



...The Rest of the Story

Westminster Presbyterian Church



Published Biweekly

December 15, 2004

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Christmas Eve Services



- 4:30 PM Children's Christmas Pageant
- 6:00 PM A Service of Carols, Readings, & Lights - featuring special music by a guitar quartet, a guitar soloist, and vocal soloists
- 8:00 PM A Service of Carols, Readings, & Lights - featuring the Chancel Choir and Westminster Brass Ensemble



Come!

Experience the re-telling of our Savior's birth!

- The 4:30 worship service on December 24th is devoted to the telling of the Christmas Story by the children of our congregation.
- The Junior Choir will sing.
- Carols will be sung (accompanied by some of our junior musicians).
- Children under the age of 5 years are invited to join in the final procession carrying "twinkling stars". They will meet in the narthex prior to the singing of *Silent Night*.

Christmas Eve Potluck Dinner - in the Fellowship Hall between services (5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.). Volunteers are needed for serving & cleaning up. Please contact **Mitch Dozier (969-9683)**.

To all the folks who worked on the Lovefeast,

The youth could not look so good without you! Thank you for all you did over the last few weeks. It takes a lot of hands to bring about the Lovefeast. I am very grateful that so many people choose to help the youth with this service.

Have a wonderful Advent & Christmas!

Thank you,
June



WPC Hosts IHN Dec. 26th - Jan. 2nd



INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK will be with **Westminster Presbyterian Church from December 26th through January 2nd!** This holiday season, our church will host up to three homeless families during the week between Christmas and New Year's. What a wonderful opportunity to share Christian love, care, and hospitality with those less fortunate during this season of giving and sharing!

Although the families will not stay at our church during the week (IHN arranges for the families to stay at a local hotel and thus we will not provide overnight hosts or transportation), we will still provide these families with lunch and dinner each day that week. These meals can be home-cooked and delivered to the hotel, or donations may be made to purchase gift certificates to nearby restaurants. For details on how you or your family can help with meals during this visit from our IHN friends, please contact **Sara Pottenger (493-5922 or stpott@aol.com)**.

Thank you for helping with this ministry of caring and hospitality!

Remember: On December 26th there will be no Sunday School and only one worship service at 11:00 a.m.



- + **Cheryl Duling's** father, Elwood Atkins, died on December 8th.
- + **Alexis Franzese's** father, Frank Franzese, died on December 11th in New York.
- + **Shirley Joines** is recovering from pneumonia. **Bill Joines'** mother, Ally Joines, died on December 4th.
- + **Sally & Richard Keener** are mourning the death of their niece, Christine, who died from meningitis. Christine was also the cousin of **Amy Simonson**.
- + **Carrie Marshall** is seriously ill at home with lung cancer.
- + **Nancy Rozak's** brother, Doug Sullivan, continues in treatment for melanoma.
- + **Carol Walker's** father, Findley Smith, is seriously ill in Charlotte, NC.



- + Aerin Borden was born to **Kennon & Holly Borden** on December 9th.
- + **Marge & Dennis Enberg** became grandparents again on December 1st. Colin Walker Enberg was born to Erik & Melissa Enberg.

Dear Congregation,

When you call the church with funeral, hospital, or wedding information, please help the church staff with correct names, places, and dates so that this information gets correctly transmitted to the congregation.

We have had some instances of misspelled names and locations which your staff regrets. Your care for each other is what the church is all about and we wish to be as helpful as possible.



Year End Contribution Guidelines

The General Rule: The income tax regulations specify that “ordinarily, a contribution is made at the time delivery takes place. The unconditional delivery or mailing of a check which subsequently clears in due course will constitute an effective contribution on the date of delivery or mailing.” According to this language, a check dated December 31, 2004, but physically delivered in January 2005 is deductible only on the donor’s 2005 federal tax return. This is so, even though a donor backdates a check to read “December 31, 2004” during church services conducted in January 2005, or in fact completed and dated the check on December 31, 2004, but gives it to the church on or after January 1, 2005.

