

## PRAYER CHANGES THINGS

Have you had a chat with the Lord today? No appointment needed, the opportunity is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Keep praying, prayer changes things.

## PRAYER EMPHASIS FOR DECEMBER Just JESUS!!

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Isaiah 9:6 NIV



The Rev. John G. Paderson, Pastor 302-738-0840

## The Beacon

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
200 Marrows Road
Brookside
Newark, Delaware 19713
302-738-4331

December 2015

As I think about Christmas my mind goes back some 36 years to something that happened when I was a rookie general manager for 3M. I managed an operation in the Boston area at that time. I have no idea what they were thinking when they made me a general manager at twenty-eight but that is a whole other story.

Let me get back on track and share with you what happened. We had a problem that I (no surprise there) and nobody else had any idea how to fix. I therefore called the production-engineering department in St. Paul for advice. I got more than I asked for. They immediately sent two engineers at no charge to us and they fixed the problem.

I expressed my surprise to them at how quickly they responded and that they had come free of charge. The lead engineer expressed his surprise that I was surprised. He told me that in 3M the line operations were the ones that made money for the company and the staff departments were simply there to support their efforts. He said that when a line manager called with a problem, staff managers were expected to jump into action. Their actions changed my management philosophy forever.

You might rightly ask, what does this story have to do with Christmas? The answer is nothing and everything. On the surface, it is simply a story about the corporate culture at one of the world's most successful companies. At a deeper level, though, it is for me a parable of what God did in a much more profound way on Christmas morning. God came to us at no cost to us to solve our problem and change us forever.

On Christmas morning God was "faithfully present" to us, as James Davison Hunter calls it in his book *To Change the World* so that we might be faithfully present to Him and others. The way to be faithfully present to God is to listen to God by entering a daily practice of reading and meditating on His Word. The way to be faithfully present to others, according to Hunter, is to pursue a relationship with others, identify with them and direct one's life to the flourishing of their lives through sacrificial love.

God was faithfully present to us on Christmas morning and continues to be faithfully present to us every morning. I wonder what St. Andrew's might look like next Christmas if we were to practice faithful presence with the same single-minded determination that God practices it. I wonder as I wander out under the sky this Christmas. What about you?

In the joy of Christ's presence,

John

**To:** The Session of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

**From**: The Rev. John G. Paderson **Subject:** Report for October 2015

Date: November 8, 2015

## A. Service of the Lord's Day and Occasional Services

- Prepared and led worship three out of the four Sundays in October. I was on Study leave the first Sunday in October. Gene Stiltz ably preached in my absence.
- Conducted a service of witness to the Resurrection for David Arnold on Friday October 30<sup>th</sup> at Spicer-Mullikan Funeral Home.

### **B.** Visits and Contacts (Pastoral and other)

- Home Visits: 4
- Hospital and Rehab Facility Visits: 1
- Counseling Contacts: 1 office visit

#### C. Administration

- Wrote a message for the November Beacon
- Moderated the October 11<sup>th</sup> session meeting (no quorum).

#### **D.** Christian Education

• Attended the Sunday Night program three Sundays in October and led two Adult studies.

#### E. Ecumenical Activities

- Conducted an ecumenical dialogue on the Marks of the Church at First Newark as part of my doctoral work on the 7th.
- Attended a ministerium luncheon at the Blue Crab restaurant in Newark on the 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Attended a Pastors' Support Group meeting in Baltimore on October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### F. Denominational Activities

• None

### **G.** Things to Think About

- The proclamation of the Gospel and the care of the people of God.
- The Rev. Charles Gilmore will preach while I am away on vacation, November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Yours at the foot of the Cross.

John

## St Andrew's Presbyterian Church Corrected Stated Session Meeting September 13, 2015

Elders present: Mary Anne Colbert, Chester Pasapane, Jane Wright, Winnie Wagner, Florence Fonjweng, Emmanuel Ndifor.

Elders absent: Flora Atangcho, Allen Crowe, Brenda Saulsbury, Cliff Wood.

Moderator: Rev. John Paderson opened the meeting with prayer at 4:45pm.

