

Adelphi Presbyterian Church News



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

Web Site: www.adelphipc.org (Jerome Farley, Webmaster)

October 2007

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

The Session

Class 2008

Renee Milligan, Charlotte Ojong, Ernestine Tebong

Class 2009

Jennie Cardin, Jake Masters, Eric Yemoh

Class 2010

Jerome Farley, Jessyna McDonald, Les Wattay

Pastor: Rev. Y. Eunice Yang

Clerk of Session: Janet Dolen

Treasurer: Charles Yancey

Assistant Treasurer: Jake Masters

God calls us at Adelphi Presbyterian Church to be a Christ-centered community of people experiencing spiritual awakening by praying, caring, welcoming, sharing the Word, and forming relationships with one another. At Adelphi Presbyterian Church, we are called to use our gifts and talents to serve God with energy and love.

~ Our Vision Statement adopted by Session,
September 2007 ~



SESSION by Janet Dolen

The Session met in September after a summer break and the retreat held in July. This was the first Session for the new Elders. The committee assignments are:

Facilities - Les Wattay and Jake Masters

Personnel and stewardship –

Renee Milligan, Jessyna McDonald,
Eric Yemoh

Christian Education - Jessyna McDonald

Evangelism and Mission - Jerome Farley

Congregational Care - Jennie Cardin

Worship - Charlotte Ojong

TCP - Ernestine Tebong

The Session discussed the vision statement, agenda for Session meetings, the covenant of leadership and proposals that were developed from the retreat. The vision statement (which is on the front of the Sunday bulletins) was approved. The Session had approved the purchase of a new copier, which has been delivered and is working fine.

to love God and one another in our very diverse community.

To celebrate my 7th anniversary of ordination and to reflect on my call again, I will be taking the remaining 2 weeks of study leave from Oct. 24 – Nov.6. One week I will be at my alma mater – Columbia Theological Seminary. I was hilarious when I learned I was accepted as a Guthrie Scholar for November. Guthrie Scholars are invited to the campus to pursue a topic of their choice that engages a pressing issue of the church from a Reformed perspective. All costs, except travel, are covered by the seminary.

Guthrie Scholar program was established to honor the contributions of Dr. Shirley Guthrie (a “he”) who taught at Columbia for about 5 decades. *The theology Guthrie imparted was Christian, with distinctive Reformed emphases. A master at explanation, his students and readers of his books encountered a powerful, providential God, who, in Guthrie’s memorable phrase, “isn’t out to get anybody.” His leading themes in teaching, as in life, were Christian unity amidst human diversity, God’s love and justice, and the need for sinful human beings to learn forgiveness after the example of Jesus Christ.*

(For more information)

http://www.ctsnet.edu/lifelong/continuing_education/guthrie_scholars.asp

MY CALL STORY

by Y. Eunice Yang

This year, I celebrate my 7th year of ordination as the minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA). It’s been a long journey since I first heard the call to serve God! I would like to take this opportunity again to share with you briefly about my call story! I think remembering our journey, recounting God’s blessings, would help us gain a new vision and make a new decision!

FROM PASTOR EUNICE



On Sunday, August 26, in reflecting the call from God to the Prophet Jeremiah, as a part of the sermon, I shared with the congregation my call story which is reprinted here! This October I celebrate the 7th anniversary of ordination as the Minister of Word and Sacrament in PCUSA. Indeed, this journey that I have been called to tread has been full of ups and downs, and twists and turns.

Seven years ago after I graduated from Columbia Theological Seminary, I was called to serve as associate pastor at Latrobe Presbyterian Church, the hometown and home church of both the Rev. Fred Rogers (the host of Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood) and the golfer, Arnold Palmer. For 3 years, Rev. Dr. David Batchelder, the staff, the session, and the members of this church nurtured my sense of pastoral identity with their faith, wisdom, patience, respect, challenge, and love. They were generous and kind and open in receiving my leadership as their pastor. I was absolutely changed through that experience. In God’s words to Jeremiah: I was plucked up and rebuilt.

God’s work in me continues after I was called to Adelphi. For the last 4 years, I continue to grow and my pastoral identity continues to be reshaped and deepened. Thank you all at Adelphi Presbyterian Church for your company on this journey! We have indeed gone through many changes together in this very transient city. People continue to move in and out. We have explored new ministries like Advent Event, Silent Prayer, Healing Service, Study on Reformed Theology, Men’s Breakfast Event..... New leaders among you stepped up in many different areas and our VBS and children’s Sunday School have come alive! We have discovered great musical talents among us! We also cleaned up the church as it looks shiny and tidy now! Our fellowship has been strengthened. The Holy Spirit’s power of transformation has not stopped shaking and moving us. You are a courageous and tenacious congregation. You have taken the risk and worked hard



My call story is one that is both dramatic and sudden, and slow and time-consuming. God did have a lot of patience with me! I grew up in the church. From my father's side of the family, I am the fourth generation Presbyterian. My great-grand father was a medical doctor. He became one of the first Christians when the first Scottish missionaries came to Taiwan about 140 years ago. My grandfather and his many brothers and his many nephews all became ministers in the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan.

