# Hebron News

Hebron Presbyterian Church, Manakin-Sabot, VA Our Mission is to "Spread the Word of God".

January, 2019

"For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation and brings no regret, but worldly grief produces death."

1st Corinthians 7:10, NRSV

As I write this, we are in the days of transition between the hectic and lovely Christmas season, and the contemplation of a coming "new year." The church year actually begins with Advent, but our own calendars say that the year begins with January 1<sup>st</sup>. It seems almost obligatory to speak of "New Year's resolutions," though most of us who've launched lofty plans in the past have found that resolutions made because of the new year don't usually last past the first few weeks.

It's certainly a worthy pursuit to think about goals for the coming year, both our own personal goals and those we might hope to see accomplished in our work places or in our church congregation. God created our spirits to be dynamic, rather than static. As our best selves, we are always seeking to understand how God is moving and working around us and among us, and to step into that work and movement. Our hitch in this process is our human frailty, and one way that exhibits itself is in our tendency to focus on regret.

Do you have things in your life that you regret? Many of us do. It might be something "big," such as the loss of valuable things or choices made that have changed the trajectories of our lives or the lives of others in undesirable ways. Other regrets can be small things that dog us, like the tendency to be impatient with people, or to be unkind or judgmental. If we're self-aware enough to realize when we've exhibited such tendencies, then we'll experience regret over these things. I have known people who have been held hostage to their regrets, whether large or small, and who've been unable to move forward in life or relationships because of their focus on regrets of the past, rather than on the promises of their future. Their lives have literally been "arrested" by their regrets, and they are "in prison" to things of the past that they cannot change.

I am convinced from the testimony of Scripture and of the Holy Spirit that God wants us to move beyond our regrets. Certainly, God calls us to repentance, and to restitution where possible, but to be held hostage to regrets about our past is a tool of evil and not of good. Even people who are incarcerated for crimes find ways to accept forgiveness and move forward with their lives in the best possible way, to bring good out of the circumstances in which they find themselves. Can you and I do as much?

The verse quoted above comes from a chapter of 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians that reflects the complicated relationship between the apostle, Paul, and the Christian community at Corinth. As with any of Paul's letters, we have just half the conversation. But we can see how much Paul loved this community, and we can infer from this verse that he understood that regret in the life of a Christian should produce something different than what might be expected by the world. Being able to give God our regrets and let God redeem them and bring about something good from them, is what allows us to move forward.

With prayers for your journey, and for your New Year,

Connie Weaver

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### **SESSION SUMMARY**

# Called Meeting Sunday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018

The Session convened for a called meeting for the purpose of examining newly-elected officers set to begin terms in January. The meeting was rescheduled from its original date of December 9<sup>th</sup> due to inclement weather that Sunday.

- New officers to be examined were Mack Curle and Jamie Kistler for Session; and Suzanne Gahan, Ken Mittendorff and Martha Rogers for the Board of Deacons. Mr. Mittendorff is to serve a second consecutive term with the Deacons, as allowed by our Presbyterian <u>Book of Order</u>. These individuals had met with the pastor for a brief training session on a date prior to the Session's examination.
- Each new officer was asked to share something from his or her personal faith story
  that has made a difference in where they are today in their Christian life. They were
  also asked to talk about an aspect of one of the documents in the Presbyterian <u>Book</u>
  of <u>Confessions</u> that is meaningful to them.
- Following these reports from the newly-elected officers, a motion was made to sustain their examinations. The motion was seconded, and passed.
- Two other items of business were addressed in the called meeting; one was to respond to a request for transfer from St. Matthews United Methodist Church for Jim and Susan Perkins. The session voted to approve the membership transfer. The Session also determined to forego its stated meeting on December 20<sup>th</sup>. The next stated meeting of Session is scheduled for January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

# **Financial Report**

Monthly Need: \$26,966

Actuals: December \$53,712

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## **Sunday Morning Children's Programs**

Help your kids start the new year with a fresh connection to God's Word and their family of faith.



#### Kids Club [grades K-6] 9:00am

Weekly Bible study and fun activities for kids of all ages

### 10:00am Children's Church [ages 4 - second grade]

Children join us for worship in the sanctuary, and are dismissed after the choir anthem for Children's Church

# Hebron Kids For Christ

[tweens in grades 4-6]

Lunch and Learn Sunday, January 13 - 11:30am-1:00pm

Lunch and Bible study at a local restaurant after church. Bring your Bible and lunch money.

