



# First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City

## Chronicles

### February 2021



14391 Minnieville Road  
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193  
703-670-7834

<https://fupcdc.org>  
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People of the Church, Ministers  
Rev. Adam C. Bowling, Pastor  
Dana Van Slyke, Chancel Choir Director  
Justin Streletz, Pianist/Organist  
Rebecca and Chris Anderson,  
Contemporary Worship Directors  
Ike Evans, Jubilation Handbell Director  
Joann Paige, Nursery Supervisor  
Tiffany Ramsey, Little Hands Preschool Director  
Homer Detrich, Sexton  
Kim Parker, Office Manager

#### From Pastor Adam



#### About our 2021 Lenten Theme:

In Lent, we're reminded that, again and again, suffering and brokenness find us. We doubt again, we lament again, we mess up again. Again and again, the story of Jesus on the cross repeats—every time lives are taken unjustly, every time the powerful choose corruption and violence, every time individuals forget how to love. With exacerbation we exclaim, "Again?! How long, O God?" And yet, in the midst of the motion blur chaos of our lives, God offers a sacred refrain: "I choose you, I love you, I will lead you to repair." Again and again, God breaks the cycle and offers us a new way forward.

This theme provides a clear invitation in a time when much is unclear. Even if worshipping apart, we come to God again and again with our prayers, our dreams, our hopes, and our doubts. Even if from a distance, we will continue to be community to one another—especially when it's hard—by choosing each other over and over again. We will continue to love God with the same persistence God chooses and claims us. Our sub-theme, A Lenten Refrain, speaks to the ways God can make music of our lives. "Refrain" also reminds us that Lent is a season of abstaining from certain or harmful practices in order to take on new rhythms and habits.

Continued on page 2

In this season, we need rituals—both old and new—to remember and be transformed. Embodied practice builds muscle memory. Repetition helps retrain our neural pathways. We need the 46 days of Lent because this season shapes us into more faithful disciples.

The church will be emailing you about three Lenten devotions each week. These devotionals will include art, reflections, and poetry for the season. Our 2021 Lenten devotionals have been produced by *A Sanctified Art*. Learn more about their creative team here: <https://sanctifiedart.org/creativeteam>. We hope that these devotionals will encourage you along your own Lenten journey. May the art, reflections, and poetry strengthen and stretch you, shaping you into a more faithful disciple.

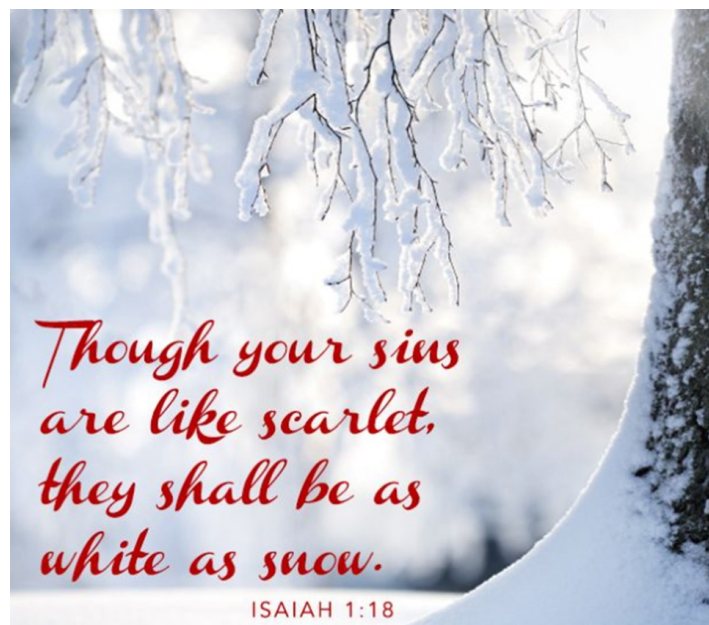
On **Ash Wednesday, February 17**, there will be a worship service at **7:00 PM with Communion and Imposition of Ashes**. We are asking participants to gather their own elements of bread and cup for communion. We also ask you to gather your own ashes (palm ash, not wood ash) for the Imposition of Ashes. If you cannot gather ashes, you can substitute oil for the ashes (olive oil for example). **A shorter Lenten scripture and prayer service will be available online each Wednesday at 7:00 PM through March 24. On Thursday, April 1, we will celebrate Maundy Thursday online at 7:00 PM with virtual communion.** You will be able to view these services the same way you view Sunday services on our YouTube channel "FUPCDC Video." The link is: <https://www.youtube.com/c/FUPCDC>.

