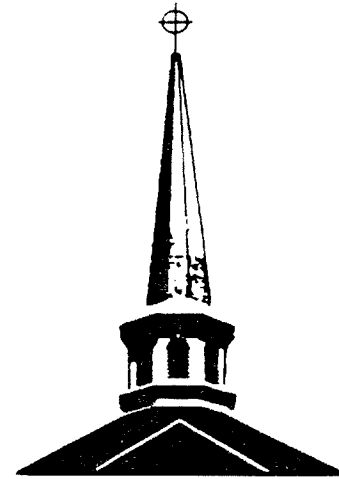


Potomac Presbyterian Church
10301 River Road
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M/M Lynn Wright
12708 War Admiral Way
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Kerry L. Stoltzfus, *senior pastor*
O. Thomas Miles, *parish associate*
Marilyn Johns, *director of youth and Christian education*
Cynthia Wright, *director of music and organist*



STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

January

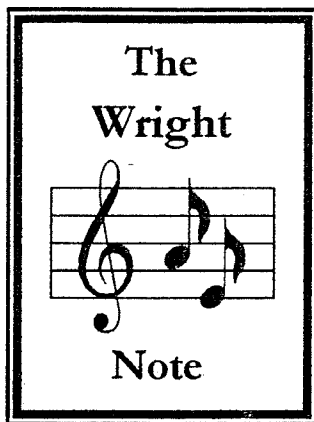
2002

KERRY ON...

How would you like some help in developing a spiritual “action plan” for the new year? I recommend Philip Yancy’s book, Reaching for the Invisible God. In it he gives a very insightful sampling of his action plan:

- *Question your doubts as much as your faith.* By personality, or perhaps as a reaction to a fundamentalist past, I brood on doubts and experience faith in occasional flashes. Isn’t it about time for me to reverse the pattern?
- *Do not attempt this journey alone. Find companions who see you as a pilgrim, even a straggler, and not as a guide.* Like many Protestants, I easily assume the posture of one person alone with God, a stance which more and more I see as unbiblical. We have little guidance on how to live as a follower alone because God never intended it.
- *Allow the good - natural beauty, your health, encouraging words - to penetrate as deeply as the bad.* Why does it take around seventeen encouraging letters from readers to overcome the impact of one caustic, critical one? If I awoke every morning and fell asleep each night bathed in a sense of gratitude and not self-doubt, the hours in-between would doubtless take on a different cast.
- *For your own sake, simplify. Eliminate whatever distracts you from God.* Among other things, that means the ruthless winnowing of mail, giving catalogs, junk mail, and book club notices no more time it takes to toss them in the trash. If I ever get the nerve, my television set should probably land there as well.
- *Find something that allows you to feel God’s pleasure.* The sprinter Eric Liddell told his sister, “God made me fast. And when I run, I feel his pleasure.” What makes me feel God’s pleasure? I must identify it then *run*.

Continued on page 2



I have a cupboard full of coffee mugs that I have received as gifts over the years. Each is different, displaying musical or seasonal themes. I delight in using a different cup every day, remembering the person who gave it to me and smiling at the message portrayed. Today's cup (given to me by a PPC handbell ringer) says, "Rejoice and be glad."

I am rejoicing about the beautiful cantatas the Sanctuary Choir and instruments shared December 9th. I am glad that the children's choirs and youth ensemble have been so enthusiastic and loyal in their preparation for the Nativity Story presentation December 23rd. I

rejoice that the Handbell Choir has brought the message of Jesus' birth in such a unique and musical way in three worship services during Advent. I am glad that so many of our college students, and other young adults now living away from Potomac, were home and eager to participate in our Christmas Eve worship and the Musical Celebration event on December 23rd. I rejoice in the help given by parents of children participating in the advent musical events. I am glad that we have a congregation with so many people willing to share their talents and gifts, starting with the Williamsburg Breakfast and continuing on through Christmas Eve and College Student Sunday.

In 2002, I continue to "rejoice and be glad" that as a caring and supportive congregation, we have the privilege of singing God's praises together.

Cindy

(Kerry On... Continued)

- *Remember, those Christians who peeve you so much - God chose them too.* For some reason, I find it much easier to show grace and acceptance toward immoral unbelievers than toward uptight, judgmental Christians. Which, of course, turns me into a different kind of uptight, judgmental Christian.
- *Forgive, daily, those who caused the wounds that keep you from wholeness.* Increasingly, I find that our wounds are the very things God uses in his service. By harboring blame for those who caused them, I stall the act of redemption that can give the wounds worth and value, and ultimately healing.

I hope we will all experience a new awareness of the abundance of God's grace in the new year.



New Photo Directory



Have you seen the new photo directory? If you have not picked up your copy, see Joe Curry (any Sunday in January) in Fellowship Hall after the worship service.

A Mission Challenge For The New Year

- A special 2002 opportunity for Session Members, Deacons, Mission Committee Members, and in fact, ALL Members---
- If you read the Washington Post or the Gazette you know that Hispanics have become a huge minority in Montgomery County.
- The Presbyterian Church (USA) is doing next to nothing to serve this immigrant group.
- Our Presbytery wants to begin addressing their needs in 2002; but first we must understand how best to do it.
- Can PPC help? *Yes, we can!*
- *We can start* by attending a workshop led by Rev. Hector Rodriguez, Associate for Hispanic Congregational Enhancement at the General Assembly, Presbyterian Church (USA), Louisville, Kentucky.
- Saturday, January 19, 2002 - 9:30 am – 2:30 pm (Lunch will be provided.)
- Wheaton Presbyterian Church, Wheaton MD is hosting. 3211 Paul Drive. East on Randolph Road; Right on Viers Mill Road; Cross Connecticut Ave.; Left on Claridge (5th street after Conn.); Right on Paul Drive.
- **Register now** with Teresa Garcia, our church secretary.
Call Ed Clark with questions at 301-365-9708, or Diane Chapin at 301-983-1688.

In the Church Family

We rejoice in the birth of...

Talia Linda Gabriel, daughter of Dolly and Kami Gabriel, born November 28, 2001. Proud sisters are Tera and Miya; grandparents are Magda and Alex Shalaby and uncle is Mark Shalaby.

We celebrate with joy the baptism of...

Emily Anne Cyrway on November 25, 2001. We rejoice with Emily's parents, Pam Mazza and Chris Cyrway.

New Address...

Our prayers are with...

Wilma Boddiger. Wilma is at home;
Cathy Hotes. Cathy is recovering from surgery.

Mark Alarie & Renee Augustine
8514 Country Club Drive
Bethesda, Maryland 20817

Deacon's Corner

A New Year's Poem

2001 has now come and gone
Indeed, it was an incredible year
Experienced uniquely by us
one and all
Some memories faded,
some to be ever clear.

But, alas, it is now time for us
To give this New Year a
fresh, positive start
Not by making those
proverbial "resolutions"
But by boosting our faith with
deeds pure of the heart.

I charge us all to make each
new day precious
During these 365 God-given days
As appreciation for His
great love for us
Giving just one small token of
joy—oh, the endless ways!

Below, is a list of a few simple ideas
Some whimsical and some clever
I call it '*getting into the joy of life*'
May God be with you with your clever new endeavor.

- Serve a casual family dinner by candlelight
- Give someone you love an unexpected hug
- Fix pancakes for dinner
- Take a bubble bath or prepare one for a family member
- Prepare a new recipe ~ double it and give one to someone
- Send a greeting card to an old friend
- Buy a single rose and display it in your kitchen
- Write a 'love note' and hide it under your husband/wife's pillow
- Look out the window and admire one particular item in the view
- If you're out in public and a nearby stranger sneezes; say "Bless you"
- Learn a new joke and share it at the dinner table

Ann Niskanen

"There is a wonderful, mystical law of nature
that the three things we crave most in life ~
happiness, freedom, and peace of mind ~
are always attained by giving them to someone else."

Author unknown

Adult Education Class Schedule for January 2002

January 6	Nancy Tietjen and Tom Miles ~ Spirituality
January 13	Film (Installation Day for New Officers)
January 20	Dr. Dewey Wallace ~ George Washington University
January 27	Dr. Dewey Wallace

Marilyn's Message

One of the projects I have been working on for my Doctor of Ministry program is that I have been writing daily devotions for the Stephen Ministry training class. When this is completed, there will be 25 weeks of five devotions per week. These are designed to be encouraging to the Stephen Ministers during their training as well as when they are "in the field" giving care to people. Many of those in the training class have found doing a daily devotional exercise is a helpful discipline for them.

I would like to suggest this practice to you as well. The New Year would be a good time to begin to develop the habit of daily reading in the scriptures, or using one of the devotional books you will find in the literature rack in the narthex. You may want to look for inspirational books or biographies of faithful Christians and read a chapter a day. Fifteen minutes of listening to the great music of the church will do much to lift you up. You can also try different spiritual practices, which you can learn about in such books as *Soul Feast*, by Marjorie Thompson, or *Spirit Windows*, by Ann Kulp.












Whatever you decide to do to make a small space in each day for God, do so in the context of prayer and silence, so that not only will you be able to share your concerns with God, but you will be able to listen for God's words to you. As you go through the day, think about a particular scripture or thought, and see how God interprets that for you.

This is one New Year's Resolution that will have long-lasting benefits, and that you might actually enjoy!

NEED A DATE? HERE ARE SEVERAL!

Get out your calendar and mark these dates for upcoming events in the educational life of our church and presbytery:

February 3	Super Bowl Sub Sale fundraiser for workcamp
February 22/23	National Capital Presbytery's Big Event - Friday night mission emphasis, Saturday workshops on all aspects of the church. Look for brochures in the literature rack.
February 24	Silent Auction/Variety Show, beginning at 5 p.m.
May 19	Pentecost/Youth Sunday
June 23	Workcampers leave for Jacksonville, NC Kingsview Workcamp in Germantown
July 8-12	Vacation Bible School

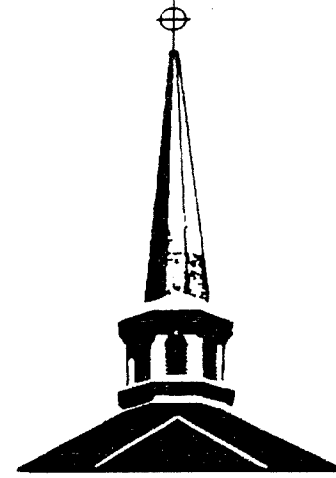
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1>January 2002</h1>		1 New Year's Day (office closed)	2	3 12:00pm AA	4 	5
6 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship/Baptism 12:00am Fellowship 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	7 7:00pm Kingsview Workcamp Meeting	8   	9 Collingswood Nursing Home 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Training & Continuing Ed.	10 12:00pm AA 6:30pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Maryland Ornithological Society 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	11	12 8:30am-3:00pm Deacons' Retreat
13 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship/Ordination and Installation 12:00pm Fellowship 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	14 12:30pm Christian Ed. Committee 8:00pm Committees	15 9:30-12:30 Art Class 9:30am Christian Living 10:30am Men's Book Group 7:30pm Christian Living 7:00pm Compassionate Friends	16 9:30-12:30 Art Class 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Training & Continuing Ed.	17 12:00pm AA 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	18	19 
20 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship/Baptism/ Communion 12:00pm Fellowship 3:00pm Manor Care 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	21  8:00pm Session	22 9:30-12:30 Art Class	23 9:30-12:30 Art Class 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Training & Continuing Ed.	24 12:00pm AA 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	25	26
27 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm ANNUAL MEETING 12:30pm Fellowship 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	28 7:30pm Deacons	29 9:30-12:30 Art Class	30 9:30-12:30 Art Class 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Training & Continuing Ed.	31 12:00pm AA 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	 	 

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STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

February

2002

KERRY ON...

Eugene Peterson writes,

Worship is the strategy by which we interrupt our preoccupation with ourselves and attend to the presence of God. Worship is the time and place that we assign for deliberate attentiveness to God ~ not because God is confined to time and place but because our self importance is so insidiously relentless that if we don't interrupt ourselves regularly, we have no chance of attending to God at all at other times and in other places.

Attending to the presence of God implies that God is always present and invites us to become aware of the presence. Sometimes this may happen when we are alone and stop our busyness long enough to say the words, "Praise God," in the face of incredible beauty or uncommon kindness. It may happen when we cry out in despair, "God help me." We may be surprised by God in a baby's smile, the greeting of a friend or the joy of a simple meal with our family.

Corporate worship is when we attend to the presence of God in the company of others who believe. This safeguards our preoccupation with ourselves even when it comes to seeking that presence. Singing and praying and hearing Good News together deepens our spiritual awareness. Attending to God in the company of God's people challenges and strengthens us for faithful living. I look forward to being with you for worship on Sunday.

Lent in the Year of Our Lord 2002

*Jesus said,
Do this remembering me*

February 13 Ash Wednesday Services; 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

The Lenten season will begin as we gather at the Lord's Table. The services will be a time of meditation and reflection. Music and a brief communion meditation will precede the communion. If you are free during the day, come at 11:00 a.m. or on your way home from work at 6:30 p.m. The services will be 30 to 40 minutes in length. Child care will be provided.

February 17 First Sunday of Lent; 11:00 a.m.
Worship/Communion

February 26 Home Communion; Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Host Ann Niskanen
12114 Pawnee Drive; N. Potomac
301/258-7836

March 3 Home Communion; Sunday, 7:30 p.m.
Host Susan Pereles
12029 Great Elm Drive; Potomac
301/299-4133

March 10 Home Communion; Sunday, 7:30 p.m.
Host Jim Jochum
6 Starlight Court; Potomac
301/309-0235

March 13 Home Communion; Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Host Pam Self Rice
34 Sandalfoot Ct; Potomac
301/365-0755

**March 28 Maundy Thursday Fellowship Meal and
Communion Service;** 7:00 p.m.

February Adult Education Speakers

- Feb. 3 Dr. Dewey Wallace
Feb. 10 Dr. Dewey Wallace
Feb. 17 Dr. Imad Aldean Ahmad, Muslim Scholar
Coming back for an extra visit!
Feb. 24 Dr. Tom Hougen; Por Cristo



In the Church Family

We rejoice in the birth of...

Lauren Christi Jacobs, daughter of Carol and Parka Jacobs, born December 21, 2001. Proud grandparents are "Doc" and Ellen Doctor.

Matthew Andrew Cole, son of Andrew and Lisa Cole of Hammondsport, NY, born December 12, 2001. Proud grandparents are Joan and Tom Cole.

Seth Christopher Potter, son of Clay and Elizabeth Jones Potter born November 12, 2001. Proud grandparents are Doug and Beatrice Callahan Jones, and great grandmother is Edith Stewart Callahan.

We celebrate with joy the baptism of...

Gavin Adams May on December 23, 2001. We rejoice with Gavin's parents Michael May & Jenny Chung and grandparents, Chan and Eun Hee Chung;

Val Alexander Evans on January 6, 2002. We rejoice with Val's parents, Natalie and Jeff Evans.

Our Prayers are with...

Peter Teets and all his family. Peter's son, David Teets, died in an accident on December 24th in Colorado;

The Shalaby family. Alex and Magda's niece died in a car accident before Christmas;

Mary Ling. Mary's father, Martin McGrath, passed away mid December;

John Hummon's brother, Norman, who is hospitalized in Texas;

Elaine Skinner. Elaine's father, Herbert E. Goen, died on Dec. 27th at age 94;

Nancy Tiejn. Nancy's sister passed away recently;

Tom Miles. Tom's sister M. Virginia Miles, died recently;

Janet Dunlop. Janet's father, William H. Shultz, also died recently.

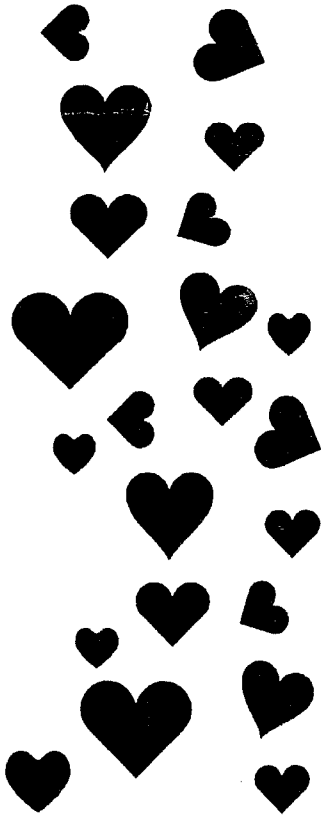
New Addresses...

Lindsay Chapin
323 West Side Dr. #301
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Jackie Tillson
7002 Dunningham Place
Mc Lean, Va. 22101

Deacon's Corner

A new year has begun for the Deacons here at PPC. We held our annual retreat on January 12th. We said farewell to the class of 2001 and welcomed the class of 2004. Ruthanne Stoltzfus and Kathy McPherson led us in a discussion about listening. It was very enlightening and helpful. I think we all could use a lesson in time management! Many of us end up asking the same question: "Do I have time for this?" The answer seems to be "No, but I will make time". The Deacon serves as a representative of the church, communicating between the church leadership and parish members. We act as hosts and hostesses, sounding boards, bearers of good and bad news, friends, and much more. We express the concern, joy and compassion that the church feels for all of us. We invite all of the church members and guests to come and be a part of our lives.



If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends;

1 Corinthians 13: 1 - 8

Marilyn's Message

I used to be one of those people who thought I'd never own a microwave oven. "Expensive bottle-warmers" was what my friends, who were also young mothers, would say. I was also the person who said I'd never need a home computer. I had a correcting typewriter - why would I ever need more than that?

I've had my microwave for about 18 years, and there are sometimes weeks at a time when I do not use my conventional oven. (Needless to say, I'm not warming baby bottles anymore!) We are on our fourth home computer, trading up to allow the information from the internet to reach us a nano-second faster than before.

The latest gadget that I swore I'd never own is a cell phone. Who would want to own something that allows people to track you down *while you are in your car*??? My car is the place I have quiet time to think, or time to "read" a book, or time to listen to *MY* music. The introvert's paradise! Not to mention the fact that I get extremely annoyed with drivers who drift into my lane because their attention is distracted by a cell phone.

So, it was with mixed feelings that I accepted the gift of a cell phone from the session, on recommendation from the Christian Education Committee. Do I really want people to be able to find me even when I'm out of town? Was this a plot to get me to work more hours? Would I ever have any more privacy?

Actually, the idea originated when two separate groups, one consisting of Rachel and me, and another consisting of other youth and leaders, tried to coordinate a trip to Butler's Orchard for a hayride in October. They were waiting for me in one place and I was waiting for them in another. And we both waited quite a long time! They, of course, had a cell phone, so they called my house, the church, everywhere they thought I might be, but I, of course *NOT* having a cell phone, was nowhere to be found. They were worried about us, and I was worried about them.

I was convinced. There are many times I am transporting youth when it would be nice to alert parents that we are almost home, so they can be at the church when we arrive. If I were to have an emergency, especially when traveling with youth or children of the church, I would be very thankful for a phone. There are many situations I can think of that justify having a cell phone. And as for those times when I need to be alone . . . well, I discovered a nifty little button on the phone that *turns it off!* Isn't technology wonderful!

