

Adelphi Presbyterian Church News



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MARCH 2006

**Minister: Every member of Adelphi
Presbyterian Church**

Pastor: Rev. Y. Eunice Yang
Clerk of Session: Janet Dolan
Treasurer: Charles Yancey
Assistant Treasurer: Jake Masters

The Session

Class 2006

Candace Farley – Christian Education
Kathie James –
Charles Yancey – Facilities

Class 2007

Comfort Anigboh – Worship
Stig Hammond – Worship
Bettye Miller – Community Outreach

Class 2008

Renee Milligan – Evangelism and Mission
Charlotte Ojong – Congregational Care
Ernestine Tebong – Transforming Congregation



**ASH WEDNESDAY
AND THE LENTEN SEASON**
by Y. Eunice Yang

*“Remember, O mortal, that you are dust; and to
dust you shall return.” (Genesis 3:19)*

What is the death rate of human beings? One per person. It is 100%. No one can escape from not dying. Facing our own mortality is the theme of Ash Wednesday. We live in a culture that prefers to ignore death. Mourning is either extremely brief or not acceptable. Grief must be hidden underneath a pretended smile, “I am doing alright” so that other people can say, “She is very strong.” **Ash Wednesday service (7:30PM)** invites all of us to once again face the inevitable and unpleasant reality of death and to face God nakedly.

However, death is not the final claim of us. Ashes, the sign of death, are imposed on our forehead in the shape of a cross, on which Christ died yet was raised from the dead 3 days later. The ashy cross helps us face the reality of death and who we really are, yet in the meantime, reminds us of the new life given to us through the resurrection of Christ. If the Lord’s Supper is celebrated as part of Ash Wednesday service, it is a

strengthening and reassuring sign of God's grace that we can pass through the darkest valley and reach the great resurrection feast in the Kingdom of God. It is a hope-filled future.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Lent is known to have 40 days. Forty in the Bible is a round number referring to a span of time needed to accomplish something. Israelites were wandering in the desert for forty years. Jesus was tempted in the wilderness for forty days. Yet, if you count the number of days beginning on Ash Wednesday until the day before Easter, there are 46 days. In the tradition of the church, every Sunday is considered the Lord's Day, a day to remember and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore the forty days do not include the six Sundays in between.

The focus of Lent has always been to "give up" something, giving up food, or movie, or entertainment. It has the connotation of "I sacrifice something..." The discipline becomes an obligation or duty. This kind of sacrificial or obligatory exercise does not last. Once Easter arrives, the old way of life returns. "Wooo.... Boy! I can enjoy life again. Give me my chocolate!" Nothing significant has changed in our inner being, in our relationship to God or other human beings.

Lenten discipline is not about temporary deletions or additions of any sort. Lenten discipline is a way of life. It includes spiritual exercises that can permanently transform us, that can deepen our faith, alter our relationship with God, with ourselves, with other human beings, and our surroundings. I look forward to an important time of the liturgical year when we devote ourselves to **a new way of life that will last beyond the Lenten season and onto the resurrection day.**

(Reference: Calendar: Christ's Time for the Church, by Laurence Hull Stookey, Abingdon Press, Nashville, 1996)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER
Come Before the Lord...



Eunice Yang

Be still, and know that I am God!

Psalm 46:10

God said to Elijah, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him ...

1 Kings 19:11-13

This Lent, I invite you to come into the house of the Lord for silent prayers. I will be at the church from **7:00PM-8:00PM** praying silently, experiencing the presence of God in our lives, and listening to the Lord. You are welcome to step in anytime during this one-hour time for 10 minutes, for 30 minutes, or for the whole hour. For those who stay until 8:00, we will fellowship after 8:00PM.

March 8 and 15 & April 5 and 12

(March 22 and 29 will be led by Bob Finzel and Martin Ojong respectively.)

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS



In order to help those who would like to begin a spiritual journey and to cultivate a spiritual discipline, the church will provide special Lenten devotional materials for adults and youth, and families with young children. These materials are available on **Sunday**.



Annette Ankou

Christian Life

Born and raised by Christian parents, I have been baptized at the Evangelic church of Boulbinet (Guinea) in 1975. My parents have made a decision to go back to my country which is Togo in 1980.

