



# First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City

## Chronicles

### December 2018



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

Rev. Adam C. Bowling, Pastor

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 ADAM

Happy New Year! (Well, liturgically speaking, that is.) Before you think that somebody needs to buy the new pastor a calendar, let me explain. I am writing to you, the congregation, to talk to you about Advent. Yes, Advent, the season of the church year that marks the beginning of a new liturgical year for the church. Advent, derived from the Latin word *adventus*, means “coming” or “arrival.” The secular, commercial world would like us to think that Advent begins in September, when the first Christmas decorations and displays appear in stores. Advent actually begins Sunday, December 2 this year, and it is meant as a time of waiting and pondering, especially about the coming of Jesus to earth.

I know that you are experts at waiting, for you have already waited for quite a while for the new pastor to arrive on the scene. Guided by Pastor Jeri, you prepared for my arrival by doing a congregational study, forming a Pastor Nominating Committee, writing a ministry information form, praying, writing new policies, and commissioning a new hymnal. Yes, the waiting for the new pastor to arrive was a lot of work, and it has finally ended—Praise the Lord! Know that I am so very excited to begin our journey together as we worship and serve God in Dale City.

However, that journey begins with more waiting and more preparation, this time for something far greater than a new pastor. In Advent, we wait and prepare for the coming of our Emmanuel, or God with us, in Jesus Christ. So, how will you prepare this year? My suggestion is to pick up a new spiritual practice this Advent. Maybe that means finding an Advent devotional book, or website like [www.d365.org](http://www.d365.org), to read each day. If you have never done anything like that before, I encourage you to try reading scripture and spending time with God each day this Advent—I think you will be surprised by the results! Or, maybe you could keep a prayer journal during Advent and write down your joys, concerns, and answered prayers each day? For those of you who enjoy photography and social media, I encourage you to be part of our FUPCDC Advent Photo Challenge (see the instructions in this newsletter). Whatever you chose to do, I hope it will prepare your heart, mind, and soul to welcome the Christ child.

Furthermore, a calendar of special events and opportunities available at First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City for the Advent/Christmas season can be found in this newsletter. I hope that you will be able to attend many of these events, and that you will invite your friends and neighbors to come with you. This Advent and Christmas, let us rejoice in the presence of the Light of our Lord Jesus Christ in our lives, and let us share that Light with all whom we meet!



**Passion for Christ—Compassion for Others**  
**Loving God—Loving Others**



## New Pastor - Reverend Adam C. Bowling

First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City (FUPCDC), Virginia voted on September 30, 2018 to call the Rev. Adam C. Bowling as their next installed pastor. Rev. Bowling recently served First Presbyterian Church in Morganton, NC as their Associate Pastor for over 11 years. In Morganton, Rev. Bowling oversaw a robust children's ministry program which included a week-long, full-day summer Bible Camp for over 118 children. He also ministered to hundreds of youth who attended programming, Bible studies, mission opportunities, and conference trips. He led five international mission trips with Son Servants to locations in Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean. In Morganton, Pastor Bowling also helped start a monthly communion service at a local nursing home for individuals in a skilled care unit.

The Rev. Adam C. Bowling graduated *summa cum laude* from Hampden-Sydney College in Farmville, VA with a B.S. in Biology and Religion in 2003. He then studied at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA, where he earned his Master's of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Christian Education in 2007. While in Richmond, Rev. Bowling worked for Camp Hanover, the Presbytery of the James, and Bon Air Presbyterian Church in Chesterfield, VA. The Rev. Bowling was ordained a Minister of the Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA) on August 19, 2007.

Adam met his wife, Erin, at Camp Hanover, a Presbyterian Camp and Conference Center in Hanover County, VA. Erin is an elementary school teacher who graduated from the College of William & Mary, and they have three children: Parker (age 11), Chase (age 9), and Lily Paige (6 months). They look forward to moving to Virginia to be closer to family.

