Vienna Presbyterian Church
A Disciple-Making Community

“Gifts from the Heart of God”

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
SUNDAY WORSHIP • 8:00

Prelude
Terry Sisk, organist

Welcome

Call to Worship
Andrew Schmidt
Prepare

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

▲ Hymn #2
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
HYFRYDOL

Scripture
John 1:1-4
Page 91 or 86 (NT)

▲ Worship Song
All in All
Dennis Jernigan

You are my strength when I am weak. You are the treasure that I seek. You are my All in All. Seeking You as a precious jewel, Lord, to give up I’d be a fool. You are my All in All. Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name. Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.

Women:
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.
Taking my sin, my cross my shame,
Rising again I bless Your name.
You are my All in All.

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.

When I fall down You pick me up.
When I am dry You fill my cup.
You are my All in All.

You are my strength when I am weak.
Taking my sin, my cross my shame,
Rising again I bless Your name.
You are my All in All.

Men:
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.

When I fall down You pick me up.
When I am dry You fill my cup.
You are my All in All.

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name. Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.

▲ Congregation standing, as able.

Please request large-print hymnals from the ushers.
Assistive listening devices are available in the balcony from the Sound Technician.
Worship Song
How Great Is Our God
See pages 6-7 for music
Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves and Ed Cash

How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great is our God!

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands; beginning and the end, beginning and the end.
The God-head, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb
How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great is our God!

Name above all names, worthy of all praise. My heart will sing: How great is our God!

Offertory
Glenn and Paula Lohrmann
Michael Card

During the offertory, please pass the Friendship Pad.

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication
Hymn #592

Sermon
Pastor Pete James

The Life
Gifts from the Heart of God

Hymn #8
TRURO

Benediction
Youth Choir
Andre Thomas

Postlude
Terry Sisk, organist

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.
Prelude
Terry Sisk, organist

Welcome

Call to Worship
Prepare
Andrew Schmidt

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Hymn #2
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus    HYFRYDOL

Scripture
John 1:1-4    Page 91 or 86 (NT)

Worship Song
All in All    Dennis Jernigan

You are my strength when I am weak. You are the treasure that I seek. You are my All in All.
Seeking You as a precious jewel, Lord, to give up I’d be a fool. You are my All in All.
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name. Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.

Women:
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.

Men:
Taking my sin, my cross my shame,
Rising again I bless Your name.
You are my All in All.
When I fall down You pick me up.
When I am dry You fill my cup.
You are my All in All.

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.

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Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name. Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.

Congregation standing, as able.

Please request large-print hymnals from the ushers.
Assistive listening devices are available in the balcony from the Sound Technician
Children’s Message

   Rita Lockwood

   After the message, all children may go to their classes.

Minute For Witness

   Minh Towner

Worship Song

   How Great Is Our God

   See pages 6-7 for music

   Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves and Ed Cash

   The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty; Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
   He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
   And trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.
   How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!
   And all will see how great, how great is our God!

   And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands; beginning and the end, beginning and the end.
   The God-head, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,
   The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.
   How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!
   And all will see how great, how great is our God!

   Name above all names, worthy of all praise. My heart will sing: How great is our God!
   Name above all names, worthy of all praise. My heart will sing: How great is our God!
   How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!
   And all will see how great, how great is our God!

Offertory

   Glenn and Paula Lohrmann
   Michael Card

   During the offertory, please pass the Friendship Pad.

Sermon

   Pastor Pete James

   The Life
   Gifts from the Heart of God

Hymn #8

   Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

   TRURO

Benediction

   Small Ensemble

   In The Bleak Midwinter

Postlude

   Terry Sisk, organist

   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.
How Great Is Our God

Words and Music by
Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves
and Ed Cash

1. The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty,
(2. And) age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;

Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,

Himself in light, Father, Spirit, Son,

and trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.
How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!

And all will see how great, how great is our God!

