



Rockfish Presbyterian Church
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Pastor: Mary Jane Winter
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Spreading the Word

Volume 12 Issue 9

September 2011

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Pastor Nominating Committee News Corner

In August, the PNC reviewed tapes of sermons provided by some of the candidates. In addition, telephone interviews with references were conducted. After lengthy discussions, and listening for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the PNC has narrowed the field of candidates further.

It is difficult to be more specific than this at this time because, to be fair to the candidates and the interview process, the details of how many candidates there are, who they are, where they are from, what their situations are, etc. need to remain confidential for now.

The PNC will have the opportunity to interview the candidates in person and hear them deliver a sermon in a neutral pulpit (i.e. not at Rockfish and possibly some distance away). The arrangement of these interviews and preaching dates is handled through the Presbytery office, and may take some time.

Thank you for being patient with the Presbyterian process and for keeping the PNC in your prayers.

Don't Forget!
One Service of Worship
on September 4th
at 10 a.m.
Two Services start
September 11, 2011
at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Update on Elder Class of 2014

Your Nominating Committee now has all the candidates to be considered for election to the class of 2014 Session. Each class is composed of four elders who serve a three year term. A recommended slate of four candidates will be presented for election at the congregational meeting which will be held following the combined service on October 2nd. The four newly elected elders will receive training and preparation during October and will begin serving in January 2012. In addition the congregation will elect one trustee to serve in the class of 1014. Please plan to attend this important meeting.



Peacemaking Offering




The 2011 Peacemaking Offering will be collected at the combined worship service at 10:00 a.m. on October 2, World Communion Sunday. The Peacemaking Offering was created in 1980 to support efforts of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to fulfill a commitment for peacemaking. It is one of four special offerings designated by the PC(USA) General Assembly.

Rockfish Presbyterian Church retains 25 percent of the Offering to donate towards peacemaking effort within Nelson county. Twenty-five percent is used by presbyteries and synods and the remaining 50 percent is forwarded the General Assembly ministries.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

THIS PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:



Jane Andrews	01
David Cameron	01
Ross Hasson	01
Bob Russell	05
Billy Gatewood	09
Sue Fulton	13
Kyle Patterson	13
Pat Humphrey	14
Jenny McCarter	14
Chuck Carson	15
Toni Roby	16
Gloria Beddow	17
Patricia Zirkle	17
Judy Deavers	18
Grace Buni	20
Courtland James	20
Emmy Jordan	20
Nancy McIntyre	20
Nellie Koon	23
Jim Dunlop	25
Ron Turnbull	25

Welcome to Rockfish!

What helps someone coming for the first time to Rockfish to feel comfortable, to feel a sense of community that includes them, and to feel “a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place?” Have you noticed that during the summer, we have started using “greeters” to welcome and speak to each person as they come in? Of course, our ushers also speak to each person as they hand out bulletins. Rockfish is intentional about name tags—for everyone! Have you noticed the new name tags with magnetic backing, with the church logo in color, and of course your name? Have you noticed the name tag rack has with its fresh coat of paint?

A recent focus group, mentioned how helpful the pictorial church directory was. It has certainly been helpful to me, and I know it will also help your new pastor. We are seeking to update photographs. A special thank you to Diana Garland and Pam Grammer for taking pictures after church. If you have a photo of yourself or your family that you would prefer, just send it to the church office. The directory can help all of us learn who is in our church family, and soon a new edition will be available for everyone.

How do new people find out about our church? This summer, the church placed an ad in *Crozet from A-Z*, a publication for new people in the community. This summer, a large banner near the road announced the time of the service as a welcoming invitation. Yet, the reason most frequently given for why someone comes to a particular church is that someone they knew invited them. Who can you invite to come to Rockfish?

Some new members commented about the role coffee hour played in helping them to get to know others in the church. Can you stay and speak to someone you may not know or know well? If you can't stay, please speak to others in the narthex before you leave. It makes a difference! Before I became the interim pastor here, I visited one Sunday to see what Rockfish was like. I still remember the number of people who spoke to me--a complete stranger--in the narthex before I left the church.

Other suggestions from the focus group included an orientation or information session about the church (ways to be involved, how things are done, a tour of the nooks and crannies), or informal dinners in homes to help newer people get better acquainted, or a dessert and discussion, or interviews of new members for *Spreading the Word*. How can you help? What can you do? Let us hear from you! Rockfish Presbyterian Church is a growing, exciting congregation that needs all of us—and there is room for more.

