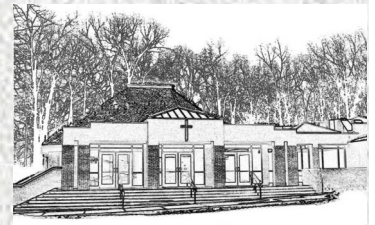


The Parkwood Connection

A monthly publication by Parkwood Baptist Church

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



MAY 2013



Summer is on the Way!



Wednesday, May 22
Join Parkwood Members and
WEE Center Families to

Celebrate The Beginning of Summer!

Special Wednesday Night Activities
"Cookout cuisine" prepared by Evaristo Rosales
Live Music, Moon Bounce, Face Painting, And More!

This will be the last Wednesday night dinner until the Fall.
Sign up, as usual, on the bulletin board.

Summer Camp
Sponsored by Parkwood's WEE Center
"God made the summer" Psalm 74:17
It's Beach Week!!



Monday, June 3 – Friday, June 7
10 am – 2 pm

Open to current WEE Center students and
any child who is potty trained aged 3-5 years
Cost is \$150

We want to give a warm Parkwood welcome home
to our new Youth Director, Reed Bradley.

Reed grew up here in Northern Virginia and has been pursuing his call to the ministry for the last six years. He worked in college ministry at James Madison University with the North



American Mission Board and worked as a Youth Ministry Intern for two summers with us here at Parkwood. He is currently finishing up an internship at North Wake Church in Wake Forest, NC and has just received his Master of Divinity degree from The Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Now we are continuing a 47 year old Parkwood tradition of investing in our own as they are called into God's Kingdom work.

Reed and his wife, Christina, will be coming in June when Reed begins working with our youth. He will also be involved with the Inview Ministry at George Mason.

Welcome Reed and Christina!

VBS 2013
Roller Coaster World:
Facing Fear, Trusting God
July 22-26
9 am-12 pm



Grab your tickets and head over to Colossal Coaster World! Come join us as we experience the thrill and excitement of a day at the park!

To register online go to www.parkwood.org
and click on "Community Ministry."

Contact: Jennifer Heiserman
Director of Children's Ministries



Parkwood Youth Mission Trip
July 7-13

A one-week construction mission opportunity in Fredericksburg, VA, where youth will focus on home repair and renovation for those in need.



Chen-Yang Hwang	5/2
Ana Ruth Velasquez	5/3
Fred Rood	5/4
Bob Rood	5/4
Kellie Phillis	5/11
Noah Bradley	5/12
JC Weirsky	5/12
Andrew Chandran	5/14
Carter Hassan	5/14
Evi Smith	5/14
Bailey Brandt	5/19
Destiny Morris	5/19
Tiffany Park	5/27
Mallory McKnight	5/28
Claire Gunraj	5/29

Food Pantry Needs

Canned Meat
 Jelly
 Condiments
 Diapers
 Baby Wipes
 Canned Beef Stew
 Tuna
 Canned Milk
 Rice
 Cereal
 Oatmeal
 Breakfast Bars
 Peanut Butter
 Instant Potatoes
 Spaghetti Sauces
 Pasta
 Soup
 Mac and Cheese
 Boxed Juice
 Juice/Drinks
 Canned Fruit
 Canned Vegetables
 Infant Formula
 Powdered Milk
 Condensed Milk

Children's Ministries

Funtastic Friday

Over 200 people at Funtastic Friday last month. What an awesome event! It was great to have so many families from the WEE Center, our community, and our church together to share in food, fun, and fellowship. Thank you to the many who helped make it run so smoothly-Mary Lindsay, Shirley Readyhough, and our youth who helped out in the kitchen and wherever they were needed. **Mark your calendars! The next Funtastic Friday is August 16th, and we're taking it outdoors!**

M Group

M Group (for children in Grades 3-6) will meet three times during the summer; June 19, July 17, and August 21 from 6-8 pm. Further details will be in the bulletin and posted on the website as we get closer to those dates.

VBS

We still have a few classes that need teachers; two Kindergarten Classes, 2nd Grade, and Preschool Recreation. Please contact Jennifer Heiserman if you are interested in helping out. Don't miss out on this great ministry that Parkwood does for the church and community!



Registration for 2013-2014 Continues

The WEE Center is accepting registrations for next school year. We currently have openings for children 16 months to 5 years old. Please share this information with family, friends and neighbors who are looking for a Christ-centered preschool. The WEE Center provides children with balanced tools for learning and socializing. Through hands-on activities and play, we encourage a relationship with Christ and a love for learning.

Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast Thursday, May 23 Let us celebrate you!!



If you volunteered with the WEE Center during this school year, please join us so we can thank you for your commitment to this ministry. More information will be published in the Sunday Bulletin soon.

Help Needed With WEE Summer Camp

Would you like to be paid to work with preschoolers a few hours a day in early June? We are looking for fun-loving, active adults or college students to work with us. Please call Lois Bradley in the WEE Center office if you would like more information about this part time employment opportunity. 703.978.0640

Ann Lipton, WEE Center Director



Calling All Families of 2013 Graduates

The Church will honor all those who will graduate or who have graduated during the 2012-2013 school year.

Please email the Church Office at ChurchAdmin@Parkwood.org with the following information:

Grad's Name, School, and Degree (if applicable), and digital pictures to be used in a slide show presentation.

HS Grads-Three pictures (baby, graduation, and one in between)

College Grads-One picture



**Next Meeting
Monday, May 13
10:30 am**

**Band Of Sisters
by Cathy Gohlke**



**Next Meeting
Monday, May 20
11:30 am**

If you are 50+, we would love to have you join us for food and fellowship!

From The Deacons

This month we observe Memorial Day on May 27. For most, it is a holiday weekend with cookouts, picnics, and the “unofficial” beginning of summer. Please take a moment to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice to keep our great Nation free. Without their sacrifices, Parkwood Baptist Church may not exist. Their sacrifices ensure that we can worship our Lord openly; we can proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ freely and not worry that we may be punished for our beliefs. Fly the Flag to honor them.

Take this opportunity to thank all of the men and women who have served and are currently serving in the uniform of this great Country. When you see those proudly wearing the uniform, or those who have worn the uniform, walk over, shake their hand, and thank them for their service. It'll make their day – and you'll feel the blessing also!

Doris Richburg, Deacon Chair



A fellow disciple on the Way...

Community: Connecting with People

“And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching” (Hebrews 10:24-25, NRSV)

We are created for fellowship (*koinōnia*) and community. Prior to the entrance of sin, with its ugly consequences, God communed regularly with our first parents, Adam and Eve, in the evening at a set location in the Garden (Gen 3:8-13). The disintegration of the earlier fellowship and connectedness is shown by the hiding of the first pair from the Lord God because of their disobedience.

The need for community is again exemplified in God's election of Israel, and now His church, as a means of demonstrating His unfailing love and grace for humanity. In His infinite love, God repaired the ruptured relationship through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, giving us uninterrupted access once again to Himself (Rom 5:1-2; John 14:6).

We connect with one another in fellowship and community for the purpose of maturing in the faith and engaging God's mission. A **God-focused, Christ-centered, and Kingdom-minded atmosphere of love and acceptance creates a sense of belonging that is valued and honored by God.**

Dr. Daniel Dapaah

Stewardship Report

Budget Needs thru Mar 2013	\$ 261,061
Budget Received	\$ 216,617
Budget Expended	\$ 180,891
Difference	\$ 35,726
2013 Building funds received thru Mar 2013	\$ 7,844

Welcome To Our Newest Members

Mariel Brown	Judy Kiser
Mark Brown	Cindy Ogren
Myong Brown	Tedd Ogren
Ben Buckley	Dianne Scutt
Carol Buckley	George Scutt
Erma Cahoon	

FACILITIES ADVISORY BOARD

A Facilities Advisory Board (FAB) has been established to support the ongoing mission of Parkwood through the implementation of best practices and industry standards for maintenance, repair, and new construction. These efforts are intended to maximize the functionality and ensure the long term use of PBC facilities.

The FAB will review all projects, repairs, maintenance, and improvements to our facilities, prior to implementation of work. The FAB is comprised of a maximum of six church members with experience in trades work, and it will function in an advisory role only. Current members of the FAB are Ken Kmiec, Pat Dozier, Dick Chandler, Evaristo Rosales, Bryce Stokes, and Sam Ferguson.

For additional information, please contact Sam Ferguson, Facilities Manager.

It's not too late to sign up! Disaster Relief Training

May 17 6-9 pm

May 18 7:30 am-3:30 pm

**First Baptist Church
of Alexandria**

www.vbmb.org/Ministries/Disaster-Relief/Training.cfm

Deadline is May 12.