Adam's first Sunday in the pulpit at First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City will be Sunday, December 2, 2018. The church has a Traditional Worship Service at 8:30 AM, Christian Education for all ages at 9:45 AM, and a Contemporary Worship Service at 11:00 AM. All are welcome to attend! The church will have a special combined service on Sunday, December 16 at 10:00 AM for a music cantata featuring Christmas and Advent songs. FUPCDC offers three services on Christmas Eve; a Child Friendly Christmas Eve Service at 4:00 PM, a Candlelight Communion Service at 7:30 PM, and a Contemplative Candlelight Communion Service at 9:30 PM. We hope that you will come to meet our new Pastor, and join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ. More information can be found at <https://fupcdc.org/>.

First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City is a PC(USA) Congregation that was founded in 1972.

If you would like more information about this topic, please call Elder Bruce Gilbert at 703-343-3912, or email [Bruce@pnc.fupcdc.org](mailto:Bruce@pnc.fupcdc.org).



## Session Report - November 2018

### November Session Report

At its meeting on November 20th, the Session approved the Deacons providing a meal for the Hilda Barg Homeless Shelter on December 21st. Watch the bulletin for information as to how you can help.

We heard from Stewardship that 83 pledges have been received so far for \$316,000.00 pledged for the 2019 budget. Pledge cards are available in the Narthex for those who have not yet turned in their planned pledge. Our goal is to have 100% of the congregation submitting a pledge, even if it is for a small amount. We are looking for commitment.

Building and Grounds is in the last stages of a final walk through on the roof replacement with a punch list to be created for anything remaining to be completed. We have been very blessed that the insurance will be covering the majority of the expense of this improvement, and that we were able to use shingles with a 50-year expected life.

Funding for the new Safety and Security Committee was approved, as was an amended Fund raising Policy. The Emergency Action Plan was approved on the second reading.

Children's Ministry will be bringing healthy food items for the ACTS pantry during the month of December.

We are pleased that our Record and Minutes books were approved without exception this month, thanks to help from Kim, Pastor Jeri, and several of the elders with specific actions needed to comply with Presbytery and Book of Order requirements.

*Submitted by Sara Porter, Clerk of Session*

## Stewardship

As we enter December silently to prepare for Our Savior's Birth, the Stewardship Committee thanks you for your support and wishes You & Yours a Blessed & Joyful Christmas. Also, don't miss out on all the joyful December activities:

† Participate in the Advent Photo Challenge

† Children's Advent Celebration will be held on December 2nd from 10:30 AM - 12 noon (help wanted, see Becky George, Children's Ministry Elder)

† A traditional Christmas Recipe exchange on December 9th from 9:45 - 10:45 AM in the Triple Room (no cooking required!)

† Meet at the church on December 16th at 5:00 PM for caroling in the community

Watch for more enjoyable holiday events, to include Pastor Adam's Advent sermons. Check out your weekly bulletin, Narthex TV or Sanctuary screen prior to services for more information.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS to all and to all Joyful Blessings!**

## Deacons Report - November 2018

Deacons provided support and donations of food for Blessings of the Church on 9/22.

Deacons provided donations of food for Men's Retreat on 9/29.

Deacons hosted Trunk or Treat event on 10/28. Over 200 from community attended. Lots of happy children and parents. We had 14 participate in the trunk portion (Deacons/Congregation members and friends/Little Hands/Scout parents). Scouts, Church Prayer table, and Little Hands Preschool were ever present. The church served hot dogs, chips, and water (purchased enough for 240). Thanks to Sam Parris, Jon Guest, Celine Sonkwa, and Liz Glycer for working the grill goodies. Leftover chips (50 bags) and one case of water went to Lumberton with the Mission Team. Leftover hot dogs (40) will go to Spread the Bread on 12/9.

Deacons (and congregation) supported Stephen Addo funeral and reception on 11/10. We expected upwards of 250 people. Leftover food was distributed as follows: Speaker series (11/10); Deacon coffee (11/12); Spread the Bread (11/12); Fruit and veggie tray to Grace's House for reception on 11/12; and non-perishable items will be used at Pastor's farewell. Nothing went unused!

Mayra and Gretchen discussed their food donation (tacos) to the Beverly Warren Shelter on 11/13. There were 7 adults and 7 children. Gretchen provided a list of supplies that she donated as well. 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 to help with the meal, contact your Deacon. The next meal will be served on 12/11.**

Deacons hosted and supported Potluck Breakfast on 11/18 as part of the farewell celebrations for Pastor Jeri.

