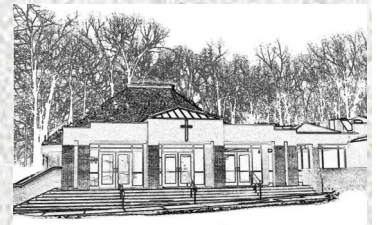


The Parkwood Connection

A monthly publication by Parkwood Baptist Church

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



MAY 2014



Wednesday, May 21

*Join Parkwood & WEE Center Families to
Celebrate the Beginning of Summer!*

- ☆ Grilled meat & drinks provided by the church
- ☆ Families bring side dishes, salads, desserts
(enough for your family and to share w/8 people)
- ☆ Live Music, Kids' Activities, & more!

*This will be the last regularly scheduled dinner
until the Fall. More details coming soon!*

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

**Saturday, May 31
6-8 PM**

*Come celebrate Parkwood's diversity with great
food, live music, and more!*

Sign up to represent a country or state of your choice!
Consider preparing food for sampling, providing a display
with information about your country (dress, flag, map,
games, other items, etc.), or performing music or a
traditional folk dance from your country. You may register
at www.parkwood.org under "Events and Activities," or
contact Patty Jett at Pattyj@parkwood.org.



NATIVE AMERICAN MISSION CLOTHING DRIVE

Just a reminder that our Spring clothing drive for Native American churches in New Mexico missions runs through May 7!
In addition to clothing, this year we are also taking 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, containing morally questionable words, or featuring the name or logo of the Washington professional football
team. 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 have any questions, please contact Tina Morris at tmorris1@gmu.edu.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

5/2 Chen-Yang Hwang
 5/3 Ana Ruth Velasquez
 5/4 Bob Kaplan
 5/4 Fred Kaplan
 5/11 Kellie Ann Phillis
 5/12 JC Weirsky
 5/12 Noah Bradley
 5/14 Evi Smith
 5/14 Hassan Carter
 5/15 Erik Hyde
 5/19 Destiny Morris
 5/27 Tiffany Park
 5/28 Mallory McKnight
 5/29 Claire Gunraj

Funtastic Friday - Funtastic Friday is May 2 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. Hidden Pond Nature Center will be coming to Parkwood! You will not want to miss this event to see live reptiles up close! You can register on Parkwood's website under "Events and Activities"; please RSVP by April 30.

VBS Mini Preview – First Mission of Agency D3: Rendezvous at Parkwood on Sunday, May 4 at 18:00 (6:00 PM). Special Agents in Charge (aka teachers and volunteers), come out to see what Agency D3 is all about and where your next assignment may be!

CentriKid Art Silent Auction – On Sunday, May 18 (between services) and Wednesday, May 21 (during the Wednesday night dinner), come see the masterpieces that have been created in the CentriKid Art class! All proceeds from the silent auction will help offset costs for the 14 children who will be attending CentriKid Camp in June.

M Group – Our M Group was involved in two mission projects in April. The children decorated lunch bags for "Hot Meals," and helped stuff bears that will be given to children that are in the hospital. They are enjoying and having fun being involved in missions right here in Annandale! We will have our last M Group for this school year on Wednesday, May 21.

VBS – Registration is underway for Agency D3! From July 21 to July 25, 9:00 AM–12:00 PM, the children will Discover, Decide and Defend who Jesus is! This is one VBS you will not want to miss! Please register on Parkwood's website under "Events and Activities."

Exciting Music News - Summer Children's Music Program will be starting up in June on Wednesday evenings!

Jenn Heiserman, Director of Children's Ministries



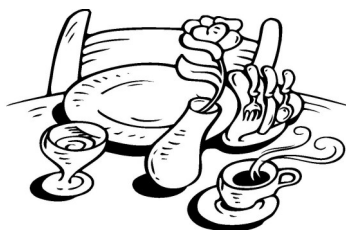
M Group proudly displays bears they stuffed for one of their mission projects in April.



PRIMETIMERS' LUNCHEON

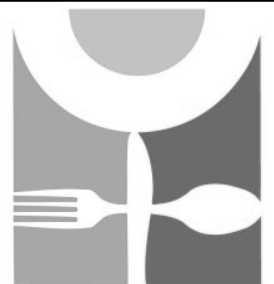
**MONDAY, MAY 19
 11:30 AM**

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 or 703.323.7537.

