

Kerry L. Stoltzfus, *senior pastor*
O. Thomas Miles, *parish associate*
Lynette Johnson, *director of Christian education*
Cynthia Wright, *director of music and organist*

Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship 11:00 AM



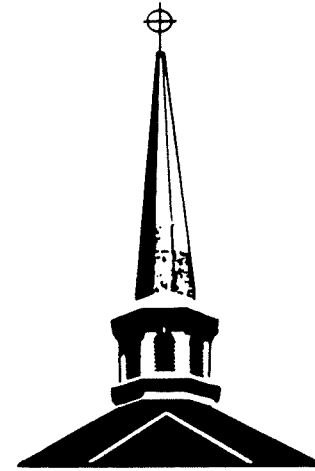
Congregational Dinner and Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 21
6:00 pm

Potluck Supper - Sign up in the narthex or call the church office

Potomac Presbyterian Church
10301 River Road
Potomac, Maryland 20854
301-299-6007

Non-profit Org.
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STEEPLE TO PEOPLE **Potomac Presbyterian Church**

January

1996

Kerry On . . .

By the time you receive this newsletter in the first week of January, we will already have failed at some of our New's Year's resolutions. Perhaps it would be better to begin the year with some New Year's "Affirmations."

God loves us with unfailing love.

Each of us is called to serve God and neighbor in the work we do.

No matter how lonely the night, or how discouraged we become, or how deep our grief, we are not alone.

When our blessings overflow, we know the One to thank.

God's gifts are meant to be shared with joyful hearts.

The family of faith is with us in our joys and sorrows.

The One whose birth we have just celebrated is the One who is the source of all hope.

How about sitting down and writing out some of your "Affirmations" for the New year?

SPECIAL GUEST TO VISIT JANUARY 7

See page 4

January

| | | | | | |
|-------|-----------------|--|----|----------|---|
| 1 | | Office closed | 17 | 9:30 AM | Bible study |
| 2 | 1:00 PM | The Lord's Table | | 7:30 PM | Wednesday evening Bible study |
| 3 | 9:30 AM | Bible study | 18 | 11:00 AM | ★ Ladies' Luncheon |
| 4 | 6:30 PM | Handbell Choir | | 6:30 PM | Handbell Choir |
| | 8:00 PM | Sanctuary Choir | | 8:00 PM | Sanctuary Choir |
| 5 | | | 19 | | |
| 6 | 8:30 AM-3:00 PM | ★ DEACONS RETREAT at Jim Underhill's home | 20 | | |
| <hr/> | | | | | |
| 7 | 9:00 AM | Children's Choir | 21 | 9:00 AM | Children's Choir |
| | 9:30 AM | ★ NEW OFFICERS breakfast | | 9:45 AM | Sunday School |
| | 9:45 AM | Sunday School | | 11:00 AM | Worship |
| | 11:00 AM | ★ Worship—Ordination and installation of officers | | Noon | Fellowship |
| | Noon | Fellowship | | 3:00 PM | Manor Care |
| | Noon | ☆ MS ICE SKATING 'til 4:30 PM | 22 | 6:00 PM | ★ ANNUAL MEETING and dinner |
| | | HOMELESS SHELTER | | 9:30 AM | Parents of preschoolers |
| 8 | 7:00 AM | The Monday Connection | 23 | 7:30 PM | Deacons |
| | 8:00 PM | Committees | | 10:00 AM | NCP Presbytery meeting at National Presbyterian Church |
| 9 | 10:00 AM | Christian Living Group | 24 | 9:30 AM | Bible study |
| 10 | 9:30 AM | Bible study | | 7:30 PM | Wednesday evening Bible study |
| | 2:45 PM | Collingswood | 25 | 6:30 PM | Handbell Choir |
| | 7:30 PM | Wednesday evening Bible study | | 8:00 PM | Sanctuary Choir |
| 11 | 6:30 PM | Handbell Choir | 26 | | |
| | 8:00 PM | Sanctuary Choir | 27 | | |
| 12 | | | | | |
| 13 | | | 28 | 9:00 AM | Children's Choir |
| <hr/> | | | | | |
| 14 | 9:00 AM | Children's Choir | | 9:45 AM | Sunday School |
| | 9:45 AM | Sunday School | | 11:00 AM | Worship |
| | 11:00 AM | Worship | | Noon | Fellowship |
| | Noon | Fellowship | | 6:30 PM | Middle Schoolers |
| | | <i>Steeple to People</i> deadline | 29 | 7:30 AM | ☆ MS SKI TRIP, return 9:00 PM |
| 15 | 8:00 PM | Session | 30 | | |
| 16 | | | 31 | 9:30 AM | Bible study |
| | | | | 7:30 PM | Wednesday evening Bible study |

In Our Family

We keep in our prayers . . .

Joy Schwan Best, recovering from surgery.

We delight in the engagement of . . .

Emily Stoltzfus, daughter of Ruthanne and Kerry Stoltzfus, to Mark Shook of Mansfield, Ohio. A July wedding is planned.

We rejoice in the births of . . .

Wesley James Skinner, son of Karen and Jeff Skinner and grandson of Elaine and Bill Skinner, born November 11;

Shannon Marie Baarman, daughter of Danielle and Doug Baarman, born December 12.

We celebrate with joy the baptisms of . . .

Madeline Emily Teel, daughter of Elizabeth and Matthew Teel and granddaughter of Jeanne and Jack Aeby, October 22;

Lucy Miller, daughter of Judi and Joel Miller and granddaughter of Nancy and Charles Miller, December 10;

Lauren Hull Stafford, daughter of Caroline and Brian Stafford, granddaughter of Janet and Ed Clark, and great granddaughter of Jeannette and Fred Clark, December 24.

We give thanks for the lives of . . .

Ernest Kiss, brother of Violet Hermann and uncle of Judy Bernstein;
Pista Hermann, brother of Frank Hermann, and uncle of Judy Bernstein.
Both Ernest Kiss and Pista Hermann died in Hungary in December.

Joy Wood, charter member of PPC, who died in Massachusetts in December.

We commend them to the loving care of our Lord.

For Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

Our prayers are with Violet and Frank Hermann, Judy Bernstein, and the family of Joy Wood.

January

Adult Christian Education

SUNDAY MORNINGS

There are some exciting programs lined up for 1996. We have some outstanding presenters who are new to adult seminar, plus staff and some of our own church members who have their own special expertise. Make a New Year's resolution to attend EVERY Sunday, or you'll be missing out. All speakers will relate to our year long theme, "To Be God's People."

- 7 Jay Mashburn, missionary supported by PPC: Upcoming mission venture in Nepal (See page 4 for more information about this special program.)
- 14 Kerry Stoltzfus, pastor, PPC
- 21 Kerry Stoltzfus
- 28 Lynette Johnson, director of Christian education at PPC: "Called to Be God's People: The Call of Jeremiah"
- Feb**
- 1 Lynette Johnson: "Called to Be God's People: The Call of Peter"

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

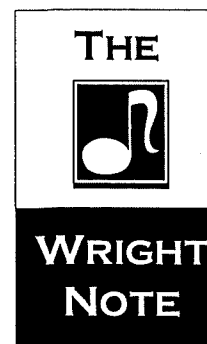
Wednesday, January 10, will mark the commencement of two series. These classes, each from 7:30-9:00 p.m., afford an excellent opportunity to learn more about the Bible. Make another new year's resolution to join the groups participating in these studies and discussions.

Basic Bible Study Lynette Johnson leads this group in the conclusion of Old Testament portion of Basic Bible Study.

The Miracles of Jesus Tom Miles will lead this study.

SMALL GROUP PROGRAM

Koinonia, or covenant, groups are small groups of Christians who meet in each other's homes for study, sharing, and prayer. The main objective is to enhance our spiritual growth. For more information, call Jean Fisler, 469-6475.



Christmas time is always one of giving. I am particularly grateful for the wide variety and number of musical gifts offered this year at Potomac Presbyterian Church. These talents, freely shared, were presented by not only the organized Sanctuary Choir, Handbell Choir, and Children's Choir, but by other vocal and instrumental soloists and ensembles. All required advanced planning, rehearsal, special arrangements and, of course, talent and time. Listing names is impossible, but a rousing "Amen!" is in order for the dedication and continued support of all you fine musicians—young and not so young.

Did you notice the new choir robes the Children's Choir wore on Christmas Eve? These came from a special music fund that resulted from various gifts during the past year. The children will wear the robes when they sing in worship and when they participate in the Choristers Guild Children's Choir Festival in March.

I look forward in this new year to new musical heights in worship. We have a wonderfully supportive congregation and choir members to keep me continually challenged and encouraged to lead our music program.



Old Red Hymnals

There are some of our old red hymnals remaining which will be made available to church members who would like one. You may pick up a hymnbook in Fellowship Hall, January 14 and 21, one per family, first come, first served, until the supply is depleted.

New Missionaries to Nepal

The mission committee and the Session are pleased to announce that Jay and Rebecca Mashburn will be on their way to Nepal to begin a three year missionary term in late January. Rebecca is a physician with special training in rural medicine, ie., no hospitals nearby. Jay, a civil engineer, will be working on a hydro project. Candice and Joel, the Mashburns' preschoolers, are also looking forward to this new adventure.

Jay will visit with us on Sunday, January 7

Jay will share their plans and enthusiasm for their missionary venture with the Adult Education Class at 9:45 a.m. and speak briefly in the worship service. You will also have an opportunity to meet him at the coffee hour following the service. Please make a special effort to be here Sunday, January 7.

The mission program of PPC is making a major commitment of \$5,000 a year to support the Mashburns. We will be hearing from them regularly over the next three years and look forward to being a partner with them in sharing the Good News in work and in deed. Please remember the Mashburns in your prayers.



*You are cordially invited to
Valentine's Day Ladies Coffee
February 14
10:30 AM
at the home of Diane Gregg
10413 Gary Road*

*Diane will share her glass collection.
For reservations, call Alice Smith, 460-8379*

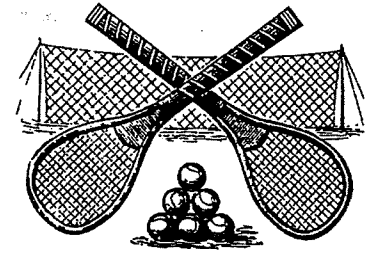
CHRISTMAS GIFTS arrived early at Community Ministry of Montgomery County, The Lord's Table, Rainbow Place, Habitat for Humanity, Winter Growth and Stepping Stones. Our Holiday Bazaar was a wonderful success and \$17,000 was distributed to these ministries.

We rejoice in this privilege of sharing with our neighbors in Jesus' name.

10 S N E 1 ?

February 24
8:00 p.m.-midnight

People who want to play!
People who want to watch!
Please come!



There is a \$12 fee. Bring snacks and nonalcoholic beverages to the Cabin John tennis courts. Calvin Koonce may be reached at 469-7975 to accept reservations or answer questions. [Ed. note: Call Calvin and ask him what he's doing about setting up a bridge table!]

Congratulations to our college graduates!

Heather Singerling from the University of Florida

Josh Stoltzfus from Berklee College of Music, Boston, Massachusetts

Amy Wuckovich from Towson State University

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS from Rev Iain and Anthea Macnee at South Parish Church in Girvan Scotland:

"We were given such a warm friendly welcome at PPC and thoroughly enjoyed our stay with Bill and Pat King and Kerry and Ruthanne Stoltzfus. It was a privilege for both of us to share the pulpit on Sunday morning. Greetings and good wishes from South Parish. Thank you again for having us visit with you in Potomac.

God Bless You,

Iain and Anthea"

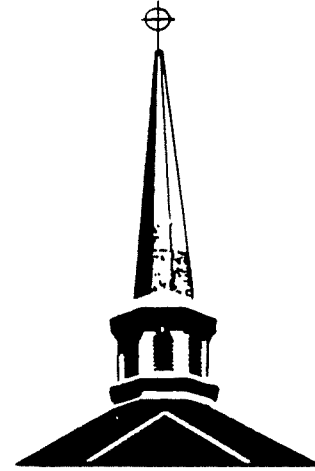
We have also heard from Girvan friends: Bill and Isobel Patterson, Ron and Agnes Gibson, John and Mabel Cowie.

Kerry L. Stoltzfus, *senior pastor*
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STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

February

1996

Kerry On . . .

A funny thing happened on the way to planning for the sabbatical—our daughter Emily became engaged at Christmas time and a July wedding is planned. Ruthanne and I are delighted and we think this once in a lifetime event will be the thing we want to enjoy as the highlight of 1996.

With the concurrence of the Session, the sabbatical has been postponed until after Easter next year, 1997. I remain grateful for the opportunity and will be planning for this time later in the year.

Some of you have asked, "What is the purpose of a pastoral sabbatical?" It is simply an intentional stepping aside for a time from ministry to reflect and renew and gain perspective.

It is meant to build on what I and the Session consider a strong relationship between pastor and congregation.

For me, it means a unique opportunity to step aside from the every Sunday deadline, the constant "being on call" to provide pastoral care to a growing congregation, and the pressure to provide leadership for a diverse and dynamic ministry. It is also a time to shift the focus of my study which is ordinarily directed at preparation for sermons, classes and programs. I will be able to read, study and reflect on the meaning of faith for the pure joy of learning and growing as a Christian.

For 1996, I look forward with you to a year of exciting and challenging ministry.



In Our Family



February

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <hr/> <p>4</p> <p>5</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10</p> <hr/> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> | <p>9:00 AM Children's Choir</p> <p>9:45 AM Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship</p> <p>Noon Fellowship</p> <p>★ Thanksgiving in February</p> <p>1:00 PM The Lord's Table</p> <p>7:30 PM Beyond Basics Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 PM Handbell Choir</p> <p>8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir</p> <p>9:00 AM Children's Choir</p> <p>9:45 AM Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship</p> <p>Noon Fellowship</p> <p>8:00 PM Committees</p> <p>9:30 AM Bible study</p> <p>10:30 AM ★ Women's Tea</p> <p>7:30 PM Wednesday evening Bible studies</p> <p>6:30 PM Handbell Choir</p> <p>8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir</p> | <p>17</p> <hr/> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <hr/> <p>25</p> <p>26</p> <p>27</p> <p>28</p> <p>29</p> <p>30</p> <p>31</p> | <p>9:00 AM All-Church Participation</p> <p>★ Spring Cleaning</p> <p>9:00 AM Children's Choir</p> <p>9:45 AM Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship</p> <p>Noon Fellowship</p> <p>3:00 PM Manor Care</p> <p>8:00 PM Session</p> <p>9:30 AM Bible study</p> <p>5:00 PM ☆ Children's Choir dinner</p> <p>6:30 PM Handbell Choir</p> <p>8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir</p> <p>6:00 PM ★ Global Mission Conference, NCP offered as part of The Big E vent</p> <p>8:30 AM ★ The Big Event, at Nat'l Pres. Church</p> <p>8:00 PM ★ Tennis at Cabin John Tennis Courts</p> <p>9:00 AM Children's Choir</p> <p>9:45 AM Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship, Communion</p> <p>Noon Fellowship</p> <p>7:30 PM Deacons</p> <p>6:30 PM Handbell Choir</p> <p>8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir</p> |
|--|---|---|---|

Most of us are broad-minded enough to admit there are two sides to every question: our own side, and the side that no intelligent, informed, sane, and self-respecting person could possibly hold.

We keep in our prayers . . .
 Joy Schwan Best, recovering from surgery.

We give thanks for the lives of . . .
 Bob Gordon, son of Jesse and Claude Gordon, who died January 3;
 Frank Pruitt, uncle of Joy Schwan Best, who died recently in Texas.

We commend them to the loving care of our Lord.
For Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

Our prayers are with Jesse and Claude, Joy, and their families.

Dear Mary and Jim,

On behalf of the congregation, the Session has asked me to express thanks and appreciation to you in particular, and to all others whose efforts during the challenging "blizzard of the century" made PPC's hosting of the Congregation-Based Shelter program a success. This was a wonderful time, once again, in the mission and fellowship life of our church. For the extraordinary services of so many members of the congregation for our guests, and for the great dedication and leadership of the Reichleys—our outstanding coordinators—we are deeply grateful.

Sincerely,

Jonathan P. Hawley
 Assistant Clerk of Session

Adult Christian Education

SUNDAY MORNINGS

The great blizzard of 1996 forced the closing of our church the first Sunday in January, so we missed hearing Jay Mashburn, our missionary beginning work in Nepal. We have had a good start with our pastor, Kerry Stoltzfus, and our director of Christian education, Lynette Johnson, leading off for the year. We have an excellent lineup for February, so be sure to join us.

- 4 **"Called to Be God's People: The Call of Peter"**
Lynette Johnson, director of Christian education, Potomac Presbyterian
- 11 **"Seminary Education Today"**
Louis B. Weeks, president of Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, a Presbyterian seminary, 1993 to present; member of the faculty of Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, 1970-1993, and dean, 1982-1993; editor, along with John Mulder and Joe Coalter, of a six-book series on Presbyterianism, *The Presbyterian Presence*.
- 18 **"Holy Lands: Root of Our Faith"**
James Reichley, author, scholar, member of Potomac Presbyterian, will present slides of October, 1995, trip to the Holy Lands
- 25 **"God's Reconciling People"**
This first class in our Lenten series will include visuals, music, and poetry.
The Rev. Dr. Elly Sparks Brown, administrative director, Center of the Arts and Religion, Wesley Theological Seminary; formerly served parishes in Virginia and Ohio as an ordained Episcopal priest.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Bible Study, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Basic Bible Study Lynette Johnson will conclude Old Testament study.

"The Miracles of Jesus" Tom Miles leads this study.

