# Hebron News

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

From the pastor's desk (or, lap top, as it were. . .)

April, 2018

#### So That We Might Say His Name Forever

Several years ago, I encountered an audio version of a Good Friday liturgy out of the lona Community in Scotland. You may be familiar with lona, but if not, you may check them out at <u>https://iona.org.uk/</u>. The audio I heard was read in various (and heavily accented!) Scottish voices. I loved it so much that I painstakingly transcribed it from its heavy brogue so that I could have it to keep, and then I posted it on my Facebook page. As you know if you are a Facebook user, there are reminders of "memories" that show up in your newsfeed. This one popped up on Maundy Thursday. What a blessing it was to be reminded of this beautiful liturgy. I wanted to share it with you, as we are moving beyond the celebration of Easter Sunday. Did you know that in the liturgical calendar there are actually *seven* Sundays of Easter? It's a season of Easter, leading up to Pentecost Sunday. If this liturgy from the Iona Community touches you, keep it close during this Easter season, as a reminder of how much God has loved you, in Jesus Christ.

He will walk, a little in front of us, towards Jerusalem. He will not be scared, even though we are apprehensive. If we try to discourage Him, He will recognize the devil in our voice, And He will tell us so, in no uncertain terms. Then He will go on again, in faith, towards Jerusalem.

He will walk, a little in front of us, into controversy. He will not be scared, even though we are apprehensive. He will argue with the intelligent, contradict the self-assured, embrace the untouchable, Upset bank balances by His outlandish behavior in the sanctuary, and weep in public. Then He will go on, again, in faith, towards a garden.

He will walk, a little in front of us, into Gethsemane. He will not be scared, though we are apprehensive. He will sweat blood and ask God if there is another way, and when God says "No," He will take the traitor's kiss, the soldiers' spit, the bile and venom of the princes of religion. Then He will go on again, in faith, towards the Cross.

He will walk, a little in front of us, towards Calvary. He will not be scared, no, He will not be scared. He will feel the pain of wood and nails, but more than this, He will feel the weight of all the evil, all the malice, All the pettiness, all the sin of the world, heaped on His shoulders. He will not throw off that weight, though He could. He will not give back evil for evil, return malice for malice, Take revenge on the petty-minded, or spirit hate on all who have despised and rejected Him. He will not give back the sin of the world, He will take it away. Into Death. Into Hell. So that He can lead us into Heaven. Then He will go on, in faith, towards the Resurrection.

He will walk, a little behind us, through the graveyard, He will wait until we are sure He has died, And admit our complicity in His life's ending. Then He will come up behind us, and say our name, So that we can say His, forever. **John Bell, Iona Community** 

#### Session Notes Stated Meeting March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018

- The session approved an outdoor worship service for Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, at a location to be confirmed. It also approved a Homecoming & 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>.
- 2. Following presentation of an updated financial report, the session voted to ask each church committee to consider how it might reduce its projected 2018 spending by 10%.
- 3. Two youth mission fund-raising events were approved; one will be a Plant & Bake Sale on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, at a location to be determined; the second is a Fiesta fund-raising event following worship on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. A special offering will be received for Hebron's Day School on Preschool Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 4. A church grounds work day was announced for Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. until noon.
- 5. At the request of the Evangelism Committee, the session approved a name change to Evangelism & Prayer Committee.
- 6. The session approved definitions of quorums for church meetings, as quorums are no longer specified in the Presbyterian Church (USA) <u>Book of Order</u>. A quorum for congregational meetings will be not less than forty confirmed members. A quorum for session meetings will be not less than the presiding officer (pastor as moderator) and four active elders.
- 7. The session approved a letter to go to area members and friends of Hebron Presbyterian Church, announcing Connie Weaver as new pastor.
- 8. Elder Brenda Morgan was approved as the new session liaison with the Hebron Day School board of directors.

## **Hebron Youth**

[grades 7-12]

Sunday, April 1 Easter Sunday - No evening youth activity

**Sunday, April 8** Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm Games, snacks and Bible study - *Heroes of the Faith: Josiah* 

**Sunday, April 15** Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm + Mandatory Mission Trip Training Mission Trip participants should be here for this important training session, which will be part of our regular youth group time. Topic: *Real People, Real Needs*. All students are encouraged to attend!

**Saturday, April 21** Flower and Bake Sale for Summer Missions, location and time TBA Stay tuned for details on this FUNdraiser for summer missions!

**Sunday, April 29** *Fiddler on the Roof* at Goochland High School 2:30pm Meet at Hebron at 1:30pm to see *Fiddler on the Roof* at GHS. This musical is about faith, family and the struggle to honor tradition in an ever-changing world. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$10 for adults. Performance time is 2:30pm and we will return to Hebron around 5:45pm.

## Flower and Bake Sale for Summer Missions

#### Saturday, April 21 9:00am-12:00pm Location TBA

Support the youth mission trip by purchasing flowers and baked goods. This sale will be held in the Centerville area. Location TBA.