**A note about ashes: Remember that wood ash if it gets wet turns to lye and will burn skin. If you cannot get palm ash, use oil, not ash from wood fires.**

This Lent, may God's steadfast love cradle our laments. May God's grace wash over our weariness. And may we bring all of who we are to God—trusting that God will meet us, time and again, along the way.

On the journey with you,  
Pastor Adam

**The Session has called the State of the Church and Incorporation Annual Meeting on February 21, at the one worship online service, at 10 AM. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the Annual Report and to elect new church officers.**



## Session Notes

At the January 19 Session meeting, Claire and Curt Hoagland were received as members by reaffirmation of faith; they were previously Friends of the Church.

Session authorized a Transition Team with the purpose of helping to fill the Ministry Team Leader positions in our new hybrid form of organization that we will move to in June. They will review the Manual of Operations, policies and procedures as they look at which teams will be responsible for the various ministries of our congregation. Members of the Transition Team are Elder Pam Cox (Co-Moderator), Elder Pat Manalio (Co-Moderator), Deacon Ellen Nuernberger (Deacon Co-Moderator), Elder Amy Bean, Lori MacKenzie, Morelle Fokwa, Garrett Smith and Pastor Adam Bowling (Ex-Officio). They will be contacting some committees and other groups for information, so please help them to gather the data they need to move us to the "new way of doing ministry."

Session approved a Souper Bowl of Caring activity to collect non-perishable food and toiletries on February 6 sponsored by the Mission and Outreach committee. February 13 is the bad weather date. Details are elsewhere in this newsletter. A donation of \$3,500.00 to the GPW Health Center was also approved. This will help with their expenses for COVID-19 testing, coronavirus vaccines and related expenditures.

A prepayment of \$2,000.00 was authorized to Verizon to prepare an estimate supporting installation of a fiber optics cable originating from across Minnieville Road. This is related to the cost of trenching services to be able to run the cable. The Audio-Visual Task Force believes that moving to a fiber-optic connection is very important for future streaming of worship services and other business the church conducts via the internet. They are pursuing grants to hopefully help pay for part of this overall project.

One of the Book of Order responsibilities of Session is to approve the celebration of the Lord's Supper. They approved a calendar of dates for celebrating communion recommended by the Worship committee.

The Commission on Reorganization was dismissed with thanks. Session attendance was 100%.

*Submitted by Sara Porter, Clerk of Session*

## Worship Committee

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** On **Ash Wednesday, February 17** there will be a worship service at **7:00 PM with Communion and Imposition of Ashes**. We are asking participants to gather their own elements of bread and cup for communion. We also ask you to gather your own ashes (palm ash, not wood ash) for the Imposition of Ashes. If you cannot gather ashes, you can substitute oil for the ashes (olive oil for example).

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**Chancel Choir will meet at 7:30 PM immediately following each Wednesday prayer service.** Wednesday Night Bible Study will resume after Easter on **Wednesday, April 14.**

# DEACONS: THE MINISTRY OF COMPASSION AND SERVICE

The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry.