Welcome

LOUIS B. WEEKS

President of Union Seminary
Richmond, Virginia

Sunday, February 11, 1996

"SEMINARY EDUCATION TODAY"

9:45 a.m. adult education class

"THE USEFULNESS OF BELIEVING"

11:00 a.m. worship

Dr. Weeks served on the faculty of Louisville Theological Seminary from 1970 until 1993, and as dean from 1982 until 1993. In 1994 he was called as president at Union. Along with John Mulder and Joe Coalter, he edited six books in the series, *The Presbyterian Presence*.

Our connection with Union has been strengthened in recent years as we have participated in the "Adopt a Student" program. Matthew and Beth Teel and daughter, Madeline, have put names and faces on seminary education. Please come and share this opportunity to hear President Weeks at 9:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sunday, February 11.



Spring Cleaning

Saturday, February 17

Please come to help us clean and polish the interior of the church facility (except Sunday School classrooms), Saturday, February 17.

We will begin at 9:00 a.m. The coffee pot will be on.

Bring a small bucket and your favorite cleaning supplies, especially small brushes and cleaning cloths.

1995 was a busy and active year at the church, and as a result, the woodwork, trim, and pews need cleaning and polishing. The floor edges and bathrooms need special "once a year" attention.

Join us to give our entire facility a fresh look for a busy spring.



I recently chuckled at a cartoon in one of my musical journals that pictured a young chorister asking his choir director why there are no Groundhog Day carols. Instead of Groundhog Day songs, the children in our Children's Choir are busy preparing

anthems for a children's choir festival on Saturday, March 2, 1996, at Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church.

Children's choirs from all around the beltway will gather with guest director John Horman and organist Donald Sutherland to share a day of anthem rehearsal, lunch, and a culminating worship service at 2:00 p.m. which is open to the public.

Approximately two hundred singers are expected to participate in this event sponsored by the Capital Beltway Chapter of Choristers Guild. I am a member of this group which is affiliated with the national organization which publishes music and literature dedicated to the nurturing of Christian character of children through music.

Many of our own choir children are participating in the festival March 2. Guest instrumentalists and children sharing readings will bring further meaning to the fine music presented.

Mark your calendars and come to Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, March 2, at 2:00 p.m. This will be a musical worship service that you and your children will long remember.

Sunday, April 21, 1996
Potomac Presbyterian Church's
ALL-CHURCH RETREAT

10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Camp Glenkirk
Gainesville, Virginia

"Stone Work"

Stones in the Bible, in nature, in our lives

BIBLE STUDY • INTERACTIVE LEARNING •
WORKSHOPS • RECREATION FOR ALL AGES!

Be on the lookout for further details!

*Dear members of Potomac Presbyterian Church,
Thank you for your donation to the Lord's Table.
Your contribution will help meet the needs of our
guests. It is the generosity of people like you that
brings a touch of hope and a reflection of God's
love into the lives of those we serve.*

*Thank you for your very generous donation of
\$2800 to help to feed the needy who come to us.
We average about 51 men, women and children
a day, six days a week. We can assist our guests
in obtaining emergency shelter, clothing, and
medical care.*

*There are over 400 volunteers doing all kinds of
work for The Lord's Table. Our director has been a
volunteer for over ten years. So your donation
works for the poor.*

God bless. Keep us in your prayers, please.

*Sincerely,
Board of Directors, The Lord's Table*

**Lines
from
LYNETTE**

A GOOD HERO IS HARD TO FIND

It's tough to find a good hero these days—it seems the tabloid media has the "dirt" on just about everyone. Whom should we admire? And, isn't it disappointing when those we admire stumble? How devastating to learn that our heroes are human, too!

God's good news to us is that God's heroes are human! To recall but a few, there's Jacob, who steals his brother's inheritance; Rahab the prostitute, who saves the lives of Joshua and Caleb; David the King, who takes another man's wife; Peter, the straight-A student disciple, who denies his Lord three times. God welcomes us and uses us, perhaps not in spite of our human foibles and failings, but because of them. We can be examples of God's grace and forgiveness at work.

Are your children becoming acquainted with the heroes of our faith—are they learning to make these heroes their own? Share stories with your child about heroes and heroines of the faith: biblical, historical, and contemporary. Follow up these stories with conversations about—or even with—these faithful people. How is their faith important to them? What can we learn from them? There may be heroes in your neighborhood or here at church. Introduce your children to people for whom faith is real and active.

I invite you to join me during Lent in creating a montage of heroes of the faith, of names and faces, in the downstairs children's hallway. Draw or bring pictures or photographs of people who have modeled the Christian faith for you. Use a card by the downstairs bulletin board to write down a hero's name, and a brief sentence about how that person's faith and faithfulness has impacted your life and faith. A good hero shouldn't be hard to find!

*Are your children
becoming acquainted with
the heroes of
our faith—are they
learning to make these
heroes their own?*

Kerry L. Stoltzfus, *senior pastor*
O. Thomas Miles, *parish associate*
Lynette Johnson, *director of Christian education*
Cynthia Wright, *director of music and organist*

Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship 11:00 AM

To the tune of "My Favorite Things"

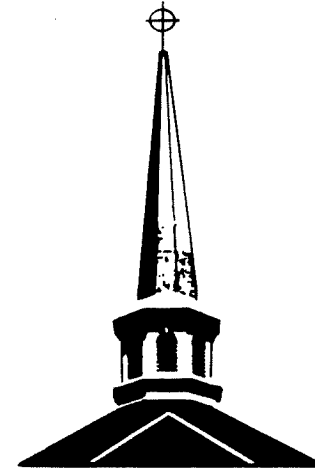
*Full pews, and old hymns, and sweets from the kitchen;
Budgets that balance and babies to christen;
Volunteers, church choirs, and handbells that ring;
These are a few of our favorite things.*

*Prayers with conviction and Christmas and Easter;
Halls filled with children and short Session meetings;
Sermons that end at the right cut-off time;
these are a few of our favorite things.*

*When the dog bites and the bee stings,
When we're feeling sad . . .
We simply remember our favorite things,
And then we don't feel so bad.*

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STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

March

1996

Lenten Series

*To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.*

Isaiah 40:25

- Feb 25 **Loss of the Holy: Trivialization of God**
Exodus 32:1-6; Hebrews 12:28,29
- March 3 **Holy Other: God's Transcendence**
Isaiah 6:1, 40:12-26, Romans 11:33-36
- March 10 **Holiness: God's ID**
Isaiah 57:14-21; Exodus 15:11; Hebrews 10:31
- March 17 **Absence of the Holy: God's Disappearance**
Deuteronomy 31:17-18
- March 24 **A Holy Terror: Meeting God on the Mountain**
Exodus 3:1-6; Matthew 17:1-8
- March 31 **Palm Sunday**

March

| | | | | | |
|----|----------|-------------------------------------|--|----|---|
| 1 | | | | | |
| 2 | 10:00 AM | ★ CE committee RETREAT | | 17 | 9:00 AM Children's Choir |
| | 2:00 PM | ★ Children's Choir Festival Service | | | 9:45 AM Sunday School |
| | | Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church | | | 9:45 AM Inquirers' Class |
| | | | | | 11:00 AM Worship |
| | | | | | Noon Fellowship |
| | | | | | 3:00 PM Manor Care |
| | | | | | 8:00 PM ★ Home communion |
| | | | | | Steeple to People deadline |
| | | | | 18 | 8:00 PM Session |
| | | | | 19 | |
| | | | | 20 | 9:30 AM Bible study |
| | | | | 21 | 6:30 PM Handbell Choir |
| | | | | | 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir |
| | | | | 22 | |
| | | | | 23 | |
| 3 | 9:00 AM | Children's Choir | | | |
| | 9:45 AM | Sunday School | | | |
| | 9:45 AM | Inquirers' Class | | | |
| | 11:00 AM | Worship | | | |
| | Noon | Fellowship | | | |
| | Noon | ★ Youth to Jesus Christ Superstar | | | |
| | 8:00 PM | ★ Home communion | | | |
| 4 | 7:00 AM | Monday Connection | | | |
| 5 | 1:00 PM | The Lord's Table | | | |
| 6 | 9:30 AM | Bible study | | 24 | 9:00 AM Children's Choir |
| | | | | | 9:45 AM Sunday School |
| | | | | | 9:45 AM Inquirers' Class meets w/ Session |
| | | | | | 11:00 AM Worship |
| | | | | | New members received |
| | | | | | Noon Fellowship |
| | | | | | 3:00 PM ★ Middle School KITE FLYING |
| | | | | | 4:00 PM ★ Home communion |
| | | | | | 7:30 PM Deacons |
| | | | | | 10:00 AM Nat'l Capital Presbyterian meeting |
| | | | | | 9:30 AM Bible study |
| | | | | 25 | |
| | | | | 26 | |
| | | | | 27 | |
| | | | | 28 | 6:30 PM Handbell Choir |
| | | | | | 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir |
| | | | | 29 | |
| | | | | 30 | 8:00 AM ★ Youth - Spring Clean-up |
| | | | | | at Camp Glenkirk |
| | | | | 31 | 9:00 AM Children's Choir |
| | | | | | 9:45 AM Sunday School |
| | | | | | 11:00 AM Palm Sunday Worship |
| | | | | | Noon Fellowship |
| 10 | 9:00 AM | Children's Choir | | | |
| | 9:45 AM | Sunday School | | | |
| | 9:45 AM | Inquirers' Class | | | |
| | 11:00 AM | Worship | | | |
| | Noon | Fellowship | | | |
| | 8:00 PM | ★ Home communion | | | |
| 11 | 8:00 PM | Committees | | | |
| 12 | 9:30 AM | Christian Living group | | | |
| 13 | 9:30 AM | Bible study | | | |
| | 2:45 PM | Collingswood | | | |
| 14 | 6:30 PM | Handbell Choir | | | |
| | 8:00 PM | Sanctuary Choir | | | |
| 15 | | | | | |
| 16 | | | | | |

The gift that keeps on giving . . . Remember your church in your will.

Lines

from

LYNETTE

Our denomination's official survey arm, The Presbyterian Panel, recently released results of its February, 1995 interviews on Bible reading. The Presbyterian Panel is a representative sample of four groups belonging to the Presbyterian Church (USA). These four groups are: members, elders currently serving on the session, pastors, and specialized clergy (such as chaplains, professors, and counselors).

A majority of members and elders reported infrequent or no Bible reading during the previous year (62% of members; 56% of elders). A majority of members (52%) said they never read the Bible in a group devoted specifically to Bible study.

Family Bible reading occurs rarely—the two exceptions are the holidays of Christmas and Easter. At those times, a majority read the Bible as a family (54% of members, 51% of elders, 66% of pastors and specialized clergy).

Asked whether they had read the Bible to children (their own or others') outside of a Sunday school class, 66% of members and 65% of elders reported they had not. Only a few (6% of members, 5% of elders) often read Bible stories to children outside Sunday School.

I'm distressed. Are you?

We have dedicated volunteer teachers and leaders, but one hour of Sunday School each week, even faithfully attended, won't make our children faithful Christians. We must, as parents, take responsibility for our children's Christian education—make time to read the Bible, look at Sunday School papers together, tell Bible stories, watch Bible videos, talk about our faith. If we don't step up to do our part, it's a cinch that no one else will!

Let's begin some dialogue here! What are you doing at home to share and strengthen your faith? Is it working? Is it not? Share your ideas with me or with the Christian education committee as we seek, together, ways of helping families grow in faith.

I have available an article from "The Presbyterian Outlook" (February 12, 1996) which summarizes the entire Presbyterian Panel report; I will gladly share a copy with you.

Grace and peace,

Lynette

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SEMINAR

You won't want to miss three outstanding presenters bringing some very special programs to us for the six Sundays before Easter.

The Rev. Dr. Elly Sparks Brown is administrative director for the Center for the Arts and Religion at Wesley Theological Seminary. She has a doctorate in spirituality and the arts from Wesley and has served in Virginia and Ohio parishes for ten years as an ordained Episcopal priest.

Catherine Andrews Kapikian is artistic director of the Center for the Arts and Religion at Wesley Theological Seminary. She has an M.T.S. from Wesley and is a highly acclaimed and commissioned artist. Illustrator and author of "Through the Christian Year: An Illustrated Guide," she also has had numerous articles in religious publications.

Dr. David Damrosch, professor of English and comparative literature at Columbia University, received his doctorate from Yale University. He is author of *The Narrative Covenant* and *We Scholars* and has published articles on literary Biblical studies, literary theory, and modern literature. One of his courses is on the Bible and literature.

Ms. Brown and Ms. Kapikian will build on the theme "To Be God's People" and will enhance their presentations with visuals, music, and poetry.

February 25 "God's Reconciling People" Dr. Brown

March 3 "God's Healing People" Dr. Brown

March 10 "God's Creating People" Ms. Kapikian

Dr. Damrosch will focus on ways in which Old Testament stories of suffering and sacrifice form the backdrop against which the evangelists understand the death of Christ. The experiences of the early Christian community shape the later retellings of Christ's own story in turn.

March 17 "Take your son, your only son Isaac whom you love"
Genesis and the death of Jesus

March 24 "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"
Jesus the Christ as David the King

March 31 "Into thy hands I commit my spirit"
Jesus in the memory of the growing Church



We keep in our prayers . . .

Marty Stobie, recovering from surgery;
Barbara Shamel, recovering from surgery.

We delight in the engagement of . . .

Kara Karch to Jim Farrell.

We rejoice in the birth of . . .

Austin Charles Dean, son of Katie and Donald Dean, and grandson of Barbara and Charles Shamel, born January 4

We celebrate with joy the baptism of . . .

Brittany Nicole Bussink, daughter of Christina and James Bussink, and granddaughter of Jan and Bill Malone, February 11.

We congratulate ourselves and enjoy our good fortune . . .

Pastor Stoltzfus begins his 12th year of ministry at PPC on March 27.

We give thanks for the lives of . . .

Clarence Rison, father of Carolyn Beck, who died recently;
Gladys B. Evans, stepmother of Harry Evans, who died recently in New Jersey;
the mother of Carol Hudgings, who died recently in Missouri.

We commend them to the loving care of our Lord.

For Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

Our prayers are with Carolyn, Harry, Carol and their families.

FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT, AND ARE INTERESTED IN, MEMBERSHIP AT POTOMAC PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, we are offering a three-part Inquirers' Series Sunday, March 3 through Sunday, March 17.

The 9:45 a.m. classes, held in the church parlor, are taught by Pastor Stoltzfus. After the series has been completed, those wishing to unite with the church will meet with the Session Sunday, March 24, at 9:45 a.m., and then be recognized as new members at the 11:00 a.m. service. Please call Pat McMillen, 299-3771, with any questions.



The Church Mouse's Corner

a new regular feature to our newsletter...

The Church Mouse spends a lot of time doing, listening, reading, and generally trying to figure out what it means to be a Presbyterian these days. The Church Mouse is offering his assistance to you—answering your questions about our denomination, our congregation, and other things churchly. Submit your questions to "The Church Mouse," c/o the church office by the 2nd Sunday of the month.

Dear Church Mouse:

What's this LECTIONARY thing I keep hearing about?

Skip Turreader

Dear Skrip:

The Lectionary is a slate of Bible readings for each Sunday (actually, each day of the week) designed to help Christians travel, more or less systematically, through the Bible in three years. The Lectionary provides an Old Testament, Gospel, Epistle (New Testament letter), and a Morning and Evening psalm for each day. The reader's—or the preacher's—challenge is to find a common thread running through many or all of the day's passages. The three years of the Lectionary are designated Years A, B, and C; the year begins with the church year, on the first

Sunday of Advent. We are now in Year A. Want a copy of the Lectionary? See Flo Casper in the church office.

Peace (and quiet),

Church Mouse

P.S. If you really want to wow your friends, tell them that Year A focuses primarily on Gospel readings from Matthew; Year B focuses primarily on Mark, and Year C on Luke. The Gospel of John gets thrown in from time to time, especially during special seasons.

Sunday, April 21, 1996

Potomac Presbyterian Church's

ALL-CHURCH RETREAT

10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Camp Glenkirk

Gainesville, Virginia

"Stone Work"

Stones in the Bible, in nature, in our lives

BIBLE STUDY • INTERACTIVE LEARNING • WORKSHOPS • RECREATION FOR ALL AGES!

Cost: \$16; children 2-6, \$9; children under 2, free; maximum \$60/family

Brochures and registration information available mid-March



Praise the Lord!
Praise God in his sanctuary;
Praise him in his mighty firmament!
Praise him for his mighty deeds;
Praise him according to his exceeding greatness!
Praise him with trumpet sound;
Praise him with lute and harp!
Praise him with timbrel and dance;
Praise him with strings and pipe!
Praise him with sounding cymbals;
Praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

Psalm 150

This wonderful psalm does not mention flute choir. Or maybe the suggestion is there when it says "Let everything that breathes." Now you may wonder what a flute choir is. It is an ensemble of flutes playing the rich harmonies that are often sung by vocal choirs. We will have the opportunity to hear such an ensemble during our worship on March 24. Under the expert leadership of Venetta Jones, they will inspire us with a prelude and offertory. Mrs. Jones will also share her flute talent with our handbell choir on the unusual adaptation of Psalm 23 entitled "The Shepherd's Psalm."

These guest musicians and members of the Smith family are offering their talents as an expression of their appreciation for the life and talents of Darcy Smith.

Dear Friends,

Sunday, February 18th was a special day for me and one I will long remember and cherish. I was very much surprised and delighted during the coffee hour at the recognition given me as I retire after 20 years of serving PPC as Church Visitor and working with new members. I love the "Resolution" and the "Thank You Memories Book" signed by so many of our PPC members and staff.

