

# First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City Chronicles January 2019



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

### **MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ADAM**

Rev. Adam C. Bowling, Pastor

Rebecca & Chris Anderson, Contemporary Worship Co-Directors Homer Detrich, Sexton Ike Evans, Jubilation Handbells Director Joann Paige, Nursery Supervisor Kim Parker, Office Manager Tiffany Ramsey, Little Hands Preschool Director Justin Streletz, Accompanist Dana Van Slyke, Choir Director

I have a sign on my office door that says, "Change is inevitable, except from vending machines."

I really like that anonymous quote, because it helps me remember that we need not fear change. God is always at work in us and in the church, to continue to help us grow in our faith and in our service.

There is another anonymous quote that says, "The seven last words of a dying church are...'We have always done it that way.'" With that in mind, I wanted to explain a few minor changes coming to the order of worship in the New Year.

Change is inevitable, except from vending machines.

Theologically, the Presbyterian Church (USA) is a **Word-Centered** worshiping community. The climax, or pinnacle, of our worship service is the reading of scripture and the proclamation of God's Word. In other traditions, like the Episcopal church or Catholic church, they are table-centered worshiping communities; celebrating the Lord's Supper each Sunday. Since we are a **Word-Centered** worshiping community, our <u>Book of Common Worship</u> places the reading of scripture and the sermon at the center of the order of worship.

In fact, the Presbyterian <u>Book of Common Worship</u> outlines four parts of a Lord's Day worship service: gathering to hear God's Word, God's Word read and proclaimed, responding to God's Word, and sending. The Worship committee and Session of FUPCDC has decided to put our worship services in line with what is suggested in our PC(USA) <u>Book of Common Worship</u> starting in 2019. All of the parts of worship that you are familiar with will be there, they will just be in a slightly different order. For example, the offering is seen as a response to God's Word read and proclaimed and is typically found after the scripture and sermon.

I know that change can be difficult for some, but I hope that you will embrace this new order of worship with the knowledge that it comes from our theology. In fact, because we are a **Word-Centered** worshiping community you may have already noticed that you can find scripture throughout our Sunday services. The call to worship, the assurance of God's grace, and the prayer of dedication are often scripture or based on scripture. Many Presbyterian churches are even built with a central pulpit, so that their church architecture reflects our theological understanding that we are a **Word-Centered** worshiping community. Don't worry, we are not moving the pulpit! Please know that my door is open if you have any questions or concerns about these minor changes to the order of worship.

Finally, I wanted to thank you for your wonderful welcome and hospitality as I have begun my time as your pastor. I have enjoyed getting to know you and worshiping with you each Sunday. I have enjoyed many experiences in my first few days including, but not limited to: Spread the Bread, helping out in a Little Hands Preschool class, Bible study, Men's Breakfast, Wednesday Night Alive meals, and even Hand-Bells! Thank you for being patient with me as I learn names, and discover more about your wonderful community of faith. One more request - please remember to wear your name tags for the new guy! Thanks!

To God be the Glory, Pastor Adam

Passion for Christ—Compassion for Others
Loving God—Loving Others
Connect—Grow—Serve

# **Session Report - December 2018**

On December 18th, the Session met with the Board of Deacons for a potluck dinner and discussion of deacon activities of the past year and how the Session and the Deacons could continue to work together. Outgoing elders Becky George, Cathy Albrecht and Jeff Cobb and deacons Elizabeth Glyer, Gaylene Guest, Gretchen Snyder, Pat Sheffield, and Marianna Gooding were recognized and thanked for their service. Incoming elders Rena Thompson, Mike Gundel, Marti Hall, Jon Guest and Dave Stokes and incoming deacons Bob Thompson, Elizabeth Goolgasian, Thesese Same, Peggy Heins and Patricia Whitman were introduced. All of the incoming officers were examined by a commission of the Session on Sunday, December 16th and were voted ready to serve.

The Session continued their meeting with a report from Stewardship that 108 pledges have been received to fund a budget of \$397,000.00. The asking budget of \$427,000.00 was approved on the second reading (includes expected unpledged income). Session also approved updates to the Nominating Committee's charter, insuring that the majority of the committee are members of the congregation serving with an elder chair and a deacon representative.

Funding was approved for repairing and bringing up to code the roof's lightening protection system and for needed soffit facia and gutter guard work. The church's electrical system has been inspected and the report is pending. Upgrades will be made as needed. Handrails will be installed in the chancel area of the sanctuary for safety.

