

October: Heritage Sunday; 500th Anniversary of Reformation

By Frank Wyche, Pastor

October is a busy month on the Church Calendar, and a busy month at Hebron.

In the Church throughout the world, October begins with World Communion Sunday on Oct. 1, and ends with 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation on Oct. 31.

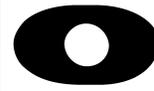
Here at Hebron, October also means receiving the PCUSA Peace and Global Witness Offering (formerly the Peacemaking Offering) on Oct. 1, Heritage Sunday on Oct. 15 (see more on page 7), a Congregational Meeting to elect new elders on Oct. 22 (story on page 7), the PEP Club's last meeting of 2017 on Oct. 25, and Reformation Sunday and the Staunton CROP Walk to fight hunger both on Oct. 30.

October is also the time to begin collecting for Operation Christmas Child, the Shoebox Project of Samaritan's Purse (see story on page 4). The collection begins so early because the national collection dates are Nov. 13-20. The Commitment/Witness Committee has set a deadline of Sunday, Nov. 5, for folks to contribute the shoeboxes, so that we can deliver them to our local collection point during the week of the 13th.

Reformation Sunday will be Oct. 30 this year. The Protestant Reformation is historically considered to have begun on Oct. 31, 1517, when Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the church door of the Wittenburg Cathedral.

Reformation Sunday is observed on the last Sunday of October each year. It isn't always the Sunday closest to Oct. 31, because All Saints Day is Nov. 1. So the last Sunday of October is Reformation Sunday, while the first Sunday of November is All Saints Sunday.

Presbyterian and Reformed churches trace their histories to the Protestant Reformation, specifically to the writings and theology of John Calvin (1509-1564). His theology is often called "Reformed/Presbyterian," because it is the basis for the theologies of the Reformed churches as well as Presbyterian churches. In continental Europe (Switzerland, the Netherlands, Scandinavia, etc.), Calvinist churches are called Reformed. In countries primarily speaking English (Scotland, England, and former British colonies such as the U.S. and Canada) Calvinist churches are called Presbyterian.



OCTOBER 2017

Sunday, Oct. 1 – *World Communion Sunday; Peace and Global Witness Offering*

Sunday, Oct. 8 – Sunday School and Worship

Tuesday, Oct. 10 – Circles 1 & 2, 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 15 – *Homecoming Sunday* with fellowship luncheon afterward (bring side dishes and desserts; Hebron will provide meats and beverages)

Sunday, Oct. 22 – Sunday School and Worship; Congregational Meeting after worship to elect elders

Wednesday, Oct. 25 – PEP Club, 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 26 – Session meets, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 29 – *Reformation Sunday; CROP Walk (Details to be announced)*

Tuesday, Oct. 31 – *Halloween*

November

Wednesday, Nov. 1 – *All Saints Day*

Sunday, Nov. 5 – Daylight Saving Time Ends, 2:00 a.m. (set clocks back one hour)

Tuesday, Nov. 7 – *Election Day; be sure to vote!*

John Calvin was French, but his most important work was done while he was pastoring a church in Geneva, Switzerland. Along with Martin Luther in Germany, Calvin was one of the most important figures in the Protestant Reformation throughout central and western Europe, and many Christian preachers, leaders, and students of the Bible went to Geneva to study with Calvin.

One of those who went to Geneva to study with Calvin was John Knox of Scotland. Knox would take the theology and teachings of Calvin back to Scotland where he called it "Presbyterian" instead of "Reformed." "Presbyterian" means "government by elders" because "presbyter" is the word for "elder" in the biblical Greek of the original New Testament. From Scotland, the Reformation spread throughout Great Britain.

Please join us in participating in all of our special events and activities in October, and look forward to even more of them in November and December!

Pastor Frank

Minutes For Regular Session Meeting Held July 27

The Session of Hebron Presbyterian Church held its stated monthly meeting on Thursday, July, at 7:00 p.m. Minutes of the meeting were approved at the Aug. 31 Session meeting. Those minutes were not included in the August newsletter, so they are printed here:

Present: Elders David Obenschain, Martha Sieck, Anita Tuttle, Robert Christian, Lori Malcolm, Mike Ruleman, Hannah Bush, Allen Martin, Tracy Mayer, Moderator Rev. Frank Wyche, and Clerk of Session Robin Moyer. **Excused:** Elder Nancy K. Cook. **Absent:** Elders Mike Fallin and Scott Martin.

A quorum being present, the Moderator opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with prayer and devotions from Psalm 21:1-3.

Clerk's Report: Session approved a motion by David Obenschain to approve minutes from Stated Session meeting on June 22, 2017. Session approved a motion by Robert Christian to remove Lenwood Shiflet from the active membership roll following his death on July 22.

