



FIRST DAY !

Weekly News and Opportunities at
The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County
January 1, 2017

TODAY

DISCIPLESHIP HOUR TODAY: *New Year's Day Brunch*, following the 10:00 a.m. service in Lyle Buck Hall. Suggested donation: \$2 per person/\$5 per family
NEXT WEEK'S DISCIPLESHIP HOUR: *Coffee Fellowship*, hosted by Ruth Circle, following the 10:00 a.m. service in Lyle Buck Hall.

USHERS & GREETERS: Margot (10:00); Elaine (Tech Crew)

FLOWERS THIS WEEK are given to the glory of God by Louise in memory of Ellen Hedges; and the poinsettias by Cheryl and Kyra in celebration of their wedding on Saturday, December 31, 2016.

The flower arranger is Jan.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: All worship begins in the Sanctuary.

At 8:30 a.m.: After Welcoming One Another—Children ages 4-7 may go with Ms. Kathy Moore to Godly Play. Parents can pick up their children following worship in rooms 110 & 113.

At 10:30 a.m.: After the Children's Prayer and Lord's Prayer—Children ages 4-7 may go with Ms. Kathy Moore to Godly Play. Parents can pick up their children following worship in rooms 110 & 113.

Older children, grades 2-5, who normally attend The Worship Bridge will return to their seats to experience a full worship service with their family.

WORSHIP BAGS: Worship bags are available to enhance the worship experience for children. The bags are separated into two different age groups, 3-6 year-olds and 7-12 year-olds. You can tell the difference by the writing on the outside: *green for 3-6 and purple for 7-12*. Please return everything to the bags (except the chenille stems/pipe cleaners) and return the bags to the ushers at the end of the service.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER, also called Holy Communion, is included this morning during worship. Everyone who puts faith and trust in Jesus Christ is welcome to share communion. Gluten-free bread is available. Communion Sundays are the first Sunday of every month.

BY CUSTOM, GIFTS ARE RECEIVED to the Deacons Compassion Fund on Communion Sundays. This fund serves the need of our community with essential living expenses like rent, utility bills, groceries or prescriptions. Place your gift in the yellow envelope found in the pew.

WELCOME TO OUR GUEST MUSICIAN: Douglas Lawler has been accompanying singers in theatre for over thirty years. He has recently performed with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Olney Theatre, Toby's Dinner Theatre, and the Kennedy Center productions of *Ragtime*, *Master Class*, *Follies*, *Side Show*, and *Gigi*. As a music educator, he is currently a faculty member at the University of Maryland and the Community College of Baltimore County.

GUIDE TO PRAYER FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 1, 2017

Please pray for: Jon, Jeff, Darlene, Virginia, Joan, Burta, Jean, Margaret, Morton and Sue, Dorothy, Jerry, Bonnie, Dottie, Gertrude, Robert & Vivian, Nancy, Bob, Christina, Anna, Lauren and Caroline, Maria, Bunny, Shirley, Stan, Shirley, Al & Beth

Extended Care: Jim, Miller's Grant

Hospitalized: Web, Dave

May joy and hope abound for Cheryl and Kyra who were married in our sanctuary yesterday Saturday, December 31, 2016.

Family & Friends: Jimmy's mother, Marie

PCUSA Mission Coworkers: Jeff and Christi Boyd in Congo; Amanda Craft and Omar Chan with the Presbyterian Border Region Outreach (PBRO) along the US-Mexico border; Jed and Jenny Koball in Peru.

*Please contact the church office, 410-730-3545 or one of the Pastors:
Morton Harris, 443-824-3768 or Sue Lowcock Harris, 443-824-4305
with the prayers and concerns that you would like to share.*



PEOPLE ON THE WAY

Donaldina Cameron (July 26, 1869 – January 4, 1968) was the long-time superintendent of the Presbyterian Mission House in San Francisco, working at that facility from 1895 to 1934. The Mission House was charged with rescuing Chinese girls and women from abusive circumstances, including forced prostitution. At the time US laws prohibited Chinese workers from either sending for Chinese wives or marrying non-Chinese wives; this situation encouraged prostitution, and young girls were bought, kidnapped or coerced into coming to the US, mostly from Canton province. The life of the average Chinese prostitute was brutal and short. Most died within five years. Cameron is credited with breaking the back of the Chinese slave trade in the US, and the rescue and education of nearly 3,000 girls. She retired in 1934. In 1942 the Mission Home was renamed the Donaldina Cameron House. It still serves low income Asian immigrants, youth and families in San Francisco today.

THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE: focuses the prayers of Christians week by week, so that over the year all the countries of the world are prayed for. We begin our year praying for Egypt, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria.

Pray for:

- *Peace – among all peoples in this region and within all countries, but especially for an end to civil war in Syria;*
- *Solutions for refugees – all who long to return home, and all who still flee violence and war;*
- *Those who insist on violent solutions and who see force as the primary means of solving conflicts, that they might find more humanitarian methods.*

For more information about the Prayer Cycle, visit the website of the World Council of Churches: www.oikoumene.org

OUR MISSION PARTNERSHIP PRAYER CYCLE FOR 2017

We pray for the mission we share as part of the PCUSA

We pray for all congregations and worshiping communities of the Presbyterian Church (USA). More than two million people call the PCUSA their spiritual home. Worshiping in 10,000 Presbyterian congregations throughout the United States, we engage the communities in which we live and serve with God's love.

