



First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City

Chronicles

August 2019



14391 Minnieville Road
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193
703-670-7834



People of the Church, Ministers
Rev. Adam C. Bowling, Pastor
Dana Van Slyke, Music Director
Justin Stretetz, Accompanist
Rebecca & Chris Anderson, Contemporary Worship Directors
Ike Evans, Jubilation Handbells Director
Joann Paige, Nursery Supervisor
Tiffany Ramsey, Little Hands Preschool Director
Homer Detrich, Sexton
Kim Parker, Office Manager

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ADAM

The laughter of Vacation Bible Camp and the songs of Drama Camp pass in our ears. Memories of vacations fade into the rear view like pavement on one of our road trips. Back-to-School sales are now abuzz. As we prepare for the beautiful madness of fall, our community takes its last gasps of summer.

August is an interesting “in-between” time. It’s a time of reflection and vision. As we reflect on a summer that perhaps passed too quickly, we may find ourselves asking, “How is it August already?!” Back-to-school season reminds us that time rolls ever on. August gives pause. Our first-graders are now...in second. The children we send to respective campuses are children no more—they’re emerging adults. “When did that happen?!” In the moment, life can feel like forever. In hindsight? A mere heartbeat. August seems to yield reflective moments like these.

Simultaneously, August is a time of vision. August begs us to look forward to what’s next. The coming of fall activities and <gasp> Christmas get us excited about the possibilities and the beauty that awaits. Here at FUPCDC, planning for the remainder of 2019 is in full swing. We eagerly anticipate new programs and curriculum for kids and adults alike. We look forward to fall colors and opportunities to impact our community. Personally, I am excited for my family to continue to get to know you like I have these past eight months.

As we envision 2020, your leaders are planning how we might be good stewards of the gifts God has given. Committees, session, and staff are looking forward with anticipation to what God will do in our midst. We reflect on God’s faithfulness, fondly remembering what has been while praying, dreaming, and thinking about what God’s faithfulness and our response will look like in the future.

Please pray for your leaders this month. We are seeking clarity and purpose that only God can provide. We are discerning our next faithful steps as a community of faith in pursuit of God’s mission in Dale City, Prince William County, and beyond. It can be awkward in the in-between time of August, but both reflection and vision give us sure hope that God will be ever faithful.

On the journey with you,

Rev. Adam C. Bowling

*Passion for Christ—Compassion for Others
Loving God—Loving Others
Connect—Grow—Serve*

Session Report - July



At the July 18th meeting, the Session approved eight fundraising and donation requests for the 2019 - 2020 program year.

The Youth Fund, a fund restricted to funding youth activities, was renamed the Youth Mission Fund to reflect the focus on youth mission activities as opposed to general youth activities such as bowling, Bible studies, trips and so forth. The funding for the 2019 trip to Raleigh, NC scheduled for August 4th - 9th was approved.

After input from several ministries and committees, the Session voted to approve changes to the 2019 budget recommended by the Finance and Administration committee's mid-year review.

Additional funds for parking lot and drainage repairs were approved.

The formation of a sound system sub-committee related to the IT and Worship committees which will oversee the "tuning" of the sound system by a professional sound engineer familiar with church needs and will provide training for sound board operators was approved.

As always, if you have questions about this report or any other Session business, please contact an elder, the clerk or the pastor.

Submitted by Sara Porter, Clerk of Session

Stewardship

Thank you to all who responded during Time and Talents Sunday in June. If you signed up to share your "Talents" and have not yet been contacted, you should be contacted by the appropriate Committee Elder, Music Director, or Deacon shortly. We did receive a few forms without a name or contact information. Please feel free to speak with Stewardship Elder Lora Nedimyer or any of the Stewardship Committee members (Dennis Dingle, Rick Mitchell, or Bruce Gilbert) if you have signed up but have not heard anything yet.

Approximately half of the Time and Talent Survey forms were returned. If you missed Time and Talents Sunday on June 2nd, you can still complete a form and either place it in the offering plate or drop it by the church office. Spare forms can be found in the literature rack just inside the doors to the right as you enter the Narthex Welcome Center.

