



THE RAPPAHANNOCK CHRISTIAN

March & April 2011



SPECIAL LENTEN WORSHIP

**Lenten Worship
In Prayer and
Praise – March
13 – April 24**

The children and
youth Sunday
School Classes

invite you to join them in celebrating a special opportunity for Prayer and Praise during the Lenten season. This will be a church-wide activity and will require the participation of all to succeed.

Every week we will invite each member of our Church Family to write prayer requests and comments of praise on colored paper strips that will be provided in the pews. Praises and requests may be as simple or detailed as you wish. You may offer them anonymously or in your own name. Your requests and praises may be silent, as well. Our Great God knows the inmost thoughts of our hearts.

Prayer and Praise strips will be collected by a Youth Volunteer at the end of each service.

They will be collated into a list for presentation during the next week's service. Copies of the prayer lists will also be made available to those taking part in the Annual Prayer Vigil during Palm Sunday weekend. The children will fashion the Prayer and Praise strips into colorful paper chains that will adorn our sanctuary, growing longer throughout the season.

PRAYER VIGIL IS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 15 AND 16

The 24-hour Prayer Vigil will be held beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, April 15 and conclude on Saturday, April 16, at 6:00 p.m. You are asked to sign the sheet in the vestibule for one hour during those hours.

SPECIAL PALM SUNDAY SERVICE PLANNED

A special Palm Sunday Service is being planned. The children played an important part in the very first Palm Sunday Celebration. Likewise, our children will lead in this service of praise, which will include a special Palm Branch Celebration along with readings and songs from our children and plenty of opportunity for you to join in as we celebrate our Lord and contemplate

**RAPPAHANNOCK CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)
Old Dunnsville Road, P.O. Box 1111, Dunnsville, Virginia 22454
Dr. Kenneth C. Wilbur, Minister
Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00**

(804)443-5417

His coming sacrifice and the triumph of His grace on our behalf.

-Peggy Pursley, Membership Chair

FROM THE PASTOR:

Thomas Edison is reported to have said that, "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration." There aren't many significant accomplishments which are easy to achieve. Usually they require many years of preparation, and many additional hours of hard work. Sometimes an achievement is realized only after many trials and failures. But, in that case, the achiever didn't give up! He or she believed that a good result was right around the corner.

The same can be true for us, spiritually. Living the Christian life is not easy. Much of it involves a struggle against the current of culture and popular opinion. It also involves the careful reading and study of God's Word and time spent in prayer.

But wait! There's good news! The season of Lent, which began on Ash Wednesday, is about precisely those things! Lent is a time when we devote ourselves -more than we usually do, perhaps- to the study of the Word, to prayer, to worship, to contemplation of how we are spending our lives. We do all of this to prepare ourselves for the great Easter celebration of Christ's death and resurrection. What a great opportunity for growth!

SERVING IN MARCH:

Elder: **Deane Lankford**

3/6 Peel Dillard
3/13 Scot Katona

3/20 Tyler Ware
3/27 Fleet Dillard

Deacons: Bruce McComb & Nathan Pope

Deaconess: Peggy Pursley

Welcome: Anne Ritchie Waring

Sound System:

3/6 Doug Landrum
3/13 Passagaluppi
3/20 Doug Landrum
3/27 John Childress

In the Nursery:

3/6 Arlene Lankford
3/13 Libby Tribble
3/20 Gerry Haile
3/27 Nancy Wyatt

SERVING IN APRIL:

Elder: **Scot Katona**

4/3 Tyler Ware
4/10 Spottswood Taliaferro
4/17 Nancy Wyatt
4/24 Deane Lankford

Deacons: Garnett Hodges & Rob Waring

Deaconess: Emma Dunn

Sound System:

4/3 Regan Smith
4/10 Passagaluppi
4/17 Doug Landrum
4/24 Regan Smith

In the Nursery:

4/3 Etta Davis
4/10 Kathy Wilbur

4/17 Emma Dunn
4/24 Sandy Tate

PRAYER & PRAISE IS APRIL 8

Prayer & Praise will be held on April 8 at 7:00 p.m. at The Orchard.



