



First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City

Chronicles

SEPTEMBER 2017



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

Rev. Jeri Fields, Pastor for Interim Ministry
Rev. Dr. Larry Greenslit, Parish Associate

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

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JERI



DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES CAN AND DO HAPPEN WITHOUT WARNING! HOW READY ARE YOU?

The last week in August many of us watched the devastation of Hurricane Harvey as this catastrophic storm made landfall in the area of Houston and moved westward into Louisiana dropping 50 inches of rain in some areas. And now, out in the Atlantic Ocean, Irma is approaching with the possibility of making landfall in the south-east or maybe even the East Coast.

Disasters and emergencies can and do happen without warning! How prepared are you and your family for a disaster?

- How many of you have a family emergency plan?
- How will contact be made among your family members during and after an emergency?
- Do you have enough non-perishable food and water for five days? This includes one gallon of water per person per day.
- Do you have important documents and papers that are password protected on a flash drive or stored in a cloud?
- Do you have emergency kits for the home, office, and car? If so, do you check the expiration dates of the contents every 6 months? Do you know the recommended contents for each kit?
- Do you know how to respond if disaster impacts your home or workplace? Your child(ren)'s school(s)?
- What if the church is impacted? Check ABC and FOX News for scrolling information; the church's website, Facebook page, and *fupcdc kidz church* on another Facebook site; look for messages from your Deacon. Of course, all this means there must be electrical power. If you have a cell phone number for texting, that would be helpful. Please call Kim at the Church Office (703-670-7834) to share this information.
- Be aware of the following from *Prince William County Office of Emergency Management*
<http://www.pwccgov.org/public-safety/emergency-management/>

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH; ARE YOU READY?

Build a Kit: Gather essentials to be able to survive for several days on your own without assistance:
<http://www.pwccgov.org/government/dept/fr/oem/pages/build-a-kit.aspx>

Make a Plan: To learn more about what your Emergency Plan should include:
<http://www.pwccgov.org/government/dept/fr/oem/pages/make-a-plan.aspx>

Stay Informed: To sign up for alerts go to the Prince William Community Alert Network (PWCAN):
<http://www.pwccgov.org/government/dept/fr/oem/pages/stay-informed.aspx>

continued next page

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

DISASTER PREPARATION continued

As some of you know, I serve as a Chaplain for the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management and the Fairfax County Police Department. I am most appreciative for the training I have received in the area of disaster preparedness. Over the last few years, I have seen the impact on individuals and families when disaster and emergencies have occurred with and without warning; disasters such as:

- House and apartment fires
- Flooding of communities where people had massive cleanups and/or were not permitted to return to their homes for several days
- Earthquake damage
- Snowmageddon
- Threats of terrorism, including 9/11 and the sniper shootings
- Hurricanes and tornadoes in the Northern Virginia area and Maryland
- The Navy Yard shooting
- Train, and Metro-Rail accidents—and while not present, more than once a plane has crashed into the Potomac River.

In the DC Metropolitan area we laugh and run to the store at the threat of the first snowflake, It *might* snow means shelves containing milk, bread, toilet paper, and adult beverages are quickly emptied.

Friends, since we live in an area where natural and humankind disasters occur, the question is not IF a disaster or emergency will occur, the question is WHEN will it occur and will you be ready?

In my times spent on call and working disaster situations, one thing has become very clear to me: one's ability to cope during a disaster or an emergency is related to two very specific areas: 1) one's level of preparation and 2) one's faith and relationship with the Lord.

May you and your family be prepared for the inevitable. May you continue to grow and mature in your faith. God bless you. If you would like to discuss Disaster Preparedness in greater depth, let's do so.

Grace and peace to you in your journey.
Pastor Jeri

HOW CAN YOU HELP? ~ from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

OUT OF CHAOS **HOPE**

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it. — Song of Solomon 8:7

WAYS TO GIVE: Support PDA's response to Hurricane Harvey by designating gifts to **DR000169-Harvey**. Mark your contribution for DR000169-Harvey and place in the offering plate.

WAYS TO ACT: Like PDA on [facebook](#) and share updates with your congregation. Assemble *Gift of the Heart kits* <http://pda.pcusa.org/page/kits/> or Email pda.callcenter@pcusa.org to be notified when volunteer opportunities are available.