ADULT EDUCATION & SPIRITUAL GROWTH

SUNDAY MORNING EDUCATION HOUR - 9:30-10:25 a.m.

JANUARY ADULT CHURCH SCHOOL OPTIONS starting January 8:

Histories and Mysteries of the Bible – with Bill

January 8-February 26—Room 252

A look at Hebrew Testament history and how it impacts that of the New Testament with a few stops along the way to look for lost arcs and lost tribes.

Book Discussion—*White Trash: The 400 Year Untold History of Class in America*, by Nancy Isenberg—taught by Paula and Erin

January 8-28—in Room 258 (continuation from December)

In her groundbreaking bestselling history of the class system in America, Nancy Isenberg upends history as we know it by taking on our comforting myths about equality and uncovering... the truth about the enduring, malevolent nature of class as well. All are welcome.

CONTINUING ALL YEAR:

The Bible in Depth: Proverbs – facilitated by Doyle Nichols

Continues all year – all are welcome to join in at any time – Clark Parlor

This lively conversational study probes the wisdom of the Book of Proverbs.



GRAB AND GO COFFEE is available at the Wake Up Station on the second floor across from the Parlor. Get a cup of coffee and head to class! Please return the cups to the drop off bins. Enjoy!

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR SUE

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. every week – on Wednesday! In the Parlor

This year's text: Genesis - Genesis is a book about beginnings. This is a lively group and we have great conversations. No experience necessary! All welcome!

STUDENT MINISTRY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR STUDENT MINISTRY

Senior High Fellowship - Dinner and a Conversation for Youth

Wednesday, January 4, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Senior High Snow Ball

Saturday, January 7, 6:00-11:00 p.m.

Mid-Year Parents Meeting

Sunday, January 8, 11:30 a.m.

We'll talk about the summer trips and conferences and take the opportunity for a mid-year look at the calendar.

Confirmation Class

Thursday, January 12, 6:45-8:30 p.m. Room 258

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHURCH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BREAK

Church School for Children, Youth and Adults is on Christmas break today *January 1, 2017*. This will allow teachers to enjoy attending Sunday morning worship service with their family. Nursery & Godly Play will be available. The ARK, L.I.F.E., Mid Highs, Senior Highs and Adults will reconvene on *January 8*.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

MOVEABLE FEAST is a charitable organization whose mission is to foster a community that cares for men, women and children living with HIV/AIDS, cancer and other life-threatening illnesses by preparing and delivering nutritious meals and groceries and providing nutritional counseling and other services. Our church provides home baked goods on the Second Sunday of each month. If you would like to help, please leave your dessert in the kitchen and mark it Moveable Feast. For additional information check them out at mfeast.org.

THE MITTEN TREE With the cold weather approaching, please remember the children in Howard County who may not have adequate warm outer wear for the months ahead. The Mitten Tree located in the Lower Commons, is receiving donations of new or gently used hats, mittens/gloves and scarves for all ages. Donations will be collected through January 15, 2017 to be donated to Running Brook Elementary School.



COLD WEATHER IS COMING AND SO IS THE COLD WEATHER SHELTER!

First Presbyterian will host the shelter from **Monday evening, February 6, 2017 until Monday morning, February 20, 2017**. We need lots of volunteers to cook dinner, stay overnight, do laundry, clean the sleeping areas and provide company to our guests each evening. Please see the sign-up board and list of requested donations in the Lower Commons. For any questions, contact the church office.

JUST ONE CAN...PLUS! – January – DOUBLE UP

The Board of Deacons wants to increase our church's food donations in January to battle back against hunger in Howard County. Winter is here in earnest and too many of our neighbors are choosing between food and fuel. Let's redouble our efforts this month – give not just one can but two or more. Demonstrate in a very tangible way that the joy of giving is not just for a specific date on a calendar. *These are the most requested items from the Howard County Food Bank: Baby Foods, Beans – Dried or Canned, Canned Meat / Tuna / Chicken, Canned Soups, Cereal, Evaporated Milk, Infant Formula, Baby & Toddler Foods, Peanut Butter, Spaghetti Sauce, Rice, Oatmeal, Pasta*

GENERAL INFORMATION

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SCHEDULE: The building and church office will be closed for New Year's Day, tomorrow, *Monday, January 2, 2017*.

2016 ANNUAL REPORTS are due **Friday, January 6, 2017**. Please send your reports to fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org or leave them in mailbox #4.

TIDINGS JANUARY 2017 ISSUE #1 FOLDING AND MAILING DATE

Friday, January 6, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. All hands welcome!

REGULAR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SCHEDULE resumes on *January 8, 2017*
8:30 a.m. Worship | 10:30 a.m. Worship | 11:30 a.m. Discipleship Hour

Church School - The Education Hour - ages 2 through Adult resumes on Sunday, *January 8, 2017* at 9:30 a.m.

