



First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City

Chronicles

November 2018



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

Rev. Jeri Fields, Pastor for Interim Ministry

Rebecca & Chris Anderson, Contemporary Worship Co-Directors
Homer Detrich, Sexton
Ike Evans, Jubilation Handbells Director
Joann Paige, Nursery Supervisor
Kim Parker, Office Manager
Tiffany Ramsey, Little Hands Preschool Director
Justin Streletz, Accompanist
Dana Van Slyke, Choir Director

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JERI

UNTIL . . . HAS ARRIVED!

With anticipation and excitement, you met the Rev. Adam Bowling and his family prior to his candidating sermon on Sunday, September 30th. Following the service, during a called Congregational Meeting, you received the report of the PNC and elected him to be your next installed pastor. To God be the glory! BEHOLD! God is doing something new! And I am so very excited for you!

As my time with you is coming to a close, I pray that with God's help my role as an interim has been and is to God's glory and has served its purpose. As you may recall, the role of the interim period is meant to help a congregation look at itself in a mirror... to ascertain strengths/weaknesses/challenges and to prayerfully consider where God is leading the church to make changes. To varying degrees, I believe together we have successfully moved through the goals of interim ministry. Goals that include, but are not limited to:

- Maintaining/renewing the viability of the church
- Reinforcing the ministry of the laity; identifying new leadership; equipping the saints (you) for ministry; inviting all to share their God-given gifts, abilities, and talents wherever you are and whatever you are doing
- Clarifying the mission of the church and the ways it serves within the church and stretches itself into the community and beyond
- Dealing with various special needs of the church
- Emphasizing fellowship and reconciliation
- Strengthening denominational ties so as to understand your role in the wider church
- Rebuilding/strengthening the church's "infrastructure"
- Exploring ways to strengthen finances and stewardship
- Identifying/addressing issues of conflict
- Resolving feelings of grief and/or anger related to the departure of past pastors, former staff members and those who, for various reasons, no longer attend FUPCDC.
- Implementing ways to enhance communication

The time of interim ministry is meant to provide both the time and the focus by which a congregation can strengthen its ministries, rediscover and renew its goals and resources, and prepare positively for a new pastor. I thank you for inviting me to walk this phase of the journey with you!

I thank you, the members and friends of the First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City, for the love, kindness, and support you have shown me these past 45 months. I greatly appreciate the way the Session has worked together doing the worshipful work of the church, for their leadership, for developing policies and procedures, for their insights and ability to work through difficult situations. Your deacons have been a vital part of providing care and for offering opportunities for fellowship.

Continued on next page

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

Continued from page 1

I am grateful to the various ministries: for their openness and willingness to explore new ways and new ideas; for the decisions to let a ministry go so another ministry could be cultivated, blossom, and bloom; for faithfulness in carrying out responsibilities and equipping others to be engaged in ministry. I give thanks to God for new members and visitors and for the ever growing number of children, their energy, and their quest to know more about what it means to follow Jesus.

Every Sunday I have given thanks to God for the gift of music within this congregation. You are blessed by the music you share and the depth of vocal and instrumental music that speaks to the heart. A desire to pursue the scriptures in greater depth is evident as you mature in your faith development and live into what it means to be a faithful disciple.

Your generosity of time, talents, and resources continues to grow and you are reaping the benefits of sharing with loving, generous, and joyful hearts.

I leave here with joy and satisfaction; for by God's power and grace together we have accomplished some amazing things together...all for the glory of God! There is much hope and promise for you as a church. You have come far and now the goal is to sustain and to move forward, avoiding the slippery path of returning to old habits and old ways.

May you remember your past, live in the present, and move forward into the future trusting God, following Jesus, being empowered by the Spirit as you continue to explore and discern where God continues to call and lead you!

I encourage you to:

Remember that while Pastor Adam and I both love and serve the Lord, we come with different skill sets, different gifts, different levels of experience. So do not compare the ways we lead. Instead, embrace the leadership he offers as he uses his God-given gifts and abilities to lead you into the next phase of your faith journey.

Keep Pastor Adam and his family in your prayers. Love them. Encourage them. Be a source of support and encouragement.

In closing, I have great hopes for the future of this congregation and am pleased with the progress initiated and being made in addressing the tasks of interim ministry. Your progress in moving through this time of transition has been productive and steady with a high level of commitment and competence. With great thanks to the power and presence of God in all you do and the life of this congregation, you are to be commended.