Minutes from August 2, 2015 meeting approved with corrections.

Treasurer's report reviewed and approved pending audit.

Pastor's Report reviewed and accepted.

## Motions made, seconded and approved:

- Tabled Study Group Report for November session meeting.
- Appointed Darrell DiStefano and Jim Sparks Commissioners to 9/22/2015 Presbytery meeting in Georgetown, DE
- Approved disbursement of two items for 3 programs on recommendation of of Mission Team.
- Amended 6/7/15 Session minutes to reflect \$25 was NOT sent to Little Children of the World but to PDA.
- Session members will provide tailgate basket for Golf Outing Silent Auction.
- Approved by e-mail vote the move of Communion Sunday to second Sunday in October, 2015.
- Approved and accepted Pastor's Retreat funding request by e-mail vote of Session.
- Set October 11, 2015 at 4:00pm for next Session Meeting.
- Close meeting with prayer. Time ended 6:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Brenda Saulsbury from notes taken by Mary Anne Colbert.



## **Study Committee Report to Session**

Committee members: Flora Atangcho, Allan Crowe, Winnie Wagner and Jane Wright.

Purpose: To Study the Relationship between the congregation of St. Andrew's and the PC (USA).

Focus: Four (4) areas were chosen.

- 1. Brief History of Presbyterian Church
- 2. Changes to new Form of Government, specifically W-4.4001, which deals with ordination, and W-4.9001, which deals with marriage.
- 3. Basic Tenets of Belief
- 4. How St. Andrew's connects with Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly

#### Sources of information:

PC USA website <a href="https://www.pcusa.org">https://www.pcusa.org</a>

Synod of Mid-Atlantic website www.synatlantic.org

New Castle Presbytery website <a href="https://www.ncpresbytery.org">www.ncpresbytery.org</a>

Book of Order 2015 - 2017

**Book of Confessions** 

Personal conversations with Rev. John Potter and Rev. Randy Otto

Stephen F. Noll, 2000. "Two Sexes, One Flesh: Why the Church Cannot Bless Same-Sex Unions". Theology Matters, Vol.6, No.3, pp1-15.

New Castle Presbytery's MidWeek Musings. Rev. Jim Moseley, Executive Presbyter. "The Angst and Joy of Marriage"

Mark Achtemeier, 2014. "The Bible's Yes to Same Sex Marriage: An Evangelical's Change of Heart". Westminster John Knox Press. 144 p.

"A Call to the Church" by Moderator Heath K. Rada, 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly PCUSA Charles Powell Sykes "Out of Order: The Self Destruction of a Main Line Denomination".

### Summary of Findings:

<u>Brief History</u>: ~1683 first Presbyterian Church organized in Philadelphia. Civil War split Northern Church (PC in USA) from the Southern Church (UPCUSA). Reconciliation mixed and matched and sometimes caused additional splits. Due to the power held by congregations and presbyteries, these splits and re-unifications continue to occur. Contentious issues include ordination of women, churches becoming too liberal, changes to the definition of marriage, ordination of LGBT members, repeal of fidelity and chastity clause. PC (USA) is losing churches while more conservative groups like PCA, EPC and ECO are growing.

### Specific Changes to Book of Order:

A majority of Presbyteries approved a New Form of Government in 2011 that became effective on July 10, 2011. The new provisions focus more about "who" and "how" of the essential polity of PC (USA). Two issues have dominated the discussion reflected in these changes.

Homosexuality and Marriage: Marriage involves a unique commitment between two people, traditionally a man and a woman, to love and support them as faithful and responsible members of the church and wider community. The decision to wed a same sex couple still lies with the session of the church and the session has the right not to authorize the use of the church for such purposes. The pastor also is given the choice to or not to perform such

- unions. Since June 2014, the General Assembly included clear language that no teaching elder or session can be forced to conduct a same-sex marriage ceremony if they do not believe it is appropriate.
- Requirements for ordained ministers: Standards for ordained service no longer include the requirement to live either in fidelity within the covenant of marriage between a man and a woman, or chastity in singleness. Scripture and the confessions in applying standards shall guide councils to individual candidates.