This is a roundabout way of informing you of my cell phone number, and I encourage you to use it when you cannot reach me at the office or at home. The number is **240-308-0801**. It's usually on unless I forget to charge the battery, and forgetting is a problem for which they haven't invented a solution yet. But you can be sure that if they do, I'll be the *last* to need it!



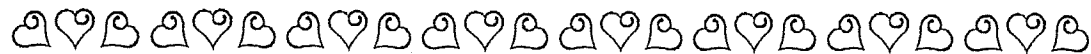
Mission



On Sunday night, February 10th, we will begin our ninth year of participation in the Montgomery County Homeless Shelter Program. (As most of you know, for the first three years of our involvement, our homeless guests slept on the floor in Fellowship Hall ~ two members of our congregation - one man - one woman remaining at church each evening.)

By the fourth year, the county had built a shelter on Wilkins Avenue in Rockville. This year we will be serving dinner to thirty residents each evening - Sunday through Saturday night; and providing bag lunches that they take with them when they leave the shelter each morning to fulfill their commitment for that day. We also provide all the breakfast supplies for the week as well as paper and hygiene products.

If, by the time you read this, you have not already signed up to help with dinner or lunch, please check the sign-up chart on Sunday morning or call me at home to see where help is needed.



National Capital Presbytery's Big Event is happening on February 22 and 23. Friday night's emphasis is on mission, and is held at Fairlington Presbyterian Church in Alexandria. Saturday takes place at National Presbyterian Church in Washington, and will be a mixture of workshops on all aspects of church life and ministry. This is an event that is well-worth your time. Brochures with details and registration form are in the literature rack in the narthex, and on the table by the church office.



COMING...

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24th

5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

YOUTH GROUP TALENT SHOW AND SILENT AUCTION

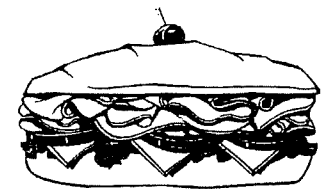
Be sure to buy your tickets to the Talent Show and Silent Auction. This will be a fun-filled evening for the whole family. Come and dine on delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts, enjoy an entertaining program, and bid on some fantastic items in the Silent Auction. Proceeds will go toward Workcamp 2002 in Jacksonville, NC. **Questions? Just ask any teenager at church!**



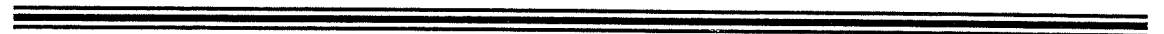
SUPER BOWL



"SUB SUNDAY"

February 3rd



Back by popular demand!! The Youth Group is offering their delicious sub sandwiches for sale after church on Super Bowl Sunday, February 3rd. For only \$5.00 each, you can relax for the afternoon and enjoy an Italian style sub with all the fixings. We took orders during January, but, we will have additional subs available for purchase on Sunday morning. Please stop by our table in Fellowship Hall on the 3rd. Don't be left out! Proceeds will go toward Workcamp 2002. Thank you, as always, for your support.



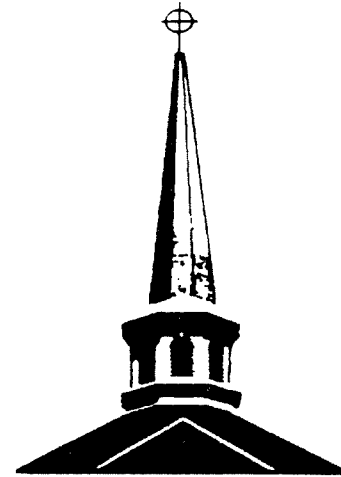
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2002</h1> 					1	2
3 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Fellowship 12:00pm Super Bowl Sub Sale No Youth Groups	4	5 Lord's Table	6 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Training	7 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	8 9:00pm Senior High Lock-In	9 Lock-In Till 9:00am
10 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Inquirer's Class 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Fellowship 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group Homeless Shelter Starts through Feb. 17	11 12:30pm Christian Ed. Committee 8:00pm Committees	12 9:30am Christian Living 7:30pm Christian Living	13 9:30am Bible Study 11:00am Ash Wednesday Service 4:00pm Primary Choir 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service Collingswood Nursing Home	14 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	15	16 8:30am - 3:30pm Stephen Ministry Retreat
17 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Inquirer's Class 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship/Holy Communion 12:00pm Fellowship 3:00pm Manor Care 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	18 8:00pm Session	19 10:30am Men's Book Group	20 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Training	21 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	22 6:00 - 9:30pm The Big Event - NCP	23 8:30am - 3:30pm National Capital Presbytery The Big Event
24 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Inquirer's Class 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00am Fellowship 5:00-8:00pm Talent Show and Silent Auction	25 7:30pm Deacons	26	27 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Training	28 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another;  John 13:34	

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STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

March

2002

KERRY ON...

Reinhold Neibuhr, perhaps the greatest American theologian of the 20th century began his ministry in a small working class congregation in Detroit. I have been reading his classic work, Leaves From the Notebook of a Tamed Cynic. It is a brief account of thirteen years of parish ministry and it shows why his later theological work was always in touch with real life. He wrote,

On the whole, people do not achieve great moral heights out of a sense of duty. You may be able to compel them to maintain certain minimum standards by stressing duty, but the highest moral and spiritual achievements depend not on a push but a pull. The language of aspiration rather than that of criticism and command is the proper pulpit language.

Jesus more often issued an invitation rather than giving a command. He said, "Come and follow me." In his life and death he showed us what we can become and promised to be with us. The way may not be easy but it promises a life worth living. The paradox of the gospel is that the way to the cross leads to life. The disciples could not grasp the way of suffering and death. Only after the fact did they give their lives to the path that Jesus had shown them.

Countless millions have accepted the invitation to follow Jesus and reached out to take his hand. Only Jesus had to walk alone. We hold onto his hand and the hands of his friends. Thanks be to God.

The Sixth Berger Lecture

Sunday March 17, 2002

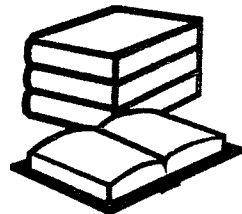
9:45 a.m. ~ Adult Education

11:00 a.m. ~ Worship

The Rev. John Yieh, an Instructor of New Testament at Virginia Theological Seminary (Alexandria, VA), will present the Sixth Berger Memorial Lecture. He received an M.A. and an M. Phil. in Religious Studies from Yale University, and is finishing his Ph.D. in New Testament also at Yale. His scholarly interest is focused on the Gospels, history of biblical interpretation and cross-cultural hermeneutics. Originally from Taiwan, he has published scholarly works both in English and in Chinese. His publication includes a NT Greek-Chinese Dictionary, a Study Edition of the Chinese Bible (in drafting and editorial team), and several articles in the area of Biblical studies and comparative hermeneutics. An ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church USA, he has served as pastor to the Taiwanese Presbyterian Church of Northern Virginia which meets in Oakton, Virginia.

The Berger Lecture honors the memory of Fred Berger, an active and dedicated member of our church in the 1980's, who played a role in shaping our Adult Education program. He was particularly interested in the meaning of Christianity for contemporary moral and social problems.

Adult Education for March 2002



- | | |
|---------|--|
| March 3 | Dr. Sally Promey, University of Maryland
Topic: Public Display of Religion |
| 10 | Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus |
| 17 | Rev. John Yieh, Virginia Theological Seminary
The Berger Lecture |
| 24 | A wonderful film telling the story behind the
composing of some of our favorite hymns |
| 31 | Easter Sunday – No class |

Mark your Calendar!!

June 1, 2002

Komen National Race for the Cure

Once again PPC will form a **TEAM** to participate in the "Race". If you would like to help with the organization of this event, please contact: Bettie Ann Johnson at 301 963 5847 or Bettieann.j@home.com. More details to follow.

Vacation Bible School

July 8 - July 12

PPC invites all children to join us at SonCanyon River Adventure! This year's Vacation Bible School promises to be an adventure your children will never forget. SonCanyon River Adventure provides Bible teaching with an exciting river rafting theme. Your children will have a great adventure singing, watching skits, creating crafts and playing games. But most important, they'll discover survival skills for living from the book of Proverbs. SonCanyon River Adventure begins July 8 and continues through July 12. For information or to volunteer, please call Judi or Joel Miller at 301-946-3983.

In the Church Family

We rejoice in the birth of...

Chandler Thomas Kuhn, son of Tom and Wendy Kuhn, born on January 28, 2002. The proud sisters are Amanda and Victoria.

We celebrate with joy the baptism of...

Elizabeth Ann Johnson on January 20th. We rejoice with Elizabeth's parents, David and Melissa Johnson;

Samuel James Howard on January 27th. We rejoice with Samuel's parents, Bruce and Ann Howard;

Amanda Jennifer Lee on January 27th. We rejoice with Amanda's parents, Hyun and Nammy Lee.

Our prayers are with...

Joan Cole. Joan is recovering at home;

Lucille Ferrara. Lucille is recovering from surgery.





Once again our church is privileged to participate in ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING (OGHS), an annual offering supported by nine of the mainline or larger Protestant Christian denominations in the United States. Since 1949, members of these denominations have united in an outpouring of generosity in the name and to the glory of God to meet human needs. Their gifts, and

ours, have clothed, fed, and housed persons displaced by natural and manmade disasters. OGHS funds have literally provided "seed" monies for agricultural efforts or new livestock for people struggling to support themselves and their families. The OGHS offering has fostered hope and healing among persons seeking refuge from disaster, poverty and civil upheaval and given them an opportunity to start anew.

At the site of the World Trade Center disaster amidst unimaginable loss and pain, in the Congo as the volcanic rock rained down bringing fire and destruction, and in fact wherever civil war, floods or famine have uprooted lives and livelihoods, our church (together with the other Protestant churches participating in OGHS), through Church World Service, has been there, to provide emergency assistance and then, long after the immediate crisis has been weathered, to stabilize families and communities with funds for long term recovery and self-help programs. We are there because God has called us to be our brothers' keepers; we do so effectively through OGHS.

During the month of March there will be bulletin inserts each week providing information about some of the specific programs funded by your OGHS gifts—read there about the Miracle Tree in Senegal, the New North Florida Marketing Cooperative, a gift of cows to Alicinia in Mozambique, and the feeding ministry of "Sister" Jean Webster of Atlantic City, New Jersey. See how our hands, in the form of monies given to OGHS, enable God's love to be known and shared around the world. Special pew envelopes will be available for your donations throughout the Lenten Season. Checks can be mailed to the Church office as well, payable to the church but designated for OGHS.

The vision of those who began this offering in 1949 is still ours to fulfill—to unite in Christian love and attend to God's children in need, trusting that He will multiply our small efforts with His grace. May we: "Serve one another with whatever gift each...has received." (I Peter 4:10(b)).

The MISSION COMMITTEE

Mission committee alert!! Bruce and Jane Gilmore, our missionaries in Nepal, will be in Potomac on March 11, the date of our next committee meeting. The March 11 committee meeting will be held at the home of Karen and Rob Wescott starting at 6:00 p.m. with a pot luck supper. All members of the committee and their spouses are welcome. If you have not already done so, please let Betty Yadowsky know if you will join us for supper; phone Betty at 301-907-8866 or e-mail to the church at admin@potomacpresbyterian.org.

Marilyn's Message

Our church has a unique and exciting opportunity this summer. Richmond McPherson, who is a member of this congregation, will be working for the church as a youth ministry intern. He will primarily be working in education areas, but will also work with Kerry on some of the pastoral aspects of church ministry. Both Kerry and I are delighted to have him with us, and look forward to sharing ministry with him.

Rich is finishing his second year at Pepperdine University, and has spent this school year studying in Heidelberg, Germany. He has been very active in youth groups and workcamp over the past several years here at PPC, and has helped with Vacation Bible School. He is actively involved in Bible studies at Pepperdine, and he organized the SPLASH group for senior highs in our church last summer. You may also recall that he was a Youth Advisory Delegate to last summer's General Assembly. Although Rich has not decided on his future plans, he is leaning toward some form of ministry. It is our job as his congregation to encourage that leaning!

Some of Rich's responsibilities will include working in leadership with Vacation Bible School, leading weekly gatherings with junior and senior high youth, participating in a leadership role with the Kingsview Workcamp, planning and executing a weekend retreat for senior highs, helping with workcamp planning for next year, planning some activities for college students, and occasionally assisting in worship. He will be working for ten weeks, from June 3 through August 11.

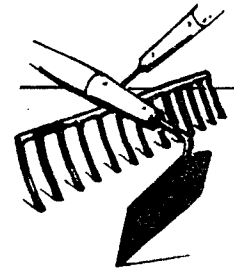
Part of the funding for this position will come from the Albright Theological Education Endowment fund. The session has enthusiastically endorsed this position as part of our responsibility to help identify, nurture, and encourage people with gifts in ministry to pursue those gifts. It is my prayer that this time working in the church will persuade Richmond to seriously consider entering church ministry in some way. Please welcome Richmond back to his church family when he arrives, and pray for his time with us this summer.



Spring Cleanup

Saturday March 16

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



Everyone is needed to prepare our beautiful grounds for the Easter season. Bring your rakes, shovels, wheelbarrows, and a smile. For additional information, contact Charlie Miller 301-983-0595.

(Rain date - March 23rd)

KINGSVIEW WORKCAMP

During the week when 40 of our youth and adult advisors will be at workcamp in Jacksonville, North Carolina, a workcamp will be going on in our own backyard! Marilyn Johns, Jim Dart and Rachel Johns have been working with the planning team for Kingsview Workcamp, which will be housed at Kingsview Middle School in German-town during the week of June 23-29.

There are many ways individuals and groups in our congregation will be able to support this workcamp. We are giving some financial gifts to help with the costs, and we need volunteers to do various jobs before, during, and after the workcamp week. You can volunteer for several days, or for a few hours on one day. You are NOT required to sleep at the school with the workcampers (this is a big plus for many people!).

Jobs include troubleshooters, food service workers, people to take tools and supplies to the worksites, people with trucks to haul away trash and unused materials at the end of the camp, people to help set up the school, and people willing to provide a treat for the campers when they return from work each day. Our church is also going to be responsible for providing a cookout lunch at the school on June 23 for groups who arrive between 12 and 2 p.m. The other two churches, St. James Episcopal and Emmanuel Lutheran, will also provide volunteers for these jobs and will host a cookout on Wednesday evening for all of the campers.

Sign-ups, which will include the time commitment and dates, will be in Fellowship Hall beginning on March 3. Please take a moment to see how you can help. For more information on Kingsview Workcamp, visit the website at www.edow.org/kingsview.workcamp.

Stephen Ministry

Commissioning Service

March 10, 2002

Stephen Ministry, Christian lay caring ministry for those in need, is a vital part of our congregation's mission. On Sunday March 10th, we will commission the following as Stephen Ministers:

Margaret Chang	Bob King	Sandy McFarlan
Marilyn Johns	Kara Karch	Marnel Williams
	Judi Miller	

And the following as Stephen Leaders: Gail Cannon and Karen Karch

We would also like to recognize the service of our Class of 2000 Stephen Ministers, which includes:

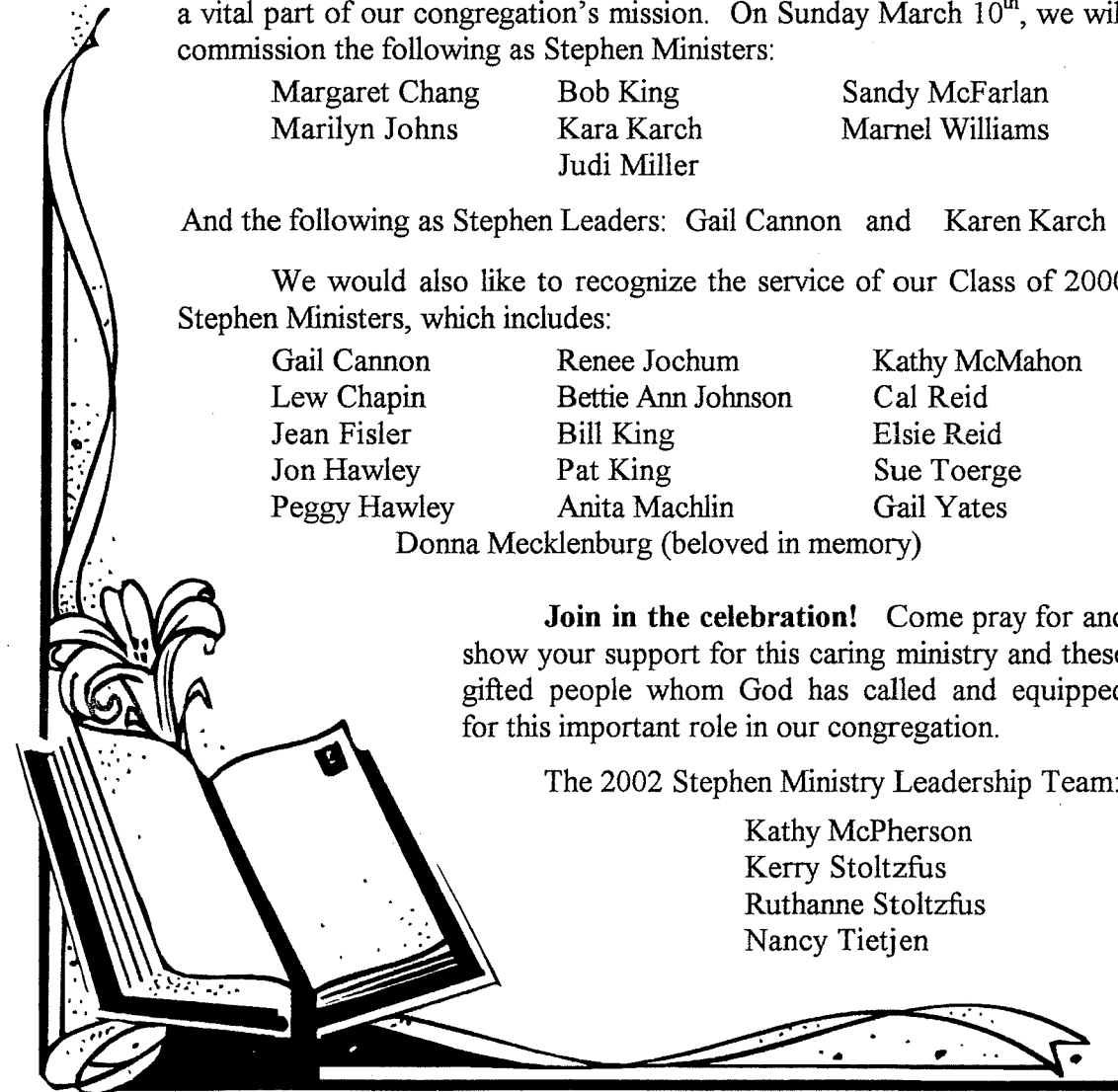
Gail Cannon	Renee Jochum	Kathy McMahon
Lew Chapin	Bettie Ann Johnson	Cal Reid
Jean Fisler	Bill King	Elsie Reid
Jon Hawley	Pat King	Sue Toerge
Peggy Hawley	Anita Machlin	Gail Yates

Donna Mecklenburg (beloved in memory)

Join in the celebration! Come pray for and show your support for this caring ministry and these gifted people whom God has called and equipped for this important role in our congregation.

