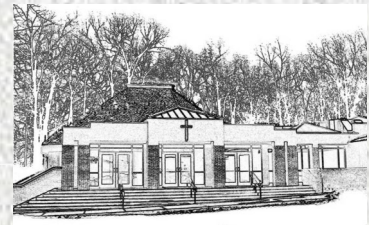


# The Parkwood Connection

A monthly publication by Parkwood Baptist Church

Developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ,  
fully involved in God's Kingdom work



FEBRUARY 2014

## LOVE A HUNGRY WORLD BAKE SALE

We are all so blessed to have plenty, so let's spread God's blessing to those who are hungry! On February 9 Parkwood will host its annual Love a Hungry World Bake Sale. The Hunger Committee invites everyone to help raise funds for much-needed hunger relief through the sale of baked goods and other treats. There are three ways you can participate:

- Donate baked goods to the sale (sign-up sheet located on the bulletin board across from the restrooms)
- Purchase treats from the sale (in the fellowship hall)
- Make a monetary donation

Don't forget to purchase some goodies to take home to family and friends! All proceeds from the sale go directly to hunger relief locally, nationally, or internationally. For more information, please contact Sharon Gibson at



[mgibson2@cox.net](mailto:mgibson2@cox.net). Thank you for your generosity!

## February - At-A-Glance

February 5

Parent Program Sponsored by the WEE Center

February 8

Women's Circle Breakfast

February 9

Child Protection Training

Love a Hungry World Bake Sale

February 10

Christian Book Group / PrimeTimers' Luncheon

February 11

WEE Spirit Night at McDonald's

February 17

Presidents' Day Holiday - Church Office Closed

February 21

Funtastic Friday

Youth Tribal Game Night

February 22

Men's Prayer Breakfast

February 28

Women's Ministry Fellowship

## THANK YOU FROM

## YOUR PARKWOOD STAFF!



Thank you to our Parkwood family for all the wonderful Christmas gifts and wishes! We greatly appreciate your kindness, and are so touched by your generous love offering, gifts, and cards. It is truly our honor and pleasure to assist our Parkwood members and we look forward to continuing our service to you in 2014!

## PARKWOOD HEALTHY CORNER

Have you made a New Year's Resolution? Perhaps to lose 10 pounds? Start going to the gym three days a week? Give up sodas, coffee, or sweets?

Over 40% of Americans make diet and fitness resolutions and less than 8 percent succeed.....why? It may be because they fail to:

- 1 - Make an obtainable goal (small simple steps to change).
- 2 - Make a plan on how they are going to succeed. (BOD4GOD quote: "Fail to plan...Plan to Fail.")
- 3 - Ask for God's guidance and support when it gets hard.

But that does not have to be you. Make a plan of small steps you can take throughout the year to achieve better health. (For example: I will replace 50% of the coffee or soda I drink with water.) When you achieve your first goal, make another small goal (e.g., I will exercise 30 minutes a day even if it is walking during my children's activities, or do floor exercises during commercials), while still maintaining the first. Most importantly, for your own accountability, tell someone your goals and plans so they can keep you on track and motivate you for success.

If you are looking for help with your goal setting or on how to get started, please contact Cheri Dickey at [Bod4God.parkwood@gmail.com](mailto:Bod4God.parkwood@gmail.com) for more information.

The next Bod4God Bible Study runs February 2 through April 13, and Ladies' First Place for Health Class meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM.





Calla Murphy	2/8
Scarlett Alexander	2/10
Sibril Bangura	2/14
Thomas Prather	2/22
Abby Bills	2/25
Maddy Bills	2/25



Canned Meats  
 Jelly  
 Condiments  
 Diapers (all sizes)  
 Baby Wipes  
 Infant Formula  
 Baby Food  
 Canned Beef Stew  
 Tuna  
 Canned Milk  
 Rice  
 Cereal  
 Oatmeal  
 Breakfast Bars  
 Peanut Butter  
 Instant Potatoes  
 Spaghetti Sauces  
 Pasta  
 Soups  
 Canned Ravioli  
 Boxed Dinners  
 Macaroni and Cheese  
 Boxed Juices  
 Juice/Drinks  
 Canned Fruit  
 Canned Vegetables  
 Powdered Milk

Please remember to  
 check expiration dates.  
 Thank you!

