



Herndon United Methodist Church

December 2004

From Our Pastors

Stumbling Through the Holidaze

"So this is Christmas, and what have you done?"

That's a line from a John Lennon song that's probably familiar to many of you. The song is kind of sappy, but the importance of that line has never been lost on me. Now don't get me wrong- I'm all in favor of the gifts, parties, and joy of the holiday season. But Christmas is more than that.

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ into the world, let's not forget why he came. Christmas is more than a party- it's a calling. Jesus calls us to know God better, and to build a relationship with God.

Jesus calls us to listen to his teachings and to follow him, no matter where he might lead us.

It seems to me to be no accident that we celebrate Christmas and the New Year so close together.

Christmas should be a time of reflection and self assessment. As you consider the birth of Christ, and what his presence in your life has meant, it might be time to do some soul-searching.

So during this joyous and increasingly busy time, pause a moment to ask yourself some questions: How is your relationship with God? Is Jesus being born anew in you this year? As we celebrate the Christ's presence, are you following his teachings and ways?

And when you're in the car, on your way home from the office Christmas party, take just a minute to ask yourself: So this is Christmas, and what have I done?

Strength and Wisdom,
Rev. Justin S. White

Christmas Orchestra Sunday *December 19, 2004* *Join us!*



The *Christmas Orchestra* tradition continues at HUMC! All players are invited to revive those old (and new!) instruments...strings, woodwinds, brass and percussion...and join us for the services on **Sunday, December 19, 2004** for this annual service of carols to ring in the Christmas season. Sign up for this orchestra on the list at the choir room door. Music for the service will be available for early pick-up in the choir room beginning on Sunday, December 4th. Our only rehearsal for this service will be on Saturday, December 18 at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Please join us and help raise the roof with the music of Christmas!

Tidbits

♦ The Herndon Free Clinic had a Community Appreciation Night on Nov. 4 at the Herndon Middle School. **Barb Black, Jean Recknell, Joy Reed and Judy Young** received certificates of appreciation but our own Barb Black received a special award. The *Eddie Hurley Award* was **presented to Barb** for training the vision screeners and for screening the children for vision problems. Great job, Barb.

♦ Sales of the *Loudoun County Woman's Shelter (LAWS)* house and women's pins during our Harvest Celebration, the weekend of October 23, amounted to 51 pins sold plus a donation, for the amount of \$717 for the shelter.

Explorer's Bible Class

God performed many miracles but what were his three greatest miracles? Without any one of the three miracles we would not have Christianity today. For an answer, come to our Monday night bible study beginning January 17, 2005. We will study "Every Miracle In the Bible". We meet from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Contact Rick Haugh (703.777.2360) for more information.





We wish you a glorious Holiday Season and a very happy New Year!



Blood Drive

We have our HUMC-Trinity Presbyterian Church winter blood drive **at HERNDON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** on Sunday morning, December 12 from 7:30 until 12:15. We need an extra large turnout for the holiday season. Anyone who is in good health, is at least 17 years old and has not donated since October 17 is encouraged to volunteer. For other restrictions; there is a requirement sheet beside the registration form on our kiosk in the narthex. If you were rejected in the past, please check to see whether you may now qualify.

Questions? Call Fred at 703/435-0020.



Herndon Free Clinic News

On Thursday Nov. 4 the Herndon Free Clinic held a Community Appreciation Night at Herndon Middle School. Certificates of Appreciation were given to volunteers Barb Black, Jean Recknell, Joy Reed and Judy Young. A special Eddie Hurley Award was given to our own Barb Black for her work with the vision screening program. A thank you to all our volunteers.



A big thank you to the ladies who have knitted hats, scarfs and gloves for the children. They are Mary Lou Blevins, Ruth Carter, Rhoda Celestine, Mary Jo Klinefelter and Jean Enzler. I apologize if I left you out. Please let me know.

I also want to thank the congregation for their generous donations of school supplies, toothbrushes and paste, small toys and stuffed animals. There is a container in the narthex for donations. The clinics are held all year.

Endowment Fund

As 2004 draws to a close the Endowment committee would like to remind the congregation of the opportunity to make a gift to our church that will keep on giving. The Endowment Fund can be used as part of long term estate planning as well as an end of the year tax reduction. We would like the congregation to feel free to contact the church office with any questions they may have about this opportunity to give. Please keep the Endowment Fund in your prayers as we all work towards a plan to make long term financial goals a reality.

