



First Day !

Weekly News and Opportunities at
The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County
November 16, 2014

TODAY

Please join downstairs in Lyle Buck Hall for coffee fellowship following the 8:00 a.m. service (from 9:00 – 9:30 a.m.) and following the Contemporary Service (from 10:30 – 11:00 a.m.) If you can help with this ministry please contact discipleship@firstpreshc.org



LITURGISTS: Margot (8:00); Linda (11:00)

USHERS & GREETERS: Debbie (8:00); Brett, Debbie (9:30); Craig, Chrissy (11:00); Jonathan (Tech Crew)

AT THE WELCOME DESK FOLLOWING WORSHIP: Judy (8:00); Nancy (9:30); Ginny (11:00)

FLOWERS THIS WEEK are given to the Glory of God by Lisa in memory of her parents, Marvis and Louise.
The flower arranger is Jan.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: All worship begins in the Sanctuary.

At 8:00 a.m.: After Welcoming One Another: Children ages 4-7 may go with Ms. Kathy Moore to *Godly Play*. Parents can pick up their children following worship in rooms 110 & 113.

At 11:00 a.m.: After the Children's Prayer and Lord's Prayer: Children ages 4-7 may go with Ms. Kathy Moore to *Godly Play*. Parents can pick up their children following worship in rooms 110 & 113.

Older children, grades 2-5, may go with Mrs. Cathy Lindenmann to The Worship Bridge. They will return to the sanctuary later in the worship service.

TODAY WE WELCOME Dr. Frances Taylor Gench, Herbert Worth and Annie H. Jackson Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. Prior to joining the faculty in 1999, she taught for 13 years at Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary (Pennsylvania). Frances is a graduate of Davidson College and Union Theological Seminary in Virginia (now Union Presbyterian Seminary; M.Div., Ph.D.). She was a member of the PCUSA General Assembly's Theological Task Force on Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church, and is the author of *Faithful Disagreement: Wrestling with Scripture in the Midst of Church Conflict* (WJKP, 2009); *Encounters with Jesus: Studies in the Gospel of John* (WJKP, 2007); *Back to the Well: Women's Encounters with Jesus in the Gospels* (WJKP, 2004); *Hebrews and James* (Westminster Bible Companion, WJKP, 1996); and two Horizons Bible Studies for Presbyterian Women. She resides in Washington, D.C. and is a parish associate at The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, where her husband, Roger J. Gench, is the pastor.

GUIDE TO PRAYER FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16

Please pray for: Jeff, Joan, Carol & Woody, Barb, Richard, Pat, Andy & Carolyn, Alice, Dorothy, Tom, Rob & Dorothy, Gertrude, Bob, Vivian & Robert, Daniel, Virginia, Ken, Kim, Bob, Cliff, Bunny, Becky, Stan, Al, Beth

Recovering from Surgery: Burta, Jean, Mil, Paul, Anna

Deaths: *May the peace of Christ be with Dave, in the death of his sister, Joyce, on October 18, 2014.*

May the peace of Christ be with Alice and Gus, in the death of her sister, Gwen, on November 9, 2014.

PCUSA Mission Coworkers: Jeff and Christi Boyd in Congo; Amanda Craft and Omar Chan in Guatemala.

Please contact the church office, 410-730-3545, or Parish Visitor Ruth Bell, 443-668-1804 with the prayers and concerns that you would like to share.



PEOPLE ON THE WAY

CS Lewis (November 29, 1898-November 22, 1963) was born and grew up in Belfast. In 1916 he went to Oxford University, but his studies were interrupted by the outbreak of the First World War. He enlisted in the British Army and was wounded in 1918. Returning to Oxford after the war, he became a Fellow and Tutor in English Literature in 1925, and taught there until 1954. He then moved to Cambridge University where he held the Medieval and Renaissance Chair of English until his death. During his teen years he had abandoned the Christianity of his upbringing, declaring himself an agnostic. After the War, at Oxford, he became friends with JRR Tolkien, whom Lewis credits with bringing him back to Christian faith. In 1931 he joined the Church of England. He went on to become one of the most influential Christian writers of the 20th century. As an author, his science fiction trilogy, *Out of the Silent Planet*, and his seven books for children under the title *The Chronicles of Narnia* are all characterized by Christian allegory and ethics. His *Mere Christianity*, based on radio talks during the Second World War, and his *The Screwtape Letters* are the most notable and popular of his direct Christian output. Many of his books, characterized by winsome writing and eminent common sense, and with not a little humor, remain on best seller lists. His autobiography *Surprised by Joy* and the notable film *Shadowlands* reveal more of this sensitive man with a love of life and the adventure of Christianity. He died in 1963.

THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE focuses the prayers of Christians week by week, so that over the year all the countries of the world are prayed for.

This week: *Republic of Congo, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe*

Pray for:

- *All leaders, to use their power justly in service to all people, and to refrain from corrupt practices;*
- *Women, who often bear the brunt of poverty and receive less education than men, and fewer opportunities;*
- *An end to desertification and deforestation, and for the sustainable and responsible use of natural resources.*

For more information about the Prayer Cycle, visit the website of the World Council of Churches: www.oikoumene.org

OUR MISSION PARTNERSHIP PRAYER CYCLE FOR 2014

We pray for the churches and pastors of Baltimore Presbytery.

CHURCHES OF THE PRESBYTERY OF BALTIMORE:

- ✦ Saint Andrew Church in Williamsport – *Mark Sandell, Pastor*
- ✦ Saint Andrew's Church in Mt. Airy – *Daniel Melton, Pastor*
- ✦ Saint John United Church in Columbia – *Mary Ka Kanahan, Pastor*

EARTH FORUM OF HOWARD COUNTY

TODAY Sunday, November 16, 2014

at 2:00 p.m.

Presents

UNFROZEN:

THE STATES OF WATER IN THE 50 STATES – 2014

Explained and illustrated by

Emily Therese Cloyd

Public Participation & Engagement Coordinator for the National Climate Assessment
Water, in its three forms, is essential to each of us. Learn how the location, availability, and safety of water has changed, and trends for the future. Emily Cloyd, *Public Participation & Engagement Coordinator for the National Climate Assessment*, explains how melting ice, floods and droughts will affect you and your family, as presented in the 2014 National Climate Assessment.

Refreshments follow, along with information tables. At 3:45 p.m. workshops will include the *Food in Film* viewing and discussion of *Poison Waters*.

See www.earthforumhc.org, contact earthforum@firstpreshc.org, see us on Facebook or call 410-730-3545. The Earth Forum is free and open to all. Join us at the Earth Forum!

EXTRA!! When you register for the Earth Forum at earthforum@firstpreshc.org, with your name, city, and congregation/organization, and attend the November 16th Earth Forum to receive a free copy of *National Climate Assessment Book*.

ADULT EDUCATION & SPIRITUAL GROWTH

ADULT CHURCH SCHOOL

Bible in Depth

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Clark Parlor

“Bible stories you didn’t learn in Sunday School.”

a Bible study, led by Carl

We are still making our way through the Old Testament. Last year we ended with King Saul, so this year we will begin with King David and then go from there

FIRST FORUM – Adult Bible Study & Discussion

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in Room258

Today November 16th

Legal Paperwork to have in place before it’s too late

with Tom and Margie Downs, Downs Law Firm

Next Sunday, November 23rd

Alaska: Wild and Melting

Alaska, rugged, beautiful Alaska is warming twice as fast as Maryland. Its glaciers are shrinking, its sea ice is vanishing, and its permafrost is melting. These photos, taken in Alaska this fall, will show what is happening. Join the discussion of “why” and how it matters to us.

with Nancy

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Water and Spirit in the Gospel of John

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor

November 19: *Water and blood. Text: John 19:28-34*

Please note: There will be no class on Wednesday, November 26

STUDENT MINISTRIES

VIRGINIA CALLEGARY, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, is on the Mid & Senior High Fall Retreat this weekend at Pine Springs Camp in Jennerstown, PA. 13 Mid-Highs & 6 Senior Highs & 7 adults are attending.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR STUDENT MINISTRY

Thursday, November 20th

Confirmation Class, 6:45-8:30 p.m. Room 258

Thursday, December 4th

Confirmation Class, 6:45-8:30 p.m. Room 258

Friday, December 5th

Mid-Highs & Parents Night Out & Lock-In & Cosmic Bowling

Mid-Highs arrive at 6:00 p.m. for PNO

Mid-High activities, 9:30 p.m. to pick-up at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday

PARENTS NIGHT OUT!