Jeff Cobb and Tim Camus reported on the plans for the Yucatan Mission trip which will be from January 26 - February 2, 2019 with ten people participating. They will be visiting the three villages where our people have worked previously, conducting Bible School and Bible studies as well as helping to build a concrete base for a new church.

Fifty children were provided 2 gifts each through the Un-trim-A-Tree program. We also received a Thank you letter from the office of Sheriff Glendell Hill thanking FUPCDC for supporting the Project Lifesaver Program.

Submitted by Sara Porter, Clerk of Session

# Stewardship

As we welcome 2019, the Stewardship Committee would like to take this opportunity to send a Joyful message to the FUPCDC Congregation. To date, this year's stewardship campaign has been a great success thanks to all who made a commitment to the continuation of God's work in our church, our community, our country and across the world. Your commitment will ensure that the Joy will continue into the new year. The good news is, that for those who may not have yet pledged, there is still an opportunity to do so. Pledge cards can be found in the Friendship registers or in the information rack in the Narthex Welcome Center. Any pledge amount supports the many and varied ministry opportunities and activities of our church and provides for the Joy you and others can experience. Members are reminded that your per capita contribution permits additional flexibility for the use of pledged funds. You can expect more news about per-capita giving in the new year. Remember, stewardship is a year round activity; each and every contribution of time, talent and treasure, small or large, not only make a difference to our church, our community and our world, but also let each of us continue to experience the joy that comes with Connecting, Growing and Serving.

We have a talented, giving and joy-filled congregation and again, we thank you for your generous giving of time, talents and treasure in support of FUPCDC. Blessings & Joy for 2019.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."
-1 Peter 4:10



# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

9311 Lee Avenue

Manassas, Virginia 20110

(703) 792-6070 FAX (703) 792-7485

Glendell Hill Sheriff

December 11, 2018

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

Glandell Rice

The Prince William County Sheriff's Office would like to express our sincere appreciation for the First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City's contribution to the Project Lifesaver Program. Your contribution will be used to purchase new equipment so that we may add additional clients to the program. Your generosity will surely be a great help for individuals suffering from Autism, Alzheimer's disease, Dementia and other related disorders. Thank you for assisting us in allowing this program to grow within our community.

Sincerely,

Glendell Hill,

Sheriff

# **Deacons Report - December 2018**

Pie Sunday was hosted by the Deacons on Dec. 2nd in honor of Pastor Adam's first official day on the pulpit.

Two Deacons, Betty and Kathy, provided a meal to the Beverly Warren Shelter on Dec. 12th. There were 20 people in the shelter with 2 being heavy eaters – their words not ours. Also provided: case of water, case of flavoured sparkling waters, butter and bread.

Deacons hosted a pancake breakfast on Dec. 16th prior to the Cantata Service. Members provided some meat sides, baked goods, and casseroles.

Un-Trim-A-Tree gifts were transported to Prince William County on Monday, Dec, 17th. Thank you, Verna Swift, for organizing the church effort. Thanks to Karen Attreed, Tim and Judy Camus, and Lee Watenpaugh for transporting the gifts. We made Christmas possible for 50 students that attend Fitzgerald Elementary School. There were a few gifts by the tree on December 21st that were transported to the Beverly Warren Shelter.

The Deacons wish a very fond farewell to Gaylene Guest, Elizabeth Glyer, Gail Cobb, Marianna Gooding, and Gretchen Snyder; and welcome our incoming Deacons Bob Thompson, Elizabeth Goolgasian, Therese Same, Peggy Heins, and Patricia Whitman.

Our first 2019 Deacon meeting will be on Jan. 15th at 6:45 PM. Coming up: "Souper" Bowl Sunday on Feb. 3rd.

Submitted by Denise Parris, Co-Moderator

### **NEW MEMBERS CLASS**



### **FUPCDC - 101**



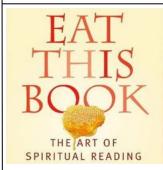
Interested in exploring your faith journey and how it relates to membership at FUPCDC? New Member classes beginning in January will assist in your quest.

Join us on Sunday mornings beginning January 13, 2019 at the 9:45 AM Christian Education hour when the New Member Class begins a 5-week journey.

Explore your faith, learn about Presbyterian history and beliefs, and understand how FUPCDC serves its congregation and community through worship, mission outreach, and church programs and activities.

