



...The Rest of the Story



Westminster Presbyterian Church

Published Biweekly

November 30, 2005

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*Join us for our annual Christmas
Moravian-style LOVEFEAST
Sunday, December 4th, at 5 p.m.*

Hosted by Westminster's youth, the service features wonderful music by the Triangle Brass Band, under the direction of Michael Votta, as well as by The Calling Chords, under the direction of Barbara Penick. Don't miss it!

**WPC ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**
**ALL CHILDREN ARE INVITED
TO PARTICIPATE.**

- * **Practice for the Christmas Pageant began Wednesday, November 30th.** This is part of the MP2 program. Children should plan to come at the regularly scheduled time (3:45 p.m.).
- * **Children who do not attend MP2 are encouraged to join us each Wednesday (3:45-5:15 p.m.) November 30th through December 21st.** Dress rehearsal will be on Dec. 21st.
- * The pageant will be presented at the 4:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve.
- * **Children younger than Kindergarten age, who would like to be a part of the pageant, are encouraged to come to the dress rehearsal, December 21st at 4 p.m.** Please contact Nancy to let her know that your child would like to participate in this "walk-on" part. We want to have enough star lights for every child. (Nancy: 489-4974; ext. 104)

We welcome all parents who will be available to help make the pageant a fun learning experience for our children. Please contact Nancy or Holly Schmidt (489-6887) to offer your assistance with costuming, preparing the small groups, staging, etc.



Relief

We continue to be amazed, but never surprised, at your response following the devastation from hurricane Katrina. Your financial support, your trips to the Gulf Coast, and your prayers are making a real difference.

Did you know that nearly 300 families and individuals displaced by hurricanes Katrina and Rita have relocated to Durham County? In response, an interfaith hurricane relief task force was established to coordinate an effort to support these families and individuals. In late September, the task force invited all churches in Durham County to join this effort - and so far 29 congregations have adopted 131 of these evacuees. The Board of Deacons would like to see Westminster become number 30. This would be a 4-6 month commitment, and we would be working directly with an individual or a family to help them provide for their most basic needs - safe and affordable housing, furnishings, food, childcare, transportation, and employment.

The Board of Deacons is looking for a few people who feel called to coordinate and lead this important local ministry on behalf of our church. If you are interested, please contact Jeff Sutton (home: 572-9557, work: 541-4788; e-mail: jsutton5670@nc.rr.com).



**ADVENT SING-ALONG
& POTLUCK DINNER
DECEMBER 11TH, 5:30 PM**

- BRING YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY DISH TO SHARE (Main dishes, bread or rolls, salads, desserts)
- COME SHARE FELLOWSHIP
- BEVERAGES WILL BE PROVIDED
- SING ALONG TO ALL OF YOUR FAVORITE CAROLS

*Liz Fendt-Smith will accompany us at the piano
and the Ruffing Family will be our emcees.*

*Join us for the fun! You won't want to miss the
"Partridge In A Pear Tree"!*

WPC FELLOWSHIP HALL

Our Thoughts & Prayers are with...

- + **Jean Lee** has been diagnosed with cancer.
- + **Ken Lundstrom** asks for prayers for his friends, Cel and Pat Guillerm, of Rotonda, Florida, whose youngest son, Scott, died recently.
- + **John Penick** is recovering from an illness at home.
- + **Jane Wilkerson** is recovering at home from a heart attack.
- + **Carl Young** died at Duke University Medical Center on November 28th. A memorial service will be held Monday, December 5th, at 2:00 p.m. at The Forest at Duke.

★ Celebrations! ★

- + Simone Gabriel, daughter of **Mac Smith**, is home in the U.S. after serving in Afghanistan for the last year.

SHARE YOUR CHRISTMAS

Help make this Christmas special for someone in our community by choosing a name from the Share Your Christmas boards. Looks for the boards after services on Sunday and during the week in the Mission Center Halway.

Please bring your wrapped gifts to the Mission Center **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 12th**. When purchasing gifts, please do not exceed \$50 per person.

If you have any questions please contact John Lockhead (johnl@branditinc.com or 401-4900).

Come join our
Parent to Parent Sunday School Class
at 9:45 a.m. in Room 203.
This is a great chance to learn more
about Advent, The Bible, and
sharing the Bible with your children!