These changes have been criticized by some critics as a lowering of the standards for ordained ministers of the church.

<u>Basic Tenets of Belief</u>: The Book of Confessions contains the basic tenets of our faith. There is no specific list of beliefs, but rather a compendium of documents that express them.

St. Andrew's relationship with Presbytery, Synod and GA (PC (USA): As one of 51 churches in New Castle Presbytery, St. Andrew's has voice and vote representation (one Teaching Elder (pastor) and one Ruling Elder (Elder)) at all Presbytery meetings. In addition, there is opportunity for individuals to serve on various committees and run for elected office. St. Andrew's may submit an overture to Presbytery for consideration and vote. If passed and a second Presbytery signs on, it then goes to the General Assembly for consideration. If passes GA, it is sent to all the Presbyteries for vote. If a majority of presbyteries approve, it becomes part of PC (USA). Synod representation also consists of equal representation of each member Presbytery with one Ruling Elder and one Teaching Elder. When General Assembly convenes, each Presbytery elects commissioners to represent them, again equal numbers of Ruling and Teaching Elders.

Based on our study of the above documents and discussions, we respectfully submit the following recommendations to the Session of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church:

- 1. Do nothing. Both John Potter (liberal) and Randy Otto (conservative) cautioned us not to do anything to cause a rift/split in our congregation. Stay together to work through the issues in "agree to disagree" caring ways. We are stronger together than apart. If we agree on most everything but have dissension on one or two items, the agreements should over-ride the disagreements. "A Call to the Church" by Heath Rada, Moderator of 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly PCUSA echoes this appeal to work together on our differences.
- 2. Any further actions on the part of Session/congregation will lead to involvement of Presbytery officials and has the potential to split our congregation.
- 3. A vote to pursue a dismissal from PC (USA) will split our congregation such that St. Andrew's will no longer exist. Any major exodus will close the doors and kill our warm, loving, caring St. Andrew's family.
- 4. A packet of information based on our discussions is available for everyone to review.
- 5. Those whose views do not agree with the changes in PC (USA) must make their own decisions as to their future.

## St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

200 Marrows Road, Brookside, Newark, Delaware 19713

The Rev. John G. Paderson, Pastor
E-mail: <a href="mailto:pstrstandrews@aol.com">pstrstandrews@aol.com</a>
E-mail: <a href="mailto:SECSTANDREWS@aol.com">SECSTANDREWS@aol.com</a>

302-738-4331 (w) 302-738-0840 (h)

www.standrewsnewark.org

2 Corinthians 8:1-5 And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. <sup>2</sup> In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. <sup>3</sup> For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, <sup>4</sup> they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. <sup>5</sup> And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.

Dear Friends in Christ,

For the past several weeks, I've talked to you about Stewardship and what The Bible says about being Joyous Stewards.

As you know we again have encountered a shortfall in the operating budget for 2015. The question that lies in front of us is how to respond to the shortfall. Do we follow what the secular world would suggest and cut programs to balance the budget for 2016 or do we follow the Macedonians example. We hope you have been enlightened by these scriptures over the last few weeks.

We ask that you prayerfully consider your pledge commitment for 2016 remembering the acronym EAGLES.

Everlasting Almighty GOD Loves Enthusiastic Stewards

Please bring your Pledge card with you to church on Commitment Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. As well as joyfully committing to your pledge for 2016, if you could please indicate on the back of the pledge card if you're willing to serve on a Fundraising committee to help raise funds for St. Andrew's during 2016.

May GOD continue to bless St. Andrews and its members in 2016 as we continue to become more Joyous Stewards.

Give God all the Glory

Cliff Wood Chairperson of the Stewardship Team

## From the Deacons for December

### **Christmas Food Baskets**

We come to you again to help us fill our Christmas food baskets with the same foods we needed for Thanksgiving. In addition to the items on the list below, we will need a turkey or ham by December 20 for each of the 12 neighborhood families we help.

