

Silver Foxes Group



Advent Luncheons:

Every year the Silver Foxes hosts an Advent Bible Study the four weeks prior to Christmas. This year's program is "A Clear View of the Birth of Jesus" by Dr. Kenneth E. Bailey, a Presbyterian Minister.

Join us on Tuesdays, Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 & 21, in Fellowship Hall, at 11:30 a.m. A donation of \$4 is appreciated for the lunch which is provided by volunteers. Everyone is welcome!

Schedule:

- Nov. 30: Where Was the Manger & What Was the Law?
- Dec. 7: Three Surprises: His Ancestors, Joseph & Herod
- Dec. 14: Salvation & the Wise Men
- Dec. 21: Herod's Atrocities & Simeon's Welcome

If you are willing to help with set up, cooking, and clean up, please contact Mary Anne Bray at 703-573-2482.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE **Wednesday, November 24, 2010**
7:30 p.m. @ Graham Road UMC
Ecumenical Service with Holy Trinity Lutheran Church & combined choirs

Christmas Eve Services
Communion & Candlelight Service
Friday, December 24
7:30 pm

Children's Service
December 24 @ 4:00 pm
Please bring your children/grandchildren and join us for a brief, informal, child-friendly celebration of the birth of Jesus. *Come One! Come All!*

Saturday, November 27
Decorate the church
Followed by a Service & light meal
5-7 pm



St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble to Perform Here



Saturday, November 20
Church Sanctuary
at 3:00 PM

This will be an exceptional concert of fine secular and liturgical music. A free-will offering will be taken to support the artists, so we hope that you will be generous with your donation.

Fall Back One Hour
Sunday, November 7 at 2 AM

Daylight-Saving Time Ends

The TeleGraham
November/December 2010 Volume 1 – No. 6

FCS Thanksgiving Baskets

Each year FCS delivers Thanksgiving "baskets" to over 100 families. Graham Road UMC has helped in the past with their efforts, and this year we are committed to assist again. Here are ways to help:

- Pray for those delivering and those receiving.
- Donate Food—Food may be dropped off at Knox Presbyterian Church, 7416 Arlington Blvd, Falls Church between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on weekdays (Please call the church office first, 703-560-5288). Pick up is available for large donations.
- Donate money for turkey certificates - Our basket includes a \$14 grocery gift certificate for the purchase of a turkey.
- Help Pack "Baskets" - Baskets will be packed Friday, November 19 starting at 10 a.m. at Knox Presbyterian Church. Please come give us a hand.
- Help Deliver—Deliveries will be on Saturday, November 20 beginning at 10:00 a.m. from Knox Presbyterian Church.
 - To volunteer with packing or delivery, please call 704-560-5288 or email knoxpreschurch@vacoxmail.com



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Deadline for the January/February 2011 Newsletter is Wednesday, December 15, 2010

CHURCH NEWS

New Members

Jeanette Miller is a native of Northern Virginia - very rare - and has lived in *the same house* all her life! She graduated from Falls Church HS and started working for Fairfax County Public Schools while in high school. Jeanette works in the Library Support Services Department where all library materials are cataloged and processed for close to 200 schools in Fairfax County. She has been with FCPS for 38 years. Before his death, Jeanette was married to Ed Miller for close to 31 years. She has a daughter, Amanda,

and a very precious grandson Tyler. Jeanette's family is nearby - her father lives in Front Royal; her brother, George, lives in Amisville; and her sister, Ann, just retired and is currently traveling around the US with her husband. After Ed's death, Amanda (see next paragraph) and her husband came to live with Jeanette. As a child, she and her family went to Crossman United Methodist Church. When Amanda and Jeanette came to GRUMC they felt very comfortable and decided this is where they belonged.

(continued middle page 5)

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Preschool & Child Care Center

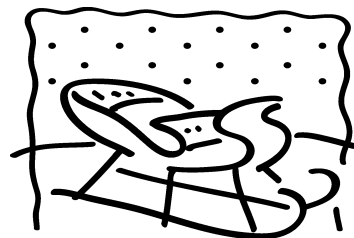
During November, the church is collecting canned food to go to the FCS Food Pantry located in Knox Presbyterian Church to be shared with the people in our area that need food. The children in preschool and child care will bring cans of food and learn about sharing as they put the canned food into the basket at chapel.