Now I want to thank all the members of our congregation—you've been an extended family to the Kendall family. I want to say thank you, too, to all the Elders and the Deacons who served during the last 20 years and who were so very helpful. I particularly want to extend my appreciation to the pastors for their guidance and support and for allowing me the opportunity to serve our church in this way. And, of course, I would like to thank my family whose encouragement and help were always there.

Twenty years of working with new members was not a job—it was an opportunity to get to know you folks better and to build special friendships. I feel I really got more out of it than I put into it. It is said that time flies when you are having fun and, I must say, the last 20 years really flew by.

So, thank you all. I know I will miss serving PPC in this capacity, but I'll still be around.

In closing, I would like to say we are fortunate that Pat McMillen has agreed to serve on the outreach committee and will work with the new members. I know you will give her the encouragement and support you gave me over the last 20 years.

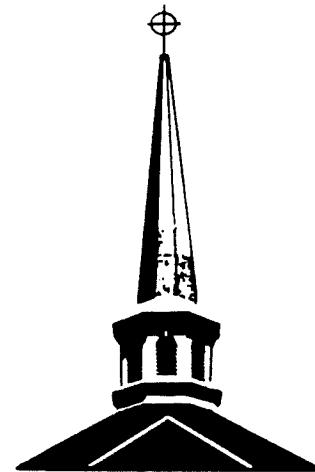
Love to you all,
Camille Kendall

Kerry L. Stoltzfus, *senior pastor*
O. Thomas Miles, *parish associate*
Lynette Johnson, *director of Christian education*
Cynthia Wright, *director of music and organist*

Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship 11:00 AM

Potomac Presbyterian Church
10301 River Road
Potomac, Maryland 20854
301-299-6007

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STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

April

1996

Kerry On . . .

What makes Holy Week "Holy?" Jesus enters Jerusalem in triumph, eats his last supper with his disciples on Thursday and dies a criminal's death on Friday. By Sunday morning some women go to the tomb and the angel announces He is Risen! Later that evening, he travels to Emmaus with two disciples and they invite him to join them for the evening meal. According to Luke, when he was at table with them he took the bread and blessed it and broke it, and their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

In the Scripture, when something other than God is called holy, it means set apart for God's purpose. Christians are called holy and are called to serve God's purpose in the world. In one sense, every week is holy because we seek to live out our calling day by day. Perhaps we give it that name because when Jesus fulfilled God's purpose in his death and resurrection, it made it possible for all our days and weeks to be called holy.

We celebrate Holy Week by affirming the words of our "Brief Statement of Faith."

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition Jesus was crucified

suffering the depths of human pain

and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead

vindicating his sinless life

breaking the power of sin and evil

delivering us from death to life eternal.

March

| | | | | | |
|-------|-----------------|--|----|----------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | 7:00 AM | Monday Connection | 15 | | |
| 2 | | | 16 | | |
| 3 | | | 17 | 9:30 AM | Bible study |
| 4 | 7:00 PM | ★ Maunday Thursday dinner , communion | 18 | 6:30 PM | Handbell Choir |
| 5 | | | 19 | 8:00 PM | Sanctuary Choir |
| 6 | | | 20 | | |
| <hr/> | | | | | |
| 7 | 9:00 AM | Worship | 21 | | No Children's Choir |
| | 10:00 AM | Fellowship | | | No Sunday School |
| | 10:30 AM | Easter egg hunt | | | ★ ALL-CHURCH RETREAT at Camp Glenkirk |
| | 11:00 AM | Worship | | | 11:00 AM Worship at PPC |
| | Noon | Fellowship | | | <i>Steeple to People</i> deadline |
| 8 | 8:00 PM | Committee meetings | | | |
| 9 | 9:30 AM | Christian living | 22 | 7:30 PM | Christian education committee |
| 10 | 9:30 AM | Bible study | 23 | | |
| | 2:45 PM | Collingswood | 24 | 9:30 AM | Bible study |
| 11 | 6:30 PM | Handbell Choir | 25 | 6:30 PM | Handbell Choir |
| | 8:00 PM | Sanctuary Choir | | 8:00 PM | Sanctuary Choir |
| 12 | | | 26 | | |
| 13 | 8:15 AM | ☆ Senior Highs volunteer at a D.C. food bank | 27 | | ★ Christmas in April |
| | 9:00 AM-2:00 PM | ★ Blood drive for children Washington Hospital Center at PPC | 28 | 9:00 AM | Children's Choir |
| | | | | 9:45 AM | Sunday School |
| 14 | 9:00 AM | Children's Choir | | 11:00 AM | Worship/Communion |
| | 9:45 AM | Sunday School | | Noon | Fellowship |
| | 11:00 AM | Worship | | 3:00 PM | Manor Care |
| | Noon | Fellowship | 29 | 8:00 PM | Session and Deacons meet jointly |
| | | | 30 | | |

PRESBYFACTS Percent of Presbyterians who grew up in other denominations:

Members - 59% Pastors - 35%
 Elders- 56% Specialized clergy - 32%

Source: PC(USA) Research Services

In Our Family

We keep in our prayers . . .

Millie Gimer, at Georgetown Hospital

We rejoice in the births of . . .

Heather Lynne McShea, daughter of Kathie and Kevin McShea, born February 13;

Duncan Jeffrey Evans, son of Natalie and Jeff Evans, and grandson of Jackie and Harry Evans, born February 21;

Connor McClaine Willgress, son of Sarah and Steve Willgress, and grandson of Kay and Jim McClaine, born February 27;

Kathryn Diane Hutchins-Duda, daughter of Julie and Gary Duda, and granddaughter of Diane and Dave Hutchins, born February 27.

We celebrate with joy the baptism of . . .

Shannon Marie Baarman, daughter of Danielle and Doug Baarman, and granddaughter of Marjorie and Norman Baarman and Dora and James Pugliese, March 7.

Congratulations and best wishes to . . .

Cece Phair's mother, Mrs. McQuaid, who celebrated her 102nd birthday March 3.

We give thanks for the lives of . . .

Fred Newton's grandfather, who died in March;

Ginny Savage's mother, who died in March;

Helen Hutchison, who died March 20.

We commend them to the loving care of our Lord.

For Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

Our prayers are with Fred and Ginny and their families and with the Hutchison family.

Special Thanks . . .

to members of the Wednesday Bible Study Class, who prepare the newsletter for mailing each month, as well as other church mailings.

April

Adult Christian Education

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SEMINAR

Adult Seminar meets Sunday mornings, 9:45 a.m., in the church library.

April 7 EASTER SUNDAY, noclass

14 "Following Jesus: Our chief comfort and joy"

The Rev. Lincoln (Lon) Dring, executive director of Community Ministry of Montgomery County and a Presbyterian minister, is our featured presenter.

21 ALL-CHURCH RETREAT at Camp Glenkirk

We hope to see everyone at Camp Glenkirk! No class at PPC.

28 "To be God's people: To be moral"

Tom Miles, parish associate, Potomac Presbyterian Church, will begin a new series which will continue May 5th and 12th.

10th Annual MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET

Friday, May 10 6:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall



Mark your calendars for a special evening of food, entertainment and fellowship - and remember, ladies - we're all daughters so join us!

Check the Sunday church bulletins for more information and sign up April 21, 28, and May 5.

Sponsored by the fellowship committee.

Christmas In April Project Day



Saturday April 27

This is one of Potomac Presbyterian Church's hands-on mission projects to assist neighbors in our community. Richard Cannon and Jim Dart have volunteered to serve as House Captains for this year's project which involves repairing, landscaping, and painting a home on Mayfield Road in Bethesda. The homeowner, Ed Putnal, is a 95 year old widower who has resided in this house for 44 years. Volunteer sign-up will be held in the narthex in the month of April and we look forward to your support. Please contact Richard Cannon, 365-8632, or Jim Dart, 279-2061, for additional information.

Lines from LYNETTE

He is risen! He is risen indeed! Joyous Easter greetings, friends. Here is "An Easter Prayer," which I wrote for use in worship a number of years ago.

God of new life,

We come this morning rejoicing, celebrating the vindication of our faith!

We come early in the morning, remembering the women's sad walk to Jesus' tomb on the first Easter morning.

We come to experience again their joy, in the angel's words: "He is not here. He has risen!"

God of infinite love,

Above all this morning, we come gratefully. We are grateful to you for your gift to us — for your son. We recognize that this gift was undeserved, and we admit that it is often unremembered.

We do not come to offer you pledges, pledges that we will always remember your gift — for we would break those pledges, as we have so many times before.

We come, instead, to ask you for more:

To ask you to help us, to bear with us, to support us

As we try to follow the example of life that your son, Jesus, set for us.

For we know that, if your kingdom is to come,

we must allow ourselves to be your instruments in bringing it about;

We know that, if your will is to be done,

we must open ourselves to hear your voice in the world around us.

God of all creation,

Today we rejoice that the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours.

Thanks be to you!

Amen.



*The
Church
Mouse's
Corner*

What's the thing the pastors wear around their necks? Why do the pastors have them in so many different colors?

— **Close Maache D. Mann**

Dear Close:

Thanks for asking! It's called a stole. Pastors wear it as a symbol that they are under the authority of Christ. (Think about it as an ox yoke, yoking the oxen together, and keeping them under their master's rein.) The various colors mark the seasons of the church year.

To state it quite simply, white is the color used for the holiest, happiest of seasons, like Christmas, Epiphany, and Easter, as well as baptisms and the Lord's Supper. Purple is used for the seasons of waiting, preparing, and reflecting, like Advent and Lent, although dark blue is sometimes substituted for Advent. Red is used to mark times of great courage, like Palm Sunday and Pentecost. Green is used for all of the long, "ordinary" times of the church year, between Epiphany and Lent, and from Pentecost until Advent. You might think of green being used for "Christian growing season."

P.S. Pastor Kerry has a beautiful, multi-colored stole that he uses to break up the monotony of "ordinary time."

Sunday, April 21, 1996
Potomac Presbyterian Church's
ALL-CHURCH RETREAT
10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Camp Glenkirk
Gainesville, Virginia

"Stone Work"

Stones in the Bible, in nature, in our lives

BIBLE STUDY • INTERACTIVE LEARNING •
WORKSHOPS • RECREATION FOR ALL AGES!

Cost: \$16; children 2-6, \$9; children
under 2, free; maximum \$60/family

Brochures available

Registrations accepted following worship
Sundays and by mail at the church office.
Registration deadline is Monday, April 15.



**GOT THE
SPRING CLEANING
BUG?**

Don't part with those
treasured dust collectors
and closet cloggers . . .

Donate them to PPC for the annual
rummage sale, Friday, June 14! Mark
your calendar and clean your closets!

Sponsored by the fellowship committee!



OUR OBSERVANCE OF HOLY WEEK WILL BEGIN WITH A PARADE—a procession of singing children raising palms to Christ. The Children's Choir has been enthusiastically rehearsing their hosannas and their parade route down the aisles of the sanctuary. On Palm Sunday, the children who normally go down for the Children's Message will instead line up behind both rows of the choir for this special processional introit. After circling the church, the children will sit on the front pew for a message further exploring the meaning of hosanna. The opening hymn which follows will give us all the opportunity to sing, "Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang."

MMUSIC WILL CONTINUE TO REVEAL THE IMPACT of the Holy Week events with the Sanctuary Choir's "All Glory, Laud and Honor" for voices, horn, and organ on Palm Sunday, the contemplative "Thy Will Be Done" on Maundy Thursday, and the triumphant "This Is a Day for Rejoicing" on Easter. The handbells and organ will support us all as we sing our alleluias on Easter morning. Thank God for the gift of music during times of sorrow and celebration.



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Fortress

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

"Camp Friendship"
FRIENDSHIP ADVENTURES WITH JESUS

June 24 - 28
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Ages 3* - Grade 4 grads

Registration is open to PPC member families through April, to the community beginning May 1. Registration forms have been mailed; additional copies are available in the church office.

Teachers, assistants, teen helpers, craft leaders, music leaders and more are still needed. Please call Lynn Muys, 299-2818, or Jackie Cronin, 527-1235, to volunteer!

***Children must be 3 years old by April 30, 1996; potty trained; and have participated in a weekday preschool program during the 1995-1996 school year.**

Kerry L. Stoltzfus, *senior pastor*
O. Thomas Miles, *parish associate*
Lynette Johnson, *director of Christian education*
Cynthia Wright, *director of music and organist*

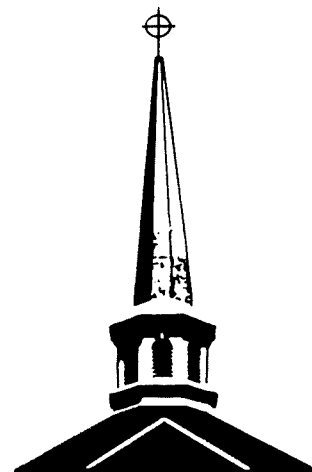
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship 11:00 AM

H

IS FOR HELP
AND OPPORTUNITY.
FIND YOUR SPECIAL H.

Potomac Presbyterian Church
10301 River Road
Potomac, Maryland 20854
301-299-6007

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Permit No. 200



STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

May

1996

Forgive Us Our Debt

Mortgage Reduction Campaign

May 1996

It has been three years since Potomac Presbyterian Church held the Bicentennial Anniversary Campaign to support the Winter Growth day care program in Montgomery County and Christian Mission Hospitals in North India. This Anniversary Campaign also raised funds which allowed the church to make a one-time payment of \$50,000 to reduce the facility mortgage principal with Riggs Bank.

At the recommendation of the stewardship and finance committee, the Session approved a **Mortgage Reduction Campaign during the month of May** to again fund a reduction of mortgage principal. Our present mortgage agreement with Riggs stipulates that principal reduction with reammortization of the monthly payments be made in \$50,000 increments.

Presently, PPC has approximately \$25,000 available toward a second \$50,000 principal payment. The existing funds of \$25,000 are a balance in the Anniversary Campaign account for mortgage reduction, as well as a significant gift from a PPC member to the Building Fund.

By receiving pledge commitments for \$25,000, the mortgage principal can again be reduced **saving approximately \$5,000 a year in interest payments**. These saved dollars can be diverted and used for other ongoing PPC programs as well as for the development and growth of future new programs.

(Please continue on page 3)

May

| | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|---|
| | | | 7:30 PM ★ Vacation Bible School TEACHER TRAINING |
| 1 | | 16 | 6:30 PM Handbell Choir |
| | 9:30 AM Bible study | | 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir |
| 2 | 6:30 PM Handbell Choir | 17 | |
| | 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir | 18 | |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | 10:30 AM ★ PPC GOLF at Falls Road golf course - first tee-off 10:30 AM | 19 | 9:00 AM Children's Choir |
| | | | 9:45 AM Sunday School |
| | | | 11:00 AM <i>Worship</i> |
| | | | Noon Fellowship |
| 5 | 9:00 AM Children's Choir | | 3:00 PM Manor Care |
| | 9:00 AM ★ TEACHER APPRECIATION breakfast | | |
| | 9:45 AM Sunday School | 20 | 8:00 PM Session |
| | 11:00 AM <i>Worship</i> | 21 | |
| | Noon Fellowship | 22 | 9:30 AM Bible study |
| 6 | 8:00 PM Fellowship committee meeting | 23 | 6:30 PM Handbell Choir |
| 7 | | | 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir |
| 8 | 9:30 AM Bible study | 24 | 7:35 PM ★ PPC NIGHT WITH THE ORIOLES |
| | 2:45 PM Collingswood | 25 | |
| 9 | 6:30 PM Handbell Choir | | |
| | 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir | | |
| 10 | 6:30 PM ★ MOTHER/DAUGHTER banquet | 26 | 9:00 AM Children's Choir |
| 11 | ★ PPC SPRING CLEAN-UP | | 9:45 AM Sunday School |
| | | | 11:00 AM <i>Worship/Communion</i> |
| | | | Noon Fellowship |
| 12 | 9:00 AM Children's Choir | 27 | 8:00 PM No Deacons meeting |
| | 9:45 AM Sunday School | 28 | 10:00 AM National Capital Presbytery meeting |
| | 11:00 AM <i>Worship</i> | | |
| | Noon Fellowship | 29 | 9:30 AM Bible study |
| 13 | 8:00 PM Committee meetings | 30 | 6:30 PM Handbell Choir |
| 14 | 9:30 AM Christian Living Group | | 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir |
| 15 | 9:30 AM Bible study | 31 | ☆ Senior High BEACH TRIP |

In Our Family

We keep in our prayers . . .

Walter Maxwell, who is recovering in Manor Care Nursing Home;
Rick Evans, who underwent surgery April 17;
Ann Niskanen, who underwent foot surgery.

We rejoice in the births of . . .

Tera Josephine Gabriel, daughter of Dolly and Kami Gabriel, and granddaughter of Magda and Alex Shalaby, born March 27;
Audrey Victoria Ling, daughter of Mary and Alexander Ling, born March 29.

We celebrate with joy the baptism of . . .

Austin Charles Dean, son of Katie and Don Dean, and granddaughter of Barbara and Charles Shamel, March 31.

We give thanks for the lives of . . .

Olivia Howe;
Mary Margaret Smith's uncle, Karl Nielsen, who died March 24;
Jim Jochum's uncle, Dale Luckhart, who died April 11;
Bob McMahon's mother, Ella Stewart McMahon, who died April 20.

We commend them to the loving care of our Lord.

For Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

Our prayers are with Mary Margaret, Jim, Bob, and their families and with the Howe family. Our prayers are also with Larry and Doris Dinterman on the loss of an infant grandchild.

PRESBYFACTS
 Presbyterian congregations are typically small.
 41% have 100 or fewer members.
 Only 11% have more than 500 members.
 PPC has 510 members.

