

The Parkwood Connection

A monthly publication by Parkwood Baptist Church

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



JANUARY 2013

The Purpose of Sunday School at Parkwood

At Parkwood we recognize that Sunday School is a multi-purpose ministry, a 24/7/365 network of care, prayer, communication, and outreach.

The primary focus of the Sunday School ministry at Parkwood is to share God's love and grace, as revealed in Jesus Christ, with people of all nations through a collective study of the Scriptures. We come together as one body to study God's Word, and to encourage and strengthen one another through communal prayer. Moreover, Sunday School offers us a unique opportunity to carry out the mandate of our Lord Jesus in Matthew 28:18-20:

"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.'"

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, the Sunday School ministry at Parkwood seeks to cultivate:

- ***the culture of invitation:*** a concerted effort by both teacher and class members to invite people to their class.
- ***the psychology of invitation:*** a mindset that both teacher and class members expect new people to be present any given Sunday
- ***the theology of invitation:*** a conviction that God wants believers to invite others to Bible study
- ***the sociology of invitation:*** an intentional effort to remain open to newcomers.

Our Sunday School Teachers:

- are well prepared for their classes
- know their material and are excited about its delivery
- acknowledge newcomers present and ensure that all are acquainted and comfortable
- entertain prayer requests
- encourage a lively discussion and interaction
- know that Sunday School hits the bull's eye by reaching people, teaching people, and ministering to people.

New Foundations Of Our Faith Class begins Sunday, January 6

**9:30 am
Room A-100**

An opportunity for new or interested members to attend a seven-week course on the basic beliefs and vision of Parkwood.

Sign up on the Discipleship Bulletin Board in the hall or call the Church Office.

New Wednesday Night Bible Study

"The Passion Of Christ"

**A study on the last week of Christ
January 9-March 20**

We will be studying the most intense week in the life of Jesus. We will look at the events of the week as well as His teaching. Come and be a part of this exciting study.

**TEACHER
TRAINING**

**Adult SS Teacher Training
Wednesday, January 16
7:00 pm**

Quarterly Unified Sunday School Sunday, January 20

All adult classes will meet together in Fellowship Hall at their normal time for a joint time of prayer and Bible study.

Dr. Daniel Dapaah, Director of Discipleship, will be leading the lesson during both hours.



Anthony Acevedo	1/14
Lucas Hanline	1/25
Heather Hull	1/25
Melany Nichol	1/18
Christopher Parker	1/11
Jose Vela	1/17
Jackson Whalen	1/7



*Canned Meat
 *Canned Beef Stew
 Tuna
 Canned Milk
 Rice
 *Cereal
 Oatmeal
 Breakfast Bars
 Peanut Butter
 Instant Potatoes
 Spaghetti Sauces
 Pasta
 Beefaroni
 Soup
 Mac and Cheese
 *Boxed Juice
 *Drinks
 *Canned Fruit
 Canned Vegetables
 Diapers
 Infant Formula
 Powdered Milk
 Condensed Milk
 *Urgent needs

Children's Ministries

Happy New Year!

2013 is here, and we are afforded the opportunity to initiate resolutions in our lives. We would like to encourage families with children to resolve to attend the worship service together on Sunday mornings. This might seem difficult to some and impossible to others, but with the right amount of support and effective strategies, this can be accomplished. But, why should children attend the worship service?

Then some children were brought to Him so that He might lay His hands on them and pray; and the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, "Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." After laying His hands on them, He departed from there. Matthew 19:13-15

- ◆ Our children are members of the covenant community (the church)
- ◆ Our children will be present in the midst of the means of grace
- ◆ Our children will be present in the midst of the entire congregation
- ◆ Our children will be present with their parents
- ◆ Our children will witness their parents worshipping
- ◆ Our children will learn the rhythms of church life

Our church library has resources available to assist you with your pursuit to worship with your child. Your friendly librarian will be happy to help you find just the right resource for you.

For an explanation of these six reasons please see the link below.

<http://thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/kevindeyoung/2012/03/06/children-in-worship-lets-bring-it-back/>

Mister Ed



Parents' Night Out A Huge Success!

