

Glad Tidings

December, 2011

Naomi Makemie
Presbyterian Church

Founded in 1883

Onancock, VA

Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors



Dear and Beloved Friend in the NMPC community of faith

Nina joins me in wishing you a Merry Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year.

The words of Phillips Brooks touch our hearts in such a deep and holy way. Indeed - *The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

We wish you times of silence and stillness - turning holidays into holy days.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.

May the peace of Christ, our Emmanuel, be with you always.

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Much love to you,
Robert and Nina

Glad Tidings
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Presbyterian Women

Moonstruck Madness – Her Demons

Presbyterian Women and friends will gather on Monday, December 5th to seriously dig into Mary Magdalene’s demon possession. Now that we learned about deviled ham, the question is what is the distinction between demon possession and mental health issues? How do we assist our sisters (and brothers) who suffer? Please re-view Chapters 3 & 4 and read Chapter 10 of “Unveiling Mary Magdalene” and do the homework on page 10 of your notebooks if you have time. Come help us discuss deliverance, mercy and the powerful name of Jesus Christ.

Study books are available.

During our business meeting we will dedicate the Thank Offering and enjoy dessert provided by Pam Nielsen. Don’t forget your brown bag lunch and notebook. See you at 11:30 AM in the Makemie Room.

Cantata info 2011

Sunday December 11 will be a special Sunday for worshipers at NMPC. The sanctuary will be newly adorned with poinsettias and the choir will be presenting the cantata “**Night of the Father’s Love**” by Pepper Choplin.

When listening to the music and following the words in the bulletin you will experience the composer’s goal of “worship, mystery, and beauty.” Mr. Choplin is also the composer of the cantata presented last year.

The Christmas Eve service will be held at 7:00 PM and on Sunday, December 25 there will be a Christmas 11:00 AM worship service.

Virginia Symphony Outing

Our Church is organizing a group of our members, friends, and guests to attend a wonderful Christmas concert. The Arts Council of the Eastern Shore (ACES) is sponsoring an afternoon performance of the Virginia Symphony Brass on Sunday, December 11 at 2:30 PM at Nandua High School. This is an excellent opportunity to gather as a church family along with neighbors and friends. The afternoon time should be excellent for all to attend and add to their Christmas spirit. If ten or more of us sign up on the sheet in the Makemie Room, the cost will be the members-only price of \$18.00 a person. Those who may not be able to afford the price might speak with Reverend Robert, since we have a few complimentary tickets. If transportation is an issue, mention this to Robert and arrangements will be made. We will seek to sit together as a group for an afternoon of exciting and moving Christmas musical cheer.

From Nina Frost Close:**Are You Bringing Advent?**

Yes, you.

The season of Advent started recently, and it ushers in a time rich in symbolism and expectancy... a time of waiting, longing, hope, and the promise of incarnation, the coming of Jesus into our midst, in whatever surprising ways that may manifest.

I tend to think of Advent spirit as something to receive gratefully, or at least hope for. Yet we are called to create it, to bring it, to offer it as much as receive it. And that can, and should, happen year round.

In this spirit, I found myself thinking of a writing teacher I had the spring of sophomore year in college, a time of panic and floundering. My firm and happy plans of majoring in Psychology had run into the brick wall (for me) known as statistics, and I had failed, literally. Somehow an unfathomable prerequisite, no statistics meant no Psychology degree.

So that spring I had washed ashore into a beloved fallback, English, and had also elected to take a non-fiction writing class that was studying essays. In the first class the professor told us we would be reading Annie Dillard, John McPhee, Virginia Woolf, George Orwell, and more. And he gave us our first, seemingly basic assignment: To write about a noun. Unaccountably, I picked "wanderlust," a word few would associate with me, but the words came smooth and fast and surprising... their own Advent.

In the second class, he read my essay aloud, anonymously, and professed his delight. In that moment, that astounding and unexpected moment, without knowing it, he confirmed that I indeed had a place there, that statistics haplessness notwithstanding, I was not a fluke, not a failure, that I had something to say, some work to be done in the world. I would not have used this language at the time, but this blessing was the work of incarnation, an encouragement to come forth in a tangible way.

The light in the darkness comes in many ways, at many times. As Advent celebrates the birth of Christ, we are called to help birth others, to call them forth, to recognize something they cannot see on their own.

Between now and Christmas, think of ways you are being called forth... what parts of you are waiting to be born. And think of those in your life—family, friends, colleagues or strangers—who need your word of life-giving encouragement. Bring some Advent this season.