Source: PC(USA) Research Services

Adult Christian Education

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SEMINAR

The merry month of May will be filled with memorable programs for Adult Seminar. Please join us as our programs continue to expand our theme, "To Be God's People."

- 5 "To Be God's People: To be moral" Jesus revises the Ten Commandments Tom Miles, our parish associate, continues his series.
12 Tom Miles continues.
19 "Helpmates, Harlots and Heroes" Alice Bellis, professor of Old Testament at Howard Divinity School and Presbyterian minister will speak; she will have copies of her book, Helpmates, Harlots and Heroes, for those who are interested.
26 Mystery morning Join us in the library for listening and interacting.

Gambling loses—for now

Casino gambling in Maryland, which many of our church members signed petitions against, suffered resounding defeat in this year's session of the state legislature.

Citizen protest was so strong that proponents of casino gambling, including several influential legislative leaders, decided not even to take up the issue in this year's session. Instead, an attempt was made to place slot machines at race tracks. This proposal also was rejected. The only gaming bill that became law was a trial application for Washington County.

Community Ministry of Montgomery County presented petitions against casino gambling containing more than 500 signatures, including many from our church, to our state representatives. The opposition of the churches is said by observers of Maryland politics to have been crucial in the legislative fight.

According to Community Ministry director Lon Dring, "It was something of a total victory for groups opposing increased gambling in the state." Dring said that the Presbyterian and Methodist churches were particularly active in the fight He warned that proponents of casino gambling are even now planning to relaunch their efforts next year.

KERRY On

I am sometimes asked to offer a prayer at various non-church gatherings, and I usually make an effort to sincerely ask for God's help and blessing and at the same time not offend anyone. The more I've thought about it the harder it has become to pray such a prayer.

A friend and professor of preaching, Fred Craddock, tells about one such prayer that he gave. It was a prayer that he has been saying every day for the past forty years.

Gracious God, I am grateful for a way of life that's more important than how I happen to feel about it today.

After the meeting a successful looking middle aged man came up to him and said, "You are the one who gave the prayer aren't you?"

"Yes," said Mr. Craddock.

"Well, I don't agree. There's nothing more important than how you happen to feel today. It's how you feel that gives something it's importance. If you don't feel it's important, it's not important."

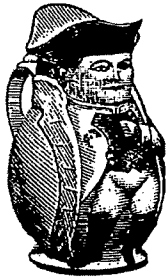
There you have it, the gap between the Gospel and a modern lifestyle based on how one happens to feel. May God give us grace to choose the former.

(Continued from page 1)

Please join with the Session, the stewardship and finance committee and others in the congregation by giving your support to achieve this goal. Rich McMahon who serves on the stewardship and finance committee will chair the campaign. You will be hearing more from Rich in the next few days and weeks at worship and through the mail. Let's all get behind Rich and make this a successful campaign.

Thank you, Wilma Sharer

The value of money lies altogether in the uses to which it is put.



Annual
Rummage Sale
June 9—13

H VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED for the Annual Rummage Sale during the week of June 9—13, with the sale occurring Friday, June 14. We hope many of you will consider giving 2—3 hours of your time to an event which will support our local mission giving. Sign-up for volunteers will begin May 26 at church. We need lots of hands and good humor to make this a success!

HERE IS YOUR CHANCE to clean out those closets, sweep out that garage, organize that basement, and purge your dresser drawers. Plan to bring your treasures to Fellowship Hall beginning Sunday, June 9. Receipts will be given for your donations! Get busy! Many thanks.

Sponsored by the fellowship and mission committees.

*Rummage:
Miscellaneous articles, odds
and ends, knick knacks, dust
collectors, space takeuppers,
silverfish food, the old, the
weird, the unwise*



Godspell

It's another Family Theatre Night! The fellowship committee has arranged for group discounted tickets for the Potomac Community Theatre's production of "Godspell" on Saturday, June 1, 8:00 p.m., at The Bullis School. Adult tickets are \$12 and student/senior citizen tickets are \$13. Contact Melanie Mason, 365-1115.

It's a Carnival of Fun!

10th Annual
Mother-Daughter Banquet
Friday, May 10
6:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall



Come one! Come all daughters, mothers, and grandmothers! It's a Carnival of Fun! This special evening will feature Malcom the Magician, games, prizes, food . . . fun for everyone! Because a firm number for catering is required, the last day to purchase tickets is Sunday, May 5, in the narthex after the 11:00 service.

Adults: \$10; children 12 and under: \$5.
Sponsored by the fellowship committee.

Magda and Alex Shalaby

308 Windsor View Drive, Potomac, MD 20854
983-4575

Magda and Alex arrived in California from their native Egypt in the late '60s, making San Jose their new home. In 1977, they moved with AT&T to begin a 15 year tour in four Middle Eastern countries. They are the parents of Mark, who attends law school at Georgetown, and Dolly, who is married and living in Cairo. Dolly joined her parents in January to await the birth of Tera Josephine Gabriel, Magda and Alex's first grandchild, born March 27. Magda graduated from business school, and Alex, whose education was in electrical engineering, is now the director of government affairs for AT&T. They both grew up within the coptic evangelical community in Egypt, a small percentage of Egypt's Christian ministry. They transferred to PPC from Maadi Community Church, Cairo, Egypt.

Deacon: Renee Jochum

Mark Shalaby

308 Windsor View Drive, Potomac, MD 20854
983-4575

Mark, son of Magda and Alex Shalaby, was born in California, raised in the Middle East, and completed his undergraduate work at Stanford University. He is a student at Georgetown Law Center and School of Foreign Service, and he enjoys world travel, soccer, baseball, and photography. He joins PPC as a transfer member from St. Mark's Orthodox Church, Hayward, California.

Deacon: Renee Jochum

Robert Swisher

6 Scottish Autumn Court, N. Potomac, MD 20878
977-2650

Rob enjoys running 10K races and coaching soccer. He has two sons, Adam, 12, and Ryan, 11. As chief of the computer division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, he has professional interest in telecommunications and organizational dynamics. He comes to PPC through profession of faith.

Deacon: Marnel Williams

Woody Wollesen

10611 South Glen Road, Potomac, MD 20854
299-0485

Woody is a financial consultant and president of Execunet, Inc. Originally from Birmingham, Alabama, he has spent over twenty years in the northern Virginia area, recently moving to Potomac. His children, Matthew, 4, and Kathryn, 7, keep him busy. He especially enjoys their activities—swimming, camping, skiing, ice skating, biking, and roller blading. Woody is chairman of the Regional Business Financing Forum. He joins PPC through reaffirmation of faith.

Deacon: Joe Curry

W E L C O M E

t o o u r n e w m e m b e r s

Sue Ramseth and Mike Blake

20170 Locustdale Drive
Germantown, MD 20876

Sue and Mike are to be married at PPC in October, 1996. Mike attended Wittenburg University and enjoys golf and fishing. He joins PPC through reaffirmation of faith. Sue transfers to PPC from The First Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

Deacon: Jan Cookerly

Sandra Gunn

10801 Burbank Drive, Potomac, MD 20854
299-2534

Sandra "retired" several years ago from a career in business management to take care of her family, Leslie, 10, and Julie, 7. Her stepson, Ben, is 22 and a student at the University of Colorado. Her husband, Tom, travels extensively as a client partner for AT&T Solutions. Sandra is an advocate for educational issues for children with hearing impairments and learning disabilities. She transfers to PPC from Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

Deacon: Ann Barber

Sheila Hanson

6833 Old Stage Road, N. Bethesda, MD 20852
881-0466

Sheila has been a resident of Montgomery County most of her life and raised a family here. With a BA and MA from the University of Maryland, she taught in Montgomery County schools until retirement—really a planned career change to real estate; she is with a firm in Potomac Village. Her interests include landscape design and learning desktop publishing on her computer. She joins PPC through reaffirmation of faith.

Deacon: Joe Curry

Honor and John Mindnich

12080 Wetherfield Lane, Potomac, MD 20854
926-9575

Honor and John transferred to PPC from The First Congregational Church of Old Greenwich, Greenwich, Connecticut. Honor, who graduated from Colby Junior College, particularly enjoys the annual vacations the family takes at Cable Beach, Bahamas. John graduated from Brown University and has an MBA from New York University. The family, including Haddon, 9, Britten, 5, and Chasen, 2, recently moved to this area, where John is a senior vice president, corporate banking, with Nations Bank.

Deacon: Gail Cannon

THE



WRIGHT
NOTE

As we experience the magic of this glorious spring of 1996, I am reminded of the double meaning of the words "coming up" as they relate to the church music program. We plant bulbs in the fall so they will sprout and bloom in the spring. We fertilize and water the yard, not because we enjoy pushing a spreader and taking kinks out of the hose, but because we want to enjoy green grass. In our choirs we rehearse each week, not only to enjoy Christian fellowship, but to prepare for anthems and special musical presentations that are always "coming up" in our worship service schedule. With these

dates—times of blooming as well as calendar commitments—we develop the incentive to improve and grow.

Let's take a look at what is coming up in our spring musical garden:

The Children's Choir will teach the congregation a musical version of Psalm 17 on May 5. They will return June 2 to present a musical drama entitled "Saints of God" which will be given as the children's message, but enjoyed by all.

The Handbell Choir will ring several selections on Mother's Day. One that will be a favorite is "on Eagles' Wings." The choir is grateful to Maggie Fahs and Elaine Skinner for substituting during Milly Gimer's illness.

The Sanctuary Choir already started off the season with the crisp, refreshing rendition of "Misty Morning." Their anthems and responses continually add beauty and depth of meaning to our worship services. But we do need more members, especially tenors and basses. One of our singers recently commented about her disappointment in having to miss an upcoming rehearsal: "I'm so sorry to miss practice this week. It's my therapy."

Yes, we do have great fun and always seem to feel rejuvenated at the end of our Thursday night gatherings. Maybe what's coming up for you this spring is your decision to join the choir. We will sing as a group through mid June and resume rehearsals after Labor Day in the fall. I look forward to ordering extra music this summer for all you new members.



Spring Is Here!

ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY SATURDAY, MAY 11

Now that our long winter is finally over, it is time to mulch our flower beds, trim our shrubs, and prepare our church grounds for spring. Please come and help us restore the beauty of our church grounds.

If you can bring a shovel, a rake, or a wheel barrow, it will be appreciated, but your time and energy are most important.





The Church Mouse's Corner

How do I find something fun to do around here, where I can meet other people?

Lona Lee

Dear Lona:

Just ask! There are tons of things to do around here.

If you just want to have fun, you could join one of the fellowship committee's activities: They're going to an Orioles game, playing golf, having a Mother-Daughter Banquet, going to see "Beauty and the Beast" at the Kennedy Center, and much more.

If you want to get really involved in something, you should talk with the mission committee—they need people who want to help others.

If you like kids, look into Christian education. They can ALWAYS use a few volunteers.

If your time is limited to Sunday mornings, talk with the worship committee—you'd make a great usher!

If numbers are your thing, maybe you should look into the stewardship committee; there are lots of neat folks there!

The property committee can always help you **find ways to get grubby**.

Bring in new members and help them get involved, with the outreach committee.

Here are the names and numbers of committee chairs to call—hop right in!

- Fellowship
Melanie Mason _____ 365-1115
- Mission
John Norvell _____ 948-3095
- Christian Education
Chris Dowd _____ 299-3835
- Worship
Cal Reid _____ 340-8142
- Stewardship
Wilma Sharer _____ 975-9411
- Outreach
Lew Chapin _____ 983-1688
- Property
Bill King _____ 340-0456

Lona Lee, there's no need to be lonely here!

The Church Mouse

Please Take Note

There will be no Holiday Bazaar sponsored by the church this year. In its place, the fellowship committee is planning a new fall fund-raiser which will be announced in late summer. Many thanks to all of you who have supported the bazaar in past years. We look forward to your support of a new tradition.



● **Have you marked your calendar?**

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

"Camp Friendship"

FRIENDSHIP ADVENTURES WITH JESUS

June 24 - 28
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.*s

● **Have you registered your children?**

Now really is the best time to do it!

Classes are offered for children three years through fourth grade grads.

Registration forms were mailed in early April and additional copies are available in the church office.

● **Have you volunteered to help?**

All kinds of workers are needed, from grandparents to teenagers.

Teacher types, crafty types, musical folks, and more can be put to work.

Call Lynn Muys, 299-2818, or Jackie Cronin, 527-1235, to volunteer or to ask questions!

*hours extended this year

Senior High Summer Mission Trip

Our Senior Highs are doing it again! A summer mission trip is in the works for July 16—20 (Tuesday through Saturday). We've been invited to Massanetta Springs, a Presbyterian camp and conference center near Harrisonburg, Virginia, to help ready its camp facilities for re-opening in the summer 1997. Kerry Stoltzfus will accompany the senior highs on this trip—another adult or two are needed, however. If you'd like to participate as a senior high or an adult, see Kerry or Lynette Johnson as soon as possible!

Kerry L. Stoltzfus, *senior pastor*
O. Thomas Miles, *parish associate*
Lynette Johnson, *director of Christian education*
Cynthia Wright, *director of music and organist*

Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship 11:00 AM

May 30
GRAND OPENING
of the

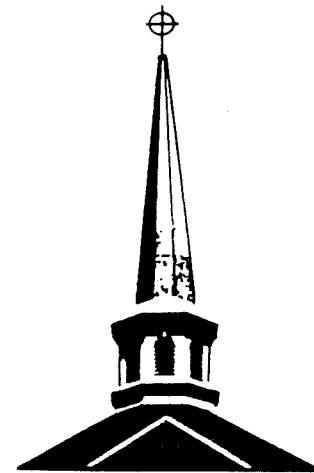
Potomac Farmers' Market

Thursdays, 1:00-4:30 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church parking lot

Potomac Presbyterian Church
10301 River Road
Potomac, Maryland 20854
301-299-6007

Non-profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Rockville, MD
Permit No. 200

SUMMER WORSHIP ● 10:00 AM ● June 23—September 1



STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

June

1996

Kerry On . . .

A Word to Our Graduates

On behalf of our congregation I want to express our congratulations to all of you who are graduating this year. I would like to share with you a few words from a renowned theologian who has had a significant impact on Christian thought in this century. Perhaps his words will give you something to think about as you move on to the next part of your journey of faith.

Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime; therefore, we must live by hope.

Nothing which is true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history; therefore, we must live by faith.

Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone. No virtuous act is quite as virtuous from the standpoint of our friend or foe as it is from our standpoint. Therefore, we must live by the final form of love which is forgiveness.

Reinhold Niebuhr

May God's grace be with you.

(See page 5 for 1996 graduates.)

June

| | | | | |
|----|---|-------|---------------|--|
| 1 | 8:00 PM ★ <i>Godspell</i> | 13 | 8:00 PM | Sanctuary Choir |
| 2 | 9:00 AM Children's Choir 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM <i>Worship</i> Noon Fellowship | 14 | 9 AM - 4 PM ★ | RUMMAGE SALE |
| 3 | 7:00 AM The Monday Connection 8:00 PM Facilities committee | 15 | 4 - 7 PM ★ | Deacons' picnic |
| 4 | | 16 | 9:45 AM ★ | BIBLE JEOPARDY |
| 5 | Noon ★ Wed. morn. Bible study LUNCHEON | | 11:00 AM | <i>Worship</i> - Men's Chorus |
| 6 | ★ MCCM Showcase PPC volunteer day | | Noon | Fellowship |
| 7 | | | 3:00 PM | Manor Care |
| 8 | | 17 | | |
| 9 | 9:00 AM Children's Choir 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM <i>Worship</i> Noon Fellowship 12:00-2:30 PM ☆ 2nd-3rd graders pool party carpool to Wise/Wescott home | 18 | | |
| 10 | | 19 | | |
| 11 | 11:30 AM ★ Christian Living Group LUNCHEON at Julie McMahon's | 20 | | |
| 12 | 2:45 PM Collingswood | 21 | | ★ Orioles night |
| | | 22 | | ☆ Senior Highs to King's Dominion |
| | | 23 | 10:00 AM | Summer <i>Worship</i> |
| | | | 11:00 AM | Fellowship |
| | | 24-28 | 10AM-2PM ☆ | Vacation Bible School |
| | | 25 | 10:00 AM | National Capital Presbytery meeting at National Presbyterian Church |
| | | 26 | | |
| | | 27 | | |
| | | 28 | 6:00 PM | Karch/Farrell wedding rehearsal |
| | | 29 | 5:00 PM | Kara Karch/James Farrell wedding |
| | | 30 | 10:00 AM | Summer <i>Worship</i> |
| | | | 11:00 AM | Fellowship |

STEWARDSHIP BEYOND OUR LIFETIME . . . Remember your church in your will.

In Our Family

We keep in our prayers . . .

Walter Maxwell, recovering at home;
Gloria Leber and her mother, Lillian Harris, recovering after a hospital stay;
Lynn Muys and her father, Fred Kurtz, at home recuperating from surgery;
Jeannette Clark and her husband Fred, hospitalized after an accident in Florida.

Congratulations and God's blessing on . . .

Margaret Sewall and Thomas Boogaard, who were married May 18;
Kathy Appleby and Richard Lorenz, who were married May 25;
Jane Stoltzfus and Howard Morgan, who were married May 25.

We rejoice in the births of . . .

Emma Grace Patterson, born May 20, daughter of Lynette Johnson and Ray Patterson;
Jenna Lindsey Sharer, daughter of Susan and Mark Sharer, and granddaughter of Wilma and Gene Sharer;
Ryan David Sharer, son of Shelley and David Sharer, and grandson of Wilma and Gene Sharer;

Congratulations and best wishes to . . .

