

Summer/Fall, 2008

Tent Talk

The first church was a tent!



Newsletter for the Association of Presbyterian Tentmakers

September, 2008

It's APT Conference Time... Kyros Time Care for the Shepherd, Hope for the Flock

Moderator's Minute or Two

by Jeff Scot

In preparing for a sermon recently, I was struck by how the Greeks differentiated between *chronos* time and *kyros* time. We are well acquainted with the former. It relates to the sequence of things and how we are driven and controlled by the clock, the calendar, the date book. Appointments of all sorts that fill our days, particularly in the world of tentmaking where there aren't enough proverbial hours. By contrast, the latter, in the spirit of Ecclesiastes 3, echoes "there is a time to" ...in many forms. That type has to do with aspect of fullness, God's appointed time, opportunities taken and not taken which can have a timeless quality about them.

One is quantitative, useful in measuring productivity and time elapsed and expended and staying on task. The other speaks strictly of quality or our relationships and where we find meaning.

I urged that as summer turns to Fall and our annual conference, that we take stock and consider whether in our *chronos*-oriented lives we don't need a different kind of clock. One of the *kyros* kind. I suggested that if we make that switch, things would look vastly different.



Interested?

More information is available:
www.pcusatentmakers.com

Jeff Scott, APT Moderator at
hildscett@netscape.net

You are
a Tentmaker if:

- ◇ Amazon.com doesn't know what to do with your favorites list because it is too diverse.
- ◇ Presbytery can't decide if you are lay or clergy for parity.
- ◇ You have two Fridays a week, Friday and Sunday noon.
- ◇ Your tent-ative schedule is always full.

Paul went to see them, and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them. Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

Acts 18:2b-4

Rev. Dr. Bill Imes to lead Preaching and Bible Reflection at Fall APT Conference

Due to illness, Bill Hedrick will not be able to be with us as our guest preacher and worship leader. We will sadly miss Bill who comes highly recommended. Please keep Bill and his family in all our prayers.

In conversation with several clergy and seminary personnel familiar with APT, Rev. Dr. Bill Imes' name (retired President of Bangor Theological Seminary) came up repeatedly as a recommended preacher and leader who could ably step into our theme. As grace would have it, an e-mail connection was made with Bill, who happened to be on the road traveling across the country. And he was game! For those of you who recall our 2001 conference at Bangor Seminary, Bill had first met us and brought us greetings there. Bangor Seminary is particularly noted for its passion and training for ministry in small church settings. A high percentage of its graduates are second career types. Your present moderator is a BTS graduate and was invited on occasion to share the vision of tentmaking with classes there. All of which is to say, Bill Imes is no stranger to tentmaking and is looking forward to joining us!

Until his retirement Bill had been President of Bangor Theological Seminary, since 2001 with campuses in Bangor and Portland. He successfully shepherded the sale and relocation of the Bangor campus to the present Husson College location.

Born in Wisconsin, he was raised in Iowa and graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy. He is also a graduate of the University of North Carolina, Yale Divinity School and Eden Theological Seminary.

Dr. Imes taught Latin at Phillips Exeter and at the Day Prospect Hill School for Girls in New Haven before his ordination. Since then he has served two parishes in rural Iowa and one in Maine. He came to Maine in 1985, where he served as Pastor of First Parish Church (UCC) in Brunswick until 2001.

While in Brunswick he was a member of the Board of the Mid Coast Chapter of the American Red Cross, a board member of the Thornton Oaks Homeowners Corporation, a board member for Tedford House, a member of the Advisory Committee to Bath/Brunswick Big Brother/Big Sisters, a board member for Midcoast Hospital and the Bowdoin Summer Festival. He was president of the Brunswick Rotary Club, Vice-Moderator of the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ, Past Moderator of the Cumberland Association, Past Chair of the Maine Conference Business Committee, and Past member of the Maine Conference personnel committee. He is a member of Bangor Rotary and is currently on the Board of Directors of the United Way of Eastern Maine and of the Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence.

He is married to the former Judith Henrickson who is a Financial analyst for Sweetser Family Services (formerly Shoreline Community Health Services in Brunswick). They have three daughters and seven grandchildren.

Dr. Imes will be leading the preaching and Bible reflections of the APT conference at Ghost Ranch. We look forward to his care and feeding!

An Invitation from Jeff!

I would urge as many of you as possible to turn in like manner to the upcoming conference 2008 at Ghost Ranch, Santa Fe. Saddle up, adjust your schedules, tinker with your budget, and if at all possible make your way there. Whether you are a first-time attendee or veteran of many conferences, this promises to an awesome opportunity and kyros "time for..."

"Care for the Shepherd, Hope for the Flock".

