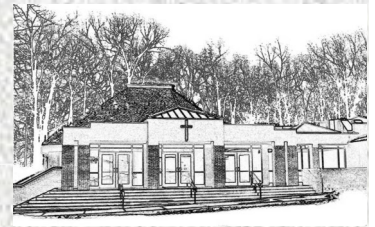


The Parkwood Connection

A monthly publication by Parkwood Baptist Church

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



MARCH 2013

Church-Wide *silent* AUCTION

**Friday, March 15
6:30 – 8 PM**

**Come and enjoy food,
fun, and fellowship!
Everyone is invited!**

Sponsored by the WEE Center

This year's Silent Auction is certain to be an enjoyable evening for everyone. 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.

The WEE Center has provided an exceptional Christian preschool experience to thousands of students since 1971. We serve children from 16 months to five years of age. 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.

Schedule of Events

- 6:30 - 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall
Dessert & Coffee
Bid on Silent Auction Items
- Purchase Tickets for the Basket Drawings in the Welcome Center
Purchase in advance during Wednesday evening dinners
- 6:30 - 7:30 pm in the lower level recreation room
Dessert and limited activities for children
- 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary
Basket Drawings
- 7:45 - 8:15 pm in the Sanctuary
VBS promo & movie
- 8:00 pm in the Lobby
Pay for Silent Auction Items and pick up Items

Feel free to call the WEE Center if you have questions or want to help out with the evening's events.

Want to help make the event a HUGE success?

- ◆ **Donate items to a group basket for our drawing.**
- ◆ **Donate 20 minutes of your time** to solicit a donation from a local business in your area.
- ◆ **Donate an item or two for our silent auction.**
- ◆ **Volunteer!** We always need an extra hand or two.
- ◆ **Join friends and family** on March 15th for fun, food and fellowship!!



Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 24

Regular Services
Sunday School at both hours

Tuesday Night, March 26

No ESOL Classes

Wednesday Night, March 27

No activities (including dinner)
Sanctuary Choir will practice

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Service at 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday, March 31

Deacon-led Sunrise Service
7:30 am

Breakfast following the service

Regular service at

9:30 and 11:00 am

Sunday School at both hours

HYPOTHERMIA MINISTRY

The hypothermia prevention response program through FACETS, churches, and Fairfax County provides a warm, safe location for homeless people during the winter.

We will serve on Monday, March 4, and Friday, March 8, by preparing dinner at Parkwood. At the host church (St. Stephen's United Methodist) we will assist with staff registration, serve dinner, and present and supervise a social time. **To help with one or more of these tasks, just sign up on the bulletin board.**

You can also donate small game prizes. Suggested items are socks, gloves, scarves and hats for either men or women, \$5.00 McDonald's gift cards, and candy bars.

Contact: Bonnie Hopley at
pbhopley@cox.net



- 3/3 Giselle Lazo
- 3/3 Jared Lee
- 3/6 Casey Hassan
- 3/6 Kaitlyn Whalen
- 3/14 JJ Guyton-Harris
- 3/17 William Miracle
- 3/17 Elizabeth Prather
- 3/26 Landon Jefferson
- 3/28 Maggie Valentine
- 3/13 Rachel Regling



- *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

Funtastic Friday

Funtastic Friday was truly what it was, a fun, fabulous, fantastic time of fellowship and an awesome



magic show provided by Wes and Natalie Iseli!

We had over 200 people, half of whom were children. Thank you to Mary Lindsay for gearing up the kitchen help—you all did a marvelous job! Thank you for all the prayers over this event and for the volunteers prior, during, and after; it really makes it a joy to have events when you get so many people working together.

Kids Only Social (KOS)

Last month we started having the KOS between 10:30 and 11:00 in the Rec Room. This is a great time for kids to socialize with one another, have a snack, play games, watch a short movie or just hang out. Al and Betty Royer are the teachers during this time. The kids seem to really enjoy this time together. If you are picking up or dropping off your preschoolers or elementary kids up to 6th grade, that's where they'll be from 10:30 – 11:00!

Volunteer helpers are always welcome!

M Group

M Group is another place that children Kindergarten – Grade 6 won't want to miss! We are starting to learn a very cool song about the books of the Bible.