Un-Trim-A-Tree kicked off on 11/24 and runs through 12/16 with gift drop-offs by 12/16. Watch for bulletin announcements.

Pie Sunday will be hosted by the Deacons on 12/2 which is Pastor Adam's first official day on the pulpit. Please join us in the Triple Room for pie and coffee.

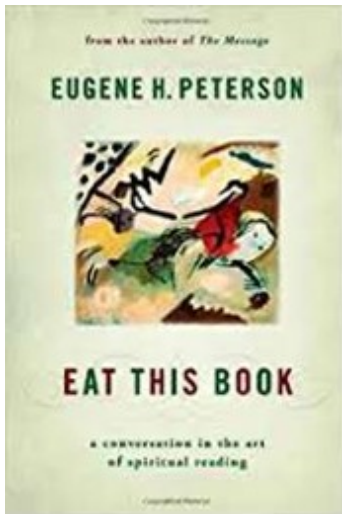
A Pancake Breakfast will be hosted by the Deacons on 12/16 prior to the One Service December Cantata at 10.AM. Please join us in the Triple Room at 8:30 AM.

The Deacons welcome our incoming Deacons Bob Thompson, Elizabeth Goolgasian, Therese Same, Peggy Heins, and Patricia Whitman, and wish a very fond farewell to Gaylene Guest, Elizabeth Glycer, Gail Cobb, Marianna Gooding, and Gretchen Snyder.

The next Deacon meeting will be on 12/19 and will be a casual potluck dinner only to close out our year.

*Submitted by Denise Parris, Co-Moderator*

## Adult Ministry



**New Bible Study Beginning Sunday, January 6, 2019, at 9:45 in Room 22:**

**“Eat This Book” by Eugene Peterson**

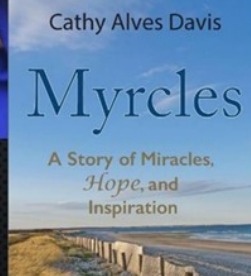
*Led by Cathy Smith and Nancy Hummer*

Eugene Peterson, author of “The Message”, a contemporary Bible translation, is convinced that the **way** we read the Bible is as important as that we read it, and that *Spirit*-sourced writing requires a distinctively spiritual kind of reading. Join us as we learn how to experience “spiritual reading that enters our souls as food enters our stomachs and becomes holiness and love and wisdom.”



## Fair Share

*Community Speaker Series*



**Cathy Alves Davis**

shares her gripping journey with God through deadly illness, betrayals, and losses, one miracle at a time. *And the miracles continue...*

**Saturday, February 9, 2019**

**7:00 PM**

*Free of charge, open to the public,  
light refreshments served.*

## Adult Ministry



# Fair Share

## Community Speaker Series

**10/20/2018 - Streetlight Community Outreach Ministries:** *A local ministry connecting unsheltered adults with housing and support services for over 24 years.*

- Rose Powers, Streetlight's founder and Executive Director, kicked the evening off with Streetlight's Voice of America-produced video, "[Finding a Home](#)", and an overview of the ministry's history, mission, and vision for the future.
- Dedicated volunteer, Joyce Entremont, shared highlights from her many years of bringing Streetlight's ministry into the woods to connect with the unsheltered.
- One such client, Andrew, shared his experiences of great loss, homelessness in the woods, discovering Spread the Bread, Joyce, and Streetlight, and his triumph over addiction.



**11/10/2018 – Dr. Michael Otaigbe: “You Have the Power to Change the World by Overcoming Barriers to Inclusion”**

Dr. Michael Otaigbe, local author, professor, former School Board Vice Chairman, Human Rights Award winner, inspirational blogger, and acclaimed story-teller, candidly shared:

Why we need to expand our comfort zone and become a more inclusive society.

Connection strategies including inspecting and dismantling our biases, intentionally seeking unfamiliar people to reach out to, and learning a foreign language.

Inclusion stories from multiple cultures.

