

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 20, 2009

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God in celebration of the 45th wedding anniversary of **Bruce and Betty Douglass** on December 31, 2009 by their children, son-in-law and grandchildren.

WITHIN OUR PRAYERS

Help carry one another's burden, and in this way you will obey the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

This weekly prayer list includes those members and friends of the church family who are in a short-term temporarily serious or critical situation. Please remember in your prayers all those listed. The number in parentheses is the area cluster.

ALL NAMES ON THE PRAYER LIST HAVE BEEN REMOVED FOR PRIVACY REASONS. THE PRINTED ANNOUNCEMENTS INCLUDED IN THE BULLETIN ON SUNDAY MORNINGS CONTAINS THE COMPLETE LIST.

KEEPING YOU INFORMED ELECTRONICALLY - One of the ways we send information regarding church events is through e-mail. Please call the church office with your e-mail address or send it to salbrecht@lewinsville.org to ensure you are on our distribution list.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES - TODAY at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall, join in this intergenerational presentation of "The Names of Jesus" At 6:00 p.m. in the Youth Center we will have our Youth Christmas Party and Pot Luck Dinner.

CALLING ALL FATHERS, GRANDFATHERS, UNCLES, BROTHERS AND MALE FRIENDS OF CHERUB AND GENESIS CHOIR MEMBERS: **TODAY** after the 8:30 a.m. worship service, we will have practice for the "Night of Silence", which is sung on Christmas Eve at the 4:30 service. It will not take long. I will have copies of the music available. Be ready to sing at 9:30. Carole Huston.

ATTENTION COLLEGE STUDENTS! - catch up with your Lewinsville friends over lunch at Rocco's in McLean, **TODAY** after the 11:00 service. Hope to see you there!

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING - Presbyterian tradition for almost 70 years, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of four special offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) This Offering is used two ways. Fifty percent of the offering is distributed to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs that provide support to retired and active church workers and their spouses and families. The other fifty percent supports Presbyterian-related racial ethnic education through the General Assembly Council. The Christmas Joy Offering will be received **TODAY**.

REGISTRATION BEGINS FOR JANUARY 10 BLOOD DRIVE - On-line registration begins **TODAY**, so go now to www.lewinsville.org/su-blood.htm and select your preferred time. Registration will also be held in St. Andrew's Hall following worship on both **December 27** and **January 3**. Let's begin 2010 with another fully subscribed Drive! To do that, we need all available donors to sign up. Please register for one of the 57 slots and donate blood on **January 10!**

MISSION AND SERVICE CHRISTMAS OPPORTUNITIES

ALTERNATIVE GIFT GIVING - 2009

What can you give that person who has everything he/she needs? How can you honor a loved one or friend by supporting a cause or group he/she will value and appreciate? Consider an *Alternative Gift*.

The Mission and Service Ministry Group will provide you with the opportunity to transform a donation into a Christmas gift through our *Alternative Gift* program in St. Andrews Hall. You will receive a special card which you may give to your loved one or friend that notes you have made a donation in their honor to one or more charitable organizations. A generous donation will help to provide food, shelter, clothing, medical help and/or education through the programs offered by the organization(s) you designate. You may designate any of the organizations supported by Lewinsville Presbyterian Church and listed in the Mission and Service Handbook; your special consideration of the following organizations is especially appreciated:

Homestretch - The largest provider of transitional housing and services for homeless families with children in Northern VA. In addition to providing subsidized housing, they offer programs in credit counseling, computer training, life skills training, English classes, domestic violence and substance abuse counseling, family mentoring, and children's programs. Their goal is to break the cycles of poverty, domestic violence and low self-esteem that afflict homeless families.

Friends of The Lewinsville - FOL is the nonprofit support organization of our own *Lewinsville Retirement Residence* and provides programs and support for residents that are not covered by the HUD housing assistance program. The "Friends" will use Alternative Gift contributions to help subsidize the costs of the daily meal program for the very low income residents who are unable to afford the full cost of daily meals.

