



FIRST DAY !

Weekly News and Opportunities at
The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County
November 26, 2017

TODAY

DISCIPLESHIP HOUR TODAY *Sunday, November 26, 2017*

ADVENT FESTIVAL at 9:30 a.m. in Lyle Buck Hall

Please Note: There will be NO Discipleship Hour/Coffee at 11:30 a. m.

Come early/stay late and enjoy the Advent Festival sponsored by Christian Ed.

NEXT WEEK'S DISCIPLESHIP HOUR: *Sunday, December 3, 2017*

Alternative Gift Fair, in Lyle Buck Hall, shop from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

LITURGIST: Carolyn (10:30)

USHERS & GREETERS: Debbie, Angela (8:30); Margot, (10:30); Laura, Tracy, Jonathan (Tech Crew)

FLOWERS THIS WEEK are given to the glory of God by Janet and Brett with thanksgiving for the gift of family and friends.

Flower arranger is Jan.

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

At 8:30 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 10:30 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 Ms. Virginia Callegary to The Worship Bridge. They will return to the sanctuary later in the worship service.

WORSHIP BAGS: Worship bags are available to enhance the worship experience for children. Please return everything to the bags and return the bags to the ushers at the end of the service.

ADVENT FESTIVAL, TODAY *Sunday, November 26, 2017*

at 9:30 a.m. in Lyle Buck Hall

All ages – 2 through Adult –

Lots of activities to prepare for Advent:

There will be something for everyone, from kids to adults!

Make advent wreaths, play games, listen to music, and more!



CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS

Today, Sunday, November 26 through Sunday, December 10

Share the spirit and joy of Christmas with families in need in our community through FIRN, The Salvation Army and Head Start. The Deacons will provide Christmas Stockings or Christmas Tote Bags for children. Stockings and Tote Bags will be distributed in the Lower Commons starting *Sunday, November 26 and continue through Sunday, December 10*. If you would like further information, please contact Margo or the church office.



GUIDE TO PRAYER FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 26, 2017

Please pray for: Jeff, Mispa, Burta, Marvin, Dave, Jerry, Jim, Paul, *Shirley*, Stan, Bette, Shirley, Al & Beth

Non-Resident Members: Frank & Betty, Marion, Joan, Vivian, Russ & Barb, Virginia

Bereaved: Blessing, David, Vivian

Hospitalized: Web (Bayview)

PCUSA Mission Coworkers: Jeff and Christi Boyd in Congo; Jed and Jenny Koball in Peru; Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) Emma Warman in the Philippines. Visit her page, *emmaYAVyear.wordpress.com*.

*Please contact the church office, 410-730-3545 or one of the Pastors:
Morton Harris, 443-824-3768 or Sue Lowcock Harris, 443-824-4305
with the prayers and concerns that you would like to share.*



PEOPLE ON THE WAY

Rosa Parks (February 4, 1913 – October 24, 2005) We remember her today, because December 1, 1955 she was arrested in Montgomery, Alabama for refusing to give up her seat to make room for a white passenger and move to the back of a city bus. At the time she was serving as the secretary of the local chapter of the NAACP, and had recently attended the Highlander Folk School. Nonetheless, she took her action as a private citizen, tired of giving in. This event sparked the 382-day Montgomery bus boycott, and the founding of the Montgomery Improvement Association, led by pastors Ralph Abernathy and the young Martin Luther King, Jr., and is heralded as the inception of the civil rights movement for racial equality in the United States.

We also remember: December 1 is World Aids Day; December 2 is United Nations International Day for the Abolition of Slavery

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 we pray for *Liberia, Sierra Leone*

Pray for:

- *The fullness of human life for all men, women and children of all tribes and ethnicities;*
- *Orphans, displaced, children, malnourished children, and children who live in fear;*
- *Functioning economies.*

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 2017

We pray for the mission of our congregation.

Boca Costa Presbytery Mission Partnership: *Belen (Bethlehem) Church in the village of La Ladrillera*

The Compassion Fund of our Board of Deacons, which support our neighbors in times of crisis through the work of area agencies such as The Salvation Army and the Community Action Council. We receive an offering for the Deacons' Compassion Fund on Communion Sundays.