## 2021 BOARD OF DEACONS

### A Ministry of Compassion and Service

#### Class of 2021

Agnes Fokwa  
Debbie Folly  
Lisa Fortner  
Kathy McNeely  
Carol Schwalm  
Celine Sonkwa

#### Class of 2022

Amy Bean  
Liz Goolgasian  
Charlotte Stultz

#### Class of 2023

Bob Albrecht  
Sandy Chamberlin  
Claudia Cunningham  
Pam Emert  
Ellen Nuemberger  
Tracy Stevens

Ellen Nuernberger, Co-Moderator ..... 703-878-0009  
Carol Schwalm, Co-Moderator..... 703-680-7673

*We love to hear from you. **If you need to be connected with your Deacon**, please contact Carol Schwalm or Ellen Nuernberger by calling the numbers listed above or the church office (703-670-7834).*

## Easter Flowers

Due to the pandemic, Easter flowers will be handled differently this year. There are two ways that you can help. First, we will only have one set of Easter flowers in the building. If you would like to provide these, please contact Kim in the church office. The cost is \$20.00 for one flower, or \$40.00 for two. So, only one or two people will be needed to provide this.

In addition, we will be flowering the large wooden cross and placing it so it will be visible from Minnieville Road so we can share Easter joy with our neighbors. We need lots of flowers to make this happen. Here is how you can help.

On Saturday, April 3, some large buckets of water will be placed by the church door. Between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM that day we would love for you to drive by and place some store-bought or garden home-grown flowers in one of the buckets of water. **Please wear a mask and practice social distancing when dropping off flowers.**

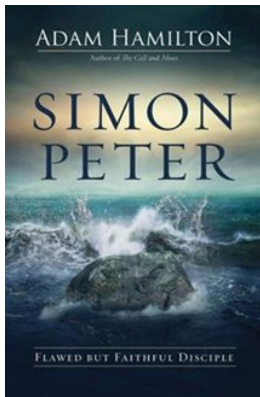
Members of the worship team will decorate the cross early on Easter morning.

The Worship team thanks you for your help!



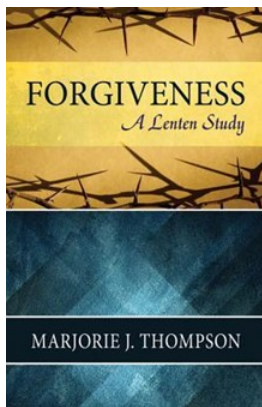
# Adult Christian Education

## Winter Adult Education Classes



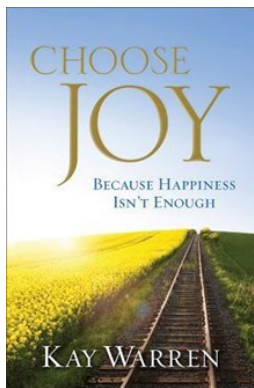
### Sunday School Class - Simon Peter

We continue to look at **Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple**. He left everything to follow his teacher and possessed a passion that would change the world. That is one way to describe Peter. Here's another: poor, uneducated, quick-tempered, and full of doubts and fears. Doesn't even sound like the same man! This is a six-week study utilizing material developed by Adam Hamilton. The class meets **on Sundays at 8:30 to 9:30 AM** via Zoom. All are invited to participate. Contact Peter Glycer, [peter.glycer@fupcdc.org](mailto:peter.glycer@fupcdc.org) for additional information.



### Forgiveness: A Lenten Study

**Beginning Sunday February 14 – March 21**, join us on Zoom at **8:30 – 9:30 AM** for **FORGIVENESS: A Lenten Study**. This is a Lenten study by Marjorie Thompson, a Presbyterian Pastor. She explores the way we practice our approach to our Christian duty. Everyone has experienced or is experiencing forgiveness in some form. Is forgiving the best path to healing for the injured? Are there emotional barriers involved with forgiveness? With lively discussion, and much scripture throughout our 6-week journey, we will create a livable and meaningful definition of forgiveness. While Forgiveness is a Christ taught virtue, we were never given instructions on application! Contact Cathy Smith at [office@fupcdc.org](mailto:office@fupcdc.org) for additional information.