CCLI Song #4348399
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CCLI License #206597
Today's sanctuary flowers are given by
Bill and Sherrie Steinbach, in loving memory of their son,
Bonnie and David Downs, in memory of Weldon W. Downs
Hi, my name is Minh Phuong Towner. My friends call me Minh and I came from South Vietnam.

I grew up in a Catholic home and regularly attended church and Sunday school. I spent my primary school years in a Catholic boarding school, where I first learned to pray to God for my needs.

In 1968, Communists attacked the city where my family lived. Our house became the target in the middle of battlefield. My dad, my younger brother, age 7, my younger sister, age 6 and myself, 11 years old, were among many Vietnamese people gathered by the Communists. We all lined up and waited for our turn to be interrogated and for them to determine whether we should live or die.

A soldier lined us up, and then called my dad to step forward. He instructed my dad to kneel down in front of him. He glanced at my brother, my sister and me and asked my dad, “Are they your children?” My dad replied “Yes, but please spare them because they did no harm.” The soldier turned around and asked me, “Do you love your dad?” I froze at that instant and could not say anything. I knew in my heart at the time no matter what I said I would lose my dad. I looked at my dad and wanted to say “I love him”, but the gun shot traveled faster than my speech and my dad died instantly . . . before he could hear me say “I love him”. The soldier turned around and shot my brother, my sister and me. I only got wounded on my head while my brother and sister died instantly. The soldiers then went away.

My tears kept rolling on my face and I called out to God begging Him to give back my dad. I even bargained with God by offering Him to take my life in return for my family to come back alive, but I was not successful in bargaining.

Little did I realize that God was with me throughout this ordeal. He gave me the strength to get up, run and find my mother. He gave me the courage to help my mother and three brothers to find refuge at the time. God was with me and my family when we were running and looking for shelter. He took care of us by leading us to American soldiers who took care of my head injury which required urgent medical care due to excessive bleeding.

I was not angry at God. I still believed in Him but at the same time I felt sad, confused and could not understand why God did not save my family. I spent many years wondering why my prayer was not answered. I kept asking myself ...was I a very bad person that God punished me that way?.... I started to have doubt in God’s love and I gradually drifted away from church. By then I was convinced that I was a bad person and God had given up hope in me.

My life continued as a struggle. I spent a number of years living with my extended family and experienced various type of abuse, but that is another story for another time.

In 1975, South Vietnam lost the war. Hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese fled the country in search of freedom. My younger brother and I were among of them, he was 17 and I was 18. For the first time, I felt my prayer was answered as my brother and I were on the way to leave the country.

My brother and I were captured by the Communists and we were separated when we were taken to a prison camp. Life in prison was like what you see in the war movies today: cruelty, harsh treatment, loneliness, suffering, despair and hopelessness. My brother and I were tortured while in prison camp. There were times I prayed and asked God to take my life away before I had to go through another day of torture as I felt that my body could not handle anymore. Miraculously, I survived. At this time my relationship with God was very intermittent.

As a prisoner, every day I labored on either a rice field or a corn field. I loved to be on the corn field because I knew at the end of the day I would have some kernels left over to keep for myself. In the evening, I would put those tiny kernels in my bowl of soup which consisted of cloudy runny watery liquid, and somehow my
soup became tastier than before. You see when I was so hungry the only thing left to keep me going was my imagination; so with those tiny kernels plus my imagination my watery soup became a banquet for me. Each day in prison, I thanked God that he helped me to stay alive. Each time I received the news from my brother’s prison cell, knowing that my brother was still alive, I thanked God for his mercy on us.

I remember one night lying on a cold cement bench in the prison cell asking my cellmate whether she believed in God. Her reply was NO. She explained to me that if there was a true God then He would prevent the suffering and cruelty from happening to innocent people. Was it true what she said that God does not exist? Somehow, what she said made sense but, I wanted to continue believing that God exists and He is real, because that was the only thing left in me.

