

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

**DON'T MISS THIS!**

**Congregational Dinner and Annual Meeting**

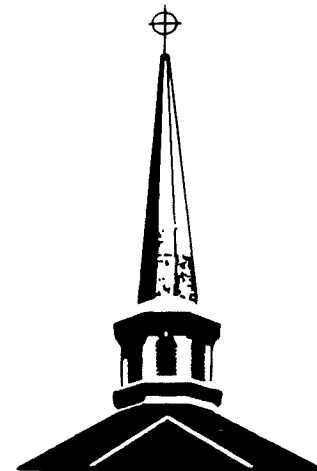
**Sunday, January 19**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Fellowship Hall**

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**

January

1997

**Kerry On . . .**

Most of you know how much I appreciate Fred Buechner and his writing. Perhaps his words may serve as a guide for our lives in 1997:

*Listen to your life.  
All moments are key moments.*

I discovered that if you really keep your eye peeled to it and your ears open, if you really pay attention to it, even such a limited and limiting life as the one I was living on Rupert Mountain opened up onto extraordinary vistas. Taking your children to school and kissing your wife goodbye. Eating lunch with a friend. Trying to do a decent day's work. Hearing the rain patter against the window. There is no event so commonplace but that God is present within it, always hiddenly, always leaving you room to recognize him or not to recognize him, but all the more fascinatingly because of that, all the more compellingly and hauntingly . . . If I were called upon to state in a few words the essence of everything I was trying to say both as a novelist and as a preacher, it would be something like this: Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery that it is. In the boredom and pain of it no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace.

from *Now and Then*, p. 92, by Frederick Buechner

## JANUARY

1		Happy New Year!		14	10:00 AM	Christian Living Group
2	6:30 PM 8:00 PM	Handbell Choir Sanctuary Choir			7:30 PM	Basic Bible Study
3				15	9:30 AM	Bible study – Matthew
4				16	6:30 PM 8:00 PM	Handbell Choir Sanctuary Choir
				17		
				18		
<b>5</b>	9:00 AM 9:45 AM 11:00 AM Noon 5:30 PM 6:30 PM	Children's Choir Sunday School Worship Fellowship Confirmation Middle School fellowship		<b>19</b>	9:00 AM 9:45 AM 11:00 AM Noon 3:00 PM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM	Children's Choir Sunday School Worship Fellowship Manor Care Confirmation ★ CONGREGATIONAL MEETING <i>Steeple to People</i> deadline
6	7:00 AM 8:00 PM	The Monday Connection Committee meetings		20		
7	10:00 AM 1:00 PM	Endowment committee The Lord's Table		21	7:30 PM	Basic Bible Study
8	9:30 AM 2:45 PM	Bible study – Matthew Collingswood Nursing Home		22	9:30 AM	Bible study – Matthew
9	6:30 PM 8:00 PM	Handbell Choir Sanctuary Choir		23	6:30 PM 8:00 PM	Handbell Choir Sanctuary Choir
10				24		
11	8:30 AM	★ DEACONS' RETREAT		25		
<b>12</b>		★ CONGREGATION BASED SHELTER WEEK begins today		<b>26</b>	9:00 AM 9:45 AM 11:00 AM Noon 5:30 PM 6:30 PM	Children's Choir Sunday School Worship and Communion Fellowship Confirmation Middle School fellowship
	9:00 AM 9:30 AM 9:45 AM 11:00 AM Noon 4:30 PM 5:30 PM 6:30 PM	Children's Choir ★ OFFICERS BREAKFAST Sunday School Worship and Ordination & Installation Fellowship ★ ELDER SPONSORS MEETING Confirmation Middle School fellowship		27		
13	8:00 PM	Session		28	7:30 PM	Basic Bible Study
				29	9:30 AM	Bible study – Matthew
				30	6:30 PM 8:00 PM	Handbell Choir Sanctuary Choir
				31	8:00 AM	★ Middle School SKI TRIP



## In Our Family



***We keep in our prayers . . .***

Pat and Bill King's son-in-law, Greg Fairbanks, who has returned home and continues speech and physical therapy.

***Congratulations and best wishes to . . .***

Daphne Boogard, who graduated from the University of Maryland, December 20.

***We celebrate with joy the baptisms of . . .***

Matthew James Underhill, son of Liz and Jim Underhill, November 24.

Jessica Luella Shankland, daughter of Christi Shankland, and granddaughter of Marilyn Shankland, December 22.

***We give thanks for the lives of . . .***

Lynn Bigler's father, Merlin Ray, who died December 1;  
Jack Knowles' mother, Irene Knowles, who died December 2.

***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 Lynn and her family and with Jack and his family.

**PLEASE NOTE**

Ruthanne and Kerry Stoltzfus have a  
**NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER: 424-8492.**  
You can begin using their new number immediately;  
but for a few weeks, they can also be reached at their  
old number in an emergency.

January

## Adult Christian Education

### SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SEMINAR

Louise Winfield, MA in religion and Bible teacher, will lead our class in January, as we discuss "The Call of God: How Shall We Respond?"

- 5 "Jacob: The Conflicted Call of God"
- 12 "Jonah: The Resisted Call of God"
- 19 "Vashti and Esther: The Secular Call of God"
- 26 "Habakkuk: The Certain Call of God"

Classes meet each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in the church library. For more information, contact Kathy McPherson, 926-2792.

### GOSPEL SURVEY CONTINUES

Basic Bible's Gospel Survey will resume on Tuesday, January 14, from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the church library. Lynette Johnson leads this group. As ever, no question is too simple, and no answer is over your head! Some home preparation is required each week. This six- to eight- week course segment will cover the gospels of Luke and John. All are welcome; please read the first eight chapters of Luke prior to the first class session. Cost (for newcomers only) is \$18.00 for course text. Join us on January 14!

(WINTER WEATHER POLICY: If Montgomery County schools have already been cancelled for the following day, we will not meet. Additionally, if it is actively winter-weathering at 6:30 p.m. we will not meet.)

Join us for the  
**Congregational Dinner and Annual Meeting**  
Sunday, January 19  
6:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall

Bring a favorite dish to this pot luck dinner! Sign up in the narthex.

Lines

from

LYNETTE

**E**piphany is the season of 'light shining,' as we read in the first chapter of John: "The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world." (1:9) Epiphany means, "God manifest." These days, it's your job and mine to make God manifest to those around us. The following excerpt (new this December to me) seems especially meaningful at this season.

Let Your Light So Shine . . .

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate.

Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.

It is our light, not our darkness, that frightens us.

We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous?

Actually, who are you not to be?

You are a child of God. Your playing small doesn't serve the world.

There's nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you.

We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us.

It's not just in some of us, it's in everyone.

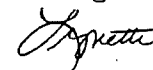
And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same.

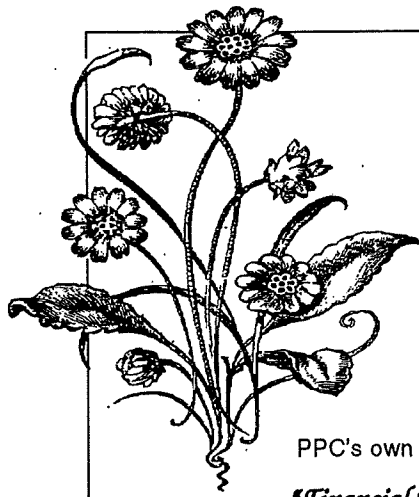
As we are liberated from our own fears, our presence automatically liberates others.

Nelson Mandela

Inaugural speech, 1994

Striving to shine with you in 1997,





You are cordially invited to a  
*Ladies Luncheon*  
February 6  
12:00 noon  
at the home of Mary Ann Cookerly  
7908 Greentree Road  
Bethesda, Maryland

PPC's own Elsie Reid will be speaking on

*"Financial Planning from the Woman's Perspective"*

Each participant is asked to bring a dish and its recipe!

Celebrate an early Valentine's Day with fellow PPC ladies!  
Call Alice Smith, 469-8379, to make your reservation.

### Family Theatre Afternoon

Join us for one of the most beloved musicals from the Broadway stage—Rogers and Hammerstein's "The King and I," on Sunday, April 20, at 1:30 p.m., in the Opera House at the Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C. This production is starring Hayley Mills. Center rear orchestra seats are available at 10% off the box office price of \$58.50 per ticket. Contact Melanie Mason, 365-1115, to reserve your seats by January 31 for this wonderful production!



### We want you! We need you! We'd love to have you!

Want to become more involved in our church fellowship activities? We need you! 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 a month and would love to have you join us! Please speak with Melanie Mason, or simply come to our next meeting at church, Monday, February 10, at 8:00 p.m. Thanks!

### Get ready for a *RRRockin'* good time!!

Bring snacks, non-alcoholic beverages, and \$12 to Cabin John Tennis Courts, February 22. Arrive at 8:00 p.m., stay until midnight, and cram in all the tennis and eats you can manage!

Call Calvin Koonce RIGHT THIS MINUTE to make your reservation, 469-7975.

If you don't play tennis or if, during your tennis breaks, you want to squeeze in some Boggle or bridge or Pictionary or Chutes and Ladders or whatever-the-game-of-your-choice might be, let Calvin know, and somebody who showed up with all that fun stuff last year might do it again. We'll also be talking and getting to know each other better. We'll have SUCH A GOOD TIME! See you!



### PPC Cookbook in the Works

The fellowship committee is very pleased to announce that we will be publishing a special cookbook featuring favorite recipes of members of our church! We would love to include some of YOURS, and we invite you to submit three or four of your favorites in any of the following categories:

- appetizers
- main dishes
- breads & rolls
- jams and jellies
- soups & salads
- desserts
- vegetables
- cakes & cookies
- miscellaneous



There is no need to rewrite or type your favorites, simply copy (on the church office copier if you need to, or just note on your recipe that you would like it returned to you and we'll copy it) your recipes in whatever format you have (even handwritten on the back of a napkin is okay as long as it's legible) and either drop it in the box in the narthex, the church office, or mail to the church office beginning January 1. The last day for submission of recipes is January 26.

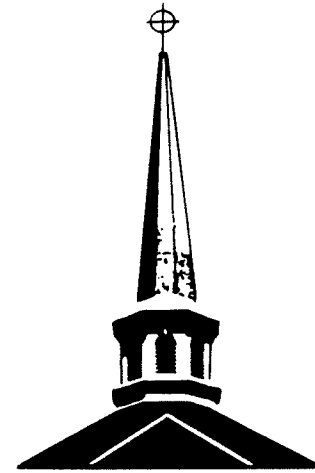
Join the fun! Have your recipes published in OUR cookbook—make sure you have your name on the recipe as we will be listing all our contributors. Questions can be directed to Melanie Mason, 365-1115.

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# STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

## Potomac Presbyterian Church

February

1997

### Kerry On . . .

#### Sabbatical Plans

Last year at this time I wrote to you about my decision to postpone my sabbatical until 1997 since my daughter was planning to be married in July. The sabbatical will be three months, beginning April 21. While I will miss my daily contacts with the congregation and our common ministry, I know that PPC will be well served in my absence by our staff, visiting preachers and our officers. I also know that my capacity to serve you will be greatly strengthened by this opportunity for renewal and professional growth.

I would like to share with you the goals I have defined for my sabbatical:

1. **A change of pace** - a time 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. I will have the opportunity to step outside the role of pastor for a time. I look forward to spending time with family on weekends, which will be a new experience.
2. **A change of place** - a time to be away from the familiar. In new and different surroundings, I hope to listen for God to speak and engage with Christians in a different context. Looking back at PPC from the outside, another context, seems to be a way to refocus, think about priorities and simply get some space in our relationship as pastor and people.

(Continued on page 7)

FEBRUARY

1

2 9:00 AM NO Children's Choir  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 11:00 AM **Worship – Blanket Sunday**  
 Noon Fellowship  
 5:30 PM Confirmation

3

4 1:00 PM The Lord's Table  
 5 NO Matthew Bible Study

7:30 PM Adult Discussion Group  
 led by Tom Miles

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

7 ☆ Senior Highs SKI TRIP

8

9 9:00 AM Children's Choir  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 11:00 AM **Worship**  
 Noon Fellowship  
 NO Confirmation class  
 6:30 PM Middle School Fellowship

10 8:00 PM Committees

11 10:00 AM Christian Living Group  
 7:30 PM Basic Bible Study

12 9:30 AM Bible study - Matthew  
 7:30 PM Adult Discussion Group  
 led by Tom Miles

13 4:00 PM Primary Choir  
 6:30 PM Handbell Choir  
 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

14

15

16 9:00 AM Children's Choir  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 11:00 AM **Worship – Communion**  
 Noon Fellowship  
 3:00 PM Manor Care  
 5:30 PM Confirmation  
 6:30 PM Middle Schoolers  
 Steeple to People deadline

17 8:00 PM Session

18 7:30 PM Basic Bible Study

19 9:30 AM Bible Study-Matthew  
 7:30 PM Wedding Guild

20 4:00 PM Primary Choir  
 6:30 PM Handbell Choir  
 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

21

22 ☆ The Big Event  
 8:00 PM ☆ TENNIS at Cabin John

23 9:00 AM Children's Choir  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 9:45 AM Inquirer's Class  
 11:00 AM **Worship**  
 Noon Fellowship  
 5:30 PM Confirmation  
 6:30 PM Middle School Fellowship

24 7:30 PM Deacons

25 7:30 PM Basic Bible Study

26 9:30 AM Bible Study - Matthew

27 4:00 PM Primary Choir  
 6:30 PM Handbell Choir  
 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

28

*In Our Family*

*We give thanks for the life of . . .*

Bob Jenkins' mother, Carrie Jenkins, who died recently in Tennessee.

*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 Bob and his family.

(Kerry on . . . continued from page 1)

**3. A change in the focus of study** - which is ordinarily directed at preparation for sermons, classes and programs. I want to read, study and reflect on the meaning of faith for the pure joy of learning and growing as a Christian.

Ruthanne and I plan to do a good deal of traveling with time to be with family. I'll be working on one or more Habitat projects and hope to do some volunteer work at Montreat. I'll be taking a course at Regent College in Vancouver and then traveling in the Pacific Northwest. We also plan to spend some time in New England. During this time I will write to you each month in *Steeple to People* and let you know how it's going.

In conclusion, I want to thank you all for embracing the concept of a sabbatical program and making it possible for me to engage in it.

*Thanksgiving in February*

**DINE OUT TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25!**

Eat out at a participating restaurant and support Bethesda Cares, Inc., CASA of Maryland, Damascus Help, Emergency Assistance Coalition, Gaithersburg Help, Hand to Hand, Olney Help, Manna Food Center, Inc., Rockville Fish, Shepherd's Table, WUMCO Help, Inc.



SUNDAY MORNINGS

Classes begin at 9:45 each Sunday, in the library. For further information, call Kathy McPherson, 926-2792.

- 2 "The Reformation Recovers the Will of God" Tom Miles
- 9 Tom Miles continues "The Reformation Recovers the Will of God"
- 16 "Searching for God's Will in Everyday Experiences" Kerry Stoltzfus
- 23 TBA

Hutchinson gives first gift to general endowment fund

Helen Hutchinson, a former long time member of PPC, left \$20,000 in her estate to the Potomac Presbyterian Church General Endowment Fund. This is the first gift to the General Endowment Fund, which was created by the Session to enhance and enrich the programs and goals of Potomac Presbyterian Church. The principal is invested and, if a specific purpose is not designated by the donor, the proceeds are divided into thirds and are spent on capital uses, special mission programs, and special programs within our church. The PPC Endowment Committee is hopeful that Helen's generous gift will prompt other members of the congregation to put PPC in their estate plans.

We also have several important memorial funds, the proceeds of which are used for purposes designated by the donors.

Each year, these "endowment gifts that keep on giving" are becoming more important in supporting and expanding our ministry. Contributions to the General Endowment Fund may be made at any time, in any amount, by anyone directly or through an estate. If you are interested in learning more about planned giving, please contact Pastor Stoltzfus or a member of the Endowment Committee.



Do you ever wonder why you do not see me very often at coffee hour on Sunday mornings? Following my postlude, there is usually a line of curious young elementary-age musicians waiting at the organ bench. They come up to learn about the organ.

When they first began coming, I would allow them to push the cancel button, turn off the power switch, pull down the roll top, and turn the key to lock the instrument. But then they started asking questions about the manuals, the pedals, the stops, the pistons, the sound names and how to produce them. I could not resist their curiosity.

Gradually, with my careful instruction and supervision, they began setting stop combinations, playing designated notes, identifying manuals by name and creating chords—each child contributing one finger or one foot to the finished product.

These children are now starting to listen more carefully to the hymns, responses, and special music during the worship service. I know this by the questions a comments they make about my registrations (the way I combine organ stops to create certain instrumental sounds). On January 19th, one student said that I made the organ sound like "Star Wars." After 34 years of serving as a church organist, I have finally arrived!

Thank you, God, for the refreshing curiosity of children.

Cindy

National Capital Presbytery presents

The Big Event

February 21-22

- "Taking the Gospel Boldly Where No One Has Gone Before" *The Reverend Cody Watson*
- "Waking Up in Babylon" *The Reverend Loren Mead*
- Workshops about Bible, theology, social justice, spiritual growth, world-wide mission, worship, and all aspects of vital congregations
- Hymn Festival

The First Annual Community Ministry of Montgomery County

Young at Heart Mall Walk

February 17, 7:30 a.m.

Montgomery Mall  
Bethesda, Maryland

Call Lynette, 299-6007, for more details on these opportunities.

... from Heifer Project Regional Director John F. Dieterly, Jr. ...

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the wonderful gift of \$600 from the children of your Sunday School. Please convey our sincere appreciation to all the children who gave their offerings to help make this gift possible.

The gift of an animal may not seem like it can be a life-changing event, but for recipient families around the world the animals and training in their care represent new life and hope. We have observed how the milk from goats in Central America has actually saved the lives of hungry children. We have been told that the gift of 11 rabbits to a family in China can increase their family income by more than 60%. I have seen that improved sheep provided by HPI in Ecuador can yield nine times the income of local sheep. And in East Africa, one heifer can produce enough milk for the calf, the children in the family, and the surplus which is sold can equal a school teacher's income. The gift of an animal does make a difference for families struggling against poverty and hunger.

May God bless you for your concern for the hungry in our world, and for turning that concern into action through your gift to Heifer Project International. Working together, with God's Blessing, the hungry will be fed!

Lines

from

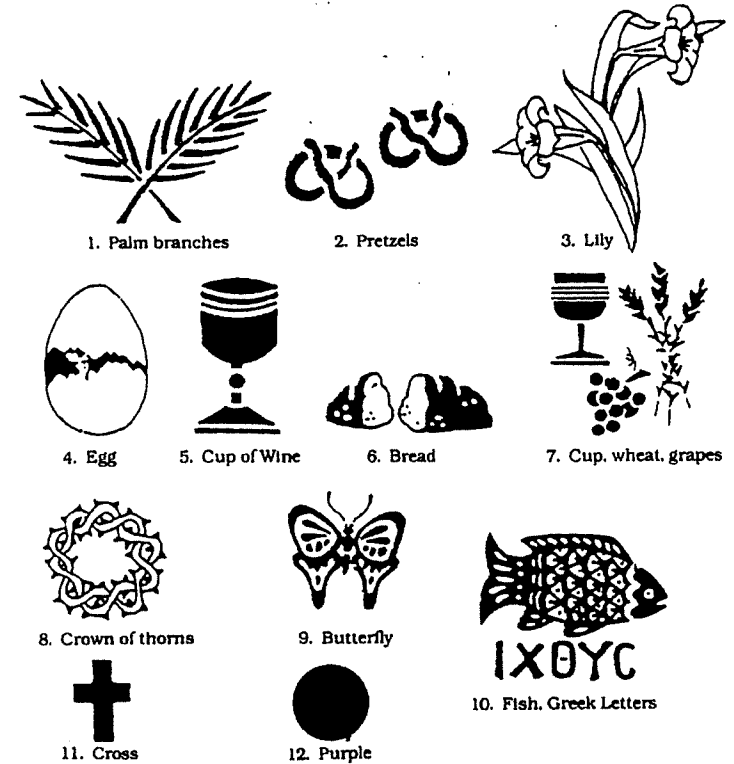
LYNETTE

The season of Lent, 40 days (excluding Sundays) leading up to Easter, begins with Ash Wednesday—which, this year, is February 12. Lent is a time for prayer and reflection, readying ourselves for the suffering and death of Jesus. Lent is a somber season, characterized in many traditions by fasting as well as penitence. It is a good season for quiet time with family and friends. To that end, the Christian education committee is making available a booklet of weekly family activities for the Lenten season, entitled "Called Together." You may pick up your copy in the narthex beginning February 2.

