



The Newsletter
of
**Francis Makemie
Presbyterian Church**
Accomac, Virginia

**Naomi Makemie
Presbyterian Church**
Onancock, Virginia

"To you, O God, silence is praise." **Psalm 65:1**

"But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him!" **Habakkuk 2:20**

"In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength." **Isaiah 30:15**

As we enter into Advent we are reminded of the wonder of God that came to us in the silence of the night. We are reminded that God came to us in the most unassuming way. God came to us in the midst of chaos and turmoil. God comes to us through all the seasons and through all the ways of our lives, God does not hesitate to enter in, to be present in the stillness and in the despair, God finds ways to find us, hold us, love us.

In this season I am reminded of two things-one from a favorite author/priest; the other from sailing.

Advent does not lead to nervous tension stemming from expectation of something spectacular about to happen. On the contrary, it leads to a growing inner stillness and joy allowing me to realize that he for whom I am waiting has already arrived and speaks to me in the silence of my heart. Henri J.M. Nouwen, *The Genesee Diary*

In **sailing**, **heaving to** (to **heave to** and to be **hove to**) is a way of slowing a sailboat's forward progress, as well as fixing the helm and **sail** positions so that the boat does not have to be steered. A sailor can benefit greatly from having this skill in their toolbox of abilities. Heave to is a great way of bringing the boat to a stop. It doesn't matter if the winds are howling or if they light. Practicing heave to will give the sailor a chance to stop whenever he or she wants to. Sometimes in life we have to find a way to stop even though life continues to be underway. The purpose of heave to is to rest, renew, regroup, and then get back to it. Sometimes the boat needs repair or a clean up. Sometimes the sailor needs a chance to cook dinner in the calm of a stop rather than heeled at 45 degrees. Sometimes a sailor needs a nap, or a swim, or a shower in the calm and stillness that heave to can offer.

Our lives are the same. We are on a schedule most of the time to get somewhere or to do something. In the midst of doing the necessary, we too, sometimes need to stop ourselves and put the brakes on and let the waves keep going on around us, but we choose for our own renewal, to rest and to regroup, and to just stop.

In this busy season, may you find the tools needed to get through the business, and to fall in love all over again with the God who loves us so much to choose to enter our world and become one of us.

Much love to you all and

Merry Christmas

Monica

NOVEMBER 2018 SESSION DIGEST from Clerk of Session NMPC

- Our hearts broke one by one as the news of the passing of Matthew May reached us.
- Monica opened the meeting with Psalm 91 and prayers about who we are in the arms of God.
- The church stands ready to assist Ron, Joan, Paige and the rest of the family in any way they wish.
- Susan Grove reported that the Clergy Grant funds have been received, Sun Trust banking accounts set up, credit cards established, and work has been started on the contract for the Revs. Doan. The Presbytery's Commission on Ministries must review and approve the contract. A reimbursement form has also been developed.
- The 2019 Budget and the Pastor's "Terms of Call" were approved. It was noted that our Pastor is paid less than the minimum salary recommended by the Presbytery. We discussed the proportional amount paid by Francis Makemie PC and voted that for IRS purposes, the housing allowance is \$4,800.
- The Session approved four weeks of paid maternity leave and up to four weeks of half pay for the Organist.
- Many thanks to those who prepared meals for church members in need.
- After the Christmas program on December 16, it is time for the Cookie Walk. Bring your homemade cookies and exchange them for an equal number of other cookies.
- On Christmas Eve's Eve (December 23,) please join the caroling party hosted by Rick Turner. Gather at the church at 4:30 PM to visit the Hermitage and our shut-ins.
- The December extra-mile giving nationally is the Christmas Joy Offering. This offering helps current and retired clergy in times of need and provides leadership development for people of color. Watch for more information in your bulletins.
- Please select a card from the Angel Tree in the Cada Grove Room. Help support our hands-on local mission by buying, wrapping and returning the gift to the tree.
- Mid-day on Fridays in January-February, Pastor Monica will lead us in a study on Handel's "Messiah." This music covers Christmas and Easter. Come join us.
- There is a need for Youth Sunday School Teachers for the Spring Semester. Please sign up on the bulletin board to help with education and worship.
- The next Session meeting will be a retreat from 9 AM to 2 PM on January 19. This Elder training and meeting will be joint with FMPC.