I lay there, looking out the tiny window into a pitch dark sky. Tears started rolling down my face as I prayed and asked God whether He really existed. If He did, He needed to show me a sign so I could continue having hope in Him. Time passed by, suddenly I noticed a light reflected on the cold cement wall. I looked up through the window and there it was . . . a tiny star shining brightly in the dark black sky. I burst out crying with joy and thanksgiving to God. I fell to sleep with knowledge in my heart that God had not abandoned me after all.

I finally got out of prison with my brother. We moved to Taiwan, then to France for several years. My brother decided to remain in France and I moved to Australia. Life was still a challenge for me despite having a comfortable life in Australia. I suffered from depression and was diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and required treatment for many years. I also lost my brother in France to cancer and my marriage failed. Well, it is another story for me to tell at another time how God sustained me during that journey. Meanwhile I started to drift away from church. I knew God was with me, but somehow I no longer could feel his presence.

I felt God convicted me to have a relationship with Him again when my children were born. I started to develop an interest in searching for a better understanding about God. Despite having a successful professional life and a comfortable living, I felt a great emptiness in me. I found myself at the lowest point in my life, emotionally, mentally, and most of all, spiritually. Then God brought a friend to me named Martha. She became my best friend and sister to me until today. She discipled me and helped me to find a church for my children and me and helped me with my weekly bible study.

My relationship with God was renewed as I learned more about His love for His people. When I reflect back on my life, I realize how blessed I am. God has been with me ALL THE WAY; his footprints were there in the sand but I never noticed them.

I now understand why my life was spared, God wants to use my experience with grief and loss to bring hope to others. I now know that I have a story to tell to people who need to hear. How privileged I am to know that God has a plan for me.

I am thankful for God’s graciousness and mercy on me, despite how imperfect I am. God is indeed a loving and gracious God. He demonstrated His love to me through circumstances I have been through.

He gives me hope when I feel hopeless.
He gives me strength when I feel weak.
He gives me comfort when I feel hurt.
He loves me unconditionally . . . And his promises never fail.

I am glad that God did not give up on me, and He continues working in my life so I can be ready to go and serve wherever He leads me. Thank you.
INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Grieving: Sally Mitchell (brother-in-law), Sue O’Brien (brother-in-law), Ed Venditti (first father-in-law)

Hospitalized: Susan Leitson’s father

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

Homebound: Dick Hutcheson

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

Undergoing Treatment: Sylvia Bergert, Dody Martin, Ken Thomas, Mark Tracz, Kathy Van Meter

Family and Friends: Debra Bowen’s friends Jim and Sid, Joanne & Bob Bower’s friend Mary, Winnie Cowden’s sister, Bill Downer’s father and brother, Jennifer Fleisher’s friend Greg, 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, Tricia Hines’s father, Garth Jensen’s father, Betty Larson’s niece’s husband, Cathy Leannson’s mother, 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, Stan Ott’s friend Rene, 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), Mary Ann Singlaub’s 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, Sheri Walker’s friend Barbara.

Other Concerns: Becky James’s sister Sarah Reber, Jo Ann Talley’s friends Clark & Edith and Lyle & Sonia

Congratulations to: Melanie & Mark Urban on the birth of Maxwell Roman Urban on November 9th in IN. Proud grandparents are Lucy Ann & Donal Black. We also congratulate Jon Thew and Lola Mills who were married at VPC on December 8th. Congratulations also to Danielle Talamantes who has advanced from a field of 46 to one of 7 finalists in an international competition held in Seoul, Korea 11/27-12/7.

Many thanks to: Pam Kattenburg & Susan Reeves and their wonderful team who have made our church so beautiful for Christmas – Karen Dunlop, Shirley Gourley, Joanna Greig, Jennifer & Ryan McQuillan, Robert Reeves, Judy Rust, Bert & Gerri Webb, Mary Wisenbaugh, Jaime Tapia and Belarmino Diaz.