We've all been blessed with special gifts. How can you use your gifts to "connect" with others? Perhaps you would like to join a choir or support the Worship Committee. Would you be willing to serve as a greeter, an usher, a member of our security team or a volunteer to work on the Building and Grounds Committee? How about leading a Bible study or facilitating a small group? Another way to connect is working with our youth or teaching/co-teaching an adult class. Would you like to get involved in one (or more) of our Mission and Outreach programs? Are you interested in praying with Pastor Adam before the 8:30 or 11:00 service?

We encourage everyone to prayerfully consider taking advantage of one or more of the many opportunities to serve at FUPCDC!

“We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.” ~ Romans 12: 6 - 8 NIV

Your Stewardship Committee



Deacon Report - July

The Deacons will be providing the main course meal for the Spread the Bread ministry on August 18th. Contact your Deacon if you are interested in helping out.

Save the date for the Annual Church Picnic on September 8th, following the one worship service. Rain or shine. Be on the lookout for more information in the Sunday bulletins and in the Narthex Welcome Center. The church will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, and condiments. Picnic go'ers whose last name begins with A-O should bring a side, and those with the last name beginning with P-Z should bring a dessert. All sides and desserts should be ready to serve, preferably in a disposable container, and should not require heating or warming. If you want your dish back, please indicate that by placing your name on the bottom of the dish. Serving utensils are not needed.

Snacks offered in the Narthex Welcome Center will be on the light side throughout the summer months. We are also using all the current stock of styrofoam coffee cups. Once depleted, we'll work with Homer to order necessary paper products.

The ministry of a Deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ (Mark 9: 35). It is the duty of Deacons to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless and to any others who may be in distress. The role of Deacons at FUPCDC is designed to be a ministry of compassion and care manifested by Deacons developing caring relationships with assigned members encouraging those members to be active participants in the life of the congregation. Deacons once ordained or installed serve a three-year rotation with the church. Feel free to reach out to any of the Deacons on the 2019 Board of Deacons with questions or encouragement.

2019 BOARD OF DEACONS A Ministry of Compassion and Service

Class of 2019
Gail Cobb
Claudia Cunningham
Mayra Drayer
Betty Matthews
Denise Parris

Class of 2020
Agnes Fokwa
Lisa Fortner
Kathy McNeely
Carol Schwalm
Celine Sonkwa

Class of 2021
Liz Goolgasian
Peggy Heins
Therese Same
Patricia Whitman
Amy Bean

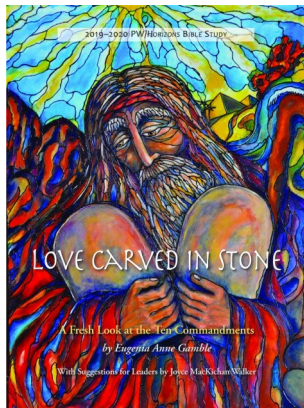
Denise Parris, Co-Moderator..... 703-730-3920
Carol Schwalm, Co-Moderator..... 703-680-7673

*We love to hear from you. **If you need to be connected with your Deacon**, please contact Denise Parris or Carol Schwalm by calling the number listed above or the Church Office.*



DEACONS
Leading through Serving.

Adult Ministry



Love Carved in Stone: the Ten Commandments

Horizons Women's Bible study will begin September 9th at 9:30 AM in Room 22. Our study this year focuses on the ten commandments, God's gift to the Hebrew people as they made their way to the promised land. We will investigate their place in Old Testament times, in Jesus's ministry, in the early church and in our lives today. You do not need to be a Bible scholar to join us; we work together, using various translations and versions of the Bible plus a video presentation by the author of the study to learn what message God has for us. This is monthly Bible study meeting the second Monday of the month September through June.

Sign up for books in the Narthex Welcome Center is the first three Sundays in August. Books are \$11.00 and checks or envelopes of cash marked ACE Bible study may be placed in offering plates or the office wall safe.

Contact Sara Porter, saraporter@comcast.net, or 703-670-8737 for more information.

FAIR SHARE PRESENTATION

“GRIEF AND LOSS: WHERE ARE YOU?”

REVEREND JUANITA STOKES, MA, Licensed Professional Counselor
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST, 7:00 PM AT THE CHURCH

SHE IS COMING SOON! Reverend Juanita Stokes will give the Fair Share Presentation on September 21st entitled "Grief and Loss: Where Are You?" Reverend Stokes is a Licensed Professional Counselor in Virginia and Washington D.C. with the Center for Pastoral Counseling and she has an office here in Woodbridge.