An Exception: The only exception to this rule is the case of a check that is dated and mailed (and **postmarked**) in December of 2004. The fact that the church does not receive the check until January of 2005 does not prevent the donor from deducting it on his or her 2004 federal tax return. The rules are summarized in the following table.

Remember: Do not file your 2004 Federal Income Tax Return until you receive your 2004 year end statement. Some donors may not be able to deduct certain contributions if they file a tax return before receiving their church contribution statement.

| Type of Contribution | Church Treasurer Reports as 2004 Contribution | Church Treasurer Reports as 2005 Contribution |
|--|---|---|
| Checks written in Dec. 2004 and put in the church offering in Jan. 2005 | | X |
| Checks written and put in the church offering in Jan. 2005, but “backdated” to Dec. 2004 | | X |
| Checks written and put in the church offering in Dec. 2004 but “postdated” to Jan. 2005 | | X |
| Checks written in Dec. 2004, mailed and postmarked in Dec. 2004, but not received by the church until Jan. 2005 | X | |
| Checks written in Dec. 2004, mailed in Dec. 2004, but not postmarked until Jan. 2005, and not received until Jan. 2005 | | X |



Dear Youth,

You guys did such a wonderful job last Sunday night! You are the best! Most of you are the best, again! Thanks for coming year after year to carry out this rather complicated service and make it look easy. The whole Lovefeast was celebrated and not one person got coffee spilled on them. Okay, a few of you did, but that was not a big problem. Thank you for standing outside as you were asked to. You looked great. I believe "angelic" was the word used. I think the congregation felt thanked. I know I felt blessed to have you all to work with. May this Christmas be special for each of you.

Thank you,
June

Whadda kick sitting with everybody at the carol sing! U r faithful in attending all the stuff your church does...and there were a bunch of u at early church! Whats upwithat? Huh!

The Lovefeast was a total hit. Congregation loved the music. The photographer for the paper loved the way you dropped hot wax on her while she was shooting your angelic faces. Sew many of u r playing for Christmas stuff. Hope I can get to see a bunch of u.

Liz brought the beach boy. Grayson will take your money since she is treasurer of the NJHS. Walker brings weird frens. Kenzie, the hat looks good. Next year, we add voices to Overholt and Thompson - the two callinkbirds that had snorts of laughing gas. Hannah is ditching the braces. Happy birthday somebody.

Great Mexico meeting. Could be huge trip if everyone goes that is yappin' about it. Montreat is lookin' good for the summer bit. Pray for our seniors who are starting to apply to schools. We know they're tops.

Sponsors retreat was so good that they want another one. Du u know that they cry when they talkabout u? They love u guys. Vanessa is that a real diamond in yer nose?

Wanna ski trip? Better tell me. Better du a better job than u did telling me what u wanted to eat at the carol sing. 2 peebles got back to me and forty of u showed up. Thomas found his pants. Bring back your skirts. Faboolus council meeting with wonderful Rebecca. Setting up a Spring calendar. See u at da party at Rebeccas.

Choir



Notes

Join the Chancel Choir & friends for Christmas caroling on Tuesday, Dec. 21st. Meet in the church parking lot at 6:15 p.m. We will travel by church bus & private cars. The more, the merrier!

Many thanks to all singers, instrumentalists, and readers who participated in the *Festival of Lessons and Carols* on Dec. 12th! We all truly appreciate the time, energy, and talent that went into the preparation of this very special worship experience.

Chancel Choir reminders:

- We will have regular Thurs. rehearsals on Dec. 16th & 23rd.
- Choir sings for the 8 p.m. Christmas Eve service; choir warms up in the sanctuary at 7:15 p.m. Anthem list is available in the music room.
- The choir will not sing Sunday, Dec. 26th. Instead, enjoy special music for recorder, harp, and voice - emphasizing early English carols - provided by Kay Bailey and friends.
- No choir rehearsal on Thurs., Dec. 30th.
- Our first rehearsal of the new year is January 6th.