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.
WORD-SHARE-PRAYER
For personal and small group study

READ: John 1:4-9

What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

REFLECT: Read this passage two or three times.

What stands out to you in this passage?

What is the “darkness”?

What was John the Baptist’s role in relation to the light?

How did the light enlighten everyone?

What insights can you gain from seeing Jesus as the light of the world?

What darkness are you presently experiencing? How is the light of Christ’s presence meaningful to you right now?

RESPOND: Think of someone you know who is experiencing darkness in some way. Reach out in love to share God’s light.

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!
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Responding to God’s Call with Gratitude and Generosity

Update on 2007 Annual Budget

As of November 30, giving to support the 2007 Annual Budget is behind by nearly 17%. We need your help to accomplish the Lord’s purposes through VPC. Please prayerfully consider a gift to help the church close this gap before December 31st and ensure a strong start to the new year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2007 Annual Budget</th>
<th>Received as of 11/07</th>
<th>Needed by 12/31/07</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$3,407,224</td>
<td>$2,565,635</td>
<td>$841,589</td>
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2008 Annual Budget Pledging – We getting closer to our goal!

Many thanks to the 479 families who have submitted pledges to let the church know their estimated giving for the 2008 Annual Budget. To move forward with our plans, we need to receive $400,000 in additional pledges from the congregation in the next few weeks. Pledge cards are in the Friendship Pads found in the pew racks as well as on the Welcome Table, Sign Up Table and the information wall in the Gathering Space. Cards may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2008 Proposed Annual Budget</th>
<th>Pledge Goal (70% of Budget)</th>
<th>Still Needed by 12/31/07</th>
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<tr>
<td>$3,583,800</td>
<td>$2,508,660</td>
<td>$1,468,877</td>
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Presbyterians have traditionally supported, through the Christmas Joy Offering, the unmet needs of families who have given their lives to the mission of the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), some of them, after their retirement, others while they continue to serve. Our support also helps students at racially ethnic schools and colleges develop their gifts and find their calling. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, may this year’s Christmas Joy Offering witness boldly to the unconditional and uncontainable love received from that baby born in Bethlehem.

The next opportunity for those choosing to become members of VPC will be on Jan 19, (8:30 am – 2:30 pm, includes lunch) and Jan 20, (11 am – 12 N) (both days). If you have questions about VPC, please come on Saturday and learn more about the church. Please help us plan for your participation by calling Linda Kemple (703.938.9050) to register or with questions. Childcare is available for ages 6 and under by reservation (ext. 351) no less than 48 hours in advance.

Are you in the process of planning your wedding? We hope that one step on your way to the altar will be the Marriage Prep Classes at VPC. Held in the parlor from 11 am -12:15 pm on Sundays, Jan 6 – 27, these free sessions are required for those being married by our pastors, but are open to others also. Please call Linda Kemple, 703.938.9050 with questions, or enroll at www.viennapres.org – “on-line sign-up forms” ASAP! Next class April, 2008.

Calling all young adults (post-high school to 30’s)! Come to our luncheon TODAY, 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 the window display of new audio books on CDs available for check-out. Selected works on Christmas are displayed in the library.
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 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 ornaments, or take it home for them. Please encourage your child to begin thinking of and praying for a friend.

Eleanor Hay, nimickhay@aol.com.

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Middle School: Registration forms for the ski/tubing trip will be out this week. Register early to reserve a spot. An adult male to co-lead a middle school boys’ small group urgently needed! For details contact kim.snyder@viennapres.org. Youth Group will meet at 6:45 pm this Friday in the Underground. Upcoming “Hub” event, Friday Dec 21, 7-10 pm in the Underground join us for a Christmas Movie and Game Night.

High School: Youth Group tonight is from 6-7 pm (note time change) so we can all attend Glorious Sounds at 7 pm. There are still a few ski trip slots open so get your registrations in. Come help spread some Christmas cheer on Dec 15 at the Lamb Center. For details or to sign up contact Liz Foskey, liz.foskey@viennapres.org. On Dec 16 we will celebrate with a White Elephant Christmas party.

