Vienna Presbyterian Church
A Disciple-Making Community

“Gifts from the Heart of God”

The Word
John 1:1-3

Dec 9: The Life       John 1:4
Dec 16: The Light     John 1:4-9
Dec 23: The Power     John 1:10-13
Dec 24: The Glory     John 1:14-18

December 2, 2007
SUNDAY WORSHIP • 8:00

Prelude
Thy Word
Youth Orchestra
Arr. Pethel

Welcome
Pastor Pete James

Call to Worship
Ann Weems

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God, the uneven ground shall become level and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of our Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

People: The grass withers; the flower fades, but the word of our Lord endures forever.

Leader: Get you up to high mountain, O Zion herald of good tidings, lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear, say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!”

People: He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Leader: The grass withers; the flower fades; but the word of our God endures forever! Come let us worship God!

▲ Hymn #5
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Reading
Ann Weems

Worship Song
Draw Me Close
See page 6 for music
Arr. Mark Cole

Draw me close to You never let me go.
I lay it all down again to hear You say that I’m Your friend. You are my desire.
No one else will do, ’cause nothing else could take Your place,
To feel the warmth of Your embrace help me find the way. Bring me back to You.
You’re all I want. You’re all I’ve ever needed.
You’re all I want help me know You are near.
Help me know You are near.

Draw Me Close by Kelly Carpenter ©1994 Mercy/Vinyard Publishing CCLI #206597

▲ Congregation standing, as able.
Please request large-print hymnals from the ushers.
Assistive listening devices are available in the balcony from the Sound Technician
Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Reading
Ann Weems

Offertory
Go Light Your World
Youth Choir

During the offertory, please pass the Friendship Pad.

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication
Hymn #592

Sermon
Pastor Pete James
The Word
Sermon Series: Gifts from the Heart of God

Celebration of The Lord’s Supper
Communion Music
You Are My All in All
Youth Orchestra
Arr. Pethel

Postlude
Terry Sisk, organist
Prepare the Way
David Cherwien

If you, or anyone you know, would like prayer for spiritual, emotional or physical well-being, a pastor will be available at the front of the sanctuary.
SUNDAY WORSHIP ● 9:30 & 11:00

Prelude
Savior of the Nations, Come
Terry Sisk, organist
J. S. Bach

Welcome
Pastor Pete James

Call to Worship
Ann Weems

Lighting of the Advent Wreath
Leader: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God, the uneven ground shall become level and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of our Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

People: The grass withers; the flower fades, but the word of our Lord endures forever.

Leader: Get you up to high mountain, O Zion herald of good tidings, lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear, say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!”

People: He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Leader: The grass withers; the flower fades; but the word of our God endures forever! Come let us worship God!

▲ Hymn #5
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Reading
Ann Weems

Worship Song
Draw Me Close
Arr. Mark Cole
See page 6 for music

Draw me close to You never let me go.
I lay it all down again to hear You say that I’m Your friend. You are my desire.
No one else will do, ‘cause nothing else could take Your place,
To feel the warmth of Your embrace help me find the way. Bring me back to You.
You’re all I want. You’re all I’ve ever needed.
You’re all I want help me know You are near.
Help me know You are near.

Draw Me Close by Kelly Carpenter ©1994 Mercy/Vinyard Publishing CCLI #206597

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon
▲Congregation standing, as able.

Please request large-print hymnals from the ushers.
Assistive listening devices are available in the balcony from the Sound Technician
Reading
Ann Weems

Anthem
Sanctuary Choir
E’en So Lord Jesus Quickly Come
Manz

Children’s Message
Bonnie Downs
After the message, all children may go to their classes.

Offertory
Soloist Marieke Ertel; Sanctuary Choir
Once In Royal David’s City
Gauntlett
During the offertory, please pass the Friendship Pad.

▲
Doxology and Prayer of Dedication
Hymn #592

Sermon
Pastor Pete James
The Word
Sermon Series: Gifts from the Heart of God

Celebration of The Lord’s Supper
Page 13, front of hymnal
Communion Music
Terry Sisk, organist

▲
Worship Song
Traditional -South African
Siyahamba
Introduction by the Youth Choir - Congregation will be invited to stand and sing the following verses
We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God,
We are marching, marching, we are marching, marching,
We are marching in the light of, the light of God,
We are marching, marching, we are marching, marching, we are marching in the light of God.
We are praying...
We are singing...

