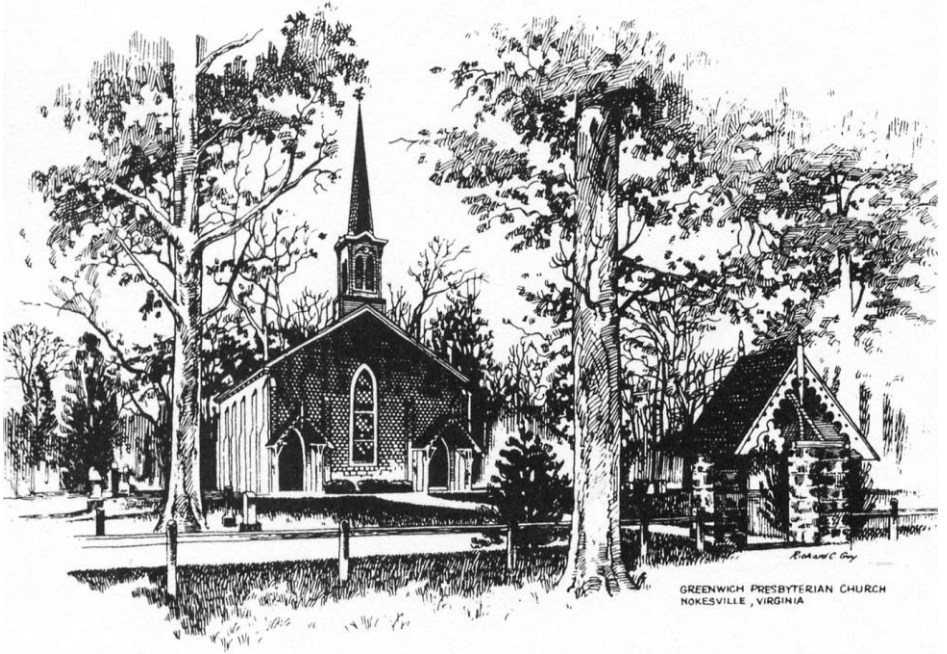


Steeple News

A Newsletter of
*Greenwich Presbyterian
Church*

February 2012



GREENWICH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOKESVILLE, VIRGINIA

Contact Information:

Church Office: 703-754-7933

15305 Vint Hill Road, Nokesville, VA 20181

www.greenwichpres.org

Church Office Hours: 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM, Mon - Fri

The Mission of Greenwich Presbyterian Church:

To share faith, hope, and love in Jesus Christ
By a caring witness and service
within the church and throughout the world



Please be in prayer for our church family & friends...

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For recent Intercession, Healing & Uplifting: Adele, Gina Butler, Hailey, Debbie Kirchner, the family of Robert Koppang, Frank Nichols, Brenda Ross, Linda Smith, Jennifer Watson.

For Continuing Care: Doris Beach, Kay Beach, Patricia Burns, Christopher, Lucille Corder, Mary Furr, Mary Anne Hanback, Wilma Lee House, Reba Hopkins, Kay Hopkins (Susan Boyd's mother), Sarahmarie Jarrad, Pat Klumpp, Azin Manafi, Doug & Joyce Mays, Anneliese Oakey, Joyce Pagan, Wayne Pittman, Myrna Strickland, Mark Taylor, Lana Thomas, Linda Wells (Chuck Boyd's sister), Herb Wood, Charlie Wright.

Praises: The birth of Riley Taylor Aguirre, daughter of Matt & Tricia Aguirre; the birth of Charlotte Loren Henson, daughter of Chase & Tori Henson.

For those Serving our Country: Earl Arnold, Patrick Arnold, Bryan Bean, John Beasley, Carter Carroll, Joseph Cofer, Johnny Desmedt, Erin Flaherty, Ray Franze, Timothy Healy, Richard Hileman, Matt Jamison, Josh Lewis, Russell McMillan, Sammy Murillo, Rob Price, Michael Quinones, James Rowe, Paul Sturges, John Uhler, Dan Williams.

