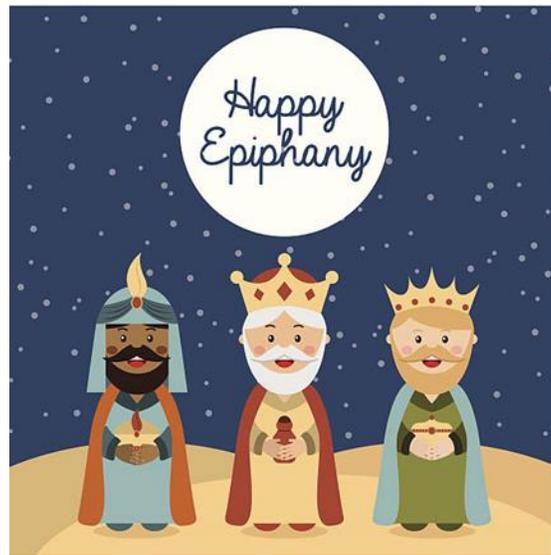




FIRST and ForMOST

First Presbyterian Church of Annandale

January 2019



FROM YOUR PASTOR

“After Jesus was born in Bethlehem village, Judah territory— this was during Herod’s kingship—a band of scholars arrived in Jerusalem from the East. They asked around, “Where can we find and pay homage to the newborn King of the Jews? We observed a star in the eastern sky that signaled his birth. We’re on pilgrimage to worship him.”

When word of their inquiry got to Herod, he was terrified—and not Herod alone, but most of Jerusalem as well. Herod lost no time. He gathered all the high priests and religion scholars in the city together and asked, “Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?”

They told him, “Bethlehem, Judah territory. The prophet Micah wrote it plainly:

*It’s you, Bethlehem, in Judah’s land,
no longer bringing up the rear.*

*From you will come the leader
who will shepherd-rule my people,*

my Israel.”

Herod then arranged a secret meeting with the scholars from the East. Pretending to be as devout as they were, he got them to tell him exactly when the birth-announcement star appeared. Then he told them the prophecy about Bethlehem, and said, “Go find this child. Leave no stone unturned. As soon as you find him, send word and I’ll join you at once in your worship.”

Instructed by the king, they set off. Then the star appeared again, the same star they had seen in the eastern skies. It led them on until it hovered over the place of the child. They could hardly contain themselves: They were in the right place! They had arrived at the right time!

They entered the house and saw the child in the arms of Mary, his mother. Overcome, they kneeled and worshiped him. Then they opened their luggage and presented gifts: gold, frankincense, myrrh.

In a dream, they were warned not to report back to Herod. So, they worked out another route, left the territory without being seen, and returned to their own country.”
(Matt. 2: 1-12, The Message)

The popular song, “*The Twelve Days of Christmas*”, reminds us of a long-standing tradition dating back to the beginning of Christianity. In this tradition, each of the twelve days of Christmas (December 25 through January 6) would be celebrated as a means of preparation for the season of Epiphany.

What is the season of Epiphany? Well, the word itself comes from the two Greek words, “*epi*” and “*phaino*”. Together, these words mean, “*to show forth*” and/or “*to make known*”. But what exactly is it that we are supposed to show forth and make known? The answer is found in the most ancient of Christian traditions celebrated every year during the 12 days of Christmas: “*To show forth and make known to the entire world that the newborn Child born in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago was Jesus the Christ, GOD IN THE FLESH.*”

Where this ancient Christian tradition is still practiced today, specific Biblical readings are read during Epiphany: the visit of the Magi Scholars “*from the east*” to Jesus sometime after His birth (Mt. 2:12), the baptism of Jesus (Mt. 3:13-17; Mk. 1: 4-11; and Lk. 3: 15-17, 21-22), the miracle of the changing water into wine at the wedding of Cana (Jn. 2: 1-11), and the transfiguration of our Lord (Mt. 17: 1-9; Mk 9:2-9; Lk 9:28-36). The theme of “*making Jesus Christ, God made flesh, known to all the nations*” is found in the account of the Magi and continues to show itself in other readings throughout the Epiphany season.

Can you remember the very first time that you realized that the Baby born in Bethlehem was actually fully God and fully human?

Can you remember a time or times in your life when you were so thankful for your saving faith in Jesus Christ that you hardly could control your emotions...like you just wanted to shout out loudly and joyously “HALLELUJAH!”?

And, how have you helped others lately to learn about and believe that Jesus Christ was (and still is) ‘*God made flesh*’?