ADULT EDUCATION & SPIRITUAL GROWTH

**TODAY Sunday, November 26 attend The Advent Festival
at 9:30 a.m. in Lyle Buck Hall!**

SUNDAY MORNING EDUCATION HOUR in December
9:30-10:25 a.m.

Advent Art and Inspiration

Have no time to commit to a month-long class? Need some calm and creativity during the Christmas season? This may be the class for you. Each Sunday will focus on a way to slow down and breathe by sharing in a simple artistic activity with others who want to savor the season:

December 3

Praying in Color with Angela models an active, meditative, playful prayer practice that requires no artistic skill.

December 10

Patterns and Perspectives with Clarence and Ben explores patterns in Islamic art and Christian architectural design that are used as a means of guided meditation.

December 17

Stars and Songs with Elaine Cook, Clarence and Ben offers an opportunity to make origami stars and share in singing together.

Join us for all three classes, or drop in for one or two. We hope you'll find each class peaceful and inspiring.

The Bible in Depth: Ecclesiastes
facilitated by Doyle

Continues all year—all are welcome to join in at any time—Clark Parlor

Games & Conversations - post-high-school, college, & post-college young adults
Facilitated by Brian & Ann - Room 205

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR SUE

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., every Wednesday, every week

Advent through the Lens of African-American Spirituals.

Four weeks, begins November 29.

*This is a lively group and we have great conversations. No experience necessary!
Everyone welcome!*

STUDENT MINISTRIES

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR STUDENT MINISTRY

Senior High Fellowship, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays

Wednesday, December 6 & 20, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Mid-High Fellowship, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays

Wednesday, December 13, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Confirmation Class

Thursday, November 30, 6:45-8:30 p.m.

Mid & Senior Highs Lock-In

Saturday, December 9, 6:00 p.m.



ADVANCING TO ADVENT

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS The Ark and LIFE children are preparing for our annual Christmas pageant. Rehearsals are December 3, 10 and 19 during the 9:30 education hour. Any child interested in participating should join us in the sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. December 3 for the next rehearsal. The pageant will be *Sunday, December 17* at 2:00 pm.

ADVENT CALENDARS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Alternative Gift Fair can help you get into the spirit of the season. Advent calendars filled with fairly-traded milk chocolate are now available for sale in the lower commons. Stop by the Alternative Gift Fair (AGF) table to purchase your advent calendars (\$3 each) and sign up to help with the Alternative Gift Fair *Saturday, December 2 and Sunday, December 3*. Don't forget to come to the AGF, and bring your friends, too! More details available at the table in the Lower Commons.

ADVENT FESTIVAL, TODAY *Sunday, November 26, 2017*
at 9:30 a.m. in Lyle Buck Hall

All ages – 2 through Adult - Lots of activities to prepare for Advent:
There will be something for everyone, from kids to adults! Make advent wreaths, play games, listen to music, and more!

HANGING OF THE GREENS - *Saturday, December 2 at 9:00 a.m.*
Help decorate the church for Christmas!

ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR – Come and shop for Christmas presents!
Saturday, December 2, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 3, 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

POINSETTIAS: Please order a poinsettia to help beautify our sanctuary this Christmas season. Poinsettias can be taken home after the 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. **Cost is \$11.00** and order forms are in today's bulletin and will be at the Welcome Desk. Deadline for orders is ***Sunday, December 3***.

Contact: the church office

CHRISTMAS CONCERT, *Sunday, December 10 at 5:00 p.m.*
in the church sanctuary. Reception to follow in Lyle Buck Hall.

ADVENT QUIET DAYS, *Wednesday-Friday, December 13-15, 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.*
Tuesday, December 12, 6:00 p.m. – Help Woody set-up labyrinth
Wednesday—Thursday, December 13 & 14 - 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Friday, December 15 - 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 16 – 9:00 a.m. – Help Woody set-up sanctuary

LUMINARIA MAKING at Discipleship Hour, *Sunday, December 17, 11:30 a.m.*

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT, *Sunday, December 17 at 2:00 p.m.*

THE LONGEST NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE, *Thursday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m.*

LOOKING FOR PICTURES: The scripture texts on the Fourth Sunday of Advent are the Annunciation and the Magnificat. If you have a photo of yourself when you were pregnant with one of your children, preferably in the late stages of pregnancy, that you would be willing to share for a video to be played in worship, please send them to Pastor Sue, sharris@firstpreshc.org or Caroline Smith, fpadmin@firstpreshc.org by *Sunday, December 10*.