5/1	Bonnie Hansen
5/1	Patrick Hansen
5/2	Ashley Whitehead
5/3	May Chin
5/3	Erin Donnelly
5/3	Michael Tirre
5/5	Cheryl Bailes
5/4	March Chapin
5/5	Carolyn Butler
5/5	Jacob Purvis
5/5	Sam Vera
5/6	Cliff Dickey
5/7	Ray Antosh
5/9	Samantha Jones
5/10	Julianne Sandidge
5/11	Derrick Chin
5/12	Karen Potter
5/12	Janet Rust
5/13	Mary Hill
5/13	Christi Jones
5/13	Allison Queen
5/13	Stephen Rust
5/14	Maria Zabaleta
5/15	Lance Sumner
5/16	Anne Anderson
5/16	Matt Brower
5/18	Anabela Ferguson
5/19	Kristina Stanton
5/20	Patti Hunt
5/22	Melba Martinez
5/23	Justin Mallette
5/24	Denise Christopher
5/26	Bridget Chapin
5/26	Evaristo Roasales
5/26	Christopher Whitehead
5/27	Keith Maynard
5/27	Terri Swanson
5/29	Jennifer Mickelson
5/31	Becky Scroggin

PARKWOOD.....On Mission



We are off to a great year with our Native American Missions efforts. In January we sent more Navajo Bibles to our churches so that the Navajo have the Word and can read it in their own language.

In February Pastor Mike joined me in Albuquerque. We helped distribute food with Rose Ignacio at Tinian Baptist near Torreon, New Mexico; met with Rev. Dan Clymer at Jemez Valley Baptist; had dinner with Pastor Rick Begay of Mesa Baptist in Sanostee, NM; went to the San Juan Baptist Association office in Farmington, NM to meet with Karen Ray, the office manager; met with Rev. Ken Greenwell at Beclabito Baptist near the Four Corners; headed out to Kayenta, Arizona to meet with Pastor James Tunney of the New Testament Full Gospel Indian Church near Shonto, and Pastor Elizabeth Bryant, before returning to Albuquerque to meet with the staff of the Central Baptist Association. 1,300 ground miles in three and a half days across the mesas and the mountains!

We were blessed to have Pastor Rick Begay and his wife, Nadine visit us in April. Rick is a tremendous pastor with a fascinating life story.

Over the past four years Parkwood members have generously donated: clothing, money for Bibles, seminary scholarships, and disaster relief. We have brought pastors and Rose Ignacio here, and have sent our members and staff out there. But we have received far more than we have given. This is especially true for me. I have received spiritual blessings beyond description. The Navajo, in particular, treat me like family.

I am also reminded of a conversation with Rose Ignacio this past summer. Jane and I were at Tinian for the monthly food distribution. Most of the food is donated by "Anglo" churches and other organizations. Before starting the distribution, Rose offered a prayer. I've picked up a little Navajo over time: enough to say and recognize a few words and phrases. I heard the word "Belagana," which means Caucasians. Later that night at dinner I jokingly asked Rose if she was talking about me during the prayer. She said no, that what she said was "This food came not from the Belagana, but from God." I have remembered that comment. What we give comes not from ourselves, but from God.

Greg Porter

Mission Support for Local Chaplains

The North American Mission Board supports 3800 chaplains, including 1200 military. Here is the proposal to support these dedicated men and women:

- Pray for our military chaplains, those serving in the military and their families, and particularly for veterans and wounded warriors.
- Pray for civilian chaplains serving prison ministries, hospitals and other organizations, and especially for Jessica Stokes who was ordained on April 7 and who serves these ministries.

The following prison ministry activities are underway:

- Provide crackers and communion cups
- Provide 60 new Bibles (with study helps)
- Paperback book drive for local prison ministries

If you would like to help, please contact Roger Larson at rogermlarson@verizon.net.



Paperback Book Collection for Local Jails/ Juvenile Detention Facilities

Collection takes place during June

Books should have a religious emphasis and/or a good moral message. The gift of positive reading material is an encouragement to inmates as they cope with their jail sentence and serves as a great way to get the Good News of the Gospel to those who need to hear it.

Collection box will be located in the Welcome Center during June.

Celebrate Christian Literature

Walking Toward Christmas Devotions for Advent

By Eric Dean Patterson

Why Christmas in April right after Easter? Because Proverbs 19:21 remains true, "People can make all kinds of plans, but only the Lord's plan will happen." NCV

God chose *this author for this time!* I just hope you chose to be with us to receive the blessing of hearing Dr. Patterson share with us why he felt led to write this book, the process he went through to get these thoughts from his heart and mind onto the page, and how God led him as he wrote.