- Potatoes (boxed or canned)
- Cranberry sauce
- Boxed desserts (cake mixes,etc.)
- Gravy
- Stuffing
- Canned vegetables
- Applesauce
- Jelly
- Peanut butter
- Cereal

Please leave your donations in a basket in the narthex on any Sunday, and please put turkeys or hams in the freezer. Remember we cannot use outdated food.

Thank you for your support for this ongoing ministry.

## **Holiday Helper Tree**

Each Sunday through December 20, we will be collecting donations for buying gifts for the families we help. If you choose to bring a gift, please leave it unwrapped and place it under the tree in Fellowship Hall by December 20. Thank you.

## **Red Kettle Campaign**

Thank you to all who rang bells for Salvation Army's campaign to help those in need during the holidays.

## Laundry for the Lord

We collected \$368.75, which will purchase 56 laundromat vouchers.

## Coats for Hope

The folks at Hope Dining Room are thankful for the warm clothing they received from St. Andrews. Thank you for your donations.

Next Deacon's Meeting: December 6 after worship.

"Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, good will toward men!" Luke 2:14



# Youth News

Wow, can you believe Christmas is just around the corner. This year instead of Operation Christmas Shoebox the youth have decided to donate clothes to help local families. We will be collecting new or slightly worn clothes through December  $13^{th}$  in all sizes. We will then separate by gender and size. The Deacons will donate the clothes to the families we deliver food baskets to. Any clothes left over will go to the Newark Empowerment Center. We decided to make an impact locally this Christmas Season.

The Youth will be holding their last Italian Buffett of 2015. On December 5<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 8pm you can come out and enjoy our famous Italian feast. What a better way to end a day of Christmas shopping or maybe decorating with a delicious hassle free dinner and no clean-up. Now you can't beat that.

Once again on December  $6^{th}$  the youth as well as the adults from the Sunday Night Groups will be baking cookies for this year's  $27^{th}$  annual Cookie walk. It's a great night of food, fellowship and working together to bake cookies. We will be starting at 5pm on December  $6^{th}$ . All are welcome so come out and enjoy the evening with us.

The youth have started rehearsing for this year's Christmas play. They will be performing the play on Jan. 3. Don't miss it.

Last but not least, the youth are again planning their  $6^{th}$  annual New Year's Eve lock -in. What a way for the youth to celebrate and bring in the New Year. So make sure to tell your friends and neighbors. All are welcome from age 4 to 19 years old. The lock in will start at 7pm on Dec.  $31^{st}$  and will end at 9am New Year's Day. Any adults looking for something to do, we can always use chaperones.



All PW- Dec 1 is Giving Day. Please consider giving to this worthy Mission. See bulletin board for details.

Cookie Walk - NEED COOKIES!

And volunteers - sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall

## MORNING CIRCLE

Morning Circle will not have a regular meeting in Dec. but will have a Christmas lunch on Dec 17 at Olive Garden near Christiana Hospital.

We still have fruit cakes for sale at \$5 ea. see a circle member at coffee hour or please call.

Betty Winters has many crocheted items for sale very reasonably. The will be at the Cookie Walk for sale. These items; booties, baby sweaters, lap blankets, and ornaments, she made to keep herself busy and would like to see them go for good use.

We will provide cupcakes for Hope Dining Room on Nov 30.

## NAOMI CIRCLE

## **News Flash! Naomi Circle Selling Rada Cutlery**

Are you ready for all the cooking you will be doing for the upcoming holidays? Do you wish you had some better knives or serving pieces? Do you want to put a better edge on the knives you already have? Maybe you help out in someone else's kitchen and wish they had better knives. Need some stocking stuffers? Naomi Circle will come to your rescue. We have available for sale (at very modest prices, considering the quality) an assortment of Rada Cutlery. Check us out during coffee hour. our December Naomi Circle meeting and finger-food Christmas party will be on Monday, December 14, at 6:30 p.m. at Ruth's home.

## RUTH CIRCLE

The Ruth Circle will meet on Monday December 14 in the home of Jere Ebert.