Session notes from FMPC

- Minutes and Treasurer's report were approved.
- Communion dates were reviewed: Christmas Eve 2018, January 6, April 7, and October 6, 2019.
- The Homecoming for May 19, 2019 was discussed. Invitations still need to be sent. Cissy has offered to help.
- Positive comments have been received regarding the Poulson plaque and the refurbished church sign.
- The annual support of families for Christmas will be families from the Coalition Against Domestic Violence.
- Annual congregational meeting will be held December 9 following worship.
- The next session meeting will be joint with NMPC on Saturday January 19, 2019.

Introducing Carter Thomas Klawitter
 Son of Dave and Katie Klawitter
 Born November 14, 2018 weighing 9lbs 1 oz.
 Welcome little one for whom we have all prayed!



| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Debbie Ryon | 12-01 |
| Ted Ames | 12-03 |
| Monica Gould | 12-04 |
| Harriet Adams | 12-05 |
| Bethany Shea | 12-08 |
| Molly Arvidson | 12-12 |
| Debbie Holland | 12-21 |
| Diane Kelly | 12-21 |
| Julie Chuquin | 12-30 |

Did we miss anyone? Please let us know.



1st Sunday in Advent December 2, 2018

FMPC 9:15 am-new opening chorus and Advent wreath lighting

NMPC 11:00 Brass Quintet come early and enjoy the sounds of the music of Christmas by the quintet beginning at 10:40. Communion will be served and congregational meeting following worship.

NMPC Hanging of the greens beginning at 12:15

Christmas program practice beginning at 12:15 at NMPC

2nd Sunday in Advent December 9, 2018

FMPC 9:15 am-Advent worship Congregational meeting after worship

NMPC 11:00 Choral Cantata by Adult choir as part of Advent worship

Christmas program practice beginning at 12:15 at NMPC

3rd Sunday in Advent December 16, 2018

FMPC 9:15 am-Carol sing

NMPC 11:00 am-Youth Choral Christmas Program "Christmas Means Jesus"

Cookie Walk- during fellowship hour bring a tin of cookies and take home a tin of different cookies

4th Sunday in Advent December 23, 2018

FMPC 9:15 am Advent worship

NMPC 11:00 Advent worship

Christmas Caroling 4:30 to our homebound and the Hermitage meet at NMPC and all car pool. Followed by fellowship at the home of Rick Turner.

Christmas Eve December 24, 2018

NMPC traditional Candlelight Communion service 7 pm

FMPC traditional Candlelight Communion service 11 pm (aka midnight service)

The poinsettias will be placed in the NMPC church on December 9th. If you would like to purchase one in honor or memory of a loved one, please complete the bottom of this flyer. Please mark your donation so that we can keep track. Your flower(s) can be removed following the Church Service on December 30th. They will be \$10.00 each.

Name _____

Number of Plants _____ Total _____

Name of person(s) to be honored:

Give form and payment to Anne Barnes or put in the collection plate

The Christmas Poinsettias

A tradition at NMPC for
many years.



Our condolences to Ron and Joan May, Paige May, Tilghman May, Andrew and Johnathon May in the loss of Matthew May son, husband, father, and brother.

With deepest sympathy, may you feel God's comforting presence during this time of sorrow.

In life and in death and in all circumstances, we belong to God. The Lord guards and keeps us in the everlasting embrace of love.

<https://www.williamsfuneralhomes.com/notices/Matthew-May>

Especially during this Advent & Christmas season please think and pray for our homebound. We look forward to caroling to these wonderful members on December 23rd :

Harriet Adams Don and Gloria Broad

Elta Green Gloria Miller

Kim Penland Virginia 'Pete' Hall





Events for December



A new choral opening for Advent at FMPC 9:15 am as we celebrate the beginning of a season of joy with wreath lighting and joyous music.

Christmas sounds of music at 11:00 am worship at NMPC Brass Quintet playing. Congregational meeting following worship. Christmas Program and practice. *Decorating the halls and walls of NMPC. All this on the first Sunday in Advent on December 2nd*



Lunch Bunch will meet on **Tuesday December 12** at 12 noon at the Sage Diner

Our next PW meeting is coming up next Monday, Dec. 3 at 11:30 am in the fellowship hall.