For Our Ministry: The fellowship, study and service of our Presbyterian Women Circles and our Women's Retreat ministry.

Our Mission Partners of the Month: CareNet Pregnancy Services provides counseling and resources for pregnant women. Young Life shares the good news with local high school and middle school students.

For Our Building Project: For Jesus Christ to be honored in all aspects of our building effort.

To request prayer, send a message to our prayer team at prayers@greenwichpres.org. To join our email prayer team, go to www.greenwichpres.org and click on "prayers" to register.

February Birthdays

Feb 1	Suzanne Lynn	Feb 13	Tess Miller
Feb 1	Scott Snow	Feb 16	Brad Eggers
Feb 1	Mike Williams	Feb 16	Kyle House
Feb 1	Reba Hopkins	Feb 20	Alex Bodnar
Feb 1	Scott Farmerie	Feb 20	Lillian Jacobs
Feb 1	Jan Smith	Feb 20	Brittany Maine
Feb 1	Trevor Taylor	Feb 20	Eric Keller
Feb 1	Chase Henson	Feb 20	Anton Keller
Feb 2	Terry Muller	Feb 20	Mike Lynn
Feb 3	Erin Alberga	Feb 20	Janet Moore
Feb 3	Amy Grigsby	Feb 21	Scott Donaldson
Feb 3	Lee Arnold	Feb 21	Ellie Rector
Feb 3	Pat Wengert	Feb 22	Melvina Brown
Feb 4	Lee Miller	Feb 22	Elizabeth Keefer
Feb 4	Scott Monroe	Feb 22	Stan Wood
Feb 4	Darin Snoots	Feb 24	Sandra Lowry
Feb 4	Corinn Quinones	Feb 24	Jimmy Yankey
Feb 5	Arlene Hopkins	Feb 25	Steven Williams
Feb 5	Kathy Snow	Feb 25	Derek Hardy
Feb 5	Jim Griffis	Feb 26	Terri Snoots
Feb 5	Ashton White	Feb 26	Joyce Barber
Feb 6	Katie Swanson	Feb 26	Cullen Greene
Feb 6	Matthew Bohn	Feb 26	Sawyer Beckman
Feb 6	Ann Winn	Feb 26	Sarah Desmedt
Feb 7	Patrick Arnold	Feb 27	Haley Griffis
Feb 7	Steve Hilsen	Feb 27	Mike Ryan
Feb 8	Corky Muller	Feb 27	Brendan Halstead
Feb 9	Leon Eggers	Feb 27	Bob Schaefer
Feb 9	Ava Pell	Feb 27	Ryan Wood
Feb 9	Amanda Spittle	Feb 28	Tim Crigler
Feb 10	Kelsey Cook	Feb 28	Benjamin Woods
Feb 10	Rachel Cook	Feb 29	Malinda Skewes
Feb 10	Sarah Earman		
Feb 11	Mona Barron		
Feb 11	Dan Catlett		
Feb 11	Melanie Theros		
Feb 12	Lynne Snow		
Feb 12	Stacey House Kovac		
Feb 12	Ryan Schaefer		





Congregational Meeting

Sunday, February 12th

3:00 – 5:00pm

Fellowship Hall

The Session has called a congregational meeting for the following purposes:

1. Celebrate ministry together from the past year
2. Open conversation on the life of the church, including a report on the recent Fellowship of Presbyterians conference from the team who attended

Refreshments will be served and childcare for children ages infant thru 5th grade will be available.

Building Project
Important Meetings!

Sunday mornings
February 12 and 19
9:30am - Sanctuary

The presentation will be the same both weeks -- sharing our vision and covering the steps we need to take to complete our project. On these two Sundays we are asking those who normally attend the 9:30 service to join one of our other worship services at 8:00 or 11:00.

Building Project
Discussion Groups

Sunday afternoons
February 19 thru March 18
3:00-4:00pm - Fellowship Hall

These discussion groups will allow for a greater depth of conversation as we move closer to seeing our dream become reality. Child care will be offered for children ages infant through 5th grade.

