



First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City

Chronicles

October 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 Streletz, 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

Introducing our 2019 Stewardship Campaign Theme:

God is the artist and He is weaving the fabric of our lives.

“That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ. -Colossians 2:2 ESV”

This theme was inspired by a poem by Grant Colfax Tullar, which was often shared by Corrie Ten Boom:

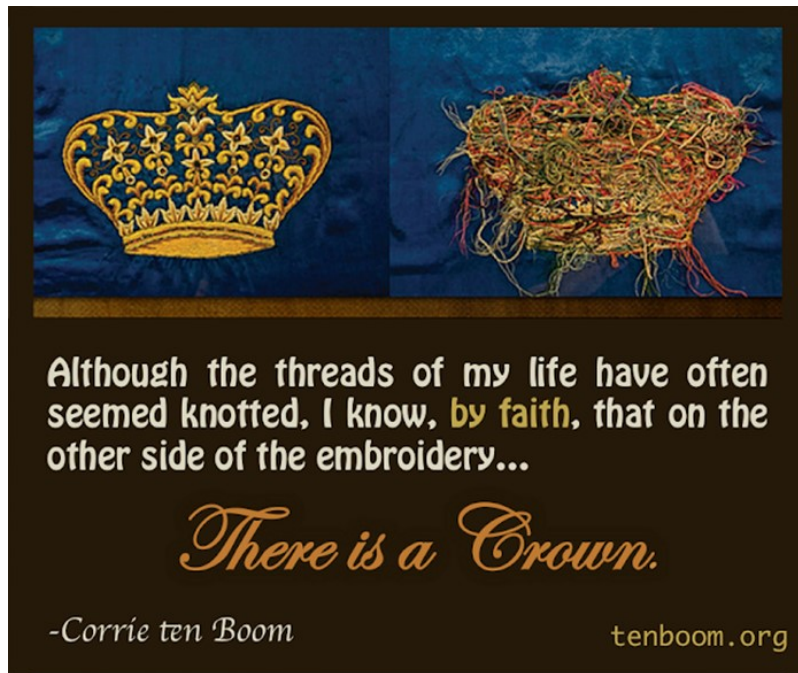


The Weaving

My life is but a weaving
Between my God and me.
I cannot choose the colors
He weaveth steadily.
Oft' times He weaveth sorrow;
And I in foolish pride
Forget He sees the upper
And I the underside.
Not 'til the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly
Will God unroll the canvas
And reveal the reason why.
The dark threads are as needful
In the weaver's skillful hand
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern He has planned
He knows, He loves, He cares;
Nothing this truth can dim.
He gives the very best to those
Who leave the choice to Him.

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Corrie ten Boom used this fabric when she taught about trusting God's perspective. We can't see what He sees.

What a beautiful, tangible illustration of God's presence in our lives! The image on the right, as those who do stitchery know, shows the underside of a project. It's where all the knotted thread ends up, very often in a tangled, chaotic mess! On the flip side, however, we see the project as it is intended to be; a beautiful crown, embroidered with love and tender care.

Although~
We can't seem to get our act together.
We're a bunched up, stressed out, tangled mess.
We procrastinate. We choose the easy way.
We stand back instead of standing tall.
We remain comfortable instead of reaching beyond.
We stay silent instead of speaking up or speaking out.
We keep still instead of stepping forward.

We're distracted, disgruntled, disinclined.
We run away instead of running forward.
We find excuses not to read God's Word.
We fret and worry instead of bowing in prayer.
Our trust is in people and not in God.
We look away when we should look to the Lord.
We get tripped up and stumble.
We fall. We fail.



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And yet~

Through our faith in Jesus Christ, we are royalty.

God is a God of forgiveness, of mercy, of love.

We are sons and daughters of a king.

Not just any king.

The King of Kings.

He sees the crown.

"The crown of righteousness..." -2 Timothy 4:8

"The crown of life..." -James 1:12

"The crown of glory..." -1 Peter 5:4

Know that in the midst of our knotted, tangled lives, the Lord is always there, waiting for us to come to Him to receive our crowns.

With thanks to tenboom.org for sharing a photo of this embroidery, which is hanging at the Corrie ten Boom Museum in Haarlem, Holland.

On the Journey with You,
Pastor Adam

Session Report - September

At the September 19 Session meeting, the Session welcomed Rob Stonaker, the new Scoutmaster for Scout Troop 964. He is an Eagle scout and his scouting experience has made him well-qualified to lead our scouts. Session thanked the Troop for all of their help to the church, including several Eagle projects and assisting with National Night Out and Trunk or Treat over the past few years.