Photographs are welcome, they will be scanned and returned to you.
If you have questions, please contact Pastor Sue, 410-7330-3545.
We hope that many of you will participate!

WORSHIP, ARTS & MUSIC

ADVENT IS COMING! ADVENT WREATH SIGN-UPS

December 3rd is the first Sunday of Advent and we will light candles on the Advent Wreath all four Sundays of Advent at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. If you and your friends or family would like to lead worship by lighting the candles, email Pastor Sue, sharris@firstpreshc.org, call the church office or sign-up at the Welcome Desk.



Sunday Evening Quiet Time, First Sunday of the Month
Next Sunday, December 3, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. – 30 minutes

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

BOOKS FOR HEAD START

Ruth Circle is collecting new and like-new books to give as Christmas gifts to the Head Start preschool program at First Presbyterian Church. Please bring them now through December 10 or you can give them to Sara at any time. Thank you!

GIFT OF THE HEART CLEAN UP BUCKETS – last chance!

The 2017-2018 Confirmation Class is collecting items for the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) program known as Gift of the Heart Cleanup Buckets, and we need your help. The PDA is very specific in the items that they need. Please see our table in Branch Hall and pick up an item list. Items will be *collected through November 28* in Branch Hall. Finished buckets will be taken to the Church World Service Center in New Windsor, MD.

GENERAL INFORMATION

THE LUNCH BUNCH is having its next gathering at *East Moon Asian Bistro* on **Tuesday, November 28th** at 11:30 a.m. It is located at 5725 Richards Valley Road, Ellicott City, which is near the intersection of Snowden River Parkway and Route 100. Retirees and empty nesters are invited to enjoy some time out with friends and help pick the next time and location! Sign up in the Lower Commons or email discipleship@firstpreshc.org. Want to carpool? Contact the church office.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Every Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Church School – The Education Hour

Ages 2 through Adult 📖

Ark is for children, Age 2 through Grade 1

L.I.F.E. is for children, Grade 2 through Grade 5

Mid High is for students, Grade 6 through Grade 8

Senior High is for students, Grade 9 through Grade 12

And a variety of changing classes for Adults

Infant & Toddler Care is available all morning

Godly Play (age 4 – grade 1) during 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. services

The Worship Bridge (grades 2 – 5) during 10:30 a.m. service

10:30 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. Discipleship Hour

Sunday, November 26th

THE REALM OF CHRIST SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Advent Festival for all ages

10:30 a.m. Worship

Monday, November 27th

7:00 p.m. Diabetes Type I Support Group

Tuesday, November 28th

12:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

6:30 p.m. Session Dinner

7:00 p.m. Session Meeting

Wednesday, November 29th

BULLETIN ARTICLES DUE

9:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study

1:00 p.m. Knitting Fellowship

6:00 p.m. Mid-High Supper

7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir

Thursday, November 30th

6:45 p.m. Confirmation Class

7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 1st

9:00 a.m. Set-up Alternative Gift Fair

9:15 a.m. Deborah Circle

11:30 a.m. Fold Tidings

1:00 p.m. Bulletins Folded

Saturday, December 2nd

FIRST PRES PRIDE DAY – WEAR YOUR T-SHIRT

9:00 a.m. Hanging of the Greens

10:00 a.m. Alternative Gift Fair (until 4:00 p.m.)

Sunday, December 3rd

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

COMMUNION | NAME TAG SUNDAY | DEACONS COMPASSION FUND OFFERING

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Church School for all ages

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. Alternative Gift Fair (until 1:00 p.m.)

10:30 a.m. Worship

5:00 p.m. Sunday Evening Quiet Time

The Church Office is open Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

For more events throughout the week at First Presbyterian Church, please check the calendar on our website at www.firstpreschc.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: fpcadmin@firstpreschc.org by Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

To submit articles for Tidings, our monthly newsletter, please send articles by email to: fpcadmin@firstpreschc.org by **Thursday, December 14, 2017** at 9:00 a.m. for the January 2018 Issue #1.