



# New Monmouth News

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&  
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Presbytery

## INSIDE:

Calendar  
Presbytery News  
Session Summary  
Warm Fuzzies  
Youth News  
...and more

## Pastoral Perspective

*As you know I am a fan of Simple Truths, a publishing company founded by Mac Anderson. I have purchased several of their books and have given away several of those to others. The books are short, easily read, and beautifully illustrated. Some also come with an inspirational DVD. Many of you have read the book entitled The Richest Man in Town, which I gave to the session. When they finished, they were pass their copy on to someone in the congregation. Many of you have said how much you enjoyed the story and how it had inspired you. Here is an excerpt from another book by Mac, entitled The Power of Attitude.*

I grew up in Trenton, a west Tennessee town of five thousand people. I have wonderful memories of those first eighteen years, and many people in Trenton influenced my life in very positive ways. My football coach, Walter Kilzer, taught me the importance of hard work, discipline, and believing in myself. My history teacher, Fred Culp, is still the funniest person I've ever met. He taught me that a sense of humor, and especially laughing at yourself, can be one of life's greatest blessings.

But my father was my hero. He taught me many things, but at the top of the list, he taught me to treat people with love and respect...to live the Golden Rule. I remember one particular instance of him teaching this "life lesson" as if it were yesterday. Dad owned a furniture store, and I used to dust the furniture every Wednesday after school to earn my allowance. One afternoon I observed my Dad talking to all the customers as they came in...the hardware store owner, the banker, a farmer, a doctor. At the end of the day, just as Dad was closing, the garbage collector came in.

I was ready to go home, and I thought that surely Dad wouldn't spend too much time with him. But I was wrong. Dad greeted him at the door with a big hug and talked with him about his wife and son who had been in a car accident the month before. He empathized, he asked questions, he listened, and he listened some more. I kept looking at the clock, and when the man finally left, I asked, "Dad, why did you spend so much time with him? He's just the garbage collector." Dad then looked at me, locked the front door to the store, and said, "Son, let's talk."

He said, "I'm your father and I tell you lots of stuff as all fathers should, but if you remember nothing else I ever tell you, remember this...treat every human being just the way that you would want to be treated." He said, "I know this is not the first time you've heard it, but I want to make sure it's the first time you truly understand it, because if you had understood, you would never have said what you said." We sat there and talked for another hour about the meaning and the power of the Golden Rule. Dad said, "If you live the Golden Rule everything else in life will usually work itself out, but if you don't, your life probably will be very unhappy and without meaning."

I recently heard someone say, "If you teach your child the Golden Rule, you will have left them an estate of incalculable value." Truer words were never spoken.

*Enough said.*

Shalom,  
*Martin*

### Thanks and Warm Fuzzies to

**Betty Jo King** for cleaning handbells over the summer!

**Sue Hotinger** for cleaning the handbell table pad covers over the summer!

**Judy Ramsey** for her presentation on the *Five Wishes*.

### Very Successful Mission Project

This past summer, one of the best local mission projects we have ever done was conducted just next door to the church in the front yard of the old sexton's house. Master Gardener Pat Patterson led the way in developing and supervising a simple but very effective endeavor: planting and harvesting a garden and giving away what was raised. He expressed his thanks to the following helpers: Jim Swink; Danny Welsh; Tim, Patrick, Dylan, & Nathan Welsh; Tim Hodges; Cheryl, Trey, & Cole Cathcart; Harold & Sue Hotinger; Karen Duff; Marsha Mayhew; Harvey Hotinger; Martin & Jane Stokes; Jennie Gains; Travis Rhodenizer; and Maureen Bennett. Also thanks to Eddie Crowder for supplying boxes.

**Total amount of vegetables** delivered from church garden was 1008 pounds. Add to that 400 pounds donated by Harvey Hotinger and that makes the total close to 1500 pounds.

**Approx. poundage by vegetable:** Potatoes 561, Cukes 196, Squash 120, Tomatoes 23, Beans 52, Okra 3.

**Approx. cost per pound:** 58 cents.

Most of the harvest was delivered to RARA for distribution through the food bank. Some vegetables were also taken to our shut-ins.

### Christmas Play Practice

Children (particularly ages 2-9) are invited to come to play practice after church starting November 1. We will have a sandwich lunch and then work on a play to perform not only at church but maybe a local nursing home as well. The play will be a very simple one with a few Christmas songs and will not last longer than 20-30 minutes. Please contact Laura Hotinger (463-4845) or Tiffany Crews if you are interesting in helping or participating.

**Widows' Web** will meet October 12 at Applebee's at 1:00 p.m. If you need a ride contact Connie Snider 463-3845.

### Marine Military Transition Team Returns



We are very happy to announce that Capt Chris Stokes and MiTT 100 have returned safely from Iraq. They served from September 2008-

September 2009. After a brief rest, relaxation, and reunion time, the team will be reassigned to various places in the US. Chris & his family (wife Angela and son A. J.) will be moving to Beaufort, S C where Chris will serve as an advisor at Parris Island. Meanwhile, a trip to Disney World and a cruise will be a welcome change. We give thanks for these young men who have served faithfully to keep our country a little safer. The team wishes to express it's thanks for your prayers, cards, emails, and other expressions of support.

### Presbyterian Women

**Faithful Friends** (evening group) will begin their meetings October 1, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Teresa Thompson, 734 Old Farm Road.



For directions or additional information call 464-3171. Our study this year will be based on Jennifer Rothschild's *Me, Myself and Lies: A Thought Closet Makeover*. Adapted from the trade book, *Self Talk, Soul Talk*, Jennifer shares practically and helpfully from her own life and from Scripture to show how every woman can turn her words—and her life—around for good. This Bible study for women encourages them to clean out the junk in their thoughts and replace these hidden negative thoughts and failures with positive truths from God's word. Rather than struggling with self-esteem, body image, stress and other unhealthy thoughts and emotions learn to replace the lies you may have been telling yourself with the truth from God's word.