RSVP to Lori Alford by January 10: hebrondce@comcast.net

# **Hebron Youth**

[students in grades 7-12]

### Sunday, January 6 Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm, Parrish House

Youth group is back and we're kicking off an in-depth study of Colossians. Snacks, games and Bible study: Colossians 1 - Christ Above All

### Sunday, January 13 Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm, Parrish House

Snacks, games and Bible study: Colossians 2, Part 1 - Hidden Treasures

### Sunday, January 20 Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm, Parrish House

Snacks, games and Bible study: Colossians 2, Part 2 - Raised to New Life

Saturday, January 26 Rise Against Hunger 8:45-11:00am, Holman Hall

Help package 10,000+ meals to be shipped to hungry families around the world

#### Sunday, January 27 Youth Sunday 10:00am

Students will be leading all aspects of the morning worship service

6:00-7:30pm, Holman Hall **PLUS Sundae Sunday** 

Bring your parents for our annual youth and parents' night with ice cream sundaes!

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# Adult Bible Studies Start the new year with in-depth Bible study!

- Seeking a Word from the Lord

Sundays 9:00am, Ralph Fields Room

- *Acts* (begins January 6)

Sundays 9:00am, Holman Hall

- Women's Bible Study (begins January 8) Tuesdays 9:30am, Parrish House All Things New: A Study on 2 Corinthians by Kelly Minter

- Women's Bible Study (begins January 10) Thursdays 9:30am, Parrish House All Things New: A Study on 2 Corinthians by Kelly Minter

- Men's Group Sundays 6:00-7:30pm, Holman Hall Jesus Among Secular Gods by Ravi Zacharias

# **Hands-On Hunger Relief Project**



# Saturday, January 26, 8:45-11:00am

Volunteers are needed to help package 10,000 meals! Each person will have a job for the morning: scooping ingredients into meal bags, weighing and sealing bags and more.

Children as young as age 5 are welcome to participate.

Click here to sign up or use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside Holman Hall:

<u>Rise Against Hunger Registration</u>

The meal bags contain rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and a packet containing 23 essential vitamins and minerals. The meals are shipped throughout the world to support school feeding programs, orphanages, and crisis relief.

Learn more at: riseagainsthunger.org

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### **COURAGE TO RESIST EVIL**

Arthur Honegger (1892-1955)

"Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them." ~Ephesians 5:11

Frenchman Arthur Honegger was one of Europe's most interesting 20<sup>th</sup> Century composers. His music ranges from the powerful choruses of the oratorio King David, to the innovative rhythms and musical depiction of an enormous train in motion.

Though Honegger could have fled Paris when the Nazis invaded France, he chose to remain with his suffering countrymen. One might say that he laid low, becoming a virtual hermit in his studio, but that doesn't mean he was inactive; you see, Honegger was an integral link in the French resistance.

Suspicion was inevitable, especially as Honegger repeatedly refused flattering invitations to conduct concerts in Germany. Risking his career? Yes, maybe his life.

As for his work, he kept at it, composing some of his greatest works in the midst of the danger. By God's grace, Honegger was never arrested. One of his compositions, appropriately entitled *Chant de Liberation*, was triumphantly performed just two months after the liberation of Paris.

In various ways, Scripture tells us to resist evil. The most notable passage might be James 4:7, "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." Then there is

I Peter 5: 8-9, "Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith..."

Arthur Honegger quietly resisted societal evil, but sometimes we are called to make the courageous choice to resist evil on a more personal level. It might mean separating ourselves from certain people and activities. Separating ourselves from compromise. Sometimes it is simply resisting a besetting temptation.

Peter admonishes: "Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul." (I Peter 2: 11)

Whatever temptation of evil, God provides a way and is always willing to help His children who sincerely want to do His will.

