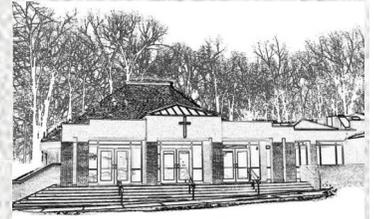


# The Parkwood Connection

A monthly publication by Parkwood Baptist Church

Developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ,  
fully involved in God's Kingdom work



APRIL 2014

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**Palm Sunday, April 13**  
Regular Schedule

**Wednesday Night, April 16**  
No Activities/Dinner  
Choir will practice

**Maundy Thursday, April 17**  
Service at 7:00 PM  
No ESOL Classes

**Easter Sunday, April 20**  
Deacon-led Sunrise Service 7:30 AM  
Followed by breakfast

Regular services at 9:00, 10:15, & 11:30 AM  
Sunday School at all three hours



## NATIVE AMERICAN MISSION CLOTHING DRIVE

Spring 2014 NAM Clothing and Shoe Drive: Once again we are collecting clothing to send to Native American churches in New Mexico. Every year your faithful donations have made a difference in the lives of so many who have so little. This year we will also be accepting donations of **new, unworn children's shoes**. Please keep in mind that all donations of used clothing must be in very good and clean condition, and we cannot accept clothing advertising alcohol or containing morally questionable words. We also cannot accept clothing with the name or logo of the Washington professional football team. Any questions can be directed to Tina Morris at [tmorris1@gmu.edu](mailto:tmorris1@gmu.edu).

Donations will be accepted April 23<sup>rd</sup> through May 7<sup>th</sup>. Please:

- Bag all clothing
- Tag the bag "NAM Clothing"
- Bring your bag to the church Welcome Area closet and place neatly inside.

If you prefer to make a financial contribution to Native American Missions, please make your payment to Parkwood Baptist Church and include "NAM" on the memo line and in the Designated Offering area of the offerings envelope. All financial contributions will be used to benefit a variety of needs of our Native American brothers and sisters, including Bibles translated into their Navajo language.



If you would like to know more about NAM and the Native American Missionary we support, Rose Ignacio, please visit the Parkwood website at [www.Parkwood.org](http://www.Parkwood.org) and go to the Missions page. And please continue to pray for our missionaries Rose Ignacio of Tinian Baptist Church, Tim Tsoodle of Carlisle Baptist Church, and all those who continue to minister to Native Americans in New Mexico.

## CELEBRATE CHRISTIAN LITERATURE

With Guest Speaker Pamela Gardner, Author of *Distressed But Not Destroyed*

Sunday, April 13, 2014

\*Lunch (optional) 12:45  
Program 1:15



Books may be purchased for \$12 each; \*lunch before the program is \$5. To register, please visit [www.parkwood.org](http://www.parkwood.org).



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Mekdes Carney	4/1
Jacob Hamacher	4/7
Lana Livingston	4/9
Leland Rushbrook	4/10
Addisen Madden	4/14
Isabell Byun	4/16
Damarys Vela	4/19
Chen-Chi Hwang	4/20
Bryant Park	4/24
Leo Miracle	4/26
Jack Worosz	4/28
Riley Welly	4/28
Chloe Dapaah	4/29
Keegan Sgro	4/29
Zachary Hamacher	4/29
Elijah O'Donoghue	4/30
Harrison Winters	4/30



## Art Class

The Art class has been a huge success! The children are very excited about learning and creating art that they will be selling to help offset their cost to attend CentriKid Camp. Donations are being collected for the Sunday art class that started in March. There is a donation box in the Crossroads on Sundays 9 AM-12 PM, and you can also drop off donations at the Church Office during the week. The following are items that can always be used:

- Elmer's Glue All (not the school glue)
- Box of Transparencies
- Masking Tape
- New Page Protectors (for 3-ring binders)
- Thin-tipped Sharpie Markers
- Glass or Plastic Jars with Lids (i.e. Peanut Butter Jars, Spaghetti Sauce Jars, Mason Jars)

## Thank You!

A special "Thank You" to Emily Jett, Zack Alexander, Cora Astin, Caleb Astin, Josiah Chapman, Ashely Portch and Sarah Bradley for your help with February's Funtastic Friday! The Children's Ministry appreciates your willingness to always volunteer.

