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February 2012

The SPAN

We're on the web:
 A Grace Place
 www.fairfaxbaptist.com

If you no longer wish to receive this publication, please send this sheet to FBC at the address above, call the office, or send an email to fairfax-baptist@gmail.com.

Church Services & Bible Study:
 Bible Study — Sundays at 9:30 am
 Worship Services — Sundays at 11:00 am
 Bible Study — Tuesdays at 7:00 pm
 Bible Study — Thursdays at 10:00 am
 Church Office Hours — Mon-Fri, 10:00am-3:00pm

Pastor/Choir Director: Dr. Jim Hoffman, Th.D
Music Assistant: Charlotte Balis
Organist/Pianist: Audrey Peterbark Ross
Adult Education Coordinator: Dr. Dick Thompson
Youth Director: Joseph Mendez
Children's Coordinator: Jenifer Kerns
Administrative Assistant: Laura Jaumillot
Custodians: John and Joann Jenkins

Prayer & Praise List

- | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Baughman, Charles & Ruby | Irvin, Odell | Rose, Anne |
| Berkery, Frances | Jones, Issac | <i>Rowland, Florence</i> |
| Bevis, Randy | Kimball, Lew | Smith, Bob |
| <i>Blakely, Lola Pearl</i> | Lavinder, Irma | <i>Smith, Larry</i> |
| <i>Byram, Thelma</i> | Lindsey, Frank | Smith, Peggy |
| Campbell, Louise | Lisiewski, Sandy | Stallings-Wood, Mandy |
| Conger, Diane | <i>Malone, Art & Christine</i> | <i>Titus, Marguerite</i> |
| Cutchin, John | McClure, Shonnon | Trivett, James (Slim) |
| <i>Dykes Family</i> | McNeal, Bob | People Serving in the Armed Forces from Fairfax Baptist: Emerson Davis, Matt DeWeese, Pierre Epeé, Peter Knight, Mark Pearson, Matthew Reese and Sean Rodman. |
| Forsman, Wendell | McRobie, Pauline | <i>Anyone who is in "italics" has recently been added to the list or had a status change.</i> |
| Gurney, Iva | Moyer, Bea | |
| Harris, Stephanie | Pearia, Alicia | |
| Harris, Virgil & Diane | Pratt, Clara | |
| Hatton, Donnie | Raymond, Linda | |
| Hyde, Elizabeth | Rodman, Cindy | |



- February 2nd**
Groundhog Day
- February 14th**
Valentine's Day
- February 20th**
President's Day
- February 29th**
Leap Year Day

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Pastor's Message
 By Dr. Jim Hoffman, Th.D

First, I wish to humbly thank everyone within the reach of my words for your thoughtfulness and generosity to my family in the passing of mom and dad. We and I have never been given so much love, prayer support and constant affirmation. Further, I am overwhelmed at the outpouring of gifts to the church in honor of my parents!

The gift in my journey is that I will now have more than sympathy with whom I journey. I will have deep resonating empathy. I am trying to lead by example and yesterday began some in-depth therapy work with a psychologist. Much work is to be done so that I may be whole. Without such work I could not be there for others as God would have me be.

Thus, I encourage you to not walk alone through the valley. Yes, the Lord is our Shepherd. Yes, His rod and His staff gives us great comfort. Yet, I believe His rod and His staff is also His work through other people that can accompany us. If you need help, seek help. We are not meant to walk alone. Otherwise, why would He be sending us out to a world that needs His love? How will they hear if we do not tell them? How will they be comforted if we do not comfort them? How will they be made whole unless we tell them of the one Who can make them whole?

Life in Christ is not complicated. Love the Lord your God with everything that has been given you, and love your neighbor (everyone) as you love yourself. Nothing else will matter when death comes to rescue us from our temporary time here on earth.

I love you all.
 Your pastor and friend

Gifts From the Heart
 By Jeanne Hogarth

Auction - February 11th - 4:00pm
Food, Fellowship, Fun,
and Fundraising

"Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you into charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." . . . For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance. Matthew 25: 20-21, 29

Our *Gifts from the Heart* auction will be an evening to remember – a desert buffet and beverages and an auction of goods and services donated by church members, including a silent auction for some items. Bring your friends and neighbors to this not-to-be-missed evening!