Junior Choir reminders:

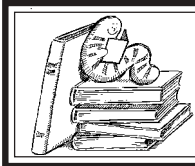
- No afternoon rehearsal on Wed., Dec. 22nd; instead, come to the pageant dress rehearsal in the sanctuary at 10 a.m.
- Junior Choir sings two anthems for the 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve pageant service.
- No rehearsal on Wed., Dec. 29th. Our first rehearsal of the new year is January 5th.



The students of Westminster School have been busy celebrating Christmas! Our three-year-old classes learned about Christmas celebrations around the world last Friday. Tuesday our four-year-olds participated in a Mexican Fiesta.

Thanks to our church staff for teaching us about Christmas through their stories and songs at Celebrations. Thanks to all of you for participating in our annual "Share A Toy" drive. The Durham Rescue Mission will put all of those toys, games, and books to very good use! We also thank you for your continued support of this program. The staff and students wish you a very Merry Christmas!

Our last day of school is this Friday, the 17th. We will return on Monday, January 3rd.



Library Alert

When **Checking Out Books**, please:

- Sign the card in the envelope on the back cover of the book with your name and the current date.
- Leave the card in the box provided.
- Note the current date on a post-it note and attach it to the book envelope to remind you that the book is due in three weeks.

Our library has some lovely books for children and adults that you will want to read during the Advent season as we prepare for Christmas. One of these books is *The Christmas Story* from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, published by the Metropolitan Museum of Art and edited by Marguerite Northrop. It is the traditional Bible story, beautifully illustrated with paintings from the Museum. They are in color supplemented by black and white line drawings. This book is appropriate for older elementary school through high school children. Parents may enjoy reading it to their children. This book is for art lovers of all ages. It is a real treasure.

The Legend of the Candy Cane by Lori Walburg

A stranger rides his horse into a small town and stops in front of a dark, boarded-up building. The town folk wonder what the stranger will do with the abandoned store. A little girl named Lucy goes to the store and offers to help the store owner. She is delighted to find mounds of candy in the boxes that she helps Mr. Sonneman unpack. In the last box, Lucy finds the candy canes. She has never seen this kind of candy before and asks what it is.

Mr. Sonneman tells her the story of the candy cane and how the candy cane tells the story of Jesus. The store owner and Lucy then share the story with others. At the end of the book, the store is transformed into a bright, welcoming gathering place where the people share not only candy, but also, the miracle of Jesus' birth: His sacrifice, and His forgiveness.

The Legend of the Candy Cane is for kids ages 4 to 8, however, anyone who reads it will think about the candy cane in a different way.

Review by Debra Bagwell



The Sacraments Class for children in grades 1-4 (and their parents) will be held on **Sundays, January 2nd, 9th, and 16th**, from 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. in the Youth Suite. It is our tradition to share lunch together while we learn about the sacraments of Lord's Supper and Baptism. Call **Nancy Rozak (489-4974, ex. 104)** to register your child.

Winter Bible Study

A Lenten Bible Study will be held Wednesday evenings February 16 - March 23, 2005. **Richard Draffin and Nancy Rozak** will lead a study of the Passion based on a series by Dr. James Mickey Efird of Duke Divinity School. **Sign up will begin on January 2nd.**

Lenten Spirituality Course

Betty Berghaus will lead a spirituality course during Lent, on Monday nights, from February 21st through March 14th. In part, the course will look at Henri Nouwen's book, *Making All Things New*. We will also share in prayer experiences and spiritual disciplines, as we look at how we can be more spiritual in our daily lives. If interested, contact Betty at church (**489-4974, ext. 108; betty@wpcdurham.org**).

A Small Miracle by Peter Collington

A Small Miracle might better be named "A Wondrous Miracle." In 96 frames, Peter Collington tells a poignant story about a poor, lonely woman who is able to celebrate Christmas after many misadventures.