I hope and pray that all of us will make the most of this coming Epiphany season by sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with as many people as we can. Let’s make it our goal to bring one new member into our church this coming year! And, let’s do it by boldly and lovingly telling everyone we meet that Jesus Christ was and still is ‘*God made flesh!*’ Let’s do it by loving others with the love of Jesus Christ...love that is both human and divine. Let’s do it by forgiving those who may have hurt us...those to whom we haven’t yet apologized.

What can you do to ‘*make Jesus Christ, God made flesh, known to all the nations.*’?

Both you and I know WHAT to do. All we need now is the COURAGE and FAITH to do it.

Your Pastor and Friend,



PREACHING SCHEDULES FOR JANUARY, 2019

January 6, 2019 Epiphany Sunday -- Service of Holy Communion

Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon Title: “*THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!*”

Dr. Chris Looker, Preaching

January 13, 2019 Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Scripture Lessons: Luke 3:21-22

Sermon Title: “*SOCKS OFF...OR SOCKS ON?*”

Dr. Chris Looker, Preaching

January 20, 2019

Scripture Lesson: John 2: 1-11

Sermon Title: “*GOD DOESN’T PLAY GAMES WITH THE UNIVERSE*”

Dr. Chris Looker, Preaching

January 27, 2019

Candidate for Ministry Stella Lee, Preaching

THE 22 LAWS OF WELLNESS
PART FIVE. THE INTELLECTUAL LAWS
14. THE LAW OF CREATIVITY

Introduction – I have been writing a series of articles based on Greg Anderson’s book entitled **THE 22 (NON-NEGOTIABLE) LAWS OF WELLNESS: *Feel, Think and Live Better Than You Ever Thought Possible***. Greg Anderson is a cancer survivor. In 1984 his doctors told him he had 30 days to live. His cancer had spread and his doctors had surgically removed one of his lungs. He was in such bad physical condition his doctors had given up on him and told him to prepare himself for his death. Yet, as Anderson writes, he knew others had survived cancer so he set out on a journey to find out what these cancer survivors had in common.

While on this journey of discovery about the common characteristics of cancer survivors he began to write. His books include **THE CANCER CONQUEROR, THE TRIUMPHANT PATIENT, 50 ESSENTIAL THINGS TO DO WHEN THE DOCTOR SAYS IT’S CANCER, HEALING WISDOM**. Notice that these books were written over an extended period of time and that he did not die as his doctors had predicted. His books are based on his findings and his own personal lifestyle that evolved as a result of his findings. This book, **THE 22 (NON-NEGOTIABLE) LAWS OF WELLNESS**, is a summation of the principles on not only how he lives his life but they also serve as a guide for wellness for us all. Please note that he is not just writing about surviving cancer but he is talking about the idea of “wellness” as it applies to all of life. The subtitle of this book is ***Feel, Think and Live Better Than You Ever Thought Possible***.

In the *Introduction* to The 22 Laws, he says that the term *wellness* is one of the most powerful words in the English language and one of the most important ideas of our time but it is also one of the least understood words. He says that wellness is more than a “medical fix” but is a way of living – *a lifestyle sensitive and responsive to all the dimensions of body, mind, and spirit, an approach to life we each design to achieve our highest potential for well-being now and forever*. This reminds me of the words of Jesus who says, “...The thief does not come, except to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly” John 10:10 (Modern English Version). I mentioned earlier that Anderson structures his book around eight different groups of laws: Part One. **THE UNIVERSAL LAWS**. Part Two. **THE PHYSICAL LAWS**. Part Three. **THE EMOTIONAL LAWS**. Part Four. **THE SOCIAL LAWS**. Part Five. **THE INTELLECTUAL LAWS**. Part Six. **THE VOCATIONAL LAWS**. Part Seven. **THE SPIRITUAL LAWS**. Part Eight. **The Greatest Law**. This article will be on the first of the three **INTELLECTUAL LAWS**, the **LAW OF MINDFULNESS**. Before addressing this

particular concept I want to reinforce what the entire book is about as described in the **INTRODUCTION**.

