

A monthly publication by Parkwood Baptist Church

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



MARCH 2014

Moving Forward: Three Opportunities On Sunday Mornings!
9:00 10:15 11:30

God is moving here at Parkwood! In the past few years we have seen our numbers increase and our programs multiply. Worship and discipleship continue to grow and we have been blessed to be a part of what God is doing here in Annandale and around the world through our missions.

The vision of Parkwood from its foundation over 48 years ago was to provide a place of worship where people can come to know Christ and find where they fit into His Kingdom work in this world. We have had the privilege of sending out missionaries, pastors, campus ministers, seminary professors and teachers across the globe. It is in our DNA to provide opportunities to worship, study and serve here at Parkwood.

In order to stay true to our vision and to be faithful stewards of the resources God has given to us, we want to provide opportunity for everyone on a Sunday morning to be engaged on all three levels of Christian responsibility: Worship, Study and Service.

After more than a year of prayer, planning and a trial run, we are looking to offer everyone 3 worship services, 3 Sunday Schools and 3 opportunities to serve each Sunday morning. The first would start at 9 AM and the last would end at 12:30 PM (not much different than our current schedule). The difference would be a better stewardship of time in services that would allow for an additional service in the center.

Why This Direction?

- 1. It enables us to continue to follow the vision for Parkwood more efficiently by offering all three aspects (mentioned above) on a Sunday morning (see page 6)
 - 2. It keeps our current schedule of activities within the 9 AM to 12:30 PM timeframe.
 - Other times outside this framework would create a separation and disunity
 - Other times outside this framework would create more stress on staff and leaders
 - 3. Having all services in the sanctuary creates a sense of equality in the worship services
 - Frees Fellowship Hall for discipleship growth, hospitality and special meetings
 - Less stress on worship leaders
 - Gives room to grow in worship
 - 4. Strengthens our youth program by creating one central Sunday School (see page 6)
 - 5. Stewardship of the building
 - Increases our ability to handle growth by 50%
 - Allows us to minister to more people in our community on a Sunday morning
 - 6. It provides a combined Hispanic Sunday school program that has the same benefits of our change in the youth area

Your Part

As God leads us forward, prayerfully consider how you will be involved! Your participation is crucial.



| Casey Hassan | 3/6 |
|-------------------|------|
| Kaitlyn Whalen | 3/6 |
| JJ Guyton-Harris | 3/14 |
| William Miracle | 3/17 |
| Elizabeth Prather | 3/17 |
| Max Miracle | 3/22 |
| Ryleigh Bennett | 3/23 |
| Landon Jefferson | 3/26 |
| Maggie Valentine | 3/28 |
| Nico Ellerbe | 3/29 |
| Rachel Regling | 3/31 |
| | |



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

VBS - SAVE THE DATE - JULY 21-JULY 25

Registration for VBS has already begun! The link to the registration page can be found on Parkwood's website or you can go directly to the registration page at: https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/myChurch/?id=24386. Attention VBS Teachers - The curriculum has arrived; please contact Jenn Heiserman to schedule a time to pick it up.

CENTRIKIDS CAMP

The next \$50 payment due by Sunday, March 9. If you haven't turned in your paperwork to Jenn Heiserman, please do that as soon as possible.

FUNTASTIC FRIDAY

A huge THANK YOU to Mary Lindsay, Mary Hill, Shirley Readyhough, Mike & Cheryl Bailes, and youth volunteers Nikki Caswell, Qel Faggioni, Zack Alexander, Mariel Brown for all their help with our recent Funtastic Friday! We truly appreciate everyone who volunteered to make this night a fun-filled, action-packed event! Mark your calendars for the next Funtastic Friday - May 2nd!

JR. LEGO LEAGUE

Parkwood's own Jr FIRST Lego League team took home the "Out of the Box Thinkers" trophy at the Delaware Regional Expo held at the New Castle Air National Guard Base on February 15. The team showed off their tsunami research with a science fair-like display and motorized working model. The judges were impressed with the team's quick thinking when their model broke during judging. Coach Ric said, "It was great to show that Christians use science to figure out how God does it all so we can continue to do His work in the world." Team openings and sign-ups for next season start early this summer, and we are looking for mentors and coaches to start more teams!