Dr. Patterson shared with the lunch crowd how this book was different from other books he has authored or edited (a total of ten). Additionally, he quizzed adults and children alike on their knowledge of Christmas facts and taught some historical facts about the time and region of the Christmas story. Not only is Dr. Patterson's book a unique Advent devotional, but an evangelistic tool for all. It can be purchased on Amazon, and the church library has a copy.



*Eric Patterson signing copies of
Walking Toward Christmas.*

Attendees also learned that Eric Patterson, Ph.D. has been a Senior Research Fellow at the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs at Georgetown University and is currently Dean of the School of Government at Regent University in Virginia Beach, VA.

If you missed the blessings of this outstanding, yet humble speaker, do not fear. Your CCL team is planning another luncheon event for you on Sunday, October 27. Let's see what the Lord has in store for that one!

Mary Kelly

Illuminations

I Will Always Love You

***With everlasting love I will have compassion on you,"
says the Lord, your Redeemer. - Isaiah 54:8***

Humanly speaking, we do our best to love unconditionally. However, only God can demonstrate an unwavering *always* kind of love. The word *always* takes on a different meaning with God, who knows all about us, but still chooses to love us anyway. Just let that marinate for a minute: *anyway* and *always*.

Now, unless you were already a big fan of Dolly Parton in the early 1970's, you may not have known that she penned the notes and lyrics to the beautiful song, *I Will Always Love You*. Then in 1992, Whitney Houston commanded worldwide acclaim when she put her own vocal spin on the song for the romantic thriller, "The Bodyguard." Her version made us all stop and think of that special someone whom we will *always* love. But it was Whitney's a cappella opening that first captured our attention. "**If I should stay, I would only be in your way. So I'll go, but I know I'll think of you every step of the way. And I will always love you. I will always love you.**"

Even within Christian circles, an *always* love can be a difficult concept to grasp. Nevertheless, if you know someone who has strayed away and stayed away, please try to assure that individual that God will never stop loving them, no matter what. Tell them to talk to God who will compassionately receive them. (See Isaiah 1:18). Now, if you are the one who is drowning in that sea of uncertainty, then that reminder is for you.

Many Christians dwell more on the guilt of their mistakes rather than on God's love for them. Perhaps, they don't really believe that God's love covers a multitude of sins. Many have even left the faith entirely because of guilt. And sadly, we make it hard for people to want to return to the faith after they have strayed, because we fail to win them back with an *always* kind of love. But, it is a liberty that is not ours to take. If the Lord welcomes people back, then so should we.

Moreover, the kind of love that Ms. Parton wrote about is temporal, but God's love transcends all things; including time. And unlike the person in these lyrics, Jesus did not go away because He thought He would be in our way. Nor did He leave because He wanted to sever His relationship with us. To the contrary, before He left, He actually *solidified* His love for us at Calvary. (John 14:1-5).

Finally, our Lord is also *always* thinking of us. What kind of crazy love is that? It is a love that is deep and pure. It is a love that does not keep score of our faults. It is an everlasting love; an *always* love. It is the kind of love that humbles me. And I am forever grateful.

In His Amazing Love~Denise Lewis Christopher

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

Life to the Full!

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." - Jesus (John 10:10).

"Consider it joy, my brothers, when you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." - James (James 1:2-4)

Everyone wants to live life to the fullest. In the advertisement world it's called "going for the gusto." I have always wanted to squeeze every drop out of life. For a long time that kept me from fully investing in a relationship with Jesus. Like many, I saw our Lord as a bit of a wet blanket. As a result, my desire for life in the fullest wasn't being satisfied because I was not willing to give everything to this relationship with the One who made me. The good news is that Jesus wants us to live life to the full. In fact, we see in the verse above that He considered it His reason for coming that we might experience life in the fullest sense!

But, what does it mean to experience life fully? It means that we encounter all kinds of situations, not just good ones. It means we go through sickness and health. We wrestle with fear and uncertainty. It means we make mistakes and learn about forgiveness. It means we get hurt and have the privilege to give forgiveness. A full life is more than just being happy all the time. James' words above tell us that what we consider "trials" are necessary for us to mature and become all we were meant to be... "complete."

So, go for the "gusto" this Summer! Live life to the fullest. It is what God wants you to do. Embrace it all, the joys and the trials. Trust Him in all you do!

Blessings,

Pastor Mike

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