WAYS TO PRAY: God our Shelter, be a strong presence in the lives of neighbors who, having survived the winds and rains of Harvey, now face grief, uncertainty and weary days. May our generosity in prayer and in tangible signs of support overflow more than floodwaters, to sustain your work of healing and rebuilding and bring comfort and strength to those who suffer. **AMEN.**

More information on page 4

Session Report

August Session Report

At their meeting on August 15th , Elder Tim Camus noted that Financial reviews have been completed on the church books, the Little Hands Preschool books and the Boy Scout Troop 964 records. The final reports will be given to Session in September.

Mr. Dan Getwright has been approved by session as the new Scoutmaster for Troop 964. The Session sent a note of thanks to Rob Palisin for his service as the previous Scoutmaster.

The 2018 Youth Mission Trip will take place in June in Raleigh, North Carolina.

The county has constructed a fence between our property and Dane Ridge.

A concert by the Contemporary Worship leaders and our accompanist is in the planning stages. More information about this event later.

Submitted by Sara Porter, Clerk of Session

SHRIMP Breakfast

How
Retired
People
Have
Fun



Liz Startin started this monthly get-together back in the day. It remains a popular activity, attended by many of our senior FUPCDC members and friends. SHRIMP stands for: Senior Hungry Retired Intellectual Mature People. Come & join us. Bring a friend. SHRIMP Breakfast is held at the Montclair Family Restaurant at 10 AM on the 3rd Monday of each month. P.S. There is no shrimp on the breakfast menu. If you would like to be added to the SHRIMP contact list, please email Becky Elliott at bkyelliott@aol.com.

Spreading the Warmth

HEAR YE!, HEAR YE! KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS WANTED!

SPREAD THE WARMTH is looking for more folks to help knit or crochet warm hats and scarves for our homeless friends and caps for those recovering from cancer. Our group will meet, following the summer break, Monday, September 18th at 7 PM in the church library. Contact Elizabeth Glycer for more information at lizglyer@gmail.com.



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is in touch with presbyteries affected areas of Texas to offer assistance. We are standing by with resources and National Response Team members ready to deploy upon invitation and when it is safe to do so.

For those who wish to support PDA's emergency response and recovery efforts, gifts can be designated to **DR000169-Harvey** through the church. We need your help. Please give generously.

If you prefer to mail a check, you may send it to:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A)
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, Pa, 154264-3700

You may also call us Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EST), at 1-800-872-3283 and donate by phone. For updates, please go to pda.pcusa.org.

New Member Class



FUPCDC – 101



A 5-week new member orientation class under the leadership of Marti Hall, New Member Coordinator, will begin on Sunday mornings starting Sunday, Sept. 10, 2017, at 9:45 AM in Room 19.

This is an opportunity to explore your faith, learn about Presbyterian history and beliefs, and understand how FUPCDC serves its congregation and community through worship, mission outreach, and church programs and activities. You will meet members of the church and other newcomers to this congregation. Even if you are not sure about becoming a member at this time, you will find this class beneficial.

Child care is available for all classes.

Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex to enroll in the class.

You may also contact the church office at 703-670-7834 or Marti Hall at 703-626-2269 or email marti-hall@comcast.net for more information.

Adult Ministry

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."
Galatians 6:9

"What Difference Does It Make?"

Have you ever felt so run down from doing your best, being responsible, fighting obstacles, making sacrifices for others, feeling misunderstood and under-appreciated, that you asked yourself, or God, "What difference does it make?" When you don't see the fruit of your efforts it can feel like there aren't any, and no one could blame you for feeling like giving up. In our fall class we'll learn about some examples of people who didn't give up in the face of pressure, and how we are all still benefitting from their choices over five hundred years later!

Growing in Love, Faith, and Joy Through Bible Study and Fellowship

Sunday mornings at 9:45 AM:

- ◆ **"Our Church, Our Reformation, Our Future":** Join Rev. Dr. Larry Greenslit and Bob Porter in the Triple Room this Fall for a new study about how God worked through the choices and efforts of some flawed humans like you and me to spark the Protestant Reformation and the formation of the Presbyterian Church, and how that led to FUP-CDC's formation and the church we have today. What choices will you make?
- ◆ **Annual Blessing of the Church - Saturday 9/23, 6:30-8:30 PM:** Don't miss this unifying and moving event as Sue Johnson leads our church family through each room of our church building in praying over and asking God's blessing on our church. Come as you are, bring your family, or come by yourself. Just come.