Since I was born I have been taught marvelous things about God, Jesus, and the holy Ghost by my parents who have a strong belief. In 1985, after nine months of Bible studies, I was confirmed and received my first holy communion at the Evangelic Church of BE. My parents' philosophy regarding our church attendance is that: Decide unilaterally to skip church on Sunday, means decide to forgo one meal a day for the whole week. Based on this rule everybody is obliged to attend church unless emergency arises.

In 1987, we moved to another neighborhood I was still attending church regularly, I used to go to the morning ceremony and in the evening if I had nothing to do I also attended Bible study in the evening where the Pastor goes in deep and explains what he taught in the morning; there was a lot of fun because everybody would have a chance to ask questions, give his point of view, and discuss the Word of God. I was also an active member of the church's Youth Choir.

In 1995, after having my Bachelor degree, my parents had decided that I pursue my Master in USA; here in USA things are little bit different and I had to change church because of my work schedule. Once in the while I was attending our community church; at the same time I have been looking for a Presbyterian Church that fit my work schedule and where I can settle myself.

In 2002, I was discussing this matter with one of my friend who unfortunately does not attend this church, she had mentioned Adelphi Presbyterian church, in May of 2002 I visited the church, I had been welcomed, I liked it and I made it my home church.

Today it is a pleasure for me to be accepted as a member of this church and hope that I continue enjoying it and wish to serve the Lord.



Jessyna M. McDonald

While the following poem was written in 1999 as a tribute to my mother, The Late Reverend Helen B. Buckmon, it exemplifies my faith journey, which began when I was baptized at the age of 12 years old and will continue throughout my life...When I come to the end of my journey, I pray that I will also be able to say,

**‘I have fought a good fight,
I have finished my course,
I have kept the faith’
2Timothy 4:7**

Through Mama's Faith

Jessyna M. McDonald ©1999

Mama, don't you worry about me,
Through your faith, God has set me free.
For all of the prayers you prayed
For the sacrifices you made
For all of your faith and hope
Has given me the ability to cope.

Mama, don't you worry about me,
Through your faith, God has set me free.
When times are tough
And life seems rough
When I'm carrying a heavy load
Down that lonely road
Mama, don't you worry about me,
Through your faith, God has set me free.

Mama, don't you worry about me,
Through your faith, God has set me free.
You see, I heard you crying
In the midnight hour,
And saw you rising in the morning light
With God's Holy Ghost power.
Mama, don't you worry about me,

Through your faith, God has set me free.
Mama, don't you worry about me,
Through your faith, God has set me free.
You see, I heard you weeping
While you were sleeping.
Crying out to the Lord...
Have Mercy, Have Mercy
Have Mercy on Me.
Through your faith God has set me free

Mama, don't you worry about me
Through your faith, God has set me free.
For every tear you shed
For every prayer you prayed
For every sleepless night
Whether I was wrong or right
For all of your spankings and hugs
For your unconditional love
Mama, don't you worry about me,
Through your faith, God has set me free.

Mama, don't you worry about me,
Through your faith, God has set me free.
Don't worry mama...
Be happy...in Christ.



BIBLE BREAKFAST CLUB

Kathie James

The February meeting of our Bible Breakfast Club was held on the 19th, and what a joyous occasion it was! Thanks to the evangelism of the Ojongs, there were 20 people present-- 11 adults and 9 children usually the children out number the adults!). We celebrated a number of birthdays as well. The lessons were about Job and how he remained faithful to God even when all of his family and possessions were taken away. Because of his faith in God, all of his belongings were restored.

We also read about the rich farmer who loved his possessions more than he loved God, and overnight the died! Our final story was about Jesus teaching others about God, which we hope everyone will continue to do. We played a game of categories--Kings, Prophets,

or Disciples--and categorized 12 people from the Bible. Our students were sharp and had high scores! We offered prayers of Thanksgiving and petition.

Our craft was making a snowman with a small thermometer attached so that everyone could hang up the snowman at home and remember that God sends the snow. Our memory verses for next time are Job 1:22 and Job 37:6a. Thanks to Candace Philander and Michele Thurber for the excellent breakfast! Everyone, of all ages, is invited to our next meeting--Sunday, March 19, at 9:30 a.m.