### Women's Monday Bible Study also known as Bible Buddies

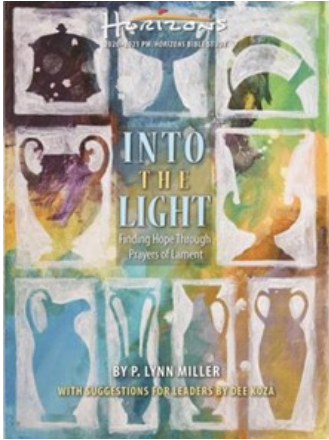
**Is a joy-filled life really possible?** Join the "Bible Buddies" **on Monday nights at 7:00 PM** on Zoom to learn about Joy in good times and the bad times. In her book, **Choose Joy: Because Happiness is Not Enough**, the author Kay Warren, teaches that true joy is deeper, richer, and more accessible than one might think. She shares the path for finding and experiencing soul-satisfying joy in the peaks and valleys of life. The book may be purchased from Amazon or Thrift Book stores online.

"Bible Buddies" is a group of FUPCDC ladies and their friends who meet from **7:00–8:30 PM every Monday** to discuss the book and share joys and concerns as they pray together and learn more about God. For more information, please contact Betty Matthews at [office@fupcdc.org](mailto:office@fupcdc.org).

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# Adult Christian Education

## Winter Adult Education Classes



### Horizons Monthly Bible Study

**"Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament"** is the title of the 2020-2021 Horizons Bible Study. The group meets on the **second Monday of the month**, September through June, at **9:30 AM**, via Zoom, for discussion and viewing of the video. The emphasis is on the hope we can find in the scriptures even as we lament our circumstances.

If you would like to join this study, please contact Sara Porter at [office@fupcdc.org](mailto:office@fupcdc.org).



### Pastor's Wednesday Evening Bible Study

Pastor Adam's Bible Study on Wednesday at 7 PM, via Zoom, is continuing the study of the Gospel of Matthew. All are welcome. This bible study will take a short break during Lent beginning February 18. It will resume on Wednesday April 14.

## Fair Share Community Speaker Series

On **February 20**, the Fair Share Speaker, Jessica Dunn will be on Zoom at **7:00 PM**.

What do isolating at home during a lengthy pandemic, heavy drinking or drug use, economic hardships, life after incarceration, and unemployment all have in common?

They can lead to situations of instability in the home and possible domestic abuse. Because of the many challenges of the past year, situations of instability in the home and serious domestic abuse cases are rising at an alarming rate in America.



**Jessica Dunn**, the co-creator and Executive Director of *Change In Action, Inc.*, is committed to addressing these problems, by teaching skills, providing education, and modeling accountability. Dunn is certified in Anger Resolution and has created various programs to handle anger and stress. Jessica Dunn has been employed in the social work and human service field for 16+ years. For the past 21 years, Dunn has been employed by the Department of Defense, working within the military healthcare system. Dunn will report on some of the current domestic problems in Prince William County, and share the programs and classes offered by *Change in Action, Inc.*, which will hopefully solve some of these situations of instability and violence.

Please do not miss this dynamic Fair Share speaker, on Zoom, **February 20 at 7:00 PM**. Open to all.

## Stewardship Committee

Each year our church pays about \$10K per capita to National Capital Presbytery (NCP) to support NCP, the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic, and the General Assembly. The exact amount is determined by the number of members on our rolls the previous year. For 2021 the per capita rate is \$42.67 per member. Over the years FUPCDC has benefitted in many ways from our connection with NCP. Some examples are receipt of grant money for our Fair Share Speaker Series, international missions, and environmentally friendly lighting, as well as providing advice on and connections to disaster relief mission trips, workshops attended by some of our Elders, and guidance through the process of bringing on an Interim Pastor and our new Pastor.

If you would like to make a special donation to help defray this cost it will allow us to build upon our ministries as we continue **Impacting Lives**. Please put “per capita” in the memo line of your check or in the notes section if you give online.

The following article contains a wealth of information on per capita. We hope you find it useful.

Reprinted with permission, *Stated Clerk What per capita pays for ,Why It Matters?* [Presbyterians Today](#) January 2, 2020



### *A vital part of the connectional church*

by J. Herbert Nelson, II | Presbyterians Today

An immigrant fellowship gathers each week to worship and praise God. But how do they connect with the larger church?