Upcoming Prayer Breakfasts



Women's Ministry—May 10

Men's Ministry—May 24

Parkwood wee center

Registration for 2014-2015 Continues

The WEE Center is accepting registration forms for next school year. We currently have openings for children ages 16 months to 5 years old. Please share this information with family, friends and neighbors who are looking for a Christ-centered preschool. The WEE Center provides children with balanced tools for learning and socializing. Through hands-on activities and play, we encourage a relationship with Christ and a love for learning.

R
is for
Registration



Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

Thursday, May 22
Let us celebrate you!! Come to the appreciation breakfast on May 22 for all of our church and parent volunteers. If you volunteered with the WEE Center during this school year, please join us so we can thank you for your commitment to this

ministry. More information will be published in the Sunday bulletin soon.

Summer Camp

"Taste and See that the Lord is good" Psalm 34:8

Summertime Senses!
Monday, June 9 – Friday, June 13
10 AM – 2 PM
\$150

A non- refundable registration fee of \$15 is required

Open to **all** WEE Center children, as well as any 3 to 5-year-old child who is potty-trained.

This year in WEE Center Summer camp we will be exploring the season using all our senses! Join in the fun as we discover the wonderful sights, sounds, tastes and scents of Summer! Pick up a flyer from the Church Office to learn more about it!

Ann Lipton, WEE Center Director



Hello Parkwood!

This month we have our Tribal Game Night on May 2! Tribal Game Nights are special game nights for our youth which take place after Funtastic Friday. During these exhilarating team competitions two tribes compete to become champions of the night. These aren't limited to the typical party games many youth may have played before, and many take some inspiration from the show *Survivor*. Register online or call the Church Office!



On May 3 we also have another event with our Young Men in Action Program! For more information contact Sam Ferguson at SamF@parkwood.org or call the church office!
Support the Youth: Become a Kingdom Investor!

Some of you have already begun to participate in our new Kingdom Investment Program by becoming Kingdom Investors. Our new program helps to sponsor youth toward mission service in our local church body, and into the community at large. Our youth have already begun to serve and we would like you to partner with us in this endeavor!

To become a Kingdom Investor, simply sign up and contribute \$100 toward the program. This investment goes toward sponsoring the youth in service within our community. The events will be many and varied, ranging from helping at a soup kitchen to light construction work to aid members of our community on behalf of Parkwood. Every student who signs up for our summer mission camp will be required to complete two such events in order to go on the summer trip. For those of you who were wondering about sponsoring a youth toward their summer mission trip, the Kingdom Investment Program also goes toward sponsoring the youth in this way!

If you are interested in becoming a Kingdom Investor, please contact me at ReedB@parkwood.org or call the church office at 703.978.8160. We are looking for 50 people to partner with us in this endeavor. Thank you so much for your prayers and support!

Reed Bradley, Youth Director

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Kingdom Investment Events!

May 3 - Saturday Morning Table cleaning
May 21 - Family Fiesta set up/serving/clean-up
May 31 - International Dinner- set up/clean up

For more details and information contact Reed Bradley @ Reedb@parkwood.org, or call the church offices.



MAY Birthdays

5/1	Bonnie Hansen
5/1	Patrick Hansen
5/2	Ashley Whitehead
5/3	Erin Donnelly
5/3	May Chin
5/3	Michael Tirre
5/4	Col. Mark Chapin
5/5	Cheryl Bailes
5/5	Carolyn Butler
5/5	Jacob Purvis
5/5	Sam Vera
5/6	Clifton Dickey
5/7	Ray Antosh
5/9	Samantha Jones
5/10	Chris Bruins
5/10	Julianne Sandidge
5/11	Derrick Chin
5/11	Scott Wade
5/12	Janet Rust
5/12	Karen Potter
5/13	Allison Queen
5/13	Christi Jones
5/13	Mary Hill
5/13	Stephen Rust
5/14	Andrew Chandran
5/15	Maria Zabaleta
5/15	Lance Sumner
5/16	Anne Anderson
5/16	Matt Brower
5/18	Anabela Ferguson
5/19	Bailey Brandt
5/19	Kristina Stanton
5/20	Patti Hunt
5/22	Melba Martinez
5/23	Justin Mallette
5/24	Denise Christopher
5/26	Bridget Chapin
5/26	Christopher Whitehead
5/26	Evaristo Rosales
5/27	Keith Maynard
5/27	Terri Swanson
5/28	Ric Trimillos
5/29	Jennifer Amos
5/31	Becky Scroggin

FROM THE DEACONS

Do you have a prayer request?