▲
Benediction

▲
Postlude
Terry Sisk, organist
Prepare the Way
David Cherwien

If you, or anyone you know, would like prayer for spiritual, emotional or physical well-being, a pastor will be available at the front of the sanctuary.
Draw Me Close

www.praisecharts.com

Kelly Carpenter
Arr. Mark Cole

Rhy/Vcl

\[ \text{Intro} \]

\[ \text{Draw me close to You} \]

\[ \text{never let me go} \]

\[ \text{I lay it all down again} \]

\[ \text{to hear You say that I} \]

\[ \text{Your friend} \]

\[ \text{You are my desire} \]

\[ \text{no one else will do} \]

\[ \text{'cause nothing else could take Your place} \]

\[ \text{to feel the warmth of Your embrace} \]

\[ \text{help me find the way} \]

\[ \text{bring me back to You} \]

\[ \text{Oh You're all I want} \]

\[ \text{You're all I ever needed} \]

\[ \text{help me know You are near} \]

(c) 1994 Mercy/Vineyard Publ.
READ:

John 1:4 “…in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.”

John 3:16-17: “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

John 17:1-3: “After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, ‘Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”

REFLECT: Read these passages two or three times.

What stands out to you?

How is the “life” the light of all people?

What does it mean to have eternal life? What does it look like?

RESPOND: How will you apply one insight from this text to your own life?

REQUEST: Jot down a blessing in your life and prayer requests that you and others may have. Share blessings and prayer requests and pray for one another!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Read</th>
<th>Meditate</th>
<th>Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>John 3:1-18</td>
<td>John 3:16</td>
<td>Reflect on when you first believed and received the life that Jesus gives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>John 6:35-40</td>
<td>John 6:35</td>
<td>In what way has Jesus satisfied your hunger and thirst for acceptance and meaning in life? In what ways do you still feel empty?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>John 10:7-18</td>
<td>John 10:10</td>
<td>What does the abundant life Jesus promised look like? Are you experiencing it?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>John 11:17-27</td>
<td>John 11:25</td>
<td>What difficulty are you facing? How is Jesus calling you to trust his resurrection power and life to help you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>John 14:1-6</td>
<td>John 14:6</td>
<td>In what ways is Jesus preparing you to be with him? How are you preparing to be with Jesus?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>John 17:1-3</td>
<td>John 17:3</td>
<td>How can we experience the eternal life of which Jesus spoke?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>John 1:4</td>
<td>John 1:4</td>
<td>Reflect on the Scripture and sermon and how you experience the life of Jesus.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grieving: Russ Ensey (father), Jason Gould (grandmother), Sally Mitchell (brother-in-law), Sue O’Brien (brother-in-law) Carolyn Root & family (father-in-law)

Hospitalized: Elsa Norris, Cathy Leamnson’s mother, Susan Leitson’s father

Facing Tests or Surgery: Joe Darst’s sister, Malinda & Kurt Virkaitis’s friend Hoyt

Homebound: Charles Hubbard

Ill or Convalescing: Curt Anderson, Cecily Bornemann, Julia Cornelius, Peggy Darst, Mario Funari, Susan Gilmore, Barbara Greig, Laura Hambell, Irma Kerr, Laura Nickell (age 10), Ruth Nowjack-Raymer, Allen Norris, Sheila Steele

Undergoing Treatment: Cecilia Baldwin, Sylvia Berget, Dody Martin, Ken Thomas, Kathy Van Meter