Session Notes

Session met on Monday November 14 with all in attendance

Treasurer George Heinrichs

Reported our funds are still running low, however the last two weeks a sizable amount of cash was received

It was decided to reduce our contribution to PEVA in 2012

Session elected George Heinrichs to be our treasurer into 2012

Building and Grounds Rick Turner and Marshall Ryon

The insulation in the manse was completed and now Joe's Boys will tackle the insulation of the church attic.

Look for the new Church Sign on Fairgrounds Road coming soon

Congregation Life Pam Nielsen

Pam is in charge of editing all articles for the Newsletter to be sent to our editor Will Deuter.

They are looking for more articles to be printed, if you have an announcement or event coming up, an interesting article you would like to share - write it up and send it to Pam at nielsenpm@verizon.net

Mission Cada Grove

In place of the Dove Christmas Tree gift list for the guests at GFHorne , the committee decided to give them a Christmas Dinner on December 23, anyone caring to help get in touch with Cada

Fund Raising/Saving Committee

There will be lots of fund raising plans to attract the community to our church; Spaghetti Dinner in Jan. or Feb.; Pancake breakfast in the Spring; - and more up to date , everyone is welcome to go Christmas Caroling on December 18, there is a signup sheet in Makemie Room for this occasion. One of the stops will be at the Hermitage

Stewardship Harry Rush and Rick Turner

Have composed a stewardship letter to be sent to all members for your 2012 pledge

We prayerfully give to God part of the blessings He has given to us that we may share with others

Worship and Music Carol Rush and Dorothy East

The committee has several dates for us to remember for the Christmas Season

December 11 Choir Christmas Cantata

December 18 Christmas Caroling

December 24 Christmas Eve Service at the Naomi Makemie Church at 7:00 PM

December 25 Regular Church Service at the Naomi Makemie Church at 11:00 AM

Next Session Meeting will be held in the Makemie Room on Monday December 12 at 2:00 PM

In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" ~ Acts 20:35

Christmas Caroling

On Sunday, December 18, the Church family, friends and guests will be gathering at the Church for our second annual Christmas caroling event. This was a great success last year and it will be even more fun and community service than the previous year. No special level of musical ability is needed, just the Christmas spirit and an interest in warming the hearts of others. The time will be late afternoon on the 18th, to be further determined as plans to sing for shut-ins and neighbors are finalized. When the singing ends, all the carolers are invited to gather at Rick Turner's home for treats and fellowship. Plan to attend this fun Holiday event; there will be a sign-up sheet in the Makemie Room.



Stewardship Report

The 2012 Stewardship information has been distributed either directly or via the U.S. Mail. If you did not receive this information please contact Rick Turner at 787-2797 or Harry Rush at 787-1979, we will be sure you are included.

A portion of our financial shortfall for 2011 has been closed. We will have consumed a total of \$21,000 of our reserves by December 31, 2011. To offset this amount we have raised \$13,500 as of November 20th. That is about 2/3 of the amount needed. If you have not participated and wish to do so, please check the chart on the bulletin board in the old Sunday school room and select a level to contribute before the end of the year. If there are no boxes available at the level you choose, draw in another box and put an "X" in it. (If you do not normally attend, please send a donation to Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 397, Onancock, VA 23417.) We are hoping everyone will get involved at some level.

Thank you to all who have supported Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Church during 2011. Members and friends giving of time, talent and money to the ministries of our church make a big difference both locally and regionally.

During this holiday season we know it is tough for those in need to feel the holiday spirit. We will be doing our part by spreading Christmas cheer and are counting on everyone to help. Contact Robert at 789-3150 or any elder to help out.

Merry Christmas and Thank You,

Rick Turner & Harry Rush—Stewardship Committee

Happy Birthday - December & January

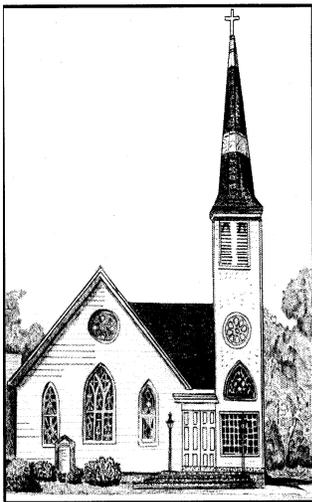


Debbie Ryon	12/01
Harriet Adams	12/05
Nina Close	1/09
Jean Freeman	1/21
Juliann Green	1/23
Nancy Drew	1/28
Mary Helen Gardner	1/30
Tom Nielsen	1/30

Did we miss anyone? Please let us know so we can update our records

Naomi Makemie
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89 Market Street
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Join us on the Web...
www.NMPresChurch.org



TO: