



*Naomi Makemie  
Presbyterian Church  
Founded in 1893 Onancock, Virginia*

**April 2013**

**Message from the Pastor...**

Dear and Beloved Friends in the Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Church

**WILL OUR CONGREGATION STILL EXIST TEN YEARS FROM NOW?**

Friends, all around the country congregations of all faiths are wrestling with this question. Our Presbytery is asking us to wrestle with it now. There are no easy answers. I do know that our church is like "the little engine that could." This is a powerful but tiny community of faith. It is good for us to "live the question" as the poet says. We must not hide our heads in the sand. Let us look reality in the face.

We are now in the church season of Eastertide, a period of 50 days between Easter and Pentecost. It is a time to be open to the new life that comes to us in the Risen Christ. We need this resurrection power, this enthusiasm, this new life.

Ephesians 1:19-20 speaks of the "resurrection power" of God that raised Christ from the dead. The text says that the same "resurrection power" is available to all of us. Together we must have the courage to step forward with enthusiasm and holy boldness. I believe that our little church means too much to us, and too much to the ESVA for it to fail to exist any time.

Alan Jones writes

"The Resurrection of Jesus is the explosion of the radically new. The Good News is about the New breaking in on our tired, frustrated and divided world and filling us with awe and wonder and longing."

I am asking everyone of you to pray and to work for our congregation to grow, to be renewed, to be strengthened and to thrive. You will be hearing more about this in the future.

As it says in scripture, "Let us stir up one another to love and good works." The God who raised Jesus Christ from the dead raises us to new life daily.

May God's Peace and Purpose be with us always,

Robert

## Living into Easter by Nina Close

I always try to remember that Easter is a church season of 50 days—not a one-day event. I have always thought it was rather pointedly ten days longer than Lent—that the point, whatever it is for us in a given year, needs to be made over time. Some things take a while to reveal themselves... and we need time to take in new life, and new imperatives into our souls.

I am also very aware that our bodies and our lives don't necessarily act with liturgical precision: Easter may be here, but we may still feel entombed, with no stones rolled away. Yet the Easter invitation is one of hope, even if its promise is not yet manifest.

Sometimes that invitation eloquently straddles complexity and nuance. A dear friend and writer, Marv Hiles, wrote these words about the month of April, and I think it also captures a subtle aspect of Easter:

**“April is a time and place in the soul. It spells springtime, the coming of flowers, but it also hesitates. In April, yearning and remembrance, completeness and incompleteness mix painfully. More than a month, April may be the human situation written large—lifetimes never completely fulfilled, yet never fully incomplete.”**

I take rueful solace in these words: “lifetimes never completely fulfilled, yet never fully incomplete.” The invitation is there, to look at the array that is our lives, and to realize we are sent forth to be, to serve, to help, always incomplete, always becoming, and that is indeed good news.

**Where in your life is spring or Easter or new life partial, and how are you called forward nonetheless?**

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### RAINY TUESDAY



Wind catches Nina Close's umbrella as she and her husband, Robert, walk down Market Street to the Onancock Post Office Tuesday morning. "Onancock is a great walking town," said Close. "Even in the rain." STAFF PHOTO BY JAY DIEM

*Photo appeared in the Eastern Shore Daily News*

### Update from Will...

Hey Robert,

Just to give an update on my journey here, I am currently still working at Hobby Lobby while getting quite a few interviews for various engineering firms for various engineering positions, so I know in God's time I will get the perfect engineering position for me. I am in the process of becoming a member of Moraine Valley Church in Palos Heights. I officially join on Memorial Day weekend. My time here has helped me grow spiritually in my prayer life, Bible reading, Bible study and great worship here as well. I greatly miss everyone there within choir and Bible study. Those smaller groups really helped me grow and it's helped me open up to the young adult Bible study group here as well. I love you all and can't wait to come visit soon.

Love,  
Will

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## **Session update...**

TREASURER George Heinrichs

Our cash is stable and expenditures are in line. The trusts are doing well.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS Rick Turner

Motion by Tom and seconded by Dick was unanimously approved to purchase an electric hot water heater for the manse. An exterior clean up was completed but the memorial garden needs more research. A proposal will be presented to session next month.