INTRODUCTION – Anderson introduces the concept of *wellness* and describes it as a way of living that calls for continuing improvement and self-renewal in all areas of life – body, mind and spirit. He says it is one of the most important ideas of our time but also says it is one of the least understood. He says this book describes the fundamental rules of the wellness pursuit and says that these are the rules he has learned over the years that helped him recover and live after being given a death sentence due to metastasized lung cancer. It recently occurred to me that the concept of wellness can be compared to a multi-faceted gemstone. As each of a gemstone’s facets provides a different way of seeing the same stone, each of the Laws of Wellness provides a different way of approaching the concept of *wellness*. The laws that have been discussed so far have each contributed in its own unique way to the understanding of wellness and have each offered a unique avenue of pursuing wellness in one’s own life. And so, the **LAW OF CREATIVITY** is another of the many facets of the concept of *wellness* and offers another way of pursuing wellness.

To me, the **LAW OF CREATIVITY** is one of the most powerful concepts Anderson has thus far put forth. This is not to say that the other laws are not important, each one is. But, the **LAW OF CREATIVITY** offers freedom and empowerment. Anderson begins this chapter by saying, *All things are created twice – first, mentally then, physically*. He then gives different examples of what he means: how his wife first designs a dress for their daughter on paper, then selects the material and the buttons in collaboration with their daughter, and finally creates the dress. He reiterates how the dress was first created in his wife’s mind before she actually completed the physical creation of the dress. He repeats that this is the **LAW OF CREATIVITY** at work – everything is created twice. He continues with other examples saying that before he gives a speech he creates the speech mentally with the “take away” message clearly in his mind. Before they did a landscaping project at their home he said we drew up a plan. Before his neighbor plants his vegetable garden he lays it out on paper. He then states that “...the **LAW OF CREATIVITY** is constantly at work”. Here he begins to transition and elaborate on the power of this law. He says that the law may seem so self-evident that it appears unimportant but then says, “Beware, do not dismiss the power of this law. The potential for massive transformation resides here.” Let me repeat that: *The potential for massive transformation resides here*. He elaborates by saying, “For while it is true that all things are created twice, not all creations are conscious. And this is where our complacency can get us into deep trouble!” He continues: *The Law of Creativity comes into play either by default or by design – by accident or on purpose. The trouble is, most often we simply react; we are passive. We accept what is without a single thought of what might be. We allow others to press our creative buttons.*

Here Anderson refers us back to the **LAW OF PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY** reminding us that we each have the power to respond and the power to create. Another way to say this is that we have the power to make things happen and not to just let things happen. I am reminded of one of the first Chaplains I met when I entered the Army back in 1982. It was at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, where I first met Chaplain S. He worked for the Post Chaplain and his job was to see that the Post Chaplain's guidance was implemented by the other Chaplains on the installation. One of Chaplain S's expressions that I will never forget was, "I've got to go and make this happen." I learned over the years that that expression was applicable in many situations. It was a call to action, not reaction. It was a call to action and not passivity. "Excuse me, I've got to go and make this happen."

Actually, that was a new and helpful concept for me. Before hearing that little phrase I used to think if something happened there was nothing I could have done about it. Scripture reminds us that, "for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline." (2 Timothy 1:7, NRSV)

Listen to Anderson:

*Look at our personal lives. When we don't accept personal responsibility and do not develop awareness of the tremendously powerful **LAW OF CREATIVITY**, we empower other people to set the agenda for our lives. Circumstances tend to shape our lives by default, not by choice.* He says that without awareness of the Law of Creativity we might allow ourselves to live out a life script dictated to us by someone rather than living a life of our own choosing. He gives the illustration of the young man whose father was a powerful lawyer on Wall Street and who was determined that his son would follow in his footsteps. The son realized that was the last thing he wanted to do. At the last minute, just before he was to enter Harvard he told his father that he wasn't going. He said that his father was very upset but the young man stuck to his decision and today is living a great life in the north country of Idaho.

Anderson reflected on the incident by saying, "Think about the first creations: a father creating a life for his son; a son rejecting the father's dream and following his own. In both cases, the idea – the first creation—precedes the reality. Take charge of our own agendas and we creatively shape our own lives." The young man felt he had to shape his life by his own design. Default would never have been acceptable.

Anderson reminds us that who we are and the circumstances we experience are second creations, either from our own design or are products of our own passivity. Here he states that the Law of Creativity shows us a powerful way of shaping our own experience of life. We can change and learn to fashion our own first creations.

He talks about his good experience of working with Robert Schuller who introduced him to the concept of "possibility thinking". He says that the word *possibility* creates a mental climate conducive to creativity. He says that, "I have seen the simple

suggestion that something is possible release creative thinking and break the invisible and limiting prisons of difficult circumstances and deep despair... Possibilities abound when the mind is set free to create.”