Whatever your age or stage in life, we encourage you to think about goods or services you can offer. We are also looking for items – hand-crafts, gifts from the kitchen, or other items – that can be included in a silent auction. Here are some examples to spark your imagination:

- baby sitting
- car washing and vacuuming
- dog grooming
- help cleaning out a garage or basement
- a spring or fall yard tune-up
- designing a website or Facebook page
- handy-man tasks
- custom-designed bird houses
- home-cooked dinner for 6-8 people
- a loaf of home-made bread once a month for 6 -12 months
- piano or guitar lessons
- a week at a time share
- knitting a baby sweater or blanket (or scarves, hats, or prayer shawls)
- portraits of people or buildings

(continued on page 3)

Noteable News

By Charlotte Balis

Our Chancel Choir, Chapel Choir and Handbell Choir have all enjoyed a revitalizing rest since the Christmas services and are getting back into the swing of a normal schedule. The Chancel Choir has been meeting on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM and have started rehearsing new selections that incorporate praise songs, ballads spirituals, and hymns. We will be starting our Lenten and Easter music soon.

The Chapel Choir begins on the first Sunday of February at 9:30am. We will be signing with a Chancel Choir anthem and preparing for our Student-led Sunday. We'll be having fun with instruments too. If you are in kindergarten through the sixth grade, this is the spot you want to be every Sunday morning!

Our Handbell Choir will resume Wednesday, March 7th, as we prepare for our Easter service. We rehearse for 30 minutes. Come be a part of this special aspect of our Music Ministry as well!

We thank our January duets: Audrey Peterbark Ross singing with Fred Peterbark, her brother from Colorado, and Audrey, at the organ, playing with Christopher Doheny, on the piano. We thank our January soloists Audrey Peterbark Ross, Noah Bae, and Jenifer Kerns. We are thankful Christopher Doheny will now be a part of our Music Ministry every Sunday – Christopher has so many talents in so many musical ways. As a church family, we are blessed with many God-given talents and the sharing of these talents.

We invite you to join us for the love of music, singing and serving during 2012!

Gifts From the Heart (continued)

Be thinking of your *Gifts from the Heart* for Fairfax Baptist Church. Our auction catalog continues to grow – you can find Gift Forms in the Sunday School rooms, in the narthex, and in the church office. Please submit your form by February 5 to make sure it is included in the catalog and in our publicity efforts. And plan to come and share in the fun on February 11th!

Call to Giving

By Randy Butturini

As we move into 2012, we can reflect on the Christmas season just ended, and consider the words of the Christian theologian, Elvis Presley. Elvis sang a song about a glow filling his heart and being at peace with the world. Then, he asks "Why can't every day be like Christmas?", because, if it were, "What a wonderful place it would be."

Christmas is God's gift of Jesus Christ to the world. Each week, our gifts of prayer, presence, gifts and service can help keep giving that gift all over again. So, the calendar may not say Christmas, but through us, we can extend the reasons for the season. Mr. Presley would probably approve.

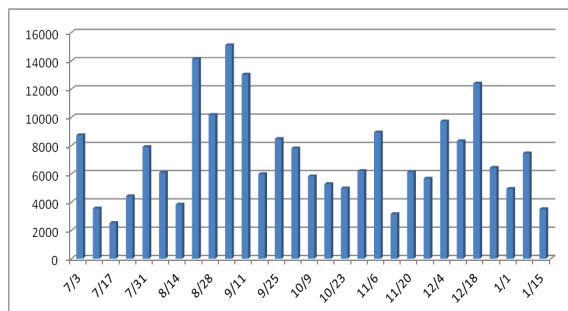
Finance Committee Update

By Jeanne Hogarth

In September we launched the "40 Weeks of Sharing" campaign to raise an extra \$1,000 per week to meet our expenses. Thanks to increases in giving and a \$100 per week decrease in our mortgage, we have been able to raise about \$500 per week. We are half-way to our goal and have plans for other fundraising events, including the *Gifts from the Heart* auction on February 11th (see cover story).

The chart below shows our weekly giving from the start of our budget year in July through January 15. Our weekly average is about \$7,265. However, that average includes 5 exceptional weeks in which we had offerings ranging from \$10,000 to \$15,000. Some of these were special offerings – for example, to help pay for the parking lot paving and the mortgage. If we remove these exceptional weeks, our average giving is about \$6,075. Recall that we need \$6,100 a week to make our payroll and mortgage; we need additional giving to cover utilities, insurance, and other expenses.