M Group is also helping with the hypothermia meals that Parkwood is providing on March 4th and 8th. We are making beautiful placemats that the children are coloring so that each person will have their own unique placemat. We will also be collecting mittens, scarves and hats for this event.

Security Changes

Thank you for your patience with the new security procedures that we have implemented.

- * **Children will not be released without a parent.**
- * **Security bracelets need to be worn while in Sunday School class.**

Thank you to all who were able to make the Child Protection Training in February. If you haven't taken the training (a 30 minute video) it is mandatory to take it if you will be working with any minors.

We will offer training again on Wednesday, March 20th at 6:15 in the Conference Room.



Openings for the 2013-2014 School Year

Know of anyone looking for a Christian Preschool? Share the good news about your Week-day 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
Tuesday through Friday 10 am – 2 pm

Developmentally appropriate academic and social experiences
Christian-based curriculum
Weekly chapel lessons
Daily music class
Weekly enrichment classes
Monthly science

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

Ann Lipton, WEE Center Director

From The Deacons

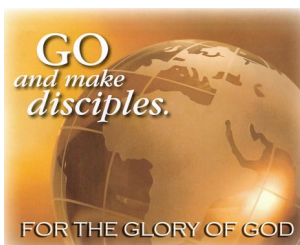
What an exciting time to be at Parkwood!! The Deacons were honored to assist with the baptism of Tamarra Johnson and her son, Christopher, on a *Wednesday* night. To God be the Glory!

The Deacons support a very active prayer ministry. This is a vital part of our ministry, and one we take very seriously. We have two prayer lists: one that can be shared with the entire Parkwood family, and one that is considered "Close Hold." The prayer list that can be shared with the entire Parkwood family means that you have given us permission, and the names are shared with Sunday School Classes, prayer groups, etc. The "Close Hold" list means that ONLY the Deacons and the Pastors see this list. We are very careful about guarding your privacy. This list is not shared with any other group. If you have a prayer request, please contact any of the Deacons.

We also enjoy getting "Praises" for our prayer list – let us rejoice with you and thank God for His goodness!

Please take a moment to stop by the bulletin board (across from the Choir Room) and look at your new Deacon Board. Their pictures are posted so that you can match faces with names.

Doris Richburg, Deacon Chair



The Church: The Instrument of God's Mission to the World

God has positioned His church to be a beacon of hope, mercy, and grace to a world that desperately needs His message of love. As His disciples, we have been entrusted with the divine mandate from our Lord Jesus to share the Good News of God's love with our families and friends: "God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit" (Matt 28:18, 19, The Message). By His very nature God is a "sent One" who takes the initiative to redeem us (John 15:16). This action of God is known as *Missio Dei* –the God who sends. The church is therefore an instrument of God's mission—the sent people—to the world. The church exists because of the mission.

God is counting on us to be healthy disciples and disciple-makers. Let us take our discipleship seriously and be faithful to the mission that God has given to us.

A fellow disciple on the Way....

Daniel Dapaah (Director of Discipleship)

Stewardship Report

Budget Needs thru Jan 2013	\$ 87,020
Budget Received	\$ 64,679
Budget Expended	\$ 54,203
Difference	\$ 10,476
2013 Building funds received thru Jan 2013	\$ 3,210

Welcome To Our Newest Members

Charles Brandon Atkins

Evan Isaac

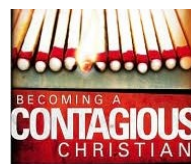
Kelli Isaac

Tina Morris

Thank you to my Parkwood family and staff for your care, love and support following Fred's latest stroke and his passing. The flowers from Parkwood were beautiful.

A special thank you to everyone who helped with the service or reception. It truly was a loving reflection of Fred and Parkwood to everyone who attended.