A number of symbols are used to mark Lent. How many of them do you know? Pictures of twelve symbols are printed on the next page (page 5), along with their meanings—try a matching game, then look for these symbols in our church during the 40 days of Lent. (Many of them are included on the beautiful banner made by our 2nd and 3rd grade Sunday School class two years ago.)

May your Lenten season be filled with growth and renewal.

Grace and peace,



Match the symbol with its meaning, writing the symbol's number on the line beside the correct meaning.

- \_\_\_ Symbolizes Christ's body in Communion.
- \_\_\_ Symbolizes new life, when the shell is cracked and the little animal is born.
- \_\_\_ Signify an important person; these were waved when Jesus rode into Jerusalem.
- \_\_\_ Letters of the first symbol for Christians: Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior.
- \_\_\_ Three symbols together meaning the Last Supper.
- \_\_\_ Symbol of Jesus' death.
- \_\_\_ Color of Lent that reminds us to pray daily as we prepare for Easter.
- \_\_\_ Comes from a "dead" cocoon – the power and beauty of the resurrection.
- \_\_\_ Placed on Jesus' head to make fun of him for being called the King of the Jews.
- \_\_\_ Represents praying during Lent, shaped like arms folded in prayer.
- \_\_\_ Symbolizes Christ's blood in Communion.
- \_\_\_ Comes from a bulb and is a symbol of new life.

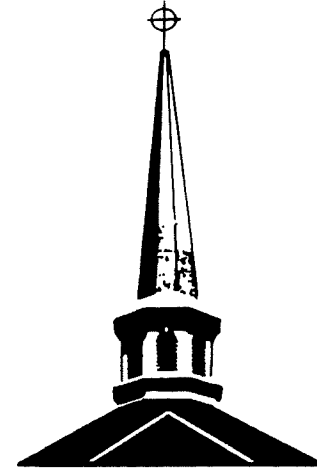


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Sunday School 9:45 AM  
Worship 11:00 AM

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# STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

## Potomac Presbyterian Church

March

1997

### Kerry On . . .

There's a story about a child who was sent to the neighborhood store on an errand. She did not return when expected and her father went out to look for her. As he started down the sidewalk he saw her coming toward him. She explained that she had been delayed because she had met her friend who had dropped her favorite china doll on the sidewalk.

"It was all broken," she told her father.

"I'm sorry," he responded. "It was nice of you to stay and help her pick up the pieces."

"Oh no," she said, "I stayed to help her cry."

We can't always fix things, especially where people are concerned. Sometimes pain, loss, grief and all manner of disappointment are like those broken pieces on the sidewalk. What is needed most of all is a friend who will listen and then restrain the impulse to offer a solution or a cure. Remember we have a Savior who is "a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief." Then maybe the best response would be to stay and help her cry.

THE FREDERICK E. BERGER LECTURE

PRESENTS

DR. OS GUINNESS

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 1997

9:45 ADULT EDUCATION, 11:00 WORSHIP

*(See details page 3)*

1

# MARCH

**2** 9:00 AM *Children's Choir*  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 11:00 AM **Worship**  
 Noon Fellowship  
 4:00 PM ★ **HOME COMMUNION**  
 5:30 PM *Confirmation*  
 6:30 PM *Middle Schoolers (away)*

3 7:00 AM Monday Connection  
 8:00 PM Outreach committee

4 1:00-6:00 PM The Lord's Table

5 9:30 AM Bible Study  
 7:30 PM ★ **Personal & Property Safety**  
 (Outreach program)

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

7

8

9:45 AM Sunday School  
 11:00 AM ★ **Worship – FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY**  
 Noon Fellowship  
 3:00 PM Manor Care  
 5:30 PM *Confirmation*  
 6:30 PM *Middle Schoolers*  
 7:30 PM ★ **HOME COMMUNION**  
*Steeple to People deadline*

17 8:00 PM Session

18

19 9:30 AM Bible Study

20 4:00 PM *Primary Choir*  
 6:30 PM Handbell Choir  
 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

21 6:00 PM Cookerly/Hill wedding rehearsal

22 ★ *Middle Schoolers to Camp Glenkirk*

6:00 PM Cookerly/Hill wedding

**9** 9:00 AM *Children's Choir*  
 9:45 AM ★ **Berger Lecture speaker**  
 11:00 AM ★ **Worship-Berger Lecture**  
 Noon Fellowship  
 5:30 PM *Confirmation class*  
 6:30 PM *Middle School Fellowship*  
 7:30 PM ★ **HOME COMMUNION**

10 12:30 PM Christian education meeting  
 8:00 PM Committees

11 10:00 AM Christian Living Group

12 9:30 AM Bible study

13 10:00 AM Endowment Committee  
 4:00 PM *Primary Choir*  
 6:30 PM Handbell Choir  
 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

**23** 9:00 AM *Children's Choir*  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 11:00 AM **Worship**  
 Noon Fellowship  
 5:30 PM *Confirmation*

24 7:30 PM Deacons

25

26 9:30 AM Bible Study

27 4:00 PM *Primary Choir*  
 6:30 PM Handbell Choir  
 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

28

29

14

15

**16** 9:00 AM *Childrens Choir*

**30** **EASTER**  
 9:00 AM **Worship**  
 10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt  
 10:40 AM Easter Egg Hunt  
 11:00 AM **Worship**

31



**We keep in our prayers . . .**  
 Marilyn Spivey, in Sibley Hospital.

**Congratulations and God's blessing on . . .**  
 Daphne Boogaard and Kevin Daley, who were married February 12 in Maui, Hawaii.

**We give thanks for the lives of . . .**  
 Charles Hubbard's wife, Leewai, who died January 4;  
 Bettie Ann Johnson's stepfather, who died in February, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

**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 Charles and his family and with Bettie Ann and her family. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to Charles Hubbard, P.O. Box 2966, Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147.

**Learn the Keys to Effective Home and Personal Security**  
**Wednesday, March 5**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**Potomac Presbyterian Church**

Presented by Montgomery County Police  
 Hosted by Potomac Presbyterian Church

Adult Christian Education

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Classes begin at 9:45 each Sunday, in the library (unless otherwise noted). For further information, call Kathy McPherson, 926-2792.

- 2 Dr. David Jenkins, director, Medical Benevolence Foundation, North Carolina
- 9 The fourth Frederick E. Berger Memorial Lecture speaker: Dr. Os Guinness, director of Trinity Forum **Meet in Fellowship Hall**
- 16 The Reverend Dr. Elly Sparks Brown, administrative director, Center for the Arts and Religion, Wesley Theological Seminary
- 23 Lynette Johnson, director of Christian education, Potomac Presbyterian Church
- 30 **EASTER—no class**

**MANY THANKS** to all who helped make the Christmas gift giving program a success. We provided food baskets to 25 families and gifts for 66 children, and we had 20 families who volunteered to deliver them.

"On behalf of the Holiday Giving Program of Montgomery County, Maryland, thank you for making a difference in the lives of others. Because of kind people such as yourselves, hundreds of families in this county were able to have a joyous Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday."

Carol Brown  
Coordinator, Holiday Giving Potomac/Bethesda Area

"Thank you so much for thinking of Friends in Action this holiday season. It is a treat for our parents not to have to worry about whether or not there will be anything for their children for Christmas. We and they appreciate your thoughtfulness and caring."

Ruth Noel  
Assistant Director

Berger Lecture

Sunday, March 19

The distinguished theologian and sociologist Os Guinness will deliver the fourth Frederick E. Berger Memorial Lecture in our church Sunday, March 9. Dr. Guinness will speak at the 9:45 a.m. hour in Fellowship Hall and preach at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. His theme will be applying God's will in a pluralist society.

Os Guinness was born in China where his parents were medical missionaries during World War II. He remained there until 1951 when the Communist government forced most foreigners to leave. He was educated in England at the University of London and Oxford University, where he received a doctorate of philosophy in social sciences from Oriel College.

He has lived in the Washington, D.C., area since 1984. He has been a Guest Scholar at Woodrow Wilson Center for International Studies and a Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Institution. From 1986 to 1989, he was executive director of the Williamsburg Charter Foundation and one of the drafters of the Williamsburg Charter on religious freedom. Currently, he is Senior Fellow of the Trinity Forum, a seminar-style forum for senior executives and political leaders. His books include *No God But God: Breaking With the Idols of Our Age* and *The American Hour*. His next book will be on the subject of vocation.

The Berger Memorial Lecture is presented by Potomac Presbyterian Church in memory of Fred Berger who joined our congregation in 1985 and died in 1988 after a long and gallant battle with cancer. Fred was committed to adult education and especially the study of contemporary issues from a theological perspective. His wife, Dr. Zidi Berger, and their sons, Christian and Jonathan, are members of our congregation.

Lines

from

LYNETTE

**W**hen my husband and I moved into our home—six years ago this Memorial Day—we fit comfortably. For six years, we've added things: "treasure" and junk, furniture, and, of course, two children and all the paraphernalia thereof. We no longer fit so comfortably into our house. In fact, over the past few months, this prospect has become downright alarming to us. We cannot buy any more anything—to my bargain-hunter's heart, this is a crushing blow.

We've spent some time trying to sort through, pare down, donate, give or throw away. In this process we've learned a few valuable lessons:

1. If we don't know how to handle something, we hang on to it. We've done this with door prizes from family reunions, ancient travel brochures, not-quite-junk mail, and unmatched socks.
2. If we remember a time when an article of clothing once fit us, we hang on to it. Who knows, we may one day be that size again.
3. If we know something is part of a larger set, we hang on to it. We do this even though we have no idea where the larger set is.
4. If we know something is truly antique, we hang on to it. It may prove to be valuable—even if it's too ugly to display or too fragile to use.
5. If we know an item was given to us by a close friend or relative, we hang on to it. We may be asked to produce it in the future.

There are doubtless more lessons to be gleaned from our over-stuffed home, but I'll stop here. It does occur to me that these lessons might have some relevance to church life as well. Bear me out as I stretch my metaphorical yarn:

1. Things we don't know how to handle, we hang on to. Conflict, hurt feelings, missed deadlines, unclear expectations—yup! We hang on to them in the church.
2. Things that once "fit," we hang on to. Ideas, programs, equipment, you can name others. Some are still great, but we need to recognize that some have served their purpose. We can still enjoy them in the photo album.
3. Things that are part of bigger things, we hang on to. Our connectional system



## HOME COMMUNION

Tradition at PPC has been that several deacons co-host a home communion during Lent, providing an opportunity for worship and fellowship in a home setting. This year, church members may select the dates and locations which best suit their schedules. Sign up in the narthex . . . and sign up early.

Choose the date and location best for you:

### **Sunday, March 2, 4:00 p.m.**

Hostess: Carolyn Ewels  
10405 Bridle Lane, Potomac  
983-5303

Co-hosts: Wendy A. Petti, Kent Arnold, Jan Cookerly

### **Sunday, March 9, 7:30 p.m.**

Hostess: Susan Hougen  
11920 Cragwood Way, Potomac  
299-8391

Co-hosts: Bob Best, Renee Jochum, Jim Dart

### **Sunday, March 16, 7:30 p.m.**

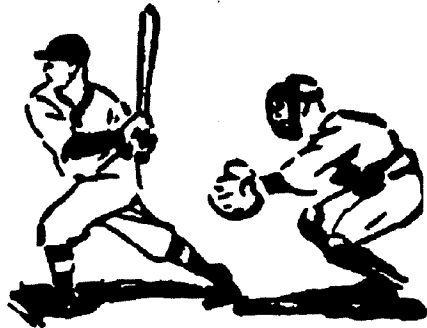
Host: Rob Wescott  
9812 Clydesdale Street, Potomac  
299-2826

Co-hosts: Carol Clouse, Marnel Williams, Joe Curry

Please keep in mind that you may attend any of the above dates, provided you sign up for your choice in time!

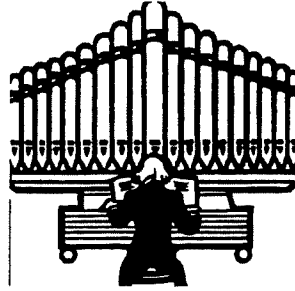
## Cookbook Update

Many thanks to the over 110 individuals who contributed just under 500 wonderful recipes for our cookbook! The materials are at our publisher and they are busily working to meet the April 10 shipping date. We will have our books by the end of April ready for sale by the first of May! Price of the cookbook has yet to be determined—watch for information in future Steeple to People issues and Sunday worship bulletins!



## Take me out to the ball game!

Once again, PPC goes to Camden Yards to see the Orioles take on the Philadelphia Phillies, Monday, June 30, at 7:35 p.m. Ticket price for this game is \$11.50. If you can't make this one, how about the Orioles taking on the Minnesota Twins Friday, August 22, at 7:35 p.m. Ticket price for this game is \$16.50. Please contact Bob Best, 469-5458, as soon as possible, to reserve your spot at these always sold out events! Reservations will be taken on a first come, first PAID basis. Get 'em while they last!



## Family Theatre Night

### *Phantom of the Opera!*

Sunday, June 29 • 7:00 p.m.  
Kennedy Center

Surrender to the music of the night . . . to the Tony Award-winning Best Musical—the international phenomenon that has dazzled standing-room-only audiences the world over. Reserve your tickets NOW for priority seating before tickets go on sale to the general public! Ticket price is \$65 each for excellent CENTER ORCHESTRA seats. (There are no discounted group tickets for any Phantom performance.) To reserve, please contact Melanie Mason, 301-365-1115. A \$15 deposit is required.

**MANY THANKS** to **Mary Ann Cookerly**, a most gracious host for the Valentines Ladies Coffee at her home. Over 30 ladies were treated to a wonderful covered dish luncheon and a presentation made by our own Elsie Reid regarding financial planning. **Thank you Elsie** for your informative presentation!

may be one of these things. It can work very well with us and for us—if we can just find and understand it.

4. Things that are really, really old, we hang on to. Some of our rituals and prayers in worship may fit in this category, and there is value in tradition. Maybe we could rearrange or refinish some of our liturgical “furniture” to help it find a place in more contemporary hearts.
5. Things that were given by someone we love, we hang on to. Either these things remind us of the one we love or we think that getting rid of them might show disloyalty to our loved one. Paintings, ‘memorial’ rooms, certain responses in worship, all are gifts from beloved friends. Which gifts do we treasure for their own sake?

All right, enough already. You can ponder my church analogies. Feel free to throw stones, but don't break my treasures!

Grace and peace,

According to Zig Zigler,  
“Success Seminar” . . .

Did  
you  
know  
that  
church-goers . . .

- . . . receive 54% more income
- . . . have a lower suicide rate
- . . . have higher self-esteem
- . . . experience less depression
- . . . are less subject to alcoholism
- . . . and are more optimistic

than non-church-goers???

## DO A FAVOR

for a friend or neighbor . . .

Bring him or her to PPC

on

“Friendship Sunday”

March 16

for a special worship service

and coffee hour

## Plan now for the special services of Easter week



### Palm Sunday

The Palm Sunday service will include a palm processional.

### Maundy Thursday

On Maundy Thursday, the evening service will begin at 6:30 p.m., with a very light dinner. Special readings and music provided by the choir will precede the communion service.

Nursery care will be provided.

### Easter Sunday

There will be special music at both the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Easter services.

## Easter Flowers

### Memorials and Contributions

Alleluia! He is risen!

**What a wonderful way to remember our loved ones**—with a contribution of flowers which will beautify the sanctuary and enhance the service as we celebrate the wondrous Easter message. Extra contributions will be donated to local charities.

Envelopes will be located in the pews and should be filled out exactly as you wish to be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Put your check/cash inside the envelope, seal, and place in the offering plate or in the box in the narthex marked "Easter Flowers. If you wish to mail your donation, please include the exact wording of your memorial and mail it to the church, attention Flo Casper. Write Easter Flowers on the outside of the envelope.



## Easter Egg Hunts Sunday, March 30

### Early Hunt

10:00 a.m.  
(immediately following first service)

### Late Hunt

10:40 a.m.  
(prior to second service)

Children should bring Easter baskets and meet in the library for instructions before their hunt begins.

## THE



## WRIGHT NOTE

On the first Sunday of Lent, Kerry challenged the children to use the next few weeks before Easter to "get ready." Musically, we will be participating in this preparation.

Before the celebrative hosannas of Palm Sunday and the triumphant hallelujahs of Easter, you will hear and sing texts that relate to Jesus' journey to the cross. Some of the music will be softer and at times dissonant to reflect His struggle and pain.

In this time of pending grief before insurmountable joy, Maundy Thursday stands out in my mind as a day of great impact. On this day Jesus was betrayed by His friends and thus had to face the indignities of the cross on Good Friday.

We always have a worship service here at our church on this Thursday night during Holy Week to remember the Last Supper and the betrayal. This year, following our meal, the Sanctuary Choir and narrators will lead us through these solemn events in a musical work by Gilbert Martin entitled "Christ, the Crucified." This will be a meaningful experience for us all as we continue our preparation for Easter.

Make plans now to participate in this service of Communion on March 27.

## CROSS IT OUT

Read Acts 2:1-4, 14, 36-41 and follow the directions below.

1. Cross out 4 words describing the Holy Spirit.
2. Cross out 1 preacher.
3. Cross out 1 feast.
4. Cross out 1 city.
5. Cross out 3 things Peter asked the crowd to do.
6. Cross out 1 number.
7. Cross out 1 nation.
8. Cross out 2 words for the disciples.
9. Cross out 3 things the crowd did.
10. Cross out 1 group of people.

wind	God	repent	eleven	made
be baptized	Jesus	fire	save yourselves	Peter
apostles	Pentecost	sound	both	Israel
Lord	tongues	Jerusalem	heard	Jews
accepted	and	3000	Christ	were baptized

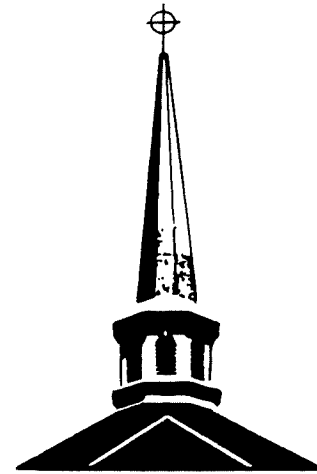
Read the leftover words from left to right and top to bottom to learn Peter's message.

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

1997

### Kerry On . . .

On March 17 the Session accepted the resignation of Lynette Johnson, as she will begin a new position as director of Christian education at the Lexington (Virginia) Presbyterian Church. She will be the "trailing spouse" in this move, as her husband Ray takes a new job back in his home town. The effective date will be May 31 and Lynette will be with us at least through Youth Sunday on May 11. She will have some vacation time during the last few weeks of May.

We are grateful for her ministry with us over the past three years and we have seen our Christian education program grow and become stronger.

