

Christian Education Corner

Mary Ann Sumner

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VIEW FROM THE PEW

Or a View from Afar

Back on Mother's Day this year the Presbyterian Women presented a beautiful friendship quilt to me. I know many of you got to see it and also watch my stunned reaction when they called me forward during worship. It even made the local paper. Madelyn Beers, who spearheaded the project wrote a wonderful article and submitted it to Horizons Magazine (the magazine for Presbyterian Women) and it was published in the November/December issue on page 44! And we got a full-page article which is really rare! A lot of it is about me, which always makes me uncomfortable, but it also talks about the project and the history of friendship quilts. Thank you, Madelyn, for taking the time to submit the article. WBTS is now officially "somebody"!!!! There are two copies of the magazine in the church library if you'd like to take a look!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

NURSERY

With the new year comes growth and transitions for our little ones. We have one such progression for Miss Weslynn Starrett. She celebrated her 6th birthday a few months ago and is officially graduating to "Big Church". She is such a lovely young lady and great big sister to Waverley and Whitley. I have to admit, all the nursery teachers go into a bit of denial when we know one of our nursery friends will be graduating! However, it is such a joy to see them grow in faith. Congratulations Weslynn! (Note: due to an illness, Weslynn's graduation will take place soon).

In His Love,

Ms. Sherry, Ms. Denise, Ms. Aileen and Ms. Courtney

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASS

We use Growing in Grace and Gratitude with a rotation of teachers. In our winter unit we will learn the various ways that Jesus calls us to follow him. We hope you'll join us and bring a friend!!

YOUTH CLASS

Join Cecil and Chip each week with the Submerge curriculum. This includes activities, games, readers' theater, crafts, or videos. There is lots of discussion, and, yes, donuts!

ADULT CLASSES

OLD TESTAMENT BIBLE CLASS

Jan Toles, Room 12A

We are now studying Joshua through Ruth as we continue our journey through the Old Testament. The series is The Wesley Bible Studies and books are available in class for \$5.00.

PARABLES

Tobias Caskey, Garden Room

I have been given the ability this year to teach from a book about the parables of Jesus. As we have all probably read the parables in the Bible, this book and study, *The Parables from the Backside*, written by J Ellsworth Kalas, brings a different look at them. It puts a new spin and insight into the ideas of living the parables in our lives and as always will bring some great debate and discussion. Some chapter titles include: When the Good Samaritan Is Bad News; God Called a Party, but Nobody Came; The Timid Soul; The Seasons of the Soil; The Sad Story of the Embarrassed Farmers. We will soon be moving into volume 2! Books will be available for \$10.00 for this class.

SWIM DOWN: DIVING DEEPER INTO GOD'S WORD

Glory Cumbow, Peninsula Hall

When you read the Bible, have you ever wanted the tools to go deeper? Perhaps you've wanted an understanding of the languages, the history, and the culture that surrounded the writers of the Bible? This adult Sunday School class is designed to do just that. We will be using videos from "The Bible Project" to learn about the importance of plot and setting in scripture, what definitions and understandings are behind major words such as "peace", "love", and "listen", and what important concepts mean such as "heaven and earth." We will use what we learn from the videos to study scripture ourselves. This can help situate empower you as you do your own personal devotional reading at home!

YOUTH GROUP **Glory Cumbow**

After Christmas cookies, shopping for Angel Tree gifts, finishing the Old Testament, and a Christmas lock-in we are wiped out! We'll be taking a few weeks off to recuperate, but then we'll be back to youth group going again! Coming up we'll have another game day, another movie outing, a talent show, fundraising for our mission trip, and learning about the New Testament! We will reconvene for youth on Sunday, January 13, to get to planning, playing, serving, and learning. We need to start a sign-up sheet to keep track of lunches for youth group for parents and anyone else who is willing to provide food! A few Sundays have fallen by the way side and I had to slide in at the last minute to make sure our youth didn't starve! If we can get everyone signed up early for meals, I won't have to be scrambling at the last minute. Stay tuned for updates! Remember to keep checking your emails for all the information pertaining to youth group.

InSpired Together

“Oh My Goodness, You Have to Try This!”

Potluck Dinner

Saturday, January 19 at 6:00

Fellowship Hall

We're going to try a different kind of potluck dinner. Someone commented that the best food

in the world was discovered at potlucks. We've even printed recipes in the Spire before because so many people loved a dish. Soooo, make your favorite recipe – it can be a main dish, a vegetable, side, dessert, anything. Bring a copy of the recipe to the dinner and Mary Ann will compile them into a mini-cookbook so we'll all have wonderful new foods to make! It would be wonderful if the recipes could be typed (they can be emailed to maflam@aol.com if you wish) but bring it in whatever format you can. You may also send it ahead of time, so you won't forget. And bring your appetite! There will lots of good things to eat!