Dana Beales



Coming to
Wednesday Nights
at 6:00 pm

Session begins
Wednesday, April 3, 2013

Class dates are:
April 3, 10, 17, and 24
May 1, 8, 15

Come and learn how to communicate



- 3/1 Mike Teague
- 3/2 Misty Bladen
- 3/2 Gordon Whitehead
- 3/4 Adam Bradley
- 3/5 Doris Richburg
- 3/5 Michael Rogers
- 3/6 Steve Reynolds
- 3/7 Michelle Alexander
- 3/9 William Acevedo
- 3/9 Marge Lyon
- 3/11 Sandy Harris
- 3/11 Blanco Toledo
- 3/12 Virginia Buccuoni-Hillmann
- 3/12 Fletcher Whittenberg
- 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 Max Miracle
- 3/22 Ron Smith
- 3/23 Evelyn Mendoza
- 3/23 Linda Steele
- 3/24 Christopher Aaront
- 3/24 Brandon Atkins
- 3/24 Rachel Croxton
- 3/24 Gail Moore
- 3/26 Anna Phillips
- 3/27 Heath Bills
- 3/27 Stephanie Halcrow
- 3/28 Michael Remington
- 3/29 Russ Almond
- 3/29 Taneisha Ng
- 3/30 Pat Dozier
- 3/31 Alex Payne
- 3/31 Lois Reynolds



You're invited to celebrate the
25th anniversary of Facets

Parkwood has been ministering with FACETS (Fairfax Area Christian Emergency & Transitional Services) since its founding in 1988. FACETS' mission is helping parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty.

You are invited to attend their annual Benefit Breakfast on Thursday morning, April 25th, at The Waterford at Fair Oaks. Registration is from 7:00 to 7:45 am, breakfast will begin at

8:00 am and will end promptly at 9:00 am. We encourage you to make a special effort to attend this year, as FACETS celebrates its 25th Anniversary. It is a fundraising event. You will be asked to make a contribution; however, you have no obligation to do so.

To register to attend, please see Pastor Mike or Bonnie Hopler so that you can be seated at our Parkwood tables. The deadline to register is April 18th.

For more information, visit
www.facetscares.org
and choose Events.

Contact: Bonnie Hopler at
pbhopler@cox.net

Next Meeting
Monday, March 11
11 am

The Brother's Keeper
by Tracy Groot

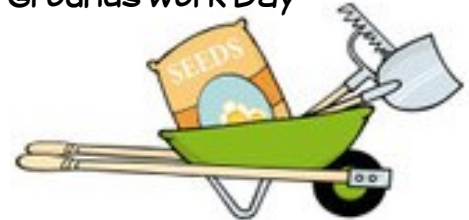


Next Meeting
March 18
9:30 am

Come for breakfast!

For more information, please contact:
Virginia Sandidge,
vsandidge@aol.com.

Grounds Work Day



Saturday, March 16
8 am –12 noon

Coffee and donuts at 8 am
Lunch at 12

Contact: Paul and Bonnie Hopler



Men's Prayer Breakfast
March 30, 2013
7-9 am

How sin came, "Fall of man"
which brought spiritual death.
Genesis 3:1-24

March Book Bite

"Implosion" by Joel C. Rosenberg A Review by Roger Larson

I was introduced to Joel Rosenberg by a Christian friend. Joel reveals his deep biblical knowledge by reviewing events and trends through the third lens, the light of Bible prophecy. In my opinion, this book should be read by every Christian in America.

These are not normal times; we are living in the Last Days. The rebirth of Israel is very significant. What will happen to America? Joel provides a number of scenarios which include financial implosion, war and terrorism, natural disasters, and the rapture. All or one of these could end America as we know it today.

Our only hope is for a third great spiritual awakening. Can America again be a shining city on the hill? Why is God shaking us up? He loves us and wants to wake us up and turn to Christ

- He wants us to realize that there is no one else who can give us true peace and security
- He has a mission for his church and each of his followers
- Jesus Christ is coming back soon and time is running out

The First Great Awakening (1700-1760's) was led by Jonathan Edwards, George Whitefield, and John and Charles Wesley and resulted in the founding of America. Many people forget about our Christian heritage. The Second Great Awakening (1800-1850s) happened after the moral decline following the Revolutionary War. It was led by Francis Asbury, Timothy Dwight, and Charles Finney when God showed tremendous grace and mercy to America during this dark time. Will God in his grace and mercy allow the American people to experience a Third Great Awakening? Revival in America will begin with our individual spiritual revival which could allow God to cause a Third Great Awakening.

The second-most important question is this: How will we invest our time, talent and treasure now, before either revival or implosion comes? The author suggests the book of Joel for guidance. Steps include: Reject fear, Resist anger, Rekindle love for Jesus, Repent of your sins, Recommit to study of God's word, Rediscover the power of prayer and fasting, Recommit to a local church congregation, Reach out to unsaved and share the Gospel, Reach out to a younger believer and make a disciple.