Counseling and Ministry are second careers for Reverend Stokes. She is a retired State Department High Level Manager and has an excellent understanding of workforce issues. Juanita takes a holistic approach to counseling, addressing mental and spiritual health issues and honoring the individuality and uniqueness of each client.

Her clientele varies in age from adolescent through adult. Reverend Stokes counsels couples and families with clinical issues including Anxiety and Depression, Adjustment, PTSD, Grief and Loss, Behavioral, Spiritual, Substance Abuse, Communication, Anger and other life issues.

Grief and loss is multi-faceted and not just feelings we experience when a loved one passes away. During our lives we can encounter grief and loss in a variety of situations. Reverend Stokes personally journeyed through grief and made her own discoveries along the way.

Come and hear her story!



FUPCDC Earthcare Group Invites You to the August Meeting:

Adults and Youth accompanied by a parent/legal guardian are invited to help lead our congregation toward better stewardship of the Earth God entrusted to us. Our next meeting will be held on **Sunday, August 18th, at 12:15 PM in Room 22.**

Light refreshments will be served.

Our immediate goals are to discuss plans to seek PC(USA) Earth Care Congregation certification, coordinate the Earthcare-focused Fair Share Community Speaker event on November 16th, participate in local interfaith Earthcare-related workshops and events (e.g., IPL-DMV, SING), coordinate nature outings, and so much more! Please email Nancy Hummer if you would like to participate in the group but can't attend this meeting (nanhummer@gmail.com). Connect with us on Facebook by requesting to join the "FUPCDC Earthcare" group. We can't do this without you!

Why should Christians care about the environment? Why should we be concerned about pollution, resource depletion, climate change and the burgeoning number of threatened and endangered species?

Many Christians argue that these things are not the Church's concern. They cite Genesis 1:26, in which God created man in His own image and granted him dominion over all the earth. They claim that this means that everything on Earth is mankind's to use and exploit for his own purposes.

A closer look at Genesis and the Bible as a whole, however, reveals the fallacy of this argument. A few examples follow.

1. God created the Earth and everything in it, and He declared that it was "very good" (Gen 1:3-31). God values His creation, and so should we. Furthermore, God is the true lord over His creation, not us (Ps 24:1-2, among many other verses). Therefore, we are His stewards or overseers, responsible to Him for the care of His creation.
2. When God decided to unleash a flood upon the Earth to destroy everything on it because mankind was evil, corrupt and sinful, He instructed Noah to save two of every species of animal so each species would survive (Gen 6:11-21). God cares about all of his creatures, and so should we.
3. Nature bears witness to the glory of God (Ps 19:1-4; Job 12:7-9 and others) and actively praises Him (Psalm 96:11-13). How many of us have seen the hand of God in His creation? How many of us have been brought to tears by the beauty of a sunset, caught our breath at the sight of a soaring bird of prey, marveled at the delicate beauty of a flower or fallen to our knees at the realization that God, who created and cares about each of these things, also created and cares for us? Should not future generations be able to experience these things as well?
4. We have a mandate to care for the poor (Matt 25:34-36; Luke 3:11) and the poor are the ones who suffer most when human activity disrupts their environment. Famine, floods, storms and pollution disproportionately affect the poorest countries, and the poorest people in each country. By engaging in more sustainable practices and opposing unrestricted development and exploitation of natural resources we demonstrate our love not only for God's creation, but for His people as well.

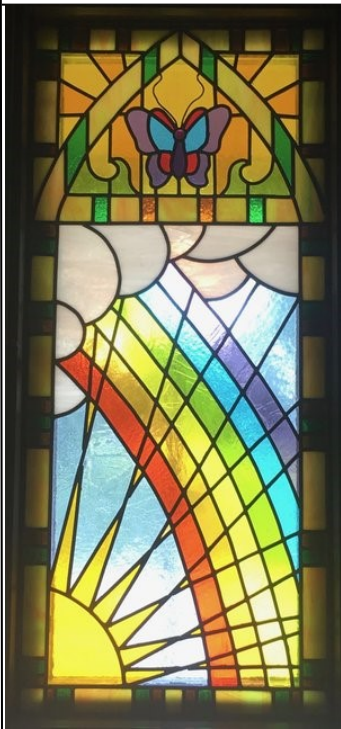
If you believe Christians should be leaders in taking care of the environment, proclaiming our concern for God's creation and for His people, please join the FUPCDC Earthcare group on Facebook for suggestions about ways you can help care for the Earth. This can be another form of witness and can enable us to reach people who may not otherwise experience God's love or hear the gospel. The well-being of the Earth should be everyone's concern.