The 2002 Stephen Ministry Leadership Team:

Kathy McPherson
 Kerry Stoltzfus
 Ruthanne Stoltzfus
 Nancy Tietjen



PPC Couples and Singles Bunch

PPC is delighted to announce the formation of our first couples and singles group – a.k.a. “PPC Fun Bunch.” The group is open to all PPC singles and couples who are interested in participating in dinners, taking in a show, cheering on the local sports teams, or walk-a-thons for special charities.

Join us for our KICK OFF event on Friday, March 1, 2002 at the Rock Bottom Restaurant in Bethesda, 7900 Norfolk Avenue (Phone 301-652-1311), at 7:30 p.m. It will be a night filled with laughter, billiards competition, fun with old friends, and making new friends.

Everyone is welcome to join especially if you are new in the area, single, or just want to make some new friends. For more information or to join the group, please contact Janet and Rob Swisher at 301-977-2650.

Deacon's Corner

When asked to be a Deacon, my initial reaction was that of course I would love to be one, but still I questioned why I personally was asked. I am very strong in my faith, but being that I am young, there is still much to understand. There are many things I have yet to experience. Helping others with situations I've never come close to facing, seems like an extreme challenge. I figure though, that being a Deacon will only help my faith to grow along the way.

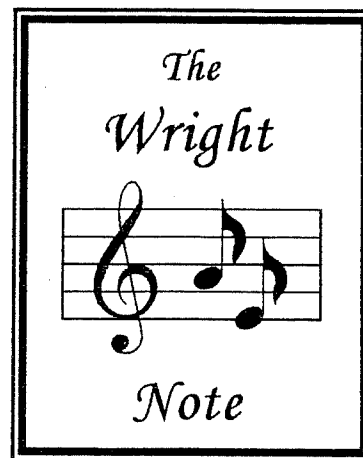
I am lucky enough to be raised in an environment where church and religion are valued. I officially joined Potomac Presbyterian Church with the Confirmation Class of 2000. Both Youth Group

and Sunday School have been a blessing, and I am active in both. I have participated in two years of workcamp with the Youth Group over the summer, both very different from the other. Both, undoubtedly, though, have opened my eyes to many good things of this world, and I am getting excited for this year's upcoming trip to North Carolina.

In addition to being involved at church, I am quite involved as a sophomore at Churchill High School. I am currently working on my fourth musical and my second drama at Churchill...yes, simultaneously! In addition, I am juggling multiple hours of rehearsals and competitions for the show choir, Show-stoppers. I also had the honor of being the Junior Varsity Field Hockey captain this season, as well as play with Varsity for the play-offs.

My life is completely blessed with amazing opportunities, one specifically being the chance to be a Deacon. I am thrilled to be in a position where I can reach out to others, and I know that my faith in God will only be strengthened.

Katherine McPherson



sixth grade pianists stepped forth and finished the famous melody.

Then I suggested that we all get hymnals and look up a tune and find the hymn that we all love to sing. We found the hymn, “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee.” A short discussion of Ludwig van Beethoven ensued and also numerous giggles as to our individual pronunciations of his name. The hymn itself presented a challenge to us. It was written in four-part harmony, not just a simple melody line. That situation led to terms such as soprano, alto, tenor and bass. Who sings what? What happens to boy's voices to eventually allow them to sing those lower notes down in the bass clef? And what do all these parts sound like together, anyway?




One way to find out was to open the box of choir chimes and assign treble notes to sopranos and altos and bass clef notes to tenors and basses. Of course, no one in the room had a changed voice, so we had great fun deciding who would be the men and who would be the women in the chime choir. After several attempts, we achieved a most gratifying result. We played four measures of “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” in four-part harmony, and we recognized the song that we had just played! And what makes this exciting to me is that the children discovered this great piece of music in the hymnal that is a part of our church.

Suddenly I looked at my watch and it was already time for Sunday School to begin. One of the children must have seen the shock on my face and said, “Mrs. Wright, is this really what you had planned for us today?”

“Well, not exactly,” I admitted. “But, wasn't this great fun?” And then I thought I heard both God and Beethoven say, “Amen.”

Last Sunday I entered the tiny robe room where the children's choir rehearses at 9:00 a.m. There is always a friendly patter of greetings present as each child sleepily signs in, gets his or her music folder, and takes a seat. I arranged my music and lesson plan on my music stand near the small keyboard I keep on a side table. One of the third graders, who happens to be a new piano student, asked if she could play “Ode to Joy.” Of course I readily agreed. What a wonderful way to start a Sunday morning! She got half way through and couldn't quite remember the second portion. So one of my

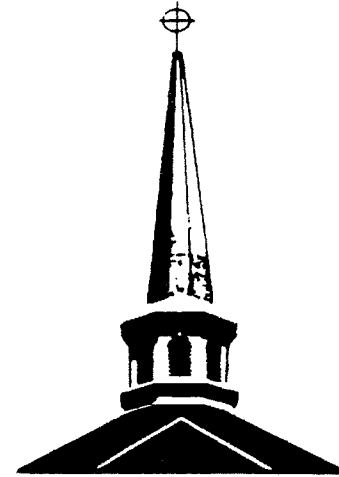


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship/Baptism/New Members 12:00am Fellowship 12:30-2:00pm Junior High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Senior High Youth Group 7:30pm Home Communion	4 9:00am-3:00pm Community Bible Study Retreat	5 1:00pm Lord's Table	6 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Training	7 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	8 Christian Living Retreat	9 Christian Living Retreat
10 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship/Stephen Ministry Commissioning 12:00pm Fellowship 12:30-2:00pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr.High Group/Workcamp Meeting 7:30pm Home Communion	11 12:30pm Christian Ed. Committee 8:00pm Committees	12	13 9:30am Bible Study 3:00pm Collingswood 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:30pm Home Communion	14 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	15 <i>"Steeple to People"</i> <i>Deadline</i>	16 
17 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship/Berger Lecture; Dr. Yieh 12:00pm Fellowship 12:30-2:00pm Jr. High Youth Group 3:00pm Manor Care 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	18 8:00pm Session	19 10:30am Men's Book Group	20 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Continuing Ed.	21 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	22	23
24 Palm Sunday 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00am Fellowship 12:30-2:00pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	25 7:30pm Deacons	26	27 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	28 Maundy Thursday 7:00pm Dinner, Worship & Communion	29 Good Friday	30
31 EASTER 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:20am Easter Egg Hunt 11:00am Worship 12:00am Fellowship						<h1>March 2002</h1>

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

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

M/M Lynn Wright
12708 War Admiral Way
Gaithersburg, MD 20878



STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

April

2002

KERRY ON...

I am looking forward to being away for the month of April. This will be a time for continuing education, vacation and the wedding of Susan Reichley in Pasadena, California.

Since early 1999 I have been reading biographies of twentieth century Christians. Some of the most engaging have been: Albert Schweitzer, Dorothy Day, Reinhold Neibuhr, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Thomas Merton. I will have access to the library of Fuller Theological Seminary for study and reflection. I plan to begin some writing on the topic: reading biography for the spiritual journey. The reading has convinced me of the value of listening to the lives of those who have gone before us in the Christian faith.

Robert Elsberg writes,

We are formed by what we admire. But it is possible to cultivate one's taste in this regard as in any other pursuit. It is important to learn how to recognize what is good, to train our ears to discern truth. To pay honor to what is truly honorable, to choose a moral standard that lies beyond our easy grasp. It is especially important to convey such lessons to our children, who are otherwise too easily beguiled by our culture to admire what is merely glib or successful, to honor power, superficial beauty, and the illusion of celebrity. All Saints: Daily Reflections on Saints, Prophets and Witnesses For our Time

Tom Miles will be available for pastoral care while I am away.

April Worship Schedule:

April 7 - Rev. George Pera, retired
pastor of Westminster Presbyterian
Church in Alexandria

April 21 - Marilyn Johns

April 14 - Rev. Neil Stevenson, retired pastor
of the Williamsburg Presbyterian Church.
Heather Rosecrans is Neil's daughter.

April 28 - Tom Miles

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



At the time of this writing, my mind is full of the glorious ways all of our choirs are singing and ringing hosannas in preparation for the celebration of Palm Sunday. The Primary Choir is singing about the meaning of Lent and the anticipation of Easter. The Children's Choir raise their voices in hosannas as the gates of Jerusalem open, and their palms wave in praise of the coming Savior riding on a mere donkey. The Handbell Choir begins a series of overlapping tones that suggest, without spoken words, the spirit of hosanna. Then the Sanctuary Choir sings antiphonal hosannas from one side of the sanctuary to the other.

We all assume that we know the meaning of the word hosanna. Upon consulting my Harvard Dictionary of Music, I found the definition from the Latin, Greek and Hebrew to be "save, we beseech thee." It continues to say that it is used as an acclamation in the phrase "Hosanna in excelsis". The Webster's Dictionary shares a more familiar interpretation: "an exclamation used in praise of God or Christ; a shout of praise or adoration."

Whatever explanation we use for the word hosanna, we feel great enthusiasm and anticipation when we sing it, say it, ring it or hear it. The Palm Sunday celebration of March 24, 2002, is now a memory, but do our hosannas have to cease? I pray that they continue in our hearts and on our lips. Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord - anytime.

CHRISTMAS IN APRIL

Join us on Saturday, April 27 as we fix up two homes of elderly neighbors who have lived side-by-side in Gaithersburg for almost 30 years, sharing a carport that connects their homes. Our crew from Potomac Presbyterian Church will join 58 other groups of volunteers from churches, civic organizations and businesses, repairing homes of elderly and disabled residents of Montgomery County as part of a national program with 250 affiliates that began in Texas in 1973. Our "house captains" for this year's project are George Dick and Eric VanBrunt, son and son-in-law of Larry Dick, who was an enthusiastic supporter of Christmas in April and one of last year's house captains. We'll start at 9 am and work until 4 pm, rain or shine, with pizzas for lunch. We'll replace some beams in the carport, caulk windows, repair drywall, install light fixtures, paint indoors (no exterior painting this year!), and maybe stain a deck. All skill levels (or lack thereof) are welcome, as are youth 14 years or older. For further information and maps, see Richard Cannon, George Dick, or Eric VanBrunt at their sign-up table in Fellowship Hall after morning worship, or call Richard at 301-365-8632. Come and see what a difference we can make in someone's life in just one day.

Deacon's Corner

Recently, we marked the six-month anniversary of the horrible events of September 11th. It was a time of death, destruction, and sorrow, but also a time of bravery, self-sacrifice, and reflection of our faith. These events made us look at our faith in God and for most, if not all of us, the tragedy strengthened it. I suspect we will never fully understand why those events took place, or why the terrorists see death and destruction, rather than peace and reconciliation, as the path to enlightenment and understanding. The events of September 11th remind us of the evil that can be in the hearts of some, and the need for us as Christians to engage with other people, so that we may seek peaceful ways of understanding each other.

Being a Christian means to accept God into our hearts and to give praise and thanks for his son Jesus Christ. In this way we open our hearts to God's love and we give thanks for Jesus Christ who died for our sins. It is through our faith that we seek the blessing of the Lord, and ask him to shed his light on us.

Our faith was tested on September 11th and the months following, and will certainly be again in the future. This is a time to reflect on the past, but also to look to the future and to commit more strongly to our faith in God. We ask God's blessing as we seek to understand the past, and as we strive to do his work in the future. Steve Rudnic

I therefore, the prisoner in the lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. 1 Ephesians 4: 1 - 7

In the Church Family

We celebrate with joy the baptism of...

Lauren Christi Jacobs on March 3, 2002. We rejoice with Lauren's parents, Parker Steven Jacobs and Carol Doctor Jacobs.

Our prayers are with...

Pat Maxwell. Pat's husband, Walter, died February 24, 2002;

Lucille Ferrara. Lucille is recovering from surgery at Collingswood;

Lynda Tennent and family. Lynda's father, Randolpn Lynn Gregory, died recently;

Jesse Gordon's family. Jesse died on March 10, 2002.

New Addresses...

Goeh Jung and Young Kim
7000 Bradley Blvd.
Bethesda, MD 20817
301-365-1421

Ramin and Heather Dadmanesh
101 Skyhill Road, #301
Alexandria, VA 22314

PPC New Members ~ March 3, 2002

David and Penny Boyd
14001 Gorky Drive
Potomac, MD 20854
(301) 963-3299

David and Penny are the parents of eight-year-old twin daughters, Megan and Michelle, who are in 3rd grade. The Boyds enjoy golf, hiking and traveling. They moved to this area from Florida.

Bill and Bobbe Hartzog
9430 Sunnyfield Court
Potomac, MD 20854
(301) 983-1762

Throughout Bill's 35-year career in the military, Bill and Bobbe were active in military chapels throughout the United States and overseas. They moved to Potomac in November of last year. The Hartzog's daughter, Robyn, is a junior high teacher in South Carolina and is expecting their first grandchild in the fall. Their son, Will, is completing his senior year at the University of Virginia.

David and Carolyn Stump
11501 Dalyn Terrace
Potomac, MD 20854
(301) 869-7946

Over the years, David and Carolyn have lived in a number of places, moving to Potomac from San Francisco this past summer. Carolyn's parents were members of PPC in the 1970's. David and Carolyn have a daughter, Shana, who lives and works in New York City. The Stumps share an enjoyment of travel, reading and outdoor sports.

Silent Auction/Talent Show

A good time was had by all at the youth Silent Auction/Talent Show on February 24. The church was full, people took home many wonderful treasures at bargain prices, and the workcamp fund grew by about \$11,000! And everyone had fun!

Many thanks to all who donated items, all who purchased items, and all who bought tickets and came to this event. Special thanks to Vivian Teets, Julie McMahon, Chris Teets and Carl Atwood, who coordinated the Silent Auction (a HUGE job); Rachel Johns and Katherine and Kathy McPherson who directed the Talent Show; Roberta Meredith, who coordinated the food; Wendi Petti and Kay Mitchel, who helped with youth art projects to sell; and all of the workcampers and parents who donated food and worked tirelessly to make this event such a big success.

Because of the wonderful response to this fundraiser, we will not be having any more fundraisers this year, except for the annual church picnic on June 9. We will probably have fewer fundraisers in the next couple of years as well. Thank you again for your amazing generosity to the youth of our church!

Marilyn's Message

One of my favorite characters in the Bible is Peter. He especially comes to mind as we finish the lenten season and move into Easter. Peter seems to personify the transition from examining our sins to the great gift of forgiveness we get from the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Peter, as you know, was one of the inner-inner circle of Jesus' disciples. He was definitely more of a "doer" than a "thinker," and tried his best to please Jesus. Remember the Transfiguration, where Peter, James and John witness the amazing transformation of Jesus, and the appearance of Moses and Elijah. Peter, not one to sit quietly in awe, immediately tries to figure out what he can do, always the overachiever.

We think of Peter during Holy Week, as Jesus predicts at the Last Supper that Peter will deny him three times. Peter vehemently rejects this prediction, saying, "If all fall away on account of you, I never will," and "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." (Matthew 26:35) He's pretty sure of himself, but then, in the courtyard, the prediction comes true and Peter does deny Jesus three times, in exactly the way Jesus said he would. As he realized what he had done, Peter "went outside and wept bitterly." (Matthew 26:75)

How many times have we done the same thing? We have all good intentions; we claim we will *never* hurt someone we care about, we will *never* say those things to our children, we will *never* do that illegal or immoral thing. And then, without even thinking, we do exactly the things we swore we never would do.

The good news is contained in the story of Jesus' appearance after his resurrection. Read John 21:15-19 sometime when you are feeling down on yourself for all of your human failings. Peter is asked three times to declare his love for Jesus, and each time he affirms his love, it as if one of the denials in the courtyard is being erased. Peter goes on to establish the Christian Church and make many converts through his preaching.

We, along with Peter, are redeemed through the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Praise be to God!

NEW ADULT EDUCATION CLASS Beginning on April 14, and continuing until May 5, a second adult education class will be held in the parlor from 9:45-10:45. This class, which will be led by Marilyn Johns, will outline the basics of Presbyterianism, including an overview of the history and theology of the Presbyterian Church, our form of government and structure, what we understand about the sacraments, and some of the current issues in the church. This class will be followed by a second class in the fall on worship.

Please call Marilyn Johns at the church if you have any questions. See you there!

ADULT EDUCATION for APRIL 7, 14, 21 & 28 Dr. Bruce Douglass - Department of Government, Georgetown University, Dean of Faculty College of Arts and Sciences

Topic: Reformed Christianity: English Reformation in the 16th and 17th centuries

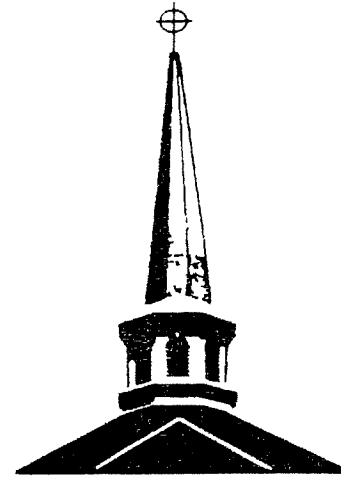
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
CALENDAR OF EVENTS For an up-to-date schedule of current and future events at PPC, please go to our website at www.potomacpresbyterian.org <i>Click on Calendar, and then, click on the event for time and details.</i>	1 <i>Holiday - Office Closed</i> 	2 1:00pm Lord's Table 6:00pm Presbytery - NPC 7:30pm Compassionate Friends	3 No Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir	4 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	5	6
7 <i>Daylight Savings Time begins</i> 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Fellowship No Youth Groups	8 12:30pm CE Committee 8:00pm Committees	9 9:30am Christian Living 7:30pm Christian Living	10 9:30am Bible Study 3:00pm Collingswood Nursing Home 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Continuing Ed.	11 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	12	13 
14 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Fellowship 12:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	15 <i>"Steeple to People" Deadline</i> 8:00pm Session	16 10:30am Men's Book Group	17 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir	18 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	19	20
21 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Fellowship 12:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 3:00pm Manor Care 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	22 7:30pm Deacons	23 	24 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Continuing Ed.	25 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	26 9:00pm Jr. High Lock-In --	27 Christmas in April ---- 8:00am
28 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Fellowship No Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	29	30	 <h1>April 2002</h1>			

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

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Permit No. 200

M/M Lynn Wright
12708 War Admiral Way
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

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



STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

May

2002

CONGRATULATIONS...

Congratulations to Elysse Meredith, a member of our congregation, who has been accepted as one of 36 rising high school seniors from across the country to attend the Summer Youth Institute at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Elysse will spend two weeks in July at the seminary in the program designed to help young people to "grow in faith, engage in academic theological study, explore ministry and learn about Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in a distinct milieu of: worship, Bible study, elective classes, plenary sessions, service projects, structured small group discussion, even recreation; while encouraging lasting friendships with peers and mentors from a variety of back-grounds and faith perspectives." We look forward to hearing all about it when you return!