Family and Friends: Debra Bowen’s friends Jim and Sid, Joanne & Bob Bower’s friend Mary, Barbara Carlson’s father, Winnie Cowden’s sister, Bill Downer’s father and brother, Jennifer Fleisher’s friend Greg, Joyce Fleming’s mother, June Follini’s/Donna Reichert’s son/brother, Jean Freeman’s co-worker Laura, Patti Goodrich’s brother-in-law, Tom Greig’s father, Nancy Hallanan’s friend Melissa, Jean Hamill’s brother, Tricia Hines’s father, Garth Jensen’s father, Lynn Johnson’s sister, Linda Kemple’s friends Mary and Jim, Betty Larson’s niece’s husband, Sharon Lewis’s daughter Amanda, Alexandra MacCracken’s friend Katie, Neil MacNeil’s brother-in-law, Bob & Connie Markle’s son, Polly & Robert Marshall’s niece, Jenn Mattson’s uncle, Roger Michalski’s father, Rodney Neely’s father, Betty Reed’s friend Donna, John Remy’s father (Hospice), Ginni Richards’s friend Alinda, the Rohrback family’s friends (injured military) Sgt. Josh Lawton-Belous and Andy Meixell, Kristina Schenck’s mother, Dan & Eileen Shaw’s niece (her mother), Judy Smith’s son-in-law, Mary & Dave Smith’s friends Joe & Annie, Tricia Stevely’s mother and her friends Lloyd & Leanne, Karen Thompson’s daughter, Kelly-Anne Thomson’s mother, Mark Tracz’s friends Jon & Cathy, Ed Venditti’s first father-in-law (Hospice), Sheri Walker’s friend Barbara, Sharon Winstead’s mother

Other Concerns: Jo Ann Talley’s friends Clark & Edith and Lyle & Sonia

Congratulations to: Morgan & Abigail Hays on the birth of Helen Rian Hays on November 7th. Brian & Marian Hays are the proud grandparents and Cameron Hays is the proud new uncle. We also welcome to the world Peyton Autumn Fowler, born to Greg & Theresa Fowler on November 26th. The proud grandparents are Ollie & JoAn Fowler. We also congratulate Jon Thew and Lola Mills who were married at VPC on November 24th.


Need Prayer for Yourself or Someone You Love?

USE the cards in the Friendship Pads in your pew, or at the rear of the church, and place in the collection plate or the wooden box in the lobby/narthex.

CALL the church office at 703.938.9050 ext. 301.

SEND an e-mail to shannon.jordan@viennapres.org; or enter a prayer request via the church’s website at www.viennapres.org homepage “Prayer Requests.”

Please make sure that you have permission before submitting a prayer request on behalf of someone else. Confidentiality requests are strictly honored. If requested for the weekly bulletin, prayer notices will normally be made for two weeks, but can certainly be extended upon request.
## Christmas Season 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Our Daily Bread</strong>&lt;br&gt;Nov. 25 &amp; Dec. 2 (collection); Dec. 8 (sorting); Dec. 9 (deliveries)</td>
<td>Our Daily Bread is a volunteer-based organization focused on easing the plight of low income residents in Fairfax County. The VPC community brings groceries and other nonperishable items to the sanctuary on Nov. 25 &amp; Dec. 2, sorts them at 9 am on Dec. 8, and delivers them to area residents from noon to 3 pm on Dec. 9.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advent Celebration</strong>&lt;br&gt;Nov. 25 Crafts: 3-5:15 pm on 3rd Floor; Pizza: 5:15-6 pm in the Great Hall</td>
<td>Assist your children, ages 3-6th grade, with Advent-themed crafts ($2 per child or $5 per family). RSVP to <a href="mailto:clare.maynard@viennapres.org">clare.maynard@viennapres.org</a>; walk-ins also welcome. Child care available for ages 0-2 with advance reservation at ext. 351 or <a href="mailto:childcare@viennapres.org">childcare@viennapres.org</a>. Pizza will be sold in the Great Hall from 5:15-6 pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Women's Retreat</strong>&lt;br&gt;Nov. 30, 7-9 pm, &amp; Dec. 1, 8:30 am-2:30 pm; $30</td>
<td>Acclaimed poet Ann Weems is the featured speaker at this year's retreat, themed Advent Doesn't Come Pre-assembled. This event combines the annual fall retreat and the women's Christmas worship. Photo: The fall 2006 retreat in West Virginia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fair Trade “A Greater Gift” Christmas Sale</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dec. 2, 9 am-3 pm, Great Hall</td>
<td>This bazaar will feature fairly traded handcrafts and foods from low-income regions of the world. The sale of these items enables the farmers and artisans to work in the rural areas where they live and also have access to health education—i.e., to build better lives. Photo: Maya women’s wreath, from <a href="http://www.agreatergift.org">www.agreatergift.org</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Glorious Sounds of Christmas Concert</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dec. 9, 7 pm, sanctuary</td>
<td>The Glorious Sounds of Christmas is one of VPC’s biggest concerts. This December’s event will be the 11th consecutive year it is being offered to the community at large; please invite friends and neighbors who might not otherwise have a reason to visit VPC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Christmas Celebrations</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dec. 12, 10 am, &amp; Dec. 13, 7:30 pm, Ministry Center 3rd Floor</td>
<td>Celebrate with our ESOL class attendees, who represent 43 countries with 240 students enrolled so far this fall. Our informal Christmas program will combine both the secular and the sacred, with some classes presenting a play/production. Sweet treats and beverages will be provided.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Christmas Season 2007