America is on the brink of a collapse. What role should Christians play in politics? The author suggests:

- Pray faithfully and consistently for wisdom and direction for our national leaders
- Exercise your right to vote; mobilize others to vote as well
- Run for elected office, serve in some governmental capacity or serve as advisors to national leaders who are affecting the future of our country
- Some Christians need to stay completely away from politics
- Do not become addicted to partisanship

To save our nation we need to find the purpose and the plan God has for our life and do it with all our heart.

Illuminations

All I Need Is The Air That I Breathe

*The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground,
and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life;
and man became a living soul. (Genesis 2:7)*

He is the alpha and the omega. He is Jesus, the breath of our lives; the one who give us meaning, purpose and validation. Regardless of our worldly accomplishments and human accolades, without him, we can do nothing. Without him, we cannot even breathe.

I remember picking up my guitar years ago and trying to work out the chord changes to The Hollie's hit song, *All I Need Is The Air That I Breathe*. Some of you might remember that song and chorus: "Sometimes, all I need is the air that I breathe, and to love you." For Christians, not just some of the time, but at all times we need the air that we breathe, and to love our God, who has supplied that air for us. You see, for believers this air is more than mere oxygen. It is also the very presence of the God of the universe who lives on the inside of us. As you ponder that thought, take a deep breath; hold it, and then exhale.

Recently, CNN did a story about the fast-growing atheist movement. As I watched the video, which featured one man who mockingly denied the existence of God, I wondered who these people think gave them the air that they breathe. You see, whether atheists acknowledge it or not, God is the one who sustains their lives. He is also the air that they breathe; they simply choose to not have a personal relationship with him.

However, as believers it is to our benefit to remain humble before God since we are so dependent upon Him. I think sometimes we start to "smell ourselves," as the old people in my neighborhood used to say. Perhaps you've heard some say that one has "gotten too big for his britches," after he's been educated and has accomplished a few things. But just think about the air that we breathe every second of every day. None of us have actually earned that privilege. It is a gift from God.

Now, just breathe.

In His Grace~Denise Lewis Christopher

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

Life in the Parentheses

"(Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, made everything the Lord commanded Moses.)" -Ex. 38:22

After Israel was delivered from bondage in Egypt they began to establish who they were and who they were going to be. God gave them the Ten Commandments and specific instructions on constructing a tabernacle to the Lord. Many chapters of Exodus are dedicated to the details of this fresh start for a newly freed nation. The instructions are overwhelming as God reveals Himself as a "detail" person. Exact measurements, weights, and materials make one's head spin. Well, if anyone could do this...Moses could. But wait. The Scripture tells us that God raised up people from the congregation and gifted them to accomplish everything that He had commanded. Bezalel, mentioned above, was one of those people. I found it interesting that this verse is translated and put into parentheses. It is almost a side comment.

As God does His Kingdom work in the world around us and right here at Parkwood, He raises up willing saints and equips them to partner with Him to bring about His glory. Some are recognized, but most of them are in the parentheses of the story. They are the Bezalels of the Kingdom. They are in the shadows...behind the scenes...working hard...doing the things that God has commanded...satisfied to live in the parentheses of life. That is what we are called to do, isn't it? To live to His glory! So, to all of you who are such a vital part of the Kingdom work here, thank you. Thank you for your faithfulness, hard work and, most of all, your willingness to be a part of this great work of God.

Blessings,

Pastor Mike



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Parkwood Baptist Church
8726 Braddock Road
Annandale, VA 22003
703-978-8160
www.parkwood.org

Pastor Mike Bradley Senior Pastor PastorMike@parkwood.org	Dr. Daniel Dapaah Director of Discipleship DanielD@parkwood.org	Hector Velasquez Director of Language Ministries HectorV@parkwood.org	Joe Swanson Worship Leader joes@parkwood.org	Jennifer Heiserman Director of Children's Ministry jenniferH@parkwood.org	Sam Ferguson Facilities Manager SamF@parkwood.org
LuAnn Bynum Accounting Assistant Accounting@parkwood.org	Patty Raliff Administrative Assistant ChurchOffice@parkwood.org	Beth Winstead Communications Manager ChurchAdmin@parkwood.org	Beth Bruins Administrative Assistant BethB@parkwood.org	Ann Lipton WEE Center Director WeeDirector@parkwood.org	