

December 26, 2004

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

We are delighted to have visitors worship with us! To aid you in our liturgy, we want you to know that the following is our custom: In the *Creed*, we include the phrase, "*He descended into Hell*". In the *Lord's Prayer*, we use the words, "*Forgive us our debts... our debtors*". We encourage you to stand for singing if you are able as the organ sounds the first note of introduction. When appropriate to the hymn, the organist and choir will lead the congregation in singing, "*Amen*". All worshippers are encouraged to *sign* the *Attendance/Friendship* pad, *greet* your friends, and *welcome* visitors.

LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS, LARGE-PRINT HYMNALS,
and **ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES** (amplified earphones and telecoil neckloops)
are available from the ushers.

mailing address: *The Presbyterian Church*, 810 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Carrie Lyman, administrative assistant (office: 373-7057)

Dori DeMild, communications assistant

Our church's e-mail address: *fredericksburgpc.org*

Here are some specific addresses for church staff:

clyman; gpayne; ddemild; rjdye; lmacasey; bharvey; ecsharp; afisher

Liturgist: Caroline Deaderick

(8:30 am)

Sanctuary Guild Helen Fortune
Greeters Joe & Anne Rowe; Jim & Judy Schulken
Ushers Ian & Lynn Norfleet; Wayne Hibbeler; Bill Hollister
Chair Lift Charlie Rowe

(11:00 a.m.)

Sanctuary Guild Sheila Baker
Greeters Steve, Linda, & Jaeger Spratt
Ushers George Cralle; Debra Myers
Chair Lift Dave Bohmke
Nursery Workers Kelsey Gillenwater; Allen & Laura Polk; Paul & Marissa Travis; Scott Fischer; Sarah Fisher; Becky Gibson

(Child Care is provided in the Education Building for infants through Kindergarten.)

The flowers are given by Joanne & Harry Farley *to honor* their grandchildren, Christopher & Nikolas Farley; David King, III; Peyton King; and Krista Farley.

The wreaths on the Sanctuary windows are given by Betty Ellett and Bryan Lewis *to the glory of God* and *in loving memory* of Betty's mother and Bryan's grandmother, *Doris Sheppard Ellett Bookman*.

Hospital Visitor for the Week of December 26 - January 1: Lou Silvey (373-7239)

Capsule of Concern: Isabelle Daniels, Donna Hughes, Mary Jane King

Season's Greetings from Thailand. Merry Christmas! I want to thank you all for your prayers as I continue on this journey so far from home. The past months have been met with challenges I never imagined and joy I cannot describe. Though I miss America and my family and friends, I have been lovingly welcomed into the hearts of the Thai students and teachers here at Sacha Pittaya School. Please continue to pray for me in the coming months until my return in August. Please pray for the Thai people, as they experience turmoil in the south of the country. Until then, God bless you all and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
สุขสันต์วันคริสต์มาสและวันปีใหม่.

Meghann Green

เมแกน

www.Thai-Meg.50megs.com

Quaylefan@aol.com

Adult and youth volunteers are needed for the Special Olympic swim season beginning in January 2005; the schedule is at the bottom. Volunteers are most needed with the non-swimmers (skills) because they are one on one. We have some adults who probably will remain non-swimmers, but their skills increase each year. Each year there is a new crop of non-swimmers starting with age 8. Those who start with us by 12 usually are swimming in their mid teens. Please contact Elaine Hild at ebenziohild@juno.com or 372-6786 if you are interested in volunteering or finding out more information.

Practices are at the Massad YMCA on Butler Road in Stafford County on **Sundays** from **4:30 -5:30PM**. The dates are Jan 9, 23, Feb 6, 20, March 6, 13, April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 15, 22, June 5, and the State Games June 10-12.

MICAH HOSPITALITY CENTER OPENS January 3, 2005 and our community is counting on us to help. After months of planning and collaboration, the downtown Fredericksburg churches will open a day hospitality center for people in the community in need of short term help in the way of food, clothing, and access to resources to give them "a hand up, not a hand out." The Center will be located in Trinity Episcopal Church, at the corner of William Street and College Ave. For the month of January, it will be open from 9 to 11 a.m., Monday through Friday. Hours will be extended beginning in February. **Here's how you can help.** Volunteers are needed to man the center, greet guests and provide support to professional counselors. For the month of January, our church has agreed to provide two volunteers each Tuesday, from 9 to 11 a.m. Also, certain items are needed to furnish the Center – file cabinet, coffee maker, shelving for food pantry, microwave, towels, and assorted tables and chairs. If you can help by serving as a volunteer one morning or donating any of the above items, call Betsy Mathias at 710-2323 or e-mail bcmathias@aol.com or leave a message in the church office.

Our youth groups will not meet on December 26. The Senior Highs may meet on January 2, but the Middle School Youth will not meet until January 9. The Senior Highs will go skiing on January 28-30 and the Middle Schoolers on February 12.