Mark your calendars for **Friday, December 5th**, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. for a night of fun and crafts for children ages 4 through 5th grade while parents have a few hours of free babysitting by Mid-Highs. Call the church office to pre-register your child so enough materials can be available. Contact: the church office

Saturday, December 6th

Senior High Day Trip to DC

Meet at church at 9:00 a.m., return at 3:00 p.m.

ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP RESPONSE PROGRAM (ARP)

SAVOR THE FRUITS OF EVERY SEASON!

IT'S NOT TOO LATE ... to have a positive impact on the Church's budget next year! If you haven't already done so, please turn in your Giving Estimate so that our Church can grow and thrive.

Submit your Estimate of Giving now so that our Church can grow and thrive. Please submit your Estimate of Giving Card by placing it in the Joash box in the sanctuary. You can also take it to the church office or mail your response. As another option, you can send an Email with your Giving Estimate to the secure Email address pledges@firstpreshc.org. This email should include your name, address, phone number, & pledge amount per week/month/quarter/or year. You will receive an automated response once you send the email to provide instant assurance that it was received by the church.

Important Date to Remember

Next Sunday, November 23rd is Thank & Tell Sunday!

Join us for lunch in Lyle Buck Hall at Noon

ARP Program status as of 11/10:

- Pledged Gifts = \$427,605 (Goal \$700,000)
- Pledges Received = 109 (Goal 220)

God is generous! Let us return a portion of what God has given us, enthusiastically, earnestly and joyfully.

Psalm 1:3 NRSV

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

2014 HOLIDAY COLLECTIONS

Thanksgiving Food Baskets

The Deacons are asking for your help to provide food baskets to Bridges to Housing Stability and other church families.

Please bring non-perishable food items, a full list is in the Welcome Center.

Collecting through **Wednesday, November 19th**

Contact: *the church office*



Christmas Stockings



Share the spirit and joy of Christmas with families in need in our community through FIRM, The Salvation Army and Head Start. The Deacons will provide Christmas Stockings or Christmas Gift Bags for children. Stockings and Gift Bags will be distributed in the Lower Commons starting **Sunday, November 23rd** and continue through Sunday, December 7th.

Stockings for the Salvation Army must be returned by December 7th; others by Sunday, December 14th

Contact: *the church office*

Please check the Welcome Desk or Tidings for more details and complete lists of needed items. Food donations can be placed in the Just-One-Can bin located in the Upper Commons. Thank you for your generosity.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ALL BULLETIN INFORMATION FOR SUNDAY, November 30, 2014 is due by noon on **Monday, November 23rd**. Caroline Smith will be on vacation Wednesday, November 26th. The Church Office will be closed on Thursday & Friday, November 27th & 27th for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Thank you!

THE NEXT LUNCH BUNCH will be at Shanty Grill, 3410 Plum Tree Drive, Ellicott City. It will be on **Tuesday, November 18th at 12:00 p.m.** instead of the usual 11:30. Please sign-up in the Lower Commons.

BLOOD PRESSURE TESTING: Stay healthy and come have your blood pressure tested next Sunday in Lyle Buck Hall from 9:15 – 11:15 a.m. If you have any questions please contact the church office.

ADVENT NEWS

ADVENT IS COMING! November 30th is the first Sunday of Advent and we will light candles on the Advent Wreath every Sunday in worship. If you and your friends or family would like to lead worship by lighting the candles, speak to Pastor Morton or call the church office or sign-up at the Welcome Desk.