Our 2018 financial records were audited by an independent auditor who found them to be in order. A quote from the report: "It was noted that many control processes have been implemented and well documented and I wanted to give commendations to the church and especially Garrett Smith."

The Earthcare group reported that they will sponsor an outing to Neabsco Regional Park on Sunday, October 20 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. exploring the new boardwalk/nature walk. All ages are welcome; children and youth should be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about a part of Prince William County that you may not be familiar with.

The Session approved \$1,500.00 to be used as a deposit for 15 people (rising 6th graders to 12th graders and their chaperones) to attend the July 2020 Youth Mission Trip to Danville, VA. The deposit holds our preferred date for the trip.

The Worship Committee requested approval for a concert by pianist John Kunu on December 14. The concert was approved with a free-will offering that will be used by the Mission and Outreach committee to assist with expenses for Mission trips.

Little Hands Preschool is off to a good start with 54 students. They are looking for more staff members (teacher, teacher assistant) to better serve the increased enrollment. Continue to tell friends and neighbors about our preschool enrollment possibilities and staff openings. This is one of our most visible ministries to the community - spread the word.

Session approved our church's hosting another Rise Against Hunger event in April 2020. Covenant Presbyterian Church, who teamed with us in 2019 and perhaps another church may join us in our all-ages Mission and Outreach project. Plan now to participate in packing 20,000 (or more) meals.

An all-church family retreat for spring or fall 2020 was also approved. We have not held a family retreat for about 20 years, so now is the time! Peter Glycer, Adult Education elder is looking for several people with an interest in this activity to become the planning team. We need people from all ages groups and family sizes to represent our congregational make-up. Please contact Peter Glycer , peterglyer@gmail.com, Pastor Adam , adam.bowling@fupcdc.org, or the office , ffice@funcdc.org. Please consider this as a way to be involved in FUPCDC.

Stewardship Committee

2020 Stewardship Campaign

The theme for this year's Stewardship Campaign is "WEAVE - God is the artist and He is weaving the fabric of our lives." Our selected Bible verse is *Colossians 2:2 ESV*: "That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ."

This month, we will be focusing on our 2020 Stewardship Campaign. Each Sunday, during Ministry in Action, you will hear from a member of the Stewardship Committee about how they have seen God weaving Mission, Study, Worship, and Fellowship through our Church family.

On October 6, 13, and 20, you will find a table in the Narthex Welcome Center containing strips of cloth, fabric marking pens, and the Stewardship Campaign "WEAVE" frame. We ask that you select a piece or pieces of cloth and write your response(s) to the following question:

1. "How have you seen God weaving *Mission* through our Church family?"
2. "How have you seen God weaving *Study* through our Church family?"
3. "How have you seen God weaving *Worship* through our Church family?"
4. "How have you seen God weaving *Fellowship* through our Church family?"

Answer as many questions as you wish using a separate strip of cloth for each response. Once you have written your response(s) on the strip of cloth, please "WEAVE" the strip/strips of cloth into the "WEAVE" frame. We encourage all family members to participate and provide a response. It will be exciting to watch the "TAPESTRY" grow and see what we will create together.

Please watch for a Stewardship Committee mailing the week of October 17th. The mailing will contain a Stewardship Campaign letter and your 2020 Pledge Card. We invite you to prayerfully consider making a pledge commitment to our church, complete your 2020 Pledge Card, and then bring your completed card to church on Dedication Sunday, October 27, 2019. The completed "TAPESTRY" will be on display in the sanctuary that day. During the service, you will be asked to bring your Stewardship Commitment forward and place your Pledge Card in a basket at the communion table.

Thank you for your continuing support to the work and mission of First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City.



To the glory of God with love and thanksgiving we at FUPCDC thank our God for each of you. Having witnessed the power of God's Spirit through your prayers, thoughts, well wishes, attendance and participation on Saturday, September 14, at our Fifth Annual Blessing of the Church. By the Spirit of God, we assembled in the Sanctuary sharing in abundance the Lord's blessings received upon our Church this past year. Then, we walked from room to room showering Him with praises of Thanksgiving expressing gratitude for blessings received.

In Jesus' name we prayed for God's continued blessings on the needs of the church: that His steadfast love may abound in great joy, wisdom and knowledge, as He indeed guides us through our endeavors for the next year. After assembling back in the Sanctuary for our closing prayer circle where everyone participated. We were honored by Pastor Adam leading us in prayer while the

Deacons and Elders placed their hands on everyone. Pastor Adam continued to pray while everyone placed their hands to the Deacon and Elders. This was a most powerful experience for all of us. We ended our Blessing in the Triple Room with a fellowship celebration provided by our faithful Deacons. This could NOT have been a success without your willingness to share in whatever way you could. Again, we at FUPCDC thank you, and give thanks to God for each of you, especially God's children.

