3, Sunday
Communion Sunday

October 6 Wednesday
7:00PM Wholeness Service

October 10, Sunday
Stewardship moment by Paul Tembunde

October 17, Sunday (Eunice away for study leave)
Rev. George Taylor preaches

October 18, Monday
7:00PM Session Meeting

October 19, Tuesday
9:30AM English as a Second Language

October 20, Wednesday
7:00PM Theological Study 4

October 21, Thursday
6:30PM English as a Second Language

October 23, Saturday 11:00AM
Session Pot Luck (At the Anigboh)

October 24, Sunday
Stewardship moment by Bettye Miller

October 27, Wednesday
Theological Study 5

October 29, Friday 6:00PM
Youth Lock In

October 31, Sunday
All Saints Day
Communion & Baptism of Russell Hong
Stewardship moment by Evelyn Jones

LECTIONARY READING FOR OCTOBER

OCTOBER 3, 2004 **World Communion Sunday**
Lam. 1:1-6
Ps. 137
2 Tim. 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

OCTOBER 10, 2004
Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
Ps. 66:1-12
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

OCTOBER 17, 2004
Jeremiah 31:27-34
Ps. 119:97-104
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Luke 18:1—8

October 24, 2004
Joel 2:23-32
Ps. 65
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18: 9-14

OCTOBER 31, 2004 **All Saints Day**
Dan. 7:1-3, 15-18
Ps. 149
Eph. 1:11-23
Luke 6:20-31

OCTOBER SERVANTS DAY

Date	Greeters	Nursery	Ushers	Acolytes	Liturgists
3rd 11:00 a.m.	The Milligans	Janet Doeln	Paul Tembunde Neil Wiltshire	Wesley Tembunde	Charlotte Ojong
10th 11:00 a.m.	Gail Rodman	Martin Ojong	Janet Dolen Deborah Penot	Abigail Jembere	Bob Finzel
17th 11:00 a.m.	The Lancasters	Dick Smith	Jerome Farley Tad Jembere	Jeremy Wiltshire	Charles Yancey
24th 11:00 a.m.	Vida Agyei- Obese	Candace Farley	Jake Masters Gail Rodman	Lauren Wattay	Comfort Anigboh
31 st	Bettye Miller		Winton Almas Hudson Lancaster	Westley Tembunde	Martin Ojong

Adelphi Presbyterian Church

9401 Riggs Road

Adelphi, Maryland 20783

Pastor: Rev. Y. Eunice Yang

Director of Music: Dr. Kathie James

November Deadline Date: Sunday, October 24, 2004