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<tr>
<td>Christmas Recital featuring Brooke Evers, soprano</td>
<td>Soprano Brooke Evers, a Fulbright scholar who spent two years in Vienna, Austria, will present a recital of seasonal songs. Brooke grew up in our church and has established a stellar vocal career in the Washington, D.C. area. Suggested donation: $10 per person or $25 maximum per family.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Grounds Coffee House</td>
<td>Alyce Metallo will be the featured performer on Dec. 15. Admission is free and snacks are provided, so invite friends and neighbors for a relaxing evening! Every month, musicians offer a variety of music styles, from contemporary Christian to bluegrass/folk to jazz instrumental selections and more.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Choirs Christmas Concert</td>
<td>What do you get when you mix assorted handbells, a chorus of voices, some scripture passages and the magic of the Christmas season? A joyful noise being made unto the Lord! Join our cutest music ministry participants, ages 3 to grade 6, for our annual concert and reception.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club 56 Caroling</td>
<td>Fa la la la la la la la! Through song, our 5th and 6th graders will spread Christmas cheer to Vienna residents. Meet at VPC for a bus ride to the Anspach’s Vienna home on Oakton Glen Drive. After caroling, the kids will be treated to refreshments by Peter and Beth Anspach, then may be picked up there by parents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longest Night Service</td>
<td>This service welcomes everyone in the larger community but may be a special blessing to those for whom the holidays pose a difficult time. It will be a peaceful, meditative hour of remembering loved ones and of preparing our hearts for Christ’s coming.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Carol Hymn Sing</td>
<td>The hymn sing is an opportunity for all of Vienna and surrounding neighborhoods to come and sing the great music of this wonderful time of the year. It is intended for the whole family. Bring your friends and neighbors, as well!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alternative Giving*:
- Project Angel Tree
- CHO Christmas Store/Food Drive
- Donating a Nubian Goat (and other items) to Haitians

*For details, see the December issue of The Vienna Press at www.viennapres.org/newsletters
**MISSIONS FEATURE**

**Fair Trade** is an organized, social movement and market-based model of international commerce, which promotes the payment of a fair price as well as social and environmental standards in areas related to the production of a wide variety of goods.

Fair Trade’s strategic intent is to deliberately work with marginalized producers and workers in order to help them move from a position of vulnerability to security and economic self-sufficiency. It also aims at empowering them to become stakeholders in their own organizations and actively play a wider role in the global arena to achieve greater equity in international trade.

**Greater Gift/SERRV International** works with thousands of small-scale artisans and farmers in Africa, Asia, Latin America and other developing regions of the world by marketing their handcrafts and agricultural products. Through their work with 90 community-based organizations in 34 countries, they create economic opportunity so these producers can support their families. All are welcome to purchase gifts from around the world at VPC’s.

**A Greater Gift Bazaar**
- **Today**
- **9 am - 3 pm**
- **Great Hall**

**The Prison Ministry/Project Angel Tree** has asked Vienna Presbyterian Church to consider adopting families from areas where this program is not available because there are no children in the Greater Washington DC area available to our church. If your small group, Sunday School class or you are interested in adopting a family by contacting them, providing gifts and mailing the gifts before Christmas, please contact Tricia Hine at phine@hotmail.com or 703.863-4590.

