

Chesterbrook Chimes



Volume 3, No. 1

January 2011

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Column	1
Lay Leader's Report	2
Music Director's Report	2
New and News from CUMC	2-3
Calendar	4
Preschool Director's Column	3
Prayer Requests	5

6

2

OUR BEST FOR GOD

By Kathleene Card (Inspired by Dr. Carl Schenk)

Dr. Carl Schenk of Manchester United Methodist church talks about how God spoils us. He tells about a woman who came to him because she was having mystical experiences. He connected her to a spiritual director who was a therapist and a teacher. This director's skill was in helping people understand their experiences spirituality. The spiritual director listened carefully to the woman's mystical experiences. When she was done the director looked at her and smiled and said, "God sure spoils you."

This reminded me of a time that I shared a poem I had written with my pastor while I was discerning God's call to ministry. He looked at me and said, "That just shows how much God loves you." I was taken aback and said, "I believe God loves everyone." He paused and said, "Yes, that is true. But are you aware of just how much God loves you?" So I ask you—Are you aware of how much God Love you?

To be honest, I was a bit uncomfortable with God's love—feeling entirely unworthy. Schenk goes on to say, "even those of us who are not mystics are spoiled by God. . . .God in God's generosity is a spendthrift in giving out of abundance and not only quantity, but quality, in our lives."

Schenk wants us to look at the ways that God spoils us. He starts with observing the splendor in the act of creation. God provides the multitude of stars, as well as a bio-diverse world,

where huge plants like the largest redwood tree stand side by side with miniscule moss on the rock under the tree. God provides animals as diverse as a hippopotamus and a giraffe to be extreme and the cat and the dog to be subtle. Do we you ever stop to think that God did not have to be so generous? That this is one more example of God's extravagance with us?

He asks if we ever think of "what an impossible treasure is the human mind." Do we ever fathom how important "the web of human society is?" Do we think about how amazingly blessed we are to be connected to each other? I thought immediately of how we prayed for Leslie Hayes' grand niece when she was born. We had never met her, and yet her family was comforted by our prayers. I feel sure they will pray for others in need as we did for them.

We are blessed by the farmers who plants and harvests what we eat, and by the truck drivers that haul the harvest to the mill, and the manufacturers that turns the grain into bread and pasta and all those wonderful things. We do not know any of those people but without knowing them, nevertheless, our lives are interwoven in with theirs and they bless us every day.

This web of human community is a gift!

For us, as followers of Jesus Christ, God's extravagant gift of God's Son is God giving God's best -- the very best that God had to give.

...from the Music Director*by Denise Taplin*

What a wonder Christmas season we have had. We had 11 members go caroling at Sunrise Retirement Home in Arlington. Elwin Wrenn was so very happy to have us come again, as were all the residents there.

Weren't the Carol Ringers from St. Matthews UMC in Annandale so **FANTASTIC**? For those unable to make their performance on December 12, you missed a real treat. Thanks to all who donated cookies, helped set up and helped break down the room.



A **VERY BIG THANKS** to all who participated in the Lessons & Carols service on 19 December. **AND A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO KATHRYN KARLSON**, who sewed three handbell table covers.

We have openings in all groups, the Youth Ensemble (ages 8 and up), the Adult Choir, and Adult Handbells. The Youth Ensemble sings and plays handbells or hand chimes. Rehearsals are:

Youth Ensemble	Sundays immediately after worship
Adult Choir	9:00 AM Sunday mornings
Handbells	7:30 PM Wednesday evenings

Please contact the church office or Music Director for more information. Watch future newsletters and the bulletins for a vocal workshop in January or February with Anne Hurley-Cole.

...from the Lay Leader*by Elaine Cherry*

HAPPY NEW YEAR! We hear this greeting repeatedly this time of year, and we mean it sincerely. We want our friends and family and of course ourselves to be happy throughout the new year – 2011. But I wonder if anyone ever stops to consider just what it takes to make us happy, and to sustain that happiness. For instance I was deliriously happy when earlier this season the Redskins beat the Dallas Cowboys, but that happiness faded quickly when the lowly Detroit Lions clobbered the Skins shortly thereafter.