The [World Council of Churches](#) uses its network of Christian-based organizations to tackle the problems facing massive populations that are suffering from poverty and repression. How do Presbyterians become part of the solution?

A church is dealing with a problematic staff member. How does the church legally resolve the problem?

The Office of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has touched every part of the globe through its network of ecumenical partnerships and has counseled and worked with mid councils to connect pastors with churches. But these valued ministries would not be possible without per capita.

### **Understanding per capita**

**Per capita is a set amount of money — sometimes referred to as “apportionment” — per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Said another way, it is like a Presbyterian community fund — part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together. Because Presbyterians share in the benefit of the PC(USA)’s system of government, the expenses associated with performing the functions of that system are shared by everyone.**

Deeply rooted in Presbyterian history — the first-known mention of per capita dates back to 1734 in a letter to ministers — per capita makes it possible for the OGA to organize and manage General Assembly, as well as to staff and support special committees and commissions, provide legal counsel for churches dealing with staff issues and seek ways to minister to a growing immigrant population.

When Presbyterians participate in per capita, they’re saying, “I’m in. I’m a part of this denomination. We are connected to it. We intend to support it.” Where the per capita system has worked best over the years, sessions have taken seriously the unity of the church and have supported their presbyteries in working out a formula by which the per capita is distributed for support of the more inclusive governing bodies. Reflecting the unity of the church from congregation to General Assembly, per capita dollars help sustain mission at the local, regional and national level. In effect, per capita becomes the channel through which local Presbyterians can see their role in not only local mission programs but also the regional, national and worldwide mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

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### **When giving stops**

Over the last 30 years, per capita giving has been declining, and it is not just due to declining membership. In some cases, small struggling churches haven't had the money to pay and some have chosen to withhold their share as a means of expressing disagreement with the policies of the national church. And as churches have pulled away from the denomination, the financial burden on presbyteries has grown. The snowball effect continues as the ministers and staff of the Office of the General Assembly, who provide services to all levels of the church, are impacted.

Per capita giving makes the work of those like the Rev. Dr. Tim Cargal possible. Cargal is the manager of preparation for ministry and examinations. In that role, he helps prepare the next generation of pastors who will be serving Presbyterian churches. He also helps congregations explore different ways of going about ministry and thinking about the role of the pastor.

"The work that I do with regard to ordination exams is funded in part through per capita as well as examination fees," he said. "The share that is carried through per capita helps us to be sure that we can control the amount of fees that are going to have to be paid by the candidates as they take exams."

If per capita were not available, Cargal says, the denomination would have to switch to a fee-for-service basis to cover costs for some of the work.

"There are certain responsibilities that would shift entirely to the presbyteries in terms of training for members of their committees on preparation for ministry," he said. "There would be a number of resources that we have been able to provide over the years that we simply wouldn't be able to provide, either in terms of in-person or online training, as well as the print materials that help people to understand the work and responsibilities of entering into ministry."

### **Helping the local church**

A lifelong Presbyterian, Andrew Yeager-Buckley learned the importance of per capita as a child attending confirmation classes. As an assistant with [OGA's Churchwide Ministries](#), he helps coordinate churchwide meetings, as well as other ministries and special committees.

"Per capita is our main source of funding that we then turn around to make investments back to the local church," he said. "It is critical to everything that we do. If per capita dollars were to go away and there were no Plan B, there are a lot of support services and resources that would have to stop, and local presbyteries would have to take them on or stop altogether. If we stop doing our job or if the trust of giving that money stops and the cycle breaks, I don't know what would happen, but a lot would change for mid councils and local congregations."

### **Preserving sacred stories**

The [Presbyterian Historical Society](#), based in Philadelphia, collects, preserves and shares records of the denomination and ecumenical bodies, along with personal papers, that are significant to Presbyterians nationwide. Per capita provides part of its funding.