## Game Night

Games, Pizza and Movie – Sunday, April 13, 4-9:00 PM

We will be hosting a Game Night for **3<sup>rd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Graders** in the Fellowship Hall. We will play games, eat pizza, and watch a movie with popcorn! We are planning on have loads of FUN; please feel free to bring your friends, as this is a time for all of us to fellowship with one another while having a blast! RSVP to Jenn Heiserman by Friday, April 11 to ensure we have plenty of food!

*Jenn Heiserman*  
 Director of Children's Ministries



Hey Parkwood Youth!

Come on out for Movie & Game Night with the Children's Ministry on Sunday, April 13, from 4:00 to 9:00 PM . Bring your friends and enjoy an evening of fellowship and fun! RSVP by April 11 to Jenn Heiserman at [JenniferH@parkwood.org](mailto:JenniferH@parkwood.org).

**Interested in helping with the Youth Ministry?** Our Ministry is growing and we have increasing opportunities to get involved! If you'd like to know more, please see the youth bulletin board (across from the Prayer Parlor), visit the Parkwood website, or email me at [ReedB@parkwood.org](mailto:ReedB@parkwood.org) for more details!

*Reed Bradley, Youth Director*

# Parkwood wee center

How wonderful it is to see Spring erupting all around us! It was a long winter for the WEE Center with many days off and late openings. As a result, we will be extending our school year into June. The children, families and teachers took advantage of the snow and turned the playground into a winter wonderland!

Thank you, thank you, and thank you for supporting the Silent Auction on March 21<sup>st</sup>. We hope you were able to enjoy the evening. The beautiful baskets were a big hit and the desserts were delicious. In addition, the WEE Center raised \$7,300 to provide tuition assistance to families seeking a Christian Preschool Program. The evening was enjoyed by all who attended.

This year's event was successful due to the outpouring of support from the Parkwood congregation. The Deacons, Life Application Sunday School Class and PrimeTimers donated bountiful baskets of goodies for the drawing. Several Sunday School classes and the Choir, as well as many individual Parkwood members, donated wonderful items and services to the Silent Auction. And members of the WEE Center Committee provided delicious desserts and worked tirelessly in countless other ways throughout the evening. Thank you for all your efforts!

We are continuing to accept registrations for our classes next year and have openings for children in most of our age groups. Please share the news with your friends who are looking for a Christ-centered developmental preschool program.

*Ann Lipton, WEE Center Director*

## PRIMETIMERS' LUNCHEON

**MONDAY, APRIL 21**

**11:30 AM**

**FELLOWSHIP HALL**

If you are 50+, we would love to have you join us!  
For more info, please contact Virginia Sandidge at  
[vsandidge@aol.com](mailto:vsandidge@aol.com) or 703.323.7537.

## Christian Yoga Spring Session March 31 - June 5



For information and  
registration, please visit  
[www.parkwood.org](http://www.parkwood.org).

## PARKWOOD HEALTHY CORNER

### Do You Know H2O?

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters." (Genesis 1:1-2) God's first creation on earth was WATER. He made it so all living things required water to live on earth.

"On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.'" (John 7: 37:38) God's greatest gift to us is LIVING WATER to cleanse our sins so that we can live forever.

If God made water first, and water the symbol of His greatest gift to us, then we must use it to grow His kingdom on earth. **How?**  
**By drinking it!**

#### Did you know...

- Roughly 80% of the human body is water, and the human brain is 85%.
- The average person in the US drinks less than a quart (32 ounces) of water a day.
- The average adult loses more than 80 ounces of water every day through sweating, breathing, and eliminating wastes.
- By the time a person feels thirsty, his body has lost over 1 percent of its total water amount.