Weekly giving for budget year, July 3 through January 15.



Women's Fellowship Cr.

By Linda Davis

Thanks to the efforts of the entire church family, our mitten tree was not only festive but very productive. There were over 150 items that will help kids stay warm during the cold weather.

We are trusting that our blanket drive, with your help, will be just as productive. For just \$5.00 a blanket, someone can have shelter, a soft place to sleep, make a tote to carry supplies, or use as a coat to keep warm. The needs are endless.

Our next circle meeting will be on February 14th at 10:00am. We will be bringing instant chocolate and soup to donate to the Lamb Center. When a person comes in out of the cold, this could help them warm up as well as give them nourishment.

Thank you so much for all the help you provide to the circle projects.

Children's Corner

By Jenifer Kerns

I am looking for some great ideas for activities. If you have an activity that you would like to see the kids and/or families of Fairfax Baptist participate in, let me know. I am trying to put together a few plans for the year, and I would love to hear your thoughts. If there was an outing that you really liked and would love to do again, or if there is a place you would like to visit and want a group to go with you, please let me know. My e-mail is jeniferglee@verizon.net. My home phone # is 703-815-1012. My cell # is 703-655-5309. This does not have to be just for the kids. I am always willing to include all ages.

New Year's Message

Author Unknown

10 predictions that are sure to come true next year:

- 1) The Bible will still have all the answers.
- 2) Prayer will still be the most powerful thing on earth.
- 3) The Holy Spirit will still move.
- 4) God will still honor the praises of His people.
- 5) There will still be God-anointed preaching.
- 6) There will be singing of praise to God.
- 7) God will still pour blessings upon His people.
- 8) There will still be room at the cross.
- 9) Jesus will still love you.
- 10) Jesus will save the lost when they come to Him.

Attention Youth!!

By Lorie Dobbins

ATTENTION YOUTH AGES 14 - 18!!

The new year has just started and we've got our sights set on July 14th– 21st when FBC will be bursting at the seams with YOUTH UNLIMITED to participate in the annual DC Serve event.

Serve is a life changing experience for all and YOU can be a part of it! This is not a drop in/drop out casual outing. It is a dedicated full week of fun and work, praising God and sharing your faith with others. It's a time to meet people from different parts of the US and Canada and create bonds that can last a lifetime. Work sites include soup kitchens, halfway houses, painting, yard work and otherwise blessing people with the love of Christ.

As host of this week long event, a limited number of FBC youth are offered the opportunity to participate fully at NO CHARGE (registration alone is over \$300!). It is an awesome experience and space won't last. Talk to your parents NOW; we will need a firm head count by the end of February. Questions? talk to Lorie Dobbins, 703/622-2981, or e-mail ldobbins@usaidth.gov.

Hypothermia Shelter 2012

By Lorie Dobbins

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

As we continue to prayerfully prepare for hosting the Hypothermia Center at Fairfax Baptist Church March 11th – 17th, please join us for a FACETS training and FBC planning session February 25th from 10am – 12pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Our training last year was based on the FACETS program material and we had the inspiring opportunity to hear from a wonderful advocate for the homeless, Steve Thomas. This year's session is critical for those who are planning to volunteer, particularly if you were unable to attend last year.

Our speaker will be FACETS representative, Ken Bradford, who is a wealth of information for those seeking to follow the whispers of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, as He urges us to help. Questions? talk to Lorie Dobbins, 703/622-2981, or e-mail ldobbins@usaidth.gov.



Chancel Choir

Wednesdays

7:00pm

Resumed January 11th

Chapel Choir

Sundays

9:30am

Resumes February 5th

Handbell Choir

6:30pm

Wednesdays

Resumes March 7th

In a Christmas card from Iglesia Adventist:

We have been so blessed to have found FBC. Thank you for not only letting us worship here, but also for including us in the different activities FBC does throughout the year and making us feel part of your church family.

Praying that our brothers and sisters at FBC be blessed with health and wisdom in 2012 as you continue to minister our community.



For those who remember.... A nice note and offering was received in the office from Harriet Horning:

*Fairfax Baptist Church:
Thank you for sending me the SPAN. I have fond memories of Fairfax Baptist from when I was a member 1948-1968.*

Gifts from the Heart Auction
February 11th, 4 PM
Food, Fellowship, Fun, and Fundraising

