



**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF HOWARD COUNTY
2010-2011**

The Christian Education program at First Presbyterian provides diverse opportunities for spiritual growth and nourishment for all ages and for all stages of Christian faith. Wherever you or your family might be in your faith journey — there is a place for you! Here's a summary of the programs and classes:

INFANT AND NURSERY CARE

The Nursery provides a comfortable, caring and safe welcome for the youngest members of the church's families and friends. Care for infants and toddlers from birth through age two is available during all worship services as well as for many church events.

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES
ON SUNDAY MORNING**

Godly Play is a worship and spiritual experience for children ages four through first grade. Children begin worship with their families. After the "Children's Prayer" with the pastor, they go to the Godly Play room for a special worship experience just for them. Godly Play is led by a trained teacher, during the 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship services.

Worship Bridge is a worship and spiritual experience for children second through fifth grade. Children begin worship with their families at the 11:00 am service. After the "Children's Prayer", they go to Worship Bridge Sanctuary to continue worshipping for age appropriate lessons and learning following the same scriptures. They return to the Sanctuary during the Doxology.

Sunday School in "The Ark"

for children two years old through first grade is held at 9:30 a.m. The halls of the Ark on the first level are filled with Alligators, Tigers, Monkeys, Doves and Kangaroos every Sunday!



L.I.F.E.

(Learning In Faithful Exploration) is rotation model Sunday school for children in the second through fifth grades. Children study and experience a single Bible lesson over a four-week period — using puppets and costumes

in the *drama room*, investigating the story in the *computer lab*, creating a craft in the *arts room*, and watching a movie in the *movie room* while enjoying popcorn. Children thrive using different learning modes and return excitedly each week to learn more! L.I.F.E. takes place at 9:30 a.m.

During Advent the children rehearse a special Christmas Pageant and present it on Sunday, December 19, 2010.

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Through FPCHC's Student Ministry, mid-highs (grades 6-8) and senior-highs (grades 9-12) experience their passion for God in a changing, challenging world. With adult mentors and teachers who are devoted to their growth in spirit, mind, heart and soul, youth find a voice in a community of love and care. Youth encourage, challenge and support one another.

Sunday mornings include a combined mid/senior (grades 6-12) study class at 9:30 a.m. and grade-separated classes (6-8 and 9-12) at 11:00 a.m.

At 10:33 a.m. ALL youth stream into Branch Hall (the Student Ministry Center) between services for **Sunday Morning Live!** — donuts, fellowship, singing, skits and reflection.

Evening fellowship groups generally meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. Mid-Highs (grades 6-8) meet from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Senior Highs meet from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

There is a full schedule of mission trips, weekend retreats, bible study, life study, discussion, and fun throughout the year. Friends are always welcome.

The youth raise significant funds each year for mission and activities through the “*First Presbyterian Pumpkin Patch*” October 9-31, 2010, and through the *Dessert Auction* on February 27, 2011.

Confirmation Class is available for all eighth graders and older students who have not been confirmed. This 18 session program meets Wednesday evenings in the fall and spring, beginning October 1st ending with a meeting with the Session on March 23, 2011. The class meets with experienced teachers and the co-pastors to study the Bible and history of the church, to experience mission service, and to learn how to experience God in a changing world. At the conclusion of the class, students who so choose will meet with the church’s Session. They will make a public profession of faith on Confirmation Sunday, March 27, 2011, to become active members of the church. Contact the church office to enroll or to learn more!

MEDIA CENTER

The Media Center, (in the John Knox Room) has many materials of interest for all age groups of our congregation. It’s a relaxing place to read, visit and to check out a book, video or other media.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL July 25th -29th 2011



Each summer First Presbyterian hosts an exciting Vacation Bible School program for children aged three through fifth grade. Over 50 adults, youth volunteers and nearly 200 children from our church and the local community gather together to enjoy a week of Bible based crafts, music, snacks, stories, and fun.

ADULT EDUCATION

There are many opportunities to learn and to explore the life of the Spirit.

Sunday Mornings

- *The Bible in Depth 9:30am*—study and lively discussion of the Gospels.
- *Kaleidoscope Bible Study 11:00am*—a way to read and share scripture together, centered on lectionary texts.
- *First Forum & Thoughtful Christians*—classes offered in short, topical series at both 9:30 and 11am.

At other times

- *Spiritual Classics Book Club*—monthly discussions of books that shape and inform our spiritual lives.
- *The Big (Presbyterian) Read*—During the Summer, everyone reads the same book, and gathers for informal conversations.
- *Quiet Days*—three times a year, time for midweek worship, prayer and time to walk the labyrinth in the sanctuary.

8:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Nursery Birth – 3 yrs.	Nursery Birth – 2 yrs.	Nursery Birth – 3 yrs.
Godly Play 4yrs – 1 st grade	Sunday School 2 yrs. – 1 st grade	Godly Play 4yrs – 1 st grade
	L.I.F.E. 2 nd – 5 th grade	Worship Bridge 2 nd – 5 th grade
	Student Ministry 6 th – 12 th grade	Student Ministry 6 th – 12 th grade
	Adults “The Bible in Depth”	Adults “First Forum” or “Thoughtful Christians”
	Adults “First Forum” or “Thoughtful Christians”	Adults “Kaledioscope”

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