- ❖ Meeting, catching up, and sharing stories with this good band of "outlaws" with an abiding passion for alternative vocation and ministry models.
- ❖ Keynote charge(s) by our friend Phil Aspinall from Great Britain. Phil will challenge us with a "kingdom" perspective (in the biblical sense that is) pertaining to our unique call.
- ❖ Enriching biblical reflection and preaching segments on the care and feeding of tentmakers and their role in the present and future church - Rev. Dr. Bill Imes, retired President Bangor Seminary.
- ❖ Panel discussions with assembled tentmakers and supportive judicatory representative in accord with our conference theme - aspects of self care and turnaround/success stories in the tentmaking context.
- ❖ Take in an afternoon benefit concert for APT put on by our host Russ Jolly and his band of...., well jazz musicians, off course - First Presbyterian Church, Santa Fe, in town.
- ❖ Being just blocks from the historic Plaza, explore the culture, ambiance, and general offerings of Old Santa Fe and the region.

Mail Bag

Dear friends in Christ,

This is the first time in my 35 years of ministry in the PCUSA that I have come across the association of Presbyterian Tentmakers. I have been a tentmaker in the PCUSA for twenty years.

Kindly send me more information about your association and the registration form. ... Most of our South Asian Pastors in the PCUSA are tentmaker, they should know about your association.

~ EN

Ed. The information was sent and he was added to our mailing list.

Who do you know that hasn't heard of APT yet? Share the news! We are there for the people with unique ministry models.

(Excerpt from letter to Tent Talk Editor)
Hi Kathy.

I have found that when I talk about tentmaking at Union-PSCE, I nearly always have to explain what it is I mean. In addition to explaining it, I also carefully suggest to some folks that the church world students are being prepared for does not exist--at least in very many places. All one needs to do is review the listing of churches seeking pastors on the PC (USA) website to begin to understand the growing gap between churches who can call a fully-funded pastor and those who cannot.

~CP Seminary student at Union-PCSE

See you at Ghost Ranch!

Tentative Schedule

"Care for the Shepherd, Hope for the Flock"

2008 APT Conference - Ghost Ranch, Santa Fe
Oct. 24-26

Friday , October 24th

*(Arrivals Albuquerque airport/1.5hr.
drive/shuttle/car pool to Santa Fe during
daytime)*

- 3:00-4:00PM Executive Committee meets
3:00-5:30 Registration and check-in
5:30-6:30 Pizza informal dinner brought
in - at Ghost Ranch
6:45-7:45 Welcome, overview, and
introductions of all attendees
Russ Jolly (Host) and Jeff
Scott (Moderator)
7:45-8:00 Break
8:00-8:45 Keynote and opening
charge...The Kingdom View - Phil
Aspinall
8.45-9:15 Evening Devotions - Phil
Aspinall, Bill Imes, Russ Jolly
9:15 Social time/optional discussions

Saturday October 25

- 7:30-8:15 Breakfast
9:00-9:45 Morning Worship #1 and
reflection with Bill Imes preaching
"Caring for the Shepherd"
Short break
10:00-noon Bible study/reflection with Bill
Imes followed by
facilitated discussion
#1 Panel on Caring for the
Shepherd (Models of Self-Care) -
Russ Blount moderating
12:00-1:00 Lunch

Scheduled (Continued)

Saturday October 25

- 1:00 - 3:30 Panel #2 Presentations by
panelists followed by discussions
on "Hope for the Flock"
(models of success and turnaround
stories and next steps) - Jeff
Scott moderating
Midpoint break
Facilitated discussion time -
reflecting on our own stories
3:30-4:30 Free time
4:30-5:30 APT Benefit concert at 1st
Presbytery Church, Santa Fe
6:00-7:00 Dinner at Ghost Ranch
7:30-8:15 Evening worship #2 and
reflection with Bill Imes
preaching "Hope for the Flock"
8:15 -9:15 Business slot - time for few
items business/presentation for jump on Sun.
9:15 Social time

Sunday October 25

- 7:30-8:15 AM Breakfast
8:30-9:30 Morning Worship with
communion - #3 Bill Imes
Preaching Conclusions and
putting it together "Care for
the Shepherd & Hope for the
Flock"
9:30-9:45 Break
9:45-11:30 Continue business meeting(s)
12:00 Lunch and departure

It's not too late! But you must "pony up" ASAP and respond by contacting our Registrar, Fred Bunning and by mailing your check and registration to him. A brochure is enclosed in this issue of 'Tent Talk' with relevant details along with the intended schedule for the weekend's events.

As the conference date approaches, Fred will attempt to coordinate transportation options (1.5 hrs) from the Albuquerque airport depending on your arrival time there. Please e mail (see registration) or call Fred 970-667-4853 if you have specific questions on that count.