Collington needs no words to get his story across. The stark illustrations make the elderly woman's plight even more disturbing.

Family members may want to look at this book alone and then discuss how they felt as they looked at the scenes. I was reminded that our God is a God of miracles and that nothing is impossible for Him. The pictures of the joyless, hurrying shoppers opened my eyes to the plight of others and helped me to remember that I can be Jesus' hands and feet.

This book is most appropriate for older elementary children to adults.

Review by Debra Bagwell



The Bulletin Board



2004 Honor Card

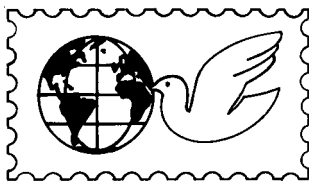
Urban Ministries of Durham



This holiday season, Urban Ministries of Durham is offering a beautiful Honor Card, *Evening's Peace* by Greensboro artist, William Mangum. Please consider purchasing one or more for your friends, family members, and colleagues for a \$5 minimum donation per card. The card's subtle image of a lone figure carrying all of his belongings reminds us of the needs of the homeless and hungry.

Cards may be purchased in the church office. This is a wonderful way to honor a special person in your life while also helping to feed, clothe, and shelter our hungry and needy neighbors who come to Urban Ministries of Durham.

Please give generously during this holiday season.



WORLDWIDE MISSIONS

At its November meeting, the **Global Missions Committee** voted to fund a number of projects with the monies designated for that purpose in the Global Missions Fund. The committee was excited to be able to assist so many different groups this year and is appreciative of the congregation's support of this committee's work. The projects supported and the amounts given are listed below. You will also find the addresses of the organizations sponsoring the projects in the event that you want to make an individual contribution to any of these groups. If you have any questions, please contact **Frances Anton (490-5202 f.anton@stanfordalumni.org)**.

1. **Church World Service Africa Initiative** (rehabilitate a borehole for a well) - \$1200
Joe Moran, CWS/CROP, 1006 Lamond Ave., Durham, NC 27701
2. **Music Mission Kiev Durham February Concert Support-** \$500
Music Mission Kiev, 238 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 110, Casselberry, FL
3. **Music Mission Kiev: Widow Sponsorship-** \$480(recurring commitment).
The committee selected Oksana Simakova who is 85 years old. Address same as above.
4. Support for **Getsemani Retreat Center** run by our missionary to Mexico, Don Wehmeyer - \$500
Outreach Foundation, 318 Seaboard Lane, Suite 205, Franklin, TN 37067
5. **Disaster Relief** supplies (Generator, bottled water) - \$995.
These funds will be used to restock WPC's storeroom for work in Hyde County and elsewhere.
6. **Presbyterian Campus Ministries Scholarship** for Dec/Jan Cuban Mission trip - \$250
Allen Proctor, 27 Horne Street, Raleigh, NC 27607
7. **Disaster Recovery Fund for the Presbytery of Western North Carolina** - \$500
Sheila Young, PWNC, 114 Silver Creek Road, Morganton, NC 28655
8. **M'tendere Presbyterian Church School (Zambia)-** \$1500
Fresher Maphiri, c/o Center for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia, Plot 5977 CNR Chozi / Benakale Road, Corner Benekale Mwembeshi Road Northmead, P. O. Box 34681, Lusaka, Zambia

Give & Grow at New Hope Conference Center

New Hope Camp and Conference Center, Inc. is hosting "Creativity and Contemplation: Deepening your Art and Faith Journey in the New Year" a workshop for those interested in exploring the link between arts and spirituality. This workshop will be held the first four Wednesday mornings in January. Call the camp office at 942-4716 for more information and registration packets.

Donations Needed: Do you have framed prints, large photos or other decorative wall art residing in your attic or closet? Several of the buildings at the New Hope Camp and Conference Center are newly painted - and most of the walls are bare. Please consider whether something you no longer need might be suitable to help beautify the buildings.

- Wall art in many sizes is requested.
- Extra cushions for This End Up furniture and medium to large area rugs are also needed.