Your Participation Matters!



Church Family News and Opportunities

Our church family is growing! We are excited to announce the following births:

Congratulations to Jessica and Nick Perkins on the birth of their twin boys, Reid Daniel, and Grant Lindsey, born November 19th.

Congratulations to Matt and Tricia Aquire on the birth of their daughter, Reilly Taylor, born on January 13th. Reilly joins her proud big sister Mackenzie.

Congratulations to Chase and Tori Henson on the birth of their daughter, Charlotte, born January 18th. Charlotte is the granddaughter of proud grandparents Steven and Cindy Henson.

Celebrating Scout Sunday: Sunday, February 5, 2012

A Scout is Reverent. He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion. All Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts and Boy/Cub Scout Leaders are invited to wear their uniform to church on this day to celebrate Scouting in America.

Vacation Bible School Planning

Come learn about this year's VBS theme and see how you can help plan and prepare for this year's event! It takes many hearts and hands to put on this wonderful week and while the weather is still cold and dreary, let's work together to plan and organize! Join us on **Sunday, February 19 at 12 noon** for a brief planning session! See you there! Contact Joy Yates for more info.

Quilting

Community Service Quilting will be held on Saturday, February 11th, from 8:00am to 4:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a potluck lunch. Please bring sewing machines, irons and boards, and sewing supplies. We welcome all to join us! We need people to iron and tie quilts. Sewing experience is not necessary! Come and join us as we make quilts to serve the community!!

Our regular quilting day for the month will be Wednesday, February 8th, from 9:00am to 3:00pm in Fellowship Hall.

Blood Pressure Checks/Screening — Our Parish Nurse, Charlene Beckett, will be offering free blood pressure checks and screening after each service on Sunday, February 5th.



February Mission Support Fauquier Family Shelter

The following items are most needed:

Juice boxes
Sandwich bags
Toilet paper
Kleenex
Bottles of bleach

Items can be placed in the shopping cart located in the hallway outside the Fellowship Hall.

***Thank you for helping to support our friends
in the community!***

Volunteers needed for "Snow Patrol"

If you enjoy operating power equipment and hand tools, consider a position on the GPC Snow Patrol Team.

Experience the great outdoors and the beauty of new fallen snow as you clear sidewalks and entries to the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall at GPC. It's a "cool" thing to do.

Contact - Mike Simms 703-887-8658.
bg.mikesimms@gmail.com

Thank you, Church Family

Dear Church Friends,

Thank you so much for all the love, prayers, cards, visits and food in remembrance of Billy.

Many thanks for the outstanding delicious luncheon given in his memory by his many friends. Christian love is shown in all of you.

The service was beautiful and I know he would have been proud.

Remember him as he welcomed everyone and his famous hugs.

Love to all, Mary Frances & Family



Join us for our
Second Annual

Superbowl Party

(We'll have a big screen to view the game!)

and

Chili Dinner

Sunday, February 5th

Fellowship Hall

6:00pm (dinner)

6:30pm (kick off)

(we'll end the party at half-time)

What to bring?

Bring chili and either a salad, dessert, or topping for the chili (spaghetti, cheese, onions, tomatoes, corn chips, scallions, corn bread, sour cream, baked potatoes, tater tots).

Don't cook chili?

Just bring a couple of sides, desserts and/or toppings.

Childcare provided for ages 5 and under.

Second Saturday Group

Join us for a celebration of President's Month!

February 11th
6:00pm, Fellowship Hall

We'll enjoy:

*a little quiz (hint: president's names associated in some way with a building)
some mood music, and an exploration of our
"building talents"*

We'll share a potluck dinner and ask that you bring a main course, vegetable dish, salad or dessert.

Please RSVP to Pat Eggers at 540.347.2929.

All are invited to join us!!