\_\_\_\_\_

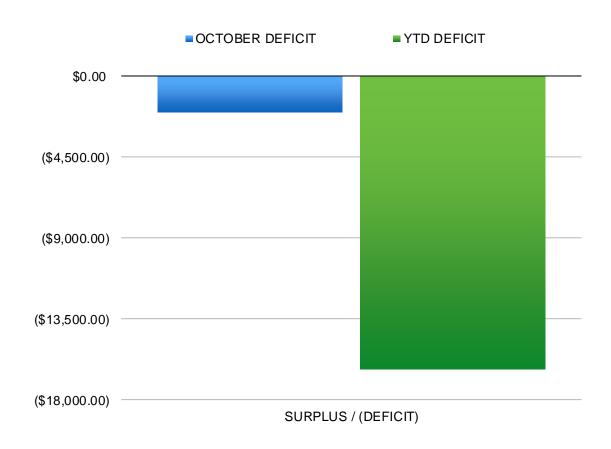
## **DOLLARS AND SENSE - THE BOTTOM LINE**

In October, St. Andrew's received \$11,302.30. That amount is \$2,047.69 less than the income budgeted for the month. Budgeted income for the month was \$13,349.99. We spent \$13,277.03 in October, which is \$870.80 less than was budgeted for the same period. This has resulted in a deficit for the month of \$1,974.73.

For 2015, through the end of October, St. Andrew's received \$119,524.00 compared to a budgeted income of \$133,499.90. This is a shortfall of \$13,975.90. On the expense side, through October, we have spent \$135,821.33. Budgeted expenses year to date are \$141,448.30, which means we have spent \$5,626.97 less than we thought we might. The bottom line is, so far this year, through October, we have spent \$135,821.33 and received \$119,524.00 for a deficit of \$16,297.33.

ST. ANDREW'S OCTOBER FINANCIAL POSITION - ACTUAL VS BUDGET

MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET	YTD INCOME	YTD BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET
OCTOBER	\$11,302.30	\$13,349.99	-\$2,047.69	\$119,524.00	\$133,499.90	-\$13,975.90
	EXPENSE	BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET	YTD EXPENSE	YTD BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET
PASTOR	\$7,022.74	\$7,177.64	-\$154.90	\$72,862.64	\$71,776.40	\$1,086.24
STAFF	\$4,189.13	\$3,966.90	\$222.23	\$38,851.40	\$39,669.00	-\$817.60
PROGRAM	\$762.09	\$733.31	\$28.78	\$3,964.86	\$7,333.10	-\$3,368.24
BLDG GRDS	\$1,303.07	\$2,269.98	-\$966.91	\$20,142.43	\$22,669.80	-\$2,527.37
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$13,277.03	\$14,147.83	-\$870.80	\$135,821.33	\$141,448.30	-\$5,626.97
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	(\$1,974.73)	(\$797.84)		(\$16,297.33)	(\$7,948.40)	_



## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR DECEMBER 2015**

2 Wednesday 3 Thursday	Church of Service Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m. 6:30/7:00 p.m.
4 Friday	Church of Service Youth	6:00 p.m.
<u>*</u>	Italian Buffet	6:00 p.m.
5 Saturday	Blended Service with Communion	10:00 p.m.
6 Sunday		10:00 a.III.
	Youth Sunday/Food Collection Sunday	
	Coffee/juice hour	
	Deacon's Meeting	10.20
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
	Session Meeting	4:30 p.m.
	Sunday Night Dinner, Faith Club, Youth Group	<b>7</b> 00
0.70	And Adult Bible Study (BAKING COOKIES)	5:00 p.m.
8 Tuesday	PW Meeting	7:00 p.m.
9 Wednesday	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
10 Thursday	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:30/7:00 p.m.
11 Friday	27 <sup>th</sup> Annual Cookie Walk	11:00 a.m.
10.0 . 1	Church of Service Youth	6:00 p.m.
12 Saturday	Church of Service Prayer Service	7:00-9:30 p.m.
13 Sunday	Blended Service	10:00 a.m.
	Coffee/juice hour	10.20
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
	Session Meeting	4:30 p.m.
	Sunday Night Dinner, Faith Club, Youth Group	<i>c</i> 00
1434 1	And Adult Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
14 Monday	Naomi Circle Meeting	6:30 p.m.
16337 1 1	Ruth Circle Meeting	7.20
16 Wednesday	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
17 Thursday	Morning Circle Christmas Luncheon	6 20/7 00
10 E ' 1	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:30/7:00 p.m.
18 Friday	Church of Service Youth	6:00 p.m.
19 Saturday	Choir Rehearsal	10:00 a.m.
20 Sunday	Christmas Cantata	10:00 a.m.
	Coffee/juice hour	12.20
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
	Sunday Night Dinner, Faith Club, Youth Group	6.00
01 M 1	And Adult Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
21 Monday	BEACON DEADLINE	7.20
23 Wednesday	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
24 Thursday	Christmas Eve Candlelight Services	7.00
	Family	7:00 p.m.
	Communion	11:00 p.m.
25 Friday	MERRY CHRISTMAS!	
27 Sunday	Blended Service	10:00 a.m.
	Coffee/juice hour	
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
30 Wednesday	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
31 Thursday	NEW YEAR'S EVE YOUTH LOCK IN	7:00 p.m9:00 a.m.