Congratulations to Diane Hutchins, former interim Christian Educator at PPC, who has been moved into the candidacy phase in her quest for ordination as Minister of Word and Sacrament. Although she still has plenty of work to do, this is the last phase before Diane will be ready to seek a call to an ordained position.

Well done, Diane!





In a recent Gazette article concerning the growing number of children in our area schools and churches, our church was mentioned for having two children's choirs. Singing our

Christian faith is important at any age, but I feel it is especially important to begin that activity at a very young age. The program that we have for our primary and older elementary age children is giving them an opportunity to experience the joy of singing about God with other children whose voices are in a similar stage of development and whose Christian education is so closely related.

Singing meaningfully as a group is a skill that children must be taught. They gradually learn and readily enjoy relating their voices to others and sing with direction with the careful guidance of a leader. They delight in being identified as a choir. They learn the difference between talking and singing, the difference between the playground voice and the singing voice. When their voices combine to sing about the love of God, all seems right with the world once more.

Soon the children's choirs will recess for the summer. I would like to share with you the names of these young singers who have been coming on a weekly basis since September to sing God's praises. The following singers are in the Primary Choir, grades K-2: Samantha Klein, Lia Sohl, Kayla Mason, Luke Pereles, Haley White, Courtney Parr and Brandon Parr.

My faithful 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grade singers who meet for Children's Choir on Sunday mornings at 9:00 are Angelica Klein, Katherine Ling, Charlotte Mecklenburg, MeiLi Sohl, Colleen Cronin, Jennifer Cronin, Elizabeth Rust and Thomas Niskanen. Thomas was in our very first Primary Choir and has not missed participating in our choir program for six years!

I thank all of you parents who encourage your children to sing and see that they are transported to practice. Whenever our choirs meet, we truly have a wonderful time singing and laughing together. The joy of Christian fellowship through music is indeed a blessing.

Cindy

Flower Fund



Several members of the congregation have asked how to dedicate flowers.

To have flowers dedicated, complete the flower fund envelope in your pew and place it in the offering plate during the service. In order to ensure your request is accurately acknowledged, also provide the same information on the calendar outside the church office.

Each Sunday, after the service, members of the worship committee volunteer to take the arrangements to nursing homes or to individuals, at Kerry's discretion. We thank all who take the time to donate flowers in honor/memory of a family member or friend, to acknowledge a special event and to beautify our sanctuary in the process.

The Worship Committee

Deacon's Corner

On July 4, 2001, the first annual Cure Autism Now - Run 2001 - a 5K race, coupled with a 1 mile run-walk, to benefit the Cure Autism Now Foundation was an amazing success:

- Over 1,200+ participants (700+ runners, 500+ walkers)
- 74 Corporate Sponsors/Partners
- Over 80 Volunteers
- \$100,000 (net) to the Cure Autism Now Foundation
- And, importantly, publicity and education regarding the anguish of autism.

I initially organized this race in response to my nephew's diagnosis of autism---it was my way of helping him and others by raising dollars to support research to find a cure. As my family continues to struggle with my nephew's condition, we pray that someday he will benefit from today's research. So many families from our congregation participated last year by either running/walking or volunteering on race day. I truly felt the support from my PPC community and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Our work is not done. The astounding thing about autism is that even today, in the year 2002, we know only three indisputable biological facts about autism: 1) It strikes before the age of three, 2) It effects four boys for every girl, and 3) It causes severe impairment in social and communication abilities.

On July 4, 2002, the 2nd Annual 5K race/1 mile walk to benefit Cure Autism Now will take place in Potomac Village at 8 am. Again, Independence Day will have added meaning as we share a morning at this fun-filled event for competitive runners as well as families with children of all ages.

I hope if your 4th of July plans find you at home this year, you and your family will consider joining us that morning. Start the day off with an early celebration! You can register on line at www.runwashington.com. For more information or to volunteer, feel free to call me at 301-299-4133.

God Bless You!

Susan Pereles

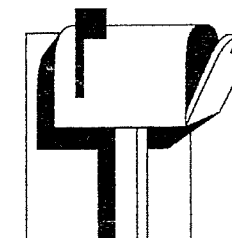


In the Church Family

Our prayers are with...

Maggie Fahs. Maggie is recovering from surgery at home.

New Address:



George Dick
530 Leaning Oak
Gaithersburg, MD
20878

Komen Race for the Cure

June 1, 2002 Washington, DC

Once again the Health Ministry Projects of the Mission Committee from PPC will support the Breast Cancer National Race for the Cure in Washington, D.C. Last year our **PPC Team** had 51 members and friends participate in the race. This year we must have at least **30** members in order to carry a sign on Race day reading **Potomac Presbyterian Church**. We must have all completed registrations forms by May 8th and will pick up tee shirts and bib numbers and have them available Sunday, May 26.

We have a team registered with the "Race" office and our Team name is **Potomac Presbyterian Church** and the team code is **PPC**. Anyone who registers should make sure that the code is complete on his or her Registration form. Last year we were able to donate \$4,585 and we are hoping to exceed that amount this year. Over a million dollars of all moneys raised stay in the Washington area to support local breast health programs.

Mark your calendars and plan to join members of PPC in the worlds largest 5k "Race". Last year there were over 74,000 people who ran or walked and collected donations with the strong hope that we will soon find a cure for a disease that affects so many of us. There were over 7,000 survivors who joined in the race and it is hoped that there will be at least 7,500 this year.

Bettie Ann Johnson has registration forms, and will be in the fellowship hall on Sunday mornings to help team member's complete forms and to accept donations. Please feel free to call her at 301 963-5847 for additional registration forms or with any questions and *plan to join in the fun on Race Day*.

The GIFTS that KEEP on GIVING

In conjunction with "Legacy Week" which will be celebrated by a number of churches in our presbytery, the endowment committee is sponsoring a special luncheon at PPC on June 6, 2002. The luncheon is being held to thank church members who have made contributions to our endowment funds or have included the church in their estate planning.

As a result of the outstanding support of these members, our endowment funds have grown each year and now have a value of approximately \$170,000. These endowments are being used to fund theological education, seminary scholarship, and Christian education projects and to enhance the contribution that music makes to our worship services.

Our luncheon will also include a presentation on the benefits of planned giving to donors, their families and their congregations. Our guest speaker will be Maggie Hendrix, Sr. Planned Giving Officer for the Presbyterian Church (USA) Foundations. Ms. Hendrix is a dynamic speaker who is knowledgeable in all aspects of planned giving.

The endowment committee would like to invite the congregation to join us on June 6, 2002 to help us acknowledge those who have supported our endowment program and to learn more about planned giving.

Please call the church office by May 31, 2002 *to make reservations for this special luncheon*.

Marilyn's Message

May is a time for enjoying warm weather, the hint of summer to come, finishing up responsibilities at school, and the church school year winding down. May is also the month in which we celebrate Mother's Day. It has been our custom at PPC for the last several years to have Youth Sunday on Mother's Day, giving our high school seniors and the rest of the youth a chance to dedicate a worship service to their moms. This year, however, because of an early Easter, Youth Sunday will be on the following week, May 19, which happens to be Pentecost this year. I encourage all to attend this service, in which we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit to the apostles, and the birth of the church. Because the Spirit came in "tongues of flame," it is traditional to wear red that day, and you are invited to help decorate the church in this way.

It is especially fitting for the youth to conduct the worship service on Pentecost, because youth really are the reborn church in every generation. The place of the church in society has changed dramatically since we "Baby Boomers" were children; I wonder what the church will look like when our teenagers are the parents of teenagers. Some would doubt that the church will even exist then. All mainline denominations report that their membership numbers are

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Sunday, June 9, is the first day of our summer schedule; worship will be at 10 a.m. June 9 is also the day of our annual church picnic hosted by the workcampers. Plan to join us for a beautiful sunny morning filled with good food, games, conversation and fun. This year we are attempting to grill outdoors and have games for all ages, to give us a real old-time picnic atmosphere. Hope to see you there!

falling. There are so many pulls on our time that church often gets pushed to the background.




Other factors seem more hopeful. There has been a resurgence in interest in spirituality lately. People seem to be looking for more than worldly things can offer them, particularly since 9/11. There has also been interest in sharing our commonalities with other denominations. New forms of worship are being tested, some with very creative results. We may be witnessing the beginnings of a renaissance in the church!

In the Presbyterian church, we believe that the Holy Spirit constantly speaks new words to us, and that we can change and grow to reflect the will of God as given to us through the Spirit. All we have to do is listen for the Spirit and pay attention! One way to begin to listen is to join us on Youth Sunday to hear God speak to us through the voices of our young people. As we remember the birth of the Christian Church in the first century, experience for yourself the rebirth of God's Spirit in you.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3).

Adult Education

For the month of May, we will have a four Sunday study of JOB ~ conducted by Louise Winfield, who has spoken to our Adult Education Class many times over the past several years.

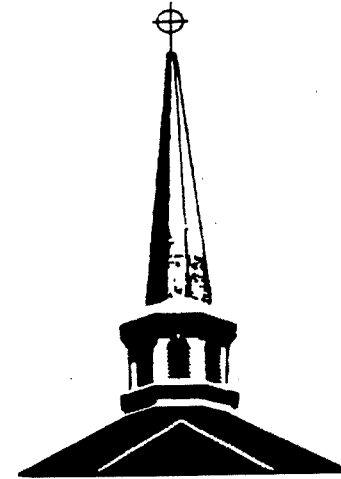
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>May 2002</h1>			1 9:30am Bible Study	2 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	3	4
5 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Fellowship 12:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	6	7 1:00pm Lord's Table 7:30pm Compassionate Friends	8 9:30am Bible Study 3:00pm Collingswood 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Continuing Ed.	9 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	10 	11
12 <i>Mother's Day</i> 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Fellowship No Youth Groups	13 12:30pm CE Committee 8:00pm Committees	14 9:30am Christian Living 7:30pm Christian Living	15 9:30am Bible Study "Steeple to People" Deadline	16	17	18
19 <i>Pentecost</i> 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship (Youth Sunday) Sacrament of Communion 12:00pm Fellowship 12:15pm Workcamp Meeting 3:00pm Manor Care No Youth Groups	20 8:00pm Session and Deacons	21 10:30am Men's Book Group	22 9:30am Bible Study 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Continuing Ed.	23 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	24	25
26 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Fellowship 12:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	27 Memorial Day <i>Office Closed</i> 	28 10:00am Presbytery Meeting; Community Church, Bowie, MD	29 9:30am Bible Study	30 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	31	

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STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

June

2002

KERRY ON... "A Word to our Graduates"

On behalf of our congregation I want to express congratulations to all of you who are graduating this year. We are grateful for your hard work and dedication to learning. You will probably hear speakers at your graduation ceremonies tell you that learning is a lifelong thing. Please allow me to say the same thing in the spiritual sense.

There is however an important difference. As Christians, we believe that the spiritual dimension of a person's life is the core of our values and purpose. The spiritual is what ultimately determines the meaning of life. Who we are, beloved by God in Jesus Christ, is the unfailing measure of success and happiness.

Sports writer, Sally Jenkins writes,

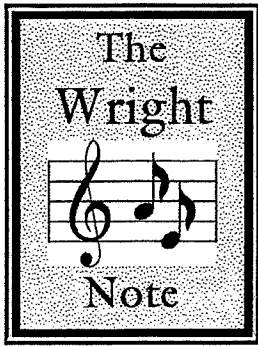
"The amount of success you are capable of enjoying, and the pleasure you are capable of feeling, is equal to the number of people you are willing to share it with."

A willingness to share is the fruit of a growing spiritual life that is nurtured by a God who gives abundantly.

May God's grace be with you. (See page 7 for 2002 graduates)

Welcome Rich McPherson!

Rich will be with us for ten weeks this summer as our Youth Ministry Intern. Rich will be working closely with Marilyn and Kerry learning about youth ministry and leading activities for the youth over the summer. Rich will be in the office Mondays-Thursdays if you need to contact him. Please welcome him at the coffee hour on June 2nd. We're all looking forward to a mutually enRICHing experience!



I would like to thank all of you who participated in the planning and presentation of the lovely 10th anniversary celebration held in my honor after church on Sunday, May 5th. As I look at the tributes written for me by the

children's and handbell choirs, remember the clever songs sung to me by the sanctuary choir, visualize again the fellowship hall decorated brightly in yellow and blue, see again that fantastic cake with the picture of our church directly on top, listen again to Kerry's warm remarks, hear all of your sincere congratulations and humbly receive the beautiful locket engraved with PPC, 1992-2002, I can't help smiling. Such a day of recognition is very rare in one's career. I indeed appreciate your expression of thanks.

My thanks go to you, the congregation: you, the loyal choirs and instrumentalists who support so willingly; and you the church staff with whom I have the privilege of working and planning. This is an exciting church in which to serve. We've had ten exhilarating years together. Let's continue our quest for meaningful cooperation of music and worship.

May I add a word about scheduling? The Sanctuary Choir will sing in worship through June 9th. Then on June 16th the men of the church will usher in the summer music season with our annual Father's Day Chorus. All men, trained singer or shower singer, are welcome to come together at 9:00 a.m., June 16, in the fellowship hall for rehearsal. The group will then sing for worship at 10:00 a.m. This is always great fun. I look forward to seeing and hearing all of you men.

Cindy

Fun Bunch Wolf Trap Concert Event

Friday, June 14th at Wolf Trap

The National Symphony Orchestra, the Cathedral Choral Society and the extraordinary conductor, Sergiu Comissiona will delight us with a spectacular rendition of one of the greatest choral works of all times. Lawn ticket prices are \$16.00 each. You can purchase your tickets by phone at 703-218-6500 or online at www.wolftrap.org

The PPC Fun Bunch will enjoy the concert from the lawn, so pack a blanket and picnic basket with goodies to share (appetizers, wine, water, salads, bread, etc.). Wolf Trap opens its gates at 6:45 p.m. (Concert begins at 8:15 p.m.) Please come early so we can get seats together on the lawn. We will meet at 6:15/6:30 p.m. at the WILL CALL & TICKET LOCATION so we can go into the concert together. All performances take place rain or shine. Please call Janet or Rob Swisher at 301-977-2650 for directions and to RSVP.

All adult singles and couples (all ages) are welcome to join the PPC Fun Bunch. We get together every other month to enjoy each other's company, laugh, and get to know our church community. Please join us at Wolf Trap; it should be a lot of fun.

Frederick Keys Baseball

Come watch the Frederick Keys take on the Winston-Salem Warthogs on Saturday, July 13th at 7:05 at Harry Grove Stadium in Frederick. "One lucky fan 12 and under will take home a Play Station 2 courtesy of Toys R Us." Bring the kids, grandkids or just yourself and enjoy a night of baseball. Tickets are \$8.00 a piece. You may sign up after church or call Vicki Dorman (301-299-4246) to reserve your tickets.

In the Church Family

Congratulations to our high school graduates...

Byron Drumbheller	Montgomery Blair	Univ. of Pennsylvania
Erin Dunlop	Churchill	William and Mary
Heather Knighton	Holy Child	High Point Univ
Betsey Rudnic	Qunice Orchard	Univ. of Rhode Island
Adam Singleton	Churchill	Univ. of Colorado
Chris Teets	Churchill	Univ. of Colorado
Emily Wescott	Churchill	Wake Forest

Congratulations to our college graduates...

Jonathan Berger	Arizona State Univ.	Leah Cannon	Indiana Univ.
Melissa Dorman	Univ. of Delaware	Allison Lyons	Swathmore College
John Simpson	McGill University	Erik Toerge	Univ. of Tampa

We rejoice in the births of...

Patterson Mary Koonce, daughter of Courtney and Scott Koonce, born on April 20th. The proud grandparents are Calvin and Janet Koonce.

Cabell James Kendall, son of Craig and Connie Kendall, born on April 30th. The proud grandparents are Cliff and Camille Kendall.

Congratulations and God's blessing on...

Susan Reichley and Kaz Watanabe who were married on April 20th in Pasadena, California.

Our prayers are with...

Ed, Steve, Beth, Betsy, and Meggie Rudnic. Edward J. Rudnic, father of Ed and Steve, died on April 30. Ed and Steve's brother, Tom, passed away in April.

David Wescott. David is recovering from surgery.

John Shamel. John is recovering at home.

We give thanks for...

Our building addition, which was dedicated on May 31, 1987.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your care, support and prayers in this time of great sadness. We are grateful for the wonderful expressions of love from our church family. At times like these, we are reminded how important our faith and church are to us. The acts of kindness and love you have shown have been a tremendous help and will never be forgotten.

With love,

Steve, Ed, Beth, Betsy and Meggie Rudnic

Pray for our Workcampers!

Several vanloads of people will depart from PPC early on Sunday, June 23, to embark on another great adventure. The group will travel to Jacksonville, North Carolina, to work on repairing the homes of poor or elderly people who can't do for themselves. The lives of the residents and the lives of the workcampers will be forever changed during this week of putting our faith into action where it is most needed.

Please begin now to pray for our workcampers and for their residents. Our congregation has been so supportive in helping with fundraisers to send them, and we appreciate that support more than you can know. The address of the school at which the campers will be housed is listed below their names, so that you can send them a card or package if you desire. Try to send things by Wednesday, June 26, at the latest so they are sure to receive them. Thank you!

2002 Workcampers

<i>Paige Appleby</i>	<i>Carl Atwood</i>	<i>Brittney Bernstein</i>	<i>Joe Bernstein</i>
<i>Kelli Cissel</i>	<i>Kimi Cissel</i>	<i>Joe Curry</i>	<i>Jennifer Dart</i>
<i>Walker Dempsey</i>	<i>Carolyn Dorman</i>	<i>Chris Dowd</i>	<i>Damon Dowd</i>
<i>Brian Dunlop</i>	<i>Erin Dunlop</i>	<i>Janet Dunlop</i>	<i>Anna Ferrara</i>
<i>Mira Guo</i>	<i>Marilyn Johns</i>	<i>Rachel Johns</i>	<i>Trevor Johnson</i>
<i>Heather Knighton</i>	<i>Jeremy Knighton</i>	<i>Beth MacFarlan</i>	<i>Katie MacFarlan</i>
<i>Megan McKune</i>	<i>Jackie McMahan</i>	<i>Katherine McPherson</i>	<i>Elysse Meredith</i>
<i>Kay Mitchel</i>	<i>Kyle Newton</i>	<i>Peter Rosecrans</i>	<i>Betsey Rudnic</i>
<i>Meggie Rudnic</i>	<i>Peter Russo</i>	<i>Chris Teets</i>	<i>Vivian Teets</i>
<i>David Wescott</i>	<i>Emily Wescott</i>	<i>Rob Wescott</i>	

Send mail to: Jacksonville Commons Middle School
315 Commons Dr. S. Jacksonville, NC 28546

Vacation Bible School ~ PPC Vacation Bible School for children, ages 4 through fifth grade, will be held July 8 - 12. This year's program is SonCanyon River Adventure, a week of adventure with a river expedition theme. At SonCanyon, children will learn valuable skills for life from the book of Proverbs. River Adventure themes include: Follow God's Instructions, Choose Friends Wisely, Make Peace, Show Respect and Trust Jesus. We will be having a great time with lively songs, skits, crafts, games, Bible stories and snacks ~ all the things that make VBS so much fun for children. We will be helping children discover how to rely on God and His word in making wise life choices!! Registration forms will be available in the church office and will be mailed to parents with young children. In June, we will be seeking volunteers (young and old) to help transform our church into a River Adventure for the children. If you have questions, please call Judi or Joel Miller at 301-946-3983.