Participant's heartfelt stories about experiences with prejudice and discrimination.

Conclusion: “People are the same the world over” (credit: Lee Watenpaugh).



Facebook: Michael I. Otaigbe | Email: [motaigbe@gmail.com](mailto:motaigbe@gmail.com)

## Children's Ministry

**9:45 AM**—Ms. Becky is deciding on a curriculum for the Advent season.

**11:00 AM**—Here it is Christmas time again! We will begin the Christmas season with our annual Advent Event at 10:45 on December 2nd. We will explore Advent on December 9th. There will only be one service on December 16th. We will celebrate Christ's birth on the 23rd, and on the 30th we will talk about a prophecy fulfilled in Christ's birth! Join us during this most holy season!

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

## Nursery

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

**Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times while in the Nursery. Please do not drop off children unless Ms. Joann or Ms. Becky are in the Nursery. If Ms. Joann or Ms. Becky are not available, please remain in the Nursery with your child(ren) until one of them arrives. All children must be signed in by a parent.**

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 for Sunday, December 16th. Our choir will be presenting a Christmas cantata. There will be ONE service at 10:00 AM. Kidz Church at 9:45 AM & 11:00 AM will not be held. The Nursery, as always, will be available for children infant through four years old. With the one service, Nursery hours will change to 9:15 AM - until end of service.

*Submitted by Becky George, Children's Ministry Elder*

## Children's Ministry - Christmas Mission Project

Kidz Church Christmas Mission project this year is: FILL THE ACTS CABINET. Picture shown are examples of dry and canned goods that can be brought in. ACTS has also requested that diabetic friendly food be included as well.

Please bring dry and canned goods to Room 4. We would like to give the children a visual of how much food is gathered by December 30th. We also want the children to be involved as well. Please see Ms. Becky if you have any questions! Thanks so much!

# REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

**EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.  
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A  
FOOD BANK.**

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

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# Little Hands Preschool



## Pajama Donation Drive

Little Hands Preschool is receiving so many donations from teachers, preschool families, preschool advisory board members, church and community members. We have collected 37 pairs of pajamas so far! We are inching closer to last year's donation total of 79 pairs of pajamas.

If you haven't donated yet there is still time. We are collecting donations until **Wednesday, December 12th**. Please place your pajama donations in the clear container located in the in the narthex.

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



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ADVENT EVENT

OUR ANNUAL ADVENT EVENT IS THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> IN THE TRIPLE ROOM FROM 10:30 AM – 12 NOON IN THE TRIPLE ROOM. CHILDREN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH FIFTH GRADE ARE WELCOMED TO JOIN US!!

SET-UP OF TRIPLE ROOM IS 9:45 AM – 10:30 AM. IF YOU CAN HELP SET-UP AND/OR HELP WITH CHILDREN WHEN THE EVENT BEGINS, PLEASE SEE BECKY GEORGE, CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ELDER.

Ms. Becky will be holding her 9:45 am class in Room 4 while the triple room is being prepared for the children.

## 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



Sing and Ring Christmas Carols on Sunday, 12/16, 5:00-6:00 PM

*Spirits will be bright and antlers will be twinkling as our merry band of singers and ringers proclaims the joy of Christ's birth to our neighbors. All are invited to sing, ring, or just hold a flashlight and spread some love in the neighborhood .*

- **5:00 PM:** Gather in the Narthex to pick your festive hat and bells, take your song book and flashlight, and ask the Lord to open our neighbors' ears, hearts, and doors to Christ's love.
- **5:15 PM:** Head to Dane Ridge, singing and ringing past each doorway as our cherubs hang candy cane invitations to our Christmas Eve services.
- **5:45 PM:** Return to the Narthex to warm-up with warm cocoa, cider, and Christmas cookies. Decorate and fill your goody bag to take home.

**Contact:** Nancy Hummer ([nanhummer@gmail.com](mailto:nanhummer@gmail.com); 571-330-8091 text or call). Please let me know by Friday, 12/14, how we can support you (e.g., transportation, allergies).