Every system in your body depends on water, and if you are drinking less water than your body uses, it directly affects every system in your body and your overall health.

#### How much do I drink?

There is no one estimate for how much water the average American needs each day. Instead, the Institute of Medicine has set an adequate intake of 125 ounces (about 15 cups) for men and 91 ounces (about 11 cups) for women. Note that this is not a daily target, but a general guide. In most people, about 80% of this water volume comes from beverages; the rest comes from food. For additional information how water and how it affects your body, go to:

<http://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-living/nutrition-and-healthy-eating/in-depth/water/art-20044256>

*Father God, thank you for water. Help me to remember daily to drink water, so that I can maintain your temple (my body) here on earth so I am ready and ABLE to do your work when called.*

*Cheri Dickey* 

# April Birthdays

- 4/1 Isabella Hite
- 4/1 Guillermo Sarvia
- 4/2 Trevor Young
- 4/3 Gary Lindsay
- 4/4 Lois Runaldue
- 4/5 Tricia Barnes
- 4/5 William Rust
- 4/6 Kim Damico
- 4/7 Sara Higgins
- 4/7 Brian McCauley
- 4/8 Danyel Chaney
- 4/9 Laura Livingston
- 4/9 Aden O'Donoghue
- 4/9 William Wynia
- 4/11 Todd Buffington
- 4/12 Krista Caswell
- 4/12 Ruby Duran
- 4/15 Lori Taylor
- 4/17 Chelsea Chin
- 4/18 Donna Gibson
- 4/18 Samantha McAskill
- 4/22 Debi Buffington
- 4/23 Alicia Lippolis
- 4/24 Ann Whitehead
- 4/25 Mayra Mendoza
- 4/26 Mark Brown
- 4/26 Jacqueline Lopez
- 4/26 David Plunkett
- 4/27 Justin Duke
- 4/27 Jonathan Figley
- 4/27 Paige Vasser
- 4/29 Dana Beales
- 4/30 John Ng



## FROM THE DEACONS

Exciting things are happening in the life of Parkwood! Your deacons have been looking forward to the transition to three worship services, three Sunday Schools, and three opportunities to serve each Sunday. Please join us in keeping our pastors, our office staff, and the people of Parkwood in prayer as we continue to move forward.

We also are preparing for the Easter Sunrise Service and breakfast. We hope you will plan to join us! More information will be provided soon.

If you have a prayer request, or if you have a need that we can help you with, please feel welcome to contact one of your Parkwood deacons. We are here to serve you.

**Stuart Rust**  
**Deacon Chair**

Stewardship Report	
Budget Needs thru Feb 2014	\$ 192,392
Budget Received	\$ 134,115
Budget Expended	\$ 182,337
Difference	\$ (-48,222)
Building funds received thru Feb 2014	\$ 5,243

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR MISSIONARIES!

**April 4**  
Luke Seelinger  
(son of Kevin & Chrissy Seelinger, serving with Young Life in West Virginia)



**April 23**  
Chrissy Seelinger  
(Young Life)  
  
Rowan Miles  
(son of Corbin & Stacy Miles, serving in Scotland)



Michael Heiserman  
Alejandra and Gustavo Lopez & Family



Dear Parkwood Family,

Thank you for the outpouring of love shown to us during the illness and passing of our daughter, Linda Poe Fesmire. Your prayers, cards, and personal expressions of sympathy meant so much during this time of grief.

It's a real comfort having Christian friends who share our grief.