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**Responding to God’s Call with Gratitude and Generous Giving!**

We need your generous response to make God’s vision through VPC a reality! If you have not already done so, please let us hear from you with your pledge to support the 2008 Unified Budget. The approved budget for ministry and missions (available on the Information Wall in the Gathering Space) reflects our plans to accomplish the Lord’s purposes. Please prayerfully consider taking the next step in your generous giving to the church. Pledge cards are in the pew racks and may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the office. They are also available on the Welcome Table, Sign-Up Table and the Information Wall in the Gathering Space.

Effective thru Sunday Nov 25, we have received 441 pledges totaling $1,860, 228. Our projected pledge goal is $2.4 million.

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**Today’s sanctuary flowers are given by**
- Mike, Nancy, Liz & Natalya Hallanan, in loving memory of Dad and Grandpa Sennikoff
UPCOMING EVENTS

The 11th annual SWATT Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Marco Polo Restaurant on Dec 12 at 12 N, $21 per person. Transportation is available. Sign up in the narthex today or contact Priscilla or Steve Skjei (703.938.4623).

Sign-ups for Poinsettia Memorials will take place in the narthex through today. The cost is $15 per plant. Contact: Pam Kattenburg, 703.620.9114 or pamkatt@aol.com.

SWATT trip to Constitution Hall on Dec 9 to the Holiday Concert by the US Army Band “Pershing’s Own.” Leave VPC by bus and van at 1:00 pm, return in time for the Glorious Sounds of Christmas at VPC. Sign-up reservations required. Betty Rahal 703.281.4032

The Widow and Widowers luncheon is on Dec 8 at Noon. It will be held at the La Promessa Restaurant, 7630 Lee Highway (Rt. 29). Please call Gladys Millington for reservations 703.560.0846.

Pictorial Directory: Some families were unable to have their pictures taken at VPC and were directed to other churches for their picture taking. We don’t have a record of who did this. Would those families who did so please contact Bryan Troutman at 703.790.5270.

PITS (Parents of Infants and Toddlers)
Parents’ Night Out/Christmas Party:
Before the Christmas season gets too hectic, join us for adult fellowship and festivities with other parents on Dec 7, from 7 – 10 pm at the home of Ran and Susan Whittle. For more information or to RSVP, contact Lori Bryant at 571.333.9495 or kubicbryant@hotmail.com.

The next New Member Seminar will be Jan 19, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm, and Jan 20, 11 am - 12 N. Save the dates!

Calling all young adults (post-high school to 30’s)! Our next luncheon will be Dec 9, after the 11 am service, in the Activity Center on the 3rd floor. We’ll provide the lunch; you bring yourself and a story to share. If you have any questions or want to know how you can get further plugged into the church, let Kelly know, kelly.gould@viennapres.org.

The Library and Resource Center (LARC) is open on the second floor of the Ministry Center Sunday, 9:00 -11:00 am.
Monday, 10:30 AM -12:30 pm
Thursday, 9:30 AM -12:30 pm
Look at new arrivals on the table in the window. Selected works by and about John Calvin are displayed. Books on tape are available for check-out.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRIES

We are seeking a new Sunday Morning Nursery Coordinator.  This position is 10–15 hours per week, and involves recruiting and scheduling volunteers for all worship services, and staffing the nursery check-in desk at the 9:30 and 11:00 am services. Please contact clare.maynard@viennapres.org for more information. Closing date for applications is Dec 13.

Advent Calendars, devotional materials and Advent activity books are available in the Gathering Space. Please help yourself and enjoy celebrating Advent with your children!

Bring A Friend on Christmas Eve: During Advent the children are being asked to think of a friend they might bring to the Christmas Eve services. They will write their friend’s name on an ornament and hang it on the tree on the 3rd floor activity center, while committing to pray for them during Advent. On Christmas Eve we’ll move the tree down to the Narthex and children can bring their friend to collect their ornament, or take it home for them. Please encourage your child to begin thinking of and praying for a friend.