Thanks, Lynette, for sharing your talents with us, and we wish you Godspeed as you move on to your new position. I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with you as a colleague, getting to know Jake on his visits to the church, and the special privilege of sharing in the sacrament of baptism for Emma Grace.

I will be working with the Christian education elders and the personnel chair to secure an interim DCE as soon as possible. We hope to be able to make an announcement in that regard in the near future.

## APRIL

1	1:00 PM	The Lord's Table	16	9:30 AM	Bible study
	2:00 PM	Basic Bible Study	17	4:00 PM	<i>Primary Choir</i>
2	9:30 AM	Bible study		6:30 PM	Handbell Choir
3	6:30 PM	Handbell Choir		8:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir
	8:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir	18	5:30 PM	Tennent/Clodfelter rehearsal
4			19	6:30 PM	Tennent/Clodfelter wedding
5					
<hr/>					
6	9:00 AM	<i>Children's Choir</i>	20	9:00 AM	<i>Childrens Choir</i>
	9:45 AM	Sunday School		9:45 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	Worship		11:00 AM	Worship – Confirmands received
	Noon	Fellowship		Noon	Fellowship
	5:30 PM	Confirmation		1:30 PM	Family Theatre
7	7:00 AM	Monday Connection		3:00 PM	Manor Care
8	10:00 AM	Christian Living		6:30 PM	<i>Middle Schoolers</i>
	7:30 PM	Basic Bible Study			<i>Steeple to People</i> deadline
9	9:30 AM	Bible study	21	8:00 PM	Session
	11:00 AM	Christian education committee			Pastor Stoltzfus begins sabbatical
10	4:00 PM	<i>Primary Choir</i>	22	7:30 PM	Basic Bible Study
	6:30 PM	Handbell Choir	23	9:30 AM	Bible study
	8:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir	24	4:00 PM	<i>Primary Choir</i>
11	Evening	<i>Youth Sunday preparation</i>		6:30 PM	Handbell Choir
12		★ SPRING CLEANUP DAY		8:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir
			25	6:00 PM	
			26	6:00 PM	
<hr/>					
13	9:00 AM	<i>Children's Choir</i>	27	9:00 AM	TEACHER APPRECIATION breakfast
	9:00 AM	Blood Drive		9:00 AM	<i>Children's Choir</i>
	9:45 AM	Sunday School		9:45 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	Worship		11:00 AM	Worship
	Noon	Fellowship		Noon	Fellowship
	5:30 PM	Confirmation class			
	6:30 PM	<i>Youth Sunday planning</i>			
14	12:30 PM	Christian education meeting	28	7:30 PM	Deacons
	8:00 PM	Committees	29	7:30 PM	Basic Bible Study
15	7:30 PM	Basic Bible Study	30	9:30 AM	Bible Study

## In Our Family

### **We keep in our prayers . . .**

Jack Dart, in Suburban Hospital;  
Shirley Tietjen, at home;  
Joy Schwan Best, at home.

### **Congratulations and God's blessing on . . .**

Wendy Kajiwara and Ben Jenkins, who were married in February, in Hawaii.

### **We celebrate with joy the baptism of . . .**

Wesley Charles Muys, son of Lynn and Jerry Muys, and brother of Christian and Cameron, March 16.

### **We give thanks for the lives of . . .**

Nando Zucchi's grandmother, who died February 22;  
The Rev. Dr. Donald Miller, who died February 22;  
Beverly Bailey's father, who died February 24;  
Marilyn Spivey, who died March 9.

### **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."**

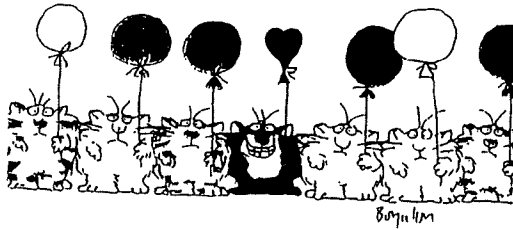
Our prayers are with Nando and his family; Mrs. Donald Miller and her family; Bev and her family; and with Marilyn's family.

### **WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR OUR GOOD FORTUNE!**

March 26, Pastor Stoltzfus completed 12 years of ministry at Potomac Presbyterian.

Ruthanne and Kerry's home telephone number has now been permanently changed to 424-8492. It is not an unlisted number; however, it will not be automatically given out when you call the old number. You can secure the new number through information.





## Stand out in the crowd GIVE BLOOD

Blood Drive

Sunday, April 13 • 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

At the church • By appointment  
Sign-up sheets are posted in the narthex.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **Church Family Picnic**  
immediately following services June 8
- **Youth Sunday** May 11

## Deacon Beacon

Our mission to the congregation as elected deacons is to serve **you!** We do that by being another means of communication between you and the church—a friendly, informal conduit of information. We receive information as well as help to share it with all of you. We also perform the obvious duties associated with hosting coffees, planning the Williamsburg Breakfast, etc. (Think of us as “food and fun” zealots, if you will.) A very important part of our calling is simply to make everyone feel welcome and invited to be active members of our congregation. Your ideas are always welcome, especially on how to make things even better.

## Charles Gilchrist First Guest Preacher

The first of our guest preachers during Dr. Stoltzfus’ sabbatical leave will be The Reverend Charles W. Gilchrist, director of operations, New Song Urban Ministries in Baltimore. We are very excited that Reverend Gilchrist will be with us April 27, and we urge you to mark your calendars. Our guest brings to the pulpit extraordinary talent, background, and commitment to mission and service in Christ’s name.

For eight years, beginning in 1978, Charles Gilchrist held the office of county executive of Montgomery County, having served previously in the Maryland Senate and having practiced law in Baltimore and Washington, D.C. He was ordained to the Episcopal ministry in 1989 after earning the degree of master of divinity, cum laude, from Virginia Theological Seminary. Since then, he has served as assistant rector of St. Margaret’s Episcopal Church in Washington; and 1991–1996, as executive director of Cathedral Shelter in Chicago and as associate rector of the Church of the Epiphany in that city. Reverend Gilchrist assumed his current position in October 1996. New Song Urban Ministries is a church-based Christian community development organization in the Sandtown/Winchester neighborhood of Baltimore. The associated ministries center in New Song Community Church, an interracial congregation, includes Sandtown Habitat for Humanity, New Song Community Learning Center, New Song Academy, Sandtown Records, New Song Family Health Services, and EDEN Jobs. The ministries employ more than 40 persons, most of them resident in the community, and involve thousands of volunteers each year.

Jon Hawley, worship committee

Lines

from

LYNETTE

It’s birthday season! All four of us have birthdays in the next several weeks. Jake is carefully plotting the big new toys he’ll get—in fact, he’s decided to turn five (rather than four) so that he can get “five year old toys.” Ray says he wants a new, outrageously expensive watch (that means one that costs more than twenty dollars); Emma doesn’t know or care about birthdays; and I never know what I want.

On my daily commute, I worry about the birthdays. The responsible parent in me expresses concern that Jake is becoming too acquisitive. The loving wife in me suggests that Ray may actually get the watch, even though the petty wife in me thinks he doesn’t need another one. The frugal penny-pincher in me hints that Emma won’t care if she gets recycled toys this year.

Once we’re all home, the TV tells us that there are fantastic new toys Jake shouldn’t have to live without. The newspaper tells us that Ray and I really deserve the best—jewelry can be purchased in easy monthly installments, after all. And the toy store ad in our mailbox tells us that, if we truly love our baby, we’ll want her to have the best, latest, most colorful, developmentally appropriate items ever created.

Whew! How do we sort out the voices? When we buy gifts, what criteria do we use in selecting them? Even were money in unlimited supply, we would (I think) still make choices about what to buy or give.

It is my contention that there is faith language to describe how we make choices in our gift-giving. I am challenging myself to be courageous enough to try that language with my family. It is my tendency to express convenience instead of conviction. I say, “That’s too expensive” rather than use the language of stewardship to say, “You have enough”—or to say, “I’m not buying that for you today” rather than use the language of holiness to say, “Guns hurt people, and we don’t believe in buying hurtful toys.”

*When we buy gifts,  
what criteria do we  
use in selecting them?*

How do you make and talk about choices with your family?

Faithfully shopping and celebrating,

P.S. Kerry has told you our news—it is true that I’ll be leaving Potomac in May. I’ll be talking with you personally over the next month or so about our move, and I’ll write my farewells in next month’s *Steeple to People*.

## Thank you, God, for Music

by Cynthia Wright

Thank you, God, for - mus - ic. Thank you, God, for  
song. May the joy we feel while sing - ing  
last the whole week long.

**T**here is a blue poster hanging in the choir robe room. It displays the above simple song that I wrote five years ago as a weekly closing prayer for our children's choir. Our little primary choir singers are now singing it before leaving their Thursday afternoon rehearsals. It may well be my church music philosophy in a nutshell.

Sing it through for yourselves. I hope that you, too, feel a certain joy as you participate in the music during our Sunday worship and other special worship gatherings during the year. Notice the word "week." I almost changed it for this publication, but then thought otherwise. Frequent reinforcement strengthens our depth of involvement and helps us feel more confident in our musical statement of faith. Hum . . . I wonder if Kerry might want to add a postscript about reading scripture, praying, and listening to sermons on a weekly basis.

Your faithful director of music

### Annual Spring Cleanup Day

Saturday, April 12

Please set aside Saturday, April 12, to join in our annual spring cleanup day. Bring the family and help spread the mulch, trim the shrubs, and generally spruce up the church grounds.

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

Sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board or call Rick McMahon, 869-4639.

FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP

### Rummage Sale Saturday, May 31

It's spring, so start cleaning those closets, sweep out that garage, reorganize your basement and purge your dresser drawers! The annual PPC Rummage Sale to support local mission organizations will be held this year on Saturday, May 31. Mark your calendar and get busy! Receipts will be given for all donations made. Watch future issues of *Steeple to People* and worship bulletins if you are interested in assisting the Fellowship Committee to make this sale a success!

### Cookbook Update

We have received confirmation from our publisher that our cookbooks are on schedule and will be delivered by the end of April! As soon as they are received, they will go on sale. Thanks for your patience. In the next issue of *Steeple to People*, there will be an order form for

purchasers living outside the Potomac area who would like to purchase a cookbook. We will gladly mail them to you.

### Best Ball Golf Saturday, May 3

**FORE!** Forget the Kemper Open and the U.S. Open—find your own moment in the sun at the annual PPC Golf Outing to be held at Falls Road Golf Course on Saturday, May 3, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Once again, Bob Best has arranged for a group of energetic golfers, young and old, all abilities, to enjoy a best ball format for a fun morning of fellowship and fun on the local links! Sign up in the narthex beginning April 13.

**PLEASE BE AWARE** that there will be no Mother-Daughter Banquet this spring. This is primarily due to an extremely busy church calendar in the months of May and June.

### The Responsibility Belongs to Each of Us

Every time we baptize a child, each of us reaffirms our responsibility to help with the Christian nurture of that child. Volunteering in Creative Enrichment provides an excellent opportunity to fulfill that responsibility. We need three volunteers every Sunday throughout the year. If every able member helped out just one Sunday, no one would need to volunteer more than once each year. Better yet, it requires no preparation. Wouldn't it be great if the younger moms and dads could spend their hour worshipping together rather than once again teaching Creative Enrichment?

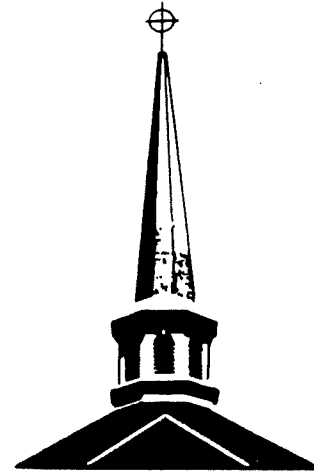
Please call Lynette and sign up for a Sunday and an age group (toddler-2 year olds; 4-5 year olds; first-third graders).

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

May

1997

### Kerry On . . .

What a privilege and opportunity you have given me as your pastor. For three months I will be able to step aside from the daily demands of ministry. It will be a time to reflect on the meaning of ministry and renew my spiritual life. We are glad that Ruthanne and I will be able to spend time together traveling and being with our families. Three months of free weekends will be a unique experience.

I have great confidence in all of you and really believe that our ministry will actually be strengthened during my absence. The "Sabbatical Commitments" will be a good guide for you. I appreciate the energy and enthusiasm that the Session, Deacons, staff and so many of you have already expressed for sharing leadership in the months ahead. Your initiative and "can do" attitude that impressed me twelve years ago remains stronger than ever.

We will miss each other, but we are a strong and caring family. As one of you said to me, "Go, have a great time, we'll be fine." I'll look forward to being with you again and to renewing our commitment to being all God wants us to be. In the words of the hymn we say to one another,

"God be with you till we meet again."



## In Our Family



### MAY

1 6:30 PM Handbell Choir  
8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

2  
3

4 9:00 AM Children's Choir  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM *Worship*  
Noon Fellowship

5  
6

7 9:30 AM Bible study

8 6:30 PM Handbell Choir  
8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

9 6:00 PM Bauer/Zahniser wedding rehearsal

10 1:00 PM Bauer/Zahniser wedding

16 6:00 PM Braden/Snow wedding rehearsal

17 1:00 PM Braden/Snow wedding

18 9:00 AM Children's Choir  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM *Worship*, Communion  
Noon Fellowship  
3:00 PM Manor Care

19 8:00 PM Session

20

21

22 6:30 PM Handbell Choir  
8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

23 6:00 PM Skinner/Gerard wedding rehearsal

24 4:00 PM Skinner/Gerard wedding

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

12 8:00 PM Committee meetings

13 10:00 AM Christian Living

14 12 noon Bible study luncheon  
Paddy Simpson, hostess

15 6:30 PM Handbell Choir  
8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

25 9:00 AM Children's Choir  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM *Worship*  
Noon Fellowship

26-30 ★ Preparation for Rummage Sale

27

28

29

30

31 9:00 AM ★ RUMMAGE SALE

### *We keep in our prayers . . .*

Shirley Tietjen, at home;

Joy Schwan Best, at home;

### *Congratulations and God's blessing on . . .*

Ann Morgan Cookerly and Charles Robert "Robb" Hill, married March 22, at PPC;

Gregory Lynn Tennent and Charles Meade Clodfelter III, married April 19, at PPC.

### *We rejoice in the births of . . .*

Caitlin Marie, daughter of Laurie and John O'Neal, and granddaughter of Sally O'Neal, born April 8;

Sara Elizabeth, daughter of Pam Mazza and Chris Cyrway, born April 10.

### *Congratulations and best wishes to . . .*

John Toerge's parents, Mary Ruth and Jack Toerge, who are celebrating their 52nd wedding anniversary.

Lynda Tennent's parents, Hilda and Randolph Gregory, who are celebrating their 56th wedding anniversary.

### *We give thanks for the lives of . . .*

Melanie Mason's grandfather, Nicholas A. Mika, who died April 19;

Jane Malone, who died April 20;

Carolyn Beck, who died April 24.

### *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 Melanie and her family, Bill and his family, and Alan and his family.

**LOOKING AHEAD** Following the April 27 worship service led by guest preacher Charles Gilchrist, services for the first month of Pastor Stoltzfus' sabbatical leave will be led by members of our own family of faith. Lynette Johnson, our director of Christian education, will deliver the sermon the first Sunday in May; the following Sunday, our youth will conduct the Mother's Day service. Reverend Miles, our parish associate, will preach May 18, and a special service is being planned for the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend. The first of June, Matthew Teel, the seminary student whose education our congregation supports, will lead us in worship. Please be with us each week.

### SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT:

When taking food to someone, consider using disposable containers. A disposable container could be as much a gift as the food itself!

Adult Christian Education

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SEMINAR

Classes are held each Sunday, in the library, from 9:45 a.m.–10:45 a.m. For further information, contact Kathy McPherson, 926-2792.

- May 4** "Jeremiah and the Will of God"  
Dr. Alice Belice, Howard University, School of Divinity
- 11** Dr. Belice continues.
- 18** Dr. Belice continues
- 25** **Memorial Day** NO CLASS
- June 1** "Searching for God's Will"  
Adult education panel LAST CLASS OF THE YEAR

FALL SESSION BEGINS SEPTEMBER 16, 1997

Next year's adult education theme will be "God is with you wherever you go," based on Joshua 1:9: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

*Thank you for the delightful send-off for our sabbatical. We'll enjoy our gifts and even more, the thoughts and prayers that come with them.*

*"God be with you till we meet again."*

*Kerry and Ruthanne*

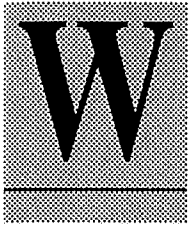
CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?

Ten years ago, on May 31, 1987, our new Fellowship Hall was dedicated to the glory of God. We give thanks for the ministry, mission, and fellowship which have been possible.

Beautiful Easter Flowers

We wish to express our gratitude to Bethesda Florists for donating all the fresh flowers used in the design behind the pulpit.

**Lines  
from  
LYNETTE**



When as a child, I accompanied my mother on visits to her friends' homes, the farewell routine was always the same. My mother would jump up, look at her watch and at me, and say, "My, look at the time—we really have to run! Pick up the toys and get in the car right now." We children would dutifully pick up the toys, say a perfunctory goodbye, and get in the car.

Then, the real farewells began. My mother and her friend would stand by the back door and talk for thirty minutes—while I sat in the car. Then my mother would look at her watch again, and say, "My, look at the time—I really have to run!" She'd get in the car, close the door, roll down the window, and talk to her friend for another thirty minutes. The third time she went through the watch thing, we really would go.

I am leaving PPC this month, and though the official farewells will happen on May 4, I will be here through most of the month, winding things up and saying the long goodbyes. Thank you for the three wonderful years we have shared together. I have come to know you as friends: through Vacation Bible School, youth fellowship and mission, teacher gatherings, evening Bible study, greeting you on Sunday morning, and chatting in the hallways. I will miss you all.

After nine years in the Washington area, Ray and I are looking forward to living near the mountains, to five-minute commutes, and to more time with each other and with our children. Ray's new work begins May 1, and I will begin my work at Lexington Presbyterian Church on June 1.

As I drive away, looking in the rear view mirror, I see Potomac Presbyterian Church as a dynamic and caring community of believers searching for—and finding—new ways to be faithful in a swiftly changing world.

"May grace and peace be yours in abundance." (I Peter 1:2)



Annual  
*Rummage Sale*

Saturday, May 31

PPC's Rummage Sale will be held this year Saturday, May 31, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. So get busy and clean those closets, drawers, and basements. All manner of donations will be accepted for the sale according to the following schedule:

Sunday, May 25, 12:30-3:00 p.m.  
Monday, May 26, holiday, church closed  
Tuesday, May 27, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, May 28, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.  
Thursday, May 29, 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Friday, May 30, No donations accepted

Please consider helping the fellowship committee prepare for the sale during the week, as well as helping out during the sale, Saturday, May 31. A sign-up board will be in the narthex during the month of May. Thank you for your donations and your assistance.

### Cookbooks

Our cookbook has arrived in all its splendor! 111 individuals contributed over 490 recipes to make this book a wealth of culinary delights. Proceeds from the sale of these cookbooks will benefit The Lord's Table (serving meals to the homeless in Rockville) and for a future internal church project. Cookbooks are \$10 each and for those of you living outside the Potomac area, mail this page to the church office, Attn: Cookbook Order, or FAX to the church office, 301-299-9438. Once we receive your check (made out to Potomac Presbyterian Church) we will mail your cookbook(s) to you. Enjoy—and many thanks to all who contributed!