Treasurer's Report: A handout was provided by Treasurer Michael Ruleman with a detailed Report of Fund Balances as of July 27, 2017. The general fund continues in the red at (-\$41,781.30). The total in our checking and savings stands at \$147,772.23.

Committee Reports

Christian Ed (Scott Martin, Mike Ruleman): Scholarships were awarded during worship on July 23, 2017. Anna Cahill, Brock Moore and Parker Turnage each received the Hebron Youth Scholarship of \$1,250; and Conor Cahill, Lynne Moore, Maryanna Turnage and Áine Waller each received the Scott Hickey Memorial Scholarship of \$2,000. Back-to-Sunday School and Beginning of Program Year Fellowship Luncheon scheduled for Sept. 10.

Commitment/Witness (Mike Fallin, Martha Sieck): No report. Next meeting scheduled Aug. 2.

Congregational Ministries (Lori Malcolm, Martha Sieck): Contacts and visits are ongoing.

Fellowship/Service (Nancy K. Cook, Lori Malcolm, Scott Martin, Tracy Mayer, Anita Tuttle): Session expressed thanks to all who helped with the Church Picnic on July 23. Special thanks to committee members for their work in organizing the event.

Personnel (Mike Fallin, David Obenschain): Did not meet; no report.

Property (Hannah Bush, Robert Christian, Allen Martin, Anita Tuttle): Tom Cook and Robert Christian installed theater lights under steps in vestibules along the steps up to enter the back of the Sanctuary. The Fellowship Hall, Kitchen and playground have been used for day-camps by the Augusta County 4-H clubs.



Stewardship/Finance (Hannah Bush, Allen Martin, Mike Ruleman): Did not meet; no report.

Worship (Nancy K. Cook, David Obenschain, Tracy Mayer): Next communion at worship Aug. 13. Rev. Betty G. Dax (Honorably Retired) will fill the pulpit Aug. 27 while pastor is on vacation.

Cemetery (Anita Tuttle): Williams Brothers are scheduled to take down dead trees in cemetery.

Pastor's Report: Contact with sick and homebound continues, constrained by Pastor's dental issues; he will have a root canal on Friday, July 28, which he hopes will resolve things. The August newsletter will be available for pickup on Sunday, July 30. Friday morning Bible Study on the Servant Songs of Isaiah continues during summer as long as participants wish it to. Pastor is still working on sexual misconduct and child protection policies required of all church in PCUSA and Shenandoah Presbytery. Pastor will be out of the pulpit on Aug. 27 while on vacation for his mother's 100th birthday on Aug. 26.

New Business: Session elected Mike Ruleman and Anita Tuttle to the Church Nominating Committee, with Mike Ruleman volunteering to chair the committee. A Congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 20, immediately after worship to elect members of the Congregation to the Nominating Committee as needed to require a majority of members who are not active elders. Also, Session passed a motion by Hannah Bush for a subcommittee to be formed under Fellowship/Service to provide meals for Hebron's homebound, elderly, and/or those living in retirement homes or care facilities.

The next Stated Meeting was changed from Aug. 24 to Aug. 31 at 7:00 p.m. because the Moderator will be out of town.

The blessings and prayer concerns of the congregation, friends, and relatives were shared by Session for corporate and individual prayer. The meeting was adjourned with prayer by the Moderator at 8:11 p.m.

Hebron Heritage Sunday Oct. 15

Hebron will celebrate Heritage Sunday on October 15, with a fellowship meal following morning worship.

The church will provide meats and beverages for the event. Members of the church are asked to bring side dishes and/or desserts.

Tracy Mayer has also prepared a slide show for this year, and the Commitment/Witness Committee will have information about Hebron's mission projects, so please come out and join us for morning worship and for fellowship afterward!

Congregational Meeting Oct. 22

A Congregational Meeting to be held immediately after morning worship on Sunday, Oct. 22, for the purpose of electing four elders to serve as the Class of 2020. The meeting was scheduled by the Session at its Sept. 28 meeting upon the recommendation of the Church Nominating Committee.

The committee will place in nomination Charles Buchanan, Lorrie Dean, Michael Fallin, Catherine McNeal, Theresa Moore, Joyce Obenschain, Sandy Showalter, and Doug Trimble.

In addition to those who will be placed in nomination by the committee, as is always the practice of PC(USA) churches, there will be an opportunity for additional nominations from the floor during the congregational meeting when the election is held. Any active member of the church can be nominated, but please check with that person to determine their willingness to be nominated, and their commitment to serve if elected.

The members of session whose terms end this year are Michael Fallin, Scott Martin, David Obenschain, Martha Sieck, and Anita Tuttle. Elders are elected to 3-year terms, and can be elected for one successive term; but in no case may anyone serve more than six consecutive years.