I remember the most joyful time when I was in junior high and high school was every Saturday night. We would walk or bike to the church to attend the youth group. We studied the bible together. We listened to special guest speakers on different topics. We sang. We practiced choir music and prepared for worship for the next day!

After the youth group was over, we would sometimes go to the night markets and eat and have fun together! Sometimes, we just hung out in the church until the pastor came to tell us to go home! It was just really a great time of my life!

High school years in Taiwan used to be filled with heavy schoolwork and intense pressure to succeed because we all had to take a college entrance exam in order to get into college. In the early 80s in Taiwan, only less than 20% of all high school graduates would be accepted into college. So, it was very competitive. I did get in! Now there are so many universities and colleges in Taiwan. I heard it would be strange now if you don't get into college. Yet, during my high school years, although pressure from study was intense and competitive, I still participated at the church youth group and I also participated at the campus Christian fellowship. We met every week. We invited our schoolmates to our fellowship and shared the gospel with them. We prayed together!

I was also an officer in all of these youth groups and campus fellowships I attended. These activities provided a lot of opportunities to learn leadership and organizational skills. But most of all, it tested my commitment to God! Some of my friends at that time would ask me if I would consider going into full-time

ministry. I always said "No, God needs a lot of Christians working in the society so that we can share the gospel with people around us."

During my junior and high school years, I also read a lot of testimonies and stories of missionaries. Hudson Taylor went to China. Albert Schweitzer, who was a physician, a musician and a theologian, went to Africa. Amy Carmichael went to India. James Elliott and other men went to Ecuador and were killed by the aboriginals on their first few missions. Many of the missionaries made great sacrifices in order to answer God's call. They gave up the comfort at home. They gave up the opportunities to make a lot of monies. They gave up the opportunities to be around their loved ones. Their stories always deeply moved and inspired me!



When I came to the States to continue my college education, I again participated at a campus Chinese Students fellowship. We gathered together every week. We just loved to study the bible together, prayed together. We explored special topics in life! Each year, we put up a big welcoming party, welcoming those who newly arrived at school and we introduced them to the fellowship and the church. We provided practical help in their adjustment in American life. Many came to know Christ for the first time in their lives through what this student fellowship did. This fellowship provided such a spiritual solace for a group of young students living and studying abroad. We became great friends.

It was during this time, during college, I felt called to become a missionary. I went to University of South Carolina in Columbia. There was a Columbia bible College that was famous for training people to become missionaries. They also hosted a lot of missionaries who came home on sabbatical leave. I had a lot of opportunities to get to know these missionaries and to know what they were doing in the mission fields.

However, when I graduated from college, I struggled about what to do next. Finally, I decided I could not be a missionary at that time. My parents were school

teachers in Taiwan. Ever since they came to the States, they worked very hard 6 full days a week. At that time, they were in some financial difficulties and my brother was still in school. So, I decided as the older child in the family, I should work to support my family. I went to school to finish my master's degree in accounting. I got certified as CPA a few years later. I also worked at various accounting jobs before I became a tax auditor with the government for several years.

During those adult working years, I again was very active in the Taiwanese church in Atlanta. I was a deacon. I taught and organized children's Sunday School. I was an officer at the young adult fellowship. I also was a translator and played piano during worship. I sang in the choir. Life was going well. Church life was a joyful and indispensable part of my life. My family became more stable financially. Then, I got married and went back to Taiwan for a couple of years. I worked as assistant to the president in a couple of companies.

It was during this time that I realized I drifted away from God in my heart! I remember I did not spend as much time praying and studying the bible. Serving God became just a duty and I did not feel much joy most of the time. It was a valley in my faith journey. It became an even darker valley when my husband died.

It was a decisive moment in my life. It was a moment when my faith was greatly tested and tried. In the midst of my grief and struggles, I finally saw the shadow of Jonah in me. I felt that I had been escaping from God in the last few years! It was after I dealt with my grief that I felt clearly a sense of God's call again.

God was calling me to a different phase of life. God was calling me to meet new challenges in life. God was writing a new story for me! So, I went to seminary to continue to wrestle with God, with many questions of faith...

I have found out that every time I look back my life, I re-interpret many events in my life in light of where my faith journey is now. Every time, I gain new insights into how God has been working in my life!