The **Morning Circle** will meet October 14.. See bulletin for details.

### All Senior High Youth

For all youth in grades 9 and above, please join us this month for the following activities: hiking, volleyball & cookout



For additional information, contact Janeen or Tim Welsh (464-5580).

### **Hope for the Church: Finding Our Way Again.**

A presentation by Brian McLaren, author/speaker.

November 1 – Keyser Presbyterian Ch. – WV

November 2 – Winchester 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian

November 3 – Covenant Presbyterian –  
Staunton

All three evening events begin with registration at 4:30pm, followed by a plenary session at 5:00 – 6:30 p.m., dinner and group discussion at 6:30 p.m., and a closing plenary from 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. There will also be a Question and Answer luncheon session on Tuesday, November 3, at the presbytery office. This is a time for a dialogue with McLaren and for an informal discussion. It is hoped that pastors (and others) will attend this event, if possible. For more information and to register, contact Rachel Crumley at [ap@frontroyalpres.org](mailto:ap@frontroyalpres.org). Download the brochure from the presbytery web site: [www.shenpres.org](http://www.shenpres.org)

### **Mission Fair Coming to NMPC**

The Maury River Mission Community will be coming to New Monmouth on the afternoon of October 4 from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m. A festival of booths highlighting church ministries will take place from 2:30 to 4 p.m. This part of the Fair will also include a silent auction to benefit the Living Waters program. A worship service will follow featuring a combined choir from the churches and celebrating the Lord's Supper. <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/loveforjake>



### **Pancake Breakfast Returns**

The Not-quite-world-famous NMPC 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Morning Pancake Breakfast returns on October 11. We will begin serving at 9:00 a.m. and continue as long as people are still coming. The menu will include pancakes with maple syrup, sausages, juice and coffee. We plan to begin cooking at 8:00 a.m. If you are interested in helping with the cooking or the clean-up, contact Jennie Gaines 463-3588.

### **Chancel Choir Begins work on Cantata**

Under the leadership of Director Dianne Swink the Chancel Choir started its work on the 2009 Christmas cantata on September 23. This year's cantata is entitled *The Mystery and the Majesty* by Joseph M. Martin.

### **Families of Suicide Support Group**

**On the 3rd Wednesday of each month**

**5:30 pm to 7:00 pm**

**Rockbridge Area Hospice, 315 Myers Street**

The group is open to anyone who has lost a friend or family member to suicide. Participants may attend some or all of the sessions.

Registration is not required For more information contact bereavement specialist Vickie Kave at 540-463-1848.

### **Five Wishes Follow-up**

We had a good turnout for Judy Hicks Ramsey's presentation *Getting the Care You Want When You Need it the Most*, based on the document *Five Wishes*. We videoed the session and it is available on DVD. If you are interested, please contact Martin at 463-1921. If you need a copy of the Five Wishes document, they are available in the church office.

On Wednesday, October 7, Jeri Schaff from the Maury River Senior Center will present a day-time edition of the presentation for those who were out of town or who were not able to drive at night and missed the September 14 class. This event will also be put on DVD.

### **World Communion Sunday**

On October 4, at our Sunday morning worship service, we will observe the Sacrament of Communion. We will also have communion at the 4:15 worship service of our mission fair. In addition, at the morning service we will receive the *Peacemaking Offering* to support peacemaking ministries throughout the Church. In the week that follows, we will be taking the elements of communion to nursing homes, homes of our shut-ins, and to those who request that it be brought to them.



### **Session Calls for a Congregational Meeting**

The session has called for a congregational meeting to be held following morning worship on Sunday, October 25. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect officers for the session and board of trustees. The Nominating Committee will present a slate of nominees, but nominations from the floor may also be made. Please be sure anyone you nominate is willing to serve.

# New Monmouth Schedule & Birthday Calendar

## October 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <i>Joan Manley</i>	2	3 <i>Alley Hall</i>
4 <i>Julia Hotinger</i> 9:30 Praise Team 10:00 Sun. Sch 11:00 Worship <b>COMMUNION</b> 2:30 Mission Fair	5 7:00 Ephesians	6 <i>Willett Wilson</i>	7 <i>Anne Moore</i> 11:00 <i>Five Wishes</i> 6:30 Bells 6:30 Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir	8	9	10 10:00 Communications Committee
11 9:00 Pancake Breakfast 9:30 Praise Team 10:00 Sun. Sch 11:00 Worship	12 <i>Vivian Dunlap</i> <i>Nick Wade</i> <i>Amy McKemy</i> 1:00 Widows' Web 7:00 Ephesians	13 <i>Cliff Wade</i> <i>Cathleen Conner</i> 10:00 Presby. Council	14 10:00 A.M. Circle 6:30 Bells 6:30 Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir	15	16	17 <i>Lee Swenson</i>
18 9:30 Praise Team 10:00 Sun. Sch 11:00 Worship 12:15 Session	19 7:00 Ephesians	20 7:00 Ruritan	21 6:30 Bells 6:30 Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir	22	23	24 <i>Jeremy Swink</i>
25 <i>Mike Allen</i> 9:30 Praise Team 10:00 Sun. Sch 11:00 Worship 12:00 <b>Cong. Mtg.</b>	26 <i>David Alexander</i> 7:00 Ephesians	27 <i>Michael Miller</i>	28 6:30 Bells 6:30 Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir	29	30 <i>Sally Jeffrey</i>	31

For corrections or changes, contact Martin at 463-1921 or email [martinstokes@comcast.net](mailto:martinstokes@comcast.net)