Marilyn's Message

As summer approaches, church activities at PPC traditionally slow down a bit. Some committees take a sabbatical month, Sunday School is suspended, youth groups take a break for the summer, and many in the congregation take long vacations. I would, however, urge you to remember that even though our activities are scaled-down, or you may not be here all summer, your Christian faith is not inactive! Here are some suggestions to help nurture your faith both here and in other places:



- Help with the Kingsview Workcamp! Sign-ups are still in the Fellowship Hall for people willing to help before, during, and after the workcamp the week of June 23-29. Get as involved as you have time for, and on your own schedule. It will be a wonderful experience.
- Plan a family mission project. Contact Community Ministries of Montgomery County for ideas - they have tons!
- Pray without ceasing for our workcampers as they are in Jacksonville, North Carolina that same week in June. Their names are listed elsewhere in this issue of Steeple to People. (They also love cards and packages!)
- Take your new pictorial directory and pray daily for one family or individual. By the end of the summer, you will have prayed for half of our congregation, and can continue into the fall.

- Sign up to teach a week or two of Creative Enrichment. Lessons will be provided for you, and they are easy to teach. Sign-up in Fellowship Hall.
- Begin a new spiritual practice: read a chapter in one of the gospels every day, take half an hour in the morning to pray, begin a spiritual journal by writing every day about one way that God has blessed you that day, read a biography of a person of faith.
- Attend church while you are away. This is a great way to see how others worship, either in other Presbyterian churches, or in churches of other denominations. Share things you liked with Worship Committee members.
- Attend church while you are home! Things are more casual in the summer, the service is a little earlier - 10:00 a.m. beginning on June 9 - and you will hear challenging and informative sermons.

Have a wonderful, faith-filled summer!

Adult Education ~ The Adult Education Class recently completed a four week study of Job. The class will resume on September 15th with Dr. Craig Hill, Wesley Theological Seminary, as our speaker.

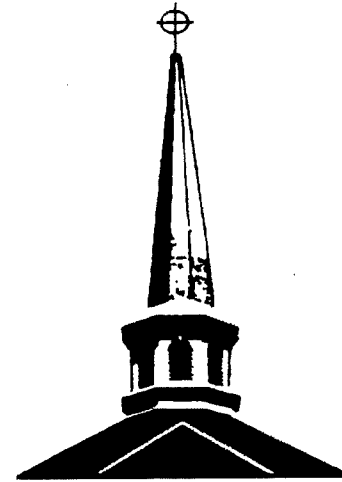
Flower Fund ~ Generous giving to the Easter Flower Fund resulted in the beautification of the sanctuary on Easter Sunday and provided a contribution to the Montgomery Hospice Foundation. Since 1981 the Hospice has provided comfort and support to the terminally ill, their loved ones and the bereaved. It ensures support for all, regardless of handicap, location or ability to pay.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>June 2002</h1>  <h2 style="font-family: cursive;">Congratulations Graduates</h2>						1 Youth Groups: Mystics vs. Orlando 6:00pm
2 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship (Welcome Rich McPherson Youth Ministry Intern) 12:00pm Fellowship	3	4 1:00pm Lord's Table 7:30pm Compassionate Friends	5 12:00pm Bible Study Luncheon	6 12:00pm Endowment Program Luncheon 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	7 6:00pm Wedding Rehearsal	8 4:30pm Baick/Huggins Wedding
9 (SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS) 10:00am Worship 11:00am Church Picnic Workcamp meeting following picnic	10 12:30pm CE Committee 8:00pm Committees	11 11:30am Christian Living Luncheon 6:30pm Christian Living Dinner	12 3:00pm Collingswood 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Continuing Ed.	13	14 <i>Flag Day</i> <i>"Steeple to People"</i> Deadline	15 General Assembly convenes
16 <i>Father's Day</i> 10:00am Worship/Sacrament of Communion/Men's Chorus 11:00am Fellowship 3:00pm Manor Care	17 8:00pm Session	18	19	20 	21 <i>Summer begins</i> 6:00pm Wedding Rehearsal	22 2:00pm John/ Vicks Wedding General Assembly ends
23 7:30am Workcamp Worship 8:00am Workcampers Leave 10:00am Worship 11:00am Fellowship	24	25 6:00pm Presbytery – NPC	26 7:00-9:30pm Stephen Ministry Continuing Ed.	27	28	29 Workcampers Return
30 10:00am Worship 11:00am Fellowship	"Our Town" ~ Community Ministry of Montgomery County, in which our church is a major participant, is sponsoring a summer social and presentation of Thornton Wilder's play, "Our Town," at the new Round House Theater in Bethesda on Sunday evening, June 23. This event will celebrate Community Ministry's 30 th Anniversary. The social begins at 6:30pm, and curtain time for the play, starring Pat Carroll, is 7:30pm. Tickets are \$75, of which \$55 is tax deductible. For tickets call Pio Zavala at CMMC, 301-762-8682.			All Church Picnic ~ Sunday, June 9 ~ 11:00 a.m. Come join the fun! Immediately following the 10 am church service (note the summer schedule), the Youth Group will host our annual church picnic. Dress casually, bring a blanket, and stay for a picnic lunch of hot dogs, hamburgers and all the trimmings! Games for the young and old! Cost is \$5.00, children under 10 are free.		

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STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

Summer

2002

Kerry On...

On the first Sunday of June I preached a sermon, "Do Not Attempt This Alone." I believe that it is essential for spiritual growth that we have companions to walk the journey of faith with us. We treasure parents and friends, teachers and members of our congregation. Another rich source for spiritual guidance is books that tell the stories of persons of faith. Since 1998 I have been reading about lives of many of those who have gone before us. That first year I read, All Saints: Daily Reflections on Saints, Prophets, and Witnesses for our Time by Robert Elsberg. During the past four years I have read over forty biographies and a number of collections or anthologies.

I hope some of you might be interested in joining me on this journey and I suggest that you begin with one of the following collections. (see page 3) I have found that reading about one persons a day for a month or longer is a helpful spiritual discipline. Some selections can be read in a few minutes and others may be fifty or sixty pages. On Sunday July 28 and August 4 I will have these books on a table in Fellowship Hall. Feel free to browse but they are not available for lending. They are all readily available at the major bookstores.



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

Komen National Race for the Cure

On the beautiful sunny morning of June 1, 2002 the team members from Potomac Presbyterian Church joined 70,000 from the Washington area and all across the country to participate in the world largest 5K race.

This year we had our largest "PPC" team with 61 members and we raised a total of \$4400.00. Someday we will find the "cure" for Breast Cancer, a disease that has affected so many of us.

A hearty "well done" to the team members who walked or ran on Saturday June 1.

Carl Atwood	Taylor Johnson	Bob Plumb
Ellen Behm	Jim Jochum	Louise Plumb
Sherri Bond	Elizabeth Kent	Jim Reichley
Nelia Chichester	Christopher Kent	Mary Reichley
Carol Clouse	Kenneth Kent	Elsie Reid
John Clouse	Stephen Kent	Sharon Reid
Joe Curry	Tricia Kirchner	Marie Richart
Ann Eagleson	Maitland MacFarlan	Beth Rudnic
Carolyn Ewels	Sandy MacFarlan	Mark Shalaby
Anna Ferrara	Julie McMahan	Cristi Shankland
Patricia Ferrara	Jacqueline McMahan	Marilyn Shankland
Jean Fisler	Katherine McPherson	Grace Sheppard
Pete Fisler	Kathy McPherson	Carolyn Smith
Ece Gimer	Richmond McPherson	Ruthanne Stoltzfus
Richard Gimer	Tom McPherson	Ed Tennent
Tom Gimer	Ralph Mitchel	Lynda Tennent
Elizabeth Gustafson	John Norvell	Nancy Tietjen
Carole Hudgings	Kay Norvell	Marnel Williams
Rodney Huey	Melissa Norvell	Gail Yates
Susanne Huey	Emily Petti	
Bettie Ann Johnson	Wendy Petti	

It was an inspirational day for all of us and many members of our TEAM have expressed a desire to do it again next year.

I will always be thankful for the wonderful support given by the Mission Committee and our members and friends of PPC and may God be with each of you as you continue His work in our community.

Faithfully,
Bettie Ann



We rejoice in the births of...

Davis Russell Aiken, son of Stacy and John Aiken, born on May 31, 2002. The proud grandfather is Bob Best.

Ethan Robert Schifelbein, son of Kirk and Alyse (King) Schifelbein, born on June 13, 2002. Proud grandparents are Bill and Karen King. Proud aunts are Meg King, Jennifer King and Gretchen King; the proud uncle is Nathan King.

Ryan Joshua Skinner, son of Karen and Jeff Skinner, born on July 3, 2002. The proud grandparents are Elaine and Bill Skinner.

Morgan Arline Bedingfield and Megan Lee Bedingfield, daughters of Linda and Ken Bedingfield, born on July 8, 2002. The proud grandparents are Margie and Bob Bedingfield.

Our prayers are with...

Klara Rozner who is ill at home.

Rosa Egan recovering at home.

Ed Clark recovering from surgery at home.

Our young adults in Summer Ministry: Rich McPherson, Liz Johns, Jenny Cannon, Sarah Hougen and Elysse Meredith.

New Address: Carrie Smith-Coons, 830 Lynhaven Court,
Rochester Hills, MI 48307 carriesc@mindspring.com

Congratulations to...

Miriam Sass on the birth of her great-granddaughter, Elizabeth.

PPC 2002 Workcampers on a job well done:

Carl Atwood	Brittney Bernstein	Joe Bernstein	Kelli Cissel
Kimi Cissel	Joe Curry	Jennifer Dart	Walker Dempsey
Carolyn Dorman	Chris Dowd	Damon Dowd	Brian Dunlop
Erin Dunlop	Janet Dunlop	Anna Ferrara	Mira Guo
Marilyn Johns	Rachel Johns	Trevor Johnson	Jeremy Knighton
Beth MacFarlan	Katie MacFarlan	Megan McKune	Jackie McMahan
Elysse Meredith	Kay Mitchel	Katherine McPherson	Kyle Newton
Peter Rosecrans	Nathan Royston	Betsey Rudnic	Meggie Rudnic
Peter Russo	Rob Swisher	Chris Teets	Vivian Teets
David Wescott	Emily Wescott	Rob Wescott	

Steeple to People Guidelines

1. The newsletter deadline is noon on the 15th day of every month, August - May. The summer deadline will be announced in the June newsletter.
2. You may turn in your articles by:
 - placing them in the "Steeple to People" box at church
 - faxing them to me at 301-299-1333 or
 - e-mail them to me at margie.bedingfield@verizon.net
3. Please attach your name and phone number to articles left in the box at church so I can contact you if I have a question.
4. Please note "Steeple to People" in the memo of e-mails to help me identify your e-mail as an article for the newsletter.
5. Please proof read your article before submitting it for publication.
6. Articles on diskettes or by e-mail are greatly appreciated; that way, I do not have to retype them.
7. Thank you for your assistance. I have enjoyed being your editor for the past three years and look forward to continuing.

Margie Bedingfield
301-299-4801

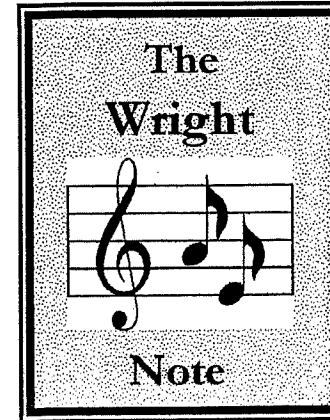
Ecuador Cardiac Mission

The *Por Cristo* Pediatric Cardiac Team returned from Quito, Ecuador on June 22 after a successful and safe 8-day trip. The 20-member team of volunteers from 7 medical centers included Sara Hougen (from PCC) and 3 other students. Donated medical equipment and supplies filled 25 huge boxes. These much-needed items were immediately put to use in the care of poor children requiring cardiac procedures.

The daily lectures and teaching sessions drew many enthusiastic Ecuadorian nurses and physicians eager to learn new ways to treat their little patients. The dedicated Ecuadorian staff has made steady progress each year.

We thank the PCC Missions Committee for their support.

Tom Hougen for *Por Cristo*, Boston



SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW,
SOMETHING BORROWED, SOMETHING BLUE

Wedding bells are frequently ringing in our church this summer. To carry this tradition one step further, we invite you to attend the marriage ceremony of sacred text and tune in a special hymn service to be held Sunday, August 4th, at 10:00 a.m. The happy couple -- to be henceforth referred to as the hymn -- will be presented in marriage with fascinating stories of text origins, interesting tune settings and related scriptural references. Others in the wedding party will be psalms and spiritual

songs. Yes, you will experience something old, something new, something borrowed and even something blue. We hope you will gain a new appreciation for the great hymns we are privileged to sing.

Will this be a little different from other weddings you have previously attended? Yes, because you will provide the music. The more enthusiastically you sing, the more powerful will be the hymn you are honoring. Come and learn more about hymns and experience the joy of praising God through the powerful medium of music. *Cindy*

(continued from page 1) Collections:

- David Aikman, Great Souls: Billy Graham, Nelson Mandela, Aleksandr Solzenitsyn, Mother Teresa, Pope John Paul II, Elie Wiesel (Nashville, TN: Word Pub.) 1998.
- Teresa De Bertodano, Soul Searchers: An Anthology of Spiritual Journeys, (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm B. Eerdmans) 2002.
- Robert Coles, Lives of Moral Leadership, (New York: Random House) 2000.
- Robert Elsberg, All Saints: Daily Reflections on Saints, Prophets and Witnesses for our Time, (New York: Crossroad Publishing) 1997.
- Charles Marsh, God's Long Summer: Stories of Faith and Civil Rights, (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press) 1997. Fannie Lou Hamer, Sam Bowers, Douglas Hudgins, Ed King, Cleveland Sellers
- Richard Foster, Streams of Living Water, (San Francisco: Harper Collins) 1998.
- Frank Lauback, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, William Seymour, Dorothy Day, Billy Graham, Dag Hammarskjold
- Philip Yancy, How My Faith Survived the Church, (New York: Doubleday) 2001.
- Martin Luther King, Jr., G.K. Chesterton, Paul Brand, Robert Coles, Leo Tolstoy, Feodor Dostoevsky, Mahatma Gandhi, C. Everett Koop, John Donne, Annie Dillard, Frederick Buechner, Shusaku Endo, Henri Nouwen

Deacon's Corner

Just a little note from one of your newest deacons... As I was pondering what I would like to share with you, I reflected on how I came to be a part of such a wonderful church family. One of the first things I recall is how at home I felt on my first visits. After six years there are several special memories: the beautiful church, friendly people, favorite music, a trio singing a trilogy of my Dad's favorite hymns and choir members inviting me to join the choir. I had found my new church home! I also recall Kerry, in one of his sermons, sharing how special it was to look out into the congregation and sometimes see a tear in the corner of someone's eye because he felt it was a true sign of worship! I reflect back on a caring friend sharing a tissue when that tear reached the corner of an eye, a hug in Fellowship Hall after special harmonica music during worship, a special prayer in the choir room and sharing a walk in the "Race for the Cure."

Since then, as Christian friends, we have shared much love. About two years ago, our church accepted a wonderful mission, Stephen Ministry. I was privileged to be a part of the first class of Stephen Ministers. Stephen Ministry is based on, "God is love." We can all be caregivers. Remember the great commandment, "Love thy neighbor as thy self."

Romans 13:9 "You can pray anywhere anytime, even at work or at recreation. Prayer consists simply in lifting your mind to God." St. Alphonsus Liguori Just this past month, I received a prayer card tucked away in a packed lunch from a friend. In Matthew 25:35-40 we read, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in... I tell you in truth, whatever you did for the one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

So, how about it, are you going to be a caregiver today? Give someone a smile or a hug. Maybe you have been looking for a caring Christian friend to share your concerns of the heart; all you have to do is ask. We are ready to share God's love. "And now these three remain; faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." 1 Corinthians 13:13

In Christian love,
Gail

MID-YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

The Stewardship Committee wants to thank the congregation for continuing its generous financial support. Pledges and other giving have exceeded the amount budgeted through June 30, 2002 by 5.5%. This is very encouraging and it makes possible the continuation of the many programs of the Church. Please remember to continue your financial support throughout the summer months.

PPC Young Adults Active in Their Faith

Across the Nation and World

Many of the young adults in our congregation have taken steps to serve God in various facets this summer. Included among those with faith based experiences this summer are Jenny Cannon, Sara Hougen, Liz Johns, Rich McPherson, Elysse Meredith and 31 members of the PPC youth group.

International medical missions are how two young adults in our congregation are spending part of their summers. Jenny Cannon has been serving God in the nation of Peru this summer. Jenny joined a team of medical students from Vanderbilt University to provide aide to an area with lots of needs. Sara Hougen joined a team of medical missionaries in Ecuador for part of her summer. Sara went with the Por Christo foundation and helped provide medical care for underprivileged patients. The hard work that Sara and Jenny do on these missions will provide citizens of these nations with better health and uplifted souls.

Helping repair homes and bring hope to communities across the country, Liz Johns is part of the summer college staff for Group Workcamps. After training in Colorado, Liz became part of a team that is running Workcamps in Pennsylvania, West Virginia (twice) and North Carolina. Liz is the Group Assigner, giving her the responsibility of coordinating 400 youth and adult volunteers each week to match their skills with the difficulty of the projects. We give thanks for Liz and the countless numbers of lives she will touch across the country this summer.

Rich McPherson is the Youth Ministry Intern at PPC this summer. Some of his responsibilities include leading Bible Studies for Senior Highs and for Junior Highs, organizing fellowship events and planning and executing service events. He also has leadership roles with the local Workcamp in Germantown, Maryland and at VBS here with PPC. We look forward to an exciting summer for the youth and for our entire church.

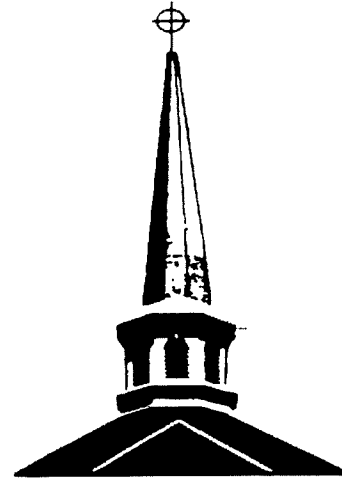
Attending a two-week Seminary camp is how Elysse Meredith is serving and growing in her knowledge of Christ. Elysse will be at Pittsburgh Seminary with youth from across the country who will devote their time together to growing in their faith and encouraging one another. The youth group and entire congregation of PPC will be blessed because of what Elysse brings back to our church.

For the fourth year in a row, the youth group of PPC has attended a Group Workcamp. We continued to grow this year, sending 31 youth and 8 adults to the community of Jacksonville, North Carolina. Over 50 houses in the community were repaired because of the 400 youth attending that Workcamp. It is truly an exciting time when we are able to see so many of the youth and young adults putting their faith into action!