Deacons

Special Announcement

Due to the upcoming influenza season, spread of germs, dietary restrictions and severe allergies present amongst our church family, there will no longer be snacks offered in the Narthex Welcome Center after services. We appreciate your understanding.

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

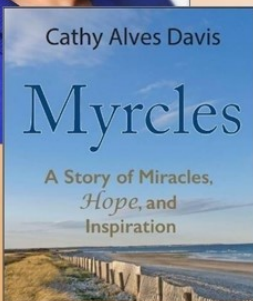
We love to hear from you. If you need to be connected with your Deacon, please contact Denise Parris or Carol Schwalm by calling the number listed above or the church office.



Adult Ministry



FAIR SHARE COMMUNITY SPEAKER SERIES



Cathy Alves Davis

Author of

“Myrcles: A Story of Miracles, Hope, and Inspiration”

Be inspired by Cathy's journey with God through terminal illness and beyond, one miracle at a time!

Saturday, October 19, 2019

6:15 PM – Book Signing and Spaghetti Supper

7:00 PM Program

Free of charge, All are invited

14391 Minnieville Road, Woodbridge, VA
fupcdc.org * 703-670-7834 * office@fupcdc.org



FAIR SHARE

COMMUNITY SPEAKER SERIES

All events are free and open to the public – bring your friends and neighbors!

Cathy Alves Davis

Author of “Myrcles: A Story of Miracles, Hope and Inspiration”
Featured article in October 2019 issue of “Prince William Living” magazine.

Cathy will share her inspirational testimony about her journey with God through terminal illness and beyond, one miracle at a time!

October 19

6:15 PM: Spaghetti supper, Book-signing
7:00 PM: Program

Joelle Novey

Director, Interfaith Power and Light, DC. MD. NoVA Chapter
Co-author of “Green and Just Celebrations”

“Our Religious Response to Climate Change”

November 16

6:15 PM: Climate-Friendly Dinner
7:00 PM: Program

Adult Ministry

SEDER 2020

On April 07, 2020 (Maundy Thursday service) from 6:30-8:00 p.m. we will have a Passover Seder dinner just like Jesus had with his disciples then, we will have communion in the style that Jesus offered to his disciples on Maundy Thursday. During this service we will have a simple yet nourishing meal. Childcare for children under the age of 5 will be provided along with dinner. This event will take a great deal of planning by a team representing all of FUPCDC. Our first meeting will be on Wednesday, November 6 at 6 p.m. We will meet over dinner *WNA*. If you are so inclined to be part of this endeavor, we hope to see you there!

Family Retreat Planning

We are beginning to plan a church-wide **Family Retreat for 2020**. Up to now, there have been both Men's and Women's Retreats in 2018 and 2019. In 2020 we want to involve the entire congregation. We are inviting you to participate in planning for this event. Possible dates are May, October, or early November, 2020 for a one or two-day Retreat.

We need an enthusiastic group of volunteers to help plan and execute a successful Retreat. Initially, we will meet monthly and probably more frequently as the event draws near.

This is a great opportunity for our church to grow in fellowship. I hope you will prayerfully becoming a part of the team. Please contact the church office office@fupcdc.org, Pastor Adam adam.bowling@fupcdc.org or Peter Glyer peterglyer@gmail.com if you are interested in helping.

Wednesday Night Alive

Wednesday Night Alive is an opportunity to connect and grow while enjoying a dinner each Wednesday night followed by pastor's bible study and chancel choir rehearsal. The first Wednesday of each month is a potluck, and on the following Wednesdays enjoy a delicious homemade meal. Salad, drinks and dessert are also provided each week.

There is no charge for the dinner, just a donation to help cover the cost of the food.

Please join us for FOOD, FAITH, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN!

OCTOBER

2 - Potluck "Octoberfest" German Foods

9 - Pizza

16 - Chicken and Rice Casserole

23 - Split Pea Soup and Tomato Soup with Grilled Cheese

30 - Lasagna



Mission and Outreach



Annual Pie Sale to benefit Mission and Outreach Activities October 27 - November 10

Pies Delivered - November 20



Trunk or Treat and Fall Festival October 27

The fun begins at 3:30 p.m.!

Photos are from last year's fun event!