A big thank you to everyone who helped to provide a fun filled night for more than 70 children. The children thoroughly enjoyed all of the evening's activities.

Upcoming Events

Parent Program
Wednesday, January 16
6:30 pm

"Kindergarten Readiness"

This is a great opportunity open to all parents to learn about the Kindergarten curriculum and expectations in Fairfax County Public Schools. Our guest speaker is a FCPS teacher.

Open House
Thursday, January 24
6:30-8:00 pm

Come and see what is happening in the Weekday program.

Children will be singing, and light refreshments will be served. If someone is looking for an exceptional Christian Preschool, tell them about your WEE Center and invite them.



Tuesday,
February 5
5-8 pm

Take a night off from cooking and come join the fun and fellowship at the Kings Park McDonalds. They 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 2013-2014
Begins Tuesday, February 5,
6-8 pm at
Kings Park McDonalds
(for church members and
current WEE Center families)

Parkwood members may register at that time or Tue.-Fri. from 9:30-2:30, beginning February 6. Forms must be given directly to a WEE Center administrator.

Registration for the community at large begins on Tuesday, February 26. Forms are in the WEE Center Office, Church Office or the WEE Center Bulletin Board. For questions, contact Ann Lipton, WEE Center Director, at 703.978.0640.

A Very Special Thank You

This past year, your weekday program has brought the message of Christ to more than 100 families. Thank you for your prayers, assistance and financial contributions to the Weekday Children's Ministry. We are grateful for your continued support as we strive to carry out Parkwood's Mission.

Ann Lipton

From The Deacons

We would like to announce the new officers for 2013. Doris Richburg will be the Deacon Chair, Mike Bailes will be Co-Chair, and Marilyn Kmiec will be the Secretary.

Those of us who are rotating off the deacon board, would like to take this time to thank you for letting us be of service. The new deacons look forward to serving you. If there is any way that they can be of help to you, please do not hesitate to call.

*In His Service,
Sharon Gibson, Deacon Chair*



The Prophet Joel spread the word to our Bethlehem Walk visitors:

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6 NIV

The joy expressed in this verse was felt by all of us who experienced Bethlehem Walk this year. Over both nights we welcomed 2,600 guests to Parkwood in this our twelfth year of Bethlehem Walk. We have never experienced such large crowds over both nights. We thought we had seen our biggest night on Saturday when 1,200 visitors arrived. But on Sunday, a damp, foggy and drizzly evening, we received 1,400 guests!

Parkwood is blessed to have so many talented and generous people. Many of our visitors comment each year that the thing they like best about Bethlehem Walk is the friendliness they encounter. They appreciate the creativity, time, and resources it takes to provide such a wonderful and "amazing" experience.

Many of you have already shared ways we can make Bethlehem Walk even better next year. Please contact Mary Hill, marytoo-hill@yahoo.com, or Samantha McAskill, dsmcaskill@msn.com, or see us at church if you have any comments/ideas to share.

THANK YOU ALL for making Bethlehem Walk an experience that our friends and neighbors will never forget.

Next Parkwood Quarterly Business Celebration

Sunday, January 27, 2013

6:30 pm

Please plan to attend

Stewardship Report

Budget Needs thru Nov 2012	\$ 897,340
Budget Received	\$ 782,722
Budget Expended	\$ 749,441
Difference	\$ 17,166
2012 Building funds received thru Nov 2012	\$ 29,295

FYI...2012 Contribution Statements will be available on pbc.me the first week of January 2013. You can log in to pbc.me on the Parkwood website to view or print your statement. The statements will also be mailed about the third week of January.

Welcome To Our Newest Members

Betty Gillen
Chaplain Steve Gillen

Staffing in 2013

The end of 2012 has brought many staff changes here at Parkwood as we continue to be a part of God's greater Kingdom work. Rev. Kev. has stepped back from his responsibilities here at Parkwood to pursue his personal preparation for his next step in ministry by focusing on seminary full time. Ed Windhausen will also be pursuing his Master's in Education degree while working in Fairfax County Public Schools. We want to express our sincere appreciation to Kevin and Ed for their investment here. They have been a blessing that cannot be measured. Although their contributions will be missed here at Parkwood, we will continue to support them in their efforts in making an eternal impact in the Kingdom!