The deacons support a very active prayer ministry. If you have a prayer request, please do not hesitate to talk to one of your deacons or contact the church office. If you prefer, we will put your request on our "close hold" list that no one sees except the deacons and the pastors. If you have a "close hold" prayer request, please talk to any deacon or pastor.

Parkwood also has a church-wide prayer list. Please contact the church office if you have a prayer request you would like to be put on the church-wide prayer list.

Stuart Rust
Deacon Chair



Stewardship Report

Budget Needs thru Mar 2014	\$ 288,587
Budget Received	\$ 219,800
Budget Expended	\$ 268,295
Difference	\$ (-48,495)
Building funds received thru Mar 2014	\$ 9,611



pbc.me

For online giving options and serving opportunities, please log onto pbc.me at www.parkwood.org.

If you are using electronic giving and no longer wish to receive offering envelopes, please notify the Church Office at ChurchAdmin@parkwood.org.



Andrea Shimer

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
OUR MISSIONARIES!**

May 9

Caleb Hoskins
(Son of Tabitha & Ben Hoskins, Asia)

May 16

Boston Miles
(Son of Stacy & Corbin Miles, Scotland)





A fellow disciple on the Way...

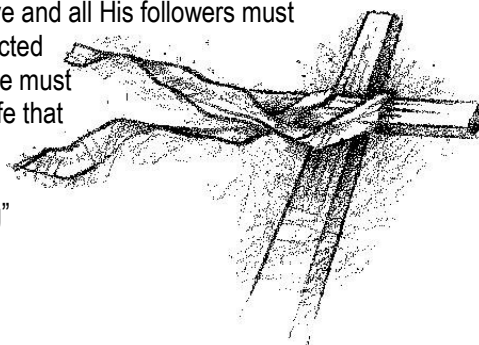
The Cross: Substitution or Participation?

"Jesus called them together and said, 'You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many'" (Mark 10:42-45 NIV).

The above passage marks the third time that Jesus *predicts* His impending death to the disciples in Mark's Gospel (8:31-38; 9:31-37; 10:33-45). Each of the three passion predictions is followed by the disciples' *reaction* (their failure to understand or accept it fully) and Jesus' *response* (an explanation of what is involved for Jesus, for the disciples, and for all future followers). While the disciples are not being called to *physically* pass through death to resurrection alongside Jesus in Jerusalem, *metaphorically* their death-to-resurrection experience will be one of paradoxical leadership in the new community of faith. The ethos of the new Christian community will not be the same as that of the world from which they have been called. They will not act like those in authority in the Gentile world who rule as lords, kings, and tyrants. Rather, they are called to follow the servant-leadership model of Jesus Christ; they are to lead like a child, a servant, a slave.

It is probably fair to say that most contemporary Christians, especially in the Western hemisphere, primarily understand the sacrificial and salvific death of Jesus as *substitutionary atonement* for the world. The controlling metaphor for that understanding is our own experience of a responsible human judge who, no matter how loving, cannot clear the docket of all offenders by anticipatory forgiveness. According to the theological interpretation of *substitutionary atonement*, our offense is such that no amount of finite human punishment or sacrifice can atone or appease the wrath of an infinite God. God therefore sends His only divine Son as punishment for our sin. As a result of Christ's death, God's forgiveness is now freely available for all repentant sinners. While this interpretation has merit and is certainly warranted by Scripture, I wonder if this is the only and maybe the best metaphor for understanding God. What about the metaphor of God as a loving Parent, whose non-punitive forgiveness has always been and will always be accessible to the penitent? Jesus instructs us in the Lord's Prayer to call God "our Father" (Matt 6:9-15; Luke 11:2-4; cf. Gal 4:6).