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### VBS – Save the Date - July 21-25

A special "Thank You" to everyone who attended the VBS Preview at Ridgecrest in January. We had so much fun learning the music, seeing the crafts, getting decoration ideas, and discovering what **Agency D3** is all about ~ **Discover – Decide – Defend!**

### Funtastic Friday - Friday, February 21, 5:30-7:30 PM

You do not want to miss our next Funtastic Friday! We have a super special evening planned for all who attend. We'll be giving clues as to what you might expect as the date approaches! As always, we'll be serving dinner at 5:30, with the secret festivities starting at 6:30. Please register by February 19 on Parkwood's website ([www.parkwood.org](http://www.parkwood.org)), by calling the Church Office at 703.978.8160, or by emailing Jenn Heiserman at [Jenniferh@parkwood.org](mailto:Jenniferh@parkwood.org).

### CentriKid Summer Camp - June 29-July 3 in Lynchburg, VA

What you can expect at CentriKid: Solid Biblical Content, Seriously Safe Camp, Life-Changing Fun, Ministry Through Relationships, Age-Specific Bible Study Groups, and Courage-Building Opportunities!

CentriKid Camp is for children who have completed 3rd - 6th grades. If your child would like to attend this camp or if you'd like more information, please contact Jenn Heiserman. The cost is \$322/child, which includes lodging at Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg, VA and meals for the week. A \$50 deposit per child is needed by February 7.



There are many ways for you to serve in our Children's Ministry. Please check out Parkwood's website for a full list of opportunities.

**Jenn Heiserman**  
**Director of Children's Ministries**

## YOUTH MINISTRY

Hello Parkwood! We want to highlight a couple things happening this month in the Youth Ministry!

**Registration for MFUGE, our summer mission camp for youth, begins February 2.** We will be leading a team of youth down to Ridgecrest, NC for a week of Bible Study, Worship, and mission activities, July 5-9. A \$50 deposit is due at registration in order to reserve your spot. Space is limited so sign up soon!

**Tribal Game Night** is upon us! On February 21 we will be having our special youth night of games from 7:30 to 11 PM! You will not want to miss this!

**Interested in helping out?** Our Ministry is growing and we have increasing opportunities to get involved! If you'd like to know more, please see the youth bulletin board (across from the Prayer Parlor), visit the Parkwood website, or email me at [ReedB@parkwood.org](mailto:ReedB@parkwood.org) for more details!

*Reed Bradley, Youth Director*

### Stewardship Report

Budget Needs thru Dec 2013	\$ 1,044,244
Budget Received	\$ 951,454
Budget Expended	\$ 937,163
Difference	\$ 14,291
2013 Building funds received thru Dec 2013	\$ 33,561



**PRIMETIMERS' LUNCHEON**  
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10**  
**12:00 PM**  
**IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**

If you are 50+, we would love to have you  
 join us! For more info, please contact  
 Virginia Sandidge at [vsandidge@aol.com](mailto:vsandidge@aol.com)  
 or 703.323.7537.

## Parkwood wee center

The Weekday Early Education (WEE) Center is a ministry of the church that serves about 100 children between the ages of 16 months and five years. We have an excellent reputation within the community and our classes fill up quickly. Please visit the WEE Center during our regular school hours (Tuesday – Friday, 10 AM-2 PM) or speak to a WEE Committee member to learn more about our program. As always, more information can be found on our website [www.weecenter.com](http://www.weecenter.com).

### SPIRIT NIGHT

The WEE Center will host a Spirit Night on Tuesday, February 11, 5-8 PM at the Kings Park McDonalds. Take a night off from cooking and come join the fun and fellowship! McDonalds will donate 10% of all their proceeds from Spirit Night to the WEE Center. Don't have time to sit and visit? You can even use the drive-through!

### REGISTRATION FOR 2014-2015

Registration for the next school year begins Tuesday, February 11 at 6 PM. Come to the Kings Park McDonalds to turn in your form. Any Parkwood Church member may register their child at that time or at the WEE Center Tuesday – Friday, 9 AM-3 PM. Forms must be turned in directly to Ann Lipton, the WEE Center Director. Registration forms may be picked up from the WEE Center Office, Church Office or the WEE Center Bulletin Board across from the Prayer Parlor. If you have questions, please contact Ann at 703.978.0640

Open registration for the community at large begins on February 25<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM and will continue during our regular business hours. If you have a preschooler or know of one, tell them about Parkwood's WEE Center!

### SILENT AUCTION

The Silent Auction is coming!!! Join other Parkwood members on March 21 for an evening of fun while supporting the WEE Center Ministry.