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 are starting a new program this month called **Kingdom Investment**! This is a way in which we can connect our students with the rest of the Parkwood congregation, in service to one another and the community. Investors sign up and pay \$100, which goes to investing in the students by sponsoring them in smaller community service events to take place later this year. The events will be many and varied, ranging from helping at a soup kitchen to light construction work to aid members of our community on behalf of Parkwood. Every student who signs up for our summer mission camp will be required to complete two such events in order to go on the summer trip. Upon completion of these smaller activities, Investors will be notified about what their investment went to. This year our theme is **ministering to our youth and through our youth to the world!** We believe this program is an incredible way for us to join together in the work of the Kingdom!

If you are interested in becoming a Kingdom Investor, please contact me at ReedB@parkwood.org or call the church office at 703.978.8160. We are looking for 50 people to partner with us in this endeavor. Thank you so much for your prayers and support!

Interested in helping with the Youth Ministry? 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 for more details!





Parkwo@d wee center



Silent Auction Sponsored by the WEE Center Friday, March 21 6:15 — 8:30 PM Enjoy food, fun and fellowship!

It's time for the Annual Silent Auction sponsored by the WEE Center! Browse through the Silent Auction and find something that is just right for you. Don't forget the fabulous baskets full of goodies you can win! Scrumptious desserts and coffee will be served by the WEE Committee. Tickets for the themed basket drawings may be purchased in advance in or that night.

- 6:15 7:30 Silent Auction and Dessert & Coffee in the Fellowship Hall
- 7:30 7:45 Basket Raffle in the Sanctuary
- 7:45 8:30 VBS Preview and Movie in the Sanctuary

Proceeds from the Silent Auction raise more than 90% of our scholarship funds for an entire school year. The scholarship fund allows children, who would otherwise miss out on a Christ-filled preschool, an opportunity to attend the WEE Center.

Feel free to call the WEE Center if you have questions or want to help out with the evening's events. Contact Ann Lipton at 703.978.0640 or at weedirector@parkwood.org.

Want to help make Silent Auction a HUGE success? There are five easy ways you can help the WEE Center have a successful Family Fun Night:

Donate items to a group basket for our drawing. Join with others in your Sûnday school class or ministry group and put together a basket of goodies.

- 2) Donate 20 minutes of your time to solicit a local business in your area. Just walk into a business you frequent and ask them for their kindness. Everything the business owner or 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.
- 3) Please consider donating an item or two for our silent auction this year. It could be a gift card; an unused Christmas gift; a professional service you can provide; or a gift basket. Whatever you can donate, at any level, is always appreciated. Bring the items to the WEE Center or Church office.
- **4) Volunteer!** Whether it is facilitating the auction on the night of the event or helping to organize the auction items or gift baskets, we always need an extra hand or two.
- 5) Join friends and family on March 21st for fun, food and fellowship!!

Thank you very much for helping the WEE Center provide an exceptional Christian preschool experience.

The WEE Center has openings for the 2014-2015 school year.

Know of anyone looking for a Christian Preschool? The WEE Center Ministry has provided an exceptional Christian preschool experience to thousands of students since 1971. Share the good news about your Weekday Education Program! We are a ministry of this church and want to share God's love with the children and families in our community.

Classes for children 16 months – 5 years old Tuesday through Friday 10 am – 2 pm Christian-based curriculum

Developmentally appropriate academic and social experiences

Weekly chapel lessons
Daily music class
Weekly enrichment classes
Monthly science lesson

to set up a tour.

Call the WEE Center office at 703.978.0640 for additional information or to set up a tour.

Ann Lipton, WEE Center Director



Birthdays

| 3/1 | Mike Teague | |
|------|-----------------------------|--|
| 3/2 | Misty Bladen | |
| 3/2 | Gordon Whitehead | |
| 3/3 | Giselle Lazo | |
| 3/3 | Jared Lee | |
| 3/4 | Adam Bradley | |
| 3/5 | Doris Richburg | |
| 3/5 | ū | |
| 3/6 | Michael Rogers | |
| 3/6 | Steve Reynolds Diane Steele | |
| | | |
| 3/7 | Michelle Alexander | |
| 3/9 | Richard Acevedo | |
| 3/9 | Marge Lyon | |
| 3/11 | Sandra Harris | |
| 3/11 | Blanca Toledo | |
| 3/12 | Virginia Buccuoni- | |
| | Hillmann | |
| 3/13 | Teela Hunt | |
| 3/14 | Marylyn Mandeville | |
| 3/18 | Barbara Brower | |
| 3/20 | Bill Lidell | |
| 3/20 | Bobby Sandidge | |
| 3/22 | Anna Crabill | |
| 3/22 | Bill Masker | |
| 3/22 | Ron Smith | |
| 3/23 | Evelyn Mendoza | |
| 3/23 | Linda Steele | |
| 3/23 | Karen Williams | |
| 3/24 | Christopher Aaront | |
| 3/24 | Brandon Atkins | |
| 3/24 | Rachel Croxton | |
| 3/24 | Gail Moore | |
| 3/26 | Anna Phillips | |
| 3/27 | Heath Bills | |
| 3/28 | Michael Remington | |
| 3/29 | Russell Almond | |
| 3/29 | Taneisha Ng | |
| 3/30 | Pat Dozier | |
| 3/31 | Lois Reynolds | |

