

Pastor's Report to Consistory  
May 1, 2017

Since my last report on April 3 we have hosted the Norther Westmoreland Cluster (April 5) and had our Maundy Thursday and Easter Services. I was very glad for the participation of those who attended the Cluster service, and I believe that we had important discussions among the churches represented. These were the things that we discussed:

*What does this mean: "God's church doesn't have a mission, God's mission has a church."*

*The "desolations"-the things about the church that make you feel troubled, sad or angry about the present state of the church.*

*The "consolations"-the things about the church that make you feel most positive, encouraged, touched, even joyful about the future of the church.*

*"Maybe God is trying to tell us something. But what might it be?"*

I would like to thank Don McIlvaine for preparing the meal, and for everyone who worked in the kitchen to serve it and to clean up after it. We had about 50 in attendance.

We had 53 at the Maundy Thursday simple meal and Tenebrae. Again, it was a meaningful time of fellowship and worship. On Easter, we had 102 in attendance. The worship committee needs to meet to get some feedback as to how this one service at 10:00AM worked. While some were disappointed that we did not have an Easter breakfast, I believe that we could reinstitute it if someone would step forward to organize it and come up with a solution to fund it.

Despite fewer tickets sold for the beef dinner (the final count was 430 with 137 takeout orders), we still made a profit of about \$3,200. I thank Steve Cherep for heading up the dinner and Rheba for all the work that she did with tickets.

The Women's Fellowship plans for the Ladies Lunch and Laughter are coming along. We have about 85 reservations to date. We can only serve 120, so the event is well on its way to success. I do think that this event is bringing in a different crowd of people, and certainly gives the church excellent exposure in the community.

We are working on the on-line directory. Now that we have a list, which has been corrected several times, we need to take the next steps to get it up and running. Rheba has been extremely busy with ticket sales for both the dinner and the luncheon, so this will be a priority for the summer. We also need to decide how we will take the pictures for the directory.

John Peters passed away on April 7 and his funeral was held on April 12. The women of the church put together a beautiful funeral luncheon for this beloved member of the church. Thanks again to Lynn Zimmerman for organizing it. John's ministry with the sign-board has left a big gap. Presently Wade is filling in and doing the sign board but he does not want to do this long term, and we need to find another sign-board person.

We also held a memorial service for Jason Naugle, son of Janet Antal and grandson of Virginia Creese on April 28. I believe that for some who were in attendance, this was their first exposure to a church. I thank Dave Conner for helping with the sound system and some recorded music that the family requested.

I will be taking vacation from June 26 through July 9, taking off the Sundays of July 2 and July 9. I will return to the office on July 10. Bobbie HineLine is preaching for me on July 9 and I am still working on getting a pulpit supply for July 2. We may need to cancel communion for the 2<sup>nd</sup> as the people that I am currently talking to are not ordained or licensed, but still have training and experience in preaching and leading worship.

Respectfully submitted,



Meredith Hutchison