> Hebron Kids For Christ [tweens in grades 4-6]

## **Picnic at the Park** Sunday, April 22 11:30am-2:00pm

Pack your lunch for a picnic at Three Lakes Nature Center in Henrico. After our picnic we'll explore the park trails, nature center and playground. Wear shoes and clothing appropriate for walking in the woods.

We'll leave after the worship service and return to Hebron by 2:00pm.

## **Adult Bible Studies**

- Seeking a Word from the Lord
- Reversed Thunder [Revelation]
- Men's Group Studies in Leadership
- Women's Bible Study *Entrusted* [2 Timothy] by Beth Moore
- Women's Bible Study *Entrusted* [2 Timothy] by Beth Moore

Sundays 9:00am, Ralph Fields Room

Sundays 9:00am, Holman Hall

Sundays 6:00-7:30pm, Holman Hall

Tuesdays 9:15am, Parrish House

Thursdays 9:15am, Parrish House

## Hebron Day School Sunday Sunday, April 15

On Sunday, April 15 we will recognize our Day School students, families and staff during our 10:00am worship service. Students will share scripture and songs and a special offering will be received for the Day School's Tuition Assistance Fund.





#### Inspired!

George Frederic Handel (1685-1759) For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. ~Ephesians 2:10

In 1741, George Frederic Handel was genuinely discouraged. His health was failing, audiences had deserted him and he was deeply in debt. Seeing no hope for the future, his music, or his life, he was ready to retire in disgrace.

It seems that God had other plans for Handel. Two challenges almost simultaneously set before his changed his life and the map of the musical world. From a Dublin charity, he received a commission to compose a piece of music for a benefit concert. From Charles Jennings, a wealthy friend, he received a libretto based exclusively on biblical texts. With that libretto in hand, Handel went into a feverish work mode. For three weeks, beginning on August 22, he confined himself to his small house on Brook Street in London. From early morning into the night, he rarely left his music paper, ink and pens. A friend who visited at that time reported having seen Handel weeping with intense emotion. Later, as Handel related the compositional experience, he quoted St. Paul's words: "Whether I was in the body or out of my body when I wrote it, I know not."

At one point a servant came in Handel's room to deliver a tray of food. He reported having seen a wild expression in his employer's eyes; a weeping Handel refused the food and exclaimed, "I did think I did see all Heaven before me, and the great God Himself." He had just completed what has become the most-performed choral movement in history, the "Hallelujah Chorus."

After six days of this incredibly concentrated work, Handel had completed Part 1. Part 2 took him nine days, and Part 3 another six. In two more days—to complete the orchestration—the masterpiece called *Messiah* was finished. In the unbelievably brief span of twenty-four days, Handel had filled two hundred sixty pages of manuscript.

One of Handel's many biographers, Sir Newman Flower, gave this summation: "Considering the immensity of the work, and the short time involved, it will remain, perhaps forever, the greatest feat in the whole history of music composition." And musicologist Robert Myers has stated that the music and its powerful message "has probably done more to convince thousands of humankind that there is a God about us than all the theological works ever written."

Handel's own aspirations for this masterpiece were revealed after the first London performance of *Messiah*. When the concert ended, Lord Kinnoul congratulated Handel on the superb 'entertainment.' Handel's reply? "My lord, I should be sorry if I only entertained them; I wish to make them better."

With such spiritual purpose, it is no surprise that the Lord blessed this talented man with a special grace to compose such a powerful piece.

In the midst of a depression, did Handel set out to write the great choral masterpiece? Probably not. But Handel was a man listening to the voice of God. Struck with the power of the words of Scripture, he opened himself to the Holy Spirit and let the Spirit work through him to produce what can be described as *wonder*.

Although you and I might not produce the world's next great choral piece, each of us can be ever listening to the voice of God as He speaks through the Scriptures, through opportunities set before us, through friends, directly to our spirits. And we too, can produce masterpieces, both great and small. As you step out in faith, remember God's promise:

"Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it." (Isaiah 30: 21.)

#### May God's gift of Easter Joy inspire us to a more joyful Hallelujah!

#### Hebron Day School

#### "Let everything that breathes praise the Lord" Psalm 150:6a

April, and hopefully Spring, is here! Hebron Day School has a busy month ahead, starting with our Spring Break. Hebron will be closed April 3-6 for Spring Break and will re-open on Tuesday, April 10. We will be making up time lost due to snowy weather by extending our preschool day during the month of April. From April 10-27, Hebron Day School hours are 9:00am-12:30pm.

We had to postpone our Pet Show in March due to snow, so we have rescheduled it Wednesday, April 11, at 11:30pm. The children enjoy bringing their pets to school to share with everyone.

Hebron Day School Sunday is on April15, and we hope to have a lot of our families and staff joining in the worship service at 10:00am. The staff will be introduced, and the children will sing a few songs for the congregation.

On Wednesday, April 25, we take our annual Spring field trip to Hidden Rock Park. This is a fun morning of outdoor fun and games, and having a picnic with our parent chaperones.

Soccer Shots after-school class returnes to Hebron for six weeks of classes which begins on Tuesday, April 10. This program was a huge success in the Fall, and many families requested a repeat class this Spring.

We would like this opportunity to wish everyone at Hebron Presbyterian Church a very Happy Easter, and we look forward to joining you for worship on Sunday, April 15.

> Shirley Bonovitch Director

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## PRAYER CONCERNS

John Miller Craig Bright Polly Anderson T. C. & Diane Anderson **Bibby Raines** Sandy & Rossie Fisher Matthew Neher, Robin Williams' cousin Vickie Ipsen Curle, Mack Curle's sister-in-law Bobby Dervishian, son-in-law of Jeanne Napier Chris Amirault, friend of Laura Farley Smith Harrison Rogers, Dan & Martha Rogers' grandson A friend of *Rod & Susie Smyth* Janice Gordon, friend of Hebron Carter Smith, Tracy Kistler's nephew Catherine Muir, friend of Frances Thackston Kirk Powers, friend of Hebron The Atkinson Family, friends of Dan & Martha Rogers Denny Rudzinki, friend of Jamie Kistler 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

#### PASTORAL CARE

The committee consists of Scott Parks (347-7505), Nancy Parrish (402-4864) & Lindy Thackston (784-3586). Share any births, deaths, illness or other concerns with one of these committee members.

## If you would like to pray with someone...

Prayer is available in the Pastor's office immediately following the worship service. An Elder and Deacon would like to pray with anyone who has a need or as a follow-up to the worship service.

#### FLOWERS FOR APRIL

Laura Farley-Smith Cheryl Nuckols

#### **HEBRON NEWS**

#### APRIL CALENDAR

Sunday, April 1 Easter Sunday Kids' Club 9:00am Bible Buddies 10:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am **Tuesday**, April 3 April 3-6 Day School Spring Break **Tuesday**, April 3 AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House Women's Bible Study 9:15am, Parrish House Thursday, April 5 Women's Bible Study 9:15am, Parrish House Friday, April 6 AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House Sunday, April 8 Adult Bible Study 9:00am Seeking a Word from the Lord, Ralph Fields Room Reversed Thunder, Holman Hall Kids' Club 9:00am Bible Buddies 10:00am Worship 10:00am **Tuesday, April 10** AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House Women's Bible Study 9:15am, Parrish House Wednesday, April 11 Day School Pet Show 11:30am Meeting 5:00pm to discuss Hebron Heritage Sunday in October, followed by a brief Worship Committee Meeting Choir Rehearsal 6:30-8:00pm Thursday, April 12 Women's Bible Study 9:15am, Parrish House Friday, April 13 AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House Sunday, April 15 Adult Bible Study 9:00am Seeking a Word from the Lord, Ralph Fields Room Reversed Thunder. Holman Hall Kids' Club 9:00am Bible Buddies 10:00am Worship 10:00am *Hebron Day School Sunday* Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm Parrish House Men's Group 6:00-7:30pm Holman Hall Tuesday, April 17 AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House Women's Bible Study 9:15am, Parrish House Wednesday, April 18 Choir Rehearsal 6:30-8:00pm Thursday, April 19 Women's Bible Study 9:15am, Parrish House Friday, April 20 AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House Saturday, April 21 Flower & Bake Sale Youth Fund Raiser 9:00am-12:00pm Location TBA

Sunday, April 22 Deacons Meeting: 8:30am Adult Bible Study Seeking a Word from the Lord, Ralph Fields Room Reversed Thunder, Holman Hall Kids' Club 9:00am Bible Buddies 10:00am Worship 10:00am Tweens 11:30am-2:00pm, Picnic at the Park Men's Group 6:00-7:30pm Holman Hall **Tuesday, April 24** AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House Women's Bible Study 9:15am, Parrish House Wednesday, April 25 Day School Field Trip Choir Rehearsal 6:30-8:00pm Thursday, April 26 Women's Bible Study 9:15am, Parrish House Friday, April 27 AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House Sunday, April 29 Adult Bible Study Seeking a Word from the Lord, Ralph Fields Room Reversed Thunder. Holman Hall Kids' Club 9:00am Bible Buddies 10:00am Worship 10:00am Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm Parrish House Men's Group 6:00-7:30pm Holman Hall

#### Hunger Awareness Week in Goochland April 22—April 28

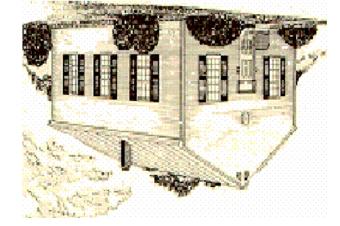
Please join us in collecting food for **Goochland CARES** Free Clinic & Family Services food pantry. We are launching a community-wide food drive to restock food supplies for the upcoming months. Our goal is to gather 25,000 lbs. of food that will help feed Goochland's hungry. There are bags in the vestibule and exit doors with printed instructions. Please take one to fill and return to the church by Sunday, April 29th. There will be a table set up in the fellowship hall. Contact Mary Austin at 804-625-1500 if you have any questions. Thank you!

Monetary Donations also accepted at www.goochlandcares.org

(804) 784–4018 You are invited to join us for our

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

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



Hebron Presbyterian Church Founded 1843

"A Historic Church with a Living Mission"

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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.