CROP Walk Will Be October 29

The Staunton CROP Walk will be held on Sunday, Oct. 30. CROP Walk is an annual event sponsored by Church World Service to raise money to fight hunger at home and around the world. Different communities hold CROP Walks at various times, and Oct. 30 has been chosen for Staunton this year. CROP Walks are sponsored by religious groups, businesses, schools, and other organizations.

Please see Mike or Robin Ruleman if you are interested in contributing or participating this year. The 4-mile walk in Staunton begins the Central United Methodist Church downtown. You can join the walkers, or you can sponsor them with a donation. Look for additional details, including the starting time, in coming weeks.

October Birthdays And Anniversaries

October birthdays are:

Mike Dundas	1
Eugene Underwood	1
Brenda Smiley	2
Brogan Cash	3
Junior Hewitt	3
Zachary Smiley	3
Meredith Arneson	9
Alex Brown	13
Joan Wright	13
Tammy Moyer	14
Nancy T. Cook	15
Dennis Hewitt	18
Lorrie Dean	19
Mike Fallin	19
Keyser Kirtley	19
Bobbie Kennedy	22



Birthdays
& ANNIVERSARIES

Elaine Wyche	24
Linda Brown	26
Michaela Kennedy	28
John Ott	30

Very special birthday wishes to: Junior Hewitt who will be 89 on the 3rd; Nancy Cook who will be 89 on the 15th; and Jake Ott who will be 91 on the 30th.

Congratulations to: Dick and Jean Miller who will have been married 60 years on the 19th.

Reminder: If you have been omitted from our birthday list, or if you know of someone who should be included, please call the church at 885-1648 with the information, as we don't want to miss anyone.

Looking Ahead to November...

The last quarter of the year, October-December, is an especially busy time for Hebron, as well as other churches. October is a busy month (see story on page 1) with many special days and events, and there are many more in November:

- November 1 is All Saints Day, when Protestants remember and give thanks for Christians all around the world. Nov. 2 is All Souls Day, when we remember and give thanks for people of other faiths.

- Saturday night/Sunday morning, Nov. 4-5, is the end of Daylight Savings Time. Time officially changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday, so remember to set your clocks back one hour when you go to bed Saturday night.

- Tuesday, Nov. 7, is Election Day, when Virginia will hold state and municipal elections.

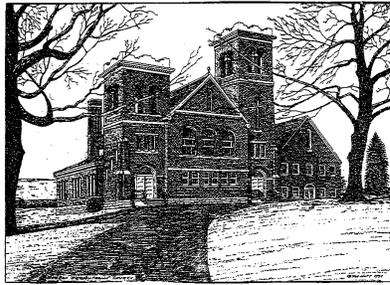
- On Wednesday, Nov. 22, Hebron will host the Community Thanksgiving Service, with Arbor Hill Church of the Brethren providing the speaker.

- Thanksgiving will be Nov. 23.

- Advent, the season of preparation for Christmas, will begin on Sunday, Dec. 3.

HEBRON HERALD

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Website: www.hebronpc.com



Hebron Presbyterian Church

Rev. Frank H. Wyche, Pastor
Robin Moyer, Clerk of Session
Ministries available to all ages
Sunday Services:

Sunday School, 9:55 A.M.

Morning Worship, 11:00 A.M.

Bible Study: Friday, 10:00 A.M.

October 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



October

Update from Missionaries Mark Hare and Jenny Bent in Haiti

(Elder Mike Fallin, chair of Hebron's Commitment/Witness Committee, contacted PCUSA missionaries Mark Hare and Jenny Bent in the Dominican Republic, whom Hebron supports. Mark works with agriculture in Haiti and Jenny works with health care in the Dominican Republic [the Dominican Republic and Haiti make up the island of Santo Domingo]. Mike was checking on how Mark, Jenny and their two daughters were doing after Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria went through the area. Mark's reply is printed here.)

Thank you for checking up with us!

We have been very fortunate so far. None of the storms have hit this side of the island – we live in the southwestern region of the Dominican Republic, about an hour and a half from the border with Haiti.

The northern coast of Haiti and the northern coast of the Dominican Republic did suffer from significant flooding. By God's grace there has been very little loss of life so far.

I also spoke by telephone with a good friend in the mountains of the Artibonite in central Haiti. Andre told

me that people in the high mountains have lost all or most of their crops from the winds and rain there. That area of Haiti is very remote but very beautiful. During the dry season, they do better than many because the land is moistened from heavy dewfalls and frequent fog, but they are also more exposed during storms like Irma and Maria.

In terms of roads, some of the dirt roads we use to get to communities are getting degraded with rains, but the vast majority of the roads we use here are paved and doing all right.

No one we know in this area has had any significant damage to their homes. In the northern Dominican Republic, on the other hand, there has been extensive flooding and we know folks who lost their roofs. We do not yet know they extent of all that damage, but we are keeping our ears and eyes open so that we can pass on information.

Thank you for your support and please continue to remember us in your prayers. Blessings to you all!

~Mark Hare