FROM THE DEACONS

The deacons have been preparing to serve you in 2014. On January 25, we had our annual training meeting to familiarize our newest deacons (and re-familiarize the rest of us) with the many ways the deacons serve the people of Parkwood. The training included the role of the deacons in baptisms and the Lord's Supper, responsibilities of the Deacon of the Week, the Deacon Prayer Ministry, and other facets of deacon service.

This year we had a special opportunity to include a deacon ordination in a regular Sunday morning worship service. On February 2, Bill Smith was ordained during the 9:30 service. It was quite a moving moment.

We are looking forward to Easter on April 20! We have begun making plans and preparations for the Easter Sunrise Service and breakfast. Please plan to attend the service, and enjoy a great breakfast prepared and served by the deacons.

Please remember that we are here to serve you. If you have a need with which we can help, please feel welcome to contact one of your Parkwood deacons.

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

Stewardship Report Budget Needs thru Jan 2014 \$ 96,196 Budget Received \$ 59,789 Budget Expended \$ 95,243 Difference \$ (-35,454) Building funds received thru Jan 2014 \$ 1,883

PRIMETIMERS' BREAKFAST

MONDAY, MARCH 17 11:30 AM

FELLOWSHIP HALL

"BREAKFAST FOR LUNCH"

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

PARKWOOD HEALTHY CORNER

DON'T PUT EXERCISE OFF

"I made haste, and did not delay to keep Your commandments." **Psalm 119:60, NKJV**.

Are you delaying adding activity to your daily life? (Many of us are afraid of the word EXERCISE.) The Bible clearly states we are to honor God with our Bodies (1 Corinthian 6:19-20). Our bodies are God's temples and we are commanded to maintain them. This includes keeping them clean inside and out with our food choices and in good repair with our daily activities. There are some real health benefits to exercise that will maintain your body:

- 1. Sleeping better and having more energy;
- 2. Controlling food cravings/weight gain;
- 3. Improving you immune system.

To get started, do what Jesus did...walk, walk, and walk some more. Remember to vary your pace, time and distance to maximize the benefits. To get in some extra steps, try parking further away, taking the stairs (if you can't go up, at least go down), and getting up every hour and walking around, even if it is a lap around your house or office.

For more information about starting an exercise plan look for Dr. Colbert's *Get Fit and Live* book in the Parkwood Library. Dr. Colbert is a well-known Christian anti-age doctor and author. Remember...it is important that whatever exercises you do, that you do not do more than your body can handle. If you are starting a new program it is always good to talk to a health professional to see what is best for you.

Prayer for Today:

Father, thank You for Your patience and grace toward me. Search my heart. Lead me in Your ways. I choose to obey Your voice quickly and honor You in all that I do in Jesus' name. Amen

Cheri Dickey





A fellow disciple on the Way...

Message, Mission, and Ministry

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in

Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God" (2 Cor 5:17-20, NIV).

The gospel, the "Good News," gives us a mission. The mandate for our mission is clearly articulated by our Lord Jesus: "Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matt 28:18-20). The gospel mission offers us opportunities to allow God to do the impossible through us to glorify Himself.

We often think of mission as happening in a far-flung corner of the world, away from our immediate locality. Yet God's mission for us, which is expressed in the gospel, can occur right where we are—in our neighborhood, at our church community, school, and place of work. The gospel, God's mission and our role in ministry are intertwined: the gospel defines the mission and God's Spirit motivates us for ministry (1 Cor 12:4-11). This is our time to be on God's mission as we allow the gospel to reorient our lives to join God in the work He is already doing. As long as the gospel is the power of God to transform lives, then God by His Spirit will always effect that change in us to push back against the brokenness and hopelessness in our world.

Paul certainly knew that not everything in his world was new. Yet he also knew that "in Christ" believers can have a new relationship ("new covenant") with God and with other human beings. According to Paul, only "in Christ" can our hopeless, fractured *cosmos* be reconciled to God. Paul was convinced that "in Christ" God had acted to judge evil, forgive, vindicate, and heal the brokenness in our world. Yes, "in Christ" individuals are being saved. But there is more. "In Christ" an entirely new order is being established in the *cosmos*, one that celebrates God's *shalom* and life.