Janet and Ed Clark, who celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary May 12;
Jackie and Harry Evans, who will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary July 7.

Godspeed to . . .

Maggie and David Tietjen, Elizabeth and Jeffrey, who moved to 2710 Hampton Cove Way, Huntsville, Alabama 35763, (205)534-4568.

We give thanks for the lives of . . .

Randall Frazier, who died May 2;
Betty Yadlosky's husband, Paul, who died May 20.

We commend them to the loving care of our Lord.

For Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

Our prayers are with the Frazier family and with Betty Yadlosky and her family.

Adult Christian Education

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SEMINAR

The adult Christian education year is winding down after a wide variety of programs. Don't miss your last opportunities to attend the Adult Seminar, 9:45 a.m., Sundays, in the church library. Presenters all year have focused on the theme "To Be God's People."

- 2 **"So I'm a Presbyterian, So What?"**
Joyce Jenkins, former clerk of the Session, PPC, and until this past February, Stated Clerk/Treasurer of Presbytery, will share her expertise in what it really means to be a Presbyterian.
- 9 **"To Be God's People: Using Our Bibles in Daily Life"**
A panel of adult Christian education committee members will discuss Bible passages which have special meaning for them personally.
- 16 **Intergenerational BIBLE JEOPARDY in Fellowship Hall**

From First Church, New Castle, Indiana,

came these two anonymous letters from a British weekly.

Dear Sir:

It seems ministers feel their sermons are very important and spend a great deal of time preparing them. I have been attending a church quite regularly for the past 30 years and I have probably heard 3,000 sermons. I discover I cannot remember a single one. Perhaps a minister's time might be more profitably spent on something else.
Sincerely

Dear Sir:

I have been married for 30 years. During that time I have eaten 32,580 meals—mostly my wife's cooking, I have discovered that I cannot remember the menu of a single meal. And yet, I have received nourishment from every one of them. I have the distinct feeling that without them, I would have starved to death long ago.
Sincerely



Fathers's Day is coming June 16, and so is the Men's Chorus. All men interested in singing as a group for worship June 16, please come for a one-time rehearsal at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary on that same Sunday. We have had a fantastic response for the past four years. This year will yet again combine fun, fellowship and fine music in the amazing preparation time of just 45 minutes. Watch for the sign-up chart in the narthex. Kerry usually signs up first.

SPECIAL THANKS
to the Wednesday Morning Bible Study Class who helped with the preparation of the May 19 sermon, "He Appeared Also to Me."

Meet the Bride and Groom

Emily Stoltzfus and Mark Shook will be married at Potomac Presbyterian Church on July 6.

Kerry and Ruthanne

and the

Fellowship Committee

cordially invite you

to meet the bride and groom

after worship

July 14

Fellowship Hall

Potomac Presbyterian Church

Himalayan Highlights

News from Missionaries Jay and Rebecca Mashburn in Nepal

We are now living in the home of a Nepali family. They have become our good friends and helped us with the transition from America to Nepal. We share a western style toilet with three families, and we have electricity most of the time and a hot bath if we take the time to heat a water bucket up on the stove!

We have started formal Nepali language studies. The task of concentrated language studies is both frustrating and challenging. Imagine trying to speak like the very best two year old you know.

We attend church on Saturday, since that is their day of rest. We can now follow along with some of the songs. The Nepali Church was underground until just five years ago. There is great excitement as the church grows rapidly because of the new freedoms. How else can one describe Christians who sit on the edges of their seats for a one hour sermon. We sit on the floor for the full two hour service.

The culture of Nepal is basically that of the Hindu religion. There are millions of gods, 164 holidays per year and just as many ways to interpret the Hindu faith. One thing is for sure: religious or not, the culture is rich in rituals and tradition.

Hundreds of years ago, there were many feuding Hindu kings within Nepal. In the 1700's, the Rana kingdom was established and Nepal was united. The king introduced the caste system in order to control the masses. Each tribe or family group was assigned specific tasks, and to this day, the caste system remains. This makes it very difficult to rise out of a predeter-

mined mold but does offer a certain order to life. Prearranged marriages are still the norm and quite accepted. Folks say one learns to love after marriage, not before. In the Hindu faith, it is the eldest son who must perform the death rituals so important for eternal life, thus leading to the importance of male offspring. So many things are foreign to our way of life and our Christian belief system; some healthy, some not. At first, traditions seem unfair and rigid until we understand the reasoning behind them. We are striving toward this depth of understanding before we pass judgment.

God's peace be with you.
The Mashburns

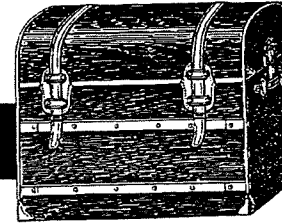
We all love to hear from you!
Attn. Mashburn

Mail: P.O. Box 126
Kathmandu, Nepal
E-mail: UMN@umn.mos.com.np
Fax: 011-977-1-228118

Many of you have asked about sending care packages. Small packages usually get through (under 2 lbs.). The kids would love books, puzzles, cassettes, bandaids, sugarless gum, t-shirts (Joel loves dinosaurs), stickers, and personal letters.

Birthdays

Candice June 26, 1996
Joel July 1, 1993
Rebecca August 2, 1959
Jay September 16, 1959



They're packing up and moving on

Highschool graduates

Christian Berger, from Whitman to a ceramics apprenticeship in California
Jenny Cannon, from Churchill to Brown University
Amy Ligler, from Wootton to Wake Forest University
Jane Simpson, from Bullis to McGill University
Derek Smith, from Churchill to Harvard University
Molly Stanton, from Whitman to University of Vermont
Elizabeth Vincent, from Whitman to Ohio Wesleyan University

Graduating from college

Whitney Chichester, from Colgate University
Lindsay Chapin, from Wittenberg University
Abby Clouse, from University of Delaware
Sara Plumb, from Elon College
Josh Stoltzfus, from Berklee College of Music
Kristina Norvell, MD, Duke University Medical School
Ben Jenkins, MBA, University of California at Berkeley
Nando Zucchi, MBA, Cornell University

Please let us know if we have missed you or someone near and dear to your heart, because we will want to make amends in the very next newsletter.

Kerry L. Stoltzfus, *senior pastor*
O. Thomas Miles, *parish associate*
Lynette Johnson, *director of Christian education*
Cynthia Wright, *director of music and organist*

Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship 11:00 AM

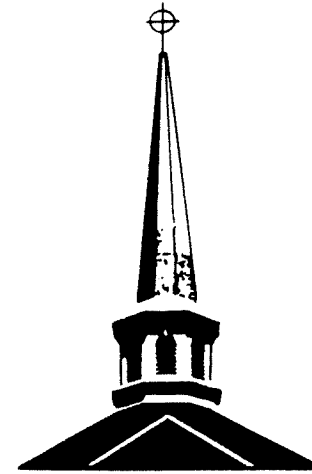
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SUMMER WORSHIP ● 10:00 AM ● June 23—September 1



STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

Summer

1996

Kerry On . . .

Eugene Peterson writes in *Living the Message*,

An appetite for God is easily manipulated into a consumer activity. There are entrepreneurs among us who see the widespread hunger for spirituality as a marketplace and are out there selling junk food. The gullibility of the unwary who bought relics from itinerant monks in the Middle Ages—splinters of wood from the true cross, finger bones from the saints, a few pieces of thread from Jesus' seamless robe—is more than matched by North Americans in matters of spirituality.

A consumer mentality is so ingrained in us that we seem to think that we can find spiritual life in the same way. The problem is a mind set that is based on wanting and a notion that our wants can be satisfied by buying something. Even if we have realized that things cannot satisfy spiritual hunger, a consumer attitude still influences our spiritual quest.

I like Peterson's translation of I John 2:17 which I think brings some clarity to how best to satisfy our longing.

*The world with all its wanting, wanting, wanting is on the way out
— but whoever does what God wants is set for eternity.*

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: July 1–August office hours: Monday–Thursday, 8:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m. The pastor will check the answering machine on Fridays for messages.



Summer is a wonderful time to explore the beauty of solo voices, voices in duets and ensembles and special instruments, both alone and in combination with others. It was three years ago that Kaye White first sang a summer solo in our church. She then joined our Sanctuary Choir as our soprano section leader. She served effectively to give confidence to the choir in the preparation of challenging liturgical anthems. She frequently sang solos and willingly sang duets. She was consistently dependable and cooperative.

Now Kaye's professional path is leading her in another direction. After she sings two more Sundays this summer, we will reluctantly bid her a fond farewell. Thanks, Kaye, for your beautiful voice and gentle spirit.

Darcy Smith Dance Scholarship

During this past year, memorial contributions have provided the funding for the establishment of the Darcy Smith Dance and Music Endowment. To recognize Darcy's talent in dance, choreography, and music, the Darcy Smith Dance Scholarship will be given annually to a student at the Maryland Youth Ballet for summer dance study. The endowment will also be used to enhance our church's music program. Meeting for the first time in May, the endowment committee selected the recipient of the 1996 Darcy Smith Dance Scholarship. Elisa K. Clark is using her \$1,000 to study dance this summer at the American Ballet Theatre summer intensive program in New York City.

From the worship committee . . .

Over the last few weeks, the worship committee has tackled the question: "When does our worship service begin?" Should it be when we enter the sanctuary? When Kerry and Tom walk to the front? After Kerry delivers the welcome?

After consideration, we would like to request, out of respect both to those who wish to meditate or pray before the service and to Cindy and the choirs who often prepare special music, that the congregation recognize the prelude as our signal to turn our attention to worship.

Please continue the PPC tradition of greeting your friends in adjacent pews up until the time the prelude begins.

They're packing up and moving on . . .  . . . part 2

David Mitchel graduated from Arizona State University.

Richard Reichley, graduate of American University, will be attending the Anderson School of Business at U.C.L.A.



We keep in our prayers . . .

Marilyn Spivey, recovering at home;

Walter Maxwell, recovering at home;

Pat and Bill King's son-in-law, Greg Fairbanks, in an Ohio rehabilitation center.

Congratulations and God's blessing on . . .

Elizabeth Laffrey and Drew Grandi, married May 25, in Michigan;

Suzanne Mather and Chris Stanton, married June 15, in Massachusetts;

Kara Karch and Jim Farrell, married June 29, at PPC;

Emily Stoltzfus and Mark Shook, married July 6, at PPC.

We rejoice in the births of . . .

Richard Gimer Hayes, son of Jennifer and Robert Hayes, and grandson of Dick and Millie Gimer, born May 25;

William Leander Burger, son of Elizabeth and Tom Burger, and grandson of Jan and Bill Malone, born June 5;

James Hemingway Mitchel, son of Kate and Ralph Mitchel, grandson of Kay and Ralph Mitchel, and brother of Colleen, born July 6.

We celebrate with joy the baptisms of . . .

Duncan Jeffrey Evans, son of Natalie and Jeff Evans, and grandson of Jackie and Harry Evans, June 2;

Heather Lynne McShea, daughter of Kathie and Kevin McShea, June 9.

Congratulations and best wishes to . . .

Millie and Dick Gimer, who celebrated their 34th wedding anniversary May 26.

We give thanks for the life of . . .

The Rev. Dick Blice, pastor of PPC, 1967-1974.

We commend him to the loving care of our Lord.

For Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

Our prayers are with the Blice family.

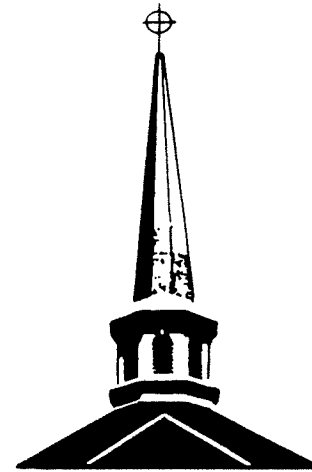
Kerry L. Stoltzfus, *senior pastor*
O. Thomas Miles, *parish associate*
Lynette Johnson, *director of Christian education*
Cynthia Wright, *director of music and organist*

FALL SCHEDULE beginning September 8
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship 11:00 AM

FALL SCHEDULE RESUMES SEPTEMBER 8! MAKE A NOTE!

Potomac Presbyterian Church
10301 River Road
Potomac, Maryland 20854
301-299-6007

Non-profit Org.
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STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

September

1996

Kerry On . . .

Someone once said to the preacher at the door following the service,

"Pastor, that was a wonderful sermon."

"That remains to be seen," said the preacher.

I believe the real issue is what happens in your life after the sermon is preached. Does it cause you to think? That may mean there were some questions left unanswered and issues unresolved. Your mind may be expanded and something begins to make sense. It's possible that you will even be able to explain something new to your children or a friend.

Hopefully the sermon will touch your heart as well and you will have a deeper sense of feeling for God and others. Compassion may be stirred and gratitude deepened. Your heart may be strangely warmed or righteous indignation may well up in the face of injustice and evil in the world.

A sermon will truly be wonderful when you venture to act on the Good News. Maybe you will finally forgive the friend who hurt you, or decide to get involved in some community issue. Perhaps you will have the courage to speak up for someone who is being abused. You may make a decision at work that places gospel values higher than getting ahead. Your family may notice that you are keeping the promises that you made to them.

I hope we will have some wonderful sermons this fall. I'll do my best, and the rest is up to you. See you Sunday.

What are the benefits of CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES?

- You provide generous support to the charitable beneficiary of your choice. Following the lifetime of the annuitant(s), the remaining portion of your gift provides support to the charitable beneficiary you selected.
- The annuitant(s) you name will receive payments for life. You need not worry about managing the gift annuity.
- A charitable gift annuity makes it easier to make your gift during your lifetime.
- In most cases, part of each payment is tax-free, increasing each payment's after-tax value.
- You may qualify for a federal income tax charitable contribution deduction, reducing the cost of your gift.
- Your estate may enjoy reduced probate costs and estate taxes.
- If you give long-term appreciated property, you will realize capital gain on only part of the appreciation. Also, if you name yourself as an annuitant, realized capital gain will be spread out over many years, not completely in the year of your gift.
- An annuity payment is based on your age the day the gift is made and the amount of your gift. A minimum gift is \$500.

EXAMPLES OF AGES AND CORRESPONDING % RATE OF ANNUAL INCOME:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|
| Your age | 50 | 55 | 60 | 65 | 70 | 75 | 80 | 85 | 90+ |
| % rate of annual income | 6.8 | 7.0 | 7.2 | 7.5 | 7.9 | 8.6 | 9.6 | 11.2 | 14.0 |

Rates effective October 1995. Check with Development Officer for current rates.

Charitable Gift Annuities are provided by the Presbyterian Foundation. Please contact a member of our Endowment Committee: Tom Cookerly, George Boddiger, Jack Dart or Pastor Stoltzfus.

Faith & work

Sunday, September 29 • 11:00 a.m. Worship

This will be the fifth year now that members of our congregation have been asked to speak to the congregation on how they seek to make connections between faith and work. These talks have challenged us and helped us all to be more faithful in our daily lives. We are grateful that Anne Bavier and Jon Hawley have agreed to speak this year.



We keep in our prayers . . .

Pat and Bill King's son-in-law, Greg Fairbanks, convalescing in Columbus, Ohio.

Congratulations and God's blessing on . . .

Karen Ginter and Jerry Hajarian, married August 10 at Wintergreen Resort in the Virginia mountains, by Pastor Stoltzfus.

We rejoice in the births of . . .

Kimberly Marie Osborne, daughter of Jeanne and Troy Osborne, and granddaughter of Ann and Bob Hazard, born June 14, in Fairfax, Virginia;

Trevor Hummon Fry, son of Gretchen and Peter Fry, and grandson of Jean and John Hummon, born July 15, in Blue Hill, Maine.

We celebrate with joy the baptism of . . .

Audrey Ling, daughter of Mary and Alexander Ling, August 18.

We give thanks for the life of . . .

Henry Wong's mother, Mrs. Wai-Fong Chow Wong, who died in Hong Kong;

Marilyn Spivey's mother, Patricia Pope Ingram, who died August 8, in Dallas, Texas.

We commend them to the loving care of our Lord.

For Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

Our prayers are with Marilyn and her family and Henry and his family.

Expressions of sympathy to the Blice family and/or memorial contributions in remembrance of the Rev. Richard W. Blice (pastor of PPC from 1967 to 1974), who died this summer, may be sent to:

Westminster Presbyterian Church
1120 Harvey Avenue
Greensburg, PA 15601-9760

September

Adult Christian Education

"I wonder what God's will is . . ."

"God willing . . ."

This year in adult Christian education we are focusing on the theme, "Searching for God's Will." Speakers will be gearing their presentations to some aspect of this search for God's will. Topics may explore God's will in history in early Christian thought or how we find God's will today. Please join us Sunday mornings, at 9:45 a.m., in the church library, for stimulating talks and lively discussion.

● SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SEMINAR

Adult Seminar programs for September will feature Dr. Donald G. Miller, president emeritus of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, distinguished scholar, and Presbyterian.

- September 15 "The Will of God for the Cosmos"**
God's purpose in creation
- 22 "The Will of God for the Individual"**
God's will for us personally
- 29 "How Do We Find the Will of God?"**

Other speakers for October and November are Lon Dring, executive director, Community Ministry of Montgomery County; Dewey Wallace, professor of religion, George Washington University; Bill Leary, member of Potomac Presbyterian Church, with a B.A. in religion and additional extensive studies. Louise Winfield will be with us in January, and our PPC staff members and others will follow. We're looking forward to an exciting adult Christian education program in the months to come. All adults are also encouraged to attend Rally Day, September 8, 9:45 a.m., in Fellowship Hall.