# ~Markus Compton

### JANUARY CALENDAR

Wednesday, January 2

Choir 6:30-8:00pm

Friday, January 4

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House

Sunday, January 6

Adult Bible Study 9:00am

Seeking a Word from the Lord, Ralph Fields Room

Book of Acts, Holman Hall

Worship 10:00am and Communion

Men's Group 6:00pm Holman Hall

Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm Parrish House

Tuesday, January 8

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House

Day School Reopens 9:00am

Women's Bible Study 9:30am Parrish House

Wednesday, January 9

Choir 6:30-8:00pm

Thursday, January 10

Women's Bible Study 9:30am Parrish House

Friday, January 11

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House

Sunday, January 13

Adult Bible Study 9:00am

Seeking a Word from the Lord, Ralph Fields Room Book of Acts, Holman Hall

Worship 10:00am

Installation of Officers for 2019

Men's Group 6:00pm Holman Hall

Tweens 11:30am-1:00pm Lunch and Bible Study

Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm Parrish House

Tuesday, January 15

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House

Women's Bible Study 9:30am Parrish House

Wednesday, January 16

Choir 6:30-8:00pm

Thursday, January 17

Women's Bible Study 9:30am Parrish House

Session 7:00pm

Friday, January 18

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House

Sunday, January 20

Adult Bible Study 9:00am

Seeking a Word from the Lord, Ralph Fields Room

Book of Acts, Holman Hall

Worship 10:00am

Men's Group 6:00pm Holman Hall

Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm Parrish House

Tuesday, January 22

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House

Women's Bible Study 9:30am Parrish House

Wednesday, January 23

Choir 6:30-8:00pm

Thursday, January 24

Women's Bible Study 9:30am Parrish House

Session 7:00pm

Friday, January 25

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House

### PRAYER CONCERNS

Madison Long

Ronnie Nuckols

The Powers Family

Ann Bright

Polly Anderson

T. C. & Diane Anderson

**Bibby Raines** 

Sandy & Rossie Fisher

Mike Hammond, family friend of The Thackstons

Ryan Dean, Patricia Turner's nephew

Lou Hanscom, friend of Ronnie Thornton

Luke Baher-Mona, friend of the Northen family

Sally Chase, Barb Young's sister

Scott Kulp, Megan Compton's uncle

Joyce Hawk, Lori Alford's mother

Audrey Ownsbey, Debbie Fahrner's mother

Betty Ownsbey, Debbie Fahrner's sister

Mary Ellen Bundy Murray, friend of Hebron

Matthew Neher, Robin Williams' cousin

Vickie Ipsen Curle, Mack Curle's sister-in-law

A friend of Rod & Susie Smyth

Carter Smith, Tracy Kistler's nephew

The Atkinson Family,

friends of Dan & Martha Rogers

Ted Phillips, Barb Young's brother

Ben Watkins, Tricia Miller's brother

Mia Barksdale, Paula Curle's sister

Tristen Edwin Jenkins, Shirley Bonovitch's

great nephew

Barbara Kaplan, Alison Raines' mother

Karen Ball, Patsy Rice's daughter

Glenn Parrish, Sandra Parrish's husband

Our Military Personnel

Please call the church office if there are any changes to be made to the Prayer List.

### Saturday, January 26 Rise Against Hunger

8:45-11:00am

Sunday, January 27

Adult Bible Study 9:00am

Seeking a Word from the Lord, Ralph Fields Room

Book of Acts, Holman Hall

Worship Youth Sunday 10:00am

Men's Group 6:00pm Parrish House

Youth Group Sundae Sunday 6:00-7:30pm

Parents are invited for sundaes! Holman Hall

Tuesday, January 29

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House

Women's Bible Study 9:30am Parrish House

Wednesday, January 30

Choir 6:30-8:00pm

Thursday, January 31

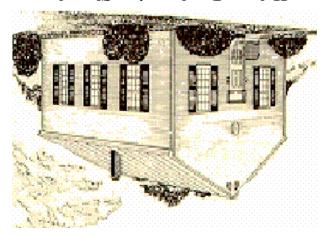
Women's Bible Study 9:30am Parrish House

Hebron Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Church of Jesus Christ, Reformed in theology and Presbyterian by way of organization. It is related to the Presbytery of the James, the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic, and to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.

"A Historic Church with a Living Mission"

Our Mission is to Spread the Word of God

Hebron Presbyterian Church Founded 1843



# HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1040 SHALLOW WELL ROAD MANAKIN-SABOT, VIRGINIA 23103 (804) 784-4018

You are invited to join us for our 10:00am Worship Service