He explains the link between creativity and possibilities by having us consider their antonym, “*Impossible*.” He says utter this word and thinking stops, progress is halted and doors slam shut. But think that something is possible and resources we hadn’t been aware of come rushing in to assist us in our quest. He says, “I think that we are all potentially brilliant and creative—but only if we believe it, only if we have an attitude of positive expectancy toward our ideas, and only if we act on them.” “The vision precedes the reality.” “What this law says is that the imagining facility is the creative facility. It is necessary for us to see an idea in our mind’s eye before it can become a reality.”

Anderson has included several meaningful illustrations of the power of this law that I have omitted because of space. Briefly, two of these are the person who experienced a broken back but through determination and belief in what was possible was slowly learning to walk again. And another person who realized that their morbid obesity was the result of learning that their mother’s way of dealing with problems was to eat and eat. With self-awareness and believing in what was possible this person shed the weight over time. In both case the first creation was their vision before the second creation happened.

Here Anderson shifts gears and says that the Law of Creativity asks us not to mandate our future but to seek the divine design in our lives. He continues, “I believe one should not visualize or force a mental picture. Thousands of people have been disappointed by doing so and, as a result, have come to distrust the **LAW OF CREATIVITY**. Instead, let the divine design come naturally and intuitively, It’s there if we’ll listen.”

*The divine plan found through the **LAW OF CREATIVITY** does, I believe, include things like health, ample supply, love, and perfect self-expression. The law brings happiness, albeit a happiness we may not have consciously chosen. In fact, the **LAW OF CREATIVITY** may bring great changes to life, for nearly everyone has wandered far from the divine design. The Law of Creativity calls not for my way or your way, but for the best way. This is the picture we must find and hold on to without wavering. Then we create wellness in body, mind, and spirit, wellness of the highest level.*

Anderson concludes by sharing his own personal experience of letting go of his own willful ways and surrendering to God’s way. He says that out of that surrender came a vision of service to others that he had never considered. That vision has created a life in which he has been used in ways he never dreamed possible. The vision leads the fact. The Law of Creativity is at work.

My next article will be on the third of the three Intellectual Laws, **THE LAW OF LIFETIME GROWTH**.

Submitted by Bill Jokela, Parish Associate, FPCA

MEET FELLOW CHRISTIANS

JOAN OF ARC



Let us meet Joan of Arc, whose birthday is on January 6. She was born in 1412 to a peasant family in France, and was nicknamed "The Maid of Orléans". Joan claimed that her life was influenced by visions of saints and angels who instructed her to support Charles VII and recover France from English domination late in the Hundred Years' War. The uncrowned King Charles VII sent Joan to the siege of Orléans as part of a relief mission. Only nine days later, the siege was lifted, and Joan gained prominence. Charles VII was crowned after some additional victories. This great event boosted French morale and led to the final French victory.

Joan of Arc's life was not as glorious. On May 23, 1430, she was captured by a group of French nobles allied with the English. She was handed over to the English. She was charged and put on trial by a pro-English bishop. She was declared guilty and burned at the stake on May 30, 1431. She died when she was about nineteen years old.

As time went by, people's opinion of Joan of Arc changed. In 1456, the Pope authorized an inquisition, and charges were debunked. Joan of Arc was pronounced innocent and declared to be a martyr. In the 16th century she became a symbol of the Catholic League, a coalition of Catholic states of the Holy Roman Empire. In 1803 she was declared a national symbol of France. In 1920 she was canonized.

Scholars suspect that Joan of Arc did not do any actual fighting during her military career. But they agree that this teenager was a leader. She gave orders to her troops, was even involved in diplomatic negotiations with the English. Joan has been a popular figure in literature, painting, sculpture, and other cultural works.

Can we learn anything when we look at the young girl Joan of Arc? I am sure we can. We do not have to have visions – we can listen to God, follow His orders, do our best using the gifts He has given us. All of us are here to fulfill a purpose!

Marta Strada

**LET'S ALL JOIN IN AS WE WELCOME OUR CHRISTIAN
CHILDCARE CENTER PARENTS!**

As a Christian family, we would like to welcome all of our wonderful Christian Childcare Center Parents! As one way of doing this, we are offering to send our FPCA Church Newsletter to our Christian Childcare parents each month.

TO ALL OUR WONDERFUL CHRISTIAN CHILDCARE CENTER PARENTS:

Dear Christian Childcare Parents:

We thought you might enjoy reading the news about what's happening here at the First Presbyterian Church of Annandale. So, here is our January 2019 newsletter, "FIRST and ForMOST." We hope you enjoy it.