"Scholars, genealogists, film crews and media crews from as far away as Japan have accessed these records for various projects," said Nancy Taylor, acting executive director. "We want to make sure that the things we are collecting and preserving are available to people who are interested in history, religion and education. It's important for us to be an open public institution so that the items in our collection are actually used and not simply stored away."

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### **Building connections**

As immigrant fellowships have emerged, the OGA's immigration advocates have provided legal and pastoral counsel. Per capita money helps them in this work.

"You have access to people who give you this national perspective on what's happening, not only in Washington but on the border," said attorney Teresa Waggener in the [Office of Immigration Issues](#). "Per capita frees us up to then be able to connect people within the church. Without per capita, we would be spending a bulk of our time raising funds instead of providing direct ministry support."

The [Presbytery of Southern New England](#) is focused on immigration ministry and is always seeking new ways to resource an immigrant fellowship in Cape Cod. In addition, three chaplains within the presbytery work with an Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention center. Amanda Craft, manager of immigration advocacy with OGA, recently visited the presbytery to share models of how other presbyteries work with similar fellowships around the country.

Such efforts are especially pertinent to the Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampo, general presbyter. "I'm very passionate about the immigration ministry at OGA. My husband is an immigrant, and we've been through the process ourselves. And I know how valuable the time is for immigration attorneys and staff and how special that work is," she said. "It can be life-changing and life-saving."

Per capita has also allowed the OGA to maintain relationships with ministry partners around the world and to build connections with the PC(USA)'s Korean siblings in ministry.

"When Korean American pastors of other denominations are transferring their membership to our church, they're often faced with a language and cultural barrier," said Luke Choi, manager of [OGA's Korean-speaking councils support](#). "I am often used as a translator and do a lot of polity training for individual Korean congregations."

Vance-Ocampo has seen the benefit of national support through other ministries such as the presbytery's two Korean congregations, training and Church Leadership Conference.

"Per capita comes back to us and we can't function without it. People here didn't realize how complex the work of the larger church is and what goes on," she said. "We also understand that OGA can't always control the budget. There are mandates from the General Assembly and committee assignments, forcing staff to get creative with the budget while still trying to do all of the work."

Vance-Ocampo says people connect quickly when she talks specifically about OGA's work.

"There are things that we can't do and aren't staffed to do on our own, and we need that larger group of specialists to help us," she said. "Churches here understand that it would not be logical to do some of the work that the larger church is already doing."

In the past, OGA has been reluctant to increase per capita apportionment rates to keep up with the annual increase of costs and the demand for increased services. From 2012 to 2020, the per capita rate increased an average of about 4% per year, but actual per capita income has decreased due to a loss of membership and/or churches not paying. The difference between per capita income and the expense budget has been covered by the use of reserve funds. But by the end of 2020, all available reserves will have been exhausted to supplement previous OGA budgets.

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“We spend a good bit of time resourcing congregations directly, not just presbyteries and synods,” said the Rev. Jihyun Oh, OGA’s director of Mid Council Ministries. “While membership in the denomination has been decreasing, the amount of support which OGA provides directly has increased — in part due to the shrinking of mid councils’ capacity to resource congregations.”

The Rev. Dr. Amaury Tañón-Santos serves the [Synod of the Northeast](#) as synod networker. To him, a loss of per capita would limit the synod’s ability to bring people together.

“The burden would be that we would have to figure out the way to live into that which we understand ourselves to be as a regional community,” he said. “Having per capita frees us from having to figure it out and just go out and do it and gather people, listen and make those connections, for people to be encouraged and supported.”

Molly Casteel, OGA’s manager of [equity and representation](#), says per capita is one of the ways in which we can reach beyond where any community might be able to see.

“If we’re serving an institution to help the church do its work and everything is the Lord’s, then money, too, is part of that world,” Casteel said. “Sharing our financial resources with one another is one of the ways that we demonstrate God’s love and trust and connection.”

Laurie Griffith, OGA’s associate director of [constitutional interpretation](#), agrees.