Once again both groups are participating in the Marine Corps Reserve's "Toys for Tots" campaign. The Marines suggest that your new toy be non-battery operated and unwrapped. Participation is voluntary. During chapel on Thursday, December 16 the children will be placing the toys in the sleigh. With your participation, many of our area's less privileged children will experience the joy of a new toy this Christmas.

The Preschool Christmas Program is scheduled on Wednesday, December 15, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary with refreshments to follow in the fellowship hall.

The Child Care Center will have its Christmas Celebration on Thursday, December 16 at 4:30 p.m. The children will be presenting a program in the sanctuary. Following the program there will be refreshments served in the fellowship hall. The children and the teachers are excited about this Christmas celebration.

The preschool yard sale was a big success. Thanks to all that took time to stop by. More than \$1,000 was earned. This helps the preschool out during the year to provide some additional learning experiences for the children.



Toys for Tots (U.S. Marines project)
 Collecting November 21 - December 19
 Place in the sleigh in the Narthex
 Toys should be new and unwrapped.
 Sponsored by the United Methodist Men

United Methodist Women

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Nov. 5: CWU World Community Day, Chesterbrook UMC, McLean, 10:00 a.m. (bring a bag lunch, drinks and dessert provided)
- Nov. 7: Souper Sunday (Fritzi Johnson/Ann Heath Circle)
- Nov. 13: District Mission/Training Day Meeting, St. Paul UMC, Woodbridge, 8:30 a.m.
- Nov. 20: District Advent Program, Dulin UMC, Falls Church, 9:00 a.m.
- Dec. 12: Christmas Potluck Luncheon (Julia Rose Circle)



Thoughts

*Sometimes God calms the storm, and sometimes He lets the storm rage and calms His child.
 (Jean Van Dyke)

*Healing comes when you realize the light at the end of the tunnel is not a train.

Officer Vacancies

The United Methodist Women (UMW) currently has two vacancies on the Leadership Team, which are "Membership, Nurture, and Outreach" and "Receptions."

The *Membership officer* is responsible for inviting women to become new members, and for keeping in touch with

women of the church to bring any needs to the attention of the Leadership Team and other members.

The Reception officer is responsible for being a point of contact person for the UMW to coordinate and help with any receptions which are being held at GRUMC.



If you are interested in either of these offices, please contact Marie Lukac. The Leadership Team meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month except July, August, and December.

Meeting Reports

District Annual Meeting September 18 @ Oakton UMC

Judy Anderson and Marie Lukac attended the meeting. During the first part of the service, Anne Fox and Barbara Benoski were mentioned at the "Remembrance of Our Deceased Members" time. During the business part of the service, our unit received the following 3 certificates: Reading Program Participation, Increase in Membership, and Mission Today Silver Award.

CWU Fall Forum October 1 @ Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Georgia Wilhite, Ella Mae Santino, Velma Talmadge, Arlene Tavoularis, and Marie Lukac attended the meeting. The speaker was Sara Ballenger who spoke about the Capitol Hill Prayer Partners (CHPP).



“The Scoop” from the

President’s Corner

Life in rural U.S. towns and villages has a slower pace and offers a lifestyle that sustains the rigorous faith of UMW members. The following 3 women have found an environment where they can live out their faith and purpose to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ.

Catherine Labron has lived in Michigan's rural Upper Peninsula virtually her entire life. She worked as a practical nurse at the local hospital in Newberry. As a young mother she was active in her local UMW Circle and then became a missionary. Ms Labron has

gone on 70 mission trips, but is now a Church and Community Worker. She helps feed children in the summer and 200 people a month through a community meal program, helps host mission teams to the Upper Peninsula, and is part of a local prayer chain.

Alva Charatain of Baldwin, Louisiana, attended Sager - Brown School before transitioning into United Methodist Committee on Relief's supply operations. As a strong leader in her UMW unit and local church, she contacted her Bishop and District Superintendent after Hurricane Andrew hit in 1992. Ms Charatain made

them aware of the vacant Sager-Brown property as an immediate way to offer assistance for disaster supplies.