What's Next?

1. We need to continue to pray for our Associate Pastor search committee as they continue to seek God's guidance and timing.
2. We will also be looking at hiring an interim youth director, part time, and a coordinator for our children's ministry.

God is blessing us with growth, and we want to continue to be faithful with the people and resources that God has brought our way!

January Birthdays

1/1	Jill Bowen
1/2	Stuart Rust
1/3	Virginia Burk
1/3	Melody Cannady
1/3	Harvey Poe
1/4	Daniel Dapaah
1/4	Silas James
1/6	Kathy O'Donoghue
1/7	Peggy Helms
1/7	Jessica Stokes
1/10	Andrew Alexander
1/13	Linda Figley
1/15	Agnes Davidson
1/15	Karen Rust
1/16	Bonnie Hopler
1/16	Russell Myers
1/19	Tania Hernandez
1/19	Patty Jett
1/21	Cheryl Maynard
1/21	Norma Peterson
1/21	Joyce Remington
1/25	Wendy Burns
1/26	Robert Sanchez
1/27	Sabrina Valdivieso
1/29	Ann Kreiser
1/29	Susan Lippolis
1/30	Silas Ben-Zoheth
1/30	Chad Jones
1/31	Corey Donnelly
1/31	Mary Lou Fry
1/31	Steve Gillen
1/31	John Riester



PARKWOOD.....On Mission

Angel Tree Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Angel Tree party such a success. Everyone seemed to have a wonderful time. This mission could not be possible without the generosity of so many Parkwood friends.

Virginia Sandidge

SAVE THE DATE

HYPOTHERMIA
PREVENTION

MARCH 3-10

Details coming in
the February Newsletter



Next Meeting
Monday, January 14
12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall
Please bring a covered dish
And plan to join us.

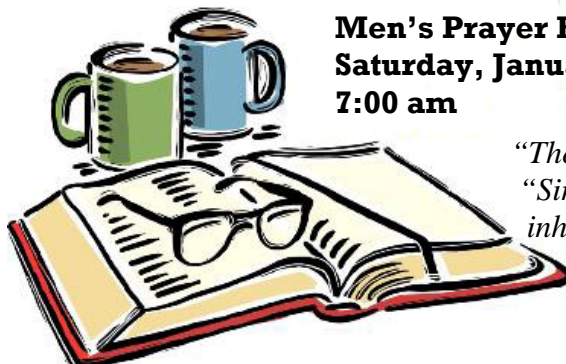
Stefanie Zeman, author of the book *Kisses for Elizabeth*, will speak about her experience as a nurse caring for Alzheimer's patients. She is hoping to bring someone from

the Alzheimer's Association who can offer handouts about how the association can help.

If you know of any church members with family members who have AD, please invite them to attend our meeting. The sad fact is that only about 10% of family caregivers even know about the resources that are available to them, such as the Alzheimer's Association.

For more information, please contact the Church Office at (703) 978-8160.

*Congratulations to
Floyd and Lorene Haywood
who celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary
in December.*



Men's Prayer Breakfast
Saturday, January 26, 2013
7:00 am

*"The Barrier between God and man,
"Sin spells death" and is the
inheritance of all."*

Romans 5:1-21

What happens when a bunch of women get together?

In the case of "the Yada Yada prayer group", only time could tell. Once they started to pray together, they had to "get down" and "get real". At this point, they had to "get tough". After this occurs, they "get caught."

Now they have to "get rolling." Not to fear. All ends well and they eventually "get decked out." As the Yada Yadas get Souled Out, many of them decide to volunteer at House of Hope where workers and guests ask questions such as...

"Where do I go?"

"Who do I talk to?"

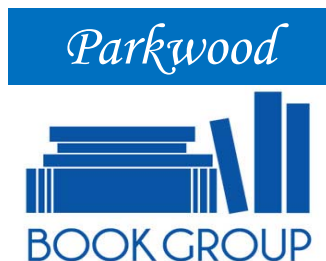
"Who do I lean on?"

"Who is my shelter?"