Second Saturday Plans a Concert Evening in March



Plan now to join the Second Saturday group for an evening of fun and fellowship on March 10. We will meet at church at 6 pm, enjoy a variety of desserts, and leave between 6:30 pm and 6:45 pm for the Hylton Center for the Performing Arts in Manassas. We will be treated to a Manassas Chorale: Voices United concert starting at 7:30 pm and plan to sit together in an orchestra location. **Deadline for ticket purchase is Sunday, February 12.** Make checks payable to the Hylton Center for the Performing Arts for \$18.00. Give your completed checks or cash to Shirley Howland or Kay Hinegardner. They will have your tickets available on Sunday mornings or at church on the night of the concert.

A Mediterranean Evening

Saturday
March 3rd
6:00pm

Join us for an elegant evening of
Mediterranean food in the
Oasis dining room (fellowship hall).

Menu

Hummus and Tapenade Plate
Spanish Lentil Soup
Kafta, Falafel and Baked Chicken
Jasmine Rice and Jerusalem Salad
Greek Salad
Moroccan Lemon Cake

Tickets are \$35 per person.
This is a benefit for the building fund.

Souper Bowl Sunday

When? February 5



Who does this support? F.I.S.H.

(For Immediate Sympathetic Help – Volunteer run food bank in Warrenton)

Who is sponsoring this project? The 4th/5th grade Christian Connection group is sponsoring this canned soup drive to support one of the local food banks in our community.

How can I participate? Bring in canned soup or canned goods on Feb. 5th, which will be donated to the food bank. Collection bins will be located in the Fellowship Hall and outside the Sanctuary. (we will also be collecting on Feb. 12th and 19th. Delivery to the food bank will take place on the 25th.)

Questions? Contact Joy Yates at children@greenwichpres.org

Thank you for your support with this local service project.



The Christian Connection Group

Our next meeting for our 4th/5th graders will be on Saturday, February 25th from 12-2:45 p.m. We will be participating in a service project by delivering food to the food bank and stocking shelves and helping out at the food bank. We welcome and encourage parents to join us! It will be an afternoon of service and fun! Please contact Joy Yates at children@greenwichpres.org to let her know you are coming.



JUST 4 YOUTH!



Youth in grades 6-12, check out our upcoming youth events (also posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall). Youth group is held at the church on Sunday evenings from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. See you there! Questions? Contact Derrick Trump, Youth Director of Youth Ministry at youth@greenwichpres.org or 703.754.7933.

February

- 5 Super Bowl Party**
- 12 Youth Group**
- 17/18 30 Hour Famine**
- 19 Youth Group**
- 26 Family Night @ Youth Group**

March

- 4 Youth Group**
- 11 Youth Group**
- 17 Climbing @ Vertical Rock**
- 13 Youth Group**
- 25 Youth Group**

30 Hour Famine

Students around the world loving God and fighting hunger. This is your chance to join other groups of students all over the world in learning the truth about hunger, poverty, and injustice - then overcome it all with love. Worldwide, 925 million people are hungry. Every day, as many as 11,000 children under age 5 die due to hunger-related causes. Just \$30 will provide food and care for a child for a whole month! Youth can pick up a fundraising envelope at Sunday school or youth group and join us February 17-18 for the famine!

If you would like to donate, checks can be made payable to "World Vision" with "GPC - 30 Hour Famine" in the memo line or you can donate online at:

support.worldvision.org/goto/greenwichyouth.

Our goal is to feed two children for a year by raising \$720 as a group!

Parish Nurse Health Tips

Physical Health:

It's Cold Outside!

Even though it's cold outside, don't overdress when you're exercising outdoors. Exercise raises body temperature significantly. Even a moderate workout can make you feel like it's 30 degrees warmer than it is. So, if it's 25 degrees outside, dress as if it were 55 degrees. You should be slightly chilled when you first go outside. You'll warm up soon enough, once you start exercising. Also, layer your clothing. Instead of a heavy jacket, wear a lighter jacket over a sweater or sweatshirt, over a regular shirt. That way, you can unzip or remove items to lower your body temperature during exertion.