National Night Out Tuesday, August 6th 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

SAVE THE DATE....on the evening of August 6th, the Mission and Outreach Committee will be hosting National Night Out in honor of national crime prevention. There will be snacks, music, games, and Prince William County Police members will be here to discuss how to keep safe in your home, job, or everyday events. Please plan to join us and bring friends. More information to follow in the weekly bulletins.

Photos from 2018 National Night Out



FIFTH ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE CHURCH

SAVE THE DATE... September 14th from 6:30 - 8:30 PM. Please join us for an evening of Prayer and Praise of Thanksgiving. We will celebrate God's abundant gifts and blessings He has bestowed upon First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City this past year. He has truly blessed us to be a blessing to others!

Passion for Christ- Compassion for Others
Loving God - Loving Others
Connect - Grow - Serve

You only need to show up; He will connect the rest. Light refreshments will be served. We look forward to seeing you here as we give "GLORY TO GOD."

Disney Winnie the Pooh KIDS

Winnie the Pooh Kids was performed at the Ferlazzo Building for an audience of over 350. Opening night was a roaring success. Parents and friends were treated to song, dance and acrobatic moves. It is always amazing to see these campers pull a musical together in just nine days of camp. While the musical is the focus, campers also enjoyed arts and crafts.

This year we added a second performance at West Minister of Lake Ridge. Residents of the elder care facility were delighted with the joyous romp of the search for Christopher Robin. Thanks to Pat Manalio for helping to coordinate our second showing. We are hoping to continue this second show . . . and told them we would be “back soon!”

Not only were we able to reach out in the community, but also in the world. Under the auspices of the Mission and Outreach Committee, we were able to raise money for Rise Malawi Dream Center, a part of Urban Promise Malawi. With the raffling of Baskets and the collection of donations we were able to raise over \$1,200.

Thanks to all the volunteers who make this camp possible. It is amazing! God is so good!





Little Hands Preschool



Last chance to register your preschooler for Little Hands Preschool! Classes are filling up fast. Link: <https://fupcdc.org/registration-1>

The Little Hands Preschool believes that each day of a child's life should be viewed as leading toward the total growth and development of a healthy and contributing member of society. In dedicating ourselves to developing the whole child, we have designed a program to foster an environment that encourages children to grow in the following areas:

- ◆ Socially, children should learn to share and become a constructive, contributing member of groups as well as being able to function independently.
- ◆ Emotionally, children should learn to recognize their own feelings and to develop a positive self-concept, confidence, and emotional control.
- ◆ Intellectually, children's natural curiosity should be used to understand concepts and to develop an ability to communicate and question.
- ◆ Creatively, children should be stimulated to develop self-expression, imagination, and the ability to discover new solutions to problems.
- ◆ Physically, children should develop awareness and enjoyment of individual physical capacities and an appreciation of a healthy body.
- ◆ Spiritually, children should develop an awareness of God's presence in our world. By being with persons expressing kindness, acceptance, and love, children become aware of the reality of God in their lives.

Nursery News

Our Nursery is open for children infant - four years old.



Nursery hours: Sunday mornings, 8:15 AM - 12:15 PM

All children must be accompanied by parent(s) upon entry to the Nursery. Parents **MUST remain** in the Nursery until staff arrive.

NO CHILD IS TO BE LEFT UNATTENDED WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION.

We strive very hard to accommodate our parents and their children's needs. Please provide a note to Joann Paige, Nursery Supervisor, informing her of any allergies and/or special needs your child(ren) may have.

Your co-operation is helping make the Nursery a safe place is appreciated.

Thank You!