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STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

September

2002

SEPTEMBER 11 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Wednesday September 11, 2002 7:30 p.m.

Potomac Presbyterian Church
10301 River Road
Potomac

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

KERRY ON...

As our nation pauses to remember the tragedy of September 11, 2001, you are invited to a service of remembering. We will join together to worship God who, in the words of the Psalmist,

*Is near to the brokenhearted,
And saves the crushed in spirit*

We will honor those who died and those who gave tirelessly in acts of compassion for all families affected by the

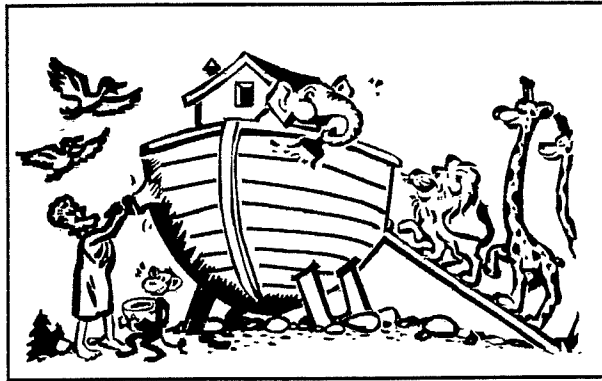
terrorist attack. Prayers will be offered for those who grieve, and all who live in the aftermath of that terrible day, and for this nation and all who seek peace.

Churches all over the land will gather to pray as we did that fateful week last September. Please invite your friends and neighbors to attend the service with you. May God continue to bring healing to our land and give us wisdom as we seek peace and justice.

Special Stuff Starts in September!

Enclosed in this edition of Steeple to People is a brochure outlining our Christian Education programs and children's music program for the coming year. Please look this over. Some of the important starting dates for the new school year are:

September 8 Rally Day! There is **No-ah** way you want to miss this!



All ages meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 for singing, snacks and sign-ups!

- September 10* Christian Living Group begins; 9:30 a.m. or 7:30 p.m.
- September 11* Wednesday morning Bible study begins at 9:30 a.m.
- September 15* Adult Education begins at 9:45 a.m.
Workcamp car wash and bake sale;
workcamp organizational meeting follows.
- September 17* Men's Book Group begins at 10:30 a.m.
- September 18* Primary Choir (K-2nd) begins at 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday evening study group begins, 7:30 p.m.
- September 22* Children's Choir (3rd-6th) begins at 9:00 a.m.
Bibles given to 3rd graders during worship.
Youth groups begin - refer to your mailing for times.
- September 29* Inquirer's Class begins at 9:45 a.m. in the parlor.



We rejoice in the birth of...

Haley Elizabeth Phillips, daughter of Audrey Phillips, on July 25th. The proud grandmother is Jean Granum.

We celebrate with joy the baptism of...

Tristen Corbet Lowrey on August 4th. We rejoice with Tristen's parents, Bruce and Ashley Lowrey.

Congratulations and God's blessing on...

Bob Best and Kathryn Leckey married on July 27, 2002;

Amy Ligler and Paul Schoenhard married on August 10th at PPC.

Congratulations to...

Jack Dart, who celebrated his 90th birthday on August 14th.

Our prayers are with...

Rosa Egan recovering at home;

Julie McMahan recovering at home;

Kitty Cowie. Kitty's mother died recently;

The family of Eleanor Miller. Eleanor died recently and was a long time friend of PPC.

New Address: John and Patsy Nannen, 6 Snapdragon Court,
North Potomac, MD 20878

We give thanks for the life of...

George Phair and remember Cecie in our prayers.

We commend him to the loving care of our Lord.

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



Deacon's Corner

Greetings Everyone: The following has been forwarded to me by some of my friends who surf the internet. God Bless the internet! Thought all would find this interesting and enlightening.

The Center of the Bible

What is the shortest chapter in the Bible?

Answer: Psalms 117

What is the longest chapter in the Bible?

Answer: Psalms 119

Which chapter is in the center of the Bible?

Answer: Psalms 118

Fact: There are 594 chapters before Psalms 118

Fact: There are 594 chapters after Psalms 118

Add these numbers up and you get 1188

What is the center verse in the Bible?

Answer: Psalms 118:8

Psalms 118:8 "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man."

Does this verse say something significant about God's perfect will for our lives? Next time someone says they would like to find God's perfect will for their lives and that they want to be in the center of His will, just send them to the center of His Word!

Isn't it interesting how this worked out? Now, I would like to share a small prayer: "Father, God Bless Everyone in whatever it is that they know he/she may be needing for this day! May everyone's life be full of your peace, prosperity and power as he/she seeks to have a closer relationship with you. Amen."

Barbara Garcia



The Living Jesus Seminar

Friday September 20, 7:30pm

Washington National Cathedral

Featuring: Luke Timothy Johnson,
author of The Real Jesus

Explore with Luke Johnson what history can and cannot contribute to the longest Christological controversy in the history of the church. For registration or questions call (800) 937-8728.

Marilyn's Message

My daughters and I went on a cross-country road trip this summer. Liz has been working for Group Workcamps, which is based in Loveland, Colorado. She flew there for training in May, and after driving a Ryder truck to Pennsylvania, West Virginia, North Carolina, and back to West Virginia, she and her crew drove back to Loveland for final evaluation. Rachel and I decided it would be fun to pick her up there rather than fly her home, so we reorganized our CDs, got the oil changed in the car, packed it up, and hit the road!

We discovered many interesting things on this trip:

- ~ 1850 miles is a LONG way to drive in three days!
- ~ A trip with two people is very different than a trip with three people.
- ~ Don't assume, just because one of your children has her driver's license and loves to drive, that you will have help with the driving. ("I'm really looking forward to being a passenger on this trip, because I've been driving all summer.")
- ~ I like driving on country roads more than on the interstates.
- ~ Small towns have a great deal of uniqueness.
- ~ There may be more cows than people in the state of Wyoming (One town we drove through had a sign which read *Population: 4*).
- ~ I like green trees and rolling hills better than flat plains or brown desert.
- ~ It is possible to have intelligent and meaningful conversations with teenagers, and between two teenagers.
- ~ We have been blessed with a beautiful country, and we are strong regardless of efforts to weaken us with terrorism.
- ~ People tend to turn to God for help rather than to blame when they are in crisis. The Oklahoma City Memorial is quite moving, and almost seems like holy ground when you are there. There are fences on which people can leave messages or memorials to loved ones, and over and over again we saw messages of hope.

As we approach the anniversary of our country's most devastating tragedy, may we live as hopeful people, recognizing the many blessings God has given to each one of us and to our nation, even in the midst of hardship.

Marilyn

Workcamp 2003

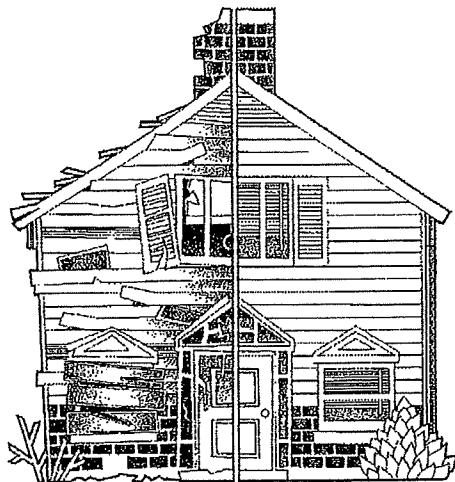
39 youth and adults from our church had a wonderful week in Jacksonville, North Carolina, this summer! All were challenged to "Ignite the Light" for Christ through service, Bible study, youth group participation, and in their interactions with others in their daily lives. Thank you very much for all of your support for our largest workcamp group ever! A "Workcamp Reflections" booklet will be coming out soon, and the workcampers will speak to the adult education class on November 3, so stay tuned for further insights into this amazing adventure.

At the end of our week in Jacksonville, we explored our options for next year's workcamp location, and decided by majority vote to attend a camp in Buffalo, New York. On further investigation into this camp, it was discovered that it is a "mini-camp," with only 80-125 campers. This type of camp is designed for smaller youth groups, and it really wouldn't suit ours. So, we went back to the drawing board.

2003 marks our fifth year of youth workcamps at PPC. Because it is an important milestone, we have decided to take a huge (1900-mile!) leap of faith, and go to workcamp in Fountain, Colorado next summer. We will need to fly, so the cost of going will be higher, but we have some money left over from last year's very successful fundraisers, and the youth are willing to work hard, so Colorado, here we come! The town is at the base of Pikes Peak mountain, and is in great need of assistance. We will mainly be helping elderly and retired military families whose pensions have not kept up with the rising cost of living in that area.

The 2003 workcampers appreciate your continued support - we plan to only do a large endeavor like this every five years. In addition to support of our fundraisers ~ the first will be a car wash/bake sale on Sunday, September 15 ~ we would love to hear from anyone who has contacts for inexpensive airfares and van rental or loan in Colorado.

We are confident that God will bless this trip as we have been so richly blessed over the past four years. Please keep the workcampers in your prayers as we begin our planning.



Adult Education Class

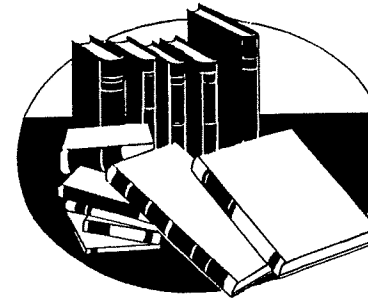
Theme for the year: Ambassadors for Christ

2 Corinthians 5: 17-20

September 15 Dr. Craig Hill* ~ Wesley Theological Seminary

September 22 Dr. Craig Hill*

September 29 The Rev. Richard McFail ~ Stated Clerk, National Capital Presbytery
Topic ~ Journey Through the Fog



*Dr. Hill will be speaking on his new book ~ In God's Time. Before coming to class, you may want to preview the book at www.ingodstime.com.

Inquirers' Series

For those people who want to learn more about, and are interested in membership at Potomac Presbyterian Church, a three-part Inquirer Series will be held on September 29, October 6, and October 13. The Sunday morning, 9:45 a.m. classes, held in the church parlor, are taught by Pastor Stoltzfus. After the series has been completed, those wishing to unite with the church will meet with the Session on Sunday, October 20, and then be recognized as new members at the 11:00 a.m. service. Please contact Louise Plumb, 301/762-2769, or Pastor Stoltzfus, 301/299-6007, with any questions.

*To reach the goal we must at times run
with the wind, other times, against it -
But we must certainly run,
not walk, nor stand still.*





Wednesday Evening Study Group

Why do you believe?

Why do you believe it?

How do you substantiate what you believe?

Beginning Wednesday, September 18, 2002, the Wednesday Evening Study Group will discuss those questions. How?

By studying the teachings of Jesus on the central beliefs of the Gospel he proclaimed with his life, death, and resurrection.

Join other PPC members and friends for this informal discussion of what we believe, why we believe it, and the basis of that belief.

Topics include God, Jesus Christ, sin, salvation, the kingdom of God, personal peace, and lots more of what constitutes Christ's Gospel.

The first series consists of nine weeks September 18 through November 13.

Our Parish Associate, Tom Miles, will lead the discussion.

You are invited to attend all sessions or those you select.



A Heartfelt Thanks to the PPC Community

On July 4th, the 2nd Annual Cure Autism Now 5K Run/1 mile walk was a huge success. Over 1300 people ran, walked or volunteered on a very steamy holiday morning! We raised over \$96,000 for autism research. Over the course of the morning, I saw many familiar faces from the PPC community. In fact, over 60 of

you (both adults and children) joined us for the festivities. I would like to thank all of you who participated that morning and also those who were unable to attend but still sponsored individual walkers or runners at the event. Your efforts and support will surely make a difference as researchers search for a cure for autism! Please mark your calendars for next July 4th.

Susan Pereles



PRIMARY CHOIR

September brings the return of regular choir rehearsals for those of you who are presently members of any of our four choirs and those of you who may want to join this season. Read the following choir listings and decide if you have the time and commitment to enjoy the Christian fellowship and musical ensemble these groups offer.

Children, grades K - 2. Wed. 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. First practice Sept. 18th. Parents are invited to the first rehearsal to register children and to observe the choir format.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children, grades 3 - 6. Sundays 9:00 - 9:45 a.m. First practice Sept. 22nd. Choir rehearses in the robe room directly behind the choir loft. Boys, we need you!

SANCTUARY CHOIR



Adults of any age. Thursdays 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. First rehearsal Sept. 5th. New members are welcome, especially sopranos. This is a hard-working, fun-loving group.

HANDBELL CHOIR

Thursdays 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. First practice is Sept. 19th. Since special musical knowledge is helpful, and the number of bells is limited, please contact Cindy Wright personally about your interest in ringing. Our three-octave set of Malmark handbells has just come back from the factory where they were completely refurbished this summer. They are just waiting to be rung.

I look forward to welcoming all singers and ringers to any of the above choirs. The joy of experiencing music together in rehearsal and worship is unique to those who participate. Come, join the happy song. We have great plans in store for the 2002-2003 church year.

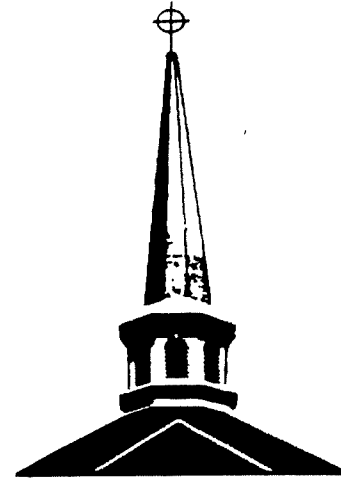
Cindy

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00am Worship - Communion 11:00am Fellowship	2 HOLIDAY – Office Closed 	3 7:30pm Compassionate Friends	4 	5 8:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	6	7
8 ~ RALLY DAY ~ 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Fellowship	9 12:30pm CE Committee 8:00pm Committees	10 9:30am Christian Living 7:30pm Christian Living	11 9:30am Bible Study 3:00pm Collingswood 7:30pm Prayer Service (Remembering 9/11/01) 	12 8:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	13	14 
15 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship - Youth Car Wash 12:00pm Fellowship 12:30pm Workcamp Meeting 3:00pm Manor Care <i>Steeple to People</i> Deadline	16 8:00pm Session	17 10:30am Men's Book Group	18 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00pm Stephen Ministry 7:30pm Study Group	19 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	20	21
22 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Fellowship 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	23 7:30pm Deacons	24 	25 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00pm Stephen Ministry 7:30pm Study Group	26 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	27	28
29 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am Inquirers' Class 11:00am Worship - Baptism 12:00pm Fellowship 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	30 	<h1>September 2002</h1>				

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

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M/M Lynn Wright
12708 War Admiral Way
Gaithersburg, MD 20878



STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

October

2002

KERRY ON...

WORLD COMMUNION Sunday October 6, 2002

On World Communion Sunday we affirm that,

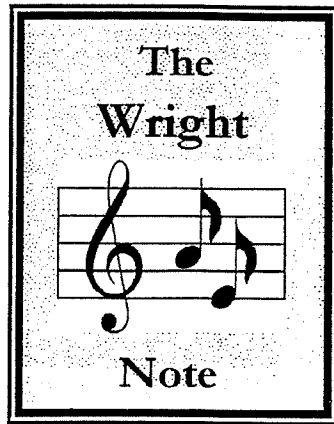
In Christ there is no east or west,
In Him no south or north;
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth.

In a broken and fearful world this affirmation is a wonderful sign of hope. When we gather at the Lord's Table we are mindful of brothers and sisters who take the bread and the cup in grand cathedrals and grass huts, small country churches and military chapels, storefront churches and suburban parishes.

We gather in the name of the crucified who gave his life that we might be reconciled to God and neighbor. "This is my body given for you," Jesus said. Today, by God's grace, we are the body of Christ and we are called to give ourselves for others. May we remember as we leave the Table that what we have been freely given we go out to freely give. May the Lord help us to reach out to neighbor and stranger and even the enemy in His name.

I look forward to sharing Holy Communion with you on Sunday October 6.

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



I have always wanted to write a heavenly article. The closest I can come is today aboard a Boeing 752 high above the clouds somewhere in the skies over Texas. Lynn and I are returning from a wedding in San Antonio where we found ourselves not separated from Potomac Presbyterian Church, but strangely connected in unexpected ways.

On September 13th we discovered that the Majestic Theatre, famous for its historical architecture and ornate interior carvings, was located just across the street from our hotel. The evening attraction was the San Antonio

Symphony and Mastersingers performing works by Mozart, Copland, Thompson, Britten and Roumain. On the way to dinner on the Riverwalk, we wandered into the box office and quite fortunately purchased two available lower-balcony center seats. Following a sumptuous meal, we returned to these theater seats under a unique star-twinkling ceiling, and felt as if we were in heaven musically and physically. What was the connection with Potomac? The two selections that the 150-voice choir sang were pieces that our choir has sung: "Ave Verum" by W. A. Mozart and "Alleluia" by Randall Thompson. Although the concert program was not entirely sacred, we felt we were in a sacred space experiencing the peace of God that music can sometimes portray.

The next day of our visit was the wedding held in the beautiful Parker Chapel on the campus of Trinity University. The ceremony was a high nuptial mass with music provided by a bagpiper and an organist playing a magnificent pipe organ. Witnessing a catholic mass on the campus of a catholic university, I was again strangely reminded of Potomac Presbyterian Church. The bagpiper at the chapel entrance was playing a hymn from the Scottish Psalter, a hymn tune that our congregation sings. Then later as I sat in the chapel pew, I could not resist checking out the hymnal. I fully expected a G.I.A. publication, but instead found the familiar book in size and weight to be from John Knox Press. It was the very same hymnal as the official hymnal for the Presbyterian Church, "Hymns, Psalms and Spiritual Songs". Yes, it was indeed the same hymnal that we have in our own pews. What a wonderful ecumenical discovery!

Good music seems to follow us wherever we go. May our 2002-2003 musical season at Potomac be an inspiration to those of you who participate and to those of you who listen. May it truly be an expression of our faith.



We rejoice in the birth of...

Charis Michelle Matthews, daughter of Susan and Kelly Matthews, on June 4th. The proud grandmother is Pat Ferrara;

William Ryan Burgenson, son of Janet Burgenson, on June 11th. The proud grandmother is Barbara Garcia.

Congratulations and God's blessing on...

Nelia Chichester and Frank Scioli who were married this summer;

Edee Callahan and Dr. Richard Perry who were married on August 30th.

Our prayers are with...

Vivian Teets and family. Vivian's brother, David Brearley, died recently;

Fran Cox and her sister, Florence Gross, who is recovering from surgery;

Our first year college students: Byron Drumheller, Heather Knighton, Betsey Rudnic, Adam Singleton, Chris Teets and Emily Wescott.

New Addresses: Doug and Danielle Baarman 301-299-4541
10009 Hall Road
Potomac, Maryland 20854

Edee Callahan and Richard Perry
9400 Turnberry Drive
Potomac, Maryland 20854

Something special is brewing...