## Wednesday Night Alive - Pastor's Bible Study

### DECEMBER

5th - Potluck "Italian Night"

12th - Turkey Croquettes

19th - Potato and Roasted Garlic Soup

26th - NO WNA—MERRY CHRISTMAS!



### **Advent Conspiracy: resisting the cultural Christmas narrative**

About ten years ago, a small group of pastors began to dream of a different kind of tomorrow. They dreamed of a different approach to the Christmas season for their churches and communities. As a result, a radically different approach to Christmas was born. As it is described on their website, "Advent Conspiracy is a global movement of people and churches resisting the cultural Christmas narrative of consumption by choosing a revolutionary Christmas through **Worshiping Fully, Spending Less, Giving More, and Loving All.**"

Please join  
Pastor Adam, on  
**Wednesday**  
**evenings at 7:00**  
starting  
**December 5<sup>th</sup> in**  
**Room 22.**



## Mission and Outreach

Thank you to everyone who purchased pies!

The Mission and Outreach Committee sold 96 pies, raising \$509 for our general mission fund.

### Yucatan Mission Trip Update November 2018

We are busy preparing for our January 2019 mission trip to the village of Cinco de Mayo in the Yucatan. Cinco de Mayo is a small village located near Veracruz, a village where we worked for several years installing one of our three water purification plants. We met many of the people of Cinco de Mayo over the years while we were working in Veracruz because their children attended the bible school we were providing to the children in Veracruz. There is also a close relationship between the two villages as the leader of the Veracruz Presbyterian Church and the leader of the Cinco de Mayo Presbyterian Mission are sisters!

On this trip we will be helping our Presbyterian brothers and sisters in Cinco de Mayo build their new church (primarily focusing on installing a cement floor) and we will be providing a bible study for the adults and a bible school for the children. The team is busy working on the bible school curriculum and we are in the process of gathering the materials we will need for the cement floor.

In January we will be asking the congregation to help supply the toys and school materials we want to take with us for the bible school. We will have the items we need on the tree of hope in the Narthex the first two weeks in January. We will provide another update in December.

Thank you so much for your continued prayers and your support of our mission work in the Yucatan,

Tim Camus and Jeff Cobb

### Lumberton Mission Trip (November 2018)

**Acts 14:37** *"For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth."*

Many thanks to the congregation for your prayers and financial support for our Lumberton Mission Team sent out in response to hurricanes Matthew and Florence that have affected so many people in Lumberton, North Carolina.

**Our team included:** Gary Smith, Bob Chamberlin, Tim Camus, John Lohr, Bob Albrecht and Sam Parris.



## Communications



FUPCDC has an exciting new outreach tool, and we need your help to launch it! You may have noticed our Facebook page has had some new activity. Every few days, we have been posting an inspirational, scriptural, or conversation post to help our Facebook page reach more people in our community.

Here's how you can help! Go to our church Facebook page, **First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City**, and check out our daily posts. The more you like and share our message and graphics, the greater our reach and impact can be on Facebook.

When you share our daily graphics with your friends, they'll see the posts in their newsfeed as well. Not only will your Facebook friends see our church name, they can like, share, or comment on the image, giving our church the opportunity to reach those that are hurting, need some encouragement, or don't know Jesus yet.

As you share the post, please take a moment to pray for those who will see it. Pray that they will be encouraged and challenged. Pray that God will use these simple posts to draw others closer to him. This is a great way to be actively engaged in praying for our friends who may not be Christian or go to church regularly.

Share our inspiring daily posts every day, or as often as you can, to help us reach new people in our community and help introduce them to our church.

Thank you for joining me in the mission field!

Debbie Boisvert  
Communications Elder



### New Security Devices



You may have seen one or more dome cameras placed both inside and outside of the church, they are part of a phased installation of an updated security system for the church. The primary focus areas for the cameras are main entrances and hallways. Signs will be placed at the church entrances indicating that a camera system also referred to as a Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) System is in use.

It would be nice to think that security systems, including video surveillance systems, are not needed for public places including churches, but unfortunately, recent events have shown that these sacred places are not exempt from danger. Churches, just like any other establishment, need to protect the people and property and one of the best ways to help secure these places of worship is using a quality video surveillance system with indoor and outdoor security cameras. The recommendation to deploy a camera system was one of several improvement to the FUPCDC security posture based on a review by Prince William County Police Department.

The information captured by this system is restricted and stored for about 30 days and automatically purged. If you have additional questions or would like more information please email [security@fupcdc.org](mailto:security@fupcdc.org) or see Chris Martin or Jon Guest.

### Who can add to Christmas?

The perfect motive is that God so loved the world.  
The perfect gift is that He gave His only Son.  
The only requirement is to believe in Him.  
The reward of faith is that you shall  
have **EVERLASTING LIFE.**

CORRIE TEN BOOM





Jeri had some little foxes  
 They lived in sewers  
 Not in boxes.  
 But when animal control came  
 round



Jeri once saw a few coyotes  
 Why?..... we had no clues  
 But Homer took a second look  
 Coyotes were fake news!



...Jeri saw a little bear  
 Hiding in the wood.  
 Make some noise and  
 Watch your back  
 Don't worry it's all good!



And did you hear about the squirrel  
 Up on the Power line?  
 Met his maker,  
 Sorry to say,



Jeri gathered little bees  
 Her job to get us ready  
 So many animals gather round  
 What's Next? Perhaps a Yeti!

So, now it's time to say good bye  
 To an interim extraordinare.....  
 Animal tamer was not on the list  
 but it seemed she had a flair.  
 .....Thank You!  
 For everything, for being part of our story  
 And all the people said... AMEN...  
 And of course...  
 "To God Be the Glory!"



**Pastor Jeri,  
 With love and gratitude,**



**for your service to FUPCDC and for preparing  
 us to receive our new pastor.  
 We wish you well in your next placement.  
 We will miss you, but they will be lucky to have you!**





## NEW THIS YEAR - Advent Photo Challenge!

A graphic for the Advent Photo Challenge. The background is light blue with a white zigzag pattern. On the right side, there is a stylized green Christmas tree with a brown trunk and a yellow star on top. The text is in a dark blue font. The main title is 'Advent Photo Challenge' in a large, bold font. Below it, it says 'Tag with #FUPCDC'. There are two columns of dates and corresponding words. At the bottom, there is a dark blue banner with white text providing instructions and an example.

**Advent Photo Challenge** ★

Tag with #FUPCDC

Dec. 2: #Hope	Dec. 16: #Joy
Dec. 3: #Celebrate	Dec. 17: #Waiting
Dec. 4: #Journey	Dec. 18: #Community
Dec. 5: #Illuminate	Dec. 19: #Faith
Dec. 6: #Holy	Dec. 20: #Silence
Dec. 7: #Sacred	Dec. 21: #God
Dec. 8: #Mercy	Dec. 22: #Longing
Dec. 9: #Peace	Dec. 23: #Love
Dec. 10: #Compassion	Dec. 24: BONUS: #Light
Dec. 11: #Create	Dec. 25: BONUS: #King
Dec. 12: #Star	
Dec. 13: #Rejoice	
Dec. 14: #Child	
Dec. 15: #Life	

Post your photos to Instagram or Facebook and tag with #FUPCDC #AdventPhoto and the word of the day.  
Example: #FUPCDC #AdventPhoto #Hope @pcusapastoradam  
[www.fupcdc.org](http://www.fupcdc.org)

This Advent we invite you to join us in reflecting on a word of the season each day. Then take and post to Instagram or Facebook a photo, poem, or even a simple thought that captures or conveys what that word means to you in the context of Advent, as we watch and wait, and as we prepare our hearts to welcome Emmanuel, God with us.

Your post should show how you perceive each word of the day. No explanation needed. You can share a photo, poem, or even a simple thought inspired by the word of the day.

Please tag us on your Instagram photos or on Facebook with #FUPCDC and #AdventPhoto.

You don't have to be a great photographer. This project is more about the practice of paying attention and being intentional than using the right filter or getting the perfect shot — though we totally encourage you to get creative!

Let this be an intentional time — even for a few minutes a day — to pause, remember, and reflect. May your Advent season be intentional, thought provoking, and filled with the hope of Christ.

How do you participate?