Together may you grow as faithful disciples ever loving God and loving others. You are in my prayers for a smooth transition of leadership and a special time of ministry together.

Until...has arrived. This is my last newsletter article. I am honored and humbled to have been a part of your faith journey.

Grace and peace for the journey.
Pastor Jeri

**Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak;
help the afflicted;
honor everyone;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen**

Former Pastor Policy and Covenant of Closure
(Quotes taken from NCP'S Former Pastor Policy and Covenant of Closure)

In the days ahead, you will receive information about our change in relationship as I leave and Pastor Adam arrives. Please understand that “the life of every congregation is punctuated by the coming and going of pastors; and the professional life of most pastors is punctuated by several changes in positions. That these punctuations take place in a healthy way is important to all involved. To that end, the nature of the relationship between a pastor and a congregation they have served in the past is of concern to the Presbytery. This relationship must be well defined to promote the health of the congregation and the ministry of their current pastor.”

“Each pastor must be afforded every opportunity to build and nourish a vital pastoral relationship with their new community. Ongoing relationships with previous pastors can negatively impact the current pastoral bond.”

In order to avoid any negative impact, this means I will no longer be available for baptisms, weddings, funerals, or pastoral care. Friendships may continue; and as I have shared with some of you: this means our friendship goes beyond discussions about FUPCDC.

In effect, I will sign a covenant of closure that affirms ***I will not***:

- worship with FUPCDC without an invitation of the moderator of the session and specific permission of the chair of the COM or designee;
- be involved in any leadership or advisory role, public or private, including teaching, in the former congregation;
- intervene, support or give advice to anyone involved in a disagreement or dispute or give opinions regarding church business at the former congregation;
- provide pastoral care to members of the former congregation;
- officiate in any special events in the lives of parishioners or of the congregation, including weddings, funerals, baptisms, worship leadership regardless of location.
- participate directly in church anniversaries or reunions, unless expressly invited by the moderator of the session and with the specific permission of the chair of the Committee on Ministry or designee.

Know that I will continue to pray for FUPCDC as you welcome Pastor Adam.

On November 18th there will be one service at 10 AM with a time of farewell following the service. I hope to see you there! During this time, Harriet Hopkins, representing the Presbytery will share in greater detail the covenant agreement that I will sign and will be signed in your behalf by Sara Porter, Clerk of Session. On November, 25th, Rev. Lyman Smith will preach. I will remain in and out of the office through November 30th. Hope to see you before the end of the month!

With love and in His service,
Pastor Jeri

*Wishing you much
joy & happiness
as you begin
a new chapter
in your life.*



Session Report - October

The Session approved the revised Operating Procedures and updates to the Endowment and Personnel Policies (adding parental leave). These documents are being assembled into a notebook, A Manual of Operations which is kept in the office. The Operating Procedures, Committee Charters, policies approved by Session, financial review reports, and other guidelines will be available for reference when the office is open.

Session approved having one service at 10 AM on Sunday, November 18th to celebrate Pastor Jeri's ministry with us. Be sure to sign the Bible on the table in the Narthex and color a page if you like. There is a basket for cards and letters to Pastor Jeri, and photos may be give to Cathy Albrecht.

November 4th is a busy day. Be prepared to bring your pledge for Dedication Sunday, and bring your checkbook or cash for the Mission and Outreach pie sale (one day only). Then plan to come back after lunch for a concert by John Kunu in support of Mission and Outreach projects. John has played for us in the traditional service and his music will be a variety of sacred and other piano music.

A short-term mission trip to Lumberton, NC, was approve for November 6th - 9th. Please contact Sam Parris for details. A youth mission trip to Raleigh, NC in June 2019 for middle-school youth was also approved. Again, contact Sam for details.

Session also met on October 20th to review 2018 spending and prioritize the spending plan for 2019. We also reviewed proposed capital improvement projects which may be pursued in 2019.

Submitted by Sara Porter, Clerk of Session

Stewardship

"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops." ~ Proverbs 3:9 NIV.

Our 2019 Stewardship Campaign with the theme "From Gratitude and Generosity Comes JOY" officially began on Sunday, October 7, 2018. We hope all have had an opportunity to view the pictures of JOY in the Narthex and hallway, and cards expressing JOY on The Tree of Hope. The campaign letter requesting your 2019 pledge was mailed on October 23rd. Please contact a member of the Stewardship Committee if you have not received this letter.

