



Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church Newsletter



August 2009

**Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church
Greeneville, TN
Stated Meeting of Session
August 30, 2009**

The monthly meeting of Session, at which a quorum was present, was held at the church on Sunday, August 30, at 7:00 p.m. Present were Moderator Rev. Dr. Brian Wyatt and Elders: Vicki Trentham, Marilyn Brumley, Olivia Marengo, Kenny Cobble, April Marengo, Beth Morrell and Charles Brumley. Elders Janice Roberts and Billy Goodrich were absent.

The Moderator called the meeting to order. April led a devotional time and gave the opening prayer.

Copies of the minutes of the Called Session Meeting of August 9, 2009 were distributed. April moved and Olivia seconded that the minutes be approved. The motion carried.

Moderator Wyatt reported on his activities for August.

Christian Education Chairperson, Beth, informed us of changes that would be made to the Sunday School classes this fall, including a new teacher for the high school class, a new adult class and the necessity for switching some meeting rooms and spaces. These changes are expected to be carried out on Sunday, September 20th.

Co-Chairpersons, Olivia and Charles, reported that the Youth planning session on Wednesday evening went very well, putting activities and programs on the calendar through April, 2010.

Olivia moved and April seconded that a congregational meeting be called for Sunday, October 11, 2009, for the purpose of electing officers for 2010 and approving any changes in pastoral terms of call. The motion carried. The Mission Interpretation and Stewardship Committee will propose a new budget for 2010 and pastoral terms of call for session approval for the October 4th Session meeting.

Our Commissioner to the September 2, Presbytery meeting at Holston Camp is Beth Morrell.

Holston Youth Council will be meeting at Timber Ridge September 12-13, and will be leading worship Sunday morning.

The closing prayer was given by Olivia.

The next Stated Meeting of Session is scheduled for October 4.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Brumley
Clerk

Brian Wyatt
Moderator

Timber Ridge

Presbyterian Women
September 8, 2009

The meeting was held at the home of our gracious hostess Sandra Carter with 11 women in attendance: Sarah Wyatt, Mary Roberts, Lee Ann Shelton, Vicki Trentham, Beth Morrell, Margaret Burkey, Edwina Catron, Zelma Edmondson, Sandra Carter, Marilyn Brumley, and Joyce Whittenburg. Dr. Wyatt was also in attendance to lead us in the Bible study.

Our purpose was read in unison to open our meeting. Prayer requests were made known and our silent prayer was closed by Dr. Wyatt.

Margaret Burkey presented several interesting excerpts from the Mission Yearbook. She brought up areas from the San Joaquin to the Sudan. One great question that she presented could be addressed to all of us as we consider our "Christian Vocation": Who is God calling me to be and how can I use the gifts that God has given me? She ended with prayer.

The minutes from the August meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given. She announced that so far we have \$393.00 to present to the Tabernacle Church to help them with their kitchen renovation project. This includes our pledge of \$100.00. She announced that she needs to pay for our Horizons Bible Study books for next year and that she also needs to send in our mission pledge money. After those items are deducted we have a balance of \$260.38. Over \$1000.00 worth of pledges to the women's group is still forthcoming.

Our offering was taken. Our mission project for last month was Contact. Beth made a motion which was seconded by Sarah that we give the same amount as last year, \$200.00. All were in favor. Our project for this month was Medical Benevolence. We gave \$200.00 last year. We decided to wait on further pledges before making a decision on this project.

Correspondence was shared: Marilyn brought a thank you note from Ella Smith of the Morgan-Scott Project thanking us for the \$200.00 that we sent. She also had information from Medical Benevolence and a newsletter from Grandfather Home. Fall Gathering information was passed around as was information on the Spiritual Growth Retreat at Holston, which will be the weekend before our church retreat. Margaret shared news concerning Operation Winter Survival which is part of the Appalachian Project which we chose as a project last November.

Plans were made for feeding the Youth Council which will be meeting at our church Saturday night, September 12th. It was decided that we would begin our clothing drive for Sunset Gap on Monday 14th.

Our search committee of Mary Roberts gave its report on next year's officers: Moderator will be Joyce Whittenburg, Vice-Moderator will be Edwina, Secretary will be Beth Morrell, and Treasurer will be Marilyn Brumley.

Edwina will be preparing communion on Oct 4th. Our next meeting will be at the church and our hostess will be Marilyn Brumley.

Our final lesson entitled *The Mighty Are Brought Down... The Lord is Lifted Up* was led by Dr. Wyatt. Our meeting was closed with the Mizpah Benediction. Delightful refreshments were served by our lovely hostess.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Morrell, Secretary

Sunset Gap

We'll be collecting clothing and other items for Sunset Gap as in years past. Please bring your items **neatly boxed** or packaged, and deposit them in the back corner of the fellowship hall by the doorway. The **final collection date will be Sunday, 11 October**. We'll also need volunteers with vans or pickup trucks to deliver the items the following week.