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of the PPC Cookbook @ \$10 each, + \$1.25 postage per book. Make check payable to Potomac Presbyterian Church. Mail Cookbooks to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail or FAX this request to:

Potomac Presbyterian Church  
Attn: Cookbook Order  
10301 River Road  
Potomac, Maryland 20854

### News from the Mashburns . . .

"Dear Family, Friends, and Innocent Bystanders,

I must start by catching you all up on some of the people in our other letters. You will all remember the little girl that Rebecca diagnosed to have a serious heart condition. She was being raised by her grandfather. The Testers of Johnson City, Tennessee, wrote to ask about the possibility of being able to adopt her. Rebecca sent word up to her village, but no response came back. Rebecca continued to get word to the grandfather until she was finally informed that the little girl had already died, and that is why the grandfather had not replied.

The little boy who had the badly infected hand did finally get medical help. He ran off and hid all day long to prevent Rebecca from working on his hand. His hand hurt so much that he was afraid of having to tolerate any more pain. Well, he was balled out by his little brother for his lack of courage, and his brother finally shamed him into allowing Rebecca to work on him. Well, his hand has almost fully recovered. He is now a semipermanent fixture in our house. He loves Joel and Candice's "television." Candice and Joel each have a "Viewmaster." For people who have never seen a television, it is a television. The really nice thing about a Viewmaster is that there are never any commercials.

We had a visit from Colorado friends just in the nick of time. They brought over some basic medical supplies that are not available, in reasonably good quality. They brought microscopes; and a lab technician from the United Mission to Nepal working in Kathmandu came out to do some training.

The Project's first serious accident occurred when two workers were crushed between wheel loaders in a tunnel. The Coloradans had just brought chest tubes and Rebecca used one to save one man's life. However, at the instant she inserted the tube she was struck with the fear that she had just killed him. So much blood came streaming out of his chest she thought that she must have hit his heart. Her relief came when the man who was gasping for breath said, "I can breathe, thanks." The microscopes and new training were used for blood and to find a donor for the gravity-feed blood transfusion.

The next day, Rebecca was sent for when a man severed an artery in his arm. With tongue depressors as retractor, Rebecca was able to stop the bleeding and send him to Kathmandu for surgery.

That evening, a rock fell in one of the tunnels, breaking a man's back. Rebecca and the clinic staff worked on this man late into the night. The man had use of his legs when the accident occurred, but after the long stretcher ride down the mountain, he had no feeling.

Now the most recent news is that the first two men were discharged from the hospital yesterday. The one man had fully collapsed one lung and half collapsed the other. The other man had lacerated his liver, and developed pneumonia in the hospital. The man with the cut arm is back at Kirne, and still hasn't regained movement. The man with the broken back is back in Kirne and Rebecca is caring for him. He has regained most of his feeling in his legs.

The excitement of all of this has now settled down, and I have to believe that Rebecca is the right person to be here. We Presbyterians are thought to believe in predestination. For me, predestination is being at the right place at the right time with the right reason. The friends who visited were at the right place at the right time because they believed that God wanted them to be there. At least two people, who would have been dead without the supplies they brought, are alive. I will take that as evidence that God did want them here.

With all our love, the Mashburns

## Commit to Growth and Renewal

Godspeed to Kerry as he begins his sabbatical; we hope he will find rest, study, reflection, growth. We also look forward to this time as one of growth and renewal for our congregation. We expect that when we reunite as pastor and church, there will be a synergy from our independent experiences which will be greater than the two parts. Please commit to working together to reap the most benefit we can from these three months. It is an exciting time, full of potential.

### The Ten Commitments

1. Remember and act under the belief that **you** are the church.

*"Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."*

I Corinthians 12:27

2. Remember and remind others that the sabbatical is a time for individual and congregational growth.

*"Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ."*

Ephesians 4:15

3. Make an extra effort to worship every Sunday.

*"And [Jesus] went to the synagogue, as his custom was, on the sabbath day."*

Luke 4:16

4. Without being asked, visit a hospitalized or homebound person; send a card also.

*"Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ."*

Galatians 6:2

5. Thank people for their extra efforts (Elders, Deacons, and others who take on added tasks and responsibilities).

*"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you."*

Philippians 1:3

6. Respond to a request to perform a task.

*"We have not ceased to pray to you, asking that you may . . . lead a life worthy of the Lord . . . bearing fruit in every good work."*

Colossians 1:9-10

7. Keep you pledge/offerings up-to-date.

*"Everyone just do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*

II Corinthians 9:7

8. Pray daily for persons who put extra effort into the congregation's life.

*"And so, from the day we heard of [your extra effort], we have not ceased to pray for you."*

Colossians 1:9

9. Pray daily for the congregation and its people.

*". . . without ceasing I mention you always in my prayers."*

Romans 1:9

10. Pray daily for our pastor, Kerry Stoltzfus.

*"We always thank God, the father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you."*

Colossians 1:3

## Your WILL *Creating a lasting legacy*

### ENDOWMENT PLAQUES

If you haven't already noticed the two new walnut plaques on the left wall as you enter Fellowship Hall, please take a moment to look at them.

The one to the left of the "Building Addition and Renovation 1987" plaque identifies those persons who have set up PPC Memorial Endowment Funds in honor of loved ones for special purposes.

The one to the right of the "Building" plaque identifies contributions of \$1,000, or more, to the PPC General Endowment Fund.

These Funds are available to all PPC members, their families, and their friends, as a means of providing continuing support for PPC in specific ways.

Jack Dart, of the PPC Endowment Committee, arranged for these plaques.

### Flood Relief

"One Great Hour of Sharing" is on the scene in Grand Forks, North Dakota, and surrounding area. Additional funds are needed to show we care. As we have been touched by God's love, let us open wide our hearts that that love may find a path through us to others. Please note on your check: "Flood Relief."

### HELP! PPC is in need of USHERS

The duties are minimal

The only equipment necessary is a smile

The commitment is one Sunday per month until October 1997

We encourage adult couples or singles, high schoolers, families, and especially new members to volunteer. Please see the sign-up poster in the narthex or call Dan Dowd at home: 301-299-3835, or at work, 202-565-3640.

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Dear Friends:

We would like to update you on the happenings in the Christian education department of PPC. Most of us are involved in its programs in some capacity, whether as a teacher, helper, committee member, or attendee at various classes. For a congregation of our size, the participation is extremely high and we thank you most sincerely for that!

We, the present Elders for Christian education, would like you to feel welcome at any meetings—a “brown bag” working lunch held the second Monday of the month, in the library at noon. These are NOT restricted to committee members only! Any parent or teacher or other person who wishes to voice concerns, offer suggestions, or just attend to see “what’s going on” is encouraged to attend, even if only for part of the meeting time. Our programs are constantly changing in terms of needs, group dynamics, and staffing availability. With our pastor’s absence and the D.C.E.’s relocation, we will need extra assistance to make sure that our programs continue to grow and maintain their high degree of success.

Specifically, we need—ALWAYS—creative enrichment volunteers, a Middle School team for next year, one or two persons to team with an existing teacher for the Senior High class. We need—ALWAYS—help with the Middle School fellowship group which meets Sunday evenings. Our youth are our future and we do not want to lose them! This year we have a very large confirmation class, and we need to keep them involved in the life of the congregation. We make promises as a congregation during the baptism and confirmation services to “nurture and help them to grow in the Christian faith.” Sometimes we need to be reminded of these promises!

Please feel free to call us with any ideas or concerns!

Beth Rudnic, 869-4622, and Paddy Simpson, 762-0545.

P.S. PLEASE MARK MAY 11 to attend a VERY SPECIAL FAMILY SERVICE organized by the Middle School and Senior High Youth. Mother’s Day is YOUTH SUNDAY—we think a most appropriate day for this celebration!

## GOOD NEWS!

**Diane Hutchins has agreed to return to PPC** as our interim director of Christian education. She will begin on a regular basis August 1 and will be available to our C.E. Elders for consultation prior to that time. Many of us remember Diane when she was with us before Lynette joined the staff; and for everyone else, you will enjoy meeting her. A search committee will be formed in the fall to begin work on filling this staff position.



- **MAY 11 IS YOUTH SUNDAY** Our Middle and High Schoolers will provide the worship service in the form of a play entitled, “Wind.” The theme is preparing for Pentecost.
- **MAY 12, ATTEND THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MEETING** Anyone interested in Christian education is invited Monday, at 12:30 p.m. Please bring a bag lunch.
- **JUNE 8, ATTEND THE FIRST ANNUAL CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC** Come to church dressed for a picnic immediately following services. The youth will be selling submarine sandwiches, drinks, and dessert to raise funds for future mission projects. Even if you can’t stay, stop by and pick up a sandwich!

A HUGE “THANK YOU” to all who help out with Christian education on Sunday mornings. Almost 75 people have taught, aided, or assisted in providing our children and adults with exceptional Christian instruction. A donation will be made to the mission committee in your names: Kitty Albright; Rhonda Amoroso; Kent Arnold; Marthy Boxhoom; Leah Cannon; Courtney and Diane Chapin; Sherri Cissel; Jackie Cronin; Catherine, Melissa, and Vicki Dorman; Chris Dowd; Carolyn Ewels; Jean Fisler; Kelli Fort; Janet Gereige; Cindy Griswold; Sandra Gunn; Joyce Jenkins; Renee and Jim Jochum; Lynette Johnson; Andrea Katz; Young Kim; Debbie and Bill Leary; Mary Ling; Olivia Mabeus; Melanie Mason; Julie McMahon; Kathie and Kevin McShea; Donna Mecklenburg; Tom Miles; Honor Mindnich; Lynn Muys; Bridget Newton; Ann Niskanen; Melissa Norvell; Wendy and Matt Petti; Chris and Carl Atwood; Mary and Jim Reichley; Milly Rowan; Beth Rudnic; Sonia Russo; Pam Self; Paddy Simpson; Molly Singerling; Mary Margaret Smith; Barbara Stevens; Kerry Stoltzfus; Alyce Tamzarian; Vivian Teets; Shirley and Bob Tietjen; Kathy Tillotson; Liz Underhill; Karen Wise and Emily Wescott.



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

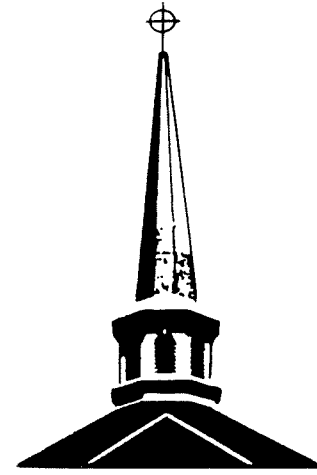
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U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Rockville, MD  
Permit No. 200

Dr/Mrs K. Stoltzfus  
1987 Lancashire Dr  
Potomac, MD 20854

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

**SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS JUNE 8**  
**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**WORSHIP              10:00 AM**



## STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

June

1997

### Kerry On . . .

Greetings from Minnesota where we are visiting with my brother and his family before going on to Vancouver in a few days. We enjoyed being with Emily and Mark for a week in Ohio. We attended a high school baseball game and Mark's team won their second tournament game. I don't believe I'd been to a game since my high school days. Ruthanne took a roll of film during the game and was wishing she'd had a press pass.

It's my fourth Sunday morning with no pastoral responsibility. Ordinarily for me, each week builds toward Sunday and this is certainly different. I'm reminded in a new way what an awesome privilege and responsibility it is to lead a community of faith in worship, and I imagine that by the end of the sabbatical my calling will be deepened and enriched. This evening we went to Contemporary Service at St. Andrew Lutheran Church (good Presbyterian name for a church), where my brother and family belong. The band was "awesome" and the singing enthusiastic.

I've been reading a book by Eugene Peterson on David and writing my own reflections in a daily journal. I hope to meet Peterson when we are in Vancouver, as I have been reading him for over 20 years. The David story is one of my earliest memories—David and Goliath especially. Yet you can always find something new in a good story. Peterson says, "learning stories isn't the same as learning the multiplication tables." Or another way of thinking about stories, "Having learned the meaning of love, we don't for a moment suppose that we have passed that course." You might enjoy rethinking some of the old familiar Bible stories. Sometimes it helps to identify with different characters in the story. What if I were Samuel, or David's father Jesse, or King Saul, Bathsheba, or Nathan, as well as David himself?

Thank you for being such a fine congregation and providing us with this sabbatical time. You are in our prayers during this time that we are apart—May the Lord bless you and keep you.

JUNE—JULY

<p><b>1</b> 9:00 AM ☆ <i>BREAKFAST—Children's Choir in Fellowship Hall</i>            9:43 AM Sunday School            11:00 AM <i>Worship</i>            Noon Fellowship</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 1:00 PM The Lord's Table</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <hr/> <p><b>8</b> 10:00 AM <i>Worship</i>            11:00 AM ☆ <i>CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC</i></p> <p>9 8:00 PM Committee meetings</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <hr/> <p><b>15</b> 9:00 AM Father's Day Chorus rehearsal            10:00 AM <i>Worship</i>            11:00 AM Fellowship</p> <p>16 8:00 PM Session</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20 7:00 PM Chung/May wedding rehearsal</p> <p>21 Noon Chung/May wedding</p> <hr/> <p><b>22</b> 10:00 AM <i>Worship</i>            11:00 AM Fellowship</p>	<p>23-27 9-12:30 PM ☆ <i>VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL</i></p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p>26</p> <p>27</p> <p>28</p> <hr/> <p><b>29</b> 10:00 AM <i>Worship</i>            11:00 AM Fellowship</p> <p>30</p> <p>July 1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>4</p> <p>5</p> <hr/> <p><b>6</b> 10:00 AM <i>Worship</i>            11:00 AM Fellowship</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9-10 Office closed</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <hr/> <p><b>13</b> 10:00 AM <i>Worship</i>            11:00 Fellowship</p>
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The administrative office will be closed July and August.



# In Our Family



**We keep in our prayers . . .**

Joy Schwan Best, at home.

**Congratulations and God's blessing on . . .**

Trisha Skinner and Brian Gerard, who were married May 24, at Potomac Presbyterian.

**We rejoice in the births of . . .**

Julia Kathryn Conley, daughter of Gretchen and Bryan Conley, and granddaughter of Miriam and Bob Conley, born May 9;

Rebecca Bell Goodier, daughter of Kathleen and Matthew Goodier, granddaughter of Janet and Calvin Koonce, great granddaughter of Helen and James Bell, born May 16;

Grace Armineh Pereles, daughter of Susan and Daniel Pereles, born May 23.

**Congratulations and best wishes to . . .**

Helen and James Bell, parents of Janet Koonce, married 60! years, May 14.

**We give thanks for the life of . . .**

Shirley Albee Tietjen, who died May 7.

**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 Bob and his family.

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Faith,*

*I am overwhelmed by the generosity and support my family and I have received in the week since Shirley's death. I want everyone in the congregation to know that Peter, David, and I will always remember the outpouring of love and support that we have experienced. Thank you all for all your gifts and mostly your expressions of affection and appreciation for Shirley's lifelong devotion to her Lord and Savior.*

*Shirley loved you all, and gladly gave a great deal of her life to the Potomac Presbyterian Church.*

*Once more, Thank You All.  
Sincerely, Bob Tietjen*

biweekly volunteering at the Children's Inn on the NIH campus, where her duties include serving Sunday night dinners to as many as 36 families.

**Susan Pereles**

12029 Great Elm Drive, Potomac, Maryland 20854, 301-299-4133

Susan was raised in Matawan, New Jersey, and received her undergraduate degree in nursing at the University of Pennsylvania (where she met her husband Dan). She earned her master's degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University with a concentration in health policy and maternal and child health. Currently a full time mom for son Luke—who will soon be a big brother—Susan was previously the project director at the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. A competitive runner, she enjoys reading, biking, tennis, travel, and cooking.

**Claire and Robert Weber**

10821 Outpost Drive, North Potomac, Maryland 20878, 301-340-6770

After residing in Connecticut for over 15 years, the Webers moved to the Potomac area where Bob is affiliated with Phillips Business Information. Claire is a communications consultant in the D.C. area and is also chauffeur/cheerleader for their two children, Jared, 13, and Erica, 9. She enjoys music, gardening, and writing. Bob has a special interest in Tai Chi, and his hobbies include flyfishing, golf, and sailing.

**Leslie Wyatt**

509 Kent Oaks Way, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878, 301-948-8470

Leslie grew up in Potomac and is a graduate of Marymount University. She is a registered nurse in the cardiac operating room at Arlington Hospital and presently travels with the surgeons to Alexandria Hospital as well. Leslie and her husband, Gary, have a son, 5 year old Kevin; and she has a stepdaughter, Katy, who is 12. Leslie's plans include graduate work and more time for biking.

**Gail Yates**

110 Ridgepoint Place, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878, 301- 869-5988

Originally from Tampa, Florida, Gail moved to this area from North Carolina. She is the operations manager of Hechts, Lake Forest Mall, and her hobbies include walking, gardening, and enjoying the outdoors. She especially enjoys participating in the Sanctuary Choir at PPC—the choir is happy to have her in the soprano section!

**W O R S H I P**

The coming weeks will find many guests in our pulpit, along with Parish Associate Tom Miles, as Kerry Stoltzfus continues his sabbatical leave into mid-July.

Matthew Teel, whose education our church supports, will be with us June 1. Matt will graduate from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond this December. On June 8, when the service will shift for the summer to 10:00 a.m., Tom Miles will preach, as he will on the 15th.

June 22, our guest will be Dr. David Kim, who has held pastorates in Seoul, Korea, Pennsylvania, and Illinois. He was moderator of Chicago Presbytery in 1985, and was Preacher of the Year, National Presbyterian Church, in 1989. On June 29, we will welcome back to our pulpit our former associate pastor, the Reverend Diane Lytle, now pastor of the Woodbridge, Virginia, church.

July 6, the Reverend Rufus Lusk, a long-time friend of our congregation, will return to preach. On July 13, we will welcome to our pulpit the distinguished chaplain of the United States Senate, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie. Prior to coming to his Congressional position in 1995, Dr. Ogilvie had been pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood, California; he also has held pastorates in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and Winnetka, Illinois.

Tom Miles will lead our service July 20, when the sabbatical period will conclude.

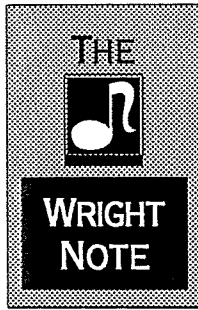
**C H R I S T I A N E D U C A T I O N**

- Olivia Mabeus has agreed to be the "Christian Ed Person" while Beth and Paddy are away in July. Please call her with any questions or concerns during July.
- Due to problems with staffing, Creative Enrichment this summer will be provided for children through kindergarten only. First through third graders will attend worship with their families starting June 8.

**THE FIRST ANNUAL CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC**  
**Sunday, June 8**

Come to church dressed for a picnic immediately following services. The youth will be selling submarine sandwiches, drinks, and dessert to raise funds for future mission projects. Even if you can't stay, stop by and pick up a sandwich!

**Your WILL** *Create a lasting legacy*



I am writing this during the intermission of the piano recital given in our church on the afternoon of May 18. I am thoroughly enjoying sitting down in the pew listening to Leanne Rees play the magnificent Steinway that I was privileged to play in this morning's service.

There were many other privileges in today's worship. They came in the form of handbell ringers, children's choir singers, and Sanctuary Choir members gathering around the communion table and pulpit steps. We combined enthusiastic forces to contribute to worship in a continually amazing way.

- The **Handbell Choir** will recess now until fall.
- The **Children's Choir** will have a GRAND FINALE BREAKFAST on Sunday, June 1, at 9:00 a.m., and then take a summer break.
- Our **Primary Choir** has already started their summer vacation.
- The **Sanctuary Choir** will sing through June 8.
- The **Men's Chorus** will sing June 15, when we go to our summer service schedule. Rehearsal will be at 9:00 a.m., in Fellowship Hall, that day. The worship service follows at 10:00 a.m.