Please do Lesson 5 "Ultimate Servanthood" in our book *Life Lessons from Philippians*. This will be our last meeting for 2018, and I look forward to this study continuing into 2019. Bring a bag lunch and join us on December 3rd.

Blessings, Pam



Cookie Exchange! Please mark your calendars for a cookie exchange after worship on **Sunday, December 16th** (Christmas Program) at NMPC. If your time and baking talents allow, please consider bringing a batch of Christmas cookies to share at coffee hour. All are welcome to enjoy the holiday treats!



CHRISTMAS MEANS JESUS YOUTH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM Sunday December 16

At NMPC at 11:00 am. All invited! Please come and rejoice with our children and youth as they present the story of Jesus and his birth.





Please join the caroling party hosted by Rick Turner. Gather at the church at 4:30 PM on Sunday December 23rd to visit the Hermitage and our shut-ins. If you have someone you would like us to sing to please make sure we know by 12/20. After the caroling all are invited to the home of Rick Turner.

Please share the news with friends and family the **Candlelight Christmas Eve services Monday December 24**

A **7pm service** of lessons and Carols with Communion will be held at **NMPC**

A midnight service starting at **11 pm at FMPC** of lessons and Carols, candlelight and Communion.

We look forward to ringing the bells of Christmas together



"Christianity and World Religions" by Adam Hamilton is being tackled by the **NMPC Adult Sunday School Class**. Please join us at **9:30 AM in the Belote Room** to watch a short DVD and then discuss the following topics: Nov. 4 - Dec. 2 – Islam Dec. 9 - Christianity On Dec. 16 we will join in the preparations for the Christmas Program. If you can't come for the whole series, feel free to join us for the topics that you are interested in. See Jody if you need



Mission Mega (Congregation Effort)

December Mission NMPC

Joy Offering

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

Mission Mini (Youth Effort)

Angel Tree

This year our Angel Tree will benefit the children of Head Start. The tree is in the Cada Grove Room, soon requests will be hung. Be on the look out! Thank you for all that you do!



Mission Move (Ongoing Effort)

Discretionary Funds

We will be giving discretionary funds out of our annual Mission budget to benefit some who are not generally in our annual giving.

Seniors

Please donate sock for the local seniors. Bin is in the fellowship hall.





December Mission FMPC

This year the mission at FMPC will be assisting the families at ESCADV (Eastern Shore Coalition Against Domestic Violence) Be looking for the needs of families as they arrive at the shelter

November in Pictures

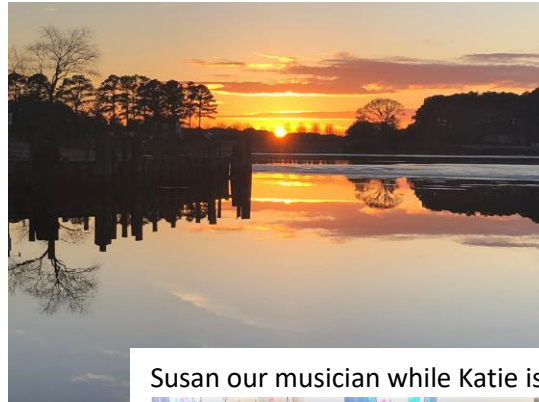


Brass Quintet provided music for our patriot Veteran's Day service.

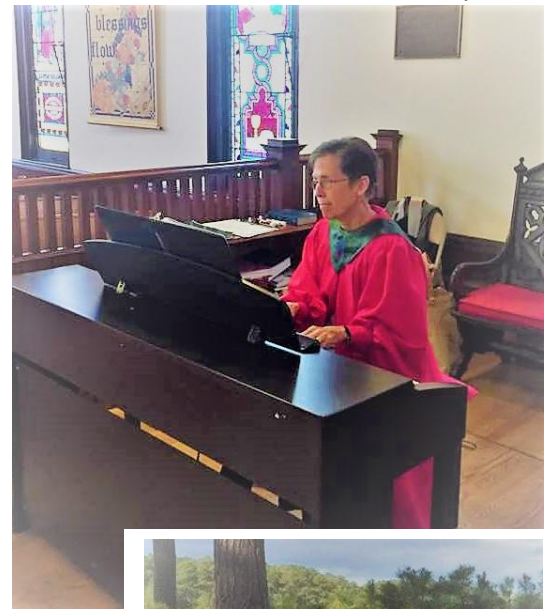
Debbie & her French Horn brings joy to worship



Onancock Sunset By David Hughes



Susan our musician while Katie is away.