Growing in Discipleship through Small Groups:

- ◆ **Prayer and Praise Team:** Meets for prayer and praise at 3:00 PM every Thursday. Led by Sue Johnson in the church library.
- ◆ **Devotional Fitness:** Get ready to love and worship the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength (Mark 12:30). Weekly devotional fitness classes (stretching and strengthening while focusing on scripture and prayer) resume on 9/23: Saturdays at 8:30 AM in the Sanctuary. Bring your mat and a water bottle. Classes are open to all, free of charge, and led by Nancy Hummer, nanhummer@gmail.com.
- ◆ **Spreading the Warmth:** Meets monthly on the third Monday at 7:00 PM in the church library to knit and crochet items to share with those in need. Led by Elizabeth Glycer.

Submitted by: Nancy Hummer, Adult Ministry Elder



Youth Ministry



The **2017-2018 Youth Program Kick Off** for students and parents will be held on Sunday, September 10th, following the 11 AM worship service. Our youth program is going in new directions this year. Join us in the Youth Room to find out what is happening at FUPC for students in grades 6-12. Food and beverages will be served.

Our youth group is small, yet our youth are dynamic in faith and service. They are involved in many ministries of our congregation from the Notes of Salvation praise band to service with young children's activities. Please keep them in your prayers as they face new challenges and new opportunities in the school year ahead.

Amy Greenslit, Youth Elder

Children's Ministry

Our children are the life blood of the Church Universal! Their Christian education is so important to the type of Christians they will become and influence others to become. Our responsibility as Christians is to do everything in our power to help these young Christians blossom.

Sunday, September 3rd, from 10-11 AM in the Triple Room come and re-register your child for Kidz Church, find out about the curriculum that will be presented, and learn of the opportunities to help out growing these Christians! Praise God for a growing Children's Ministry that will take the efforts of all to continue to grow!

Inspired by the VBS program of 2017 and the children's receptiveness to it, we will begin to explore the New Testament together starting with Acts. The children will follow the path that an early Christian followed.

Kidz Church will officially open Sunday, September 10 at 9:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Becky George, Children's Ministry Elder

Children's Choir

Children's Choir rehearsal days and hours have changed! Beginning September 7th, Children's Choir rehearsal will be Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary. Becca and Chris, Children's Choir Co-Directors hope



Thursday, September 7th, Children's Choir rehearsal will be held every Thursday and Chris Anderson can join them!



Horizon Bible Study

CLOUD OF WITNESSES: The Community of Christ in Hebrews

The 2017-2018 Horizons Bible Study will explore how Christians lived in community in New Testament times and how we as Christians live in community today. We will meet on the second Monday of the month, beginning in September and going through May or June (Depending on the weather). The study will begin on Monday, September 11th at 9:30 AM in Room 22.

A study book is available (\$11.00) and we will again view a video by the author of the study to help us understand this interesting book of the Bible. You do not have to be a Bible expert to be a part of this study; we work together to find the message in the scriptures. We study collaboratively, sharing different versions and translations of the Bible and our own insights with guidance from the study book. We also pray for our congregation and our personal concerns and praises.

Come and join us in exploring God's word. For more information, contact Sara Porter at [703-670-8737](tel:703-670-8737) or saraporter@comcast.net.

Wednesday Night Alive

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE IS BACK! Please join our WNA kick-off on September 13th from 6:00-6:45 PM for a potluck. Please bring a main dish or side dish to share. Dessert and drinks will be provided. Pastor Jeri will be starting a new Bible Study at 7:00 PM as well as Chancel Choir rehearsal also at 7:00 PM.

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. Each month, on the first Wednesday, we celebrate upcoming birthdays!

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!

Also, The Board of Deacons would like to thank everyone that worked to make the Annual Church Picnic such a wonderful event. Many hands worked hard and each and every one of them was greatly appreciated. What a blessing to have so many come together to connect and serve each other!

Little Hands Preschool

As I write this, classes have not yet begun. Teachers are hard at work getting things ready for the first day of school on September 5th. They have been decorating their rooms, writing lesson plans, taking classes in First Aid and CPR, calling parents to set up meet and greet times with the students, and making sure they are fully prepared for the first day of school.