MEMBERSHIP, FRIENDSHIP AND SERVICE Linda Arvidson

Planning for the May Spaghetti Dinner is underway and will be held May 3rd.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC Rev. Close

Communion instructions were redone and are in the communion supplies - everyone is encouraged to review them the next time they are preparers. The Maundy Thursday Service will be held. Robert complimented the choir on their accomplishments no matter how many singers appear.

The next Session meeting will be on April 8, 2013 in the Makemie Room at 2 PM.

Joanne L. Humphreys

Clerk of Session

## **CPR and AED Training Session...**

Congratulations to our church family who completed Family and Friends CPR and AED training on 3/19/13: Cada and Susan Grove, Robert and Nina Close, Harry and Carol Rush, Meg Anderson, Marshall Ryon, Tom Nielsen, Helen Bunch, George Heinrichs, Rick Turner, Jody Humphreys, and Gloria Miller. If there are other members or friends who have current CPR training, please let Jim Tompkins know. Many thanks to Peggy Hollaway from Eastern Shore Rural Health for leading the class! Another class will be held in the Fall if other members are interested.



**The AED is located in the Old  
Sunday School Room.**

## March in Review Lent and Easter at NMPC...



The season of Lent was observed at NMPC with participation in the Community Lenten Services, two of them held at NMPC. A cross was displayed throughout the season and draped following the Maundy Night Services.

Easter Morning, although cloudy with rain by noon, was a bright day at the NMPC. The day started with a full breakfast prepared by Joe's Boys. Robert's message was a powerful message on the real meaning of the season - that **love** is the real message of Jesus Christ and how we need to share it with everyone. Everyone attending helped to "flower" the cross. The children presented everyone with an Easter Egg after the service.



All dressed up and ready for church!



## Upcoming Events and Announcements for March and Later

### **The Church Calendar of Events for April** *Please mark your calendar*

Church School starts at 9:30 – every Sunday

Church Services start at 11:00 – every Sunday

Choir Practice is 5:30 pm - every Thursday

YOGA is 10:00 am – every Friday

PW is 11:30 on first Monday of month

Prayer Group at 10:00 am on the 4th and 18th

Session at 2:00 pm on the 8th

Joe's Boys (ladies welcome) 9:00 am on the 9th

**Don't forget to check the full church calendar on the web or in the Makemie room for non church meetings and activities. WWW.NMPRESCHURCH.ORG**

### **Upcoming Events in May...**

Preparing and serving lunch for Habitat Camps on  
May 7th and 14th

Habitat Camp staying at church May 7th until May 15th

***To reserve any room at the church you only need to post it on the calendar in the Makemie Room - please include your name! Remember, regular church and special church services always take priority.***

## **May 3rd**

**Spaghetti Dinner**

**5 to 7 PM**

**Silent Auction**

**Open to the public**

The planning team is still looking for some good items for the silent auction. Please contact Linda Arvidson or Rick Turner.



### **NMPC PW Bible Study**

NMPC Presbyterian Women will meet Monday, May 6 at 11:30 a.m. in the Makemie Room. Don Broad will lead the discussion on his book "Reconciling the Heart and Mind: Essays on Faith". Please read chapter 4, The Apostles' Creed. Bring a brown bag lunch (dessert and beverage will be provided). A short business meeting will follow after lunch.

We continue to put together the "First Night Kits" for CADV. Items to focus on for the kits are socks, deodorant and hair brushes. Please bring what items you can to the meeting. Please join us for this informative study and bring a friend.

The staff and editor of our newsletter want to make sure it is what you want. If you have comments or suggestions please feel free to send an email to [cadagrove@att.net](mailto:cadagrove@att.net) or talk to Meg or myself at church. The newsletter is now available on our web page or **via email** – sent out Saturday before the newsletter is available in church. If you would prefer an email copy please send me an email from the address you want to receive it on and we will be sure to make it happen!

Naomi Makemie Presbyterian church  
PO Box 397  
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To:



**Happy Birthday to all our members and friends born in April**

Rhudy Naylor	10th
Jeanne Serini	13th
Gloria Miller	18th
Buddy Perry	28th
Bob Haines	29th
Carrie Fluharty	29th
Jo Penland	30th

**Did we miss someone? Please let us know!**