Please understand, we are not trying to pull you away from your home church or be too pushy, though we would welcome you most heartily any Sunday if you want to come and join us at our 10:00 am worship service. We only thought that you might like to know what is happening here at FPCA, in addition to all that is happening in our Christian Childcare Center.

We would like to include you in the life of our church by sending you a monthly issue of our newsletter in the mail (by the way, it's also published on our church's website – fpcannandale.org). However, if you prefer not to receive our monthly newsletter, please do not hesitate to let Director Merlin Berganza know, and we will remove your name from the mailing list.

Thank you so very much for trusting us with your dear child (or children, for several of you!). We love each one and are happy that you want them to grow in this Christian environment, learning values which will stand them in good stead all their lives.

In Christ's Love,

Carol Gage
Elder, Greeter, and Christian Childcare Center
Volunteer and Evening Greeter and Door Opener!

LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME

Babies, babies, babies, have we got babies! And toddlers! They are all so cute! And lovable! And adorable! And loving. They're right here at FPCA in our Christian Childcare Center, five days a week, Monday through Friday. Come with me, take a virtual look . . .

Vignettes from the doorway:

Here's a tiny boy, about four months old, lying in his bouncy chair, one leg crossed over the other. He looks exactly as if he could be a little old man lounging in his comfy La-Z-Boy sipping his iced tea as he takes in the world, only he's sipping his milk bottle and taking in whatever a four-month-old does take in.

Here's a one-year-old girl, toddling around on her own quite well. She toddles to the nearest baby, also about a year old, and purses her lips: making "kissy-kissy" sounds toward his cheek: she loves *everyone*! She surely must be copying what she's learning at home from mommy and daddy.

Here's a little flirt: he's about ten months old now and has been making goo-goo eyes at me since he was seven months old. He twinkles his eyes and flutters his long eyelashes as soon as he sees me in the doorway. Now he makes a cute, but indescribable, "mouth" at me, half-smiling: he knows he's cute. His mom says he's doing this at home, too. An absolute darling!

I could go on and on: we have enough babies in the Christian Childcare Center now to do so, after only six months. God has blessed, and is blessing, the work here. Parents are telling Merlin Berganza, the director of the CCC, that they have prayed for a just such an environment as we are offering here.

I myself am so very blessed to be a part of this program as a volunteer. Decades ago, I planned and hoped for a dozen children of our own; none arrived, so, of course, no grandchildren arrived either. Now, I have so many wonderful babies and toddlers to love and cherish five days a week!

I thank Thee, Lord!

Elder Carol Gage

THE FPCA MEN'S BREAKFAST
First Presbyterian Church of Annandale
Saturday, January 5, 2019, at 8:30 AM in Room 105
Come One, Come All to this
GREAT FUN AND FELLOWSHIP EVENT!

A BIT ABOUT A BOOK

(Being an unsolicited article about a book which grabbed me by the coattails, so to speak. Perhaps it may grab you, too.)

Leap Over A Wall is a great book to read right now, as Epiphany draws near, with Advent and Christmas Day now memories. Eugene Peterson has written a deeply-moving, energetic story of the *Old Testament* David. It's a good history in itself, but, more important, it shows the parallels between David's story and that of Jesus. David's story also foretells the coming of Christ.

I read this book recently in Advent, led to discover if Peterson was as great a writer as he was translator (his *The Message* version of the *Bible* is excellent). The answer was a resounding, "Yes!" for me.

If you have heard or read passages from *The Message* translation of the *Bible*, you know that Peterson writes clear, forceful language and uses images which fit today's world. His words are as meaningful and fresh for us today as the words in the *King James Version* of the *Bible* must have been to those reading them or hearing them in the 17th century. He pulls no punches: a spade is a spade, not a "digging implement," in his translation, and he gives us a new way of seeing all the familiar stories of the *Bible*.

Most people who grew up on bible stories know about David and Goliath and about the wonderful friendship between David and Jonathan. This book details the sometimes less-familiar stories which carry David from his early years as child sheep herder for his father, Jesse, to his later years as anointed king, when he was still called "Shepherd," this time as shepherd for his people.

I encourage you to find time to read this book, available at the Fairfax County Public Library. It's a good book to read any time, but especially meaningful now as Christmastide draws to a close and we rejoice in the knowledge of that wondrous Birth so long ago, knowing what it means to us!