The beginning of the school year will focus on getting used to the preschool routine. This is not always an easy task. Picture trying to have eight 2½ year old children sit in a circle for 10 minutes to quietly listen to a story. It takes much practice (and patience on the part of the teachers)!

In addition to learning the preschool routine, the children will be learning about their five senses. This unit always includes tasting some food items that are salty, sweet, sour, and bitter. It is always fun to watch the children's reaction to the different tastes. Some teachers will also measure the children, then they will measure again at the end of the year to see how much the children have grown.

When you're in the Education Wing I invite you to look at the children's artwork proudly displayed on bulletin boards and in the display cabinets near the Sunday School Office. The children are doing a lot of fun things and they love showing off their creations.

The children of Little Hands Preschool look forward to sharing their activities throughout the school year!



Sunflowers from our garden!



Blessing of the Church

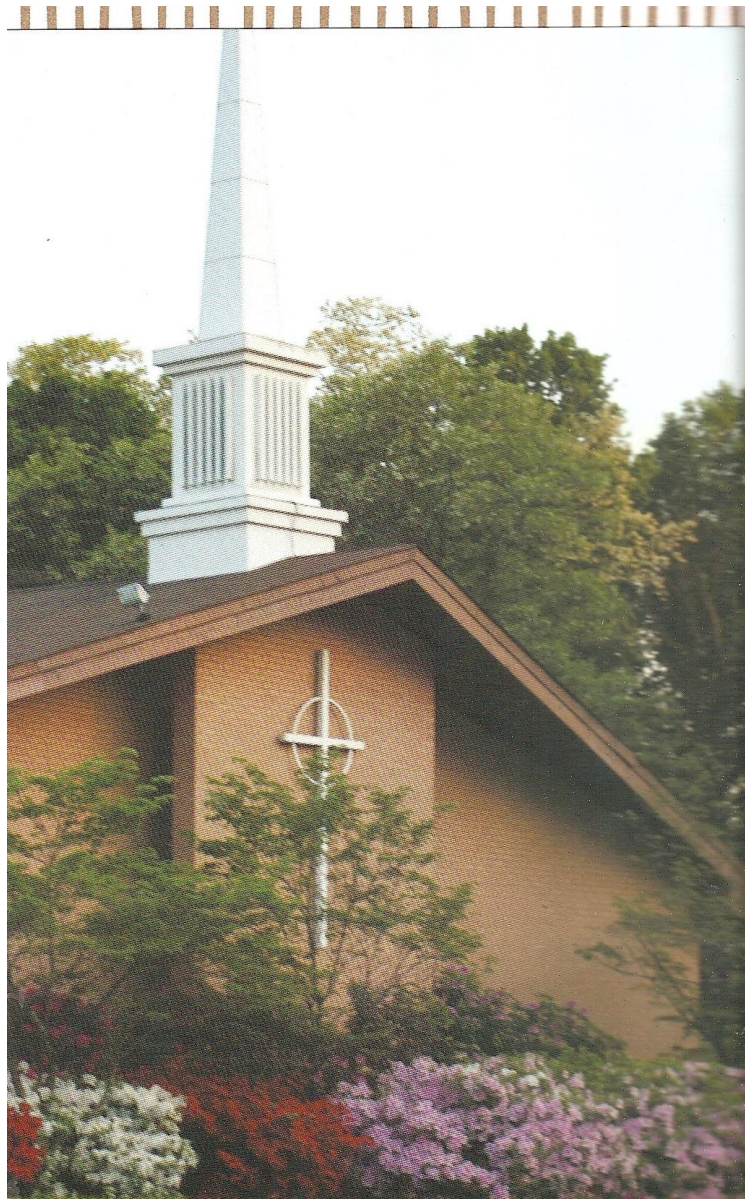
Counting Our Blessings With Gratitude
Come join us at FUPCDC for our
Second Annual Blessing of the Church!

Saturday, September 23, 2016 from 6:30–8:30 PM
Come see and hear what the church's needs were and
how God answered those needs.

“ HIS AMAZING GRACE ”

Come as we celebrate with an “Attitude of Gratitude”

Followed by Light Refreshments



Annual Church Picnic



Photo credit: Liz Glycer

Annual Church Picnic



Photo credit: Liz Glycer