May I take this opportunity to thank all of you who have participated in, and supported, our music program this year. We struggle with small numbers, but we still manage to make a joyful, musical expression of praise. Please consider NOW joining one of our choirs this fall. There is no doubt about it: We need you!

---

WORSHIP committee in session \_\_\_\_\_ May 19, 1997

The Session passed motions of the worship committee to:

- ▶ Acknowledge, with a letter of thanks to the moderator of the Deacons, the extensive work and many loving services performed on behalf of the congregation these past weeks due to illness and three deaths among the church family. It was greatly appreciated by the Session and the congregation and expressed beautifully real love and concern for all the members of our congregation.
- ▶ Note with great appreciation the leadership, sensitivity, service, and skill of our associate pastor, Tom Miles, during these first weeks of Dr. Stoltzfus' sabbatical. These weeks have included the unexpected challenge of conducting and officiating at two memorial services or funerals and participating in the third. Rev. Miles has provided bedside and pastoral care for the grieving. He has been available by phone at any time of day,

whether in town or away. He has provided with love, invaluable support, advice, and creative leadership to us all as we pursue these weeks of the sabbatical.

- ▶ Send a letter of appreciation to our music director, Cynthia Wright, to thank her and all the choirs and choir members for the outstanding work they have done this past year. They have enhanced our worship services and worship experiences immeasurably. The quality and beauty of the music, and the joy of its giving are appreciated by all.

The Elders will join the Deacons in wearing name tags on Sunday mornings at church. If you have questions regarding the church or its programs, please speak to one of the officers.



**Richard Cannon**

9413 Kentsdale Drive, Potomac, Maryland 20854, 301-365-8632

Richard has been dividing his time between Potomac Presbyterian and Rockville Presbyterian Church, where he has been serving on the Session and Board of Deacons. He joins his wife, Gail, and daughters, Jennifer and Leah, as a member of PPC. After graduating from Vanderbilt University and Vanderbilt School of Medicine, he did his residency at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis and had a fellowship in cardiology at NIH. Richard is deputy chief of cardiology at NIH and clinical professor of medicine at Georgetown University School of Medicine. His hobbies include travel, golf, and unskilled manual labor in his yard. (Gail does the skilled labor!) He enjoys music. (Listen for the Cannon trumpet in the Jesus Birthday Band.)

**Kathy Kruse**

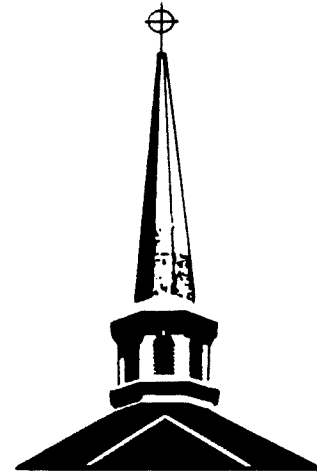
7926 Inverness Ridge Road, Potomac, Maryland 20854, 301-365-2529

A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Kathy received her AB degree in zoology from Mount Holyoke College and her MLS from the University of Pittsburgh. With a specialty in medical reference librarianship, she is the acting deputy director for the medical library of FDA. A member of Chapter B of P.E.O. Sisterhood, her hobbies include gardening, photography, handiwork, and the performing arts. She especially enjoys her

*(Continued on following page)*

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# STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

## Potomac Presbyterian Church

Summer

1997

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

### SUMMER SCHEDULE

No Sunday School  
Worship 10:00 AM

### Welcome, Rose!

Some of you may have noticed our new nursery provider, Rose Horn, a.k.a. "Nanny." Rose joined us May 23rd and came with excellent references. She is a Potomac grandmother and loves to be with children. If you haven't met Rose yet, please stop by and welcome her!

### Kerry On . . .

My experience at the Jimmy Carter Work Project was truly inspirational. Most of all, ten families have new homes they probably never dreamed of owning, but even more, they experienced the joy of working alongside an amazing group of volunteers. Women and men, young and old, gave of themselves to do what is really God's work. As Rosalyn Carter said to the new homeowners, "I'm sure your new home will be a blessing to you as it has been a blessing for all of us to work on your houses." There were tears of great joy on Friday evening when the new homeowners received the keys to their new homes and the payment book too. I'll not forget the incredible goodwill and sense of doing God's work that we all experienced "Hammering in the Hills."

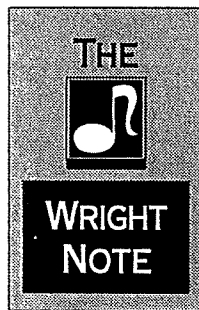
As some of you heard in church, I spent most of a week helping to feed 400+ volunteers, three meals a day. I did do some hammering and painting, but all of us on the food crew concluded that without us, no houses would have been built. I have a new appreciation for everyone who provided support for any worthwhile project.

Our worship experiences have included a Sunday service with about 20 people, including two dear friends, in the hills of Tennessee, a visit to our old congregation in Knoxville and a glorious service at National Cathedral. It has been so enriching for Ruthanne and me to be worshipers and to experience both the diversity and the unity of the Body of Christ. I hope all of you will join with other congregations for worship when you are out of town this summer.

During these weeks of traveling we have been welcomed and blessed by the hospitality of family and friends. Each visit has reminded us of all that we share in the name of our Lord and the amazing grace that unites us. We are very grateful for all of this that has been made possible during the sabbatical time.

We will see you soon and look forward to being back with our family that we call Potomac Presbyterian Church. I'll be in the office July 21 and will rejoin you for worship Sunday, July 27. The title of the sermon will be "Hammering in the Hills."

P.S. Somehow another small blessing came my way June 27—A hole in one—Amazing.



"Summertime, and the living is easy." That wonderful lyric from "Porgy and Bess" has mixed connotations for those of us who are responsible for the growth and nurturing of church music programs. Yes, summer is a time when regular

choir rehearsals are cancelled, and we can remember recent climactic events such as the Pentecost Sunday when all choirs sang and rang, the end of the year Children's Choir breakfast at which so many members confidently shared their instrumental talents with each other, and the magnificent 22 member men's chorus rejoicing in a three-part *a cappella* hymn medley on Father's Day.

But the business of program planning does not stop on June 15th. Along with planning summer worship and arranging for special service music, there is ordering music for all our choirs and organizing the musical schedule and events for the 1997-98 season. With vital ringers and singers moving away, and with the ever-changing membership pattern of our church, our music program needs to anticipate and accommodate these needs. Summer is my time—and your time—to plan ahead. I'll worry about programming, and you consider, if you will, your commitment to share your talent and time. The following opportunities are available on a regular basis in the fall:

- Primary Choir: grades K-2
- Children's Choir: grades 3-6
- Sanctuary Choir: adult singers
- Handbell Choir: anyone with knowledge of rhythmic note values.

*(Continued in next column)*

Watch for more specific scheduling details in our next newsletter. Meanwhile, if you have questions or suggestions concerning program and/or scheduling, please feel free to contact me at home, 301-926-7015, or at the church, 301-299-6007.

## Welcome back, Diane!

It is with joy and thanksgiving that we welcome Diane Hutchins as interim director of Christian education. Diane has dedicated herself to leading God's people in the way of Jesus Christ. Surrounding us with affection and hope, she invites us to grow in wisdom, mature in love, and serve the Lord with gladness wherever called. We are delighted that

*(Continued on page 3)*

SUMMER calendar		
Sundays	10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Worship Fellowship
7/21 & 8/31		Communion
7/21		Pastor Stoltzfus returns
8/17	3:00 PM	Manor Care
8/18	8:00 PM	Session
8/22		Orioles Night
8/25	7:30 PM	Deacons



## In Our Family



### ***We keep in our prayers . . .***

Kathleen Miles, recovering from surgery;  
Klara Rozner, recovering from surgery;  
George Adrouny, recovering from surgery;  
Richard McPherson, recovering from surgery;  
Donna Mecklenburg;  
Joy Schwan Best.

### ***Congratulations and God's blessing on . . .***

Jenny Chung and Michael May, who were married June 21, at Potomac Presbyterian.

### ***We rejoice in the births of . . .***

Jonathan James Reichley, son of Cheryl and Douglas Reichley, and grandson of Mary and Jim Reichley, born June 9;

Griffin McGregor Stevens, son of Sarah and Brian Stevens, and grandson of Jean and John Hummon, born June 14;

Sara Catherine Gregg, daughter of Elisha and Tom Gregg, and granddaughter of Dianne and Jim Gregg, born June 14.

### ***Congratulations and best wishes to . . .***

Ann and Bob Hazard, celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary.

### ***We give thanks for the lives of . . .***

Milly Gimer's father, Howard Stutzman, who died May 27, in Iowa;  
Patty Dunnivant's sister, Gladys Jettmar, who died June 29.

### ***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 Milly and her family, and with Patty and her family.

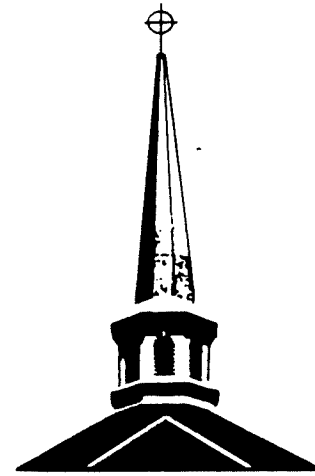
*(Welcome, Diane continued)*

she will be able to step in and ensure that our education program continues to grow as we faithfully seek a full-time director of Christian education.

Diane will have regular office hours, beginning mid-August and looks forward to working with us again. Do stop by to say welcome back.

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# STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

September

1997

*Sunday School*

## RALLY DAY



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

Sunday School 9:45 AM  
Worship 11:00 AM

SEPTEMBER 7



*Don't miss  
this*

Fellowship Hall

*Coffee, Juice, and Doughnuts* 9:45 a.m.

### Kerry On . . .

I want to begin by expressing my appreciation for the sabbatical opportunity that was granted to me by the Session and the congregation. As I said on my first Sunday back, "It was great to be away!" It was an opportunity to step aside from active exercise of my calling to be your pastor. And, "It is great to be back!" I welcome the return to active exercise of my calling to be your pastor. These are the two things I hoped I would be able to say at the conclusion of the sabbatical.

Being away was a wonderful gift. People, places and experiences made for a renewing and enriching time. Being with family and dear friends is something we will long treasure. Experiences range from "hammering in the hills," to a hole in one. Places of incredible beauty astounded our senses with the majesty of God. Not making lists and checking them off was a real treat. Being away makes our home and this church home look awfully good.

Returning is a wonderful gift as well—most of all to return to a people who cared for one another in some remarkable ways in some very difficult circumstances.

We were deeply saddened by the loss of our faithful members: Jan and Carolyn, Shirley and Lew. But you all were ministers of Christ with these families. I am so grateful for your caring ministry, but I am not surprised. I am glad to rejoin you on the journey of faith we are making together.

I want to share with you some of my reflections on the sabbatical time.

*One* Worship is at the very center of Christian life. I experienced a variety of worship styles in settings as diverse as the National Cathedral and a small log church in the

*(Kerry, continued on page 6)*



# In Our Family



## SEPTEMBER *calendar*

1	Holiday, office closed				
2					
3		18	6:30 PM	Handbell Choir	
4	8:00 PM		8:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir	
5		19			
6		20			
<hr/>					
<b>7</b>	9:45 AM	<b>★ RALLY DAY</b>			
	11:00 AM	Worship			
	Noon	Fellowship			
8	7:00 AM	The Monday Connection			
	12:30 PM	Christian Education committee meeting			
	8:00 PM	Committee meetings			
9					
10	9:30 AM	Bible study			
11	8:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir			
12					
13					
<hr/>					
<b>14</b>	9:45 AM	Sunday School			
	11:00 AM	Worship			
	Noon	Fellowship			
15	8:00 PM	Session			
16					
17	9:30 AM	Bible study			
	4:00 PM	★ <i>Primary Choir</i> (new meeting day)			
<hr/>					
		<b>21</b>	9:45 AM	Sunday School	
			11:00 AM	Worship	
			Noon	Fellowship	
			3:00 PM	Manor Care	
				<i>Steeple to People</i> deadline	
22		7:30 PM		Deacons	
23		10:00 AM		National Capital Presbytery meeting at National Presbyterian Church	
24	9:30 AM	Bible study			
	4:00 PM	<i>Primary Choir</i>			
25	6:30 PM	Handbell Choir			
	8:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir			
26					
27					
<hr/>					
		<b>28</b>	9:45 AM	Sunday School	
			11:00 AM	★ Worship — "Faith at Work"	
			Noon	★ DEACONS' COFFEE	
29					
30					

### **Congratulations and best wishes to . . .**

Jim and Helen Leitch, who will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary September 6. Pastor Leitch was organizing pastor of Potomac Presbyterian Church in 1963, his final pastorate before retiring. Jim and Helen's children have written us in hopes that friends will remember them with anniversary greetings. Please send any well-wishes to Mrs. David Martsoff, 3541 NW 29th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32605. Helen is 93 and Jim was 96 this past June. They live in a retirement facility and "though neither of them is in robust shape they are still able to take care of themselves and get to the dining room for two meals a day."

### **We keep in our prayers . . .**

George Adrouny;  
Joy Schwan Best.

### **We rejoice in the birth of . . .**

Kimberly Ann Dean, daughter of Gray and Tommy Dean, and granddaughter of Margie and Bob Bedingfield, born August 19.

### **We give thanks for the lives of . . .**

Lewis Van Alyn Smith, who died July 11;

Ed Stobie, who died July 27;

Sherri Bond's father, Kenneth Urban, who died in San Diego, July 30;

Cecie Phair's mother, Maude McQuaid, who died at age 103;

Ed Clark's mother and Fred Clark's wife, Jennette Clark, who died recently in Florida;

### **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 Alice and her family' Marty and her family, Sherri and her family, Cecie and her family, Ed and Fred and their family.

nections" with one another. They are times to give thanks for past blessings, to enjoy the present opportunity to see face to face, and to envision our hopes for the future.

*Five* We are all invited to be more attentive to Sabbath time. Maybe we won't have three months away, but we can stop for briefer times and reflect on who we are and where we are going. We need to take time away from busy schedules to be quiet and to hear God's still small voice. It is God-honoring to stop the busyness long enough to acknowledge that in the end it is God's grace that is sufficient and not our ceaseless activity. I knew the truth of this, but sabbatical time reminded me that it is essential for physical and emotional and spiritual wholeness.

*Conclusion* I believe that these reflections can be guides for your faith journey as well. You worship and care for one another, and you are "God-namers, God-noticers" too. You are about the task of making "connections," and you are invited by a gracious God to carve out you own Sabbath time. May God's blessing be with us on the journey of faith.



(Kerry, continued from page 1)

hills of Tennessee. Being away from this place of worship helped me to see what it is that ultimately brings people together on Sunday mornings. Here we affirm that we have come to listen for God's word to us.

Here we return again and again because we belong. We are welcomed, comforted, encouraged, and cared for by the people of God. Of course God can speak to us on a mountain top or by the sea, but it is in the company of God's people that speaking takes on human form. No wonder the Gospel says, the Word became flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth.

Here we pledge allegiance to God revealed in Jesus Christ and we do so in a culture that is apathetic and sometimes hostile. In worship we speak promises of love for God and neighbor and by doing so in public we say that we are willing to be held accountable. What we hear and say in worship shapes our character and challenges us to live out the Gospel in everyday life.

*Two* I have always preferred the title of "pastor" and during my sabbatical my calling has been reaffirmed. Good programs are important but they come and go—relationships last. The Gospel is about human beings learning how to care for one another. It reaffirms the words of the prophet Micah, that God has shown us what is good and what the Lord requires—to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God. Being with you in times of both joy and sorrow is the richest treasure a pastor can enjoy.

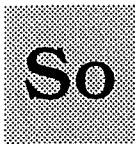
*Three* I have been reminded and encouraged to be a "God-noticer, a God-namer." That's Gene Peterson's definition of a theologian. God gives the stuff of everyday experience—the mundane and the ecstatic—as the raw material of theology. To me this means looking beneath the surface to see what God is saying. In the middle of the awe inspiring Canadian Rockies it is not too difficult. You almost have to exclaim in the words of the hymn:

O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee,  
How great thou art, how great thou art.

In the delicate weave of circumstances, people, places, and experiences we can see the hand of God at work. I give thanks to God for the people of faith who have gone before me and given of themselves that God's purpose for my life has been unmistakably shaped. It was God who guided my parents to pass on a vital Christian faith to me. It was pastors and teachers and professors who shaped my sense of calling to ministry. It is family and colleagues and the people of this congregation who continue to challenge and encourage me. In all of these ways I name God as the prompter in the drama of this journey called faith.

*Four* Remember to make connections. Birthdays, anniversaries, reunions are priceless treasures. If you're thinking about one of these kinds of celebrations, just do it. Sometimes it's the last opportunity you'll have. Did you ever consider how the Bible is full of feasting, parties, and celebrations. God's way is for his children to keep on making "con-

*We welcome Diane Hutchins as our interim Christian education director. It is a joy to have her working with us again.*



what have you been doing lately?

Do you remember that when I moved out of the DCE office at Potomac in April of 1994, I refused to say good-bye to you? Little did we know! I promised to continue to care about you and work for you in different ways and minister with you in the context of our larger Presbyterian family.

I've been doing just that! I spent two years directing Christian education at the Grace Presbyterian Church in Springfield, Virginia—actually in my own neighborhood. I planned women's conferences for the Synod and at Montreat. I represented you as the commissioner to General Assembly in '95, and to our Synod in '96. I'm a trustee of our conference center at Massanetta Springs and am working on the Presbytery budget committee. So if you have any wisdom about how to make camping profitable or how we ought to be spending our fewer and fewer dollars, I'm eager to talk with you.

Flo continued to mail *Steeple to People* to me, so I know a few things about what this family has been doing. My own family has grown and changed and stayed the same. The newly-weds, our middle daughter Sara and her new husband Will, are both teaching school in San Antonio. Those "old" newly-weds I used to talk

about, Julie and Gary, are now a young family in Richmond, with a mortgage and a precious toddler, Katie, who is the light of her grandmother's life. Pete finished college at Georgia and is now working downtown—living at home again—but he tells me it's very temporary. Husband Dave is in New Zealand—not still, but again. He expects to be home some time this winter.

So now that you know what I've been doing, I can't wait for you to come and share with me what you've been doing, and what Potomac PC has been doing, and how we can do it together as we get another chance to grow together toward that maturity that Paul urges us to find in the "unity of faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13)!

**Stand out in the crowd!**

**DONATE BLOOD**  
Sunday, October 12, 1997  
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Potomac Presbyterian  
Church  
10301 River Rd., Potomac, Md.  
WALK-INS WELCOME

*Burman*

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



I recently reviewed a clever children's book series in which the child's personal photograph is placed in an open frame in the title page and subsequent pages as the main character in various Bible stories. In other words, the child pictures himself or herself as Moses delivering the Ten Commandments, Jonah struggling with the dilemma of being in the body of a whale, or Jesus inviting the children to gather at His feet to hear stories of God's work. This personal approach caught my interest and caused me to wonder how each of you would feel as an active member of one of our stimulating choirs. Let's give this a try:

If you are in kindergarten, first or second grade, picture yourself singing in the Primary Choir which meets at 4:00 p.m. Wednesdays, this year. The first rehearsal will be Wednesday, September 17. Bring along one of your parents to share in the singing fun that first day.

If you are in third, fourth, fifth, or sixth grade, picture yourself singing in the Children's Choir, which meets Sunday mornings before Sunday School, at 9:00 a.m. The first rehearsal will be September 14.

If you are in high school, or have graduated as many as eighty or so years ago, picture yourself singing in the Sanctuary Choir, which meets faithfully and enthusiastically at 8:00 p.m. Thursday evenings, beginning September 4. There is not one part that does not need more voices. Sopranos, altos, tenors, basses—COME!