Check out what is happening in Neta Jackson's newest spin-off, *A Yada Yada House of Hope* novel series.

All of the above installments are available in Parkwood's Patterson Memorial Library. Stop by Sunday mornings before and between services or on Wednesday 10-2 or 6-7:30.

Mary Kelly



Next Meeting
Monday, January 14
11:00 am

Saved By Her Enemy
by
Don Teagues



**Christian Yoga
Winter Session**

January 7-March 14, 2013

**For information, registration,
and contacts visit:**

www.parkwood.org

Illuminations

Who Let The Dogs Out?

*She came and worshipped him, pleading again,
"Lord, help me!"*

Have you ever been in the doghouse? I have. As a 23-year old, it felt so good when my great-aunt trusted me enough to leave me alone in her home for two weeks while she traveled. Her only directive to me was to make sure that I watered her houseplants. Two days before her expected return, I had a friend over and as we enjoyed lunch, I received an invite to hang out with friends. Excitedly, I rushed out of the house, determined to return later that same day to clean up the messes we'd left in the kitchen and dining room.

I will spare you the details, but let's just say that I didn't return home until 7:00 pm the next day, only to be met by the cold and piercing stares of my great-aunt and her daughter, who had some choice words for me. Not only had I left the kitchen a mess, but I had forgotten to water her houseplants! Unfortunately for me, my aunt had decided to come home a day early and what she saw is what put me in the doghouse.

Several years ago, a silly song titled, Who Let the Dogs Out, became a world-wide sensation. I still have no idea what the song was about, but it had a catchy hook that reminds me of the story in Matthew 15:21-28. Many in the Jewish community looked at the Gentiles as dogs who had been unleashed to compete for the same miracles and blessings that the Jews sought from Jesus. They failed to realize that Jesus also loved the Gentiles, so he had to use his encounter with this Canaanite woman to teach them a few things. Regardless of what society thought of this woman, Jesus was impressed that she worshipped him, and demonstrated faith in his ability to make a difference in her life. Her daughter was possessed by a demon so she cried out, **Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.** Notice how she acknowledged that she was talking to the Messiah.

I like this woman. Even after Jesus had tested her faith by referring to her as a dog, she still persisted. At least she was a "dog" who had the sense enough to know that faith and worship moves God. Her wise reply was, **True, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.** Amazingly, her daughter was healed that very hour.

No matter what society thinks of us, as Christians, we have that same access to God's miracles. And if you ever find yourself in the doghouse with someone, first apologize. Then remember that you can get relief by adding sincere worship and faith to your request for mercy. Like me, you will probably need it!

Best to you! ~ Denise Lewis Christopher

To comment on this or past articles in the Illuminations column, you may email Denise at dlewchris@yahoo.com.

The Difference Between Intention and Invention: Action!

I have been driving a minivan since they were invented. Raising four children it was the only way we could get around. Over 20 years of packing for vacations, loading for moves, and just the local transporting of kids and their stuff. I could not tell you how many times I came to the van with arms loaded and wished I had an extra hand to open the rear gate. In more creative times I have even tried to use my foot. Well, the other day I saw that they have invented a feature on the minivan that allows you to use your foot to open the gate if your hands are full. What? I thought of that years ago! I could have made a million dollars!

Have you ever been watching the news and heard about a recent invention and said, "I thought of that years ago". Or maybe you saw a recent book release and thought, "I could have written that book". The truth is that many of the inventions that are introduced into the marketplace today are not new ideas. They are simply the result of someone taking an idea and putting in the work to make it happen. The difference is action.

The new year is a time when we are filled with good intentions. We have ideas of how to improve our life situation as individuals, as families and as communities. We make resolutions that state our goals. "I want to improve my diet." "I want to read the Bible more." "I want to exercise regularly." All are great ideas and it is our "intention" to follow through but many times that is as far as it goes. The word "Invention" means "change or innovation." This is our goal, isn't it? To change. To grow. To become more of what we were meant to be. This requires more than good "intentions." It will require work. Making a plan. Doing it. Getting someone else involved to hold you accountable.

So, I want to challenge you to "invent" change into your life in 2013! One good invention is better than a long list of intentions!

Blessings,

Pastor Mike



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