Volunteers Needed

Vecinos Unidos Neighbors United Inc., a nonprofit organization is seeking volunteers for their after school Homework Assistance Program. No teaching experience is required, just a willingness to work with great kids in grades 1-8. Share your knowledge and encouragement with students who need your help with their daily homework and special projects.

Sessions:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons
(Pick the day(s) that work(s) for you!)

Time: 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Location: Neighborhood Resource Center
Dulles Park Mall-Herndon

(adjacent to Food Lion Grocery Store on Elden Street)

Substitutes are also needed and we would welcome anyone interested in occasionally volunteering. For more information on Vecinos Unidos' Homework Assistance Program please contact:

Barbara Sorenson (703)758-9687
email: bsorenso@ix.netcom.com



Prayer Chain New Information

If you or someone you know is in need of persons to be praying for them, please remember our Herndon United Methodist email prayer chain. You may express your need and activate this service through the following ways:

1. Fill out a prayer request form - found on the table in the narthex, on the kiosk and in the attendance notebooks in the sanctuary. Place the form in the box on the table.
2. Phone the church office at 703-471-0627 and share your request with the office manager. She can convey the information to the email prayer chain.
3. Visit the website for the church - www.herndonunitedmethodist.com - and click on "prayer." You will be able to send a request right from the site.
4. Send an email with your request to prayerchain@herndonunitedmethodist.com. Put "prayer request" in the subject line. **Please note that this is a new address for the prayer chain. Change your address books accordingly.**



We have approximately 50 persons on the email prayer chain list. Each of them is committed to praying for the requests that are made through the prayer chain.

Let us join with you in your prayers and bring them before the throne of our Almighty God.

James 5:16b -

The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

If you wish to be added to the prayer chain as a "pray-er" please contact the church office.

Allison Harbick
Prayer Ministries

Children's Programming Ministry



On December 5, the Children's Fellowship[groups will be going to Wolftrap for caroling. Coming up on December 12 is the Christmas pageant. A dessert social will follow. We ask those attending to share a finger food dessert (no forks or spoons necessary!). The Sunday School children will lead the 5:00 Christmas Eve service.

LINK News

***We still need your
Involvement!!***

How can you help LINK without spending any money? We've got a great idea for you—

We are still in *desperate need of a new LINK representative*. After 11 years of faithful, dedicated service to LINK, Carol Lavery is ready to take a much-deserved break. Won't you consider spending some of your free time serving as our HUMC LINK representative. Carol can give you the details and answer any of your questions. Please contact her at 703.437.7260 or Carol.Lavery@cox.net.

Ushers

CALLING FOR USHERS!

Yes, the Christmas Eve services are quickly approaching. We need four ushers for each of the four Christmas Eve services (5, 7, 9, & 11 PM). There is a sign up sheet on the ushers' stand in the narthex, or you can contact Shawn Boynton directly (shawn.boynton@dca.mil or 703-481-1132).





**We Would Like to Invite You to Our Next
DOORWAY CLASS**

*This is a chance for our New Members to get
acclimated to HUMC.*

WEDNESDAYS

6:30PM-8PM

JANUARY 12, 2005

JANUARY 19, 2005

JANUARY 26, 2005

FEBRUARY 2, 2005

THE ACTIVITY ROOM

*We invite all of our DOORWAY CLASS members to be the
guests of HUMC at our Wednesday night Fellowship Dinners
during the 4 weeks of class.*

Questions? Call or See Anne Harrison (703.471.0627)

Angel Tree Update

As we approach the Christmas holiday it becomes time for the Angel Tree again. This project benefits the Herndon Head Start children and their siblings. A lot of time and effort goes into making the tree work. Soon after school starts, members of Virginia Greear circle begin to gather information on the children from the schools. It usually takes up to a month to get all the data and verify that it is correct (does a 3 year old really wear a size 14?).

In the meantime, countless people trace, cut, and paint angels—we need hundreds. The Angel Tree goes up the Saturday after Thanksgiving (Nov. 27) and the gifts are due back no later than Sunday, Dec. 12. There is a good reason that due date is written on every angel. We inventory the gifts against our master list. **ANY GIFTS MISSING AT THIS POINT ARE PURCHASED ON MONDAY MORNING.** We are under a tight deadline because the teachers pick-up the gifts soon afterwards. **So please, please, please have the gifts to the church by Sunday 12/12.** The money we are spending to shop for missing presents could be used to benefit some of the more needy families. In the past, we have had parents ask for coats or bedding in lieu of toys for their children. If for some reason you can't get the gifts to church on the due date call one of us and we will come to pick them up. Thanks for making this wonderful project a part of this church!