Sarah Chen and Charlie Hughes at the November 10 Community Youth group clean up event at Camp Occohannock. Thanks to the Chens we have a continuous program with a wonderful turn out of youth-16 youth came to this event. Looking forward to 2019!



Small packages, great things

The motto for Hershey's Kisses used to be "Big things come in small packages!" That also could be a motto for Bethlehem, for Baby Jesus and, indeed, for us. It's an important message to remember when we fear we're too weak to fix the world's problems, too small to fight the gigantic terror that threatens a loved one or too lacking in abilities we see in others.

"But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah," God declares through the prophet Micah (5:2, NRSV), "from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel." Bethlehem was a mere village. God's ruler for Israel started as an infant. His birthplace was a small stable, not a palace or temple. But size isn't everything. Big – that is, great – things can come in small packages. And thanks to the tiny baby who grew up to share immeasurably huge love with the world, God can do great things through you, too!

Bible Quiz



According to the fourth Gospel, "There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the _____."







- A. love
- B. life
- C. light
- D. Lord

Answer: C (See John 1:6-7, NRSV.)

Vulnerable love

God throws open the door of this world – and enters as a baby. As the most vulnerable imaginable. Because he wants unimaginable intimacy with you. What religion ever had a god that wanted such intimacy with us that he came with such vulnerability to us? What God ever came so tender we could touch him? So fragile that we could break him? So vulnerable that his bare, beating heart could be hurt? Only the One who loves you to death.

—Ann Voskamp, *The Greatest Gift*

| December 2018 | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|-----------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | Wednesday | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
| | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| 2  ADVENT Worship 9:15 FMPC 11:00 NMPC Brass Congregational mtg Hanging Greens NMPC | 3 Presbyterian Women 11:30 | 4 Youth Choir Practice 5:30 | 5 | 6 Prayer mtg 9 Choir 5:30 | 7 Exercise 10 am | 8 Funeral for Matthew May 11:00 am |
| 9  ADVENT Worship 9:15 FMPC Congregational mtg 11:00 NMPC SS 11:15 | 10 | 11 Lunch Bunch Sage Diner 12N Youth Choir Practice 5:30 | 12 | 13 Choir 5:30 | 14 Exercise 10 am | 15 Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal 10 am |
| 16  ADVENT 9:15 FMC carol sing Christmas Program <i>Christmas Means Jesus</i> 11:00 NMPC Cookie Exchange | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 Prayer mtg 9 Choir 5:30 | 21 Exercise 10 am | 22 |
| 23  ADVENT Worship 9:15 FMPC 11:00 NMPC <u>CAROLING 4:30 pm!</u> | 24 7pm NMPC 11pm FMPC  CHRISTMAS EVE | 25  CHRISTMAS DAY | 26 | 27 | 28 Exercise 10 am Men's Group? | 29 |
| 30 Worship 9:15 FMPC 11:00 NMPC SS 11:15 | 31 | January 2019 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR! | 2 | 3 Prayer mtg 9 Choir 5:30 | 4 Exercise 10 am | 5 |

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Church
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Reverend Monica Gould -Pastor

Naomi Makemie 89 Market St Onancock
Mailing Address- P.O. Box 397 Onancock, VA 23417
Staff and Elders
Music Director-Katie Klawitter Clerk-Jody Humphreys
Class of 2018 Tom Nielsen, Anne Barnes, George
Heinrichs Class of 2019 Laura Naylor, Jennifer
Stapleton, Tracey Arvidson Class of 2020 Megan Ames,
Jack Humphreys, Rick Turner
Web-NMPresChurch.org



Francis Makemie 23355 Back St Accomac
Mailing Address- P.O. Box 680 Accomac, VA 23301
Staff and Elders
Organist and vocalist-Jill Cathey
Cynthia D. Hall-clerk Richard F. Hall III treasurer Paul D.
Hughes Charles F. Mahler Joseph Valentine
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