Midweek Lenten Services continue at Tappahannock Memorial United Methodist Church.

They are held on Wednesdays at noon and will continue throughout Lent. Lunch is served before the service, at 11:30 and again afterwards, at 12:30. Dr. Wilbur will be the speaker on March 23. Our church, in cooperation with the Tappahannock Presbyterian Chapel, will be providing the lunch on April 6. Calls will be made soon for food donations.

OPERATION INASMUCH SET FOR APRIL 9

Operation Inasmuch will be held on Saturday, April 9, beginning at 7:30 a.m. on the grounds at St. Margaret's School. A follow-up celebration will be on Sunday, April 10 in the school gymnasium.

Boxes have been placed in the Vestibule for donations. Rappahannock Church is collecting for the following for distribution by Operation Inasmuch volunteers:

Baby Layettes: Disposable diapers; Baby bottles; Booties; Bibs; Onesies/gowns/ Travel size

Treats for Troops: Sunflower seeds; Playing cards; Frisbies/beach balls; Puzzle books; Individual drink mixes; Gum/TicTacs; Batteries; Baby Wipes

Haven Collection: NEW towels/washcloths; Bar soap

Job Readiness Kits: Calculators; Alarm Clocks; Notepads; Calendars; Pens/pencils; Full-size toiletries

Animal Shelter: Used blankets; Pet treats

Child Protective Svcs: Children's books (new or gently used)

Food Bank: Canned foods

Free for All: Yard sale items; Adult books

OIAM also welcomes monetary donations to support the Essex County mission. If you wish to donate, please make your check out to Rappahannock Christian Church and deliver it to Libby Tribble, Peggy Pursley or Scot Katona. Monetary donations should be contributed by March 31.

The Maundy Thursday candlelight communion service will be held on April 21, at 7 p.m.



EASTER CANDY HUNT IS APRIL 23

The Easter candy hunt will be held at the church at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 23. All children are invited to join in the fun!

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE WILL BE AT ST. MARGARET'S

The Easter Sunrise Service will be held at St. Margaret's School at 6:30 a.m.

EASTER LILIES WILL BE IN SANCTUARY ON EASTER

If you would like to place an Easter lily in the sanctuary, please sign the sheet in the vestibule and leave your payment of \$12.00 in the envelope. If your lily is in memory or in honor of a person, please place the requested information on the sheet.

GROWTH LEADERS MET ON MARCH 6

The Church's Growth Leaders met Sunday, March 6, with Dr. Wilbur, Pete Tribble, and Nathan Pope. As presented at the January business meeting, the Growth Leaders have recommended consolidating the church's committees into four categories: Worship, Fellowship & Education; Community Outreach & Membership; Buildings & Grounds; and Finance. Much of the March 6 discussion focused on the makeup and roles of a new Church Board. In the coming weeks, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, pastor, and Growth Leaders will draft a summary of the new structure, which should be available for the congregation's review by the end of March.

SPECIAL DATE IN LIFE OF CHURCH WILL BE CELEBRATED

The congregation of Rappahannock Christian Church began meeting for worship in its present sanctuary on the fourth Sunday in May, 1861. The 150th anniversary of this event will be May 22, 2011. Some special activities surrounding this important day in the life of our church are being planned.

Rappahannock Christian Church



The Regional Minister of the Christian Church in Virginia, Rev. Lee Parker has agreed to come to be the guest speaker that day. We hope that you and your family will be able to celebrate the occasion with us!



The Easter Offering is your opportunity to support the General and Racial/Ethnic Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. The gifts that you share support vital mission and ministry from the doorsteps of your congregation to the ends of the earth. Among many other things, gifts to this offering help train leaders, fund specialized ministries for women, men, children and youth, ensure our historic ecumenical and interfaith witness, and provide supplemental pensions for clergy whose ministry did not adequately provide for their retirement. The list goes on and on.

The Easter Offering will be received at Rappahannock on April 17 and 24.

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