December 4th: Advent Traditions & Christmas Stories
- Mary Todd Peters

December 11th: The Bible: Literal Interpretation vs. Interpretative Understanding - Haywood Holderness

December 18th: Sharing Bible Stories with our children - Nancy Rozak

December 25th: No class - Christmas Holiday



Deacons' Corner



The Deacons send a sincere **thank you** to all who helped the Jr. High Sunday School class' contributions drive for D'Iberville/Hurricane Relief and to those who helped with our recent hosting of the IHN families. Our congregation always steps up for those in need!

In December, the **collection boxes** will be dedicated to IHN. Items requested are: toilet paper, paper towels, large kitchen garbage bags, deodorant, diapers (4,5,6 and pull-ups), and laundry detergent. Next time you are at the grocery, put IHN on your list, too.

The **Global Missions Committee** extends an invitation to the congregation for ideas for the appropriation of the last of the global missions funds before the end of the year. Please contact Bruce Capehart (402-1478) or Frances Anton (490-5202) with suggestions or questions.

Choir # Notes

Your Chancel Choir has been working hard: **John Rutter's GLORIA**, a festive work for choir, brass, percussion, & organ, will be presented as part of both morning worship services on December 11th. Don't miss it!



December finds excitement in the air and happy sounds coming from every classroom, as our children and staff prepare to celebrate Christmas! Wednesday "Celebrations" with the Church Staff continues to be a weekly highlight.

Our annual "**Share a Toy**" drive has begun. The students are bringing in gently used toys that we will donate to children in our community. If you wish to participate by donating a toy, game, or book, you may leave it in the box near our school office.

The staff has also adopted a family through the "**Share Your Christmas**" program. Three of us will shop, and deliver needed items to a family with small children.

FYI: Financial aid is available through our Scholarship Fund. If you would like to make a tax deductible donation to this fund, or if you know of a family who could benefit from such assistance, please come by our office. Applications for next fall must be received by our committee in January.



Stephen Ministry Training Begins January 4th

Stephen Ministry Training will begin on January 4th. We are currently interviewing class members and would be glad to include you, if you are interested in applying! Stephen Ministry training includes lessons on active and reflective listening, recognizing mental illnesses, dealing with depression, etc. Training takes place on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9:45 p.m., January through June. Stephen Ministers participate in post-training supervision and continuing education twice a month. If you are interested, please contact Betty Berghaus at the church office (betty@wpcdurham.org, 489-4974, ext. 108) or talk to one of the other Stephen Leaders: Ashley Everly (383-7197), Susan Landis (765-7559), or Eileen McAvoy (493-7547).



Impact of Homelessness Upon Children

Let your voice be heard!

Join the members of the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness Steering Committee at the last Community Forum:

Date: Thursday, December 8, 2005

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Place: St. Philip's Episcopal Church
(403 East Main Street in Durham)

CHILDCARE WILL BE PROVIDED!

National data indicates that the average age of a homeless person is 9 years old. Oftentimes we forget that the face of homelessness is not one of a 30-50-year-old single man, but instead the face of a child. The good news is that individuals in the community make sure that children are not on the streets. However, this results in households where "doubling up" is a norm, and discovering who is actually at risk of homelessness is difficult to determine. This forum will explore the challenges of counting these children and addressing the needs of homeless children who are living in shelters. Presentations will be followed by community comment and a question and answer session.

An Elder Community in Chapel Hill

Are you 50 to 70 years of age and looking for an alternative to traditional housing? Would you like to know your neighbors . . . *before you move in* . . . and design and build your community with them? Then, please join us Sunday, December 4th, at 1:30 p.m. at Carol Woods to hear a presentation by Dene Peterson, founder of ElderSpirit, followed by an open discussion on issues of spirituality in later life. For more information: www.secondjourney.org/ch.htm or 403-0432.



Senior Santa Is Coming To Town

Now through December 14th, Meals on Wheels is collecting gifts for our annual Senior Santa program, which provides holiday gifts for needy seniors. Gifts should be new, unwrapped, and cost less than \$20. Suggested items include: pajamas, slippers, hats, scarves, mittens, robes, umbrellas, long underwear, and postage stamps. We are also accepting donations of cash and wrapping supplies for Senior Santa. Gifts can be dropped off Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Northgate Presbyterian Church. Please call 220-4400 for more information.