This is the mission to which the gospel is calling us to serve, namely, to become "Christ's ambassadors" of the "message of reconciliation" that God has entrusted to us. May God help us to be faithful to the message and our mission and ministry!

Pastor Daniel





At-A-Glance

March 1
Teacher Appreciation
Dinner & Training

March 8
Women's Circle Breakfast

March 9
First Sunday of Lent
Daylight Savings Time

March 10 Christian Book Group

March 17
PrimeTimers' Breakfast

March 20 First Day of Spring

March 21 WEE Center Silent Auction

March 28 Women's Ministry Fellowship

March 29 Men's Prayer Breakfast

Upcoming Prayer Breakfasts

Women's Ministry—March 8 Men's Ministry—March 29

★ SAVE THE DATE ★

Celebrate Christian Literature

Sunday, April 13, 2014 12-2 PM

Special Guest Speaker

Pamela Gardner

Author of

Distressed but not Destroyed: The story of Andrea-God's assignment



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 & Cheese **Boxed Juices** Juice/Drinks **Canned Fruit Canned Vegetables** Powdered Milk

Please remember to check expiration dates. Thank you!



PARKWOOD.....On Mission

SANDY REBUILD MISSIONS TRIP

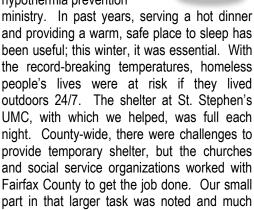
May 14-17, 2014 Long Island, New York

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP – ONLY A FEW SLOTS LEFT! The project includes construction but there are light jobs such as cleaning and painting as well. The cost is \$15 per night and includes food.

For more information, please visit: http://www.namb.net/Sandy/. or http://www.namb.net/Sandy/. You may also email Bryce Stokes



Thank you to everyone who helped with this winter's hypothermia prevention



appreciated. Thank you to each person who



at bstokes@cox.net.

Attention Ladies! The Women's Ministry is forming a committee to plan a Woman's Retreat for October 2014. If you are interested in being part of the excitement from the beginning and would like to help with planning, please contact Bernice Maynard at 703.425.6058.

served!

Moving Forward (continued)

Vision

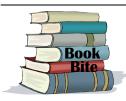
Currently, a member of the Parkwood family has two opportunities to participate on a Sunday morning. For our regulars, by tweaking the schedule a little, we can offer everyone the opportunity to go to worship, attend a Bible study and to serve in some capacity. For example, someone can serve at the information desk at 9 AM to assist visitors in finding classes, etc. Then at 10:15, they can attend a Bible study class followed by worship at 11:30. For our visitors, it gives some variety and flexibility that works well with our Northern Virginia lifestyle. Those with afternoon commitments can choose the earlier time slots, and those who need a little extra time in the mornings may chose the later times.

Why One Sunday School for the Youth?

Our youth program will thrive by offering a single bigger youth program Sunday mornings! This opportunity will help to unite and encourage our students that they are indeed part of something much bigger then themselves, facilitating connections on a broader level then we are currently able to. Our single opportunity for youth will multiply the effectiveness of our youth workers without multiplying the stress upon them, providing a consistency for our students, and a better doorway into the wider range of activities which they can become a part of!

Why Now?

- 1. Spring and the weeks leading up to Easter is when the attendance is the highest in most churches. We don't want to wait 'til we are shoulder to shoulder on Sundays to create another option. It would be too late. We want to prepare for God's blessings!
- 2. We want the new schedule to be running as smoothly as possible by Easter Sunday, and this schedule gives us time to work out the kinks.
- 3. Those moving to the area usually come to look for houses and visit churches in the months of April and May before their summer arrival.



The Parkwood Book Group, open to all who care to join us on the second Monday of every month, has been busy reading together since April 2008. There are no signs of stopping.

Even if you don't have the time or inclination to join us, it doesn't mean you can't enjoy some of the wonderful literature we have been reading over the last several months. And, remember, everyone needs to take time to read something good once in awhile! Following is a sample of some of the books we have discussed of late. Most, if not all, are available in the Patterson Library here onsite.