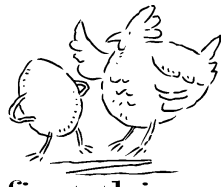
Carol Shobe of Edgerton, Kansas, works within her local church to support "Grace Cafe," a free meal to anyone every Wednesday; a food pantry; Spofford Home, a UMW national mission in Kansas City, Missouri; and Crosslines, a nonprofit helping impoverished families.

("Women...in Rural Communities," Response, Sept. 2010)



Agricultural Center in Zambia

Rev. Paul Webster, a global Ministries' missionary serving the Mujila Falls Agriculture Centre in Kanyamba, Zambia reports that selling more than 1,000 eggs per day is not an easy chore! Their chickens are in a newly refurbished building producing about 1,300 eggs per day! It



takes over two hours to transport these valuable eggs to Mwinilunga over the rough roads. They are seeking a partner who will



agree to only a 20% markup. The latest news is that we have witnessed the birth of our first four calves from our

heifer and a new bull named Baluba. All four calves are heifers—just what we want because our old bull produced mostly bull calves. You can understand how this would slow the growth of our small herd!

(Article condensed from New World Outlook, July 2010)

A Note from the Pastor

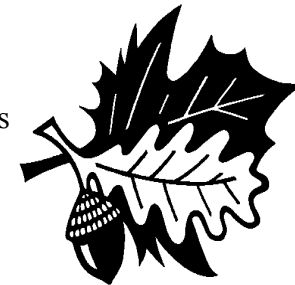


Dear GRUMC Church Family,

We all love autumn and the beautiful colors of the fall leaves as they turn. As we notice these seasonal changes that move us so deeply, we can't help thinking about what is behind what we see; about what is actually occurring in terms of the trees' life cycles in autumn.

I know I have been taught this but I had to look it up to capture again what I learned from my biology teacher as a child. It turns out that leaves are nature's food factories. Plants take water from the ground through their roots. They take a gas called carbon dioxide from the air. Plants use sunlight to turn water and carbon dioxide into oxygen and glucose. Oxygen is a gas in the air that we need to breathe. Glucose is a

kind of sugar. Plants use glucose as food for energy and as a building block for growing. The way plants turn water and carbon dioxide into oxygen and sugar is called *photosynthesis*. That means "putting together with light." A chemical called chlorophyll helps make photosynthesis happen. Chlorophyll is what gives plants their green color.



As summer ends and autumn comes, the days get shorter and shorter. This is how the trees "know" to begin getting ready for winter. During winter, there is not enough light or water for photosynthesis. The trees will rest and live off the food they stored during the summer. They

begin to shut down their food-making factories. The green chlorophyll disappears from the leaves. As the bright green fades away, we begin to see yellow and orange colors. Small amounts of these colors have been in the leaves all along. We just can't see them in the summer because they are covered up by the green chlorophyll.

The bright reds and purples we see in leaves are made mostly in the fall. In some trees, like maples, glucose is trapped in the leaves after photosynthesis stops. Sunlight and the cool nights of autumn cause the leaves to turn this glucose into a red color. The brown color of trees like oaks is made from wastes left in the leaves. It is the combination of all these things
(continued page 5)

Thank You

Westlawn Elementary School sent the following letter on September 3, 2010:

“On behalf of the administrators, faculty, students and their families, I wish to thank you and your parishioners for the supplies to our school. It is only through such help and generosity by that our school can provide the additional support many of our students beginning a new school year, provide them with the needed instructions programs. However, for those students whose families cannot afford these tools, your help is of big assistance. Your support to the students of our school shows that you have a deep understanding of the needs of our students and their families. We are indeed fortunate. Again, we appreciate your generosity!



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Sincerely, *Chris Kyrgos*, Counselor

Witness/Outreach Updates & Opportunities

Fall has been a busy time for Witness/Outreach activities and thanks go out to all those who have participated by providing manpower, financial help, support, and prayers.

Collection of school supplies for Westlawn Elementary School kicked off the season. All sorts of supplies were delivered to the school by Judy Anderson and her son. Check page 3 for a note of thanks from the school.



September was National Hunger Awareness Month and we participated by distributing prayer and hunger awareness calendars from the Society of St. Andrew. Fasting one day a week was encouraged and envelopes for donations of the meal cost were provided and returned at the end of the month.

The Maldonados of Iglesia

Shalom congregation gave a presentation about their mission, *King's Palace*, in El Salvador during a worship service and then provided a tasty meal following the service. A generous love offering was collected and presented to them for *King's Palace*.