Harvey and Charlotte Poe





*A fellow disciple on the Way...*

## *Singing God's Goodness*

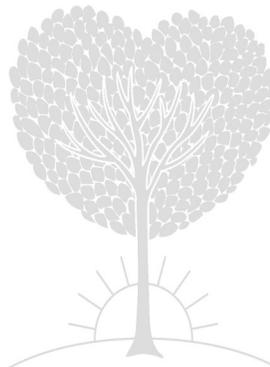
*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever! Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever! Give thanks to the Lord of lords. His love endures forever! To him who alone does great wonders. His love endures forever! Who by his understanding made the heavens. His love endures forever! Who spread out the earth upon the waters. His love endures forever! Who made the great lights. His love endures forever! The sun to govern the day. His love endures forever! The moon and stars to govern the night. His love endures forever! To him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt. His love endures forever! And brought Israel out from among them. His love endures forever! With a mighty hand and outstretched arm. His love endures forever! To him who divided the Red Sea asunder. His love endures forever! And brought Israel through the midst of it. His love endures forever! But swept Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea. His love endures forever! To him who led his people through the desert. His love endures forever! Who struck down great kings. His love endures forever! And killed mighty kings. His love endures forever! Sihon king of the Amorites. His love endures forever! And Og king of Bashan. His love endures forever! And gave their land as an inheritance. His love endures forever! An inheritance to his servant Israel. His love endures forever! To the One who remembered us in our low estate. His love endures forever! And freed us from our enemies. His love endures forever! And who gives food to every creature. His love endures forever! Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever! (Psalm 136)*

This psalm is a litany of praise! Like its companion poem (Psalm 135), this psalm reviews Israel's history and combines citations from other traditional evocations of the Creator God, the Master of nature and history. It is unique among the Psalms because of the recurring refrain "His love endures forever!" which is repeated throughout all 26 verses of the Psalm. The British Baptist preacher C. H. Spurgeon once remarked, "We shall have this [refrain] repeated in every verse of this song, but not once too often."

The Lord is Himself goodness! The poem invites Israel to give thanks to God for all that He has accomplished, despite the presence of evil. Israel must give thanks to God for His goodness in creating the world, in the Exodus, wilderness, and conquest. The Creator God is an intelligent architect who formed the great luminaries: the sun, moon, and stars, whose seasonal alternations produce the life cycles of the calendar. Israel's slavery in Egypt and the plagues led to divine salvation. The killing of the Egyptian firstborn and kings in the poem may jar our modern sensibilities. While that act does not seem like "enduring love," and the victims certainly did not perceive it as such, it still demonstrated God's goodness for an oppressed Israelite.

Psalm 136 is a great reminder that despite our own sin, evil, and imperfections, God is infinitely good, perfect, and unchanging. When we focus on the goodness of God we are awestruck by His abiding love and compassion for us. Humanity has witnessed the abundance of His goodness through our Lord's incarnation. It is Christ, offered to us freely, that articulates the profound love of God. So when we are going through pain, hardship, facing death, or even suffering, let us remember that "His love endures forever!"

*Pastor Daniel*



# A P R I L

## **At-A-Glance**

April 5-6

Young Men in Action Overnight Outing

April 12

Women's Circle Breakfast

April 13

Palm Sunday

Celebrate Christian Literature Youth & Children's Movie/Game Night

April 14

Book Group

April 16

No Wednesday Night Dinner or Activities

April 17

Maundy Thursday  
No ESOL

April 20

Easter Sunday

April 21

PrimeTimers' Luncheon

April 25

D-Now Youth Retreat (through 4/27)  
Women's Ministry Craft Night

April 26

Men's Prayer Breakfast  
Grounds Work Day

April 27

Quarterly Business Celebration

### **Upcoming Prayer Breakfasts**

**Women's Ministry—April 12**

**Men's Ministry—April 26**



- Canned Meats
- Jelly
- Condiments
- Diapers (all sizes)
- Baby Wipes
- Infant Formula
- Baby Food
- Canned Beef Stew
- Tuna
- Canned Milk
- Rice
- Cereal
- Oatmeal
- Breakfast Bars
- Peanut Butter
- Instant Potatoes
- Spaghetti Sauces
- Pasta
- Soups
- Canned Ravioli
- Boxed Dinners
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Boxed Juices
- Juice/Drinks
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Vegetables
- Powdered Milk