The Centurion's Wife, Acts of Faith Series Book 1, Davis Bunn and Janette Oke

The Hidden Flame, Acts of Faith Series Book 2
The Damascus Way, Acts of Faith Series Book 3 (scheduled for April 2014)

Hiking Through by Paul Stutzman

Undaunted: Daring To Do What God Calls You To Do by Christine Caine

Miracle of Miracles by Mina Nevisa

I Always Get a Great Parking Space! by Margaret-Ann Boegerty

The Heavenly Man by Paul Hattaway
The Story of the Other Wise Man by Henry van Dyck
I Have Seen Him in the Watchfires by Cathy Gohlke
The Preacher and the Presidents by Nancy Gibb
The Shoe Box by Francine Rivers
Trouble the Water by Nicole Seitz
At the Edge of the Village by Lisa Leidenfrost
Wrapped in Rain by Charles Martin
Bruchko by Bruce Olson
Alabaster's Song by Max Lucado

Yes, we even mix an occasional children's book into our list! You can see from this sampling that we cover topics from Biblical historical fiction to biographies of current day giants (as well as unknowns), and soul-searching fiction and simple truths found in a child's experience. Some of the authors hit today's hot topics while others force us to check their Biblical accuracy. All of us don't always like all the books, but we always enjoy the stimulating discussions generated by our selections. Join us or read our selections, but by all means, take advantage of the wonderful array of media in the library! The Patterson Library is open Sundays 9-9:30 AM and 10:30-11 AM, and Wednesdays 10 AM-2 PM and 6-7 PM.

Mary Kelly



Next Meeting

Monday, April 14 10:30 AM

The Damascus Way by Davis Bunn and Janette Oke

Illuminations

The "T" Word

Lately, I've been thinking about the notion of trust, and have realized that learning to trust has to evolve as we evolve. It is not just something that we wake up knowing how to do. It is akin to trial and error, so let's not over-spiritualize it. This is hard-core, front-line, boot camp kind of stuff. It is life on the daily grind. And we are constantly put in situations where we have to decide to trust, or not.

There are intimate relationships, family relationships, and self-issues. And then there is the God-thing. No wonder we have to stay on our knees to seek wisdom from above. It is not always easy to know whom to trust and whom to not trust. I have trusted husbands, friends, relatives and even church folk. Some have betrayed me. Others keep giving me reasons to trust them more. But we cannot always tell at the onset of a new venture, whom or what we can trust. Time and experience are the master teachers, and they have certainly taught us that we can trust in our God. However, at times, even that can be a challenge.

How can we learn to trust our gut? Sometimes, we just need to light a candle in solitude. And then listen to my own life lessons. I have made major mistakes simply because I failed to do the work required to seek wisdom on my own. It just seemed easier to heed the advice of others, rather than trust my own instincts. In hindsight, that is exactly what I should not have done. I should have trusted in the life lessons that I had picked up along the way. God has allowed my particular journey for a reason, and I will never again dismiss the wisdom that has come with those lessons. I need to just.....trust.

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths (Proverbs 3:5-6). This might be the most often quoted, yet the most misunderstood scripture that I have ever heard. Well-meaning people focus on the "Trust in the Lord" part, without realizing that God is not offended when we use the brain that He has given us to pull wisdom from our life experiences. We can trust that God allows it. In that way, we are not "leaning on our own understanding," but leaning on clarity from our experiences. Consequently, we can trust our own judgment, as long as we don't fail to acknowledge God, nor try to force our limited thinking on His divine wisdom.

Now, what about those things, people and situations that we have lost trust in? We can always ask God to restore that trust, if we believe those situations warrant it. The decision is ours to trust, or not. But it takes effort and time.

Lastly, I trust that you will keep well.

Denise Lewis Christopher

Just trust me.

God



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Lent: An Annual Time of Reflection

"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry." (Matthew 4:1,2)

Since the time of the early church Christians have observed a time of preparation leading to the celebration of Easter. This sacred season is called "lent" and begins on Ash Wednesday (March 5th this year) and ends on Easter Sunday (April 20th). It is 40 days (not including Sundays) in remembrance of Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness in preparation for His ministry. Early Christians used this time as a period of intense instruction for those who were considering faith in Christ. Their training would end with a baptism on Easter Sunday.

I want to challenge you this year to use this time to reflect on the work of God through the death and resurrection of Jesus and to re-commit yourself to live your life in light of His sacrifice. Many will do this by fasting or sacrificing a certain food or activity. Some will add a daily reading or prayer to their schedule.

Others will carry a reminder with them that turns their thoughts to Christ. Whatever the discipline, the purpose is the same...a daily reminder of the love that God has for us and demonstrated on that first Easter.

Blessings,