Please register on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex Welcome Center. For any questions, call the Church Office at 703-670-7834 or New Member Coordinator Marti Hall at 703-626-2269.

# **Adult Ministry**



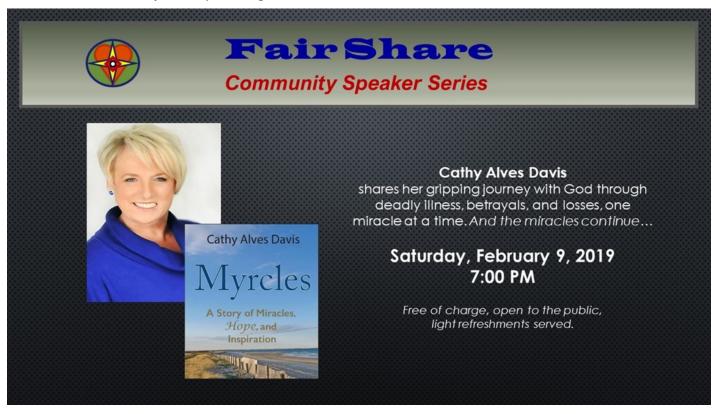
# Start the New Year Right with an Appetizing Bible Study!

On this nine-week journey beginning Sunday, January 6th, God's Word will come to life as you learn to read and experience the Bible spiritually, like your life depends on it!

Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:45 AM in Room 22 as we consider the views expressed in **Eat This Book: The Art of Spiritual Reading** by theologian and former

PCUSA Pastor, Eugene Peterson, who believes that the **way** we read the Bible is just as important as the **act** of reading it because Spirit-sourced writing requires a distinctively spiritual kind of reading. You will learn and experience "spiritual reading that enters our souls as food enters our stomachs and becomes holiness and love and wisdom". While we're at it we'll enjoy tasty food at each class and plan some offsite meals together. What a great way to start the New Year!

Join us on Saturday, February 9th, at 7:00 PM, for FUPCDC's next Fair Share Speaker Series event as local resident and author, Cathy Alves Davis, shares how she trusted God through the raging storms of her life, and overcame them one miracle at a time. Her book, Myrcles: A Story of Miracles, Hope, and Inspiration, describes how God led her victoriously through a deadly diagnosis as an overworked professional, spouse, parent, and devoted friend with betrayals, losses, and heartbreaks at every turn. Come share in her joy and hear how the miracles just keep coming!



# **Children's Ministry**

We are in the process of reviewing and updating policies pertaining to Children's Ministry. One area that needs to be addressed is children being left unattended or dropped off with no parents and/or guardians on church property. This new policy will be in effect as of January 1st, and pertains to all church sponsored events that include children (Sunday School, Nursery, Kidz Church, Wednesday Night Alive, etc.)

New Policy: "Parents and guardians may only utilize the Nursery and Children's Ministry programs of FUPCDC while they are participating in a church sponsored program, activity, or worship. It is important for teachers and church staff to know where parents and guardians are at all times while their children are in the church's care."

In other words, parents and/or guardians MUST remain on church property when their children are participating in church sponsored events. If for some reason you need to leave church property, you must pick up your children before leaving.

9:45 AM—Open to children Kindergarten through Fifth Grade.

**11:00** AM—We were busy celebrating Advent in all ways during December. During January, we will grow up with Jesus and follow him as he prepares to start his ministry. We will be focusing on God's mission for Him.

We understand if you need to pick up children before Kidz Church ends. Please let Ms. Becky know when you need to do this and she will make sure the teacher is aware. You can let her know at check-in.

All children should be picked up no later than 12:15 PM.



### **Nursery hours:**

### 8:15 AM-12:15 PM

Joann Paige, Nursery Supervisor, offers a warm and caring environment for the children. For the safety of your children, please do not leave them unattended. All children must be accompanied by a parent until a Nursery staff/volunteer arrives. Children are not to be left alone.

We strive very hard to accommodate our parents and their children's needs. Please provide a note to Ms. Joann, Nursery Supervisor, informing her of any allergies that your children have.

Due to food allergies, we do not provide snacks for the children. There is an allergy to milk. We ask that no milk, nor products made by milk, or with milk as an ingredient, be brought into the Nursery. Thank you for your understanding.

Submitted by Elder Becky GeorgeElder

# **Children's Christmas Mission Project**



Thank you to everyone who participated with our mission project!

We appreciate and thank you!