If you have played an instrument, read music but don't particularly excel in singing, picture yourself with a handbell in each hand. Yes, we have just the activity for you. We have three octaves of Malmark handbells just waiting for a minimum of eight of you to join the ranks of the Handbell Choir. Depending upon the number of ringers, the group will ring supportively with the organ and vocal choirs, or individually as a handbell choir. The first rehearsal is Thursday, September 18, at 6:30 p.m.

*Cindy Wright directs all of the above choirs. Please contact her with questions or indication of interest in joining. We have a wonderful opportunity here at our church to learn and grow musically and spiritually together through the participation in these choirs. Get involved and find out for yourself. Get the picture?*

## New Photo Directory is Coming

The Outreach committee is planning for the next photo directory, with photos to be taken this October!! This happens only every four or five years, so don't miss out!

### Sign-up on:

Sunday, September 14  
 Sunday, September 21  
 Sunday, September 28  
 Sunday, October 5

### Photos (by scheduled appointment) on:

Friday, October 17, 3:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m.  
 Saturday, October 18, 10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.  
 Sunday, October 19, 1:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.



## FOR YOUTH

### Help Wanted !!

Sunday School teachers  
 for all grade levels

Please contact  
 Diane, 301-299-6007, or  
 Beth, 301-869-4622. Thanks!

### 3RD AND 4TH GRADERS —

*What are you supposed to do now that you are too old for Creative Enrichment?????*

### Go to LEARNING TO WORSHIP CLASS

Learning to Worship classes will happen from time to time during the year when the younger children go to Creative Enrichment.

### The first class series: COMMUNION

So we'll be ready to participate in World Wide Communion Sunday, October 5.

### The dates: September 7, 14, 21, 28

Meet Diane in the narthex after "Children at Worship" time.

*See you there!*

## YOUTH in mission

Our junior and senior high school students sponsored a church family picnic June 8 and raised \$275 which they elected to use to "send a kid to camp."

## Men and Women Prepare Supper for Needy Neighbors

The first Tuesday of every month, men and women from Potomac churches prepare and serve dinner to needy neighbors of Montgomery County, at St. Martins Catholic Church in Gaithersburg. Members of Potomac Presbyterian Church have been participating in this soup kitchen, known as The Lord's Table, since it began some 20 years ago.

The afternoon duties begin at 1:00 with preparation; dinner is served 3:30—4:30, and cleanup is usually finished by 5:00.

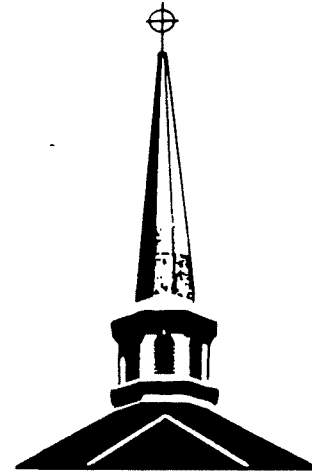
Our corps of volunteers is down and we need to add members to our team. A volunteer may serve the whole afternoon or part of it. Both men and women are needed to balance the duties efficiently. It is not imperative that you be there every month. Please think about how you might serve in this program. Call Barbara Perry, 301-299-6067, for more information, or to volunteer to be part of the Potomac team. It is a fun way to help neighbors and to get to know members from other Potomac churches.

## DEACON DOINGS

Our mission to the congregation is to serve **you!** The next deacons meeting is on September 22, when we will discuss fall and winter events. Have an idea to share? Let your deacon hear from you—your ideas are always welcome. In the meantime, remember to invite a friend to worship and share your PPC experience. Friends, relatives, neighbors, and prospective new members are all welcome!

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# STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

## Potomac Presbyterian Church

October

1997

### Kerry On . . .

#### Some Things I've Learned About Church

Since returning from sabbatical I've been thinking about what church means to me. Perhaps being away from the place called church I was better able to think about the people called church. Next month I will continue with these musings.

1. The church belongs to God, not to us. We are really stewards of this community of faith that for all its failings and triumphs is the primary expression of God's presence in the world. In Scripture the church is in fact called the Body of Christ. It is like a treasure entrusted to our care and a gift to be shared with our neighbors.
2. We don't choose it—God calls us to church. God initiates love toward us and forms us into a family. Our choosing has to do with our response to God's love. Consumers choose what product or service to buy—congregations are chosen by God to be a people. We don't go to church—we gather for worship and then go out to be church.
3. The only hypocrite I worry about is me. People say, "I don't belong to a church because the church is full of hypocrites." That may be true, but it's one of the reasons we need church. We need to be held accountable, to be challenged, to be guided and forgiven. Someone said, "the church is not a club for saints, but a hospital for sinners." Besides, no one can fool God.
4. Where else can I hear about compassion and justice, self sacrifice and gratitude, fidelity and loyalty. Church is where we are invited to be, by the grace of

*(See Kerry, continued on page 8)*

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

Sunday School            9:45 AM  
Worship                    11:00 AM

## OCTOBER calendar

1	9:30 AM Bible study 4:00 PM <i>Primary Choir</i> 8:00 PM Stewardship meeting	18	Pictorial directory
2	6:30 PM Handbell Choir 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir	<b>19</b>	9:00 AM <i>Children's Choir</i> 9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Inquirers' Cass 11:00 AM <b>Worship</b> Noon Fellowship Afternoon Pictorial directory ★ Stewardship visits 3:00 PM Manor Care <i>Steeple to People</i> deadline
3	6:30 PM Doctor/Jacobs wedding rehearsal	20	8:00 PM Session
4	11:00 AM Doctor/Jacobs wedding	21	
<b>5</b>	9:00 AM <i>Children's Choir</i> 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM <b>Worship</b> ★ <b>WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY</b> Noon Fellowship	22	9:30 AM Bible study 4:00 PM <i>Primary Choir</i>
6	7:00 AM The Monday Connection	23	6:30 PM Handbell Choir 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir
7	1:00 PM The Lord's Table	24	
8	9:30 AM Bible study 4:00 PM <i>Primary Choir</i> 7:30 PM Stewardship callers training	25	Potomac Days
9	6:30 PM Handbell Choir 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir	<b>26</b>	9:00 AM Children's Choir 9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Inquirers' Class 11:00 AM <b>Worship</b> Noon ★ <b>CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</b> to elect officers 12:10 PM Fellowship
10		27	7:30 PM Deacons
11		28	
<b>12</b>	9:00 AM <i>Children's Choir</i> 9:00 AM <b>Blood Drive</b> 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM <b>Worship</b> Noon Fellowship	29	9:30 AM Bible study 4:00 PM <i>Primary Choir</i>
13	12:30 PM Christian education committee 8:00 PM Committee meetings	30	6:30 PM Handbell Choir 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir
14	9:30 AM Christian Living	31	
15	9:30 AM Bible study 4:00 PM <i>Primary Choir</i>	November 1	— Session retreat
16	6:30 PM Handbell Choir 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir		
17	Pictorial directory		

## In Our Family

### **We keep in our prayers . . .**

Millie Gimer;  
George Adrouny;  
Joy Schwan Best.

### **Congratulations and God's blessing on . . .**

Elizabeth Koonce and Lennox Stuart, who were married at the home of Janet and Calvin Koonce, September 6.

### **We celebrate with joy the baptism of . . .**

Sara Elizabeth Cryway, daughter of Pam Mazza and Chris Cyrway, August 31.

### **Godspeed to . . .**

Jackie and Harry Evans, who have moved to 105 N. Will Scarlett, Williamsburg, Virginia.

### **We give thanks for the life of . . .**

Jean Wuckovich

### **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 Jean's family.

## DEACON DOINGS

**News Flash:** We have decided upon a new idea in order to better serve you — our own quarterly newsletter — to each family in the congregation. It will be different from *Steeple to People*, and it will highlight past and future events, dates, celebrations, and special announcements we want to ensure you know about!! After all, a big part of what we do is "getting the word out" to all of you. The first ever such newsletter, to be dated October 1st, will have the same title as this insert: *Deacon Doings* (and, yes, we will also continue with this insert as another means of keeping you updated).

Remember, communication is a two-way effort — Have an idea to share? Let your deacon hear from you. Your ideas are always welcome. Next meeting of the deacons is on October 27, to gear up for the fall/winter/holiday events.

## October

### Adult Christian Education

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

Please join us for fellowship and growth each Sunday in the library from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

All guest speakers this year will address our theme, which is based on Joshua 1:9:  
"God is with you wherever you go."

For further information, contact Kathy McPherson, 301-926-2792.

#### SEPTEMBER

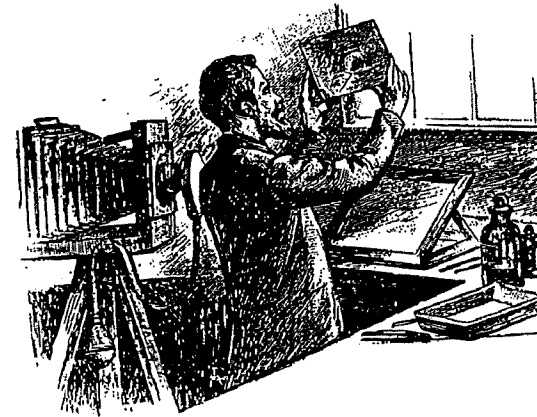
- 28 Ms. Lib McPherson, nutritionist and member of Salem Presbytery, North Carolina Slide show and presentation of her work combating hunger in Africa

#### OCTOBER

- 5 Richard Hutcheson, pastor emeritus, Vienna Presbyterian Church, author *Unity and Diversity: Biblical Models for Getting Along with Each Other.*
- 12 Richard Hutcheson, pastor emeritus, Vienna Presbyterian Church, "Do denominations have a future?"
- 19 Dean Hoge, professor, Catholic University, author *Membership Changes in Mainline Protestant Churches*, part 1
- 26 Dean Hoge, professor, Catholic University, author *Membership Changes in Mainline Protestant Churches*, part 2

#### Director of Christian education SEARCH COMMITTEE

At the special meeting of the Session held September 7, 1997, Lew Chapin, chair of the nominating committee, presented a slate of nominees for the director of Christian education (DCE) search committee. It was moved, seconded, and carried to elect the slate as presented. Many thanks to Kathy McPherson, chair; Leah Cannon; Dan Dowd; Olivia Mabeus; Bridget Newton; Beth Rudnic; and Ed Tennent for their willingness to serve on the DCE search committee.



### Have you heard?! New Photo Directory Is Coming . . .

The outreach committee is planning the next photo directory, a book that is updated only every four or five years.

Portraits will be taken **by appointment only** on the following dates and times:

Friday, October 17, 3:00-9:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 18, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 19, 1:00-7:00 p.m.

**The last opportunity to make an appointment** to have your portrait taken is Sunday, October 5, following the church service.

Call Joe Curry at (301-309-1313) if you have appointment questions.

#### ● Congregational group photo

All members are requested to remain after the service October 19, when a congregational group photo will be taken.

#### ● Volunteers needed

On the days the photos are taken, volunteers are needed to greet families and to work with the photographer on complet-

ing the necessary paper-work for the photos. If you would like to help, please call Pat Ferrara at 301-983-9878.

#### ● Activities pages

Bob Plumb is putting together the activity pages for the new directory. If you have photos that you can spare of events in the life of the church, please call Bob at 762-2769.

We need everyone's participation in this historical record of our church family. We look forward to seeing you in pictures.

*The outreach committee's  
"Picture People"*

**Stand out in the crowd!**

**DONATE BLOOD**  
Sunday, October 12, 1997  
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Potomac Presbyterian  
Church  
10301 River Rd., Potomac, Md.  
WALK-INS WELCOME



In going through my latest collection of advertising mail, I decided to read a few cards instead of immediately tossing them into the trash.

One card from Frugal Fannie's caught my eye. It showed two well-dressed

women, wearing the latest in business-suit attire, walking down a models' runway. Four men in business suits bow admirably and comment, "They've obviously gone through the Cynthia Wright Management Training Course."

I wish I could use some of that same technology to picture and name nine of you after a Thursday evening handbell practice. You would be shown with smiles on your faces, busily returning your two to four handbells to their cases. One of you would say to the rest of the group, "What a good workout we had tonight. This is the most fun I've had all week!"

Rather than the Frugal Fannie description of me, I would rather be known as the director of that musical workout. One problem exists. We presently have just four or five ringers. We need nine to ring arrangements appropriate to our three octaves of beautiful handbells. Please call me at 301-926-7015 to indicate your interest or to ask questions about musical skills needed to ring.

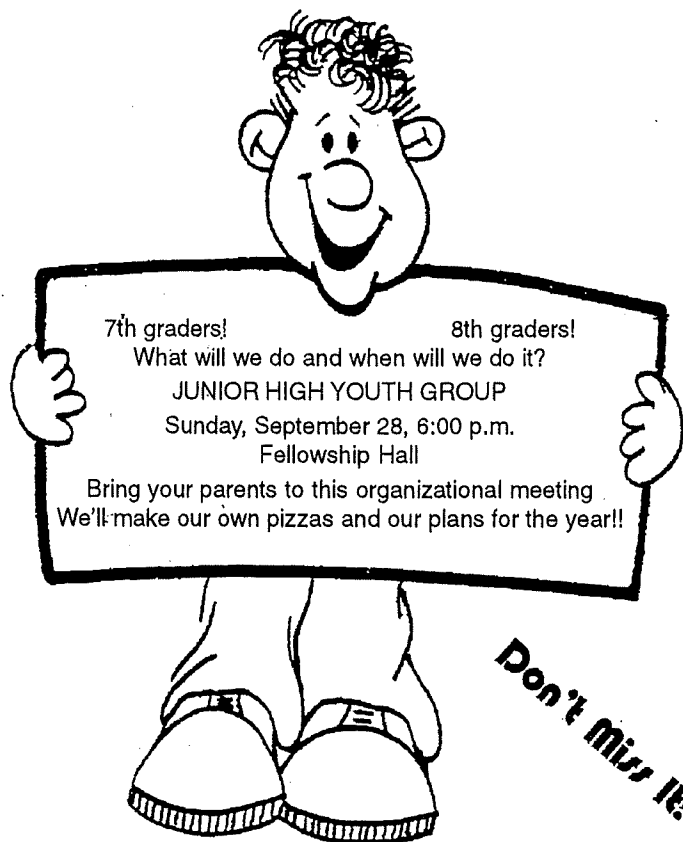
*Cindy*

**ICE**

**FOR YOUTH**

**Creative Enrichment**

Because our Creative Enrichment groups rely on different volunteers each week, it would be very helpful if you would put a nametag on each child before the children go downstairs. Nametags will be found in each *Gospel Gram*, the children's bulletin.



**Don't Miss It!**

**SHARING OUR MISSION**

**CHRISTMAS INTERNATIONAL HOUSE**  
*Sharing Christmas*

Now is a good time to start thinking about how you might share your Christmas holidays this year. In the Gaithersburg area, Christmas International House will welcome 15 to 20 foreign students from Dec. 19 to Jan. 2. We will need host families, as well as help with three planned trips, extra meals, etc. CIH provides an opportunity for families to demonstrate and to share the real meaning of Christmas. Dialogue and exchange of ideas characterize the program — peacemaking at the grass roots level.

Please join us for our planning meeting on Monday, Oct. 13, at Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church, 7:30 p.m., and discover why this program is so rewarding. For further information, call Eleanor Munch, 926-3728, or Barbara Clark, 279-9572.

*Dear Mr. Norvell (mission committee chair):*

*Thank you so very much for the generous contribution of \$500 from your congregation to McCormick Seminary for our Doctor of Ministry Program. This is a wonderful tribute to your pastor, Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus, and to the work which he did with us. Of all the gifts we receive, these which come from congregations whose pastors have participated in our programs are some of the most gratifying.*

*All of us who have been involved in the Doctor of Ministry Program through the years believe it has had significant influence, and in some cases even transforming effect, not only on ministers, but on congregations as well.*

*Please extend my very good wishes on behalf of all of us at McCormick Seminary to Kerry and to your Session.*

*Sincerely yours, Cynthia M. Campbell, president, McCormick Theological Seminary*

Dear members of Potomac Presbyterian:

I want to thank you very much for your generous contribution to Rainbow Place. Your gift will provide help to many of our women. We will use it on a need basis for transportation to doctor appointments, prescriptions they have no other means available, and basic clothing we have to purchase.

You have provided much needed direct assistance to our women; we do not use donations for administrative costs.

Thank you. Marnie Lehr

(Kerry, continued)

God, the best we can be. The culture more often than not appeals to our lesser instincts. The culture plays the tune loud and clear—me first! Church is where we hear the Good News that “The one who loses their life for the sake of Christ and the Gospel will truly find it.” Here we are reminded that life is about giving, not getting.

5. Church is where we learn the language of prayer. It’s fair to say we have a certain natural inclination to pray. In the moment of a crisis people cry out, “Oh my God!” Or in the face of incredible beauty and wonder we are likely to say “Wow!” And mean “Praise God!” Church is where we learn to articulate those God-given instincts. In the company of others on the journey, we discover words to express the deepest human emotions. Our best words are often set to music and they express what is on our hearts as well as our minds.

## 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 12, and continues through Sunday, November 2.

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, November 2, 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, 299-6009, with any questions.

## DIANE-O-GRAM

### On Being a Christian Educator

As I have been introducing myself to your children this month, I have really struggled with how to describe what I do in their terms. Frankly, sometimes as I look out at your friendly, smiling faces, I wonder . . . just what do these people expect from me? What do I know that might make a difference in their lives? What do they think a Christian educator can add to the ministry here at Potomac?

I usually tell the children that I plan and organize Sunday School and Enrichment for them. And I do see that those things happen.

But in the regular Sunday School year from September through June there are only about 37 Sundays. So, if your children come every week—and I know they will—we have about 37 hours, assuming they are here on time at 9:45, to teach Bible stories, basic theology, Christian living, prayer, fundamentals of worship, and mission responsibility and service—not to mention engendering a sense of joy and passion about following Jesus and developing a personal relationship with God in Christ. We’ll do our best, but it won’t be enough.

I will do my best for you, but the only Christian educator that really matters in your children’s lives is *you*. They learn to take their faith seriously by watching you. They need to see you read the Bible. They need to see you bow your head in prayer. They need to see you responding to God’s love through service to others. They need to see you working for peace and justice in the world. No matter what we say on Sunday morning, they learn about being a Christian from living with you.

Being a Christian educator is a full time job. I hope I can help you to think about how to do it better so we can keep all that God has commanded upon our hearts, “And to teach them diligently to your children, and talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up.” (Deut 6:7)

*. . . the only Christian educator that really matters in your children’s lives is you. . . . No matter what we say on Sunday morning, they learn about being a Christian from living with you.*

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## Tuesday evening BIBLE STUDY

The adult education committee invites you to join us as we resume our Tuesday evening Bible study groups. We will meet six Tuesday evenings (Oct 14, 21, 28, Nov 4, 11, and 18), 7:30 until 9:00 p.m.

- Tom Miles has agreed to lead one group. He wants to allow the group to choose the part of the Bible they would like to delve into this year, so let him know your suggestions.
- Diane Hutchins will lead another group in continuing *A Guide Through the New Testament*. This class is designed as an introductory study for folk who suspect they don't know enough to really participate in Bible study on an adult level. Some people completed the Gospel section of this workbook last year, and we will begin with an introduction to Paul and an overview of his letters—at a somewhat slower pace than last year. We expect to cover chapters 6-9 this fall, and complete the study with another six weeks in the spring, on chapters 10-13.

If you would like to join this group and need a book, or would just like to own the book to work through at your own pace, please call the church office so we can order one for you. It takes about ten days, so order today to have one for the first class on October 14.