In the death of Jesus, we are offered an example of how to simultaneously embrace divine forgiveness and establish a positive union with God as loving Parent. Since Jesus is the ultimate revelation of God, the Father, it is only by *participating* in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus that a saving "*at-one-ment*" is possible. In Mark, Jesus persistently teaches that the Twelve and all His followers must pass with Him through death to a resurrected life. Yes, He has *substituted* for us, but we must *participate* in that transition with Him. A life that is transformed is one that accepts the *substitutionary* death of Jesus and is willing to *participate* in His life by "abiding" in Him (John 15:1-11).



Pastor Daniel



At-A-Glance

May 2

Funtastic Friday, 5:30 PM
Youth Tribal Game Night, 7:30 PM

May 3

Young Men in Action Overnight Outing

May 4

VBS Mini Preview, 6 PM

May 6

PrimeTimers' Outing, 7 AM

May 10

Women's Prayer Breakfast, 9 AM

May 11

Mother's Day

May 12

Book Group, 10:30 AM

May 13

Sandy Rebuild Mission Trip
(through May 18)

May 19

PrimeTimers' Luncheon, 11:30 AM

May 21

Family Fiesta

May 23

Women's Ministry Craft Night, 7 PM

May 24

Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 AM

May 26

Memorial Day - Church Office Closed

May 31

Biker Rally & Blessing, 10 AM
International Night, 6 PM





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

SANDY REBUILD MISSIONS TRIP

May 14-17, 2014
Long Island, New York

Please pray for our missions team, *The Parkwood Pounders*, who are traveling to Long Island this month to assist in repairing homes and restoring communities damaged by Hurricane Sandy.

For more information, please visit www.namb.net/Sandy. You may also email Bryce Stokes at bstokes@cox.net.



Hunger Committee



STOP HUNGER NOW

On August 2nd, Parkwood will again host a Stop Hunger Now packaging event. We will have our quarter tubes available the last Sunday in June. Our VBS donation this year will go to help with Stop Hunger Now, and the Missions Committee has again graciously said that they will match whatever our VBS families donate. It is a great privilege to be able to help our community and our world with such an outreach.

Blessings,

Sharon Gibson

Hunger Committee Chair

PARKWOOD HEALTHY CORNER

NO EXCUSES!

What excuses (aka, lies disguised as reasons) have you made about getting healthy? Notice I didn't say dieting, because God does not command us to diet. He commands us to maintain our bodies, which is more than dieting for a short time. "Each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor." (1 Thessalonians 4:4)

I had excuses too - "I am too busy with my children," "God loves me just the way I am," "I will start tomorrow," "I am doing better than some people I know," "I was born this way," and many others. It is so easy for me to blame someone else for my own actions and inactions or to convince myself I am good enough.

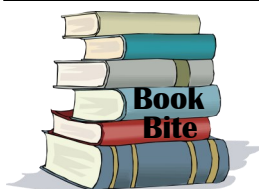
They were just excuses. I was not born fat; I was not too busy to eat right and spend 30 minutes a day doing some type of physical activity; tomorrow never comes; it does not matter about anyone else because God commands me to possess my vessel; and although God always loves me, that does not mean it doesn't hurt Him when I am sinning. And most importantly, my disobedience was holding God back from doing great things in my life. God wants more for YOU and me than good enough in all things.

But we have to stop making excuses...stop hiding behind the bush as God walks through the Garden while we are wearing our excuses. God knows the secrets of our hearts; He knows our excuses are lies and we know it too. "You know my folly, O God, my guilt is not hidden from you." (Psalm 69:5)

So commit today to stop making excuses...to begin a lifestyle change one step at a time to honoring God with your mind, BODY, and soul. For more information on how to start, check out our own Parkwood Library - we have books on healthy living in both English and Spanish.

"Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him." (John 14:21) Are you ready to show your love for God today by living a healthy life?

Cheri Dickey



Celebrate Christian Literature: *Past and Future*

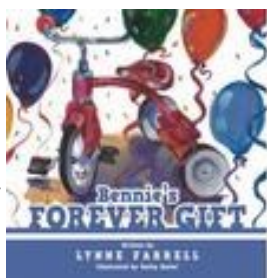
By Mary Kelly

April 13, 2014 was a special day at Parkwood. Pamela Gardner and her husband Allan, former International Director of Ambassadors for Christ International, joined us to share her story of *Distressed but not Destroyed: Andrea, God's Assignment*.