Mary Jane Winter



STW NEWSLETTER :

The deadline for the **October** newsletter will be **Wednesday, Sept. 21st .**

JAMIE HEARD

Email: rpcus@verizon.net **Phone:** (434) 361-1221

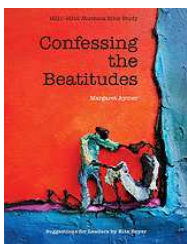
Address: P.O. Box, Nellysford, VA 22958

Surprised By Hope



The RPC Small Group will start a study of *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church* on Thursday, September 8. The five sessions will discuss chapters in the book by N. T. Wright on Hope, Resurrection, Heaven, Second Coming, Salvation and Church. All are welcome. Phone Bill Nevill (325-9848) or Brian Koster (361-2073) for details .

Women's Bible Study Begins



Women's monthly bible study begins Tuesday, September 6 at 10 AM. *Confessing the Beatitudes* is the 2011-2012 Horizon's Bible Study. The study focuses on the teachings of Jesus in Mathew and Luke helping readers connect faith with daily life, as well as addressing directly some of the most difficult issues facing the

world today: the economy, hunger, poverty, Christian community, a woman's role in society, faith and public life and justice and peace.

Come join us to further nurture our faith through this caring community of RPC women. Call 361-9406 or Email lizahopkins@aol.com if you have any questions.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

RPC Shawl Ministry starts again on September 14 at 10:30 AM. This busy crew of knitters provides hand knitted prayer shawls as an expressions of God's caring love to those in need. Yarn, patterns and knitting lessons are given for first timers needing help. Call 361-9406 or Email lizahopkins@aol.com if you have any questions.

Save the Date

Sunday, October 2nd is a combined worship service at 10:00 a.m.

Brunch will be served after worship service.

Annual Art Show

It's time for the annual RPC art show. The Fall art show will be on display during October and November. Bring your art works to the church on Saturday, October 8th from 2-5 p.m. Each artist may submit two pieces. We will accept a variety of art media, such as, paintings, drawings, photography, prints, needle works, and wall hanging crafts. Works must be framed and/or ready to hang and accompanied by the following information: your name, title of art work, and medium. Tags will be made for the show based on these facts. The tags will not show price information. Instead, a list of art work for sale and their prices will be available in the church office.



You may retrieve your submission after the show during the week prior to Thanksgiving. If you have questions, contact either Alice Murphy or Roger Elliott.

Needed: Linens and Coats

Each year Hispanic workers and their families come to Nelson County to work in agricultural settings. Often they come with next to nothing and come from a warm climate area. Each year, the agencies and community welcome them with a special event. This year the Hispanic Community Day is scheduled from 2:00 to 4:00 on Sunday, September 18 at Rose Union Baptist Church in Piney River.



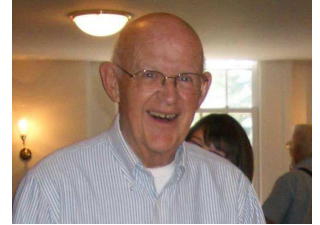
Hispanics are in need of items to make their stay here more comfortable. Most come with no linens for bedroom, bath or kitchen. Many come with no coats since these are not needed in their home country. If you can help supply linens or coats for some of these guests to Nelson County, please bring them to the church narthex anytime before Friday, September 17. The items need not be new, just clean and usable. This is an annual event and a great opportunity to extend a welcome and supply needed materials.

Please contact Lynne Carson at 434-361-0037 if there are any questions.



A Neighbor Gone

I lived for years within a few miles of him up north
 But didn't know then he was my neighbor.
 Wish I had for all who did know him well
 Say he surely was a fine man



Stately too, born to a rich heritage with famous ancestors
 But he did not flaunt this pedigree
 Instead he liked strapping on a tool belt
 To build homes for those in need

An engineer by training and trade
 Making the spark that drives engines to run
 Instrumental in putting the first men on the moon
 Important technical stuff like that

He loved to direct the flight mechanics of a dimpled ball
 Along dog-legged fairways and over hostile sand traps
 Out where the dewy green of God's earth
 Is soft under your feet in the morning

Loved too the call of the Woodpecker and Jay
 Flitting through the trees and across mountain scenes
 Walking as he liked to do in the cool evening air
 Hand in hand with his loving wife

He had a special fondness for the night sky
 Constellations and planets emitting light from the distant past.
 Now he sees the heavens from a closer view
 And knows God's true plan for His universe

Yes, a neighbor gone
 Missed and mourned by family and friends
 But resting and relieved from his pain
 Be comforted for he is with God
 Soaring in the heavens like the Cardinal which nests nearby.

*Written by David Lawson
 for Richard Humphrey's Memorial Service
 Rockfish Presbyterian Church
 August 27, 2011*

Words cannot possibly express our gratefulness to such a special congregation as Rockfish Church! You have been there for Dick and me for 10 years through all the major medical events in his life and the special celebration of his life on Saturday, the 27th. We were overwhelmed by such an overflow of people and music and flowers and words of comfort and love for Dick. He loved life and this church and all of you, as do I and our family. Thank you for all your prayers, food, cards, calls and support during these difficult times. You truly Sang Dick to Heaven!