## CHRISTIAN LIVING GROUP

The Christian Living Group is an intergenerational group of women—from new mothers to grandmothers—that meets once a month to discuss our lives as women and as Christians in today's world. We invite any woman in the congregation to join our conversation. Ordinarily, at our first meeting, we choose a book to read together to guide our thinking for the year. We'll welcome your suggestions.

We will meet on Tuesday, October 14, at 9:30 in the parlor. We ordinarily meet on the second Tuesday of the month (Nov. 11 and Dec. 9) and arrange childcare informally. If you intend to bring your children, please call the church office before Friday, Oct 10, so we can find a sitter.

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

# FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP

## Second Annual Father-Son Breakfast

November 9  
9:00 a.m.  
Fellowship Hall

Calling all sons and fathers! Mark your calendars for the Second Annual Father-Son Breakfast to be held on Sunday, November 9, at 9:00 a.m., in Fellowship Hall! If you missed it last year, you will surely want to catch it this year — a wonderful, new, entertaining program is planned! Signups will begin in the narthex, October 20, See you there, guys!

## Music Enthusiasts

Spend an evening in the newly refurbished Concert Hall of the Kennedy Center, with the National Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Leonard Slatkin! Mid-orchestra tickets are available for \$37.60 each (20% off box office price) for the evening of Friday, November 7, at 8:30 p.m. The Childrens Chorus of Washington, as well as the Chevy Chase Elementary School Chorus, will join forces with the NSO on this evening for a memorable program. Contact Melanie Mason, 301-365-1115, to reserve your seats!

## Coooooomangettem!

Our cookbook has arrived in all its splendor! 111 individuals contributed over 490 recipes to make this book a wealth of culinary delights. Proceeds from the sale of these cookbooks will benefit The Lord's Table (serving meals to the homeless in Rockville) and for a future internal church project. Cookbooks are \$10 each and for those of you living outside the Potomac area, mail this page to the church office, Attn: Cookbook Order, or FAX to the church office, 301-299-9438. Once we receive your check (made out to Potomac Presbyterian Church) we will mail your cookbook(s) to you. Enjoy — and many thanks to all who contributed!

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of the PPC Cookbook @ \$10 each + \$1.25 postage per book. Make check payable to Potomac Presbyterian Church. Mail cookbooks to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

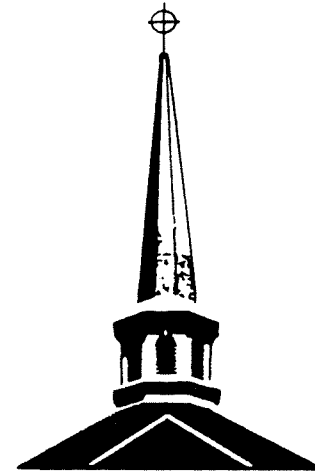
City, state, zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail or Fax this request to:  
Potomac Presbyterian Church  
Attn: Cookbook Order  
10301 River Road  
Potomac, Maryland 20854



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

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# STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

## Potomac Presbyterian Church

November

1997

### Kerry On . . .

#### **Some more things I've learned about church**

*Continued from Steeple to People, October*

6. Church is where we share our deepest joys and sorrows. Weddings and baptisms are moments when joy abounds and the community gives thanks to the God who made us in love and gives us the capacity to love. Walking the road of suffering together makes the burden a little lighter. When loved ones die, we often discover how much our friends in Christ truly care. In this community, God binds up the brokenhearted and keeps hope alive.

7. Church is where our ancestors in faith have a say. They have a voice at the table, but not a veto. Scripture is really the story of God working with those who have gone before us. Our Reformed heritage and the story of Presbyterians in America give us theological roots. The people of this congregation who ventured in faith to begin a ministry back in 1963 shaped a vision for us. We now take up the challenge to share our faith with those who come after us

8. Worship is the center. Wherever you travel, you can find the church and the one thing you will be sure to find is worship. It is our first and best response to God's love made known to us in Jesus Christ. Worship is an invitation for us to orient our lives toward God. "It is a time of deliberate attentiveness to God," says Eugene Peterson. "If

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

Sunday School            9:45 AM  
Worship                    11:00 AM

*(See Kerry, continued on page 7)*

## NOVEMBER calendar

1	Session Retreat		
2	9:00 AM <i>Children's Choir</i> 9:45 AM Sunday School New members/Session 11:00 AM <b>Worship</b> Noon Fellowship 6:00 PM <i>Junior High fellowship</i>	16	9:00 AM <i>Children's Choir</i> 9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Inquirers' Cass 11:00 AM <b>Worship/Baptism</b> Noon Fellowship 3:00 PM Manor Care 6:00 PM <i>Jr. High fellowship</i> <i>Steeple to People</i> deadline
3	7:00 AM The Monday Connection	17	8:00 PM No Session meeting
4	1:00 PM The Lord's Table	18	7:30 PM Bible study
5	9:30 AM Bible study 4:00 PM <i>Primary Choir</i>	19	9:30 AM Bible study 4:00 PM <i>Primary Choir</i>
6	6:30 PM Handbell Choir 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir	20	6:30 PM Handbell Choir 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir
7		21	
8		22	★ WALKATHON for the homeless
9	9:00 AM <i>Children's Choir</i> 9:00 AM ★ <b>Father/Son Breakfast</b> 9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM ★ <b>FIELD TRIP</b> <i>5th and 6th graders, Jr. and Sr. Highers</i> 11:00 AM <b>Worship</b> Noon Fellowship 6:00 PM <i>Jr. High fellowship</i>	23	9:00 AM <i>Children's Choir</i> 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM <b>Worship</b> Noon Fellowship 6:00 PM <i>Jr. High fellowship</i>
10	8:00 PM Committee meetings	24	
11	9:30 AM Christian Living group 7:30 PM Bible study	25	
12	9:30 AM Bible study 4:00 PM <i>Primary Choir</i> 7:30 PM Search committee meeting	26	No Bible study
13	6:30 PM Handbell Choir 8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir	27	Thanksgiving Day
14		28	Office closed
15		29	
		30	9:00 AM <i>Children's Choir</i> 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM <b>Worship</b> Noon Fellowship



## In Our Family



### We keep in our prayers . . .

Millie Gimer;  
Joy Schwan Best.

### Congratulations and God's blessing on . . .

Michelle Roney and David Ferrara, who were married September 20 in Melbourne, Florida;  
Carol Marie Doctor and Parker Steven Jacobs, who were married October 4 in Potomac Presbyterian Church.

### We rejoice in the births of . . .

Carlyn Albright, daughter of Stephanie and Bill Albright, and granddaughter of Kitty Albright, born September 29;

Caia Grace Matthews, daughter of Susan and Kelly Matthews, and great-granddaughter of Lucille Ferrara, born October 5;

Collette Stiles Block, daughter of Margaret and Christopher Block, and granddaughter of Kay and Jim McClaine.

### Congratulations to . . .

Mary Margaret and Del Smith, who celebrated their 30th anniversary September 30.

### Godspeed to . . .

Karen and Gerry Hajarian, who will be moving to 2306 Riviera Drive, Vienna, Virginia 22181, 703-242-8459, and who will be joining the Vienna Presbyterian Church.

## DEACON DOINGS

We have heard from some of you, and it would appear that the newsletter is well received. However, we would like to hear from the rest of you about your thoughts on it, as well as your thoughts on how to better serve you, the congregation.

Our next major effort will, of course, be the Williamsburg Breakfast, Sunday, December 7. You don't want to miss it!!

Meanwhile, please continue to let us know your concerns—Please contact your deacon with any ideas to share.

*The Deacons*

## November

### Adult Christian Education

#### SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SEMINAR

9:45 a.m., in the library

Please join us in November as we proudly feature the talents and insights of our church's own staff and membership. Each speaker will address our theme, "God is with you wherever you go," based upon Joshua 1:9. For further information, contact Kathy McPherson, 301-926-2792.

- 2 Joyce Jenkins "Why should we care about the 'Fidelity and Chastity Amendment'?"
- 9 Joyce Jenkins "Fidelity and Chastity Amendment" part 2
- 16 Tom Miles "God's presence: its promise and its irony" part 1
- 23 Tom Miles "God's presence: its promise and its irony" part 2
- 30 Diane Hutchins

#### TWO NEW GENERAL ENDOWMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Two more memorial gifts have been added to the general endowment fund of PPC:

- In memory of Jane Beaton Steinmetz by the Thomas Steinmetz family
- In memory of Dwight Elliot Self by the Self family.

It is encouraging for the future of PPC to find increasing interest in providing "gifts that keep on giving" through the general endowment fund. This is available to all church members and friends for memorials or continuing gifts. A gift of only \$1,000 will provide a listing on the appropriate plaque in Fellowship Hall.

**LOUISVILLE, Ky.**—General Assembly stated clerk the Rev. Clifton Kirkpatrick sent the following letter of condolence, dated Sept. 10, to the Missionaries of Charity, the order founded and headed by Mother Teresa until her death Sept. 5:

*"I write on behalf of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to extend our deepest condolences on the death of Mother Teresa. She was a model of the ministry of Christ to people throughout the world, including those in the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.).*

*"The ministry which she initiated and carried out to the least of these is truly the ministry of Jesus Christ. We give thanks to God for her life and witness and want to assure you of the love and prayers of people throughout the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) during this time of loss.*

*"May the hope of the resurrection and the wonderful memories of the life and ministry of Mother Teresa be of special comfort to you in the days ahead."*



In previous articles, I have tried to devise clever ways to recruit new members into our music program. Instead of continuing my plea, I've decided to give thanks for the dedicated singers and ringers we do have in our Sanctuary, Handbell, Children's and Primary Choirs.

Recently, Kerry spoke to us of cheerful givers and generous receivers. Our choir members come willingly and happily every week to prepare music that lifts our worship experience. They are indeed cheerful givers of talent and service.

One reason for the musical stewardship of our choirs is your reaction as generous receivers. As a congregation, you support our endeavors and listen with appreciation. You have responded enthusiastically to our expanding hymn repertoire and to creative psalm singing. You even listen to my postlude—sometimes.

I look forward to the coming weeks of Thanksgiving and Advent when musical expression of praise is so contagious.

Alleluia!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cindy".



## Deck the Halls

Join us for fun and fellowship as we decorate the church for the Christmas season, Saturday, December 6, at 9:00 a.m. Wreaths, garlands, boughs, bows, trees, and poinsettias will adorn the church both inside and outside. Bring your own scissors, wire cutters, etc., if you have them.

Please mark your calendar now for this important date and plan to join us. Refreshments will be served throughout the morning. If you have any questions, call Louise Plumb, 301-762-2769.

### Poinsettias offered for sale by the worship committee.

Profit from the sale of these lovely Behnke Nursery plants will help defray the cost of holiday decorations for the church. Order forms will be available in the church office and can be found in the Sunday bulletins throughout 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, November 30. Color and size choices, pricing, and the pickup date will be noted on the order form. Contacts are Kay McClaine, 301-983-8039, and Fran Weaver, 301-983-8578.

## CHRISTIAN LIVING GROUP

The Christian Living Group is an intergenerational group of women—from newlyweds to grandmothers—that meets once a month to discuss our lives as women and as Christians in today's world. We invite any woman in the congregation to join our conversation. This year we will be reading *Yes, Lord, I Have Sinned, but I Have Several Excellent Excuses!* by James W. Moore. It is a book about God's grace that offers us some insight into our failures and our rationalizations. (The title is indeed a quotation from *War and Peace*.) The books are available now, for \$9.00, in Diane Hutchins' office.

We will meet Tuesday, November 11, at 9:30 a.m., in the parlor. Please call the church office by Friday, November 7, if you need childcare.

## FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • FELLOWSHIP

### Second Annual Father-Son Breakfast November 9, 9:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Calling all sons and fathers! Mark your calendars for the Second Annual Father-Son Breakfast to be held Sunday, November 9, at 9:00 a.m., in Fellowship Hall! If you missed it last year, you will surely want to catch it this year—a wonderful, new, entertaining program is planned! Sign up in the narthex! See you there, guys!

### All Saints Day

On All Saints Day in 1990 we celebrated a special worship service in which we remembered all our members who had died since our congregation was organized in 1963. This year at the 11:00 a.m. worship service November 2, we will remember and give thanks for those who have died since 1990.

There will be special music, and the flowers that day will be given by the Session in memory of our loved ones. We will affirm in the words of our Statement of Faith:

*In life and in death we belong to God.*

## HELP-THE-HOMELESS WALKATHON

Saturday, November 22

- Of 3,000 people placed in motels in 1996, 988 were children.
- 300 people were sheltered overnight every day.
- 68,621 meals were served.

Junior and Senior High Youth of Potomac are invited to participate in this annual event to aid our community's homeless. We have pledged to provide at least 10 participants under age 25. (Parents and other adults are also welcome to walk, of course!) The Fannie Mae Foundation will give \$500 to Community Ministries of Montgomery County if we have at least this many walkers. The Foundation will also match dollar-for-dollar every contribution our walkers collect.

Please call Paddy Simpson, 301-762-0545, to sign up to participate and to obtain registration forms. You are welcome to solicit other contributions outside the church, but congregational support will be solicited only for the group as a whole.

Support our "walkers" during coffee hour November 9 and 16

Young people will be soliciting your financial support for this project during coffee hour after worship November 9 and 16. We hope all members of the congregation will want to support this worthy cause through our walkers.

## RECYCLE

YOUR USED CARS, TRUCKS, MOTORCYCLES,  
CAMPERS, BOATS WITH TRAILERS AND RVs

Call the American Red Cross of Montgomery County and we'll tow your item for free. Plus, we'll give you a tax receipt! Call 301-588-2515, ext. 210 today!!!

This year the Montgomery chapter of the American Red Cross will be celebrating its 80th anniversary of service to the community. The Vehicle Recycling Program has been a very successful endeavor for our chapter. In these tight financial times, its ongoing success will allow us to continue our commitment to furnish the community with the best possible humanitarian services as we have done since 1917.

# FIGHTING HUNGER TWO BY TWO



The Gift Ark carries hope to poor and hungry people worldwide. The ark consists of 15 types of animals — two by two — that will help 30 families enjoy new opportunities for health and self-sufficiency. From Kenya to Kentucky, each of the 30 families that receives livestock from your ark will pass on one or more of the animals' offspring to other families in need. With this generous gift, you help build a global menagerie that will multiply for years to come.

**The cost of the Gift Ark is \$5,000.  
It will include:**



**1 HEIFER AND 1 BULL**  
To bring milk and income to a Polish village.



**2 MULES**  
To transport cheese to market from a village in Peru.



**2 HIVES OF BEES**  
To help Indian families earn money through sale of honey and beeswax.



**2 SHEEP**  
To help families in Kentucky produce wool.



**2 WATER BUFFALO**  
To help Filipino families increase rice production through animal draft power.



**2 GOATS**  
To help two Ugandan families provide milk for their children and earn extra income.



**2 CAMELS**  
To help two Indian families earn income by transporting agricultural and industrial materials.



**2 LLAMAS**  
To improve livestock bloodlines and produce wool and income for families in Bolivia.



**2 DONKEYS**  
To offer an alternative to hunting wildlife in a game preserve by helping a tribe in Zimbabwe grow more food through animal draft power.



**2 TRIOS OF DUCKS**  
To help families in Thailand generate income through the sale of eggs and birds.



**2 TRIOS OF GUINEA PIGS**  
To help two families in a remote highland area of Bolivia add protein to their diets and earn income.



**2 PIGS**  
To enable Hawaiian families to attain greater self-reliance in this region of high unemployment.



**2 TRIOS OF RABBITS**  
To provide survivors of the Lake Nyos disaster in Cameroon with food and income.



**2 FLOCKS OF GESE**  
To help two Chinese families better their nutrition and increase income through production of eggs and meat.



**2 FLOCKS OF CHICKS**  
To help two Guatemalan families improve nutrition and care for their land.

# ICE

FOR YOUTH

## THE PICTURE BIBLE

Especially appropriate for children from about 2nd grade through 6th grade

Some time ago the Christian education committee offered copies of the *Picture Bible* for sale to members of the congregation. Our first order sold out quickly, and when we reordered, we got a bargain price on 20 additional copies. So we can now offer you copies of this version of the Bible in cartoon format, with nicely detailed drawing of Bible stories and an accurate, if not complete, story line for half price!

Ten dollars will get you another copy or maybe a Christmas present for nieces or nephews or grandchildren. See Diane Hutchins if you would like one or more of these books.

## LEARNING TO WORSHIP

Class for 3rd and 4th graders

November 9, 16, and 23

For three Sundays in November—the 9th, 16th, and 23rd—we will offer a Learning to Worship Class for 3rd and 4th graders at the time when younger children go to Enrichment during the worship hour. Diane Hutchins will help this group understand the order of worship as it is printed in our bulletin each week and to identify the different elements of our worship service.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL FIELD TRIP TO THE "BIBLE MUSEUM"

5th and 6th graders  
Junior and Senior Highers

Sunday, November 9

Diane Chapin has arranged for the upstairs Sunday School classes—5th and 6th grades, Junior High and Senior High groups—to go to the "Bible Museum" Sunday morning, November 9. Philip Ratner, a noted sculptor and art teacher, has created this visual journey through the Old Testament in his home in Bethesda.

We believe all the young people of this age group in our congregation should take advantage of this opportunity.

We will leave from the church at 10:00 a.m. and return about 11:30. We hope to have a short time before the worship hour has ended to help the young people think about what they have seen, and to answer any questions they may have about the experience.

Information and permission slips for this field trip have been sent home with young persons who attend one of these Sunday School classes. However, if you do not have a slip, please call the church office and we will mail one to you. We need to know this week about your intention to go with us so we can arrange transportation.

## YOUTH SUBCOMMITTEE

The Christian education youth subcommittee will be meeting in the next few weeks to finalize plans for the rest of fall and to formulate 1998 plans. Watch for notices in the bulletin and check your answering machines!!

There has been a flurry of activity in the church office this week, as the final steps in our annual stewardship campaign are underway. Mailings have gone out, and people have stopped in all week to pick up packages of information and return pledge cards. I'm so glad it is someone else's responsibility to "challenge the people of God with the privilege of responsible Christian stewardship of money and time and talents." And then I remember that our children are part of God's people. Learning to share is one of those things everyone begins to learn in kindergarten, and if we can't make stewardship real and important to children in Sunday School, how will we ever teach them as adults?

**Goal is to fill entire Ark**

For the last few years, the Sunday School offering has been going to the Heifer Project International, a wonderful organization that began in 1944 with a dream to provide hungry families with a source of food rather than short-term relief. They have a farm up in New Windsor, Maryland, which I have visited. Every year we have sent them a check for nearly \$500—not really quite enough to buy one whole heifer—but almost. This year, two of our junior high students came to me to ask if we could buy a whole Ark this year—I told them I'd be pleased if we could just buy a whole cow—but they didn't think that was enough. So, with some trepidation, the Christian education committee announces that our goal this year is to fill that whole Ark! It will mean that the Sunday School offering will need to be more than 10 times what it was last year.

**Children need to know what they do matters**

Children really do understand a lot about money. They know how important it is in our world. They need to understand how much good it can do. They need to know how good it feels to share. They need to see cheerful giving. (If you frowned at the arrival of your pledge card last week, your children noticed, and stored it away in

*Children need to know how good it feels to share . . . They need to see cheerful giving . . . They need to know what it feels like to give and not expect anything in return.*

their collection of memories.) They need to know what it feels like to give and not expect anything in return. They need to know that what they do matters.

There is a Noah bank in the class for two- and three-year-olds in which they can drop their pennies each week. There are offering baskets in every Sunday School class and in the Enrichment groups. There are boxes of dated offering envelopes for children, if that would help them make their contributions regularly. Ask any of the teachers for a box or pick one up in my office.