● NEW TESTAMENT BASIC BIBLE STUDY

- BEGINS THE 2ND TUESDAY IN OCTOBER • 7:30-9:00 P.M. •
• LED BY LYNETTE JOHNSON • RUNS FOR 6 WEEKS • FOCUSES ON THE GOSPELS •



*This is the choir
that the Lord hath made.
Let us rejoice and
all sing—or ring—in it.*

Sanctuary Choir

First rehearsal for fall:
Thursday, September 5, 8:00 p.m.

New members in all voice parts welcome.

Make this the year that you finally do what you have said you have always wanted to do.

Children's Choir

Grades 3-6

Sunday mornings, 9:00 a.m.–9:40 a.m.
First rehearsal: September 15

Note the age difference this year. Because the Sunday School class structure has changed, the choir grade levels have moved forward by one year. We are working on a possible primary choir for younger children. Watch for further information regarding music for grades K, 1, and 2.

Handbell Choir

"Discover Handbells"

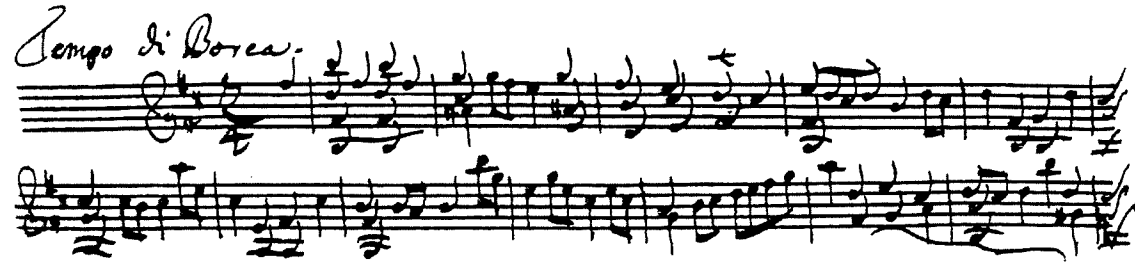
a seminar for curious, new ringers
September 12, 19, and 26
6:30–7:30 p.m.

- Typical questions to be addressed:
How do you ring handbells?
When do you ring handbells?
Do you mean you actually have to count to know when to ring the appropriate note printed in the music?
- Typical reactions to this type of hands-on seminar:
This is harder than it looks.
I can't believe how much fun this is.
I haven't thought about work once since I got here.

First rehearsal for the Handbell Choir:
Thursday, October 3, 6:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

Goal is ten regular ringers.

Please feel free to contact Cindy Wright with questions or indication of interest in any aspect of the fall music program. She will gladly share present and future plans with you at her home phone, 926-7015. or at the church, 299-6007.



A T T E N T I O N M U S I C L O V E R S

The Fellowship Committee has a few tickets left for **Great American Music with The National Symphony Orchestra**, Leonard Slatkin conducting. Center orchestra seats are \$30.75 (a discount of 25% off the box office price for the Friday, September 20, 8:30 p.m. performance). Please contact Melanie Mason, 301-365-1115, immediately for tickets.

A Delicious
Delightful
DEACONS'
BRUNCH

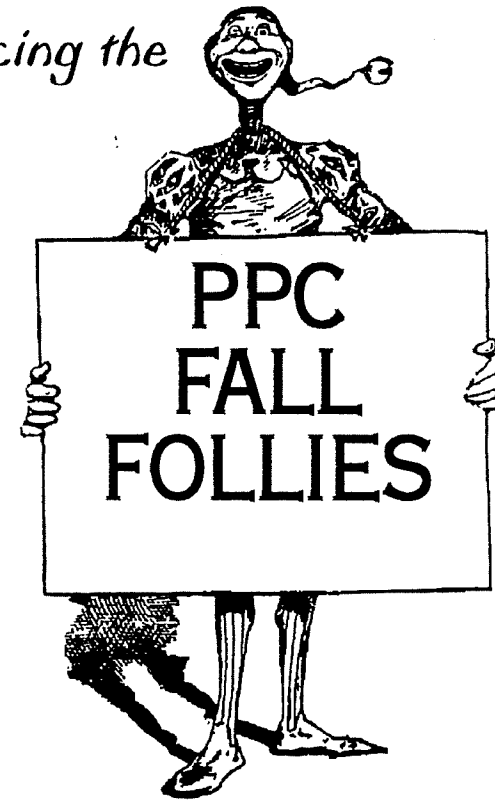


Sunday,
September 29,
following the
church service.

Your parish deacon
will be in touch
to give you the
delicious details

PPC theatre lovers have joined the rave national reviews for Disney's production of "Beauty and the Beast" currently running at The Kennedy Center. 28 lucky members and their guests thoroughly enjoyed the July 28 performance from excellent center orchestra seats! The Fellowship Committee plans to offer group rate (discounted) tickets as often as possible for theatre productions in the Washington area. Plan to take advantage of these terrific opportunities in the future!

Announcing the



PPC
FALL
FOLLIES

TALENT SHOW & SILENT AUCTION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1996
7:30 P.M. AT THE CHURCH

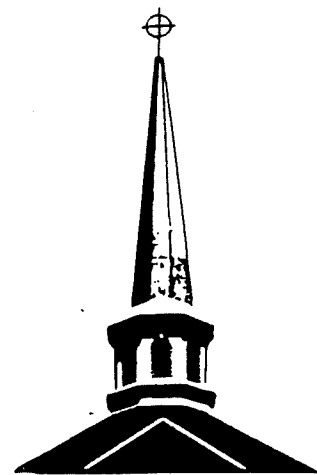
Mark your calendars NOW for a very special evening of entertainment, fellowship and fundraising in support of mission giving! Fun for all ages!

Plan to bring a friend or two to enjoy the many talented members of PPC as well as begin your holiday shopping at the Silent Auction!

If you are interested in performing in the Talent Show, contact Kathie McShea, 251-2628. If you are interested in donating an item to the Silent Auction, contact Melanie Mason, 365-1115.

Stoltzfus, senior pastor
nas Miles, parish associate
Johnson, director of Christian education
Wright, director of music and organist

School 9:45 AM
11:00 AM



STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

October

1996

Kerry On . . .

Have you ever noticed how one little word changes the meaning of a phrase?

—living **a** good life OR living **the** good life—

The former has to do with such values as sacrifice, caring for others, generosity, and compassion. The community figures prominently in decision making and the concept of the common good is highly honored. We think about vocation and family and use of time from this perspective. American democracy at its best has always championed this goal of life.

The latter has more to do with seeking to be happy, successful, prosperous, and secure. These are the things the advertisers are trying to sell and the politicians are promising to deliver. The good life can be measured, quantified, and described by the term “net worth.” It’s fairly easy to compare how you are doing relative to your neighbor.

Our culture tends to value this approach and wonder about those who opt out of the race to achieve the good life. People who forgo financial rewards or career advancement to spend more time with family may be suspect. Yet I think there is a hunger for living **a** good life, what Jesus was talking about when he said he came to bring us abundant life. May we be faithful to the same Jesus as a congregation and help people live **a** good life.

Potomac Presbyterian Church
River Road
Rockville, Maryland 20854
301-761-6007

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October

16 9:30 AM Bible study
 4:00 PM Primary Choir
 6:30 PM Handbell Choir
 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

17 9:30 AM Bible study
 4:00 PM Primary Choir
 6:30 PM Handbell Choir
 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

18 6:00 PM Ramseth/Blake rehearsal

19 ★ Women's RETREAT
 at Clagett Center
 2:30 PM Ramseth/Blake wedding

9:00 AM ★ Teacher/Leader Training
 Fairlington

9:00 AM Children's Choir
 9:45 AM Sunday School
 9:45 AM Inquirers' Class
 11:00 AM **Worship**/Communion
 Noon Fellowship
 6:30 PM ★ Middle Schoolers

10:00 AM Christian Living
 7:30 PM Basic Bible Study
 9:30 AM Bible study
 7:30 PM ★ Advanced Directives
 planning seminar
 4:00 PM Primary Choir
 6:30 PM Handbell Choir
 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

20 9:00 AM Children's Choir
 9:45 AM Sunday School
 9:45 AM Inquirers' Class
 11:00 AM **Worship**
 Noon ★ Congregation meeting
 Noon:15 Fellowship
 3:00 PM Manor Care
 6:30 PM ★ Middle Schoolers
 Steeple to People deadline

21 8:00 PM Session

22 7:30 PM Basic Bible Study

23 9:30 AM Bible study
 7:30 PM Stewardship training

24 4:00 PM Primary Choir
 6:30 PM Handbell Choir
 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

25 7:30 PM ★ FALL FOLLIES fund raiser

26 ★ Potomac Days

27 9:00 AM Children's Choir
 9:45 AM Sunday School
 9:45 AM Session receives new members
 11:00 AM **Worship**
 Noon Fellowship
 Noon:30 PM Stewardship training
 6:30 PM ★ Middle Schoolers
 7:30 PM Deacons

28 7:30 PM Basic Bible Study

29 9:30 AM Bible study

30 4:00 PM Primary Choir

31 6:30 PM Discover Handbells Seminar
 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

9:00 AM Children's Choir
 9:45 AM Sunday School
 9:45 AM Inquirers' Class
 11:00 AM **Worship**
 Noon Fellowship
 6:30 PM ★ Middle Schoolers

7:00 AM Monday Connection
 8:00 PM Committee meetings
 7:30 PM Basic Bible Study

In Our Family

We keep in our prayers . . .

Pat and Bill King's son-in-law, Greg Fairbanks, convalescing in Columbus, Ohio.

Congratulations and best wishes to . . .

Cecie and George Phair, who celebrated their 50th! wedding anniversary September 27.

We give thanks for the life of . . .

Kathy McPherson's grandmother, Minnie Miles Simmons, who died at the age of 96, in North Carolina, August 21.

We commend her to the loving care of our Lord.

For Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

Our prayers are with Kathy and her family.

A memorial gift of \$1,000 has been given to Preston County, West Virginia Habitat for Humanity in memory of Randy Frazier. Construction began Monday, August 19, and the new home in Albright, West Virginia, was nearly completed as of August 22, for a total cost of \$30,000. We are pleased to be a part of Habitat's goal, "Housing for God's People in Need."

(Continued from preceding page)

Now for the really good news—Kathy McPherson has graciously agreed to be the new Chair of Adult Christian Education. Kathy has excellent background for this as she has served on the adult C.E. committee of this church for three years, faithfully attended Wednesday Bible Study, and helped start the "small group" program. In addition, she has chaired the Mother/Daughter Banquet and Christmas decorating committees, and had involvement with many other Potomac groups. She is originally from North Carolina and is a 1975 graduate of UNC-Greensboro, with a B.A. in education. Kathy served as Deacon in the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, California, plus other posts. She is married to Tom McPherson and has two children, Richmond, 14, and Katherine, 10. Kathy, we welcome you and wish you well in this new venture.

Thanks to all of you for your participation and support of the adult programs at PPC.

Love! Joy! Peace!

Jean Fisler"

It Christian Education

● SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SEMINAR 9:45 a.m., in the library

ing for God's Will" is the theme for this year's adult education programs, and
senters will address the theme in many different ways.

- 6 **"Finding God's Will in My Life"**
Deborah Sokolove, director of Dadian Gallery, WesleyTheological Seminary
- 13 **"St. Augustine and the Search for God's Will"**
Dr. Dewey Wallace, professor of religion, George Washington University
- 20 **"Augustine and the Pelagian Controversy: the Will of God as Grace"**
"Augustine's Confessions: Seeking the Will of God in Personal Life"
Dr. Wallace
- 27 **"Augustine's City of God: Seeking God's Will in History"**
Dr. Wallace

● NEW TESTAMENT BASIC BIBLE STUDY

y, October 8, 7:30-9:00 p.m., Lynette Johnson will begin a 6-week series, New
ent Basic Bible Study, which will focus on the Gospels. There will be another
n late winter which will be a survey of the New Testament letters.

● CHANGING OF THE GUARD *A letter from Jean Fisler*

adults at Potomac Presbyterian Church,

f you know that I count myself among those who are "hooked on adult Chris-
tication." All of those old adjectives such as "stimulating," "challenging," "ex-
take on new meaning when we pursue more knowledge of all aspects of Chris-
In fact, this pursuit has become so addictive that I have hung on to the Chair of
hristian Education for almost four years. Many, many thanks go to a wonderful
tee whose members are Chris Dowd, Lynette Johnson, Olivia Mabeus, Kathy
son, Tom Miles, Mary and Jim Reichley, Tom Miles, and Bob Tietjen. They have
olved in programming the Adult Seminar and expanding program to include
series of Sunday morning parent classes, two evening Bible study classes, and
inning of a "small group" program. These were added to the already existing
of Wednesday Morning Bible Study, led by Kerry, and Christian Living, led by
It would be our long range goal to have every adult in the church in some pro-
addition to attending worship services.

(Continued on following page)

Lines
from
LYNETTE

*Having been away from my column for a
while, I'll ease back in gradually. I'll start this
month with a number of "short takes."*

● Our children's Sunday School offerings go to HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL, a
terrific organization which provides livestock of all kinds to needy farmers throughout
the world. You may remember our "Fill the Ark with Love" promotion last fall. Our
children gave over \$900 just last year. The children will present a check for \$620.00—
representing an impressive array of animals—during worship on October 20.

● BASIC BIBLE STUDY will begin on Tuesday, October 8, in the church library at 7:30
p.m. This will be a six-week survey of the Gospels. Meetings are Tuesdays, 7:30-9:00
p.m. All are welcome—no question is too basic, no response is over your head. Cost
will be approximately \$18.00, to cover course text. Please join me! Course texts will be
ordered based on the first week's attendance, so let me know if you're planning to par-
ticipate, but won't be with us October 8.

● CRUSH 'EM . . . BAG 'EM . . . BRING 'EM . . . Did you know that we collect
aluminum cans here at PPC? Collection bins are in the stairwell by the coke
machine (off Fellowship Hall). Lew Chapin periodically takes the cans to a
recycler in Rockville for cash. The funds (about \$70.00 per year) add to our
Sunday School offerings.



● DO YOU ENJOY ARTS AND CRAFTS? Do you prefer to work behind-the-scenes, on
your own schedule? Our Christian Education ministries could benefit from the time and
talents of one to three individuals to assemble craft supplies for our Creative Enrich-
ment lessons. Please give me a call if you'd like to find out more about this volunteer
opportunity.

● THERE'S AN ANTEPENDIUM IN THE NAVE! Is that a problem? Our 4th-6th grade children
can tell you. They have been participating in a four-week learning-to-worship class during
the worship hour, and will be welcomed into worship on October 6, World Communion Sun-
day. Children in the class are: Ashley Burnett, Kimi Cissel, Jennifer Dart, Damon Dowd,
Brian French, Michael Griswold, Jacqueline McMahan, Scott Nash, Kyle Newton, David
Wescott, Kelli Cissel, Jeremy Knighton, Katherine McPherson, Hadden Mindnich, Meggie
Rudnic, Peter Russo, Paul Boxhoorn, Anna Ferrara, Jeff Griswold, and Leslie Gunn.

Many thanks to all of you for your interest in Emma! Our new daughter is now four
months old, smiling and laughing delightfully, and adding much joy to our lives. Ray and
I are learning to be the parents of two, and Jake (age 3½) is enjoying his role as the big
brother. (Yesterday he learned that babies' ears just LOOK like they need to be twisted . . .)

Grace and peace,

Lynette

atire
vers!



ennedy
r has
nced that "The
om of the Opera" will be returning to
ngton during the summer of 1997.
ts will become available after the first
year and the Fellowship Committee is
ing to secure a large block of center
stra seats! You won't want to miss this
lous production—worth seeing again
ain!

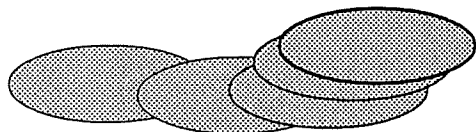
Attention all men, fathers, and sons!

The Fellowship Committee will sponsor a

Father-Son Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, November 10
9:00 a.m.
in Fellowship Hall

Plan to attend for a hearty breakfast,
good cheer, and a surprise program!



VARIETY SHOW AND SILENT AUCTION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25 • 7:30 P.M. • AT THE CHURCH

A very special evening of entertainment, fellowship and fundraising in support of mission giving!

Tickets are \$10 per person and will be on sale September 22–October 20. Children under 13 are free.
No ticket will be sold at the door on the evening of the event.

Plan to bring a friend or two to enjoy the many talented members of PPC as well as begin your holiday shopping at the Silent Auction!

If you are interested in performing in the Variety Show, contact Kathie McShea, 251-2628. If you are interested in donating an item to the Silent Auction, contact Melanie Mason, 365-1115.

Proceeds will benefit: CMMC Congregational Based Shelter Program, The Lords Table, and Rainbow Place.



I am pleased to share the news that our music program has now expanded to four choirs: the Sanctuary Choir, Thursdays at 8:00 p.m.; the Handbell Choir, Thursdays at 6:30 p.m., starting October 3; the Children's Choir, grades 3-6, Sundays at 9:00 a.m.; and as of October 3, the Primary Choir, grades K-2, Thursdays at 4:00 p.m.

The Primary Choir is our latest addition. It is being organized to meet the needs of the growing number of younger children in our congregation. Many young children don't know the difference between singing and talking, or even yelling. In the Primary Choir we will provide the atmosphere and training to allow these new singers to actually discover how singing FEELS and how much fun it is to sing and move rhythmically with others. By the time these children reach the third grade, they are ready to move on to the Children's Choir where music reading is practiced and singing in harmony is experienced. All this happens in a Christian teaching setting. Oh, what an opportunity!