For some unexplainable reason recently my memory keeps returning to a wonderful teacher, Miss Andujar, my Spanish teacher for all three years of high school as well as my home room teacher. She was a single lady, short and plump, not very attractive, and did not appear to have much of a life beyond school. Yet she was not only one of the best teachers in the school but also the most beloved one. Once a sassy classmate asked her, “Why are you always so happy?” Her reply was immediate: “Because I have everything I need to be happy: (1)my health, (2) something to do, and (3)someone to love”. As we pondered her reply, she explained further how very much she loved teaching and how very much she loved each one of us.

After all these years, I have finally realized how correct she was. Only she did not explain the health requirement, which I have only begun to understand in later years. Health means physical and mental well being, but of far greater significance is spiritual health. If you are spiritually healthy, you will automatically have someone to love – our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who will give you something to do each day as you pray and listen to His guidance to you.

If you think you might need a bit more specific direction for something to do, just ask around Chesterbrook United Methodist Church, and Pastor Card or Denise Taplin or Carol Wessel or Margaret Hollar or Jan Harrod or me or any other member will gladly point you in the right direction. **HAPPY NEW YEAR!** May 2011 be the absolute best one yet...



**Pictures from
Chesterbrook UMC's
Christmas Dinner and Pastor
Appreciation
Dec. 5**



**December happenings
at Chesterbrook**



**Our Advent ADVENTure Making Chrismons
Dec. 4**



Caroling at Sunrise Retirement Center



CUMC Calendar January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Communion Sunday 9:30 Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	3	4	5 1 p.m. Remembering Your Story 7:30 Adult Handbells	6 9 p.m. Korean Men's Basketball	7	8 Bi-District Training Day
9 9:30 Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	10	11	12 1 p.m. Remembering Your Story 7:30 Adult Handbells	13 9 p.m. Korean Men's Basketball	14	15
16 9:30 Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Third Sunday Fellowship	17	18	19 1 p.m. Remembering Your Story 7:30 Adult Handbells	20 9 p.m. Korean Men's Basketball	21	22 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Church Council Planning Retreat
23 9:30 Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	24	25 7:30 p.m. Church Council	26 1 p.m. Remembering Your Story 7:30 Adult Handbells	27 9 p.m. Korean Men's Basketball	28	29
30 9:30 Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship FIFTH SUNDAY LUNCH	31					



Anniversaries

January Birthdays

- 2 Suzi Howard
- 5 Joan Wotring
- 5 Willa Britton
- 6 Lydia Grimsley
- 12 Mike Howard
- 13 Nicole Buffington
- 31 Haley Shircliff

January Anniversaries

- 12 Sheila and Gary Heath
- 14 Gundi and Martin Spilman

CHESTERBROOK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Chesterbrook Chimes is a publication of Chesterbrook United Methodist Church

Articles for publication must be submitted by the 15th of the month.

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...from the Preschool Director

Christina Maxwell

Happy New Year from Chesterbrook UMC Preschool and After Care!

In December, all our Chesterbrook Preschool families celebrated the Holiday season at Breakfast with Santa. This was a fantastic event that all of the staff, students and parents enjoyed. Santa made an appearance, read a story to the children and took pictures with everyone!

Our music teacher, Brooksie Wells, also joined in the festivities and sang songs with the children. A big thank you to the Montessori School of McLean for sharing their holiday decorations with us for our children to enjoy.

In order to help our community and those less fortunate, Chesterbrook Preschool adopted two families for the holiday season. The families and staff who contributed made a big difference to these families by providing them gifts during the Christmas season.