MUSIC

Kathie James

Although February is a short month, and it was shortened even more by our snowed-out Sunday on February 12, our music continues to be strong! We were delighted to have Brandi Wiltshire, one of our young stars, perform the Prelude on her violin February 5. She opened our worship service with a Caribbean melody. We hope to have Brandi contribute to our music again in the near future.

On February 19, Evelyn Jones sang a beautiful Prelude, a contemporary version of "Let All the World in Every Corner Sing." This hymn is found in the blue Presbyterian Hymnal, which we have adopted, and we hope everyone will learn it in the weeks to come. Also on February 19, Evelyn led the congregation in "Give Me a Vision" as a precursor to the congregational forum following the service. We hope that this lovely hymn set the stage for people to think about the vision for Adelphi, as we sang the petition, "Give us a vision, heart-stirring vision..."

During February, we have had several musical selections in honor of Black History Month, including spirituals on Communion Sunday.

We continue to have hymn sings before the service starts so that we can combine old favorites with a few new selections as we praise God in song!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

First Sunday – 11:30AM immediately following Children's moment

Second Sunday – 11:30AM immediately following Children's moment

Third Sunday – 9:30AM Bible Breakfast Club

Fourth Sunday – 10:30AM

Children Sing Along and Music Lessons

Fourth/Fifth Sundays – The whole family of God joining together for worship

English as a Second Language continues on Tuesday 10:00 – 11:30AM and Thursday 6:30 – 8:00PM.

March 1 Wednesday 7:30PM – Ash Wednesday Service

March 3 Friday 7:00PM – Youth in Faith Formation (at Eunice's home)

March 8 Wednesday 7:00PM – Silent Prayers at the church

March 14, Tuesday 7:00PM – Session

March 15 Wednesday 7:00PM – Silent Prayers at the church

March 17 Friday 7:00PM – Youth in Faith Formation with Jennie Cardin

March 19, Sunday – Worship with Communion

March 22 Wednesday 7:00PM – Wednesday Prayers with Bob Finzel

March 26, Sunday – Welcome guest preacher Rev. Jean Coyle. Food Sunday and Coffee Hour

March 29 Wednesday 7:00PM – Wednesday Prayers with Martin Ojong

Happy Birthday



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|--------------------|----------|
| Comfort Anigbor | March 9 |
| Rhonda Nixon | March 11 |
| Percy Agyei_Obese | March 12 |
| Mebanga Ojong | March 12 |
| Michelle Wiltshire | March 12 |



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

David and Kay Beard

March 15

Richard and Cherry Smith

March 27



Help By Phone Menu

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|---|--|------------------------------------|--|
| Beef Stew Macaroni & Cheese Spaghetti Pork & Beans | Jell-o Pasta Soups Peanut Butter Fruit | Dry Milk Coffee Tea Cocoa | Pudding Pancake mix Pancake Syrup |
| Dried Northern Beans Tuna Jelly | Apple sauce Baby food Cold Cereals Grits Oatmeal | | Red, Green & Yellow Vegetables Rice Pudding |



LECTIONARY READING

March 5 1st. Sunday in Lent

Gen. 9:8-17
Ps. 2:5:1-10
1Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:9-1

12 2nd. Sunday in Lent

Gen. 17:1-7, 15-16
Ps.22:23-31
Rom. 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38

19 3rd. Sunday in Lent

Exod. 20:1-17
Ps. 19
1 Cor.1:18-25
John 2: 13-22

26 4th Sunday in Lent

Num.21:4-9;

Ps107:1-3, 17-22

Eph.2:1-10

John 3:14-21

| Date | Greeters | Ushers | Liturgist |
|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| March 5 | The Milligans | Paul Tembunde Neil Wiltshire | Comfort Anigboh |
| March 12 | Gail Rodman | Janet Dolen Deborah Penot | Matilda Che |
| March 19 | The Lancasters | Jerome Farley Tad Jembere | Bob Finzel |
| March 26 | Vida Agyei- Obese | Jake Masters Gail Rodman | Chester Guild |

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Pastor: Rev. Y. Eunice Yang

Director of Music: Kathie James

Administrative Assistant: Mildred Fon