Sprunt Lecture Series: The congregation is warmly invited to attend the Sprunt Lectures at Union-PSCE, which will address, "The Civil War as a Theological Issue." Mark Noll, professor of Christian Thought at Wheaton College, will deliver the free lectures, which begin on Monday night, January 24 at Ginter Park Presbyterian Church and conclude on Wednesday, January 26, with a luncheon at Union-PSCE. For a complete schedule of events or for further information, please contact Cheryl VanOrnam (278-4228) or look up www.union-psce.edu/sprunts.

The 2005 Confirmation Journey will have sixteen 8th graders participating this year. Any other 8th graders or older youth interested in joining the Confirmation Journey are asked to talk with Pastor Sharp, Pastor Fisher, or Bruce Harvey. All youth, their parents, and covenant partners will meet for an orientation meeting on Sunday, January 9 at 6:30pm in the Undercroft. Please be in prayer for the following youth as they prepare to begin this important step in their faith journey:

Matt Bohmke, Allie Brooks, Amy Ciccone, Caitlin Duffy, Sarah Fisher, Emma-Lee Gillespie, Griffin Hamilton, Sydney Harcourt, Rachel Horne, Alanna John, Anna Lowery, Daniel Lockett, Jaeger Spratt, Evan Sullivan, Andy Toler and Megan Vyverberg.

College students who are signed up to go on the mission trip to Mexico, May 19-26 are reminded that their \$100 deposit for the trip is due by January 1. Please talk with Bruce Harvey if you have any questions.

Beginning on Sunday, January 9, there will be an opportunity for the congregation to help support the mission trip by filling out orders for Equal Exchange coffee/cocoa/teas. The Presbyterian Coffee Project is a new way to reach out to people in need. Through the project, coffee farmers and their families in Latin America, Africa, and Asia earn a better income, have access to affordable credit, and gain a trading partner they can trust. For more info, visit, www.equalexchange.com. This is the coffee we use on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights. You may also order the whole bean coffee.

Sunday School will not meet on December 26 or January 2. All classes will resume on Sunday, January 9 beginning with a brunch in the fellowship hall from 9:30am to 10:00am. Children, youth and adult classes will meet in their separate classrooms after the brunch. **Please be on the look out for the mailing after January 1 concerning the upcoming Winter/Spring Sunday School classes.**

Many thanks go to Denny Keffer for leading the Intergenerational Sunday School class last Sunday, December 19.

Some dates to keep in mind as you look ahead to January are:

Wednesday, January 12 – Prime Timers meet at Olive Garden for lunch

Wednesday, January 19 – Wednesday Night suppers and activities resume

Saturday, January 22 – ‘Hoedown’ with Big Circle Dancing and other activities

Tuesday, January 25 – Luncheon for the Forever Young Group (a group for older adults who have difficulty getting out)

There is a big need at Walter Reed Army Hospital. The number one request is for phone cards. The government does not pay long distance phone charges, and these wounded soldiers are rationing their calls home. Many of these soldiers will be in the hospital during the holidays, and an “endless” supply of these phone cards are needed. Any amount, even \$5.00, is greatly appreciated. If you want to contribute, please send phone cards in any amount to: Medical Family Assistance Center, Walter Reed Medical Center, 6900 Georgia Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20207-5001.

Homeless Shelter Meals: Donna Hudgins has for the past several years served as the coordinator for serving meals at the homeless shelter. She is now stepping down from this role, and we thank her for her faithful service. The Mission Committee has decided to expand this job to one coordinator and two assistants. If you are interested in helping continue this ministry of church by serving in one of these positions, please contact Gina Whitticar at 373-7271.

UPCOMING MEETINGS (December 26-January 2)

Sun.	12/26		No Church School No Youth Bells or Choir Rehearsals No Youth Groups No Sacred Dancers Rehearsal
Mon.	12/27		No Young Adults
Tues.	12/28	7:00 am	Men’s Breakfast , Bob Evans’ Restaurant, Rt. 3W
Fri.	12/31		Office Closed Early
Sun.	1/2		No Church School No Youth Bells or Choir Rehearsals Sacred Dance Ensemble , Undercroft

5-6:30 pm

BIRTHDAYS

December

(26) Gail McGhee, Pam Eisensmith, Megan Stutzman, Jonathan Lynn
(27) Charles Rowe, Ambra Fugate, Jack Spinnanger
(28) Helen Stone, Jeanne Waite, Connie Barnes, Nathan Dyer
(29) Noah Swift, Graham Major, Brandon Beiler, Virginia Lacy
(30) Mary Lowman, Katya Zablotney
(31) Linda Sweet, Anne Rowe, Jennie Fellingner, Edward Langdon, Samantha Brehm

January

(1) Jim Eck, Coleman Starnes

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, January 2

(will be using January 6 Epiphany readings)

Isa. 60:1-6; Ps. 72:1-7,10-14

Eph. 3:1-12; Matt. 2:1-12