We know many members of the congregation have already determined their financial commitment (in any amount) for 2019. Thank you for connecting and supporting growth through pledging during the coming year. If you have not yet made your pledge, there is still time; it is not too late. Remember our goal remains to have 100% of our church family members make a pledge. We truly hope our friends not only make a pledge for 2019 but also become members of the church in the near future. Pledging best serves our church and supports planning for the coming year. A commitment helps to ensure efficient use of resources and sharing and bringing JOY to as many as possible. Information from the Joy Questionnaire indicated JOY is experienced by church members from our numerous programs and ministries. Residents of the local community and people of other states and countries also benefit from your support to our church ministries. Your pledge can be increased or decreased should circumstances change.

Thank you to Pastor Jeri and the choirs respectively for messages and music in support of the campaign. The assistance from our audio-visual team and many more is sincerely appreciated.

Thank You from your Pastor Nominating Committee

As we worked through the search process of identifying our new Pastor, we truly believe that the Holy Spirit led us to Pastor Adam Bowling and his family. Thank you for your patience and your prayers. The warm welcome each of you extended to Pastor Adam, Erin, Parker, Chase and Lily Paige as they spent the weekend of September 28th - 30th with us further underscores our Church's Vision: Compassion for Christ - Compassion for Others; Loving God - Loving Others; Connect - Grow - Serve.

We are so grateful that Pastor Adam felt the call to come to First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City and are very excited for the future of our church. Pastor Adam's first Sunday will be on December 2nd, the first Sunday in Advent as we enter a season of "Hope".



Deacons Report - October 2018

Rain or shine, Trunk or Treat will take place on October 28th starting at 3:30 PM on the church property.

On November 4th, the Stewardship Committee will provide snacks after both services in the Narthex as a way of saying thank you for a joy filled stewardship campaign.

On November 10th, visitation will take place at the church from 9 - 11 AM for the Addo family followed by a funeral service for member Stephen Addo. After the service, there will be a procession to the cemetery that is located on 234. A reception to celebrate Stephen's life will follow. Please be on the lookout for opportunities to sign up for food and drink donations and assist with the service and reception preparations. Contact Denise Parris for more information.

On November 13th and again on December 11th meals will be delivered to the Beverly Warren Shelter in Dumfries, Virginia, as is the case ever second Tuesday of every month. The shelter provides a safe place to stay for the night or even a few weeks for those facing homelessness, eviction, living in a car or on the street or living in other housing which has been deemed unsuitable for human habitation. Deacons can now reach out to families for support of this effort. **If you are so inclined or able to help with the meal, contact your deacon and give your support.**

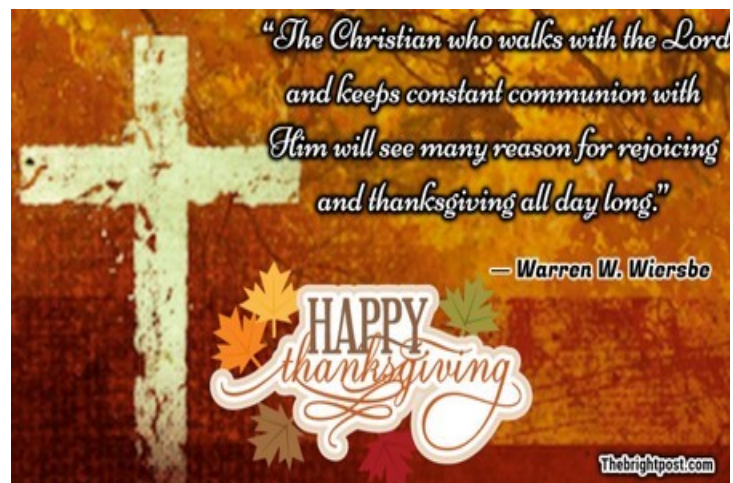
Mark your calendars for Un-Trim-A-Tree. As with last year, we are supporting 50 children for a total of 100 gifts through the Prince William County Boys and Girls Club. Watch the bulletin for announcements starting the third week in November. Your support and generosity will bring smiles to many families during this joyous time of our church year.

The deacons will host a potluck breakfast on November 18th prior to the one service for Pastor Jeri's farewell. Please bring your favorite breakfast item/casserole, pastries, or fruit items to share.

We love to hear from you. If you need to be connected with your deacon, please contact Gaylene Guest or Denise Parris by calling the Church Office.

