

NEWS NOTES of RIVERDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



EASTER FLOWERS 6002

It is time to order your **Easter Flowers!** They will decorate the chancel for worship on Sunday, April 12th. You may choose Easter lilies, pink azaleas, lavender-blue hydrangeas or yellow tulips. You may pick up your plant after the Easter Service or leave it for the Deacons to deliver to the sick or shut-in. Please place your order by Sunday, March 29th. The size and cost is as follows:

Easter lily (5-7 blooms)	\$ 9.75
Pink Azaleas (8 inch pot)	13.00
Lavender-blue Hydrangeas	22.00
Yellow Tulips (9 inch pot)	10.00

If you wish to order some Easter flowers please either complete the order form in the Sunday bulletin or give Peggy a call at the church office (301-472-2610/301-472-0477).



March 7th

Remember to set
Your clock
Ahead one hour

Hopefully, as we walk with Jesus during these next forty days, His life and sacrifice for our sake will bring to light a deeper relationship and purpose to our lives with Jesus Christ.

Session Highlights:

Please see

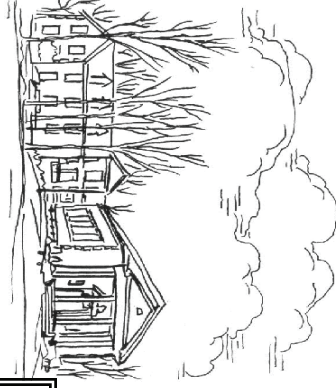
\$31.00 per member.

to Presbytery is

Our per capita tax

Per Capita Reminder:

Come & Worship



Sunday Worship Services
11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Second Session
Sunday School
12:00 noon
All are welcome!

E-mail: rivpres@msn.com; Fax: 301-699-2156
Web site: www.riverdalepresbyterian.org
Telephone: 301-927-0477

6513 Queens Chapel Road
Hyattsville, MD 20782-2197

RIVERDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 2009 NUMBER 1087

Musings from Mary

Dear Friends at Riverdale,

We are now in the season of Lent, a time of reflection and repentance before Easter. Many people use Lent as a time of fasting. Others give up something as a spiritual discipline. What kinds of things do people give up? Some give up coffee, chocolate, meat or alcohol. Others resolve to give up fun activities. Still others devote themselves more to prayer or charitable works. Others donate money that they would have spent to the church. For example, one of my personal vices is coffee. I especially LOVE a large cappuccino—at a cost of between three—four dollars apiece. I do not buy the coffee every day, usually just once a week. Let's assume for the sake of argument, that I buy one coffee a week at \$4.00 each time. In one year, that would be \$208.00 that I could donate to the church, or save, or help someone with. For me this year, for Lent, I will give up my coffee.

Jesus went into the desert for forty days and forty nights and was tempted by Satan. He emerged from that experience strengthened. He was ministered to by angels. He was able to resume his ministry, knowing that he would be betrayed and crucified. Out of love and for our salvation, he offered himself up for all of us. There could no greater love than that.

In today's world, we face tough times. People have experienced the wilderness of losing jobs, homes, and savings. Unemployment is the highest that it has ever been. Our leaders have passed a stimulus package with an enormous price tag in an attempt to turn things around. For perhaps the first time in American history, we may be the generation that leaves our children worse off economically rather than better.

In this season of Lent, let us examine ourselves. Let us feel the power of prayer. Let us learn the message of hope. Let us realize that true happiness is not defined by what we have, but rather by who we are. Who are we? We are the people of the resurrection, the body of Christ, the believers with life eternal!!! What a wonderful identity to have!

As we approach Easter, I wish for all of you the hope and promise of Christ Jesus our Lord.

Peace,

MARY

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Session has appointed the following people to the Mission Self Study Committee:

Stephen Andrews	Linda Gast
Russell Keith	Cordelia Sullivan
Martha Sunderhauf	Lois Williams
Brian Young	

This committee will be an integral part of the Interim Process as we, the members of RPC, seek to determine what our future as a Church will be. These people will be talking with you in the coming days both individually and in group settings.