Disaster Relief



Thank you to all the volunteers who came out to help assemble the Hygiene Kits that were sent to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). PDA enables congregations and mission partners of PC(USA) to witness the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crises and catastrophic events. Each kit contained 1 hand towel, 1 wash cloth, 1 wide-tooth comb, 1 nail clipper, 1 bath size bar of soap, 1 toothbrush, and 10 Band-aids. The supplies were purchased with funds from the Mission & Outreach budget. We had such a turnout that the kits were assembled in less than 15 minutes.

October 6

5:30 – 6:30 PM in the Triple Room



Help our youth program out by participating in the 2019 Chili Cook-off! All money raised will support the Youth Mission Fund.

I/WE CAN HELP!

Name: _____ Phone: _____

I/We will cook chili & enter the contest.* (E-mail Pastor Adam today if you can do this!)

I/We will cook soup & enter the contest.* (E-mail Pastor Adam today if you can do this!)

I/We will attend and vote for our favorite chili and/or soup with \$\$\$.

I/We will cook cornbread.

I/We will help clean up.

I/We cannot attend but will donate to the cause. (Please attach check to this form.)

*To enter the contest, please bring a crock-pot of chili or soup to the Triple Room on Sunday, October 6, 5:15-5:30 PM. Please bring a card to label your chili with a fun name/type and who made it! Winner receives a fancy award and bragging rights!



JUST FOR KIDS: SunButter & Jelly Table! (peanut free)

This contest is *not* officially sponsored by:
(...so we have no rules!)



Youth Ministry



What is the Youth Mission Fund used for?

Good question! The Youth Mission Fund was created and approved by session in July of 2019, so that money raised for youth mission each year could be held in a separate account from the general budget, which rolls over to a new budget January 1 each year.

The Youth Mission Fund is used for the following things:

- 1) Local Mission Projects by youth
- 2) Regional Mission Projects and Trips
- 3) International Mission Trips
- 4) Need-based Scholarships for youth and adult leaders to attend Mission Trips, Conferences, and Retreats
- 5) Supplies for Mission Projects and Trips
- 6) Travel Expenses for Mission Trips
- 7) Construction Supplies and Tools for Mission Projects
- 8) Curriculum and Supplies for Mission Education Experiences for Youth
- 9) Food/Meals for Mission Projects and Trips
- 10) Transportation to and from Mission Sites
- 11) Other items directly affiliated or accountable to a youth mission trip

When you give to the Youth Mission Fund, you are supporting more than just mission projects and trips. In addition, you are providing the youth of First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City opportunities to grow and go deeper in their faith as they study, work, learn, and build relationships with others. Youth mission is a transformative part of our student ministries program, and builds future kingdom workers. Thanks for your continued prayers and support!



Earth Care Group

FUPCDC Earth Care Group Meetup at Neabsco Creek Boardwalk

Sunday, October 20, at 2:00 PM

- All ages are welcome to enjoy a walk on the new Neabsco Creek Boardwalk! It's free of charge and only a few miles from our church! Youth under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
- Park and gather at 15125 Blackburn Rd, Woodbridge. Arrive no later than 2:00 PM.
- Be prepared to stay for up to an hour, but you may leave whenever you want to.
- Bring bottled water, bug spray, sturdy/comfortable walking shoes, and a jacket.
- Liability waiver forms will be provided, signed, and collected on-site for all participants.
- No rain date.



FUPCDC Earth Care Group Shoe Drive

Every day millions of shoes end up in landfills. Yet every day children are unable to attend school and adults are unable to work for lack of shoes. A used or new pair of shoes provides relief in many developing nations around the globe, in times of disaster, and helps bridge economic gaps in the United States and Canada. Please don't throw your old shoes out! Donate them to help others because **everyone deserves a good pair of shoes.**

Donate used and new shoes in the Soles4Souls collection bins through 10/27. *Clothing also accepted.*



Thank you!

SOLES 4 SOULS
WEARING OUT POVERTY™



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

Thank You



The Bowling family would like to thank all who helped with the Sprinkle (Baby Shower) for Kerby Elizabeth Bowling on Sunday, September 15. It was a wonderful time and we loved all the food, gifts, and games. We look forward to celebrating our children's milestones as they grow and go deeper in their faith. God bless!



A big thank you to the anonymous donor for the Paschal candle and stand. The Light represents the light of Christ that shines in the darkness. The Fire symbolizes the resurrection victory over the darkness of sin and death.

This newsletter covers events from October 1 - October 31*. The deadline for article submission that will cover November 1 through November 30 will be October 24.

* Pie Sale - October 27 to November 10