Kim Nielsen 742-7939
Linda Anderson 437-9426



Special End-of- Year Giving



If anyone is interested in making a special end-of-the-year contribution to the church of securities, please call Mike Harper, a member of the HUMC Finance Committee, at 703-556-8135.

Building Update

Having just received the final approval, by the time you read this, we should be under construction! The estimate for completion is still set a one year.

While it will be thrilling to watch the changes occur, we ask for your patience with all the disruptions that will take place over the next year. There will be many planned disruptions which we will try to keep you apprised of (parking being the first challenge) and many unplanned (oops the electricity was cut). I think it's important to know that many times what would appear to be the "more reasonable" choice was not possible because of requirements mandated by the dozens of governing bodies our building committee must adhere to.

Please continue to pray for the committee as they begin the most challenging phase for the project. Take comfort in knowing we are lead by a well rounded group of professionals.

THANKS BE TO GOD!!

Please call with any questions or concerns.

Karen Walker for the building committee



Stephen Ministry Corner

Is God calling you help HIS hurting people? Is God telling you to seek someone to discuss your hurting with? Your HUMC Stephen Ministry is here for both situations. Please contact Shawn Boynton or Pastor Justin White if you wish to learn more about how Stephen Ministry may be able to help you with a hurting situation. And for those who feel a calling to help others, Stephen Ministry is looking for volunteers to join our ministry. Dave Young, one of your Stephen Ministers, explains Stephen Ministry as follows:

“Stephen Ministry Put Simply”

Let’s put it in plain English. Stephen Ministers are caring members of our congregation who meet with those who are dealing with all kinds of situations and circumstances. They aren’t therapists or counselors. They are simply fellow Christians who are there to listen and to demonstrate by their presence that our Lord and the church care about you. They are there to talk confidentially with you about the topics you present. They do not attempt to “cure” the situation. God is our curegiver. The Stephen Minister is simply a caring Christian who offers to listen to you, talk with you and be with you as you are walking through a special situation or circumstance. That is your Stephen Ministry put simply.”

We hope that you will always consider Stephen Ministry when life presents you with some bumps and also when you wish to share God’s love with others. Please contact Shawn Boynton or Pastor Justin White to discuss your Stephen Ministry at any time.

Meet Our New Members

Stephen Dunlap is originally from Honolulu, HI, works for Lockheed Martin and lives in Reston. His hobbies include biking, reading and spending time with his pet dog and boa (Barbie).

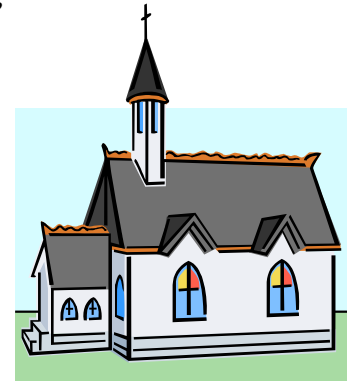
Harry Freedy and son Michael transferred from Dranesville United Methodist Church where Harry held many leadership positions. Michael is a freshman at Herndon High School and will find that he knows many of our youth.

Joe Hiller comes to us from Homer UMC in Homer, Michigan. When he is not at work at SAIC, he enjoys many hobbies including woodworking, electronics, and home repair. He has a **daughter, Anne, and a son, Charles**.

Jon and Kim Douglas, daughter Hannah (3 years) and Josh (9 months), have 2 cats (Buddy and Kitten). They love reading, hiking, fishing, and skiing. Jon works for iDirect Technologies as a Marketing Manager. Their favorite foods are Mexican and BBQ.

Sumun Contractor is a transfer from Bethelship UMC in Brooklyn, NY. She works as a teacher’s assistant at Rolling Ridge Elementary School and enjoys reading, gardening and cooking. She and her **husband, Bakulesh**, are happy to have as members of our church, their son and daughter-in-law, **Prakash and Arti, and grandson Aaron**.

Rita DeFilippo comes to us from Raleigh Court UMC in Roanoke, VA. She lives in Herndon with her **husband, Mike, and 2 daughters (Chloe, 2 ½ years, and Sophia, 2 months)** along with their pet fish, Pauley. Rita enjoys scrapbooking and photography and loves to eat chocolate and potatoes. Mike works at SAIC.