God Bless All of You!

Pat Humphrey and Family

Wood Ministry



The Wood Ministry is looking for a few good women and men. If you feel like getting dirty, sweaty, having sore muscles, enjoying the fellowship of good friends and getting nearly instant gratification for your work, this may be the place for you. You don't have to be a

Charles (or Charlotte) Atlas, but there is a good bit of physical activity involved, and it's a great cross-training workout.

Our mission is to provide firewood to folks in our community who heat with wood and aren't able to gather their own or buy it on the market. We have a list of clients who we've served over the years, and increasingly we're being called upon by social services agencies to assist folks who are having a difficult time coping in the current economy.

We usually get together once or twice a week in the fall and winter and our hours are flexible. We especially need folks who have access to trucks for pickups and deliveries. If you'd like to learn more about this rewarding activity please contact Ray Koon at 540-456-6662 or Sam Alexander, 434-361-1608 (sjalex505@yahoo.com).

New Amendment to the Book of Order

Following the vote of all the presbyteries, a majority of which adopted the new amendment to the Book of Order, the new language for the election of ordained officers (G-6.0106b), effective July 10, 2011, reads *Standards for ordained service reflect the church's desire to submit joyfully to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life (G-1.0000). The governing body responsible for ordination and/or installation (G.14.0240; G-14.0450) shall examine each candidate's calling, gifts, preparation, and suitability for the responsibilities of office. The examination shall include, but not be limited to, a determination of the candidate's ability and commitment to fulfill all requirements as expressed in the constitutional questions for ordination and installation (W-4.4003). Governing bodies shall be guided by Scripture and the confessions in applying standards to individual candidates.*

News from Southwest Virginia on the family of Mary and JR White

I have been in contact with the White's and also the Epiphany Lutheran Church of Winston Salem, NC who is building the house and taking it to Dickerson County section by section.

Michael Spain a member of the Lutheran Church is supervisor of the project. He advised the floor and some of the walls have been installed. Hoping by last week of September to be finished with the framing and hope to have most of the plumbing and electrical work done.

Michael advised when this is done he hoped groups would have contacted Mary White and signed up to come and help with the finishing of the house. He said he hoped to find someone who could help with the outside siding and people to paint inside.

Anyone who is interested in helping with this project see me for information on contacting Mary White.

Donations are still needed. The family is hoping to be in the home by Thanksgiving. What a wonderful Thanksgiving this would be for the family after all they have been through.

Submitted by Nellie Koon

The office staff (Jamie) will be out of the office from September 7th through the 14th. If you have any questions, contact Mary Jane directly at 804 475-2201.



Senior Luncheon

On August 25, we held the senior luncheon at the Afton Firehouse. We would like to thank Karen Asher, Val Batson, Charlotte Chapman, Pat Frink, Liz Leukroth and Patti Wiggins for the great luncheon they prepared. The meal consisted of sweet Italian turkey sausages on buns, macaroni salad, tomatoes, watermelon and plum cobbler with vanilla ice cream for dessert.

We used the theme of "DOG DAYS OF SUMMER", which was cute with the stuffed animals, pictures, mats and throw covers, etc. The seniors loved taking the fresh flowers home.

Our next luncheon will be September 22 and we will probably use the theme of "Raining Cats and Dogs". This gives you more opportunities to find those dogs and cats you forgot about in the attic!! The signup sheet is on the board in the narthax.

URGENT

We are fast running out of time in our search for two people, male or female, to step forward to help with our "Senior" program; which was started over seven years ago. We have two committees: one with the food prep and the other with the flowers, etc. to make the tables look attractive. Please call Pat Frink at 434 361-0050 to

Submitted by Pat Frink

Thank You to the Richmond based group, Impromptu, and the first service musicians for the terrific concert held in the sanctuary on August 20th. If you missed the concert, visit our website at www.rockfishpresbyterian.org Now Is the Cool of the Day was videoed.



A Big Thank You

The two classrooms of Head Start children (four year olds) in Nelson County are off to a great start for the school year – thanks to you. Your enthusiastic response to provide backpacks and school supplies is wonderful to see. Once again we provided 40+ backpacks filled with beginner supplies as well as several large bags of school supplies which have been taken to Rockfish and Tye River Elementary Schools for distribution to those in need.



Thanks to all who participated by shopping, donating money, packing and delivering . You are the best!