Share our Advent Photo Challenge image on Instagram and/or Facebook so we know you are participating in the challenge!

Continued on page 17

*Continued from Page 16*

Post your photos following the theme of the day to Instagram and/or Facebook and tag with #FUPCDC #AdventPhoto and the word of the day (mention @pcusapastoradam on Instagram).

Example for the first day of Advent, December 2 - the theme is #HOPE, so you would post a photo that you think represents hope and tag it with: #FUPCDC #AdventPhoto #Hope @pcusapastoradam.

If you are having trouble, find a youth or a young adult to help you out!

Tagging First United Presbyterian Church and adding #AdventPhoto is your way of saying that #FUPCDC may share the image online as part of this Advent journey we make together, broadening our vision and deepening our experience of the season.

We can't wait to see your photos, poems, and thoughts! Have a blessed Advent journey!

adam.bowling@fupcdc.org  
703-670-7834 (office)  
828-448-8914 (cell)

**First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City**

**“All is Well”**

**By David Angerman and Michael Barrett**

**Christmas  
Cantata**

**December 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Single Service at 10:00am**

**14391 Minnieville Road, Woodbridge, VA 22193 - 703-670-7834 - [www.fupcdc.org](http://www.fupcdc.org)**

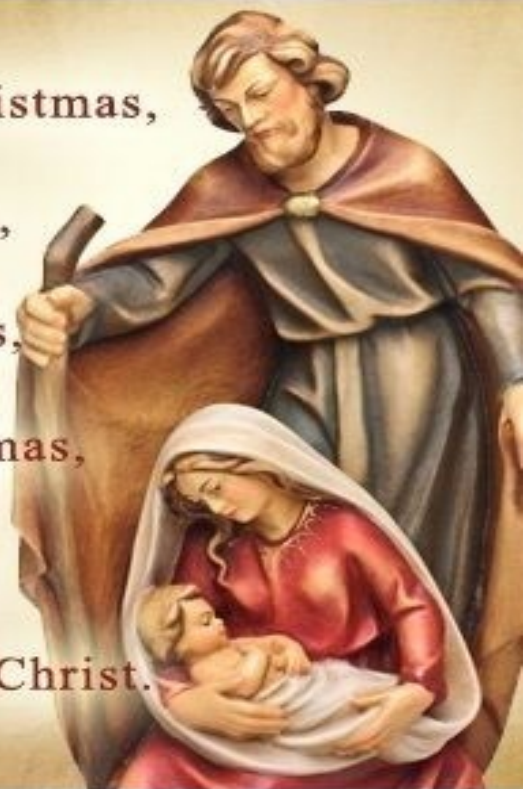
# Christmas Eve

SERVICES



**First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City**  
**4:00pm Child Friendly Family Service**  
**7:00pm Special Christmas Music**  
**7:30pm Candlelight Service**  
**9:30pm Contemplative Candlelight Service**

God grant you the light in Christmas,  
which is faith;  
the warmth of Christmas,  
which is love;  
the radiance of Christmas,  
which is purity;  
the righteousness of Christmas,  
which is justice;  
the belief in Christmas,  
which is truth;  
the all of Christmas, which is Christ.  
– John Byrom



QuotesIdeas.com

# CONGRATULATIONS TO FUPCDC'S NEWEST EAGLE SCOUT Alex Butler



## THANK YOU FROM PASTOR JERI



Dear friends—What a joy and special opportunity it has been to serve alongside you in your time of transition and transformation. During our time together, you have been blessed by God, led by the power of the Spirit as you have grown in your relationship with Jesus Christ and what it means to be a faithful disciple. May you persevere in times of prayer, be filled with gratitude, share generously with your time/talents/resources, and be filled with joy as you ever grow into what it means to being faithful disciples of Jesus Christ and to experience the love and presence of the LORD in all you do!

Thank you for your love and support, your gifts and your cards, your many wonderful messages, and a great send off. You will be in my prayers.

With love in His service.  
To God be the glory!  
Jeri Fields

May you continue to live into what it means  
Connect-Grow-Serve  
Loving God-Loving Others  
Passion for Christ-Compassion for others