# **Wednesday Night Alive - January**

2nd - NO WNA

9th - Potluck "A Healty Start" (Healthier Foods)

16th - Lima Bean Soup with Ham

23rd - Pea Soup

30th - TBD



# **Mission and Outreach**

The Mission and Outreach Committee would like to thank you for your donations of blankets and sleeping bags on Christmas Eve. The donations will be distributed to the homeless over the next few weeks.

# **Little Hands Preschool**





Thank you Little Hands Preschool, FUPCDC and community members for your charitable donations. We collected 67 pairs of pajamas! The Pajama Program along with Scholastic Books Clubs will donate the pajamas and 67 books to other organizations that support at risk youth throughout Prince William County.

# **Little Hands Preschool**



Little Hands Preschool, FUPCDC and community members I appreciate the charity, compassion, and care displayed this Christmas holiday season. Collectively we raised: 1 box of fruit snacks, 1 bag of 2 cans of peanut butter, 2 jars of jam, , 4 boxes of stuffing, 4 jars of baby food, 6 bags of beans, 6 bags of nuts, 8 bags of mashed potatoes, 9 bags of rice 10 pasta related items, 79 canned goods, 7 bags beans and 17 breakfast items. This will continue to help A.C.T.S. in Dumfries provide food to those who need it.

# Thank you again! Tiffany Ramsey



Little Hands Preschool extends a very special thank you to both Peter Glyer and Robert Porter for being the sound technicians for our Parade of the Magi performances on December 19th and 20th.

Thank you so much for your time and expertise, Tiffany Ramsey Little Hands Preschool Director



# **Little Hands Preschool**





## Little Hands Preschool

A ministry of outreach of the First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City 14391 Minnieville Road Woodbridge, VA 22193

It's that time again. Registration for the 2019 – 2020 school is here!

We offer engaging, compassionate, interactive experiences for preschool children. We have availability in the following programs. All programs are offered from: 9:15 AM – 12:15 PM.

- Early three year old classroom sessions meeting on Tuesday and Thursday.
  - \* To be eligible for the early three's class, your child must be three between October 1, 2019 March 31, 2020.\*
- Three year old classroom sessions meeting on Tuesday and Thursday
- Three year old classroom session meeting on Monday, Wednesday and Friday
- Pre Kindergarten Four year old session meeting on Monday Thursday
- Pre Kindergarten Four year old session meeting on Monday Friday
- Pre Kindergarten Five year old session meeting on Monday Friday

Register now as enrollment is based on availability.

For more program information, registration requirements, registration packets, or to schedule a school visit please visit our website: <a href="https://fupcdc.org/little-hands-preschool">https://fupcdc.org/little-hands-preschool</a> . Or contact Tiffany Ramsey at: 703.878.2366.

### Souper Bowl of Caring 2019!

New this year - a challenge has been issued! The 8:30 AM worship service will compete against the 11:00 AM worship service in the 2019 "Souper" Bowl of Caring to see which service can collect the most non-perishable food for the ACTS food bank.

The teams have been formed and have been working hard all season for this ultimate match-up. Each pound of food collected will count as one point for each team. Team Captain and quarterback for the 8:30 team, Rodney Willis, has been recently spotted at Wegmans doing arm curls with bags of flour in the aisles. A representative for the team is quoted as saying, "Rodney and team 8:30 are ready to take on team 11:00...they have a game plan, a strong offense, and plan to win the coveted "Souper" Bowl of Caring trophy on Feb. 3, 2019." Team Captain Rodney was unavailable for comment.



Team Captain and quarterback for team 11:00, Ross Schwalm, has been spotted in the parking lot of Food Lion, which he affectionately calls "Food Cat," running laps while listening to his contemporary Christian playlist on his cell phone. He is quoted as saying, "God wants us to win the "Souper" Bowl of Caring trophy, so we can fight hunger in Prince William County...and so we can show the 8:30 team who has the best game. Go team 11:00!" Then he grabbed a runaway cart in the parking lot and dashed inside the grocery store to get back to his training routine. Collection bins for all non-perishable food will be placed in the Narthex Welcome Center beginning Sunday, January 20, 2019. Please place your donated food in the bin labeled with the worship service you want to support for the win. The collection will end at 12:30 PM on Sunday, February 3rd - "Souper" Bowl Sunday! Also, remember the rule change this year-*ALL* non-perishable food will be accepted for points, not just soup. No matter who wins, the real winners will be the hungry and homeless of Prince William County. **#FightHunger #FUPCDC #SouperBowl** 