*Please remember to check expiration dates. Thank you!*

**PARKWOOD.....On Mission**



Please be in prayer for our missionaries in the field:

Corbin & Stacy Miles  
Youth With A Mission (YWAM), Scotland

David & Katherine Liddle  
Wycliffe International, Germany

Jako & Amber Joubert  
Mission of Love Orphanage, Zambia

Jared & Noelle Smith  
Campus Crusade for Christ  
Inner City Ministry

Kevin Seelinger  
Young Life, West Virginia

Rose Ignacio  
Native American Missions (NAM),  
New Mexico

For more information about Parkwood's missions, please visit the website at [www.parkwood.org](http://www.parkwood.org).



*Hunger Committee*

Isaiah 58:10 says, "...and if you spend yourself in behalf of the hungry...then your light will shine in the darkness." Parkwood has spent itself in behalf of the hungry, and the Hunger Committee gives thanks to everyone who participated in our annual *Love A Hungry World Bake Sale* by either by baking, buying, or donations. You may continue to spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry by donating to the food closet to replenish the goods that go out to help those in our community.

The committee is also looking for some more helping hands. If you would like to join our team, please email me at [mqibson2@cox.net](mailto:mqibson2@cox.net)

Blessings,

*Sharon Gibson*

*Hunger Committee Chair*



**SANDY REBUILD MISSIONS TRIP**

May 14-17, 2014

Long Island, New York

**LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP – ONLY A FEW SLOTS LEFT!** The project includes construction but there are light jobs such as cleaning and painting as well. The cost is \$15 per night and includes food.

For more information, please visit [www.namb.net/Sandy](http://www.namb.net/Sandy). You may also email Bryce Stokes at [bstokes@cox.net](mailto:bstokes@cox.net).



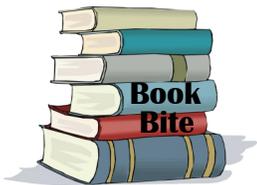
SAVE THE DATE!

**GROUNDS  
WORK DAY**

Saturday, April 26  
8 AM - NOON

Come out for several hours of spring clean-up work on the grounds. Just bring your rakes, leaf blowers, and other tools. The grounds team will also supply tools...and the work list!





*Distressed But Not Destroyed:  
The Story of Andrea—  
God's Assignment*  
by Pamela Gardner

Please plan to attend the Celebrate Christian Literature luncheon program in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, April 13 at 12:45 PM, featuring Pamela Gardner. As we finish up the light lunch offered for \$5 per person, Pam will share with us how she learned to stand in the hope of 2 Corinthians 4:8: "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair...." (KF21)

Pam and her husband Allan, a traveling evangelist, moved from their native Australia to Chicago, Illinois with their small son and 8-month-old daughter, Andrea. Here Allan studied at the Moody Bible Institute, and Andrea underwent heart surgery which led to her subsequent brain damage. Andrea's seizures became a regular part of life in the Gardner home.

Several ministerial opportunities for Allan brought the growing family home to Australia, then back to the United States. Allan accepted the Pastorate at McLean Bible Church, settling in for 10 years, which gave Andrea an opportunity to have more routine in her schedule, longer family times with her dad (who was no longer traveling so much), and some extraordinary teachers who were truly called to teach special education. Allan later became International Director for Ambassadors for Christ International and continues to travel for AFCI to date.

When Pam accepted Christ as her Lord at age 13 and committed her life to the Lord for missions at 16, she had no idea that she would travel the world for Him. Nor did she know that she would have her own mission under the roof of their home when she and Allan married in 1955. But Pam knew then and still knows now that "the name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and is safe" (Proverbs 18:10 NAS).