Those attending the luncheon program were treated to Pam's candid delivery of dealing with life's disappointments while never losing sight of God's plan. Pam shared honestly about the day-to-day difficulties of rearing a child with special needs when her husband was frequently away sharing the Gospel far from their home.

While you may not have had the pleasure of enjoying Pamela's journey firsthand, or her delightful accent, you can pick up the book in Parkwood's library. The book is well written, easy to read and extremely inspirational.

The Celebrate Christian Literature team is already at work making October's event equally enjoyable when we have Lynne Farrell, author, and Kathy Dache, illustrator, of the children's book *Bennie's Forever Gift*. Be sure to save Sunday, October 26 for some childlike fun!



Next Meeting
Monday, May 14
10:30 AM
*Praying Circles
Around Your Children*
by Mark Batterson



ILLUMINATIONS

A Hefty Toll

I assumed that I was saving money when I booked a hotel in a little town called Saddle Brook, New Jersey, rather than in Manhattan while attending an admitted students' event at Columbia University with my son. But I was quickly reminded that sometimes we pay a heavy toll for making assumptions. In my haste, I had not counted the cost nor weighed all of my options. Every time I crossed that George Washington Bridge from New Jersey into Manhattan, I had to pay a \$13 dollar toll, not to mention the extra cost of gas, and a steep parking garage fee when I was not lucky enough to find street parking near the campus. Then there was the added stress of trying to navigate heavy nighttime rush-hour traffic with a cell phone GPS system that was registering delayed responses that caused me to miss turns and exits more than a few times. Coupled with my poor night time vision, I was a nervous wreck! Ahhh! We pay a heavy toll for making assumptions.

Now that I have recuperated, I am laughing at myself. I do that when my silly mistakes frustrate me. Sometimes though, it is no laughing matter. I have made other mistakes just because I assumed that I was in the will of God, so I did not bother to consult Him beforehand. Shamefully, I even did it concerning marriage; not once, but twice. My decision *seemed* spiritual enough both to me and to those well-meaning people within my sphere of influence, so I just went with it. But life has taught me that we pay a steep price when we make big decisions without God's direct guidance.

As a result of Solomon's prayer to God, *Give me wisdom and knowledge, (2 Chronicles 1:10)*, the Bible says, *The Lord gave Solomon wisdom, just as he had promised him. (1 Kings 5:12)*. Notice that Solomon asked, first.

I know that the shortest distance between two points is a straight line. But when we are about to enter unfamiliar territory, as I did last week, it is always in our best interest to seek Godly wisdom... *first*. Otherwise, the so-called shortest distance can turn out to be a very long, stressed-filled journey filled with many frustrating loops.

In the end, the universe must have corrected itself because my trip found its own beautiful balance, despite myself. I attended a few great lectures on engineering. I met other prospective parents. I got to experience my son's excitement about the school and meeting new friends. I found a great flea market and I even got a chance to get a taste of uptown Manhattan. Somehow my mistake forgave me, but only because I surrendered to the embedded lessons.

Here is my counsel to you. When embarking upon unfamiliar territory of *any* life venture, seek God first, unless you are willing to pay a hefty toll.

Always wishing you joy - *Denise Lewis Christopher*



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PAGE 8

"Here a missionary...there a missionary...everywhere a missionary"

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

What is a missionary? When I was growing up, a missionary was someone sent to another country to tell people about Jesus. We prayed for them as they sacrificed the comforts of home for the sake of the Gospel. As I grew older, I realized that this definition needed to include those who were sent out but within our own country. Then, as I studied the Scripture, I became aware that all believers were called to be missionaries no matter where they were.

According to the Scripture above, we are all empowered by the Holy Spirit to be witnesses! That is the simple definition of a missionary...a witness to what Christ has done in our lives. This mission begins right where you are and then has ripple effects into the world around you. We are on mission here at Parkwood and every member is called, equipped and sent out to be a part of God's Kingdom work in our church, in our community, and in the world! In other words, we have a church FULL of missionaries!

So the question isn't, "Am I a missionary?" The question is, "What kind of missionary am I?"



Blessings,

Pastor Mike