UNICEF boxes were distributed in October for trick-or-treating with return on Sunday, November 7.

A gleaning opportunity in partnership with Arlington Forest UMC was offered in October, and the Gleaning for the World annual stuffed animal project produced bagsful of animals which were delivered to Burke UMC for mailing around the world.

Thanks go to Becky Cooper for accepting the position of secretary on the Falls Church Community Service Council

Board. GRUMC as well as FCS appreciate her willingness to serve in this important capacity.

GRUMC will again help with snacks and a hot meal at the Falls Church Winter Emergency Shelter in January and



February. More information will be coming in December. **The shelter needs volunteers**, and will have training on November 16 at 7:30 to 9 p.m. at St. James Catholic Church, 905 Park Ave., Falls Church. There are two shifts: 6 p.m. to midnight and midnight to 7 a.m.

Annual Canned Food Drive

During November, Graham Road will participate in its annual food drive for *Falls Church Community Service Council* (FCS). The Child Care Center and Preschool children are joining in our efforts of food and supply collection.

Bring your donations every Sunday until November 21 when the gifts will be dedicated and then delivered to FCS. Sam Brownlee faithfully delivers the food to the pantry at Knox

Presbyterian where the headquarters for FCS is located. How about volunteering to help him out? Thanksgiving deliveries by FCS will be made November 20 and presents another opportunity to volunteer if you are able.



(continued from previous column)

Amanda married in January of 2008. She works for Fairfax County Public Schools full time at the Key Center in the aquatics program with special needs students. She is currently taking classes online with Phoenix University. Amanda is the *newest* member of GRUMC choir and is happy to be here.

Baptism:

Tyler Edward Curtis 9/26/10

Weddings

Susan Wallace married on September 26, in Morro Bay, CA. Susan and her husband, Michael Morgan, reside in London, UK.

Rob Anderson (parents Carl & Judy) married Tiffanee Donowick on October 10 at GRUMC. They live in Manassas.

Deaths

Barbara Benoski, 9/2/10
Ernest Bucklin, 9/24/10

Church News (continued from page 1)

Amanda Curtis is married to Buddy Curtis. They have a son, Tyler, who is 2, and she has a step-son Dylan, who is 6. Like her mother (previous paragraph) Amanda graduated from Falls Church HS and lived in Falls Church while growing up. After graduation she moved to Stephen's City and lived there for 5 years, coming back home in 2007 when her father asked her to return home to help her mother care for him. Sadly her father died in September 2007 at the age of 53.

(next column)

A Note from the Pastor (continued from pg. 3)

that make the beautiful fall foliage colors we enjoy each year.

I was reminded of this process during our Charge Conference on Sunday, September 17, because of the theme "*Growing Deeper.*" Our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Young Jin Cho, challenged us to grow from maintenance to fruitfulness as a congregation. As part of that growth pattern he suggested we find ways to grow deeper in faith. He said that just thanking God for our food a few times a day is not enough. We need to cultivate an atmosphere of prayer and faithfulness in our lives by being more *intentional* about our prayer life and our actions in response to God's call. He said we need to surrender ourselves to God and follow obediently wherever God leads us. He quoted Luke 5:4b: "**Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing. But at your word I will let down the nets."**" Simon Peter could have responded to Jesus' request to go out with his fishing boat into the deep water again in so many ways. He chose obedience. He chose to be led by Jesus. He chose to *grow deeper.*

In this season life is changing all around us. Let the constant in our lives be our love for God. Let's not chose to become dormant. Let us chose to grow deeper. Let us chose life.

All God's blessings, *Pastor Marable*

Please join us at **Graham Road United Methodist Church on Sunday, November 14, 2010** at 11 A.M. for a worship service and reception honoring our Minister Emeritus, **Rev. Dr. J. Blaine Blubaugh and his wife, Rosee**, in their 50th year of MINISTRY, 50th year of MARRIAGE, 70th year of his LIFE, and 50th year since first meeting Dr. Billy Graham. **Dr. Blubaugh will be the guest speaker at the worship service**. Reception to follow (no gifts please). All are welcome to attend! Please send any notes of remembrances, love, & caring for the Blubaughs to the church and mark the envelope as such