Looking back my own faith journey, I realize that bible study, prayer, fellowship, service, worship are the basics of Christian life together. Serving God has always been such a joy in my life – most of the time. It is necessary that we look back our lives from time to time, to remember when we first fell in love with God, to count God's blessings, to number our days!

I ask that you continue to pray for me as I continue to answer God's call in my life! I will remember you in my prayers too as you search God's will in your life!



WEEMS TO ELDERS: CAN'T COVER UP JESUS

August 31, 2007 Dangerous truth
by Mike Ferguson for Presbyterian News Service

NASHVILLE: Poet Ann Weems thinks Presbyterian elders must do something that King Lear's daughter said she couldn't do: heave their hearts into their mouths.

In Shakespeare's play, Lear's three daughters are asked to tell their father how much they love him. Two girls do as they're told, but the third daughter is silent. She blurts out her famous but anatomically difficult line only after her father gets angry with her.

Like Lear's daughter, elders also need to find their voice, Weems said Thursday (Aug. 30) during the second day of the PC(USA)'s first-ever National Elders Conference. The event has drawn more than 300 elders from almost every state.

"How can we heave our hearts into a statement of faith?" she asked. "We heave our hearts by voicing astonishment at the wonder of God's grace." She defined prayer as "a yearning after the heart of God. We just open our hearts and the Holy One waits." But when we do pray, it ought to be something worth praying. "I am concerned," Weems said, "that in our

prayers we confess rule-breaking instead of heart-breaking.”

On Wednesday night, Weems worshiped with other conference-goers at the Downtown Presbyterian Church in Nashville, a church her father served as assistant pastor and pastor in the late 1930s and early 1940s. On Thursday morning she told the story, from her then 7-year-old perspective, how he was driven from his pulpit.

“It was strange sitting in a pew where I sat as a little girl, my mother telling me to sit still,” she said. “I went back in time to when I thought King Jesus and King James were friends.”

One Sunday afternoon she walked into the kitchen to see her mother “polishing the sin out of the silver.” Her father had an unexpected meeting after church and would be late to lunch, explained her mother, whom Ann called by her first name, Gladys.

“My brother told me daddy was in big trouble,” Weems said. “I wondered how can a daddy be in trouble, especially our daddy, who never caused any trouble to anybody at any time.”

It turned out a prominent church member had decided to try to get rid of the pastor for preaching sermons about racial equality, peace and higher pay for poor workers.

“He had to preach what he thought was the gospel of Jesus Christ,” she said. “He told me, I wish I could preach something that would make everybody happy, but I have to preach what I think God wants me to preach. I have to know in my heart that it’s about Jesus, not about me. Do you understand?”

“Not really,” she replied. “Just that it’s about Jesus.”
”That’s enough,” her father replied.

The young Weems, who that week had been memorizing the 23rd Psalm (Red-letter King James Version” she said proudly), told her father that if he asked, God would restore his soul. The pastor told his daughter he was grateful for that. Her father would face a heresy trial at synod and be exonerated, but resigned his position at the Nashville church anyway. “I won’t preach at a pulpit that’s not free,” he told his daughter.

His personal strength and strong belief in Jesus’ teaching, and the impact those had on a young girl, were apparent during Weems recital of that long-ago story. By the end of her talk, every elder in the room was listening hard. “No matter how we dilute the word of God,” Weems concluded, “it’s about Jesus. No matter how we cover up the dangerous truth of the gospel, it’s about Jesus.”

Mike Ferguson, a Presbyterian elder, is a reporter for the Baker City Herald in Baker City, OR.



PEACE NOTES – THINGS TO PRAY FOR

***Pray for the safety and protection of religious minorities in Pakistan.** Members of the Presbyterian Church of Pakistan have experienced threats to life and safety because of their faith and are in need of prayerful support.

***Pray with the people of Darfur and the government of Sudan.** Intensive diplomacy by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and others have led Sudan to accept a joint African Union-United Nations peacekeeping force. Deployment details continue to be negotiated.

(www.pcusa.org/peacemaking/index.htm#sud)



BIBLE CLUB

BREAKFAST

by Kathie James

Bible Breakfast Club met on September 16, with 15 people in attendance. We opened with prayer, then read about the Apostle Peter and about Dorcas, also known as Tabitha. Peter was the first disciple called by Jesus to follow Him. Many stories appear in the Bible about Peter, including his healing of the sick. He played a role in the life of Dorcas, a woman who sewed clothing for the poor; when Dorcas died, her friends sent for Peter, and he resurrected her! We read these

stories in the books of Mark and Acts. Our craft was a wall hanging that the children made by coloring a picture of Peter healing a lame man, attaching it to a plate, then weaving colorful yarn around the edges of the plate to represent Dorcas's gift of sewing. Thanks to

Drs. Bettye Miller and Renee Milligan for providing a delicious breakfast; also to Jerome Farley, Cecilia Molungu, Larry James, and Joan and Paul Tembunde for their support and participation. Children in attendance included Wesley, Yazmeen and Mimi Tembunde; Eddie and Malayna Lockerman; and Daniel and Reyna Farley. We hope to see more members and friends on October 21 at 9:45 a.m.



WOMEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

By Jennie Cardin

We had another lively and spiritually fulfilling Prayer Breakfast at Bettye Miller's house on Saturday, September 15. Six of us enjoyed delicious breads, muffins, quiches, and fruit with juice and coffee. Rose Tangham led us through three chapters of our continued reading of *The Purpose Driven Life*. Two of those chapters focused on temptation. We questioned ourselves on how and why temptation plays a part in our life, and how we, as Christians, are to respond and react through God's word. As we near the end of this well-written book, we are preparing for our next reading journey. We might even be finished by December, which would be perfect. Start the New Year with a new book!

Bettye is quite the hostess, and has invited us back for our next meeting on Saturday, October 20, at 10:30 a.m. The discussion leader and required readings will be announced shortly. Please check your e-mails and listen for announcements in church.

HOLIDAY DRIVE FOR THE PREGNANCY AIDE CENTER

By Jennie Cardin

It's not too early to start thinking about the holidays! Once again this year, Adelphi will donate desperately needed items to the Pregnancy Aide Center, where Renee Milligan works. Please add any of the following items to your grocery list, and remember, do not wrap the gifts. Renee will take everything to the Center for distribution. **Please have all items to the church by Sunday, December 16, 2007.**

- diapers ****large diapers especially****
- dry or canned baby formula
- baby blankets
- children's books (English and Spanish)
- baby socks, mittens, hats, or hoodies
- undershirts
- baby rattles
- bottle brushes/baby bottles
- nursing pads
- changing pads
- diaper wipes



Help By Phone

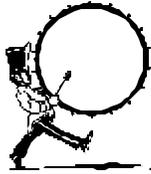
Beef Stew Macaroni & Cheese Spaghetti Pork & Beans Dried Beans	Soups Tuna Peanut Butter Baby food	Dry Milk Coffee Tea Cocoa	Red, Green & Yellow Vegetables Fruit Apple sauce
Pasta Rice	Cold Cereals Grits Oatmeal	Pancake mix Pancake Syrup Jelly	Jell-o Pudding





Happy Anniversary

October 14 Tom and Jennie Cardin
October 19 David and Sharon Anderson



Happy Birthday

October 2 Joyce Finzel
October 7 Priscilla Lancaster
October 17 Kathie James
October 20 Janet Dolen
October 21 Helen Logan
October 27 Gail Rodman



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 7, Sunday 11:00AM Sunday Service & Communion
October 14, Sunday – 11:00AM Sunday service with Elder Kathie James sharing
SESSION Meeting after worship
October 20, Saturday – 10:30AM Prayer Breakfast at Bettye Miller's
October 21, Sunday
*9:45AM – Bible Breakfast Club
*11:00AM – Sunday Service
October 28, Sunday – 11:00AM Sunday Service (Eunice away. Rev. Wally Harman preaching)
Coffee Hour Fellowship
November 4, Sunday – 11:00AM Sunday Service (Eunice away. Rev. Wally Harman preaching)

Children's Sunday School

1st Sunday, 11:00AM (after children's moment)
2nd Sunday, 11:00AM (after children's moment)
3rd Sunday, 9:45AM, Bible Breakfast Club



Lectionary Reading

October 7
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Lamentations 1:1-6
Lamentations 3:19-26 or Psalm 137:1-9
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

October 14
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
Psalm 66:1-12
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

October 21
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jeremiah 31:27-34
Psalm 119:97-104
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Luke 18:1-8

October 28
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Joel 2:23-32
Psalm 65:1-13
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

November 4
31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Psalms 119:137-144
Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Sunday Servants

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Liturgist
OCTOBER 7	The Milligans	Paul Tembunde Chester Guild	Bob Finzel
OCTOBER 14	Gail Rodman	Janet Dolen Ndema Ojong	Chester Guild
OCTOBER 21	The Lancasters	Jerome Farley Tad Jembere	Larry James
OCTOBER 28	Vida Agyei- Obese	Jake Masters Gail Rodman	Evelyn Jones
NOVEMBER 4	The Milligans	Paul Tembunde Chester Guild	Bettye Miller

Adelphi Presbyterian Church

9401 Riggs Road
Adelphi, Maryland 20783