THE PRESBYTERIAN COFFEE PROJECT



Something special will be brewing Sundays during the Fellowship Coffee Hour following worship service. Starting Oct. 6, PPC will be serving good coffee for a good cause. Through Equal Exchange, an interfaith coffee program, PPC will be supporting small coffee farmers in Central America, Africa and Asia by serving fairly traded coffee during the coffee hour.

As world market prices for coffee plummeted to historic lows last year, thousands of small coffee farmers and their families in some of the poorest countries of the world were devastated. In an effort to assist these communities, the Equal Exchange Interfaith program was developed. By working directly with small farmer cooperatives, Equal Exchange offers farmers a fair price for their efforts, providing affordable credit and a long-term trading partner.

As we enjoy our coffee, we have a unique opportunity to share our community with these small coffee farmer communities in Kenya, Guatemala, El Salvador and elsewhere.

By working with Equal Exchange, we are trading directly with democratic small farmer cooperatives, helping to build better communities. Examples of some of the projects supported by this effort include women's leadership training in Nicaragua, community stores in Columbia, health clinics in Mexico and small business development in Tanzania. We hope you enjoy these special coffees during our coffee hour each Sunday morning.

For additional information, contact:
Maggie Fahs (301) 365-2395 or
Eugenia Lee (301) 530-5761.



Marilyn's Message

Our new Christian education year is off to a rousing start! We had a visit on Rally Day from Noah himself, and he began our morning with a celebration of his 605th birthday! We also heard about youth and adult education programs for the year, and the adults participated in a spirited game of "Ambassadors for Christ" trivia. Following the program the children went out to the field next to the church and attempted to mark off the actual size of the ark as described in Genesis 6.

In Creative Enrichment, the 1st and 2nd graders are learning about Christian symbols this year, and it was delightful to see some of them carrying brightly colored seals of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) out of the basement.

The youth are excited about a trip to Colorado for workcamp this year, and we are gearing up for our first meeting and fundraiser.

As I write this, the Stephen Ministry leaders are in the next room planning their year, and you never heard such joy and laughter from a group of Christian women!

We are all caught up in the excitement of the new year, and the enthusiasm of children, youth, and adults for learning and ministry in this church. Rather than let the tragic events of our nation bring us down, we are more hopeful and positive than ever. What a testament of faith! That so many people volunteer their time for the educational ministries, the mission projects, the caring activities, and the worship in this church says that we are confident of the future, and we know we are safe in God's hands.

Thanks be to God for the gift of faith, and for the faithful Christians of Potomac Presbyterian Church!

STEPHEN MINISTRY



The congregation is invited to join on October 9 and November 13 for

"Compassionate Friends" (organization which deals with the loss of a child) will speak on October 9. The November 13 meeting will feature Duane Bowers of the Wendt Center for Loss and Grief. Both meetings will be held in the church library at 7:00 p.m. For further information, contact Kathy McPherson at 301-765-1154.

the Stephen Ministry group classes in loss and grief.

Deacon's Corner

After discussing some of our activities in our respective churches, a friend from another denomination asked me recently 'What is a deacon?' My first instinct was to tell him of our more obvious responsibilities: coffee after church; care packages to students and workcampers; Williamsburg breakfast; and so on. I realized though that defining our role in terms of these functions ~ all largely concerned with food didn't seem to convey the right message and tone concerning the purpose of our office. How then to describe our role? Consulting that ever reliable (although I must admit rarely read) authority, the Book of Order, I see that 'the office of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of sympathy, witness and service after the example of Jesus Christ.' Coffee, cookies, and the occasional candy bar wouldn't seem to rate highly according to this description. Then again, maybe nourishment-but of the spirit as well as the body-is the key. After all, we don't send care packages to our students and workcampers because we think their sugar intake may be run down on distant college campuses or summer work sites, but just as a small reminder to them that we the church community are with them in our thoughts and prayers. Coffee after the morning service is not just to revive us after another challenging sermon, but also to support an important

time of fellowship and growth among the congregation. And, of course, in helping to nourish others, we the deacons nourish ourselves in our ability to offer 'sympathy, witness and service' to those around us.

Maitland MacFarlan

Scrapbook Night

Don't forget
Scrapbooking Night
in Fellowship Hall!

Friday October 4
7:30 p.m.-11:30 p.m.

Bring your pictures and
your scrapbooks and join
other PPC members

talking

laughing

working

on their scrapbooks. For
more information please call
Olivia Mabeus or Judi Miller.

Youth Workcamp

As you read last month, the youth will be making a special 5th anniversary trip to workcamp in Fountain, Colorado this summer. While many of our preparations will be the same as in previous years, this year also brings many opportunities we haven't faced in the past. We have never flown to workcamp before, and this of course means we will have airfares and van rental costs to plan on. Thank you in advance for helping to support our workcampers, each of whom are contributing \$250 to the total cost of about \$650 per person, and working hard to raise the rest of the money. A very special thank-you to the anonymous donor who has offered to match the first \$1000 the youth raise. It is this kind of generosity that enables the youth of our church to experience the life-changing gift of service to those who are in dire need. We couldn't do it without your support! Thank you!

InterFaith Conference

23rd Annual InterFaith Concert

Explore eight faith traditions through music!
An inspiring evening for our troubled times!

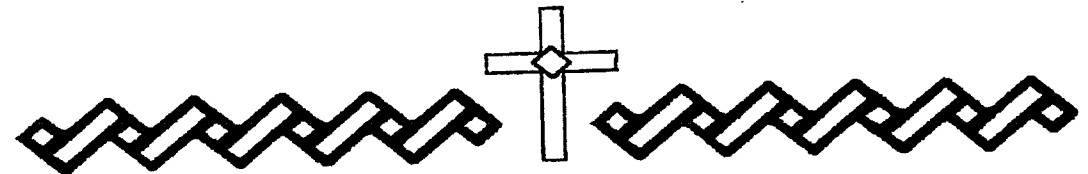
"A Celebration of the Sacred in
Song, Dance and Chant"

Tuesday November 19 7:30 p.m.

Washington Hebrew Congregation
located at Massachusetts Avenue
and Macomb Street, N.W.

Sponsored by the InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington (IFC)

Concert tickets are \$15 per ticket; \$12.50 for ten or more, \$18 at the door or \$30 for reserved seats. Call IFC for further details: 202-234-6300





Church Library

Stop by and browse the collection

The church library has had some changes made in the last year. If you haven't been in to see what's new, please make a point of stopping by and browse the collection. Many new books have been added over the summer and more will be arriving. We plan to support all the studies that are offered to us during the year. For example, you might want a commentary on Ephesians for the Wednesday morning Bible study. We have several that you might want to read. This is how you'd find them. Our catalog is the old fashioned kind. You have to look up in the gray card catalog where the book you want is located. Subjects, authors and titles are interfiled in this catalog. The catalog is on the shelf under the windows. Reference books are to be used in the building; all the others can be checked out. How do I do this? Take the card out of the pocket in the back of the book, write your telephone number, your name and the date you take the book on the card and then put the card in the box by the card catalog. When you return the book, place it in the basket by the card catalog. Any questions or suggestions, call Nancy at 301-299-3272.

Adult Education Classes

October 2002

- October 6 Elyse Meredith ~ a PPC teenager on her experience at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
- October 13 Dr. Forrest Eggleston ~ Medical Benevolence Foundation
- October 20 Dr. Bruno Frohlich ~ Smithsonian Institute Anthropologist speaking on his work in the Middle East ~ The Pre-Christian era
- October 27 Dr. Bruno Frohlich ~ Smithsonian Institute

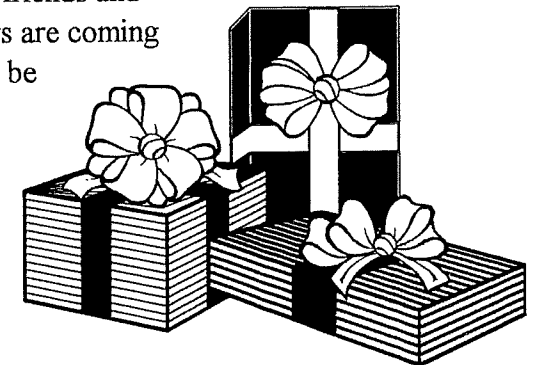





Lasagna Cook-off Contest

Have you ever seen lasagna that looks like the Capitol Building? Or one the size of your table? Stir up some creativity, dust off those family recipes and enter PPC's **Lasagna Cook-off Contest!** We'll have a variety of categories and we'll give some great prizes. If you don't cook, come help us eat! Of course, we'll have an entry fee that entitles the entrant to one free meal; otherwise, we'll charge you for dinner. All proceeds will go towards helping our Workcampers get to Colorado. Save the date, **Sunday, November 17**, for an evening of fun and food! More information to come.

Shop early this year...

Are you always looking for that perfect gift for friends and family who have everything? The Workcampers are coming to your rescue! Beginning **November 17**, we'll be selling gift cards that cost from \$5-\$500, depending on what gift you would like to donate in honor of your friend or family member. For example, you can donate a hammer in honor of Dad for Christmas and it'll only cost you \$5. Or, maybe round-trip airfare for a workcamper in honor of Nana for her birthday (cost \$250). We'll be selling them off and on throughout the school year. In November, look for more information and sales at the table in Fellowship Hall. All proceeds will go towards helping our Workcampers get to Colorado. Don't miss out!

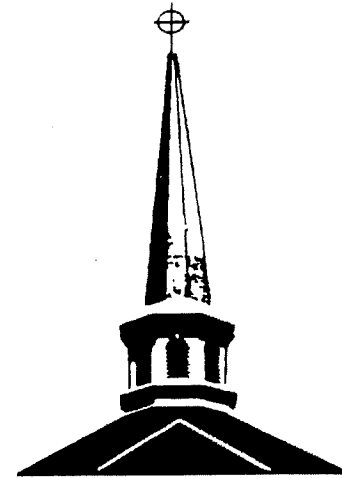


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>October 2002</h1>		1 7:30pm Compassionate Friends	2 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:30pm Study Group	3 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	4 7:30-11:30pm Scrapbooking Night	5
6 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am Inquirer's Class 11:00am Worship/Worldwide Communion 12:00pm Fellowship 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	7 	8 9:30am Christian Living 7:30pm Christian Living	9 9:30am Bible Study 3:00pm Collingswood 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00pm Stephen Ministry 7:30pm Study Group	10 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	11	12 
13 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am Inquirer's Class 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Fellowship 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	14 12:30pm CE Committee 8:00pm Committees	15 10:30am Men's Book Group 12:00pm "Steeple to People" Deadline	16 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:30pm Study Group	17 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	18 	19
20 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am Inquirer's Class 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Fellowship 3:00pm Manor Care 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	21 8:00pm Session	22 7:30-9:00pm Stephen Ministry Network	23 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00pm Stephen Ministry 7:30pm Study Group	24  6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	25 5:30pm Wedding Rehearsal	26 12:00pm Wedding Rowe/Harrington 5:00pm Wedding Bernard/Clayborne
27 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am Adult Discussion Class 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Fellowship 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	28 7:30pm Deacons	29 	30 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:30pm Study Group	31 <i>Reformation Day</i> 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	<i>Welcome,</i> FALL!	

Potomac Presbyterian Church
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STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

November

2002

KERRY ON...

Our hearts go out to the victims of the sniper killings. May we all continue in prayer for their families and for all law enforcement officials who are working tirelessly to apprehend the shooter. We also pray for children and parents and all citizens who are living in fear as we try to go about our daily activities.

May we remember that

- God is our refuge and strength,
- a very present help in trouble.

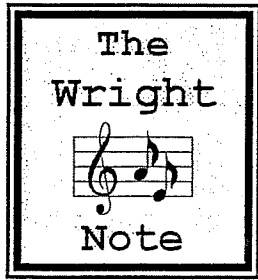
Again we raise the age old question, "Why do the innocent suffer?" When our children come home from school and ask the question it is no longer a theoretical one. In all honesty we do not know why. What can we know? I believe that we can say with certainty that God suffers with those who suffer. In his life and death Jesus identifies completely with the suffering of humankind. We have a Savior who knows the pain inflicted by human evil.

May the words of the old hymn bring us comfort

Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.



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



I may be very presumptuous in the heading of this article. After a mistake I made in last month's issue of STP, I feel as if I should replace the caption to read "The Wrong Note". The wrong note that I played was in my statement about the religious affiliation of Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. It is a highly regarded PRESBYTERIAN institution. Thus, "Hymns, Psalms and Spiritual Songs" would be an obvious hymnal choice for the Margaret Parker Chapel.

May I add a few words about children's choirs as they relate to Christmas planning? We will be presenting a visual and musical interpretation of the nativity story during the children at worship segment of the service on Dec. 22nd. We are preparing this story during our weekly choir rehearsals. Thus far this year, our numbers have been small, and so has been our representation from the young male population. I encourage you to give your boys and girls this opportunity to experience meaningful singing and commitment at this special time of year – and any time of year.

The Primary Choir for grades K-2 meets on Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m. The Children's Choir for grades 3-6 meets at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Preparations have already begun for Thanksgiving and Advent. Please don't delay joining. Call me at 301-926-7015 if you want to register your child or children as singers. Call me, as well, if you have children who would like to be involved as non-singing shepherds, kings, star, angels or holy family. These children will be invited to come to regular choir rehearsals during December to relate to the continuity of the presentation. I need committed names no later than Nov. 10.

Thank you for your cooperation. *Cindy*



Lasagna Cook-off!!!

Momma Mia! It's time to make your reservations for the Lasagna Cook Off on November 17th!

Momma Mia! It's time to get your favorite Lasagna recipe out and start practicing for the Lasagna Cook Off on November 17th!

The Workcampers are hosting a Lasagna Cook Off on November 14th at 5:00 pm. in Fellowship Hall. A fun filled evening is planned for all who attend. Seating is limited! Make your reservations early by calling our Maitre d' Rachel Johns at 301-253-9202, email dramapsycho31@hotmail.com or signing up in Fellowship Hall. The cost is only \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children.

They are seeking all that have a favorite Lasagna recipe that you would like to prepare, have judged and share with those who attend. Perhaps you will even win a Great Prize: Traditional, Vegetarian, Original, Overall Appealing or the Grand Prize. To enter please call Sous Chef Kay Mitchel at 301-340-7768 or email kheming@aol.com.

FREQUENT FLYER MILES...The 2003 workcampers continue to seek creative ways to fund our trip to Fountain, Colorado. We have been researching the airlines, and have found that United and American airlines offer unrestricted tickets for 40,000 Frequent Flyer Miles, and Northwest has them for 50,000 miles. If you have excessive miles on any of these airlines that you might be willing to donate, please contact Marilyn Johns at the church. *Do not redeem the miles!* We are still exploring the best options for flights and ground transportation. If you are interested in helping, and you have tons of miles you don't need, we would be happy to take them off your hands and give you a letter acknowledging that your donation. Thank you!

GIFT CARDS...will be available for purchase on November 17. These cards may be purchased in \$5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 250 and 500 gift amounts in honor of a favorite person. You will be giving a wonderful present that benefits workcampers at PPC and helps needy families in Fountain, Colorado.

In the Church Family



We rejoice in the birth of...

Charlotte Ann Norris, daughter of Robyn and John Norris, on September 10, 2002. The proud grandparents are Bill and Bobbe Hartzog

We celebrate with joy the baptism of...

Chandler Thomas Kuhn on September 22nd. We rejoice with Chandler's parents, Thomas and Wendy Kuhn, and with sisters Amanda and Victoria;

Megan Lee Bedingfield and

Morgan Arline Bedingfield on September 29th. We rejoice with Megan and Morgan's parents, Linda and Ken Bedingfield, and with grandparents Margie and Bob Bedingfield;

Charlotte Kaiser Koonce and

Patterson Mary Koonce on October 13th. We rejoice with Charlotte and Patterson's parents, Scott and Courtney Koonce, and with grandparents, Calvin and Janet Koonce.

Congratulations to... Wally Rowan who celebrated his 90th birthday on October 8th.

Our prayers are with...

Susan Hougan and family. Susan's mother, Elizabeth Halliday Bayer, died Sept. 29th.

Bob Plumb and family. Bob's mother, Janet Plumb, died in October.

New Addresses: Matt and Cindy Griswold
9514 Hemswell Place
Potomac, MD 20854

Scott and Courtney Koonce
13613 Query Mill Road
North Potomac, MD 20878
301-452-6087

Deacon's Corner

Recently, I unpacked a box of books from my move two years ago and discovered the book "Garden of Prayers." I want to share with you one of the prayers, by a 17th century anonymous writer.

Prayer of an Aging Woman

Lord, you know better than I know myself that I am growing older, and will some day be old. Keep me from getting talkative, and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking that I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful, but not moody; helpful, but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all, but you know, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end. Keep my mind from the recital of endless details ~ give me wings to come to the point.

I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of others' pains. But seal my lips on my own aches and pains - they are increasing, and my love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. Help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to

clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet. I do not want to be a saint-some of them are so hard to live with- but a sour old woman is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so. Amen

Pam Self Rice

Work for a World Without Cancer

American Cancer Society Fundraiser

November 3, 2002 1:30 p.m.

The Hilton McLean Ann Hazard, Producer
Free admission ~ All donations go to ACS
Questions ~ Ann Hazard 301-424-2827

Scrapbook Night Returns In January

Friday January 10, 2003
7:30 p.m.-11:30 p.m.

Plan to attend Scrapbook Night on January 10th in Fellowship Hall. Join other PPC Scrapbookers who resolve to get those pictures in scrapbooks. The New Year will be a great time to start. Call Olivia Mabeus 301-926-8160 for additional information.

Marilyn's Message

A couple of Sundays ago I was walking around the children's Sunday School classrooms, making sure everything was ready for the day, and was given a wonderful gift. On the wall of the art room was a huge poster with the Presbyterian seal in a rainbow of colors! Now, this might give anyone a lift - especially if they're Presbyterian - but it was especially meaningful to me. I have been writing the lessons for the 1st and 2nd grade Creative Enrichment class along the theme of "Symbols of Faith." For the first month, the children studied the Presbyterian seal. I spent a lot of time making overhead transparencies of each of the different parts of the seal (the flames, the dove, the pulpit, etc.) and asked each class to trace and color a part of the seal onto the poster on the wall, so that conceivably by the end of the four weeks there would be a complete picture. My shock and amazement on that Sunday morning was that it actually worked! It was so gratifying to see something I had created in my mind come to fruition with the class.

It made me think of two things. One is that everyone in the church should take a stroll through that education hallway once in awhile, preferably when classes are in session. It is wonderful to see four-year-olds learning Bible stories on the computer, second graders making rain sticks while reviewing the story of Noah, fourth graders acting out the story of Baby Moses. We have dedicated and loving teachers, and they are leading creative lessons. The wonderful thing is that the children are really learning the Bible stories and concepts.





The other thing that multi-colored Presbyterian seal on the wall made me wonder is whether the joy I felt at seeing my "creation" come alive is something like the joy God feels when one of his creations fulfills the dream God has for him/her. God certainly spent a lot more time and effort making each one of us than I did making those transparencies. When we do something kind for someone, when we study hard and get good grades, when we say 'thank you' even when it isn't necessary, when we stop and help a child, when we repair the leaking roof of a less-fortunate neighbor, or any other myriad of ways we celebrate the gifts God has given us, I think God looks on us and gasps in unbridled happiness and pride, thinking, 'Yes! It worked - just the way I wanted it to!'