Mental Health:

Get a dose of sunlight every day. Sunlight lifts your mood, so try to get at least 10 to 15 minutes of sun per day. This can be done while exercising, gardening, or socializing.

Spiritual Health:

Count your blessings. Express appreciation and gratitude for the simple everyday things, as well as the momentous ones.

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice - the kind he will find acceptable.

Romans 12:1 (NLT)

Parish Nurse - **Charlene Beckett, RN**

703-368-1001 or email: parishnurse@greenwichpres.org



Wednesday, February 22nd

6:00pm - Dinner

7:00pm - Worship Service

Childcare provided for
infants thru preschoolers

“Is this the kind of fast I have chosen,
only a day for a man to humble himself?
Is it only for bowing one’s head like a reed
and for lying on sackcloth and ashes?

Is that what you call a fast,
a day acceptable to the Lord?
Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:
to loose the chains of injustice
and untie the cords of the yoke,
to set the oppressed free
and break every yoke?

Is it not to share your food with the hungry
and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter –“

Isaiah 58:5-7

Share the Gospel & Your Life

Discipleship happens, not just by sharing the gospel but by sharing our lives with others.

Writing to the Thessalonians, Paul comments:

“So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us” (1 Thess 2:8). Paul and Silas shared the gospel *and their lives* with these men and women. Paul lived with Jason, worked with the Thessalonians, ate meals with them, had affection for them. **They shared life in the rhythms of working, eating, suffering, and serving, like a family.** So how do we go about making disciples?



Mentor Discipleship

Paul describes discipleship through two primary relationships: *brother to brother* and *father to son*. Perhaps more people are familiar with *brother* discipleship relationships, where you have shared life and the gospel with your peers. All too often these Christian relationships stop at sharing life. They don't go deep into the gospel, mining grace through conflict, suffering, and mission. The other disciple relationship God has given the church is the *father to son* or *mother to daughter*. This relationship is not peer-based but *mentor-based*, sharing not only life but also gospel wisdom.

I've had the privilege of sharing life and wisdom with some great mentors. Tom & Julie Steller shared their lives and the gospel with us our first year of marriage. We lived on the first floor of their home, which was connected to their floors with a winding staircase. We popped in on one another, talked in the front yard about life, and occasionally shared meals. The Stellers gave us an example of marriage during our first year. Julie intentionally prayed for Robie and walked with her through some trials. Tom also helped me fumble through the first year by sharing wisdom with me, not just life. He was the first person to show me that, when 1 Peter 3:7 calls us to “live with our wives in understanding

way”, it literally reads “dwell with them *according to knowledge.*” In other words, husbands should be students of our wives’ needs, hopes, fears, and dreams. We should know them intimately not just provide for them financially. This insight has compelled me to love my wife over the years by asking her questions about her joys, fear, concerns, hopes, and dreams. I’ve passed it onto many.

How to Speak Wisely

Mentors speak wisely in a variety of ways. There’s not a one size fits all way of sharing wisdom. Paul disciplined through speech by exhorting and encouraging. He wrote to them saying: “*For you know how, like a father with his children*” *exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory*” (2:11–12). A fatherly mentor observes his disciple and takes time to exhort, encourage, and charge others in the faith.

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Tom *exhorted* me to understand my wife as a display of the gospel to the world. Doug Birdsall *encouraged* me in seminary. We met together regularly but he also took the time to attend the Sunday School classes I taught, in both my first year and my last year. Then, after each class he would pull me aside to specifically tell me how I had improved. When I began writing, published author and mentor, Steve Macchia, encouraged me to keep writing even when my article queries were turned down. He insisted that I had a voice and something to say, and that one day, I would get published. He endorsed my first book, which comes out in March. Exhorting and encouraging can and should happen in peer discipleship relationships too, though exhortation and encouragement from a mentor carries a particular weight. Use it wisely.