POINSETTIAS: Please order a poinsettia to help beautify our sanctuary this Christmas season. Poinsettias can be taken home after the midnight Christmas Eve service. **Cost is \$11.00** and order forms are at the Welcome Desk. Deadline for orders is **Sunday, December 7th**. *Contact:* the church office

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS begin next Sunday, November 23rd at 9:30 a.m. in Lyle Buck Hall.

Weekly Calendar

Every Sunday

8:00 & 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
Infant & Toddler Care is available all morning
Godly Play (age 4 – grade 1) during 8:00 & 11:00 a.m. services
The Worship Bridge (grades 2 – 5) during 11:00 a.m. service
9:30 a.m. Church School for all ages & First Forum 📖
10:30 a.m. Backpack Project Packing

Sunday, November 16th

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
ANNUAL RESPONSE PROGRAM
STUDENT MINISTRY FALL RETREAT
THANKSGIVING BASKETS COLLECTION THROUGH NOVEMBER 19
2:00 p.m. Earth Forum

Monday, November 17th

THANKSGIVING BASKETS COLLECTION THROUGH NOVEMBER 19

Tuesday, November 18th

THANKSGIVING BASKETS COLLECTION THROUGH NOVEMBER 19
6:30 p.m. Session Meeting
7:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting
Hannah Circle

Wednesday, November 19th

BULLETIN ARTICLES DUE
THANKSGIVING BASKETS COLLECTION THROUGH NOVEMBER 19
9:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study
Mary-Martha Circle
1:00 p.m. Knitting Fellowship
Tidings Folded
2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 20th

6:15 p.m. The Spirit Project
6:45 p.m. Confirmation Class
7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir

Friday, November 21st

9:30 a.m. Deborah Circle
1:00 p.m. Bulletins Folded

Saturday, November 22nd

8:00 a.m. Walking Group at Centennial Park

Sunday, November 23rd

REIGN OF CHRIST
ANNUAL RESPONSE PROGRAM | THANK AND TELL LUNCHEON
CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS COLLECTION
12:00 p.m. ARP Thank & Tell Lunch
12:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

For more events throughout the week at First Presbyterian Church, please check the calendar on our website at www.firstpreshc.org, the current issue of Tidings, or call the church office 410-730-3545.

A Weekly Email is sent every Friday, if you would like to receive it please contact the church office.

To submit news or events for the weekly bulletin **First Day!** please email to: churchoffice@firstpreshc.org by Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

To submit articles for Tidings, our monthly newsletter, please send articles by email to: churchoffice@firstpreshc.org by **Thursday, December 11, 2014** at 9 a.m. for the January 2015 Issue #1.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR

Saturday, December 6, 2014

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 7, 2014

8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

in Lyle Buck Hall

*“Maybe Christmas,” he thought, “doesn't come from a store.
Maybe Christmas perhaps means a little bit more!” -
from **How The Grinch Stole Christmas** by Dr. Seuss*

The holidays are right around the corner, and First Pres will be holding its annual **Alternative Gift Fair** soon. An **Alternative Gift Fair** is a great opportunity to, in the wise words of the Grinch, remind ourselves and our loved ones that Christmas is not about seeing how many lavish gifts we can give; rather, it is about being the light of Christ to a hurting world. Does your mother or sister really need another red sweater? Does your best friend need another set of golf balls? Why not show them that you care by purchasing a flock of chicks from Heifer International in their honor? Or, what about purchasing a fairly traded handmade ornament from SERRV?

We're doing our best to make it easy for you! Bring your checkbook or cash with you to church on **Saturday, December 6, (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.)** and **Sunday, December 7 (8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.)** and shop at the **Alternative Gift Fair**. The Presbyterian Women will also be selling baked goods on Saturday. Be sure to invite your friends and family to join you for a fun afternoon!

The Fair will also feature a Children's Corner: your child will be escorted to a separate section of the fair where s/he can pick out and wrap gifts for loved ones without you seeing what they purchased! Simply decide ahead of time how much you want to spend for each gift (items will cost between \$1 and \$12) and then let your child do the rest!

For more information about the Fair, contact the church office, 410-730-3545.

Want to volunteer? Check out the sign-up sheet in the Welcome Center.