"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well" (Psalm 139:14). May we all continue to strive to make our Creator delighted in that which he created.

November Adult Education Classes...

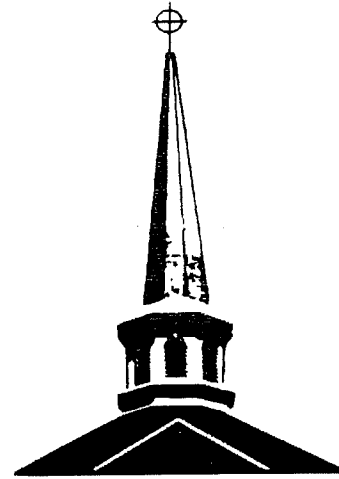
Nov. 6	Workcampers ~ To be held in Fellowship Hall
Nov. 13	Dr. Jeffrey Hensley ~ Virginia Theological Seminary, an overview of Christology through the Council of Chalcedon
Nov. 20-27	Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus ~ topic: Christology in the Reformation and Contemporary Thought

Adult Worship Class ~ A new adult opportunity begins on October 27 in the parlor. This class will focus on the basics of Worship, including the parts of the worship service, why we do what we do in worship, and other forms and styles of Presbyterian worship. Marilyn Johns leads this five-week class, which meets on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. Please join us!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1>November 2002</h1> 				1	2	
				6:00pm Wedding Rehearsal	11:00am Wedding Lowry/Jenkins	
3 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am "The Basics of Worship" Class 11:00am Worship/Holy Communion 12:00pm Fellowship 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	4 	5 1:00pm Lord's Table 7:30pm Compassionate Friends	6 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir	7 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	8 8:30-11:30pm Fun Bunch Glen Echo Park (Dance) 9:00pm Sr. High Lock-In until 8:00am Saturday	9 6:00pm Wedding Sharer/Young
10 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am "The Basics of Worship" Class 11:00am Worship/Holy Communion 12:00pm Fellowship 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group	11 12:30pm CE Committee 8:00pm Committees	12 9:30am Christian Living 7:30pm Christian Living	13 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00pm Stephen Ministry	14 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	15 12:00pm "Steeple to People" Deadline Christmas Crafts Workshop	16 8:30am - 3:00pm Officer Retreat
17 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am "The Basics of Worship" Class 11:00am Worship/Holy Communion 12:00pm Fellowship 3:00pm Manor Care 5:00pm Lasagna Cook-Off Dinner	18	19 10:30am Men's Book Group	20 9:30am Bible Study 4:00pm Primary Choir 7:00pm Stephen Ministry	21 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir	22	23 
24 9:00am Children's Choir 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am "The Basics of Worship" Class 11:00am Worship/Holy Communion 12:00pm Fellowship 4:30pm Jr. High Youth Group 6:00pm Youth Group Dinner 6:30pm Sr. High Youth Group	25 7:30pm Deacons	26 6:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Sanctuary Choir 6:00pm National Capital Presbytery Meeting (Nat'l Presbyterian Church)	27 NO Primary Choir 	28 Holiday <i>Office Closed</i> Happy Thanksgiving	29 Holiday <i>Office Closed</i>	30

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

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STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

Potomac Presbyterian Church

December

2002

KERRY ON...

Every year we begin the season of Advent with the words,
Come, Thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.

While at the same time, all year long we have been singing and praying and preaching the Good News that Jesus **has** come. We base our faith and stake our lives on the affirmation that God is with us because of the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem two thousand years ago.

Continuing to ask Jesus to come is like praying the phrase in the Lord's Prayer, "thy kingdom come." In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near and yet we still long for it's appearing. We catch glimpses of it in the midst of a broken and fearful world. We recognize it in fits and starts between the lines and among the stories on the front page of the papers. An unexplained moment of extraordinary unselfishness marks its coming. An act of courage in the face of hatred and oppression brings the kingdom near. A child speaks and the proud voices of philosophers and theologians are silenced.

Advent is really a once a year opportunity to sincerely pray,
Come, Thou long expected Jesus.

It is a brief time to acknowledge our longing and the broken places in our lives. As we approach the manger we open ourselves to awe and wonder and sing our advent hymn,

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.



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



Gift Card Sale

The 2003 Workcampers are selling gift cards. These cards enable you to make a donation to the workcamp fund in the name of someone's birthday, or as a Christmas present, or just as a nice thing to do. You will be given a card to fill out, which may be given to the person you have honored with the gift. Thank you for helping to get our workcampers to Colorado!

Workcamp Reflections Booklets

Booklets containing the reflections of many of our 2002 workcampers are available on the table outside of the church office. Please feel free to take one of these booklets, which are sure to warm your heart and help you appreciate why we love to send our youth to workcamp!

Giving Tree

At the Williamsburg Breakfast on Sunday, December 8, the Mission Committee will invite the congregation to share our Christmas joy with needy families in our community. We will again have our Christmas Gift Giving Tree, which will be decorated with the names of families and children. We ask you to pick a name from the tree and buy an appropriate gift for the child or make up a food basket for the family. Please wrap and label the gift or food basket, and bring it to Fellowship Hall before worship on Sunday, December 15. We will also be asking for volunteers to help us deliver the gifts before Christmas. Many of these children will receive no Christmas presents without our help. Please join us and make Christmas happier for our needy neighbors.



*PPC Deacons
Cordially invite you
To attend our*

*Williamsburg Breakfast
To celebrate the Advent Season
This event welcomes the Christmas Holiday
season with carols, food and a gift tree*

*Sunday, December 8
9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall*

*Bring a breakfast bread to share
and a small bell to ring during carol singing*

Children will be served first and go to their classrooms



In the Church Family

Our prayers are with...

Wally Rowan. Wally's brother died recently;
Bill Brill. Bill's brother, David Brill, died recently;
Bruce Brumbaugh recovering from surgery.

New Addresses:



Karen and Gary Young
609 Lake Varuna Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301-977-0366
Children: Erin and Lauren

Elizabeth A. Gard
18910 Beallsville Road
Beallsville, MD 20839-3311

Deacon's Corner

I wonder how you felt the day we all learned that the snipers had been caught. A friend remarked to me as that it was as if a great weight had been lifted off his shoulders. Another said it was a cause for celebration. The fear we had been living with for weeks seemed to dissipate almost immediately. Fear had changed our daily lives in so many ways - our children "locked down" in their schools, people afraid to do a simple thing like shop or pump gas - and then, suddenly, for us it was over. But for others, in countries around the world, the fear we felt this October and last September is something they live with every day of their lives. Just stop and think for a minute how good it felt when we could stop being afraid... and then consider that for many people that day never comes. It is in times of fear that we need Jesus the most. As he said to his disciples in the middle of that storm on the Sea of Galilee, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." (Matthew 14:27) As we approach this holiday season and come together as a congregation for the Williamsburg breakfast, we can find time to seek the calm in the storm that comes with knowing that God is there for us - and now more than ever! Chip Shooshan

Bible Study... The Wednesday evening study group led by Tom Miles will resume on Wednesday January 8, 2003 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the parlor. The group will consider two questions relating to the Christian faith: **What do you believe?** and **What is the basis of your belief?** - in relation to such topics as God, Jesus Christ, Sin, Salvation, Church, and Resurrection. Reference materials will be available at each session.

Scrapbooking Night... returns to the Fellowship Hall on Friday January 10, 2003. All are welcome to bring their scrapbooks and pictures and work on them from 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Start the New Year by getting last year's pictures in scrapbooks. For more information contact Olivia Mabeus or Judi Miller.

Sunday Greeters... Beginning in January there will be a **Greeter's Board** hanging outside of the church office next to the flower chart. We urge members, to sign up to serve as greeters for a week or two during the year. All are invited to participate - whether this is your first or tenth time for greeting. It's a wonderful way to share the joy of being a member of our fine church!!! Marcia Boogaard

Vacation Bible School...

Vacation, as in *summer* vacation, in the December newsletter? It's true, some people like to plan ahead, so we've chosen the dates for VBS next summer. The adventure will begin on July 14 and go through July 18, 2003. Please mark your calendars! Joel and Judi Miller, 301-946-3983, are coordinating the efforts this year and hope to increase the number of children attending from our record numbers of last summer! Adult volunteers are also very welcome. A Steeple to People in the near future will give you the theme.

Marilyn's Message

Our session has decided to embark on a new ministry for PPC! Beginning sometime early in 2003, we hope to begin a partner program with another church and someone hearing a call to Christian educational ministry. This will be a year-long internship where the educator/trainee will work part-time in a church in our presbytery and be with us part-time for education, mentoring and training with me. It is hoped that at the end of the year, the person would either be hired by the partner church to a permanent position, or be more qualified to seek a call to yet another church while she/he continues her/his training.

There is a severe shortage of qualified Christian educators in our denomination, partly because many people considering this call cannot drop what they're doing (raising a family, etc.) to go to a seminary to get the proper education. This project will give a person on-the-job training in two different churches, while also enabling them to begin the process toward becoming a Certified Christian Educator by meeting the educational requirements for the first year. While the person is working and learning, they will also have an experienced educator with whom to share frustrations, ideas, and questions.

The intern will probably be in our church two days a week, including one Sunday a month, and may turn up at some committee meetings and other groups. Our church will benefit, not only from giving this gift of training to a potential educator - and ultimately to the PCUSA - but also by having someone with new ideas to help us with our existing programs or perhaps help develop new ones. The project will also foster relationships between our church and the partner church, and may include a pulpit exchange and/or choir exchange, or perhaps some occasional combining of youth group activities at some point during the year.

I am in the process of seeking just the right person to be the intern. When I find that person, I will begin the search for the right church with whom to partner. When the program gets underway, you will hear specific details of our relationship with the intern and the partner church.

This is an exciting time for me as an educator, and for the church as we begin a new ministry. I am very thankful for the session's willingness to take this on, and your willingness to help in the process.



Poinsettia Sale

After a two year hiatus the Worship Committee is once again offering poinsettias for sale to the congregation. The profit from the sale of these items defrays the cost of the Christmas decorations for the church. Either a check to cover the cost of the poinsettias or a check to the general Christmas decoration fund may be placed in the flower fund envelope. All excess funds will be donated to Montgomery Hospice.

The poinsettias are grown by Behnke Nurseries and are of excellent quality. They are available in red, white or pink.

Pot Size	Number of Blooms	Price
6 inch	4-6	\$12.00
7 inch	8-12	\$20.00
8 inch	12-15	\$30.00
10 inch	20 +	\$45.00

Deadline for orders is Sunday, December 1st. Poinsettias may be picked up on Saturday, December 7 from 10:00am to 12 Noon. Checks should be made out to Potomac Presbyterian Church and must accompany the order. Please put the form and your check in the Flower Fund envelope found in the pew rack, and place in the offering plate. Or, during the week, there is a silver bag in the office to deposit checks and forms.

Coordinators are Cecie Phair, 301-926-8944 and Susan Hougan, 301-299-8391.

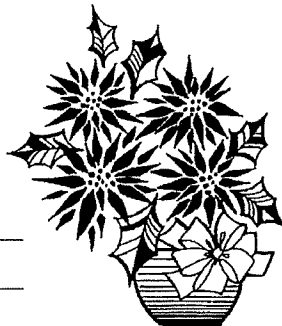
The Worship Committee thanks the energetic decorating committee: Wilma Sharer, Pam Drumheller, Eugenia Lee and Renee Jochum.

Order Form

Name _____

Phone _____

Quantity	Size	Color	Price
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____



Christmas Caroling Party...

Join in singing carols to the Manor Care and Collingswood nursing homes at the annual PPC Christmas Caroling party on Sunday, December 15. We will meet at Manor Care at 3:30 p.m. sharp to begin singing at 3:45 p.m. Song sheets will be provided.

Following caroling at Collingswood, a potluck supper will be held at the home of Bill and Pat King. Please sign up to bring an appetizer, main dish or dessert and bring a gag gift for a Christmas exchange. For further information, call Maggie Fahs (301) 365-2395.

Deck the Halls Help Decorate Our Church

Join in the excitement of decorating our church for Christmas

This year the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall will be decorated with Christmas trees, evergreens, ribbons, poinsettias, candles and wreaths.

Everyone can help create a joyous Christmas décor.

All help is appreciated!!!

Join in the Fun and Fellowship!

You may help in one or more of the following ways:

- Donate evergreens (magnolia, holly, pine, spruce, etc.) from Saturday Nov. 30 to Wednesday Dec. 4. Please leave the greens on the patio outside Fellowship Hall
- Decorate at church on Dec. 7th at 9:00 a.m. and the Sanctuary on Dec. 23rd
- Monetary donation: Cash or checks may be placed in "Flower Fund" envelopes from the pew racks or mailed to church noting "Christmas Decorations"
- Purchase Poinsettias to help defray the costs

Excess funds will be donated to: Montgomery County Hospice

For more information or to volunteer, contact Wilma Sharer, 301-975-9411



Come!
Bring family!
Bring friends!
Bring out of town
relatives and guests to the...

JESUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Sunday December 22

7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall

HEAR:

Jesus Birthday Band
Men's Chorus Women's Chorus
Youth Chorus Enrichment Singers
Soloists, Duets and Ensembles

PARTICIPATE:
Sing Christmas Carols

ENJOY:
Birthday Cake and Beverages

**Make this Birthday Celebration
a part of Your Christmas!**

Join Your Church Family!

If you would like to participate in any band or chorus
please call Mary Margaret Smith at 301-299-3331

The Wright



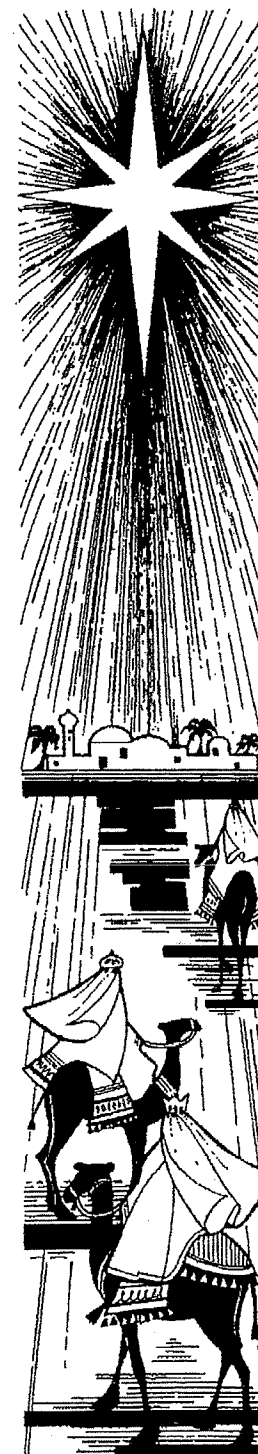
Note

Music is a vital part of our Advent and Christmas celebration. As in any worthy endeavor, careful planning and regular rehearsals make possible meaningful and memorable worship services and sharing times. Unlike school or community theater, church music events rely on weekly, not daily, practices to prepare participants. You

will read on the next page a detailed schedule of practices and activities for Advent. I will be leading the presentations that are scheduled for worship services. Mary Smith will be coordinating the events related to the evening Jesus' Birthday Celebration.

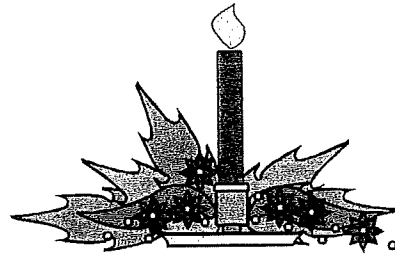
In addition to regular anthems by the Sanctuary Choir, the Handbell Choir and the two children's choirs all through Advent, there will be a 17th century cantata sung by the Sanctuary Choir, soloists, girls' ensemble and instruments on Dec. 15th. The children's choirs will present a Christmas pageant story at the 9:30 worship service on Dec. 22nd. Non-singing animals, shepherds, kings, star and holy family members are needed from interested children and youth. The deadline to sign up for these costumed, non-speaking roles is Sunday, Dec. 8th. Even though the choirs will have been rehearsing during their weekly rehearsals, there will be just one rehearsal when all singers and non-speaking parts practice together. That will occur December 21st at 11:00 a.m. ~ a very busy Saturday morning here at church.

Advent is indeed a time to prepare. May the following calendar help you organize your activities.



December 1 ~ First Sunday of Advent

- 9:00 a.m. Children's Choir
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
Adult Education
- 11:00 a.m. Worship – Holy Communion
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship
- 12:00 p.m. Youth Chorus (Jesus Birthday)
(NO Youth Groups)



12/3 – Tues.

- 1:00 p.m. Lord's Table

12/4 – Wed.

- 12:00 p.m. Bible Study Luncheon
- 4:00 p.m. Primary Choir

12/5 – Thurs.

- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir
- 8:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir and Girls' Ensemble

December 8 ~ Second Sunday of Advent

- 9:00 a.m. Children's Choir
- 9:30 a.m. Williamsburg Breakfast
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship
- 12:00 p.m. Youth Chorus (Jesus Birthday)
- 4:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Chorus (Jesus Birthday)



12/9 – Mon.

- 8:00 p.m. Session

12/12 – Thurs.

- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir
- 8:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir and Girls' Ensemble

12/10 – Tues.

- 9:30 a.m. Christian Living
- 7:30 p.m. Christian Living

12/14 – Sat.

- 10:00 a.m. Jesus Birthday Band Rehearsal
- 11:00 a.m. Men's Chorus (Jesus Birthday)
- 11:00 a.m. Women's Chorus (Jesus Birthday)
- 5:00 p.m. Sr. High Youth Party

12/11 – Wed.

- 4:00 p.m. Primary Choir
- 7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry



December 15 ~ Third Sunday of Advent

- 9:00 a.m. Children's Choir
- 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Choir, Girls' Ensemble, and Instrumentalists
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
Adult Education
- 11:00 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary Choir Cantata
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship
- 1:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Party
- 3:30 p.m. Caroling at Manor Care and Collingswood
- 7:00 p.m. Youth Chorus (Jesus Birthday)



12/18 – Wed.

- 4:00 p.m. Combined Primary and Children's Choirs

12/19 – Thurs.

- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir
- 8:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir and Girls' Ensemble

12/21 – Sat.

- 10:00 a.m. Jesus Birthday Band
- 11:00 a.m. Men's Chorus (Jesus Birthday)
- 11:00 a.m. Women's Chorus (Jesus Birthday)
- 11:00 a.m. Pageant Dress Rehearsal: Primary Choir, Children's Choir, and all non-singing Nativity story participants who have previously registered with Mrs. Wright.

December 22 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 9:00 a.m. Pageant Singers and Nativity story participants
- 9:30 a.m. Worship (Pageant)
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship
Sanctuary Choir warm-up
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship
- 12:00 p.m. Youth Chorus (Jesus Birthday)
- 7:00 p.m. "Jesus Birthday Celebration"

12/24 – Tues. (Christmas Eve)

- 5:00 p.m. Family Service
- 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service
- 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service

