

From the Pastor

October 2017

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY - October 1

Presbyterians have celebrated World Communion Sunday since the mid-1930s. At that time North Americans were experiencing the economic upheaval of the Great Depression, and many were concerned about the instability in Europe and the possibility of another world war. A group of Presbyterian ministers met to pray and talk about the church's role in such a time. Rediscovering the unifying power of Christ in the Lord's Supper, they reaffirmed that in Christ all Christians are one, regardless of nationality, race, or ethnicity. From their meeting came the first World Communion Sunday in 1936. In the years that followed other denominations began to celebrate this special Sunday.

PEACEMAKING AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING - October 1

The recent Lectionary Gospel readings from Matthew have focused our thoughts on the importance of reconciliation. While Jesus' teachings are addressing individuals living in Christian community, the needs of the larger community, and indeed of the world, for peace are not ignored by Jesus. We are called to be peacemakers in all walks of life and in all parts of God's creation. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to be peacemakers in all walks of life and in all parts of God's creation. One way in which our congregation engages in this is through the annual Peacemaking & Global Witness Offering of our denomination. Christians are called as Christ's people to be God's peacemakers as agents of reconciliation in families, individual lives, communities, churches, the international arena, and the whole of creation. Peacemaking is the human response to the divine gift of peace-giving. The Peacemaking & Global Witness Offering supports the peacemaking efforts of the church at every governing body level, and provides an opportunity to witness to God's gift of peace in the world.

In order to help the whole church respond to God's peace-giving in the world, 25 percent of the Peacemaking & Global Witness Offering is retained by congregations for their support of their own peacemaking ministry; 25 percent is used to support presbytery and synod peacemaking efforts; and 50 percent is forwarded to the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program of the General Assembly, so that it can continue to provide assistance and resources for congregations and other bodies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

At its Annual Meeting on Sunday, September 24, the Congregation of Madison Presbyterian Church elected 2 Elders to the Class of 2019. They are Kim Barnes and Sharon Weakley. Also at the meeting Jill Quinley, Joan Corbin, and Debbie Eakins were elected to serve on The Nominating Committee for 2018-19. They join Frank King and Bill Pattie who were appointed to the Committee by the Session. The Annual Corporation Meeting was also held on Sunday, September 24. No business was transacted.

The Session held its Stated Meeting on September 19, 2017.

Treasurer's Report

The August financial report totals for income and spending were as follows:

	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET
Income	\$91,598	\$75,864
Expenses	\$78,581	\$85,688

Witness - Peace and Global witness offering is Oct 1. This is also World Communion Sunday.

Stewardship- Talent Show and Dinner will be October 29, Minutes for stewardship will begin then and continue until Dedication Sunday on November 19. On December 10, monthly stewardship minutes will resume. Team would like more members.

New Business:

Two commissioners needed for POJ meeting, October 21 at Tuckahoe PC - Kim Barnes and Frank King will plan to go.

The Policy Statement of Madison Presbyterian Church on Abuse, Neglect, Misconduct and Harassment which was adopted on September 15, 2013 was reworded to indicate that it already contains a Child/Youth Protection Plan as required by the General Assembly.

Nominating Committee- Tom Rees presented Kim Barnes and Sharon Weakley as nominees for election as elders. The session elected Frank King to be Moderator of the new nominating committee and Art Pearson to be the second session appointee.

The next Stated Session Meeting will be held at 7 pm, Tuesday, October 10, 2017.

.October Foods of the Month

Infants and Children Diapers, Baby foods, finger foods, baby cookies, small cans of spaghetti-O's and soup. Pkgs. Of Macaroni and cheese, instant oatmeal, cereal, peanut butter and jelly, Pudding and Jell-O cups. Fruit cups, juices.
Please bring in your donations and place them in the container provided in the Narthex. Donations are then given to Madison Social Services for distribution to those in Need. Thank you!