The Session has authorized the Sacrament of Communion to be celebrated on March 1, 2009, the First Sunday of Lent, and on Maundy Thursday, April 9, 2009.

The Session would like to thank those who have been able to include the per capita assessment as part of their financial gift to RPC. The Session also thanks those who are prayerfully considering this offering. The per capita amount for 2009 is \$31 per active member. (Please make check payable to RPC - memo "per capita.")

The Hospitality Committee has purchased Lenten devotional guides for our use. Please take a copy on Sunday morning. Copies will be sent or delivered to our shut-ins. If you know of someone who would like a copy of this devotional guide, please take an extra copy.



*Happy 65th Wedding Anniversary
to
Phil and Aileen Hogue*



For the month of March, please choose from the following list for your continued donations of food to

Help by Phone, Limited.

oatmeal	peanut butter
grits	jelly
cold cereals	vegetables
pancake mix	fruit
baby foods	tuna
rice	beef stew
pudding	dry milk
pork and beans	pancake syrup
coffee	spaghetti
tea	cocoa
Jell-O	pasta
macaroni & cheese	
red, green & yellow vegetables	

NEW IN CHURCH LIBRARY

ADULTS: Helping People Through Grief by Delores Kuenning is designed to guide the reader in how to show care and concern - by what is said and done, by being sensitive to the process, and by knowing when to do what.

What to Say: 52 Positive Ways to Show Christian Sympathy to Those Who Grieve by Carol Fredericks Ebeling is a book full of positive things you can say and do for that person you know who is really hurting and to do it in a Christian manner.

Gifts for the Journey by M. Scott Peck is a book with 2 CD's featuring readings by the author and contemporary music from a Carmelite monastery. Using the 12 core aspects of Christian faith Dr. Peck's goal is to help put you back in touch with God using words and music.

FOR CHILDREN: The I Like Me Dance by Tim Friedlander is a book with a CD on the topic of self-esteem for our youngest. (ages 3 to 6).

What's Happening to Grandpa by Maria Shriver is a compassionate story that helps parents explain Alzheimer's disease to children and helps children deal with their fears.

Questions please call Marna at 301-277-3958

Marna and Martina

Christian Education

Peace is coming to RPC Sunday School

What do Biblical characters Esau, Jacob, Abigail and Jesus have in common and how can we at RPC learn and apply what their lives teach us? This is the question we will answer together three March Sundays: 8th, 15th and 22nd. During the Sunday School hour, children will study peace through art, stories, cookery, science and games. The Peace Hour will start in Custis Hall at 9:45 AM for all ages with stories and songs. Then adults will join a class and children will enjoy activities until 10:45. Preschoolers will meet in Ms. Mary Kay's classroom. Please come and bring friends to wish and work together for peace!

Adult trips ahead

March 28 and 29th a group of adults will go on a weekend work trip to Clairvaux Farms, a Presbyterian-supported center for families in need in rural Elkton, Maryland. Those who went on a similar trip Fall 2007 will tell you how we painted, moved furniture, laid carpet and moved more furniture to redo a bunk room for single women. We also ate with the families, had lively conversation, and came away with an appreciation for God's work in the world. Sign up for at Bagel Fellowship.

On Saturday, May 2nd, a small group of Sunday School teachers and friends will drive to Lancaster, PA to Sight and Sound Theater to see "Abraham and Sarah". Tickets are \$34 and we will have dinner on the way back.

Islamic Welcome Center

Senior High Sunday School youth were hosted at an Islamic prayer service in nearby College Park by knowledgeable and interesting Muslims who have invited four or five of us to serve with them at a Soup Kitchen in DC on Monday, March 16th in the evening. We will meet at RPC at 3:30p. m. and return around 7:30 p.m. Contact Dr. C for more details.

Blessings, Dr. C