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

9311 Lee Avenue

Manassas, Virginia 20110

(703) 792-6070

FAX (703) 792-7485

Glendell Hill
Sheriff

June 6, 2019

First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City
14391 Minnieville Road
Woodbridge, VA 22193

Re: Project Lifesaver Donation Check #4607 for \$1750.00

The Prince William County Sheriff's Office would like to express our sincere appreciation for the First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City's contribution to the Project Lifesaver Program. Your contribution will be used to purchase new equipment so that we may add additional clients to the program. Your generosity will surely be a great help for individuals suffering from Autism, Alzheimer's disease, Dementia and other related disorders. Thank you for assisting us in allowing this program to grow within our community.

Sincerely,

Glendell Hill,
Sheriff

A Virginia Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

Thank You!



SPECIAL OFFERINGS

June 20, 2019

First United Presbyterian Church Of Dale City
14391 Minnieville Rd.
Woodbridge, VA 22193

"... Be generous and willing to share. In this way, you will lay up treasure for yourselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that you may take hold of the life that is truly life."

- 1 Timothy 6:18^b-19

Dear Partners in God's Mission,

We give thanks to you for your support of Special Offerings, our collective witness to the love of Jesus Christ. By participating in Special Offerings, your congregation joins other churches to change lives around the world through ministries of compassion, advocacy, development, peacemaking, Christian formation, education and witness.

On June 10, 2019, we received \$1,762.00 for One Great Hour of Sharing. Your congregation's giving, when combined with that of others, will share the love of Christ with those in need.

Each of the Special Offerings is grounded in God's loving presence with us. They provide opportunities to reflect, theologically, on how God's compassion is made known to us, how the Holy Spirit ignites our inspiration, how Christ's peace draws us into partnership, and how the Incarnation provides a model for servant leadership in our churches and for our world. We share stories of ministries brought to life by God's grace and our giving. They are ways the church becomes *the church*. Over the summer months, reach out to us at special.offerings@pcusa.org and let us help you find new and creative ways to enhance your congregation's ministry through the Offerings, as you prepare for an exciting new program year in the Fall. If you have any additional questions about the Offerings or Presbyterian mission, you can contact the Mission Specialist dedicated to your region, Melanie Roney, at 502-569-5742 or at melanie.roney@pcusa.org, or your Mission Engagement Advisor, Sy Hughes, at (540) 458-1869 or at Sy.Hughes@pcusa.org, if you have questions or need anything.

Again, **thank you** for giving to enable all people to know God's life-giving welcome in Jesus Christ. Please let me know how we can support *your* efforts.

With gratitude to God for our shared mission,

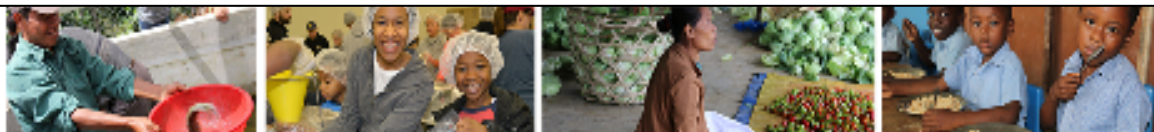
Bryce Wiebe



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission

Bryce E. Wiebe, Director, Special Offerings and Appeals
800-728-7228, ext. 5047 | bryce.wiebe@pcusa.org

Thank You!



Dear Pam,

It is with great pleasure that we announce the destination of the Rise Against Hunger meals you helped package on 4/27/2019. A shipping container, holding 285,120 meals, has been sent to Somalia for our partner ARAHA - American Relief Agency for the Horn of Africa. If you happen to receive more than one of these announcements, your meals have gone to impact multiple partners.

ARAHA - American Relief Agency for the Horn of Africa is an organization that nourishes lives through food assistance and other services in Somalia. To learn more, please visit our partner/country spotlight on the Impact Stories tab and click and drag on our World Aid Map at <https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/world-aid/>.

Ending hunger is only possible if we continue to grow the movement. We encourage you to share the news about this shipment. Since 2005, volunteers like you have helped us distribute over 455 million meals worldwide. **We can end hunger by 2030**, but we can't do it without you.

Please visit our website www.riseagainsthunger.org and continue your involvement. Consider making a donation, planning another meal packaging event (at your place of worship, school, company, civic club, etc), joining our advocacy efforts, or even inviting us to speak to a group.

This newsletter covers events from August 1st - August 31st*. The deadline for article submission that will cover September 1st through September 30th will be August 27th.

*Exceptions: September events: Horizon Bible Study, Blessings of the Church, Speaker Series and Picnic.