A Bookworm

AN AMERICAN MOSAIC

D.C. al Fine presents: AN AMERICAN MOSAIC, a collection of Choral Works by Contemporary American Composers

Date and Time: January 19, 2019, 4:00 pm

Place: The First Presbyterian Church of Annandale, 7610 Newcastle Dr., Annandale, VA

Free Admission.

THE POTTER'S HOUSE SHOW: IT'S HISTORY NOW!

It's been a month now since our first-ever pottery show (yes, we've had a donations-only Ice Cream Social, but not a REAL show like this), and we're delighted! We promised that the January issue of this newsletter would let you know if the show had been a wonderful success, a great learning experience, or, perhaps, both. It was, it was!

First, very generous show goers bid on 50 bowls and vases and donated \$2,061 for our new Emergency Mission Fund. Since we had no other show with which to compare, we choose to think this is great! We hope you agree. We'll see next year after a second show when we can compare. However one looks at it, though, the wonderful generosity of our church members and guests is overwhelming. We are so very grateful.

Second, everyone seems to have had a good time. People outbid each other throughout the show, but it all appeared to be in good fun and camaraderie. While we did not have a large crowd, the display area was never empty. Showgoers made very positive comments about the display: music to our ears. Volunteers, thanks again for all your work: setting up, making it all look inviting and even exciting, and taking it all down again.

Third, the Mission of the Holy Spirit volunteers did well with their tamales. Raising money to help rebuilding and recovery from the volcanic disaster last summer in Guatemala, these volunteers obviously enjoyed the way everyone enthusiastically dived into those big tamales. Delicious!

And lastly, the show was both a great learning experience and a success. Next year, we will approach some parts of it differently, but we will try to replicate the parts which worked very well.

We would love to have your ideas on what makes a good show, what would encourage you to attend such an event. If you have suggestions about the pottery itself, what you would like to see in both shape and color, we'd love to hear. Pass along your thoughts to Carol Gage, please; she'd really like to know.





Elder Carol Gage

SHEPHERD'S CENTER of ANNANDALE SPRINGFIELD LUNCH N' LIFE

"WHAT GOOD IS MUSIC ANYWAY"

Join us for Lunch N' Life to hear piano music performed by our own Peggy Newhall. Peggy will show us how music fits into every part of our lives. Come to the piano concert to hear music which will include classical music, Broadway songs, and spirituals. A few titles include: Memory (from Cats), Deep River, and Sentimental Journey.

When: Thursday, January 24th, 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Where: St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 6800 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003

Cost: \$10 (includes lunch and entertainment) All are welcome!

Registration: Please call the office Monday through Friday between 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. at 703-941-1419 or e-mail to shepherdscas@vacoxmail.com by Monday, January 21st. (Reservations and prepayment are required as our lunches are catered.) Send your check to: SCAS, 7610 Newcastle Dr., Annandale, VA 2200

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

November 18, 2018

Dr. Chris Looker opened the meeting with prayer, asking God's Care for the survivors of the recent California wildfires, for Elder Nancy DeVera's brother, and for the families of our beloved Elder Joseph Patrick (Pat) Hickey and Robert Randolph (Bob) Logwood, gone "into the Light."

Guest Amy Metzler, Co-Coordinator of the Garden Plots Ministry, reported on the season's gardening activity, noting that the several renters are grateful to have this opportunity to garden. They have donated produce to ACCA and other places which provide food to the needy.

Director of the Christian Childcare Center Merlin Berganza reported the recent hiring of teacher Stephanie Zavala, bringing the total to seven teachers. The Center currently has 24 children enrolled, with 17 babies (12 currently attending) and seven toddlers. Income is now somewhat larger than expenses, well ahead of anticipated estimates.

Dr. Looker and Elder Carol Gage are on schedule with plans for the Potter's House Bowl and Vase Show, which will be held on Saturday, December 1, 2018, in the sanctuary. Donations will go to the Mission Fund to help those still recovering and rebuilding from the Guatemalan volcano last June.

Dr. Looker will teach an Advent Adult Sunday School class on prayer on the 2nd, 9th, and 23rd of December 2018.

Elder Josh Musih reminded Session of the planned Thanksgiving Day (November 22, 2018) Potluck Lunch.

Dr. Looker adjourned the meeting with prayer.

📣 ATTENTION!

Deadline for the February issue of FIRST and ForMOST is January 16, 2019. Please e-mail your announcements and reports to the Editor, Marta Strada, LUXI7777@aol.com, or put them in the FIRST and ForMOST drawer in the church office. Thank you.