“I could not do the work that I’m doing — and I don’t think some of the presbyteries and synods could do some of the work they are doing — without the per capita assessment,” she said. “We live out our faith within the congregation, and per capita is an assessment of all of those who come together to nurture our sister communities and congregations.”

*The Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, is the Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).*



# Congregational Connections

## CARE-A-VAN 4 JOY

Congregational Connection's CARE-A-VAN 4 JOY had our first outing on Saturday, January 23. We are all missing interaction with our FUPCDC family! This opportunity focuses on visiting church members who have been somewhat isolated during this pandemic. The ministry gives us a chance to have a short chat from a safe distance. We drove to homes with our family pods, socially distanced and of course wore our masks. Thank you to Abby Willever who made our signs and to Jeanette Gregory whose idea made this possible. We will be visiting more homes soon!



Jean Peterman



Jeannine and Sandy Menzie



Norman and Dolly Cox



Barbara Wilson, Jeanette Gregory, Sandy Chamberlin, Doug and Ann Randles, Bruce Gilbert



Lee and Giselle Watenpaugh, Ann Randles

## Mission and Outreach

We now worship from our homes in front of a computer screen and we may participate in an online bible study. We reach out to check on and offer support to each other through phone calls, emails, text messages, and old-fashioned notes or cards sent by snail mail. But you might be asking “*What is our church doing to respond to the COVID-19 crisis in the community?*” The Mission & Outreach Committee continues to search for opportunities where we can make an impact on the lives of those affected by the pandemic. We continue to support the following organizations in 2021.

The Greater Prince William Community Health Center, with locations in Lake Ridge, Manassas, and Dumfries, provides affordable access to high quality medical, pediatric, dental, behavioral health, and OB/GYN care. A donation of \$500 a month (January through March) will be made to support their work. Also, a donation of \$3,500 was made to support COVID relief activities such as testing and vaccines.

ACTS has experienced an increase in the need for their services in many areas from domestic violence to hunger to mental wellness. At the same time, they lost many volunteers who, as seniors, are at greater risk. Additionally, many practices and procedures were quickly changed to ensure the safety of their clients, staff, and volunteers. Food donations are currently lacking because many of those came through donations collected at local churches. A donation of \$500 a month (January through March) will be made to assist with their programs.

We are so very grateful for what each of you are doing to respond to this crisis.



***Those who live to bless others will have blessings heaped upon them, and the one who pours out his life to pour out blessings will be saturated with favor. - Proverbs 11:25 TPT***

# Mission and Outreach



13190 Centerpointe Way, Suite 102  
Woodbridge, VA 22193  
Office No. (703) 730-1078  
Fax No. (703) 763-3895  
[www.goodshepherdhousing.org](http://www.goodshepherdhousing.org)

January 5, 2021

First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City  
14391 Minnieville Rd.  
Woodbridge, VA 22193

Dear First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City,

Recently, we received a letter from a family that had improved their work and credit situations by participating in our Housing Partnership Program for 2 years. They were a family of four. Both parents, worked steadily, but their combined incomes were not enough to enable them to afford to keep a permanent home.

However, as they told us in the letter: "Our lives were so stressful and unstable. Every day we strove to keep our kids healthy and happy. Blessing us with secure housing has been the biggest help to us and we are forever grateful for all you do".

They have been able to move into our new Bridge Home Program. The rent is still set at 30% of income, but because of improved incomes it covers more toward the true cost of providing a home. This then enables Good Shepherd to envision adding another Bridge House soon. So, by helping one family it has fostered a chain of support to help another.

Our 31-year history of providing housing for singles and family member with mental health disabilities is also another example of our mission to provide permanency to the most vulnerable and often ignored in our communities.

Your support to Good Shepherd's programs encourages us to continue to build from one success to another. Without you the kind of long- term commitment it takes to help families and individuals build back their lives would be impossible.

We recognize that your generosity is what enables to us to say YES to people in need. Thank you for all the lives you have touched.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles Moler".

Charles Moler  
President

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## Official Donation Receipt

We are a non-profit 501 ©3. Member of United Way 8479. All Donations are tax deductible.