The next deacon meeting will be on November 13th which is a change to the normal schedule.

Submitted by Denise Parris, Co-Moderator



Adult Ministry



Fair Share
Community Speaker Series

You're invited to hear FUPCDC's next speaker!

Saturday, November 10, 7:00 PM

Open to the public, free of charge, light refreshments.

Dr. Michael Otaigbe Presents:



**"You Can Change the World:
Overcoming Barriers to Inclusion"**



**FIRST UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of Dale City**

14391 Minnieville Road, Woodbridge, VA

At the corner of Minnieville and Cardinal

www.fupcdc.org | 703.670.7834 | office@fupcdc.org

Children's Ministry

9:45 AM—During November the children will have lessons on gratitude and thankfulness.

11:00 AM—We are winding down with our studies of Old Testament stories. The children have fine minds and ask very intriguing questions. We will spend the next few Sundays of November studying the Old Testament, and finding Jesus in those scriptures. As we conclude November, we will look at Advent the way many did after waiting 400 years for the prophesized Messiah to be born!

As the cold and flu season will also be upon us, please don't send your child to Sunday school when they would be best served by a box of tissue and a warm bed! Germs spread like wildfire no matter how clean the environment. The Sunday school staff thanks you!

As a reminder, and for new students, our 11:00 AM Kidz Church does not begin until after Time with Children. This means that typically, Kidz Church does not officially begin until 11:15 AM -11:20 AM. So that our teachers are able to provide enough time for lessons, Kidz Church ends at 12:15 PM. This is a wonderful time for parents to have fellowship and get to know each other. We understand if you need to pick up children before Kidz Church ends. Please let Ms. Becky know when you need to do this and she will make sure the teacher is aware. You can let her know at check-in.

All children should be picked up no later than 12:15 PM.

9:45 AM & 11:00 AM Kidz Church is open for children in Kindergarten through Fifth grade.

Nursery



Welcome to our Nursery!! Nursery is available for children infant through four years old.

Nursery hours: 8:15 AM - 12:15 PM As with Kidz Church, please pick up children no later than 12:15 PM.

Due to a milk allergy, we ask that parents do not bring in milk and/or food made with milk. Fruit juice or water is fine. Thank you.

As the cold and flu season will also be upon us, please don't send your child to Sunday School when they would be best served by a box of tissue and a warm bed! Germs spread like wildfire no matter how clean the environment. The Nursery staff thanks you!

Please mark your calendars: There is ONE service at 10:00 AM followed by a farewell reception for Pastor Jeri on Sunday, November 18th. Kidz Church at 9:45 AM & 11:00 AM will not be held. Children four years old and under will stay with Ms. Joann and Ms. Becky. Children five and older will attend worship with parents. Worship bags will be available in the Narthex.

Please mark your calendars: Sunday, December 2nd at 10:30 AM, we will be holding our Advent Event in the Triple Room for children Kindergarten through Fifth Grade. We would love it if anyone would like to volunteer to help! More information will be available at a later date.

Submitted by Becky George, Children's Ministry Elder

Little Hands Preschool



Little Hands Preschool is again teaming up with Scholastic Book Clubs to participate in the Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive benefitting the Pajama Program. The Pajama Program provides new pajamas and books to children in need—especially those living in shelters, group homes, foster care, orphanages and other organizations that support at risk youth. The pajamas we collect will be donated to agencies in our area. Last year our pajamas went to a group in Manassas.

The awesome thing about this drive is that Scholastic Book Clubs will donate a book with each pair of pajamas donated. Last year, Little Hands Preschool in conjunction with First United Presbyterian Church collected 79 pairs of pajamas.

If you are able to participate, please bring in a new pair of pajamas to Little Hands Preschool from: **Thursday, November 1st** – **Wednesday, December 12th**. There will be a container in the hallway outside the Preschool office to put the pajamas in.

Below are some simple guidelines for pajama donations:

- † Pajamas must be brand-new.
- † Pajamas in all sizes are needed—from newborn to adult.
- † Pajamas must be in complete sets or nightgowns.
- † Pajamas in children’s sizes must be manufactured as pajamas—this ensures that they are flame retardant and safe.

Collectively we accomplish so much more. Thank you for your willingness to make a tremendous difference in the lives of children.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Ramsey
Little Hands Preschool Director
703.878.2366



HELP US RAISE FUNDS
BY DONATING
CLOTHES, SHOES & MORE!