There are four easy ways you can help make the evening fun and successful:

**1) Solicit** a local business in your area for a donation. Visit a business you frequent and ask them for their kindness. Everything the manager needs to know is in the donation request letter and agreement form. Donation agreement forms are located in the Church and WEE Center offices.

**2) Donate an item for the silent auction.** It could be a gift card; a professional service you can provide; or a gift basket. Whatever you can donate is always appreciated! Bring the items to the WEE Center or Church Office.

**3) Volunteer!** Help on the night of the event or help organize the auction items and gift baskets. We always need an extra hand or two!

**4) Join together with friends** on March 21 for fun, food, fundraising, and fellowship!!



*Ann Lipton*  
*WEE Center Director*

## *A fellow disciple on the Way...*

### **The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached**



*"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you" (Matt 5: 3-12 NRSV).*

The Sermon on the Mount (or the Great Sermon) is undoubtedly Matthew's greatest composition (Matt 5-7). The Sermon is a harmonious masterpiece of ethical and religious admonitions, containing such well-known items as the Beatitudes (Matt 5:3-12), the Lord's Prayer (6:9-13), and the Golden Rule (7:12). The Sermon has had an enormous impact on Western civilization. Politicians often quote the beatitudes as a kind of platform. Many expressions from the Sermon have entered our language at a popular level, such that even non-Christians are aware of "the salt of the earth," "turning the other cheek," and "wolves in sheep's clothing." Thomas Jefferson, a self-styled deist, nonetheless identified the Sermon, along with the Ten Commandments, as expressive of the moral principles on which the United States should be founded.

My primary focus is on the nine beatitudes as found in Matthew 5:3-12 (Luke's Sermon on the Plain has four beatitudes [6:20-23], John's Gospel has one [20:29], while the book of Revelation has seven in the form of isolated sayings [1:3; 14:13; 16:15; 19:9; 20:6; 22:7, 14]). The term "beatitude" is derived from the Latin *beati* (meaning "blessed" or "happy"). Technically known as *macarisms*, the term comes from the Greek *makarios* ("blessed," "happy" or "fortunate").

More than any other instructor on morality, Jesus teaches with divine power and authority, and by this empowerment makes possible a new existence. The setting is in Galilee on an unidentified mountain, where Jesus gathered His disciples around Him. In Matthew, incidentally several significant events occurred in mountain settings: the temptation (4:8), the Transfiguration (17:1), and the farewell to the disciples (28:16). Unmistakable parallels exist between the setting in Matthew 5:1 and story of Moses and the children of Israel at Mount Sinai (Exod 19). It was on a mountain that the Old Testament conveyor of divine revelation encountered God and was given the Ten Commandments (Exod 20). According to Matthew, Jesus, the "new Moses," speaks to His followers on a mountain.

For Christians, next to the Ten Commandments as an expression of God's will, The Beatitudes have been revered for expressing succinctly the *values* on which Jesus placed priority. The Beatitudes are not mere words. Rather, they distill the essence of what it means to be a Christian. Throughout the Beatitudes, Jesus offered *consolation* and *promise* to the disciples who had gathered around Him and to future followers who would remain true to their discipleship. *In the Beatitudes we are confronted with the demands of God in their starkest form and bidden to obey.*

*Pastor Daniel*



## FEbruary

### BIRTHDAYS

2/1	Nadine Duke
2/1	Edith Moreno
2/1	Lori Vera
2/2	Ed Fry
2/2	Doris Sutphin
2/3	Blanca Alonso
2/3	Rita Smith
2/4	Jenn Heiserman
2/4	Marvin Russell
2/5	Heather Duke
2/5	Patricia McCormick
2/5	Ruth Nefflen
2/6	Duncan DeLoach
2/6	Michael Gibson
2/10	Twila Lytle
2/10	Jim Scroggin
2/15	Dick Chandler
2/16	Mary Anne Love
2/16	Carolyn Purdy
2/17	Lori West
2/20	Vicki Herrington
2/21	Brittany Vera
2/22	Victoria Benavaga
2/22	Angel Hernandez
2/25	Jessica Caballero
2/27	Michael Barger
2/27	David Buffington
2/27	Emma Regling
2/28	Elizabeth Bowen
2/29	Mariel Brown
2/29	Addison O'Donoghue

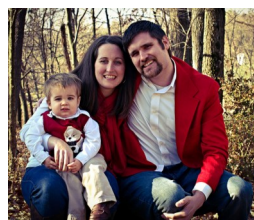


## PARKWOOD.....On Mission

### INTRODUCING JARED & NOELLE SMITH

Missionaries in Chicago

Last month, we began providing support from the Missions budget to Jared and Noelle Smith, who are ministering to children and youth in inner-city Chicago. Children can come to the Agape Community Center (a Christian community center in the southside Roseland neighborhood) after school and learn about Jesus, as well as get help with schoolwork. Young men can join a basketball league where Christ is taught. Local churches provide a connecting point to meet people's physical needs and to start a conversation about their spiritual needs. They also partner with Cru Inner City, which is affiliated with Campus Crusade for Christ



Jared is graduate of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, NC, and joined the staff of Cru Inner City Chicago last fall.