2-Linda DiMartine

8-Karen Johnson

8-Jim Sparks

13-Noah Fisher

17-Janet Bugher

18-Lynda Fisher

20-Wendy Johnson

27-Kelsey Styles

30-Chuck Arnold



30-Myron & Marianne Hardesty 30-Celestine & Flora Atangcho





## All you can eat Italian Buffet

Saturday December 5, 2015 6PM-8PM

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

200 Marrows Road

Newark, DE 19713

\$12 Adults \$ 6 children

St. Andrew's Youth Group will be holding an All You Can Eat Italian Buffet. Come on out and show your support!

Malachi 3:10 Bring the full amount of your tithes to the Temple, so that there will be plenty of food there. Put me to the test and you will see that I will open the windows of heaven and pour out on you in abundance all kinds of good things.



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

27<sup>th</sup> Annual Cookie Walk Home made Cookies! \$6 and \$12 Vegetable Beef and Chicken Corn Soup - \$8/Qt.

Lunch – soup, sandwich, chips & drink - \$10

**December 11, 2015** 

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 200 Marrows Road Newark, DE

11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Pre-orders, take-out

available

Contact:
302-738-4331



## SAVE THE DATE

December 18, 6:30-8:30 pm

Join us as we visit and spread holiday cheer in the Neighborhood. Bring family and friends to join in the fun. Cocoa and cookies after we sing!

## St. Nicholas' Episcopal Church

10 Old Newark Road & Chestnut Hill Road

RAIN DATE: DEC 19

302-836-1798



## **Upcoming Marriage Encounter Weekends**





### November 6-8, 2015

Comfort Inn in Easton, MD
Experience the warm hospitality of the
Eastern Shore of Maryland. Open to
both Lay and Clergy couples. Located on
US-50, 40 miles southeast of Annapolis.
The weekend will be coordinated by the
United Methodist Expression of M.E.

All faith expressions are welcome!

Weekends run Friday 7pm to Sunday 5pm (except January Clergy Weekend).

## **January 21-23, <u>2016</u>**

The Vandiver Inn, Havre de Grace, MD is host to a Thurs – Sat. "weekend" designed for Clergy Couples only. The session is interdenominational and costs are reduced by an Endowment grant.

## February 19-21, 2016

A beautiful location & open to both Lay & Clergy couples – the Vandiver Inn in Havre de Grace, MD. The weekend will be coordinated by the Presbyterian Expression of M.E.

## November and January weekends, contact:

Clay & Georgeanna Holland 302-540-0106 or clay@agapefarm.com
Brent & Carole Burdge 302-529-9261 or <a href="mailto:bctandem@aol.com">bctandem@aol.com</a>
For more information or to complete an application visit: <a href="www.encounter.org">www.encounter.org</a>

## February weekend, contact:

Greg & Shirley Hills at <u>solchvary@hotmail.com</u> or 302-453-9538 For more information or to complete an application visiti: <u>www.presby-me.org</u>