Speaking of opportunity, there are still positions waiting for your voice or hands in both the Sanctuary and Handbell choirs. I am all warmed up from my rehearsal with the younger children on Thursday afternoon. Make my evening a complete success by joining the ringers at 6:30 p.m. and/or the singers in the Sanctuary Choir at 8:00 p.m. Adults and interested youth are indeed invited and always welcome. Contact Cindy Wright, 926-7015, about joining any of our choirs.

INQUIRERS' SERIES

For those people who want to learn more about, and are interested in, membership at PPC, a three-part Inquirers' Series begins Sunday, October 6 and continues through Sunday, October 27.

The 9:45 a.m. classes, held in the church parlor, are taught by Pastor Stoltzfus. After the series has been completed, those who wish to unite with the church will meet with the Session Sunday, October 27, at 9:45 a.m., and then be recognized as new members at the 11:00 a.m. service.

Please contact Pat McMillen, (301)299-8771, or Pastor Stoltzfus with any questions.

What if . . .

You lose your voice?

Your hands won't move?

How do they know what you want?

Life Care Decisions: Making Health Care Choices in Advance

Discussion on preparing an Advance Directive that will advise others of your wishes for future medical care in case you cannot communicate them yourself.

Wednesday, October 9
Potomac Presbyterian Church
7:30 p.m.

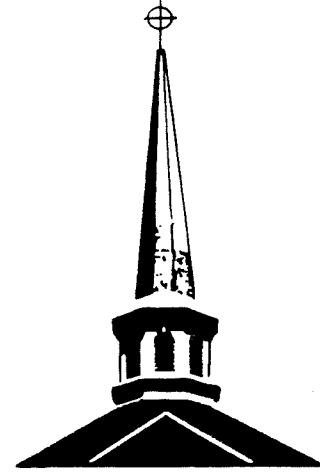
Elsie L. Reid, J.D., Georgetown University
Member, D.C. and Maryland Bars
Partner, Furey, Doolan and Abell LLP

Kerry L. Stoltzfus, *senior pastor*
O. Thomas Miles, *parish associate*
Lynette Johnson, *director of Christian education*
Cynthia Wright, *director of music and organist*

Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship 11:00 AM

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STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

November

1996

Why Have a Church, Anyway?

Why should we support Potomac Presbyterian Church? Why not stay home and worship in the privacy of our own homes, maybe huddle around the TV with Robert Shuller?

Why did early Christians in Rome frequently meet underground in the catacombs, risking death in order to worship together?

Why did Paul, and many others since, travel to the reaches of the known world founding churches, then sending encouragement to keep them going?

It seems clear from the scripture that Christ has called us to worship as a community, sharing Christian fellowship, strength, values, and support and reaching out to the larger community in which we live.

Potomac Presbyterian Church has accepted this call. We have a beautiful facility, the finest staff, a variety of programs, and a significant mission and outreach—all of which require a substantial budget. You may have noticed the fresh new carpet in the narthex and new coat of paint outside, just the most recent maintenance that is constant and ever more expensive. We support more than 20 mission programs, Montgomery County Community Ministry, Habitat for Humanity, The Lord's Table, Rainbow Place, among them. Their needs and expenses are also increasing.

Mark your calendar for Sunday afternoon, November 3—you'll have a chance to renew an acquaintance, maybe make a new friend, or visit with an old friend when a church member will drop by your home for a short visit and to pick up your pledge card.

Please increase your pledge 10% this year and enable us to meet our commitment to Christ and to our church family at Potomac Presbyterian..

Thank you for your generosity.

Ed Tennent, stewardship chairperson

November

1 ☆Middle Schoolers attend
Whitman/Churchill football game

2

3 9:00 AM Children's Choir
9:45 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM **Worship**
Noon NO COFFEE HOUR
Every Member Canvas
CALLERS' LUNCHEON

4 7:00 AM The Monday Connection

5 1:00 PM The Lord's Table
7:30 PM Bible study—The Gospels

6 9:30 AM Bible study—Matthew
REMEMBER TO VOTE
2:45 PM Collingswood Nursing Home
7:30 PM Bible study—Job

7 4:00 PM Primary Choir
6:30 PM Handbell Choir
8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

8 5:00 PM Evans/Pitts rehearsal
6:00 PM Stephenson/Saputo rehearsal

9 11:00 AM Evans/Pitts wedding & reception
5:00 PM Stephenson/Saputo wedding

10 9:00 AM Children's Choir
★FATHER/SON BREAKFAST
9:45 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM **Worship**/Sacrament of baptism
Noon Fellowship
6:30 PM Middle Schoolers

11 8:00 PM Committees

12 10:00 AM Christian Living
7:30 PM Bible study—Gospels

13 9:30 AM Bible study—Matthew
7:30 PM Bible study—Job

14 4:00 PM Primary Choir
6:30 PM Handbell Choir
8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

15

16 8:30 AM ★ Session Retreat
Presbyterian meeting—
Nat'l Presbyterian Church

17 9:00 AM Children's Choir
9:45 AM Sunday School
9:45 AM Inquirers' Class
11:00 AM **Worship**/Sacrament of baptism
Noon Fellowship
3:00 PM Manor Care
6:30 PM Middle Schoolers
Steeple to People deadline

18 8:00 PM Session

19 7:30 PM Basic Bible Study

20 9:30 AM Bible study
7:30 PM Bible study—Job

21 4:00 PM Primary Choir
6:30 PM Handbell Choir
8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

22

23 ☆Youth—HOMELESS WALK, D.C.
★Middle Schoolers—National Capital
Presbytery FALL RETREAT at
Camp Glenkirk

24 9:00 AM Children's Choir
9:45 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM **Worship**
Noon Fellowship

25 7:30 PM Deacons

26

27 7:30 PM Bible study—Job

28 THANKSGIVING

29 Office closed

30

In Our Family

We keep in our prayers . . .

Gloria Leber's mother, Lillian Harris, recovering at home after a recent hospitalization;
Pat and Bill King's son-in-law, Greg Fairbanks, convalescing in Columbus, Ohio.

Congratulations and God's blessing on . . .

Joli Wilson Smith and David Lee Malone, married September 28, in Aspen, Colorado;
Sue Ramseth and Michael Blake, married October 19, at Potomac Presbyterian Church.

We rejoice in the births of . . .

Elizabeth Stewart Micholas and Andrew Christopher Micholas, twin daughter and son
of Amy and Mike Micholas, and grandchildren of Edee Callahan, born October 6;

Wesley Charles Muys, son of Lynn and Jerry Muys, and brother of Christian and
Cameron, born October 12;

Ryan Perry Kendall, son of Diane and Clark Kendall, and grandson of Camille and Cliff
Kendall and Barbara and Lowell Perry, born October 22.

We give thanks for the lives of . . .

Barbara Garcia's mother, Cara Hatch;

Sandy Oseroff's mother, Lois Young;

Paddy Simpson's father, Gordon Thomas.

We commend them to the loving care of our Lord.

***For Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth
in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth
and believeth in me shall never die."***

Our prayers are with Barbara and her family, Sandy and her family, and Paddy and
her family.

Memorial contributions in memory of Dr. Thomas may be sent to the Dr. and Mrs.
Gordon Thomas Scholarship Fund, in care of Janet Patey, Curtis Memorial Hospital,
St. Anthony, Newfoundland AOK4SO.

November

Adult Christian Education

● SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SEMINAR 9:45 a.m., in the library

Please join us for the following 4-week series, led by Bill Leary, who is a member of Potomac Presbyterian and who has a BA in religion, as well as further extensive study

NOVEMBER

- 3 **Paradigm Shifts, Mythology and Syncretism**—making our faith relevant
- 10 **Early Christian Thought**—speculating on riddles wrapped in mysteries inside enigmas
- 17 **Experiencing the Sacred**—emergence of rituals and symbols in the early church
- 24 **Saints**—Christians forging paths for others to follow

If you have ideas or questions about the adult education program, please call Kathy McPherson, 926-2792.

News from the Mashburns, United Mission to Nepal

from Rebecca . . .

"I have been very busy at the clinic as we've had some very seriously ill patients. We have been instrumental in starting a "charity" fund through the local church, a first for them. Remember that until 1990 it was illegal to be a Christian and so the church has not had a history of community outreach but one of conflict and survival. Anyway, the church is very excited about learning how to serve one another through outreach. Last night I was called to the clinic to see two men who had barely survived an avalanche. . . They were buried with 10 feet of debris for over 2 hours. . . These guys were suffering from hypothermia and had multiple abrasions and global bruising and really sore backs. I am still very worried about Amour Badhar; he cannot walk for back pain and is staying with us while his friend is staying in a nearby "hotel." The church is paying the clinic bill, housing, and food and is planning to buy them some basic provisions once they are able to leave. Their village is a full day's walk from here. I asked what would have happened to these men if the church were not here and the clinic said they would sleep outside (it's been raining non-stop for three days, hence the land-slide). What about food? No one could answer. This is a tough culture for those of low caste or with just plain bad luck. Candice has spent the afternoon reading/showing books to him. He had never seen a book before. In fact he didn't even know how to open them. She told him about how God created the world and everything in it and how God loves everyone, including him. He had never heard of such a God. May the peace of our loving God be with you all.

Lines

from

LYNETTE

Not too long ago, I read about a "controlled burning" of some forest land in upstate South Carolina. What a wonderful thing it is to be able to determine the best use of some land for the future and to devise a deliberate plan to get the land into the proper shape for it. Rangers and firefighters were able to arrange the path of the fire in

such a way that it never burned too high or too far afield—and the fire burned, exactly according to plan. It also was put out, exactly according to plan.

It occurs to me that "firefighting" is a fairly common occupation in the church. But church firefighting tends not to be "controlled burning." We spot a fire (a person or program needing attention), stomp it out ("take care" of it), and then we wait for the next fire to be called in. Sometimes there are so many fires we can't even take the time to figure out what's burning. Other times there aren't any fires (that we know about, anyway), so we sit around and pass the time of day.

One of the greatest blessings—and curses—of our Presbyterian form of government is our system of committees. In any Presbyterian church, committees are established to assess needs and develop forms of ministry to meet those needs. As committees formulate plans, the Session approves, disapproves, makes suggestions, sets funding and staffing, and schedules them, based on the direction that the Session sees for the whole church. This system of committees can (and should) ensure that programs are well thought out and do meet needs in the church and community.

This same system of committees can also make individual church members feel far removed from the inner-workings of the church, feel that they have no one with whom to discuss their needs, or feel that the wheels are moving so slowly that their needs are not ever going to be addressed.

A "fire" in the church makes us recognize the urgency of dealing with a particular program or of addressing a particular need, but there shouldn't always have to be something "wrong" before our committees begin to assess, formulate, reformulate and program! The good news is that nothing is wrong! The better news is that we're looking at the BIG picture! New officers have just been elected, the Session is going on retreat November 17 to learn new ways to be spiritual leaders within the congregation, and over the next few months, many of our committees will be getting new leaders and seeking new members.

If you are asked to serve on a committee, consider it seriously and prayerfully—we need dedicated people to undertake the work of God's church! If you have or see some areas of need, please let the relevant committee members and chairpersons know about these needs. It's important for us to know whether we're doing the jobs we set out to do!

Let's hear it for "controlled burning"!

Grace and peace,

Kerry On . . .

A Prayer for County Council

October 15, 1996

Pastor Kerry L. Stoltzfus

Gracious God, we begin this Council meeting with thanksgiving for the honorable calling of public service. We are grateful for these leaders who seek to fulfill that calling with energy, intelligence, compassion and imagination. We give thanks for the high ideals which our nation was founded, and the values that are a beacon in the midst of the political process.

We acknowledge that the challenges are great amid rising expectations placed on local government in a time of fewer resources. We applaud those who have made wise decisions before us and helped to make Montgomery County a good place to live. We celebrate the diversity of our citizens and appreciate everyone who works hard and pays taxes. We are especially grateful for all who volunteer countless hours of unselfish service within our county.

We know that few of the decisions the council makes are easy, and sometimes the job is thankless and little understood by our citizens. We honor those who wrestle with tough choices and sometimes make unpopular decisions for the good of all. In an era of public cynicism we are grateful for all public servants who serve with integrity and honor the public trust.

Give our Council member WISDOM to do what is best for all our citizens.

Give them VISION to plan well for our grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Give them COMPASSION for the least of those among us.

We pray in the name of the Holy One.

Amen.

Attention all men, fathers, and sons!

Father-Son Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, November 10

9:00 a.m.

in Fellowship Hall

Plan to attend for a hearty breakfast, good cheer, and a surprise program!

Deck the Halls

Mark your calendar now for our annual Christmas decorating of the church, Saturday, December 7, at 9:00 a.m. Food, fellowship, and fun are guaranteed.

Any questions, call Kathy McPherson, 926-2792.

Poinsettia Sale

Poinsettias are once again being offered by the worship committee. Profit from the sale of these lovely Behnke Nursery plants will help to defray the cost of holiday decorations for the church. Order forms will be available in the church office or can be found in the Sunday bulletins throughout the month of November. A check should accompany any order and should be made out to Potomac Presbyterian Church. Forms with checks may be placed in the offering plate or in the box in the church office. Deadline for all orders is Sunday, December 1. Color and size choices, pricing, and the pick-up date will be noted on the order form. Contacts are Kay McClaine and Cecie Phair.



The Primary Choir is the newest—and probably the most energetic—member of our church music family. These 13 kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders sing together Thursday afternoons. On Halloween they came to choir in costume and went out **PUMPKIN CAROLING**. Through their little voices singing clever Halloween words to nursery rhyme tunes, they gave a musical Halloween treat instead of the usual acceptance of a candy treat.

The Children's Choir, grades 3-6, meeting Sunday mornings, has already shared an introit with chime accompaniment in worship. They number a dozen this year and are having an exciting time of musical expression and note reading together. They are looking forward to joining with the Primary Choir November 17 to sing a **SPECIAL BAPTISM GREETING**.

The Sanctuary Choir is happy to welcome Gail Yates and Karen Hajarian as new members. What a special fellowship we share in this hard-working, fun-loving group. Soon we will have to share Barbara and Barry Barthelman with a Presbyterian church choir in Florida. This is sad news for our soprano and bass sections. We have decided that we can only let them move if another **SOPRANO** and **BASS** come forward to assume their loyal positions in the loft. If a **TENOR** tagged along, we would be even more grateful.

Seven handbell ringers are meeting each Thursday evening. **SEVEN RINGERS DOTH NOT AN EASY CHOIR MAKE**. Eight or more is preferable because most printed material is designed for eight or more ringers. Bell assignments cannot be consistent because we lack a full octave of players. Imagine yourself sitting down at the piano and always having different notes missing from the keyboard. I am asking any of you with some musical background in rhythmic and melodic note reading to consider sharing in the handbell experience. Call me and express your interest. Ringing is really great fun.

A NOTE TO PARENTS AND FAMILIES:

● You may see some new "**PICTURE BIBLES**" floating around at PPC. Many of our elementary school families have ordered these comic-book style Bibles for their children. If you'd like to look at a copy, or to order one for your family, please see Lynette at the church. The cost for these Bibles is \$21.00.

● **ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS** with daily readings for individuals and families will be distributed in late November. Since our church-wide Advent focus this year is **LIGHT**, the booklets are aptly named, "You Could Even Say It

Glows." Be on the lookout for this booklet on the table at the rear of the sanctuary November 24 and December 1; please pick up only one copy per family.

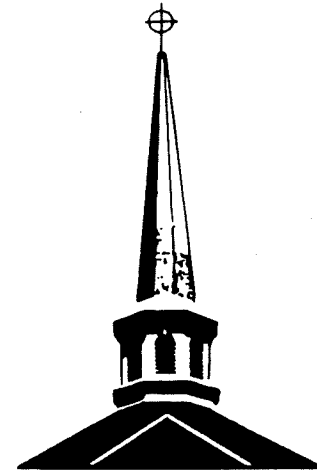
● A small quantity of **CHRISTIAN ADVENT CALENDARS** are available. These are cardboard calendars, 10" x 14" with doors that open each day, revealing a new Christian symbol. The back side of the calendars presents daily activities related to the revealed symbol. The cost is \$1.50 per calendar. Please see Lynette if you'd like to purchase one.

Kerry L. Stoltzfus, *senior pastor*
O. Thomas Miles, *parish associate*
Lynette Johnson, *director of Christian education*
Cynthia Wright, *director of music and organist*

Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship 11:00 AM

Potomac Presbyterian Church
10301 River Road
Potomac, Maryland 20854
301-299-6007

Non-profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Rockville, MD
Permit No. 200



STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

December

1996

Kerry On . . .

Once again we all look forward to Christmas and being with our families. When Christmas Eve arrives, many of us will have the joy of welcoming family home and joining with them for our special candlelight services. I enjoy seeing extended families coming to worship together and sharing in the celebration of our Savior's birth. Others will be traveling to be with families and we rejoice with you. For some there will be sadness because it's just not possible to be together this year.

I would like to ask all of us to remember in our thoughts and prayers a family who will spend their first Christmas away from their families. In fact they will be far away in Nepal. Jay and Rebecca Mashburn and their children, Candice and Joel, will have Christmas in their adopted home. The Mashburns began their mission work in February and we are glad to be able to support them financially and with our prayers.

Jay writes,

"We are continually blessed by the Nepali Christians we meet. These incredible people continue to amaze and inspire us. They have faced and undergone extended jail sentences to be called Christians. Their persecution is not completely behind them today, yet their faith is so keenly focused. They seem almost superhuman in the loads they carry both physically and spiritually. With God's strength they are able to overcome any obstacle."

The Mashburns would love to hear from you this Christmas season. Attn: Mashburns, P.O. Box 126, Kathmandu, Nepal; Fax: 011-977-1-228118; E-mail: UMN@umn.mos.com.np. E-mailing and faxing would be the most reliable ways to reach them before Christmas.