Our **FUNDrive**[®]
will be held at:

Little Hands Preschool
14391 Minnieville Rd 22193
Woodbridge, VA

1 November – 7 December

and will benefit:

Little Hands
Preschool Teachers &
Students



learn more:

Contact Mallorie Marino: mal_lew@yahoo.com or
720-560-5040

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 8 DECEMBER DROP-
OFF DAY!

FUNDrive[®]
savers[™]

we accept:

-  CLOTHING
-  SHOES
-  BEDDING/TOWELS
-  ACCESSORIES

Congregational Connections



'TIS THE SEASON TO CELEBRATE OUR TRADITIONS!

Mark your calendar for a

Christmas Recipe Exchange

DECEMBER 9th at 9:45-10:45 AM in the TRIPLE ROOM

Hosted by Congregational Connections

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Drop your favorite holiday recipe in the recipe box in the Narthex
by DECEMBER 2nd (be sure to include your name).

We will compile the recipes and make copies to share at the event.

Pick up a cup of coffee or tea in the Narthex and join us.

We'll gather together to enjoy light refreshments and learn more
about our Christmas traditions and each other.

We will not be preparing food from our recipes at this event

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Congregational Connections



Save the date for Christmas Caroling: December 16th at 5:00 PM.

Wait, it's not even Thanksgiving yet and we're talking about Christmas? Yes, so you can save the date and plan to join us for fellowship, singing, and ringing. Singers and ringers of all ages will meet in the Narthex to pick up bells and silly antlers or hats, and pray. Then we'll stroll through our church neighborhood singing and ringing traditional Christmas Carols (from song booklets), and sharing candy canes and the joy of Christ Jesus' birth as we go. After about 30 minutes we'll return to the Narthex to warm up with cocoa and Christmas cookies.

Wednesday Night Alive - November

NOV.

7th - Potluck "Comfort Foods"

14th - Bratwurst with Sauerkraut

21st - NO WNA

28th - Green Chili Stew



Mission and Outreach

Yucatan Mission Trip

Exciting news! The Yucatan Mission Trip is scheduled for January 26, 2019 through February 2, 2019 and we have 10 people interested in participating on the trip. This year we will be helping the village of Cinco de Mayo build their church (cement floor and cinder block construction), and we will put on a bible school for the village children. In addition, as a first ever, the village has requested that we provide an adult bible school, what a blessing! We will also spend some time with our brothers and sisters at each of our three water purification plants and we may do some work at the special needs school if time permits.

We thank the congregation for their continued support and generosity. In early late December and early January we will be asking for donations of supplies for the bible schools we will be delivering to our brothers and sisters in Christ, please stay tuned.

Tim Camus and Jeff Cobb, Team Leaders

SPREAD THE WARMTH



As the cold weather approaches, we will all be getting out our warm scarves, hats and gloves and most of us will hardly think twice about whether we have enough warm clothing.

Last week our ministry of making warm hats and scarves for our homeless friends took on a whole new meaning for me. I attended our Fall Speaker series and our first program was by Streetlight Ministries, <http://thestreetlight.org/>. As I listened to their presentation about helping to provide for those who are unsheltered, it hit me even harder what our friends who are homeless and living in the woods truly endure through each season. Whether it's the freezing cold, torrential rain, oppressive humidity or bugs galore, let alone where the next meal will come from, taking a shower or the joy of actually sleeping in a real bed! So as we pass along these items our group has lovingly made this year, it will be for me with a whole new perspective.

If you're interested in knitting or crocheting for this important ministry, please contact Elizabeth Glycer at lizglyer@gmail.com.

Blessings,
Elizabeth

"There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded toward your brothers and toward the poor and needy in your land." Deuteronomy 15:11

Kairos Prison Ministry

Thank you all you cookie bakers and placemat makers. It is a blessing to be so supported by our church.

We join together with other churches in this area to send a team of 25 men into the Sussex Maximum Security Prison. Our team brings light, God's Word, and home made cookies with colorful placemats into the prison...what a joy! We know too, we are lifted in prayer...This is why we go to Church...to be the church!

Bob & Cathy Albrecht

For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink I was a stranger and you invited me in, I was naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me, I was in prison, and you came to Me."

Matthew 25:35-36

2018 TRUNK-OR-TREAT



INSTALLATION OF NEW ROOF To God be the glory!!!