Please add these young missionaries to your prayer list.

### FROM THE DEACONS

In January, we had a wonderful Deacon Ordination and Installation Service. There are now 26 active members of the Parkwood Deacon Board. Pictures of your deacons will be posted on the bulletin board across from the choir room soon. Please be in prayer for the Lord to guide and help the deacons to serve Him faithfully and to serve the people of Parkwood in His name.

Please join us in thanking Doris Richburg, who served as our Chair in 2013 and is rotating off the active Deacon Board. We appreciate her service to Parkwood and her leadership to the deacons.

If you have a prayer request, or if there is another way we can be of help to you, please contact any Deacon or the Church Office. We are here to serve you.

*Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 1 Timothy 6:18*

*Stuart Rust, Deacon Chair*

### COMMUNITY MISSIONS: FAIRFAX FISH

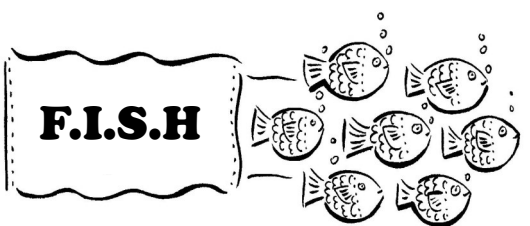
FISH has been a big part of community missions for Parkwood since the 1970s. Parkwood, along with 16 other churches, comprise Fairfax FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help). They work with the Fairfax County social workers to meet the financial needs of its clients, which includes assistance with rent, mortgages, utility bills, prescriptions, transportation, and food. This organization has been a blessing to the community and to Parkwood through the years.

Our community has individuals and families who have been impacted by the loss of their jobs and need financial help. Others have physical and mental health needs and need prescriptions, food, and transportation. FISH can provide this financial help in an emergency situation and does its part to get these community members on the road to stability again.

FISH is now facing a shortage of volunteers. Each participating church needs a church representative, captains, and drivers. Our current Parkwood representatives are stepping down, and we are looking for a few people interested in helping with this vital community ministry for a few hours two days each month.

The job most needed now is the work of the captain. This requires receiving the requests (cases) and following them to completion. A report of each request (case) is then sent electronically to the FISH Council.

Scripture tells us in Galatians 5:14b, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Please prayerfully consider becoming part of FISH at Parkwood. If you would like to volunteer or need more information, contact Pastor Mike at 703.978.8160 or Lois Runaldue at 703.323.8778.





## ***Killing Jesus***

by Bill O'Reilly  
& Martin Dugard

Caution! This book is likely to lead you to pick up your Bible.

Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard have no qualms about this being a historical depiction of the time leading up to the death of Jesus. The authors make it clear from the very beginning that although both are men of faith, they are approaching this literary work from a historical versus a theological perspective.

The reader easily recognizes that the authors have researched both Old and New Testament and documented the text accordingly. Nonetheless, it is an appropriate Bible drill to double-check each of the denoted references.

In addition to the numerous scriptural references throughout the body of the book, O'Reilly and Dugard use a vast array of historical sources to help the reader understand the political intrigue, tyrannical rule, religious hypocrisy, and culture of the day. The cultural aspects delve into the types of food and clothing for different segments of society, even to the type of cloth of Jesus' tunic.

Note that some of the details regarding the ruling class will not be for the faint of heart, but it is factual and it is history. Likewise, the details of the crucifixion are quite graphic. Although one has most likely heard them in a sermon or read them in a previous book, such as John McArthur's *The Murder of Jesus*, these brutal details about our Savior's ordeal are never easy to read. Do consider reading this thoroughly researched and well-written book, bearing in mind that it is difficult to read how they actually went about "Killing Jesus." Regardless of how repugnant the facts are, this knowledge may enhance your understanding, on a much deeper level, the price the risen Savior paid for each of us who cry out to Him in repentance.