There is so much more to Pam's story. Please don't miss this opportunity to hear how her journey of adversity laced with joy has been used by God to inspire, encourage and change lives in many countries. In fact, the book is available in Romanian, and a Spanish translation will be available soon!

**Register online or in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings before April 9 to reserve your place at the table. Books are available for \$12.**



Next Meeting  
**Monday, April 14  
10:30 AM**  
*The Damascus Way*  
by Davis Bunn and Janette Oke

## ILLUMINATIONS

### *Unspeakable Joy: Facing Your Fears*

*I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. (John 15:11)*

Several months ago, I rode down two stories in a see-through mall elevator all by myself. To some, that may sound ridiculously comical, but to me it was a huge accomplishment. You see, I had faced one of my worst fears: the fear of heights. And I experienced the kind of personal joy that is akin to the testimonies of people who win the lottery. It is not only the big feats in life that bring us joy, but often it is those personal but measured accomplishments that do. Though at times others may benefit from what we do, we should face some of our fears just for our own joy.

When was the last time you challenged yourself to that kind of joy? It is a lot more meaningful if the motivation starts with you. Some years ago, I was bribed into getting into one of those rickety Eiffel Tower elevators that sky-rocketed to the top. I had to stay up there for an hour, and I nearly lost my mind. What is worse, I had not accomplished anything, except the memory of having appeased someone else. But that see-through elevator ride at the mall did *wonders* for me.

What new or renewed venture would you like to experience simply because of the pure pleasure that might come from it? You should stock up on those kinds of joyous moments, because they will give you glorious nuggets to relish when the challenges of life are weighing on you. Maybe it is time to dust off that old high school band instrument. Men, how about taking a knitting class so that you can knit that grand-baby, or your infant niece or nephew, a cute little blanket? Who says that a female has to do it? These are mere suggestions, but in order to be joyous, the impetus needs to generate from within your own soul. I sometimes think that we lose the true flavor of life because we forget to marinate those more serious and demanding items in spontaneous, fun, and yes, even scary adventures.

Our lives tend to be too structured, leaving little room for the *mindless behavior* of life's simplest risks. Perhaps we think too hard and talk ourselves out of facing our fears. But let me be reasonable here. My fear of rodents is one that I have no desire to overcome, but attacking other fears can yield great benefits for me. Jesus shed a lot of blood so that our joy may be complete. Yet we often forfeit that joy by taking life too seriously. Do something that scares you, but that will make you literally laugh out loud at yourself once you accomplish it. That is exactly what I did when I walked out of that **glass** elevator. I laughed out loud.

Always wishing you joy - *Denise Lewis Christopher*



**Parkwood Baptist Church**

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**Dr. Daniel Dapaah**  
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*Ministry Assistant*  
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**Return Service Requested**

**Signing Up For Life!**

*"...but because Jesus lives forever, He has a permanent priesthood. Therefore He is able to save forever those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them." (Hebrews 7:24, 25)*

Becoming a follower of Jesus is a wonderful decision that begins a journey that lasts a lifetime and forever. It begins in a moment when old things are passed away and "all things become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Jesus referred to it as being "born again" (John 3:3) when He was talking to Nicodemus. We are all familiar with God's saving grace that brings us eternal life. But, many only think of salvation as a one time event. I call this a "revival mentality." It sees the initial salvation event as a "one time" or "stand alone" event. Like the revivals of old, we bring them in and get them saved and we're done.

However, the Bible gives a different view of the salvation experience. Yes, the initial salvation experience is a "one time" event. As Jesus said, it is being born again. New life has begun. Our eternal life is secured in an instant, but it is only the beginning of a forever journey with our Lord. The Scripture tells us that Jesus continually intercedes for us. Like any relationship, we are always growing closer to God and becoming more and more what God has intended us to be. The Gospel is not just the beginning...it is the beginning, the middle and the ending. As a believer you are in it for the long haul...but no worries, Jesus is there too!

Blessings,