From Pastor David Manner

HUMC Staff Hold Retreat

Back at the end of September, your four full-time staff, David Manner, Justin White, Anne Harrison, and Cheryl Brock attended a one-day staff retreat led by Suzie Jones, a local consultant who trains business executives and church staff in understanding personality types and how various personality types interact with one another. The primary tool used by Ms. Jones is the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI), an instrument for measuring a person's preferences, using four basic scales with opposite poles.

The four scales are: (1) extraversion/introversion [Where, primarily, do you direct your energy? To the outer world of activity, and spoken words or To the inner world of thoughts and emotions], (2) sensate/intuitive, [How do you prefer to process information? In the form of known facts and familiar terms OR In the form of possibilities or new potential] (3) thinking/feeling, [How do you prefer to make decisions? On the basis of logic and objective considerations OR On the basis of personal values and (4) judging/perceiving. [How do you prefer to organize your life? In a structured way, making decisions and knowing where you stand or In a flexible way, discovering life as you go along.]

The various combinations of these preferences result in 16 personality types. Types are typically denoted by four letters--for example, INTJ (Introversion, Intuition with Thinking and Judging)--to represent one's tendencies on the four scales.

Here are the four types of your church staff: (it will be interesting to guess which type belongs to which staff person):

INFP

Quiet, reflective, and idealistic. Interested in serving humanity. Well-developed value system, which they strive to live in accordance with. Extremely loyal. Adaptable and laid-back unless a strongly-held value is threatened. Usually talented writers. Mentally quick, and able to see possibilities. Interested in understanding and helping people.

ENFJ

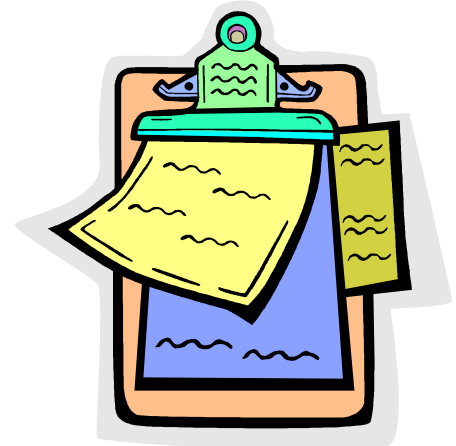
The ENFJ takes his/her energy from the outer world of actions and spoken words. He/she prefers dealing with patterns and possibilities, particularly for people, and makes decisions using personal values. His/her life is organized on a personal basis, seeking to develop and maintain stable relationships with those people he/she likes. He/she is actively concerned with promoting personal growth in others. He/she is also highly sociable, and expressive of feelings towards others, but can find conflict and criticism difficult, particularly if it might damage long term relationships. He/she works best in situations involving people.

ESFJ

Warm-hearted, popular, and conscientious. Tend to put the needs of others over their own needs. Feel strong sense of responsibility and duty. Value traditions and security. Interested in serving others. Need positive reinforcement to feel good about themselves. Well-developed sense of space and function.

ISFJ

Quiet, kind, and conscientious. Can be depended on to follow through. Usually puts the needs of others above their own needs. Stable and practical, they value security and traditions. Well-developed sense of space and function. Rich inner world of observations about people. Extremely perceptive of other's feelings. Interested in serving others.



Worship Services

Sundays

9:00 a.m. Worship Service and Nursery
10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery and Child Care

Saturdays

5:30 p.m. Saturday Nite Alive, Worship Service

Church Office:	703-471-0627
FAX Number:	703-471-7758
Preschool Office:	703-435-5688
David Manner	Senior Pastor
Justin White	Associate Pastor
Larry Burke	Director of Music
Teri Napoli	Director of Angel & Cherub Choirs
Anne Harrison	Director of Program Ministries
David Helveston	Director of Wesley Choir
Sarah Hooke	Organist
Deborah Burt	Director of Preschool
Cheryl Brock	Church Secretary/Office Manager
Church Website	http://www.herndonunitedmethodist.com
Prayer Chain	prayerchain@herndonunitedmethodist.com

*Want to know
more about
Stephen
Ministry?*

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January Newsletter Deadline - December 10th
You can e-mail your articles to: llombo@sigkit.com