*Killing Jesus* and *The Murder of Jesus* are both available in Parkwood's Patterson Library. The library is open Sundays 9-9:30 and 10:30-11 AM, and Wednesdays 10 AM-2 PM and 6:30-7:30 PM.

**Reviewed by Mary Kelly**



**Next Meeting**  
**Monday, February 10**  
**10:30 AM**

***Gods and Kings***  
by Lynn Austin

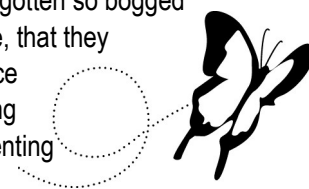
## ***Illuminations***

### **That Wonderful Thing**

*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up;  
do you not perceive it? (Isaiah 43:18-20)*

Some of us go through life longing to have that *thing* happen to us; you know that thing that grips us, that thing for which we have no words, that thing we could not have prepared for, and that is bigger than us; that thing that makes us review everything that we have ever believed in. Sometimes, it is a love relationship. No. *All* the time it is a love relationship, because true freedom and blessings are naturally embedded in love. It is not necessarily a personal relationship, but a love relationship, nonetheless. Some things simply transcend time and reason because they are Spirit-bred, Spirit-led and Spirit-sustained. It can render us humanly powerless, though spiritually, we are more powerful and more courageous than we have ever been. It can make us want to go to the edge of every blessing, and ignite our spontaneous self.

Maybe you have discovered that you have a creative gift, or a gift for uplifting others. Maybe you have learned to just *breathe* and enjoy life, no longer regarding the things that used to cause you to collapse. Or perhaps you have finally been released from years of oppression or self-loathing. That is your wonderful thing. The individual who is blessed to experience the thing is the one who learns how to really live; for without it life is a dull hum, like that of an old window air-conditioning unit. However, the *thing* offers a life that is exciting, and that keeps you on the edge of your seat with great expectations of more blessings. I believe that everyone gets this chance at heaven on earth at least once in their lifetime, but, sadly, even some Christians have gotten so bogged down with the drudgery of everyday life, that they have not allowed sufficient mental space to receive new adventures, thus shutting the door to new possibilities and preventing that *thing* from happening.



To experience the thing, we have to shed all of our preconceived notions about how blessings are manifested. You see, when we expect blessings to always look the same way, we can become bored, visionless, and debilitated. However, our Bible is *loaded* with language that encourages us to hope and expect. So, let's stop the self-sabotaging and leave ourselves open for God to do a new thing, in a new way. We should expect blessings and favor. We should be looking for that certain thing to manifest in our lives, even if we do not know the exact hour it will reveal itself.

As you engage 2014, be mindful that your thing may not happen today, but by planting seeds of hope and expectation, you can at least *perceive* it now. Finally, the next step is to be assured that it will show up when you present yourself ready to receive it.

***Keep Well and Warm - Denise Lewis Christopher***



## Parkwood Baptist Church

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*Associate Pastor*  
DanielD@parkwood.org

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*Director of Language Ministries*  
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**Reed Bradley**  
*Youth Director*  
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*Worship Leader*  
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## A Year of Living Dangerously

*"Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there and came, not only because of Him but also to see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. So the chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus as well, for on account of him many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and believing in Him." -John 12:9-11*

Jesus was a wanted man in Jerusalem and the surrounding areas. He was considered dangerous by the religious leaders of the day. He was a threat to the status quo and the systems they had worked so hard to establish. He was a rebel and so was anyone who was associated with Him. Lazarus was a friend but more than that, he was a living testimony that Jesus was for real! He was a physical illustration of what Jesus does for each of us on a spiritual level. In the passage above people came to see Jesus and what He had done in Lazarus. This made Lazarus a dangerous man in the eyes of the religious leaders as well. He too became a wanted man simply for being living proof of what Jesus could do.

As Christians we are living proof of what Jesus can do. This makes us dangerous and can sometimes go against the cynical society that we live in. Our lives should exude the message of hope in a world filled with despair. However, we can choose to play it safe. We can choose to be a secret follower of Jesus and avoid the danger zone of being identified with Him. But that only leads to a miserable life of frustration.

Let me challenge you to live this year dangerously! Like Lazarus you have been raised from the dead! Jesus called you out of the grave of sin and darkness and has given you life! Live that life out loud. Yes...it is dangerous. Yes, it will cause some to be uncomfortable. But, it will be the most fulfilling year of your life!

Blessings,

*Pastor Mike*