If, for some reason, your donated item cannot be used, it will be donated to a local Thrift Shop unless you specifically ask that it be returned to you. To make arrangements for donations, please call the camp office (942-4716).

Westminster Presbyterian Church
 3639 Old Chapel Hill Road
 Durham, NC 27707

Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Permit No. 760

Phone: 919-489-4974
 Fax: 919-493-4553
 Website: www.wpcdurham.org



“...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

Make a Joyful Noise
Sunday School children ages 2 to 5 will sing at the
11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 19th.
The children, teachers, and guitar man will go di-
rectly to the 11 a.m. worship service from Sunday
School.

JANUARY 7th - 9th
A WEEKEND WITH STEVE PRICE

A nationally known educator and church recreation leader is coming to spend a weekend with our church family. Activities will begin on Friday night and continue through Sunday worship. **Keep watching for the specific details.** Steve's event will bring education, recreation, and relationship building to all who attend. Don't miss it!

Seminarians

Three of our young people who are preparing for the ministry will serve as liturgists helping to lead worship on the next three Sundays:

December 19th - **Rebecca Hylander** (1st year at Duke Divinity School)

December 26th - **Tully Fletcher** (1st year at Columbia Theological Seminary)

January 2nd - **Marian Draffin** (2nd year at Fuller Theological Seminary)

December 19, 2004 - Bell Sunday

Preacher: Paul Ransford

Titles: “We Still Don't Get It.” (Rebecca Hylander)
 “We Got It!” (Paul Ransford)

Text: Matthew 1:18-25

December 26, 2004

(One worship service at 11 a.m., no Sunday School)

Preacher: Haywood Holderness

Title: “Herod on the Christmas Tree?”

Text: Matthew 2:13-23

Special Music: Recorder/harp/vocal trio and English carols

January 2, 2004 - Holy Communion

Preacher: Betty Berghaus

Responsibilities for December 19 - December 26, 2004

| ACOLYTES | NURSERY | USHERS |
|--|--|--|
| 12/19 James Chesnut & Caroline Dorminey 12/26 Ben Chesnut & Kaleigh Roe | November Nursery Coordinator - Barb Vanden Broek 12/19 8:30 - <i>Infants</i> - Leslie Collins & Cathy Smith 2-5 - Bruce & Tracey Holsinger 11:00 - <i>Infants</i> - Blair & Laura Chesnut <i>Toddlers</i> - Diane Kelly 2-3 - Christopher & Katherine Stanley 4-5 - Shayne & Angela Ruffing <i>Float</i> - Jonathan Burig 12/26 11:00 - <i>Infants</i> - Beverly McGraw <i>Toddlers</i> - Jane & Rich DeGiacomo 2-3 - David Anderson 4-5 - Scott McLeod <i>Float</i> - (<i>Volunteer Needed</i>) | 12/19 8:30 - Donald & Shirley Rufty, and Jeff & Mary Beck Sutton 11:00 - Jim, Lee, & Morgan Thompson, Judy Hendrixon, Hannah Overholt, and Dan & Martha Milam 12/26 11:00 - Scott McLeod, John Atkins, Margaret McCarty, Howard Ross, Wilem Lombard, Chip Roe, and Jim Agnew |
| LECTORS | | SOUND TECHNICIANS |
| 12/19 8:30 - Jim Maxwell 11:00 - Dorene Palermo 12/26 11:00 - Carlisle Willard | | The sound coordinators are Dorene Palermo (8:30) and Doug Brown (11:00). 12/19 8:30 - Doug Wellemeyer 11:00 - Frank Stallings 12/26 11:00 - Frank Stallings |
| ELDER GREETERS | | |
| 12/19 8:30 - Bo Harris, III 11:00 - Woody Warburton 12/26 11:00 - Bonnie Derr | | |
| OFFERING COUNTERS | | |
| 12/19 Bill & Anne Young 12/26 Mike & Kay Rosenmarkle | | |