Eleanor Hay, nimickhay@aol.com.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Club 56 Christmas Movie Night reminder!
If you’re in 5th or 6th grade, then please join us on Friday, Dec. 7, in the Great Hall (7-10:30 pm) for Christmas-themed movies. Bring a friend! Daryl at 703.938.9050, ext. 126 or daryl.wright@viennapres.org.

Do you have a heart for marriage? We are seeking to create a new Marriage Ministry Team at VPC. Please contact Julie Knight at B_JKnight@msn.com or 703.691.3406 if you would like to serve in this exciting new ministry area!

VPC’s Call and Care Ministry has a big mission: To extend God’s love to our entire congregation. This is being done by phoning the VPC community twice a year to say, “Hello! How are you?” There are 150 families still waiting to be placed on Call Lists. Will you help us? We’ll supply you with a script, guidelines, and a list of 10 families to call. Contact Lisa Baltzer, 703.560.9398, lisa@thebaltzers.com.

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Middle School: Join us for Middle School Youth Group in the Underground, Fridays at 6:45 pm, in the Student Ministries space. Urgently needed: Adult male to co-lead a Middle School Boys small group beginning in January. Contact Kim at Kim.Snyder@viennapres.org for details.

High School: Turkey Bowl TODAY at 1 pm at Waters field. Will the students even up the Turkey Bowl Series 1-1 or will the adult leadership take a 2-0 lead? See Barry if you want to play. We’ll have Youth Group tonight in the Underground at 6:30 pm. Ski Trip registration is open and spots are limited, so register early.

COLLEGE MINISTRIES

Winter Mission Trip to the Gulf Coast Jan 5 - Jan 13. Spaces available for students and adult leaders. Register by Dec 6 to Kayla.Gray@viennapres.org

MUSIC MINISTRY

We would like to thank Trinity Presbyterian Church and Director of Music Carol Feather Martin for lending us thirteen additional handbells to use in introducing our opening hymn today.

CARE & SUPPORT

Christian Cancer Companions was formed a few years ago by members of VPC who were all cancer survivors. These survivors felt called to outreach to individuals newly diagnosed with cancer, letting them know there were people who had been through what they were facing. If you know of a friend or loved one who would benefit from this support, feel free to invite them. If you have any questions, please contact Rita Lockwood for more information, 703.573.6168.

STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Young Adults: If you are finished with high school and consider yourself a young adult, we invite you to join us for the Lightseekers Underground Sunday School class at 9:30 am in L4. We discuss what that morning’s Scripture says to us as we try to live as authentic disciples of Christ.

Term II of CenterPoint begins on Jan 6!
Term II Classes:
Sundays, 6 – 7:30 pm, Jan 6, 13, 20, 27, Feb 3:
•The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached – J. Robin (Rob) Bromhead, Senior Pastor, Centreville Presbyterian Church.
•Christian Reflections on the Silver Screen – Medium & Message – Brian Hays, CEO and Chairman, SiteScape, and member of VPC
Tuesday, 7:30 – 9 pm, Jan 8, 15, 22, 29, Feb 5:
•Growing in Christ – Peter James, Senior Pastor, VPC and Chris Hammond, Parish Associate
•Christianity and American Public Culture, 1892 to 2002 – Fred Beuttler, Deputy Historian of the U.S. House of Representatives.
Details about classes and Forums, as well as registration information, are available on-line at www.viennapres.org/centerpoint. The CenterPoint catalog is available in the narthex and church office.
**SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

**CHO will be helping** more than 200 local families with food and gifts for Christmas. We need your help! We need food cards from local grocery stores, toys for kids ages 0-12, gift cards for teens, bikes in very good riding condition, and warm winter coats and jackets. You or your small group can also arrange to “adopt” a family for food and gifts. You can also help us set up in the narthex on Dec 14, from 9:30 am - 12 N, and help clients select gifts on Dec 15, from 9:30 - 11 am. We are not accepting used toys this year because of the large toy recall. Please call Carolyn Mysel, 703.938.7213, for more information.