Registration and enrollment for the 2011-2012 school year begins in January. Our current families will have the opportunity to secure a spot for the next school year, and then new families begin registration on January 17. At our December Open House, many new families toured the school and took information packets. To confirm a place for the 2011-2012 school year, enrollment packets and the registration fee must be

submitted. Enrollment is first-come/first-serve until classes are fully enrolled. To schedule a tour, or have questions, please contact the Director, Christina Maxwell, anytime Monday- Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Prayer Concerns

Christian Education News

Confirmation Class will begin in early 2011

Confirmation class in the United Methodist Church prepares young people for the responsibilities of full membership in the local church by helping them understand what it means to be a Christian, and particularly what it means to be a United Methodist Christian. Through field trips, activities, readings, and discussions with the pastor, mentors, parents and/or guardians, members of the congregation and other young people, students will study the Bible, the history and tradition of the Christian Church, the history and tradition of the United Methodist Church and the history of our own local church.

Our Confirmation class will begin in early 2011. We welcome young people and will work with you if our schedules do not match. Contact the church office, Pastor Card, Karen Sherman or Carol Wessel if you have questions.

Lifting Up Our Church Family in Prayer:

Our Church:

-The Five Talent Academy
-Chesterbrook UMC and preschool, staff, teachers and families
-Arlington Temple UMC, our 5 Talent partner
-Bishop Charlene Kammerer and family
-District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Young Jin Cho and his family

Engagements/Weddings:

Beth Bharwani & Zachary Fleming
Suzanne Kern & Peter Thwaite

Health and Healing:

Bill Robinson
Will Stephenson
David Marguerite Gibson
Stephen

Will
Matt

Comfort and Support:

Connie Murray
Mickie Kagey
Donna Chuz
Azalie Rose Crain
Arthur Boots Thompson
Jessica
Joe
Judy
Michael
Mike
Rex
Richard
Sam
Stacey
Stephanie

Sympathy:

The family of Elwin Wrenn

Lifting Up Special Missions:

-Bethany Frazier, AGWM mission, Venezuela
-Shade and Fresh Water

-Zion Project, Sarita Hendricksen in Uganda.
-Salt and Light, Dominican Republic
-Art for Humanity, Rev. Evans, Honduras
-Jodi & Andy Oliver, church planters in WA
-Boxom Mission prayers for community relationship building

Lifting Up Local, National & International Issues:

- Those without a safe, dry place to stay at night
- The people of Haiti, Afghanistan, Korea, Pakistan and Indonesia
- People serving overseas
- Our President, all national, state and local leaders
- The Christian Church

Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 182

Rev:5-8-14



The Scaled Scroll 2

D T I M E S T G L O R Y H L R
 O A E W O R T H Y P H T R A E
 G N C P I T O S R L G T W L I
 W G R B U N E A E N L O H L G
 I E E E O R I L E I R E M O N
 S L A R G S S C R P S R O F R O
 D S T L E N T H H O D P N C I
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 M D R A E H P V N S V P N A A
 S R E D L E G I I A E H I N N
 S T S E D O K V E L U D G G I
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 E G A U G N A L R I E J I O L
 D O O L B R E W O P C I S C S
 L A M B S S E R V E N E M A E

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

- | | |
|-----------|---------|
| AMEN | POWER |
| ANGELS | PRAISE |
| BLOOD | PRIESTS |
| EARTH | REIGN |
| ELDERS | SANG |
| FELL | SCROLL |
| GLORY | SEALS |
| GOD | SERVE |
| HEARD | SLAIN |
| HEAVEN | THRONE |
| HONOR | TIMES |
| KINGDOM | TRIBE |
| LAMB | VOICE |
| LIVING | WEALTH |
| NATION | WISDOM |
| PEOPLE | WORTHY |
| THOUSAND | |
| PURCHASED | |
| CREATURES | |
| LANGUAGE | |
| STRENGTH | |
| WORSHIPED | |
| SINGING | |

Psalm 64

http://biblewordgames.com

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MORE PUZZLES AT:



December

- 1 Sheila Heath
- 3 John Cherry
- 10 Maggie Shircliff
- 10 Paul Sherman
- 16 Rachel Card Kahler
- 18 Julia Spewak
- 25 Jane Lord
- 27 Martin Spilman
- 28 Susie Grover