Date: 1/1/2020

For: Good Shepherd Housing Foundation

Donor Name: First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City  
14391 Minnieville Rd.  
Woodbridge, VA 22193

Gift Date YTD 2020  
Amount: \$1500.00  
Payment by:

## Mission and Outreach



### GPW Health Center

*Dedicated to Your Health!*

4379 Ridgewood Center Dr., Suite 102, Woodbridge, VA 22192  
9705 Liberia Ave., Suite 201, Manassas, VA 20110  
17739 Main St., Suite 130, Dumfries, VA 22026  
Phone 703.680.7950 Fax 703.680.7953 [www.GPWHealthCenter.org](http://www.GPWHealthCenter.org)

December 21, 2020

First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City  
14391 Minnieville Road  
Woodbridge, VA 22193

Words cannot express how much the generous support of GPW Health Center by First United Presbyterian has meant to us.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been immensely stressful for our staff, as well as for the patients we serve. The increased financial burden of providing sufficient personal protection equipment to keep our staff safe while helping patients potentially exposed to COVID has been yet another hurdle for us to overcome. Over the last eight months, we have provided 1,081 COVID tests with 240 testing positive, representing 22.20% positivity rate overall.

It is with financial support of First United Presbyterian and likeminded goodhearted organizations that helps us meet the new need and reminds each of us that there still are truly wonderful people willing to step up and help.

Thank you for the \$19,500 First United Presbyterian has donated since the pandemic began. The funds do help us be available to help the patients we serve.

God bless you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Meye". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mark Meye, CEO

## Mission and Outreach



Presbyterian Mission  
Presbyterian  
Disaster Assistance

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

December 2020

First United Presbyterian Church Of Dale City  
14391 Minnieville Rd.  
Woodbridge, VA 22193

Dear Friends,

In this season of the year's ending, we begin with thanksgiving and end with a heartfelt "Gloria" as the Christ is born among us, once again; affirmations I share as I write this note of thanks for your generous gift to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, a gift that makes the glory of God shine a bit more brightly in the midst of the darkness of this world's bad news. This year, the Advent season dawned on a world still immersed in the grinding reality of the COVID-19 pandemic; reeling from the aftermath of the worst hurricane season on record and catastrophic fires throughout the U.S. West; people from Africa and Asia through the Americas facing growing food insecurity made worse by the pandemic, and a still rising tide of refugees fleeing violence or disaster, and hoping for respite and welcome. During this hard but still holy season when we celebrate Emmanuel, the reality of God-with-us; we are grateful to you, whose extraordinary generosity is a gift not only to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, but to hundreds of communities and thousands of people who, in the midst of catastrophe, need to see a glimpse of the Holy and feel the touch of Love.

We are people of faith, not of fear. And in this Christmas season and all seasons, it is not fear that motivates us: but rather, the story of how God, once long ago, visited us; choosing to cloak God's infinite power in weakness and vulnerability; placing holiness in human form, coming among us as the least of the least. In this story, we who seek the Child do not turn away, we make room at the Inn, we listen to the angels' words: *do not be afraid*.

Your gift of \$890 on 11/17/2020 for DR000148 Disaster Relief--General Relief & PDA Support extends welcome to those who have been crushed by disaster or the ravages of violence. Your generosity offers balm to those who weep as their lives are upended by catastrophe. Your attention to the forgotten ones makes room at the inn for those who have lost shelter or fled in fear of their lives. Once, long ago, the angel visited ordinary people with hope and a vision of a future where God's care and compassion would bring peace to all people. We thank you for being a tangible expression of the angel's blessing, laying your treasure before those vulnerable ones through whose eyes the Child Christ now looks upon our hurting, yet hopeful world.

With peace,

The Rev. Dr. Laurie A Kraus

Beloved, let us

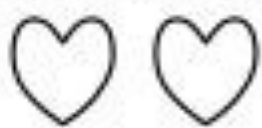
LOVE

one



another,

for



love

is from

God,

and

whoever loves

is born of God, and

knows God.

1 John 4:7