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.

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.

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
• Christian Reflections on the Silver Screen – Medium & Message – Brian Hays

Tuesday, 7:30 – 9 pm, Jan 8, 15, 22, 29, Feb 5:
• Growing in Christ – VPC Pastoral Staff
• Christianity and American Public Culture, 1892 to 2002 – Fred Beuttler

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. Please contact the CHO 703.281.7614, John Kliewer, 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.

Would you like to help a prisoner this Christmas who is in the Fairfax County jail? We have been asked to partner with Good News Jail Ministry (who receives financial support from VPC) to provide Christmas cards and a stamped envelope for each of the inmates so they will be able to send Christmas cards to their loved ones. If you would like to participate, please email with how many cards you can have to me by Dec 17. sheila.breuer@viennapres.org

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

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 24, 2007 (Christmas Eve) 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!

The Teller Ministry has opportunities for volunteers. Are you are detailed-oriented, available for a few hours one or two Sunday mornings a month and interested in being a part of this small group? Kathie Rawson at 703.938.9050 or kathie.rawson@viennapres.org.

A SPECIAL NOTE

Thank you to the Drew, Myra, Patrick and Parker Goodrich family (8:00 am), the Friendship Class (9:30) and Judy and Sarah Rainey (11:00) for lighting the Advent Wreath in our services today.

The SOS mission (Support Our Service Men & Women) sends out one more big THANK YOU to our congregation and our community for the cards and donations received for our Thanksgiving drive. The Pre-school, Sunday School and Advent Craft cards were amazing! We are pleased to report that we shipped 30 boxes of goodies to our troops in Afghanistan, Iraq, Kuwait, South Korea, and the USS Nimitz. A large number of sweatpants for wounded soldiers will also be delivered soon to Walter Reed hospital. If you are placing Girl Scout cookie orders, please consider ordering some extra boxes for our next shipment for Valentines Day.
ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES:

9:30 am:

**Beyond Basic**: 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. 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.

**Lightseekers**: “The Life You’ve Always Wanted: Spiritual Disciplines for Ordinary People.”, Room 211. Facilitator: Connie Edens.


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**Vienna Presbyterian Church**

124 Park Street NE
Vienna, VA 22180
703.938.9050

Pastors
Peter James
Glenda Simpkins Hoffman
E. Stanley Ott

Teaching Pastor
Chris Hammond
Shannon Jordan

Interim Dir. of Congregational Care
Music Director
L. Thomas Vining
J. Kerry Wilkerson

Associate Music Director
Organist
Terry Sisk
Clare Maynard

Children’s Ministries Director
Daryl Wright
Barry Hill

Asst. Children’s Ministries Director
Elizabeth Foskey
Kim Snyder

Student Ministries Director
Kayla Gray

High School Director
Kelly Gould

Middle School Director
Bonnie Downs

College Ministries Director
Sheila Breuer

Young Adult Ministries Coord.
Barb Jones

Preschool Director
Dick Eagan

Missions and Outreach Director
Kathie Rawson

Connections Coordinator
Office hours
Monday & Wednesday, 8:30 am-7:30pm
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 8:30 am-5:30 pm

Website
(Members & Friends: user name: faithful; password: christian)

Newsletter
 rewrite@viennapres.org

Worship Bulletin
bulletin@viennapres.org

Sermons are available anytime at www.viennapres.org, under Worship.

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**VPC Core Beliefs**

As a disciple-making community, we believe . . .

- Jesus is Lord
- Scripture is our authority
- Everyone is called to discipleship

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**VPC Mission**

As a disciple-making community, we will . . .

- Pray Daily
- Study Diligently
- Worship Continually
- Serve Creatively
- Witness Boldly
- Give Generously

...both individually and in community