“Showcase of Talent”

Talent Show and Potluck Dinner

Saturday, February 9 at 5:30

Fellowship Hall/Sanctuary

This show is open to performers of all ages and all talents! We'll have sign-up forms in the January Spire but start practicing your instrument or find a group of friends and form a singing group – the possibilities are endless. Monologues, skits, just make sure it's PG! Please find the sign-up sheet in this issue of the Spire and turn it in to Mary Ann ASAP!

WESTMINSTER INSTITUTE

OUR GOOD OLD DAYS

Kitty French

Thursday, January 3 at 1:00

The Garden Room

It's that time of year once again for your New Years Resolutions. After talking with some of you, I know that putting "Pen to Paper" & passing along all those family stories is something you have always intended to do. This is the perfect time to get started. With our encouragement you can share a story every month. After a couple years you could have 20 stories. Put them in order & add family pictures & you have a small book to pass along to your family. When they are OLD like us, they will read it & truly enjoy every word. Yes, it takes awhile for them to appreciate all your hard work. Remember how long it took you become interested in writing it. You may

just inspire them to add Volume 2?? Come & join us. TRY IT YOU'LL LIKE IT!!

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Jeff Sumner
Wednesdays at 11:00 am
Fellowship Hall

The winter study begins with God's demands for our complete and undivided love as shown in passages from Deuteronomy and Psalms. It proceeds with our response to God's love in the advent of Christ, and the Epistles' interpretations of the nature and extent of our responses to God's love in Christ. It concludes with passages from three of the Psalms expressing glorification of God. Unit I "God Commands Our Love, Respect, and Obedience," Unit II, "Loving God by Trusting Christ," Unit III, "Love Songs That Glorify God," Books are available in class for \$6.00.

MAHJONG

Jan Toles
Wednesdays from 10:00-12:30
Peninsula Hall, Room A

All are welcome to come and play, experienced or not! Contact Jan for information: 386-265-5805.

CARD MAKING CLASS

Mary Ann Sumner
Thursday, January 24 at 9:30 am
Room 5/6

Join this fun class and make four general purpose cards to send to your friends and family (or hoard them if you prefer). No experience necessary. There is a \$5.00 supply fee. Let Mary Ann know if you are coming so kits can be made. Space is limited.

MOVIE NIGHT **Godspell**

Friday, January 25 at 6:30
Peninsula Hall

We continue our presentations of movies featured in our "Hollywood Jesus" study. All are

invited to attend. Just bring a "movie" type snack to share with everyone. Godspell is the Gospel of Matthew presented in musical form. The movie is set in the 1970s and is a fun interpretation of the Bible message. It is G rated.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2019



We will be moving VBS back to June to accommodate the Holy Land

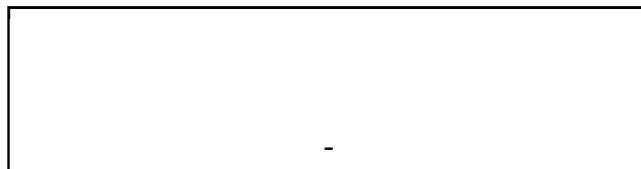
Pilgrimage people. Mark your calendars for June 17-21 with setup June 10-14. Our theme is To Mars and Beyond: Explore Where God's Power Can Take You!

Many Miles Away College Program

Leaving home for young adults can be an exciting rite of passage but also lonely and quite challenging. We want our Westminster youth to know they are loved no matter how many miles away they may be. We will be compiling care packages for Westminster youth who are away (or going locally) at school or in the military.

We are collecting care package staples such as (but not limited to), laundry pods, granola or protein bars, pens, candy, nuts, chips, gift cards for fast food. Packages will be sent in February. We thank you for your help! There will be a box for these items in Fellowship Hall during January. We will also have cards for you to sign. Also, if you can help provide a little "chicken soup for the twenty-something soul," please write a brief note of encouragement highlighting how you got through a challenging situation as a young adult. Maybe someone showed up at just the right time, perhaps a particular Bible verse spoke to your heart, or simply include practical advice for a young person. Your note just might be the shining light of encouragement needed!

Questions? Contact Sherry Argenbright (386-426-5637) or Denise Mueller (386-405-0708).





Kirkin O' The
Tartans
January 20
11:00 service

12:00 pm in Room 12A
Gamblers Anonymous
7:30 pm in the Garden Room
AA Men's Group
8:00 pm in Room 12A
Friday
AA/NA Mixed Group
7:00 pm in Room 12A
Saturday
Al-Anon
10:00 am in Room 12A

Outside Groups Meeting at WBTS

Sunday

Arabic Evangelical Ministries

6:00 pm in the Chapel

Sunday AA

Monday

Ecumenical Bible Study

6:00 in Fellowship Hall

AA/NA Mixed Group

7:00 pm in Room 12A

Tuesday

Gamblers Anonymous

7:30 pm in the Garden Room

Wednesday

AA Mixed Group

7:00 pm in Room 12A

Thursday

Embroidery Guild

First Thursday at 10:00 am (Sept - May)

in Fellowship Hall

Al-Anon Gentle Journey