RPC Packs and Distributes 222 Children's Food Bags At Nelson County's Food Pantry

Leslie Buchanan and Nancy Johnson drove through Hurricane Irene's watery greetings last Saturday to help distribute the 222 Children's Food Bags that the Ogilvie Family, Dana, Zoe, Ethan and Sophie, packed on Sunday morning, August 21, filling them with fruit cups, fruit juices, healthy cookies, dried meat and cheese sticks.



By 9:00 a.m. the parking lot at St. Mary's was unable to hold another car, and the long lines of Nelson County residents waiting for groceries stretched from the Pantry on up the hill. Nancy and Leslie were given school supplies to pass out along with the children's bags, much to the delight of the upper elementary, middle and high school students who were anxious about not having enough composition books, colored pencils, binders and note paper. Colored pencils and composition books ran out early so we made a mental note to find more of those items for September along with some much needed compasses and protractors.

Mary Jane's prayer that the food bags be sufficient for all who arrived was answered once again, and when the Pantry closed at noon all had been fed, with one bag remaining.

Submitted by Olivia Ellis

Session Highlights

The Session of Rockfish Presbyterian Church met June 28 (stated meeting), July 24 (called meeting), and August 16 (stated meeting).

At each meeting new members were received.

June 28: Dennis and Sally Bryant, Peter and Gloria Beddow, and Barbara Porter

July 24: John and Grace McKinnon as affiliate members

August 16: Gene and Nan Varnadoe.

The Session heard reports from elder Elliott and pastor Winter regarding the June 21 stated meeting of the Presbytery of the James and the status of the three amendments: The new Form of Government passed, Amendment 10-A passed, and the amendment to include the Belhar Confession to the Book of Confessions failed.

The Presbytery of the James is providing training sessions regarding the new Form of Government and all current elders are planning to attend. As a temporary measure during the transition time, the Session voted to adopt the 2009-2011 Form of Government as amended.

The Session voted to offer members of the congregation an opportunity to provide financial assistance to Mary and JR White whose home was destroyed by lightning and fire.

The Session heard a comprehensive report from Arlie Saunders regarding the building and urgent unbudgeted needs that have arisen.

Replaced the air conditioning unit and related expenses \$3,176.00.

Replaced waterlines and installed a new neutralizer and related expenses \$5,240.00.

The Session approved the recommendation of the Worship Ministry Team to invite Dwight McCall to preach on August 28, while the pastor is on vacation (August 23-29).

The Session called a congregational meeting for October 2, following the combined worship service at 10:00 a.m. for the purpose of electing a new class of elders and one trustee.

Orientation to Rockfish Presbyterian Church

Are you new to Rockfish? Just curious? Interested in knowing more about this congregation and its role in the community? Come to an information and orientation session on Sunday September 18 at 4:00 p.m. at the church. Take a tour and learn all the nooks and crannies. Who does what in the church? What are Ministry Teams? Where can I connect or be involved? Why is there a cemetery and who gets buried there? How does the money work? Who makes the decisions? What is the Session? How is Rockfish part of a presbytery and the Presbyterian Church (USA)? Come and bring your questions, enjoy refreshments and an opportunity to learn more about this unique congregation and its ministry.



September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Noon—Men's group lunch 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir to Grades 4 6:30 p.m. Children's Choir Grades 5-6 7:30 p.m. Early Service Musicians	2	3
4 10:00 Combined Worship Service Five Cents a Meal Offering	5	6 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study	7 4:30 p.m. Adult Choir	8 Noon—Men's group lunch 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir to Grades 4 6:30 p.m. Children's Choir Grades 5-6 7:30 p.m. Early Service Musicians	9	10
11 8:30 a.m. Early Worship Service 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Second Worship Service	12 3:00 p.m. Stewardship Team Mtg	13 7:30 p.m. Worship Team Mtg	14 4:30 p.m. Adult Choir 7:00 p.m. Mission Team Mtg	15 Noon—Men's group lunch 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir to Grades 4 6:30 p.m. Children's Choir Grades 5-6 7:30 p.m. Early Service Musicians	16	17
18 8:30 a.m. Early Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Food Packing for the Pantry 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Second Worship Service	19	20 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting	21 Spreading The Word Articles Due 4:30 p.m. Adult Choir	22 10-2 Senior Lunch @ Afton Firehouse Noon—Men's group lunch 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir to Grades 4 6:30 p.m. Children's Choir Grades 5-6 7:30 p.m. Early Service Musicians	23	24 9:00 a.m. Food Distribution at the Pantry
25 8:30 a.m. Early Worship Service 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Second Worship Service Emergency Relief Offering	26	27	28 4:30 p.m. Adult Choir	29 Noon—Men's group lunch 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir to Grades 4 6:30 p.m. Children's Choir Grades 5-6 7:30 p.m. Early Service Musicians	30	