The discipleship crisis can be redressed if we will simply take the time to be disciples who share the gospel and our lives with others. If this kind of discipleship had stopped with Paul and Barnabas, Christianity would have gone nowhere, but Barnabas

discipled Paul, Paul discipled Silas, who discipled the Thessalonians, who discipled others. Four generations of disciples. The church grew, in depth and number, through the multiplication of shared life and wisdom. What if this kind of discipleship had stopped with the Thessalonian church? Where would we be?

Life and Gospel

What would happen if you and your community took the opportunity to share life and the gospel, not just as peers but also as mentors to one another? You could stave off the crisis and advance the church. **Jesus wasn't born, crucified, and raised just so you could go to church; he came so you would go make disciples.** Good discipleship relationships share life and the gospel. Sometimes they take the form of brotherly relationships and other times they take the form of mentor relationships, father to son, mother to daughter. Everyone needs a mentor but not everyone is promised a mentor. However, everyone can be a mentor to others. If you know Jesus, you know more than enough to disciple someone.

It is these discipling relationships that cause the gospel to spread, for disciples to multiply. What would it look like for you to invite one person into your life, to share just 25% of your time with? *Who has God sent you to? Are you intentionally making disciples? Who could you deliberately pursue to share life and the gospel with?* Jesus wasn't born, crucified, and raised just so you could go to church; he came so you would go make disciples. Don't just go to church; go make disciples!

Jonathan K. Dodson (MDiv; ThM, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary) serves as a pastor of Austin City Life in Austin, Texas. He has written articles in numerous blogs and journals such as The Resurgence, The Journal of Biblical Counseling, and Boundless. Dodson has discipled men and women abroad and at home for almost two decades, taking great delight in communicating the gospel and seeing Christ formed in others.

Family Discipleship

Activity: More Good Fish

Point: Share God's love with others so they can join us in heaven.

- **Supplies:** You'll need some smooth rocks that will fit easily inside a sandwich bag, a sandwich bag for each person, paper, pencils, a Bible and the Prayer Journal.

Activity: Read Matthew 13:47-49

Share: We've learned that God will someday separate the people who believe Him from those who don't. But how do people come to believe? (*Others tell them; they read the Bible.*)

Explain that one of the best ways for people to come to believe in Jesus is when others tell them about Him. Have kids share ways they can tell others about God's love. Be sure that inviting them to attend Sunday School and church with them is one of the ways.

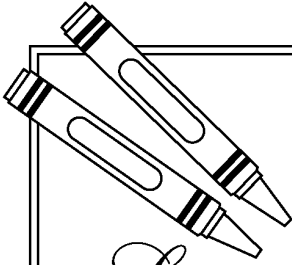
Have kids sit around a table, each one with one of the rocks, and think of someone they know that doesn't know Jesus. Have kids write the person's name on a slip of paper and put it into a plastic bag along with their rock. If kids don't know about their friend's faith commitment, that's okay. These rocks will be reminders for children to speak to their friends about God's love, and reminders for children to pray for their friends' salvation. After each person has placed a rock and a slip of paper in a plastic bag, spend time in prayer, asking God to help you be bold in sharing your faith.

Then share: God wants us to tell others about Him. He wants the fishing nets to be full of people who will go to heaven one day, and we can help by sharing the good news with our friends. Let's keep these rocks as reminders to reach out to people who don't know Jesus, and to pray for them every day until they love God, and even after that so they can grow closer to God each day.

Keep the rocks in a visible place in your house as a reminder of the importance of sharing God's love. This activity helps children (and adults too!) understand the importance of sharing faith, and of continually praying for others' salvation.

Read and memorize John 3:16 as a family this month!

Adapted from material contained in Heritage Builders: Family Nights Tool Chest series, available at www.heritagebuilders.com. Used by permission.

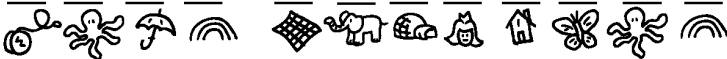


Just for **KIDS**

Love is the greatest commandment!

What did Jesus say when asked about the greatest commandment of God?

Write the first letter of each picture on the lines below.



Mark 12:30-31

Answer: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and ... Love your neighbor as yourself.