**CHO Needs Bicycles for Christmas,** especially children’s bicycles in good condition (or needing only minor repair), needed for the CHO Christmas Program Dec 15, ‘07. Please contact the CHO (703.281.7614), John Kliwer (703.938.9665) or Tom Whitton (703.281.3790).

**The North East Vienna Citizens Association (NEVCA)** is conducting its annual Food Drive to benefit the Committee for Helping Others (CHO), Nov 1 - Dec 31. All non-perishable food items are accepted, and supplies in the Food Pantry are low. Please bring your donation to the CHO Food Collection Box, which is located outside of Grapevine Book Store. CHO donations go directly to help citizens in our immediate Vienna neighborhood.

**Want to make a donation of time and talent?** Pick up a copy of the Nov issue of “Connections” located on the Information Wall in the Gathering Space or online at www.viennapres.org/all/connections.pdf.

**Our Daily Bread:** Please return your bags filled with groceries to the church no later than Dec 7. Bins will be in the back of the narthex on Sunday morning to hold the groceries. We need help to sort the groceries on Dec 8 at 9 am in the Great Hall. Help is also needed to deliver the groceries on Sunday, December 9th. Call Sandy Silver if you can help, 703.620.9162.

**Calling for Advent Wreath Lighters:** It’s that time of year again! We are looking for individuals and/or families who are willing to light our advent candle wreath this season. This is a wonderful family event and quite meaningful during this time of the year. Won’t you consider these dates and one of the services for your family during this advent season?

- **Dec 9, 2007** 8:00
- **Dec 24, 2007** (Christmas Eve) 7:00 or 8:45

If you would like to participate in this annual event in our church, please call Lee Taylor at the church office 703.938.9050, ext. 103, to find out more details or to sign up. Don’t be shy, we need you!

**A SPECIAL NOTE**

Dear Friends,

I was overwhelmed with the gift and the grand celebration that you gave me when I retired. This note is to say Thank You to all of you. Working for VPC and for this dedicated congregation has been a joy. As your treasurer and business manager, I have seen you give generously to our church programs, and have tried, to the best of my ability, to be a good steward of the resources of our church. Thank you for trusting me with that responsibility for the last twenty years. We have a wonderful staff to whom we can look for leadership in all areas of church life, and it has been a privilege to work with each of them. You will continue to see me volunteering now and then in the church office, but rest assured, I am retired. May God be with our church as we move toward the future He has for us.

Your friend in Christ, Kamal Rahal

Thank you to the Jensen family (8:00 am) and the Whittle family (9:30) for lighting the Advent Wreath in our services today.
FALL 2007 ROOM ASSIGNMENTS

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES:

9:30 am:

Beyond Basic: Beyond Basics: Ken Workman will lead us December 2nd - December 16th, as the class continues our series of lessons in Genesis. Room 203/204. Coordinator: Kate Lund

Friendship Class: For developmentally-challenged adults, Room 108C. Teachers: Emmy Parker & Beth Gourley

Lightseekers East: An in-depth discussion of this morning’s scripture text. Attendance at 8 am worship service is not required. Room 211. Coordinator: Judy Chelson

Lightseekers West: An in-depth discussion of this morning’s scripture text. Attendance at 8 am worship service is not required, Parlor. Facilitator: Carla Schnell

Lightseekers Underground (20’s & 30’s): An in-depth discussion of this morning’s scripture text. Attendance at 8 am worship service is not required, L4. Facilitators: Shannon and John Jordan

Searchers in the Word - In-depth study of the pastoral letters of Paul: I and II Timothy. The class meets at 9:30 am in Dick Eagan’s office with a study guide. We share in leading the class study, using commentaries. Coordinator: Sharon Sigler

Partners with Christ: “12 Christian Beliefs That Can Drive You Crazy; Relief From False Assumptions” by Henry Cloud and John Townsend. Books are available at Grapevine. Come join us! Room 205. Facilitator: Martha Strauss.

11:00 am:

Berean: We are studying Revelation - the only book of the Bible which promises the reader a blessing. Text is the Bible - bring your own. Rm. 203/204. Coordinators: Duane & Esther Harder.