Falls Church/McLean Children's Center - FCMCC provides a comprehensive, high-quality early childhood program designed to give young children, regardless of their family economic resources, a strong foundation on which to build the rest of their lives. Lewinsville Church and its members provide financial and volunteer assistance to the Center throughout the year. Alternative Gift contributions will be used to provide grocery store gift cards to the many very low income families of students attending FCMCC.

United Orphanage and Academy, Moi's Bridge, Kenya - The UO&A in northwest Kenya first opened in 2004 as an orphanage and was expanded in 2006 to include an academy. Today, 50 boys and girls live at the orphanage and more than 225 children attend the academy. All orphans and students come from the seven tribes that inhabit the region around Moi's Bridge. Alternative Gift contributions will be used for meeting the expense of caring for orphans (\$850/yr. per child for housing, food, clothing, education & medical care) and for teacher salaries (\$950/yr).

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance - The Presbyterian Church (USA)'s national and international program for responding to the humanitarian needs of disaster victims. Food, water, medicine, shelter, and other critical supplies bring hope to struggling communities. In just the past few months, PDA has provided assistance to flood victims in GA, earth quake victims in Indonesia, typhoon victims in the Philippines and Vietnam, victims of famine in Kenya, and flood victims in India. Alternative Gift donations will help our national church organization prepare for tomorrow's natural or human-caused disasters.

November 8 was Stewardship Commitment Sunday. Here's the latest report on pledges:

225 pledges have been received for a total of \$982,525 (2.60% increase)

130 pledges have increased for a total increase of \$88,382. (This includes 12 new pledges.)

31 pledges have decreased for a total decrease of \$61,500

64 pledges stayed the same.

36 pledges have not yet been received from those who pledged last year.

Thank you to everyone who pledged generously! If you have not yet pledged, it's not too late! Please bring your pledge to worship and place it in the offering plate, or send it to the church office.

<u>ROOM ABBREVIATIONS KEY</u>	
<u>LOWER LEVEL</u>	<u>MAIN LEVEL</u>
JKR - John Knox Room (25A)	LIB - Library (101)
MR - Music/Choir Room	CH - John Calvin Chapel (100)
FH - Fellowship Hall	SAH - St. Andrews Hall
	S - Sanctuary
<u>UPPER LEVEL</u>	N - Narthex
YC - Youth Center (200)	BR - Bethany Room (behind S)
P - Parlor (206)	SCR - Staff Conference Room

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 20, 2009

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 - 4th Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Worship - Reverend Deborah McKinley preaching
Jubilate Ringers
- 9:30 a.m. Alternative Gifts - SAH
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship - SAH
- 9:45 a.m. Intergenerational CE - FH
The Names of Jesus
- 11:00 a.m. Service of Worship - Reverend Deborah McKinley preaching
Alleluia Ringers
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship - SAH
- 12:15 p.m. College Students Christmas Luncheon
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Choirs -MR
- 4:45 p.m. Children's Choirs - FH/MR/25A
- 5:30 p.m. Sunday Evening ChristCare - LIB
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship Christmas Party - YC

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21

- 7:30 p.m. Longest Night Worship Service - S

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

- 10:00 a.m. Program Staff - LIB

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23

- 2:00 p.m. Chesterbrook Worship Service

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

Childcare provided at the 4:30 and 7:30 services

4:30 p.m. Family Service - S

7:30 p.m. Candlelight Service with Holy Communion - S

10:30 p.m. Candlelight Service with Holy Communion - S

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

Church Office Closed

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27 - 1st Sunday after Christmas

10:45 a.m. Carol Sing - S

11:00 a.m. Service of Lesson and Carols - S



CHRISTMAS DECORATION FUND

You may contribute to our Christmas Decoration Fund this year by filling out the form below and returning it to the church office or by depositing it in the offering plate. All who have given in memory of loved ones will be listed in our Christmas Eve bulletins. Any money remaining will be used for our Flower Fund throughout the year. The Flower Committee will purchase only enough flowers and greens to decorate the Sanctuary and not for each contributor.

We suggest that your contribution be \$35. Checks should be made payable to Lewinsville Presbyterian Church and annotated "Christmas Decoration Fund". **Forms and checks must be returned no later than Sunday, December 20, 2009.**

NAME _____

PHONE _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

(Please print or type)