Church Chuckles

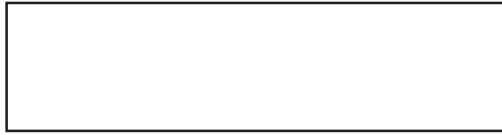
A Kentucky mother who had been in church with her fidgety seven-year-old son explained how she finally got him to sit still and be quiet: "About halfway through the sermon, she leaned over and whispered, 'If you don't be quiet, the Pastor is going to lose his place and will have to start his sermon all over again!'" It worked!

A little girl was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again. Finally she spoke up, "Grandpa, did God make you?" "Yes, sweetheart," he answered. "God made me a long time ago." "Oh," she paused, "Grandpa, did God make me too?" "Yes, indeed, honey," he said. "God made you just a little while ago." Feeling their respective faces again, the little girl observed, "God's getting better at it, isn't He?"

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December 04, 2005 - Holy Communion

Preacher: Haywood Holderness
Title: "The Beginning of the Gospel"
Texts: Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-15

December 11, 2005 - Choir Christmas Program (both services)

December 18, 2005
Preacher: Haywood Holderness
Title: "Mothers of God"
Text: Luke 1:26-38



Looking for fun, fellowship and fat burning? Then sign up to play on the WPC Basketball team. We're putting our roster together now for the upcoming 2006 season. Games will be held Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Hope Valley Baptist Church on Garrett Road. The season will start in early January and run through early March. Any church member age 16 or over is welcome to play. For more information, please contact Darren Skeen at 475-1043 or dmskeen@nc.rr.com.



"...and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"
Micah 6:8

Calendar Highlights

- 12/04** 2:00 p.m. Memorial Garden Committee Room 105
2:30 p.m. Lovefeast Rehearsal (Youth)
5:00 p.m. Lovefeast - Sanctuary
- 12/07** 3:45 p.m. Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
- 12/10** 10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Dress Rehearsal Music Room & Sanctuary
- 12/11** 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Rutter *GLORIA*
5:30 p.m. Advent Potluck Dinner & Sing-along
- 12/12** Share Your Christmas Gifts Due Today
7:15 p.m. Seekers' Cookie Exchange - Parlor
- 12/14** 3:45 p.m. Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
5:30 p.m. Ways & Means Committee Room 105
7:00 p.m. Global Missions Committee Room 207

Responsibilities for December 4 - December 11, 2005

ACOLYTES	NURSERY	USHERS
12/04 Meredith Dorminey & Kaleigh Roe 12/11 Peyton Dilweg & Kayley Peters	December Nursery Coordinator - Barb Vanden Broek 12/04 8:30 - <i>Infants</i> - Susan Ketch 2-5 - Elena & Olivia Cleary 11:00 - <i>Infants</i> - Susan Keese <i>Toddlers</i> - Randy & Tracy Fletcher 2-3 - Chris & Lynn McLaughlin 4-5 - Margaret & Frank Falkovic <i>Float</i> - Diane Kelly 12/11 8:30 - <i>Infants</i> - Margaret Hawkins & Carolyn Cleaver 2-5 - David & Cheryl Duling 11:00 - <i>Infants</i> - Michelle Beischer & Tonya Mills <i>Toddlers</i> - Darcy Turner & Susan Couch 2-3 - Christopher & Katherine Stanley 4-5 - Bob & Melissa Good <i>Float</i> - Volunteer Needed	12/04 8:30 - Lois Bender, Josie Humphries, and Jeff & Beverlee Smith-Fendt 11:00 - Shayne, Angela, Allie, & Madison Ruffing 12/11 8:30 - Ron & Becky Sale and Jim & Susan Ketch 11:00 - Mark, Grayson, & Thomas Schmidt, and Neil & Jennifer McElroy
LECTORS 12/04 8:30 - Frances Anton 11:00 - Carlisle Willard 12/11 8:30 - Choir Program (No lectors) 11:00 - Choir Program (No lectors)		SOUND TECHNICIANS 12/04 8:30 - Doug Wellemeyer 11:00 - Frank Stallings 12/11 8:30 - Doug Wellemeyer 11:00 - Frank Stallings
ELDER GREETERS 12/04 8:30 - Bonnie Derr 11:00 - Woody Warburton 12/11 8:30 - Josie Humphries 11:00 - Bill Young		
OFFERING COUNTERS 12/04 Alex & Mary Denson 12/11 Beth Eagen & Gloria Kanoy		