FUNDRAISER FOR GUATEMALA STOVES AT TINO'S RESTAURANT, is next *Sunday, January 8, 2017* from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

PLEASE JOIN THE CONVERSATIONS ON RACE GROUP on Sunday, January 15 for fellowship during the Discipleship Hour after the 10:30 a.m. service. Learn about the books we have read and some of the plans the group has for the coming year. We look forward to sharing our conversation with everyone!

THE CONVERSATION ON RACE GROUP invites you to join us in ordering a Black Lives Matter yard sign. A single sign (with a wire stake) is \$16, but if we order 10 they are \$9 each. (<https://peacesupplies.org/products/black-lives-matter-yard-sign/>) Please email Sara Watson to order, saradwatson1@gmail.com.

EARTH FORUM OF HOWARD COUNTY

Sunday, January 15, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

Following the Flood – Shaping the Future & Waterways of Ellicott City

Featuring James Robey, Former Maryland Senator and Mark Richardson, Chief, Howard County's Storm Water Management Division

It happened again! Historic Ellicott City's home and businesses were destroyed or severely damaged by raging floods the night of July 30, 2016. Many wonder what can be done to prevent future flood damage and well as to restore an attractive business and restaurant destination.

Listen as two leaders involved in rebuilding the city, James Robey and Mark Richardson, share their work and insights as they present "The Ellicott City Flood: A Six Month Status Report". Learn more about the work being done, projects being developed, and the challenges that lie ahead in shaping a city that is sustainable, prosperous, and can withstand future floods. Refreshments will be served and Emphasis Action Workshops will be scheduled.

Contact: www.earthforumfirstpreshc.org

YEAR ROUND STEWARDSHIP

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO PARTICIPATE...

The Session is about to set the budget for 2017 and for those who have not had a chance yet, you can still make a positive impact for 2017 by submitting an Estimate of Giving Pledge so that your Church can thrive and grow in 2017.

It's as easy as sending an email to the password protected email address pledges@firstpreshc.org. Or you can submit your Estimate of Giving Card by mailing it in, taking it to the church office, or placing it in the offering plate. If you've misplaced your card, just call the church office at 410-730-3545 to have a new one sent to you or pick one up at the Welcome Desk.

We have a ways to go to meet our Pledge goals and even to match last year which is why it is important that all participate by submitting an estimate.

THANK YOU FOR CELEBRATING YOUR SHARING!


God is generous! Let us return a portion of what God has given us, enthusiastically, earnestly and joyfully.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Every Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Church School – The Education Hour

Ages 2 through Adult 

Ark is for children, Age 2 through Grade 1

L.I.F.E. is for children, Grade 2 through Grade 5

Mid High is for students, Grade 6 through Grade 8

Senior High is for students, Grade 9 through Grade 12

And a variety of changing classes for Adults

Infant & Toddler Care is available all morning

Godly Play (age 4 – grade 1) during 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. services

The Worship Bridge (grades 2 – 5) during 10:30 a.m. service

10:30 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. Discipleship Hour

Sunday, January 1st

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY | HAPPY NEW YEAR

COMMUNION | DEACONS COMPASSION FUND OFFERING

NAME TAG SUNDAY | NO CHURCH SCHOOL

10:00 a.m. New Year's Day Worship – One Service this morning!

Godly Play

11:00 a.m. Discipleship Hour: *New Year's Day Brunch*

Monday, January 2nd

CHURCH OFFICE & BUILDING CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY

Tuesday, January 3rd

12:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. SMLT Meeting

Wednesday, January 4th

BULLETIN ARTICLES DUE

9:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study

1:00 p.m. Knitting Fellowship

6:00 p.m. Senior High Fellowship Dinner & Conversation

Abigail Circle

Thursday, January 5th

7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 6th

11:30 a.m. Bulletins Folded & Tidings Folded

4:00 p.m. Set-up for Snow Ball

Saturday, January 7th

FIRST PRES PRIDE DAY – WEAR YOUR T-SHIRT

9:00 a.m. Unhanging the Greens – Take Down Christmas

6:00 p.m. Senior High Snow Ball

Sunday, January 8th

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

BAPTISM | MOVEABLE FEAST

TINO'S FUNDRAISER FOR GUATEMALA STOVES, 10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

9:30 a.m. Church School for all ages

11:30 a.m. Discipleship Hour: *Coffee Fellowship*

Guatemala Stove Trip: Participant & Elder

Blood Pressure Screening

Mid-Year Parent's Meeting for Student Ministries

2:00 p.m. Vantage House Worship

3:00 p.m. Knitting Ministry

The Church Office is open Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

For more events throughout the week at First Presbyterian Church, please check the calendar on our website at www.firstpreshc.org, the current issue of Tidings, or call the church office 410-730-3545.

A Weekly Email is sent every Friday, if you would like to receive it please contact the church office.

To submit news or events for the weekly bulletin **First Day!** please email to: fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org by Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

To submit articles for Tidings, our monthly newsletter, please send articles by email to: fpcadmin@firstpreshc.org by **Thursday, January 12, 2017** at 9:00 a.m. for the February 2017 Issue #2.