**Give with a glad heart—thank God for all he has given us**

Help your children learn about stewardship by talking about it. We'll be sending home information about the Heifer Project from time to time during the year. Please help your children understand what we are trying to do and how they can help. Watch for a partially filled Ark at coffee hour, check on its progress every week you are here. Talk about how you plan to share your time and talent, as well as your treasure, with the church in the coming year. Teach your children to give with a glad heart—as a way of thanking God for all he has given us. Help your children feel they have a part in the work of the church by affirming the importance of their offering every week. Help us fill that Ark!

*"Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and in action!"*  
 I John 3:18

*See following page to find out what a Gift Ark includes . . .*

(Kerry, *continued*)

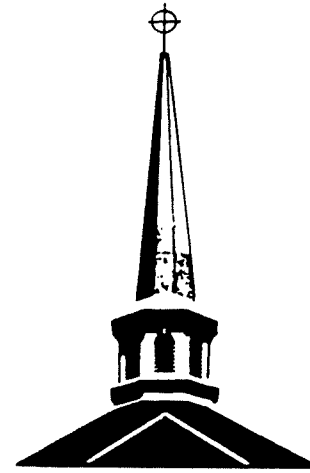
we don't deliberately interrupt ourselves regularly, we have no chance of attending to God at all at other times and in other places."

9. Church is where we pledge allegiance to God revealed in Jesus Christ. We do so in a culture that is apathetic and sometimes hostile to the Gospel. We promise to love God and neighbor and by doing so in public we say that we are willing to be held accountable. What we hear and say in worship shapes our character and challenges us to live out the Gospel in everyday life. Our promises are supported by our sisters and brothers and we know that we are not alone when we take a stand for what is right and good.

10. Among this people called church, we affirm that in life and in death we belong to God. When we lose loved ones, we entrust them to the loving care of God in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection. We affirm that our lives have meaning because we are chosen by God. We look forward to the surprising ways that God has yet to reveal his love to all who are called to be the Body of Christ.

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

December

1997

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

Sunday School      9:45 AM  
Worship              11:00 AM

### Kerry On . . .

As Advent begins again I get out my tape and start listening to Handel's "Messiah" in the car as I drive on Falls and River Road in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety seven. I drive along, still paying attention to the road, of course, but in a way I step out of time and listen for eternity. I stop at the light and wait to make a left turn, but the line is long and I have to wait for the next light. Then the symphony begins to play and in some ways I hear the best words of all, "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people saith your God." My journey to Bethlehem has begun.

Another day I'm listening to the news of the latest massacre in Egypt, not too far from the birthplace of the Messiah. Then I tune out and begin to think about the grief and sorrow that has touched our church family this past year. I think of those we have loved and lost. I am mindful of those who struggle with cancer and other diseases. I think of strained relationships and a variety of disappointments and hurts. Then the chorus sings, "And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed."

Another day, later in the afternoon, I see a magnificent sunset, handiwork of the Creator, and the music rings out, "Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." One day at lunchtime I pull into a parking lot and a friend comes over to the car. I roll down the window and turn up the volume and the chorus sings out, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given." He smiles and says, "Magnificent, wonderful, indeed, unto us."

As Joseph McCabe says in his book, *Handel's Messiah: A Devotional Commentary*, "To make that pilgrimage, with the glorious music and the deepest meaning of the familiar words, is to know ourselves to be living in grace." May your journey to Bethlehem this year be rich with the treasure of God's grace.

**Happy new year!**

It is really most inconvenient that the secular calendar surrounds the first Sunday in Advent with the Thanksgiving weekend. How can we turn our attention to a thoughtful anticipation of the birth of Christ before we've put away the pilgrim hats and cleaned up the kitchen from all those turkey leftovers? And I don't want to slight the Thanksgiving holiday—what could be more inherently religious than a holiday devoted to being thankful! The Sunday after Thanksgiving could be put to very good use in helping the children to process all the experiences of the holiday—the feasting and the family and who it is we need to be grateful to.

**B**ut it is not possible. We must move on. It is the first Sunday of the Church Year—Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost. Every year we celebrate special seasons of our faith. The Advent wreath appeared and the first candle has already been lit—before lots of you had returned from Thanksgiving. No wonder we feel like we are so far behind in our preparation for Christmas every year. I can't remember a year when my children were small that I wasn't hurriedly gathering up the candles and greenery for our family Advent wreath after church on the day—or even a week late.

It's late, but it's not too late. Begin to celebrate Advent today. In Sunday School on November 30, we passed out to everyone through fourth-grade wonderful Advent calendars; the older children received booklets of family devotions, *Growing in Love*. If your children weren't here, be sure to pick one up in the church office or next week in Sunday School. And use them! Every day, set aside just a few moments to open a window on that Advent calendar together, and wonder together, and wait together, and pray together. The calendars have one Bible verse and one thing to thank God for. The booklets have a short Bible passage and an idea for something to talk about together. Your family probably doesn't practice a regular time of devotions—try it, you'll like it. Stop every day and remember what it is we are waiting for. Remind your kids. Remind yourself.

**N**ot only the secular calendar, but all the parts of our culture will be surrounding the Advent season. Your family is always pressed for time, it will be worse in the next four weeks. You will have to be very intentional about keeping your perspective. But it's a new year. It's a great time for resolutions and change. What will it take for a thoughtful anticipation of the birth of Christ? Begin today.

*It's late,  
but it's not too late.  
Begin to celebrate  
Advent today . . .  
wonder together  
and wait together  
and pray together . . .  
Stop every day and  
remember what it is  
we are waiting for.*



*We keep in our prayers . . .*

Wilma Boddiger;  
Sheila Hanson;  
Joy Schwan Best.

*We celebrate with joy the baptism of . . .*

Rebecca Bell Goodier, daughter of Kathleen and Matthew Goodier, and granddaughter of Janet and Calvin Koonce, November 16.

*Congratulations to . . .*

Ruthanne and Kerry, who will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary December 23.

**Mount Zion Church, *continued from page 9***

received assistance from many others: Land for a new site was donated; a lumber company provided lumber, gratis; a brick company gave the bricks; other churches and individuals have contributed funds; the Save the Churches Fund of the Christian Coalition provided a grant of \$15,000.

The new Mount Zion church is simple and functional and will double as a community center. The PPC mission committee is contemplating additional assistance to the church from next year's budget. For their part, the energetic and spiritually motivated people of Mount Zion have expressed their great appreciation for our congregation's assistance, and hope that PPC members will be able to worship with them in the new church in Ladonia, Texas.

**Memorial Garden UPDATE**

The memorial garden committee is happy to announce the addition of a bench, a sign, and improved, coordinated landscaping to the memorial garden. After past years of borrowed money and faithful struggles, the finances of the garden are secure and we look forward to permanent perpetual care. We still need help in completing the current plans, so contributions are encouraged and always welcomed. Please take a moment to stop by and see these lovely additions to this part of our church property.



*December*

**A d u l t C h r i s t i a n E d u c a t i o n**

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

Please join us for fellowship and growth each Sunday in the library from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. For further information, contact Kathy McPherson, 301-926-2792.

**December**

- 7 Williamsburg Breakfast, NO CLASS
- 14 Handel's "Messiah" *Kerry Stoltzfus*
- 21 Handel's "Messiah" *Kerry Stoltzfus*
- 28 NO CLASS

FROM THE *Worship* COMMITTEE **Ushers needed!**

I believe there is no better way to get to know the congregation of Potomac Presbyterian Church than to serve as an usher at church on Sundays. It is also an excellent way to give something back to the church that provides us with so much.

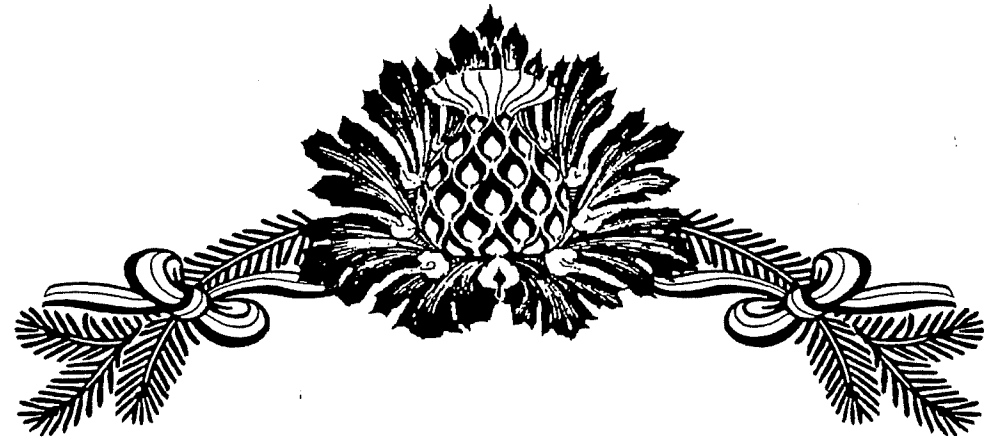
Serving as an usher does not interfere with appreciation of the service. It requires a commitment of only one Sunday per month for 12 months. Alternates are available and duties may be switched when conflicts or absences occur. Ushers perform a valuable service to the congregation

not only in allowing events to proceed smoothly during the service but also as representatives of the church to visitors.

This is an opportunity to be active in the life of your church. I am asking you to consider serving as an usher or lead usher for the 1998 year starting in January 1998. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex and you may contact me at home or at my office, 202-565-3640. Please call if you have any questions. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at church! Dan Dowd

**Insurance and wills support the *people* we love after we die.  
Endowments support the *values* we love after we die.**

— *Loren Mead*



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

*Williamsburg Breakfast*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7  
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!*



FOR YOUTH

## JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH

SUMMER OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU!

### ● Junior High Youth Conference

June 23–26

Massanetta Springs, Harrisonburg, Virginia

The Junior High Youth Conference has been a sellout, with long waiting lists, for the past four years. Diane would accompany a group of Junior Highers to this gathering, so make room for this event on your summer calendar—more information will be available in January.

## AN ENRICHING EXPERIENCE

Every Sunday during worship, we offer Creative Enrichment for our younger children. When Kerry dismisses the children, they go downstairs to one of three age-level groups for a time of learning and playing together. Every Sunday, each of the three groups is led by a different volunteer. During the week, volunteers receive packets in the mail; these packets contain lesson plans and several options for things they might want to do with the children.

In the fall quarter, 25 different people filled 39 classrooms. We thank all of them for spending this time with our children! Thank you Kathy McPherson, Elsie Reid, Sharon Reid, Chris Dowd, Molly Singerling, Melanie Mason, Kathie McShea, Beth Dart, Jim Dart,

Sherri Bond, Matt Petti, Lynn Muys, Jackie Cronin, Diane Chapin, Betsy Dempsey, Liz Underhill, Kelli Fort, Kent Arnold, Joe Curry, Bridget Newton, Judy Bernstein, John Simpson, Frank Bond, Cindy Griswold, and Pat King!!

We hope you noticed that not all of these people have children in the Enrichment programs.

**There will be another 39 opportunities** for you to have an enriching experience with the youngest members of our congregation during the winter quarter. Please notice the chart on Diane's office door and sign up for one Sunday this winter. We are especially in need of volunteers for the Sundays in December.

## CLEANING YOUR TOYBOX?

Don't forget our preschool  
Sunday School classes

If this is the time of year when you re-evaluate your children's collection of toys, don't forget our preschool Sunday School classes. Some of our playthings are looking a bit tired and worn.

We'd love to have a new baby doll—or two. We'd love a play farm and some farm animals. We'd love a workbench or a new kitchen. We have lots of dishes and playfood. We have way too many dinosaurs. We can't really use your stuffed animals. We have to be really careful with anything that has small pieces—we can't keep them together or keep them away from the toddlers.

If you have anything you think would brighten our collection, please leave it in the Resource Room downstairs. If we can't use it, we will see that it gets to Goodwill or the Salvation Army.

## SHARING OUR MISSION

### Steeple to people of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Ladonia, Texas

*For some time, PPC's mission committee has worked to identify for assistance one of the black churches destroyed during the nationwide spate of burnings in the past couple of years. It was through the help of the National Council of Churches that the relationship with Mount Zion was established.*



October 14, 1997, Potomac Presbyterian Church's mission committee presented on behalf of PPC a check in the amount of \$1,425 to Pastor Cedric Barksdale and Treasurer Wynetta McCoy of the Mount Zion Baptist Church, Ladonia, Texas. The church had been destroyed by fire January 19, 1996—arson the suspected cause. The funds are to finance the steeple of the new Mount Zion church, under construction and scheduled for dedication January 24, 1998.

#### Church built on gift in 1877

The Mount Zion church was founded in 1877 by Henry Green, the great-grandfather of Ms. McCoy. Mr. Green was a former slave whose father was the owner of the plantation where Henry worked in the cotton fields. After the Civil War, the plantation owner decided to leave Texas and move to the North. He gave Henry Green 140 acres of the plantation as a farewell gift. It was upon this land that the spirit moved Mr. Green to work with his friends to build a church—a log cabin.

The congregation met on the first and third Sundays of each month, and the tradition has continued ever since. Only

twice in 120 years has the congregation not met—once during an ice storm, and a second time immediately after the 1996 fire. The decision to meet at the church on only two Sundays a month was made in consideration of the many parishioners who lived so far away that traveling to and from church meant a full weekend away from farm work. A second church was built on the other side of Ladonia's county to help accommodate travel needs—it met on the second and fourth Sundays.

#### Church burning reviewed

The church which burned in 1996 had been constructed in 1938. A team from the Atlanta-based Center for Democratic Renewal, sponsored by the National Council of Churches, reviewed on site the circumstances of the burning and in its report noted "arson (and) possible racial and antireligious motivation." The National Council of Churches identified Mount Zion Church as eligible for assistance from its Burnt Churches Fund and provided a grant of \$40,000 for reconstruction.

The Mount Zion congregation has engaged in self-help efforts and also has

(Continued on page 11)

## Your Sunday School offering — fighting hunger **2 by 2**

The total cost of the Gift Ark is \$5000.

By November 16, we had collected \$1,250.88. We have a long way to go.

Maybe you'd like to give a trio of rabbits (\$60) as a Christmas offering?

Or a flock of chicks (\$20)?

Or a hive of bees (\$30)?

Or how about going whole hog (\$120)?!

The Gift Ark will carry hope to poor and hungry people worldwide. You can help us build a global menagerie that will multiply for years to come.



Cow's milk feeds malnourished children.



Donkey draft power increases crop yields.

Camels haul farm supplies and produce.



Geese provide eggs and meat for protein.



Water buffalo supply manure for fertilizer.



Pigs are a sustainable source of protein.



Mules transport milk and cheese for sale.



Duck eggs generate income and nutrition.



Guinea pigs supply meat and income.



Dairy goats provide nutritious milk.



Sheep produce wool for clothing and sale.



Llamas transport vegetables to market.



Bees produce wax and honey for sale.



## Senior High Youth

THREE SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

— all with **REGISTRATION DEADLINES IN DECEMBER!**

### ● 1998 Presbyterian Youth Triennium

***“Arise and shine  
for your light has come!”***

July 21–26, 1998 • Purdue University

This gathering happens only once every three years. If you are eligible to go this summer, you will be too old the next time it happens. Each Presbytery may send a delegation of about 40 youth, ages 15–18. They usually go together on a bus—adding a travel day to each end of the event. It will cost about \$450.

The deadline for application forms is Dec. 15. See Diane Hutchins for more information, application forms, or an encouraging pep talk—her kids all went somewhat reluctantly and thought it was the best experience they ever had. **You will remember it for the rest of your life.**

### ● Montreat Youth Conference

July 12–18 ... or four other possibilities  
Montreat, North Carolina

***“Freed to be”*** is the theme for Youth Conference #3 at the Presbyterian Conference Center in North Carolina this summer. We have arranged for youth from our church to go with the kids from Chevy Chase. Reservations need to be made on the first Monday in January, so if you are interested, see Diane Hutchins **NOW** for more information. If you want to go to

Montreat, but don't like these dates, see her for other options. Program fee is \$142, plus room and board which has yet to be arranged.

### ● YADS—Youth Advisory Delegates

**General Assembly**

June 13–20 • Charlotte, North Carolina

**Synod Assembly**

July 9–12 • Greensboro, North Carolina

At both Synod Assembly and the churchwide General Assembly each year, our Presbytery selects Youth Advisory Delegates. They serve as commissioners with voice, but no vote, on the floor of these policy-making assemblies of the Presbyterian Church.

Each group of young people will have an advisor who will explain to them the procedures and issues before the church. YADS are often much better informed about the issues than the elected delegates.

Young people ages 15–21 are eligible—many of these delegates are college-aged, especially at GA because of the early date. Travel, food, housing, and official expenses are provided.

It's a marvelous experience for young people and we urge anyone who is interested to pick up an application form from Diane **TODAY**. Deadline is December 12.

# ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS CALENDAR

## November 30 First Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Children's Choir  
9:45 a.m. Church School for all ages  
9:45 a.m. Adult Seminar: "Been there—done that" Beginning the Advent journey  
11:00 a.m. Worship, the Lord's Supper  
Scripture: Isaiah 40:1-5 Sermon: Comfort, O Comfort My People



## December 21 Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:45 a.m. Adult Seminar: Reflections of Handel's "Messiah," led by Kerry Stoltzfus  
9:45 a.m. Christmas Pageant preparation (All children & youth)  
11:00 a.m. Worship, **Christmas pageant**  
Special music by Jesus' Birthday Band  
Scripture: Luke 2:8-15  
Sermon: Do Not Be Afraid  
4:00 p.m. **Christmas caroling**  
at Manor Care and Collingswood Nursing Homes  
(Party to follow)

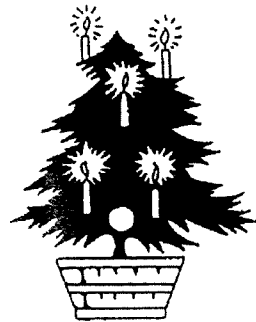


## December 7 Second Sunday of Advent

### "Giving Tree"

**Christmas Gift Giving Program for Needy Children and Families** begins again this year at the Williamsburg Breakfast in Fellowship Hall.

8:00 a.m. Youth depart for "Dollars for Needy Children" shopping  
9:00 a.m. Children's Choir  
9:30 a.m. **Williamsburg Breakfast**  
*Children and teachers served first*  
9:45 a.m. Church School for children through grade 6  
11:00 a.m. Worship  
Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7 Sermon: Unto Us a Child Is Born



## December 24 Christmas Eve

\*5:00 p.m. **Worship—family service**  
\*7:00 p.m. **Candlelight communion service** with special music by Children's Choir, Sanctuary Choir, and instrumentalists  
11:00 p.m. **Candlelight communion service**  
Special music provided by Sanctuary Choir and instrumentalists  
\*child care provided



## December 14 Third Sunday of Advent

Wrapped presents and food baskets for the Gift Giving Program for Needy Children and Families should be returned to Fellowship Hall by 11:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. Children's Choir  
9:45 a.m. Church School for all ages  
9:45 a.m. Adult Seminar: Reflections on Handel's "Messiah," led by Kerry Stoltzfus  
11:00 a.m. Worship  
Scripture: Luke 1:26-38 Sermon: Greetings, Favored One

## December 28 Sunday after Christmas

11:00 a.m. Worship led by Potomac Presbyterian college students  
Please note—there will be no Sunday School December 28.  
There will be Enrichment groups for children during 11:00 worship



January 4  
9:45 a.m.—the Sunday School hour

**STAR OF WONDER, STAR OF LIGHT, an intergenerational epiphany celebration**  
Everyone is invited for stories and games and songs and refreshments as we join those wisemen searching for the baby Jesus.