Madison Presbyterian Church Pastor: John Storey

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Worship: 10:00 a.m. Church Office Hours: Monday — Thursday 8:30



a.m.—12:30 p .m. Church Administrator: Carol Johnson Phone Number: 540-948-6972 E-mail: madisonpresb@verizon.net Website:





Operation Christmas Child The Amazing Journey of a Simple Shoebox Gift Begins With You

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an International Christian relief organization that collects gift-filled shoeboxes and delivers them to boys and girls in desperate situations around the world.

"What goes into an Operation Christmas Child shoebox is fun. What comes out can change lives forever."

Take part in the mission of Operation Christmas Child and pray that God will use every box to help share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Please use the Operation Christmas Child boxes which will be available in the Fellowship Hall from October 15th through November 18th. You will find a brochure with packing instructions and an envelope for postage attached to the box. Bring your gift boxes to the Fellowship Hall by Sunday, November 19th. Additional envelopes will be available if you choose to give a donation. Checks should be made payable to Samaritan's Purse.

Since 2008 Madison Presbyterian Church has been an Operation Christmas Child Relay Center. Last year our center collected 489 shoe boxes from the community. Our church prepared 34 boxes and gave generously to help with the postage. All the boxes were packed into cartons and taken to the collection center in Culpeper. This year the relay center will be receiving shoe boxes November 13 –



November 20. If you are interested in volunteering at the relay center, please contact Mary Linda McLearen.





Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands, Inc.

Giving Children Hope & Purpose for the Future!

September 11, 2017

Madison Presbyterian Church PO Box 297 Madison, VA 22727-0297

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your support of the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands. Your gift of 21 Walmart gift cards helps to ensure that our children get the care and attention they desperately need.

One of my favorite events is the first day of the new school year. Even the children who profess to hate school get caught up in the excitement and promise of the new year. Our job is to make sure we build on this fresh start and convince our children that they can put the mistakes and misfortunes of their past behind them. This is true not only of school, but of their daily lives as well. We are constantly teaching our children new ways to approach their lives and giving them opportunities to put what they learn to the test. We can never erase their past, but we can show our children how to get beyond it and be there to help as they find their way. All of our programs, including our on-campus school, are designed to show our children a new way to approach their lives and provide the opportunities that give them a chance to practice what we teach. This allows us to make our mission, "giving children hope and purpose for the future", a reality.

Thanks again for your support of the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands. May God's blessings be with you always

With Hope,

Billy Rice **Executive** Director

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P. O. Box 545 • 425 Grayson Road • Wytheville, VA 24382 • www.pchh.org

Breakfast Buzz Join ns at 9:00 a.m. for breakfast. Friday, October 20th Dong Graves will present history and interesting facts about Wolftown and Graves Mill. Join ns for a fun and informative morning..

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Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS

We have seen first hand this year the need for healing in our Nation, our communities, our neighborhoods, and our homes. Join us Thursday evening October 26th at 6 p.m. to hear what others are doing to help heal.

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE" It's Stewardship Time

The always popular **Stewardship Dinner and Talent Show** is coming this month! We will gather right after worship on **Sunday October 29th** for binner, followed by a short program.

This will be our eighth annual "Chili Cook-off". Please use the sign- up sheets in the fellowship hall to let us know you can attend, and to tell us what you would like to bring. We will need mild, hot, or vegetarian chili, salads and desserts. The Stewardship Team will provide beverages, cornbread and chili toppings.

We expect to be entertained by our very own talented musicians, actors and storytellers, and that includes YOU. "Let your light shine" and don't be afraid to share that special talent of yours! You may contact any member of the Stewardship Team to sign up for the program.

This yearly event is so much more than the occasion that moves us into our annual pledge season. It is also a time to celebrate who we are as a faith community. Jesus told us that we are the Light of The World. We must not hide that light under a bushel or in a church building. We must let it shine. Others will see that light through our example: the way we live our lives and reach out to others. Plan now to invite a friend to join you for worship and dinner on October 29th.

Your Stewardship Team: Kim Barnes, Elder; Sharon Weakley, Team Leader; Bill Pattie, Mary King, Dianna Albrecht and Berta Storey