

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Bruce Beveridge presented the **2011 budget**, which was approved.

Kris Patterson, Chair, presented the updated church rolls list that transferred inactive members to the Inactive Roll. This will reduce the per capita cost to the church in 2012.

Dave Satterfield reported that the **PNC** is in the face-to-face interview stage.

Bill Cammack presented and Session approved mission fund disbursements:

Help By Phone	\$4,650
United Campus Ministries	2,000
Congregations United (CUCE)	2,000
Street Lights of Bethany	1,000
Housing Initiative Partnership	500
Martha's Closet	500
Community Crisis Center	350
Med. Benevolence Foundation	300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,300</b>

Join us for a Boxing Day party on Sun., Dec. 26, 2010, from 3 to 6 p.m. in Custis Hall, Riverdale Presbyterian Church. Co-hosted by the Randalls and the Warners. Please bring a finger food to share: sweet or savory. Happy Christmas! Come for fun, a warm fire, good food and fellowship!



**Handbells**

The Canterbury Ringers will return to RPC on **December 19** to share in morning worship with our own Pearle Custis Memorial Hand Bell Choir. Mark this special Communion service on your calendar as we celebrate the Advent season with praise through joyful music and the celebration of the Lord's Supper. A reception will follow morning worship.



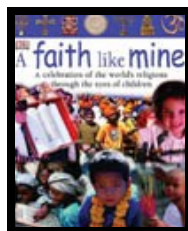
## HELP BY PHONE for the December - 2010

Soups	Dry milk
Grits	Coffee
Cold cereals	Tea
Pancake mix	Cocoa
Pancake syrup	Pasta
Jelly	Baby food
Rice	Pudding
Fruit	Jell-o
Tuna	Rice
Pork & beans	Oatmeal
Beef stew	Pasta Sauce
Macaroni & Cheese	Peanut butter
Red, green & yellow vegetables	Jell-o

## NEW TO THE CHURCH LIBRARY

The Letter and the Scroll published by the National Geographic Society tells us what archaeology has to say about the Bible.

Strengthening Your Grip by Charles Swindoll has the subtitle: How to live confidently in an aimless world. This book is in LARGE PRINT.



A Faith Like Mine: A Celebration of the World's Religions - Seen Through the Eyes of Children is a large oversized DK publisher book. We have two copies of this highly illustrated book for children.

Rev. Pullen will be out of the office from November 30, 2010 - Dec. 7, 2010, due to knee surgery. Rev. Richard McFail will preach on Dec. 5, 2010. Rev. Marshall Dunn will be available for pastoral care/emergencies if needed during this time. Marshall can be reached at home: 301-422-9344, or cell: 301-455-4589.

## Christian Education

From the Christian Educator:

Advent Greetings! The Children's Sermons for Advent will be about Christmas Carols: O Come, O Come Emmanuel, O Come All Ye Faithful, Hark! the Herald Angels Sing, Joy to the World, Away in the Manger, Silent Night. Those of you who have been caroling with us (his year the afternoon of December 12) know that I have a very narrow definition of what constitutes a carol versus nice, but unqualified Christmas songs (Jingle Bells, Winter Wonderland...the list is long). Carols consist of the 15 pieces printed in the St. Louis Caroling Association brochure from which my family sang every Christmas Eve as we walked around our neighborhood while collecting donations for charity.

Fortunately we still sing these traditional Christmas Carols (always more than one verse...another Dr. C rule) as we sing to RPC members (again on Dec 12). Enjoy singing the carols for fellowship hymns during Advent and hearing about them in the Children's Time.

### Upcoming CE Events:

**Friday, Dec 3** Hanging the Greens Sleepover (8PM-8AM) grades 5 and up, permission slip needed.

**Sun, Dec 5** CE meeting at the pool table after worship

**Wed, Dec 8** Art Day in After School Club

**Sun, Dec 12** Annual Youth Pageant (Are You Smarter Than a Christian?) during worship  
Caroling with RPC in the afternoon

**Sun, Dec 19** Godly Play storytelling: Old Testament stories involving food, noon 3rd floor

**Sundays, Dec 26 and Jan 2** No Children's Sunday School or Second Session

**Mon, Dec 27** Cooking and serving for Community Place Cafe--11-1PM

Dr. "C"

Music at Riverdale presents . . .

**Christmas for Kids  
(of all ages)**

**December 5th  
4:00 pm**

**College Park Youth Choir  
Elizabeth Seton HS Concert Choir  
Sing-a-longs and Carols**

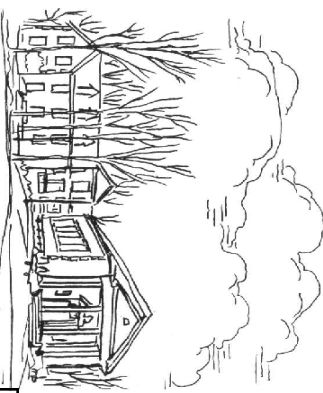
Concert is free and open to the public.  
Good will offering taken.



*"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah  
out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel,  
whose origins are from of old from ancient times.  
Micah 5:2*

*"In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census  
should be taken of the entire Roman world.  
And everyone went to his own town to register.  
So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in  
Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he  
belonged to the house and line of David.  
He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be  
married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there,  
the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her  
firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a  
manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.  
Luke 2:1-7*

**Come &  
Worship**



**Sunday Worship Services**  
11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary  
**Sunday School**  
1st Session 9:45am  
2nd Session 12:00pm  
**All are welcome!**

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**Musings from Mary**

Dear Friends at Riverdale,

The season of Advent, the time of preparation for Christmas, is here! Amidst the busy holiday rush, I urge you to take some time for prayer, reflection and solitude. The themes of Advent are Hope, Love, Peace and Joy. As Christians, all of these fruits of the Spirit should be interactive in our lives. We have **HOPE** because of the great gift of love that God gave us in Jesus Christ his only son. Because of the sacrificial act of Jesus on the cross, we have hope of life beyond the grave. Jesus calls us to **LOVE one** another. One of the rules in the Wednesday after school club is that the children must act differently towards each other in ASC than they do at school or on the play ground. No name calling, no unkindness, no "cuts" (that is, deliberately being rude or leaving someone out,) ...in other words, practice the golden rule. For adults as well as children, this is difficult at times, but the love of Christ reminds us that we should love one another. **PEACE** is the gift that comes to us when we are content no matter our situation. "Give thanks in all circumstances," St. Paul reminds us, and if we practice the Christian discipline of gratitude, it will be reflected in our lives.

On Christmas Day, as we celebrate the birth of the baby Jesus, we experience **JOY!** Joy that our God loves us and cares for us. Joy that we never walk the valley alone. **JOY** that God keeps his promises to us.

In addition to experiencing these gifts of the spirit for ourselves, we are called to share them with others. This year, our Deacons' gave thirty families Thanksgiving Baskets containing not just the traditional meal, but a week's worth of groceries. For some of those families, the food makes a big difference in the family budget. Thanks to all who gave generously of food and money to support this ministry. This is Advent in action!

This year, we will have beautiful music for Advent and Christmas. As you enjoy the bells, the choir music, the carols, the candles, the communion and the fellowship, give thanks to the Lord for the Hope, Love, Peace, and Joy in your life! Randy, and Amy and I wish for all of you a happy and blessed Christmas season and a joyful New Year!

In Christ,

*Mary*