SHARING OUR MISSION

Shelter Program

SIGN UP TO SLEEP TO COOK TO PACK TO CLEAN TO SHOP TO SORT

Potomac Presbyterian Church will participate in the Community Based Shelter Program—for the fourth year in a row by hosting 25 homeless people here at our church for the week beginning Sunday evening, January 12, and concluding Sunday morning, January 19.

Everyone who has helped in any way with the program for the past three years knows that it takes an enormous amount of work but that it is also a tremendously rewarding experience. Those who began attending our church after mid-January of this year will receive a letter from John Norvell, chairman of the mission committee, detailing the program.

If you already know in which capacity you would like to help . . .

- **SLEEPING** at the church one night during the week (we are required to have a man and woman from our congregation present each night, in addition to the paid staff worker present)
- **ASSISTING** with dinner one night
- **PACKING** lunches
- **BEING** a member of the kitchen cleanup crew
- **DOING** a major food shopping
- **SORTING** clothes that are brought in by members of our congregation for the homeless guests

. . . you may sign up early and get the job of your choice by calling Mary and Jim Reichley, 340-7649, who are coordinating the program.

There will be a further announcement about Homeless Week on Sunday, December 8, the Sunday of the Williamsburg Breakfast. You will be able to sign up that Sunday, after worship service, and again on Sunday, December 15.

Your **PPC ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE**, chaired by Tom Cookerly, is working on a program to encourage everyone to be aware of the existence of a PPC Endowment Fund, and the advantages that may exist to any member, by the forthcoming endowment plan. Further details will be announced during the coming months.



In Our Family



We keep in our prayers . . .

Gloria Leber's mother, Lillian Harris, recovering at home after a recent hospitalization; Pat and Bill King's son-in-law, Greg Fairbanks, convalescing in Columbus, Ohio.

Congratulations and God's blessing on . . .

Judy-Ann Pike and David Evans, married November 9, at Potomac Presbyterian Church; Anne Stephenson and James Saputo, married November 9, at PPC.

We celebrate with joy the baptisms of . . .

Ryan David Sharer, son of Shelly and David Sharer, and grandson of Wilma and Gene Sharer, November 10;
Emma Grace Patterson, daughter of Lynette Johnson and Ray Patterson, November 17.

We give thanks for the life of . . .

John Clouse's mother, Geraldine Addie Clouse, who died November 13 in Ohio.

We commend her to the loving care of our Lord.

For Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

Our prayers are with John and his family.

Washington Hospital Center expresses appreciation

to 29 blood drive participants and
to Lew Chapin, who organized the drive at PPC

"Dear Mr. Chapin:

Thank you so much for helping to coordinate the September 22, 1996 blood drive, which included 29 participants . . . You really helped make the critical difference in the lives of many seriously ill and injured patients . . . Please express our appreciation to Pastor Stoltzfus, Lynette, Ms. Ewels, and the members of your faith community who participated and supported the blood drive . . . **Anne Bavier, Bob Best, Richard Cannon, Edward Cavin, Carol Clouse, John Clouse, Jan Cookerly, Melissa Creech, Robert Creech, Diane Giacinta, Jim Jochum, Kenny Kent, Julie Klingenstein, Allaster MacDonald, Tom McPherson, Margaret Miller, Bridget Newton, Gary Niskanen, Wendy Petti, Elsie Ried, Ed Rudnic, Beth Rudnic, Wilma Sharer, Alan Silverstone, Douglas Stevens, Robert Swisher, Alyce Tamzarian, Robert Wescott, Karen Wise . . ."**

● SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SEMINAR
9:45 a.m., in the library

Please join us Sunday mornings, in the church library unless otherwise noted.

DECEMBER

- 1 "The General Assembly and the Will of God" Lon Dring, executive director of Community Ministry of Montgomery County
- 8 WILLIAMSBURG BREAKFAST No class
- 15 Presentation on the new Chrismon ornaments Our very own Shirley Tietjen, in Fellowship Hall, by the Christmas tree
- 22 "Searching for Our Way to the Manger" Joyce Jenkins, also our very own
- 29 HAPPY 1997! No class

For more information, please call Kathy McPherson, 926-2792.

NEW MEMBERS *continued*

Saba I. Mekib
8823 Tuckerman Lane, Potomac, Maryland 20854, 983-2082

Saba attended the American Presbyterian School while growing up in Ethiopia. She and her husband are the parents of three grown children. She obtained her undergraduate degree at the University of Maryland and currently works as a procurement assistant for the World Bank. Saba has lived in France and Switzerland and traveled extensively. Her hobbies include reading, sewing, and decorating.

Deacon: Wendy Petti

Carol and Ken Olsen
1109 Pipestem Place, Potomac, Maryland 20854, 738-1649

Carol is a Colorado native and former teacher. She graduated from Colorado College and earned a master's in measurement and statistics from the University of Maryland. Her favorite pastimes are reading, music, cooking, and exploring this beautiful area. Ken is a New Jersey native and engineer. He is a graduate of Steven's Institute of Technology and has a master's degree in management from George Washington University. He works in the energy and environment sector for Lockheed-Martin. Ken enjoys squash, tennis, and skiing. Carol and Ken have two grown daughters, one who lives in New Jersey and one in Northern Virginia.

Deacon: Betty Yadlosky

YOUTH in mission

- November and December are busy months for our PPC youth in mission! Middle Schoolers in November learned about homelessness, assembled toiletry kits for homeless persons (for distribution through the Congregation-Based Shelter program), and participated in a 5K Walk for the Homeless on November 23. Senior Highs joined in the Walk for the Homeless as well.
- Additionally, Senior Highs met early in November to assemble decorative Thanksgiving gifts for each of the patients at the National Rehabilitation Hospital. They distributed these gifts personally on the afternoon before Thanksgiving. Senior Highs are starting to consider possible dates and locations for a week-long summer mission trip in 1997—adult participants will be needed also; consider getting in on the ground floor!

Dollars for Needy Children

Both Middle Schoolers and Senior Highs will be participating in the Downtown Jaycees' "Dollars for Needy Children" shopping program on Sunday, December 8. In this program, they escort children through local discount stores, helping them select Christmas gifts for their families. The cost for the program is underwritten by donations from the community (Channel 9, WUSA-TV drums up most of the support for this year). **Youth will meet at the church at 8:15 a.m. and return to the church by 12:30 p.m. on December 8.**



Worship

FROM THE COMMITTEE

HATS OFF TO DAN DOWD who has recently taken over as chief usher at PPC. And many thanks to Bob Best for his faithful service as chief usher for the last three years. Bob, as you know, will soon serve a three-year term as a deacon.

TIME TO SCRUNCH IN A LITTLE This is the time of year when the sanctuary is often full on Sunday mornings and during our special services. Consider using this time to sit a little closer to your neighbors in the pews so we can all fit in.

IT'S TIME FOR THE NEW YEAR FLOWER DEDICATION SIGN-UP Consider sponsoring our Sunday morning flowers in the name of a loved one. A new sign-up sheet will soon be posted outside the church office; a contribution of \$25 is requested to defer cost of the arrangements.

Lines

from

LYNETTE

Our church-wide Advent theme this year is "Light." This is a great idea-play: We think of Jesus' coming as the "Light of the World," and at the same time, we visualize the Nativity scene, with the bright Christmas star over the stable. Be listening for the word and looking for signs of light throughout the month of December!


The following paragraphs come to us from "Church Family Newsletters" (© 1995, Augsburg-Fortress) and serve as a good introduction to our Advent theme. Read on!

Have you ever been awake at night when the electricity went off and everything got dark? That can be scary! It can also be a time of hope, because you know that the electricity will come back on eventually, and daylight will come again. That's what Advent is all about. The word Advent means "coming." We see things differently because Jesus came to us and will come to us again, and that fills us with hope. That's why Advent's color is blue—for hope. It could also be purple—reminding us that Jesus is a royal king.

On the "New Year's Day" of the church—the first Sunday of Advent—we start using a different series of Bible readings in worship. Some years we read from the book of Matthew, the next year we use Mark, and then we use Luke. The Gospel of John is used every year.

Advent is a time of waiting. Sometimes the four weeks of Advent seem like a long time, but that time can help us remember that there is more to Christmas than shopping for Christmas presents! Some people light a candle on each of the four Sundays of Advent, both at church and at home. Some people use Advent calendars to count the days until Christmas. Some people drill holes in a log, one for each day before Christmas, and put a candle in each hole. One candle is lit each day. Sometimes Advent carols are sung, and prayers for those who are homeless or hungry are shared. Why not try some of these ideas in your home this year? Jesus came to save us all!

Grace and peace,



Thank you from your *Steeple to People* editor to those of you who submit your notices, reports, etc. on disk. It is very much appreciated . . . On time is also nice.

Pat Ferrara

10809 Admirals Way, Potomac, Maryland 20854, 983-9878

Born and raised in the Washington, D.C., area, Pat moved to Potomac with her husband and daughter Anna (who sings in the Children's Choir). They have three other grown children and one delightful grandchild. Pat was an active member at Christian Community Presbyterian Church in Bowie, Maryland, serving as a deacon and session member. She is an educational administrative assistant at a private school and her interests include family activities and community involvement. Pat collects Longaberger baskets, does a little sewing when there is time, and enjoys reading a juicy murder mystery for relaxation. (Some of us know her as Lucille's daughter-in-law!)

Deacon: Jim Dart

Sandra Frazier

14810 Petit Way, Potomac, Maryland 20854, 948-1749

Sandra is a retired counselor/therapist with 20 years' experience in private practice in clinic and court settings. Her special interests include oil painting, house renovations, walking, reading, theatre, and exploring museums. Sandra, a widow, has two sons; her son Justin resides in Claremont, California, and her son Adam lives in Marco Island, Florida.

Deacon: Carol Clouse

Cynthia (Cindy) Griswold

9912 Zulima Court, Bethesda, Maryland 20817, 469-6096

Cindy is a native Washingtonian, who attended Montgomery County public schools and graduated from Montgomery College. She and her husband Matt work together at their family business, American Marketing Services, Inc., which publishes the *Merchandiser Newspaper*. Sons Jeffrey and Michael attend Landon School, and daughter Megan goes to Primary Day. Cindy enjoys family activities—biking, board games, water skiing, snow skiing, snow boarding, fishing, and entertaining friends and their families.

Deacon: Jim Underhill

Karen G. Hajarian

2306 Riviera Drive, Vienna, Virginia 22181, 703-242-8459

Karen was born in LaPorte, Indiana, and lived most of her adult life in Lake Forest, Illinois. She has two grown children—Mike, who lives in Chicago, and Katie, who resides in Cleveland. Educated as a nurse, Karen works at the National Library of Medicine, NIH, as director of MEDLAR promotion. Karen enjoys biking, tennis, and singing in the choir. She and PPC member Jerry Hajarian were married last August.

Deacon: Jim Dart

(Continued, page 10)

WELCOME

t o o u r n e w m e m b e r s

Part of the interaction used during the Inquirers Series for prospective new members is having people share why they decided to join PPC. It was interesting to hear from so many that they found PPC "warm and inviting." Others found the music ministry to be special, while some said they found PPC to be committed to community service and mission projects. The children, and their role within the church, was also noted. It is vital to us as a congregation to know that others see us serving our Lord with commitment and concern.

The following persons were recognized as new members at the 11:00 a.m. service on October 27. We welcome them into the work and worship of Potomac Presbyterian.

Frances (Fran) Cox

10239 Gainsborough Road, Potomac, Maryland 20854, 299-6448

Originally from Kentucky, Fran came to this area as a civil service employee. She decided to pursue a teaching career and has her undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland and her master's from the University of Georgia. Having retired after 32 years of teaching (25 with Montgomery County), she now enjoys gardening. A widow, Fran has a son, Gene, three stepchildren, ten grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Fran's daughter, Katharine, is deceased.

Deacon: Renee Jochum

Pam Mazza and Christopher Cyrway

10008 Henswell Lane, Potomac, Maryland 20854, 365-6743

Pam grew up in Houston, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She moved to the Washington area in 1980 to attend law school at George Washington University and is currently the senior partner in the Washington law firm of Pater, Mazza & Pargament. In her spare time she enjoys gardening and reading. Pam and her husband Chris have recently opened a United Consumers Club franchise in Newington, Virginia. Chris's hobbies include scuba diving, tennis, model building, home maintenance, and the most recent addition—running a business. Chris was born and raised in Levittown, Pennsylvania, and received his undergraduate degree under an NROTC scholarship at Penn State. After serving for ten years in the Navy, he left active duty and moved to the Washington area to work for an engineering services firm, and later for a trade association on Capitol Hill; he also completed his master's of science in management information systems at George Washington University.

Deacon: Gail Cannon

FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP



Dine with Nine

As you check off your holiday gift list, don't forget to give yourself a super present for 1997—join **Dine With Nine**. You are invited to become better acquainted with fellow PPC members as you "dine with nine" of them.

Sign up now for fun-filled evenings of dining and fellowship in one another's homes. Dinners will begin in January and continue through April. Those who register will be organized into groups of nine (or eight).

One of the group will be chosen as the first host. That person will prepare the main dish and arrange for other group members to contribute salad, appetizer, or dessert. Dinners may be casual or formal, each host decides. The purpose of Dine With Nine is to get to know one another, not to join a gourmet dinner club. Large or small rooms will accommodate guests. The suggested dining date is the second Saturday of each month; however, adjustments may be made within groups to accommodate schedules. There is a substitute list for those unable to participate in all four dinners. **Deadline for registration is December 15**, so groups can be organized and letters sent to participants. Fill in the tear-off forms in the Sunday bulletins, or call Barbara Perry, 299-6067. If you participated in Dine With Nine last year, please register to be part of a new group in '97. Let's get to know each other better!

Want to become more involved in our church fellowship activities?

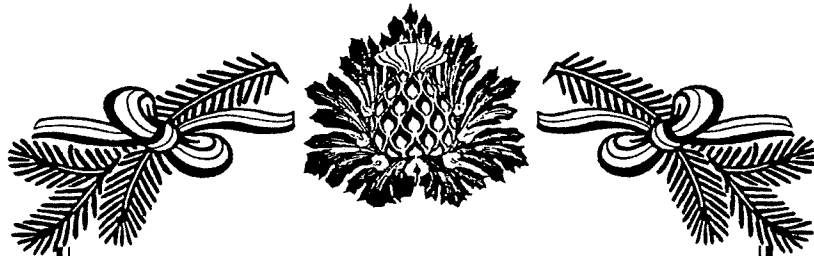
The fellowship committee is seeking individuals who wish to enhance the wonderful fellowship within Potomac Presbyterian Church. Won't you consider joining us so we can continue to hold events we've done in the past and plan new ones for the future? We meet once per month and would love to have you join us! Please speak with Melanie Mason, 365-1115.

Many thanks to all who participated in making the PPC Fall Follies a fun and successful event—Variety Show performers, silent auction donors and purchasers, attendees, supporters, and committee members! Proceeds from the event have been distributed to: CMMC's Congregational-Based Shelter Program (\$3000), The Lord's Table (\$1500), and Rainbow Place (\$1500).



Be a Decker of the Halls

Join us for food, fellowship, and fun on Saturday, December 7, at 9:00 a.m., to decorate the church for the Christmas season. Bring wire cutters, staplers, scissors, etc. if you have them. For more information, call Kathy McPherson, 926-2792.



THE DEACONS OF PPC
CORDIALLY INVITE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY
TO OUR ANNUAL

Williamsburg Breakfast

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8
9:30 A.M.
FELLOWSHIP HALL

BRING A BREAKFAST BREAD TO SHARE
CHILDREN WILL BE SERVED FIRST
AND GO TO THEIR CLASSROOMS

Come Catch the Spirit of Christmas!

Be a Christmas Gift Giver

The PPC Christmas Gift Giving Program for needy children and families in the county begins again this year at the Williamsburg Breakfast, Sunday, December 8. You will be given an opportunity to select a child's name for a gift and/or a family name for a food basket. **Wrapped presents and food baskets must be brought to PPC no later than 11:00 a.m., December 15.** Those who have volunteered to deliver these gifts and baskets will pick them up after the worship service on this day so that deliveries can be made prior to Christmas.



If you are interested in participating and are unable to attend the Williamsburg Breakfast, call the church office the week of December 8 for the name of a child and/or family.

If you are able to help in making deliveries, there will be a sign-up sheet ready for your signature in Fellowship Hall, December 8, or contact Linda Knowles, 330-8506. If you have any questions please call the church office or Linda. Thank you for your generosity.

Be a Christmas Caroler . . . Be a Pot Lucker

Sing out (or hum along) your favorite Christmas carols at Manor Care and Collingswood nursing homes on Sunday, December 15, beginning at 4:00 p.m. All carolers are invited to bring a dish for a pot luck social at the home of Bob and Miriam Conley after exercising those vocal cords! **Sign up in the narthex now through December 8.**



You will hear the Sanctuary Choir announce these various aspects of Advent as the appropriate candles are lighted on our Advent wreath each Sunday. All the members of our four choirs, plus other talented church members, will contribute to the musical crescendo that leads to Christmas. As it is in most celebrations, there will be a mix of the familiar with fresh new arrangements of the story of Jesus' birth. We will sing traditional carols, renew our faith through scripture and the spoken work, rejoice with the Jesus' Birthday Band, listen to anthems sung and rung, and follow the progression of characters to the stable through the children's messages and finally through the pageant. The pageant this year will be intergenerational and be set in a beautiful composition by Malcolm Williamson called "The Winter Star."

So, let us listen, prepare, behold and rejoice together this Advent.