Anniversaries

Mr. & Mrs Shawn Balabas	October 10
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Purington	October 12
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Bird	October 25

Happy Birthday

Dan Burkey	September 20
Louise Kelly	September 23
Kyle Morrell	October 09
Doug Duncan	October 09
Jim Burmley	October 09
Wanda Bowers	October 10
Kenton Cobble	October 18
Hannah Crocker	October 22
Caitlin Crocker	October 22
April Marengo	October 23
Amy Cobble	October 24
Douglas Purington	October 25
Fred Roberts	October 28
Olivia Marengo	October 29
Marilyn Brumley	October 29

Prayer List

Military

Timothy Barkman
Will Stiffler

Timber Ridge

Preston Hayes	Klon Greene
Deedie Renner	Joyce Parrott
Jim Salley	Vicki Trentham
Janelle Stewart	Joe & Mary Alexander
Mary Alice Whitehead	
Marguerite Hall (Marilyn Brumley's friend)	
Braden Cobb Lindberg and Kristian Lindberg (Ruth Burkey's friends)	
Barbara Helbert (relative of Shandi Whittenburg)	
Katy Van Der Merwe (friend of Shandi Whittenburg)	
Todd Klindenom (friend of Debbie Shaw)	
Janice Stroud (friend of Judy Hinkle)	
Family and Friends of Bob Wright	
Family and Friends of Linda Kay Louderback	

Becoming a Member

There was a little old cleaning woman that went to the local church. When the invitation was given at the end of the service, she went forward wanting to become a member. The pastor listened as she told him how she had accepted Jesus and wanted to be baptized and become a member of the church. The pastor thought to himself, "oh my, she is so unkempt, even smells a little, and her fingernails are not clean. She picks up garbage, cleans toilets - what would the members think of her." He told her that she needed to go home and pray about it and then decide.

The following week, here she came again. She told the pastor that she had prayed about it and still wanted to be baptized. "I have passed this church for so long. It is so beautiful, and I truly want to become a member."

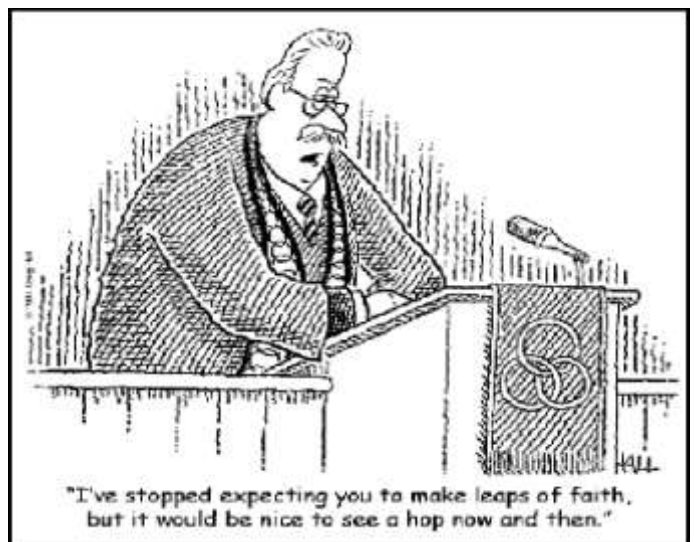
Again the pastor told her to go home and pray some more.

A few weeks later while out eating at the restaurant, the pastor saw the little old lady. He did not want her to think that he was ignoring her so he approached her and said, "I have not seen you for a while. Is everything all right?"

"Oh, yes," she said. "I talked with Jesus, and he told me not to worry about becoming a member of your church."

"He did?" said the pastor.

"Oh, yes" she replied. "He said even He hasn't been able to get into your church yet, and He's been trying for years."



Letters from Paul

A few weeks ago, the youth group had a study on the Apostle Paul. We discussed how he wrote letters of encouragement and instruction to churches, hoping to help strengthen and support them. The youth were then invited to put themselves in the place of Paul, and write their own letters to their church. The following are a few of their responses, addressed to their church family at Timber Ridge.

Dear Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church, Don't worry about things that don't matter, because there are a lot of other things that need to be taken care of that are more important. Don't bring political or outside problems into the church unless something needs prayer, because church is a time to worship God and be thankful for all that he has given us, and pray. Love, Paul

Dear Timber Ridge, Don't judge others because you have flaws that can be just as easily judged. God is the ultimate judge. At the end of the day we are all children of God. You may not agree with another person's beliefs and values but you must love them because they are equal in God's eyes. God is faithful no matter what. No matter whether they believe yet or not, he still loves everyone. We are forgiven by God's grace. Always love one another and trust each other. We are the church and therefore God's messengers to the world. We must stand together as Christians because if we don't we are not able to accomplish the tasks given to us by our heavenly Father. Love, Paul. P.S. The task is to spread his love, his word, and the knowledge of his grace.

Dear Timber Ridge, We need more Bible study nights. Because it will help us learn more. Maybe every other week. Love, Paul

When your hut's on fire

The only survivor of a shipwreck was washed up on a small, uninhabited Island. He prayed feverishly for God to rescue him. Every day he scanned the horizon for help, but none seemed forthcoming. Exhausted, he eventually managed to build a little hut out of driftwood to protect him from the elements, and to store his few possessions. One day, after scavenging for food, he arrived home to find his little hut in flames, with smoke rolling up to the sky. He felt the worst had happened, and everything was lost. He was stunned with disbelief, grief, and anger. He cried out, 'God! How could you do this to me?' Early the next day, he was awakened by the sound of a ship approaching the island! It had come to rescue him! 'How did you know I was here?' asked the weary man of his rescuers. 'We saw your smoke signal,' they replied.

The Moral of This Story:

It's easy to get discouraged when things are going bad, but we shouldn't lose heart, because God is at work in our lives, even in the midst of our pain and suffering. Remember that the next time your little hut seems to be burning to the ground, it just may be a smoke signal that summons the Grace of God.