

Church Calendar

Sun Jan 1 11 a.m. 5 p.m.	Worship - The Lord's Supper Yoga
Mon Jan 2 New Year's holiday	GPC Offices closed
Tue Jan 3 10 a.m.	Knitting Group
Sun Jan 8 9:30 a.m. 10 a.m. 11 a.m. 12 p.m. 5 p.m. 5 p.m. 5 p.m.	Adult Issues Sunday School for all ages Worship Lunch Bunch Confirmation Class Youth Group Yoga
Tue Jan 10 9:30 a.m. 10 a.m.	Staff Meeting Knitting Group
Sun Jan 15 9:30 a.m. 10 a.m. 11 a.m. 12 p.m. 5 p.m. 5 p.m.	Adult Issues Class Sunday School for all ages Worship Lunch Bunch No Confirmation Class/Youth Group Yoga
Mon Jan 16 MLK B'day holiday	GPC Offices closed
Tue Jan 17 9:30 a.m. 10 a.m.	Staff Meeting Knitting Group
Thurs Jan 19 12 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Georgetown Clergy Association meeting Session Meeting
Sat Jan 21 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Deacons' Retreat
Sun Jan 22 9:30 a.m. 10 a.m. 11 a.m. 12 p.m. 5 p.m. 5 p.m. 5 p.m.	Adult Issues Class Sunday School for all ages Worship Lunch Bunch Confirmation Class Youth Group Yoga
Tue Jan 24 9:30 a.m. 10 a.m.	Staff Meeting Knitting Group
Thurs Jan 26 7:30 p.m.	Young Adult Bible Study
Sat Jan 28 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 7 p.m.	Reformed Institute Convocation at NPC Music for Mission - <i>Children of Uganda</i>
Sun Jan 29 9:30 a.m. 10 a.m. 11 a.m. 12 p.m. 12 p.m. 5 p.m. 5 p.m. 5 p.m.	Adult Issues Class Sunday School for all ages Worship Congregational Meeting Lunch Bunch Confirmation Class Youth Group Yoga
Mon Jan 30	February <i>Memo</i> submissions deadline
Tue Jan 31 9:30 a.m. 10 a.m.	Staff Meeting Knitting Group

The Georgetown Presbyterian Church
3115 P Street, NW, Washington, DC 20007
Address Correction Requested

THE
GEORGETOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



Monthly Memo

January 2012
Worship 11:00 a.m.
www.geownpres.org



MEMO:

Grace and peace to you at the dawn of this New Year. Last week CNN published 15 predictions from religious leaders for 2012. Jamie Korngold, author of *The God Upgrade*, offered one of the predictions saying, "Sabbath becomes trendy! Fourth Commandment makes a comeback! Sabbath named *Time's* person of the year! A new movement sweeps the country. They call themselves 24/6. Worn out by being tethered to the grid 24/7, sick of being accessible all hours of the day, inundated by updates, upgrades, and breaking news, Americans finally rebel, demanding, "We need a day off." People all over the country go offline for 24 hours every week. The simple break from the frenetic pace results in lowered cholesterol rates, fewer speeding tickets, and a reduction in marital strife. Peace, tranquility and contentment spread like wildfire." I wonder if Korngold will be right. Maybe in Georgetown we can fulfill this prediction and commit ourselves to keeping the Sabbath. Exciting things are happening among us and I for one look forward to spending this next year in ministry with you. Let us commit ourselves once again to being Sabbath keepers, to being Christ seekers, to being faithful to God and to our community of faith.

With good wishes to you and yours, blessings to The Georgetown Presbyterian Church, and glory to God our redeemer.

C. L. Cook

Camille L. Cook

January Prayer

Let not this year be lived apart from your ways, O Lord.
Infuse your presence into all the moments of my days;
Evoke your creativity, imagination, and awe into my worship and work;
Impart your Spirit, wisdom, and hope into the depths of my soul.

Let not this year be spent blinded from the needs of the world, O Lord.
Awaken me to the great needs of hunger, illness, and grief;
Inspire me to find my place in bringing about your kingdom;
Quicken me to enact your peace, justice, and kindness to all.

Let not this year be filled with hopes and dreams other than your own, O Lord.
Make my resolutions match your will and desire for my life;
Shape my visions that they might reflect your movement in the world;
Strengthen my faith so whatever storms I might face may be endured.

In this year, O Lord – change me, strengthen me, use me.
Let this year be lived in your name and for your sake.
Amen.

From the Desk of the DCE...

What a wonderful holiday program! I hope you enjoyed the December festivities as much as I did — there was something for everyone. The same goes for January. On January 8, *Bible 101* returns for its New Testament portion, the 10 a.m. children's and youth Sunday school resume their regular programming, and *Faith Formation for Families* finishes up with writing parenting statements of faith. The college kids are taking a Bible study break during their vacation month, but the Young Adults Bible Study meets on Thursday, January 26. *Adult Issues*, as always, has some great programming (see next column). I would also like to thank all the teachers whose faithful dedication made our children and youth programs possible this past fall: Swarna Nawarathna and Gamage Perera in the Nursery; Crystal Shatzer in the 2-K classes and Wee Worship; the Del Sontros, Marshalls, and Nancy Roll in the 1st-5th grade classes; Nathan Miller in the 6th-8th grade class; Ralph Voltmer and Tracy Davis in the 9th-12th grade class; and the Wisdoms and Schinnerers in Children's Church. We also extend a hearty thanks to everyone on the Children's Ministry Committee, the subs, snack-makers, parent volunteers, and this winter we gratefully welcome back teaching volunteers Josh and Katy Pitcock.

This amazing ministry can exist only with the help of YOU, the congregation. If you are interested in teaching, subbing, or just helping out, contact the Children's Ministry Committee or DCE Rachel Vaagenes. Make Christian Education part of your New Year's resolution!

Music for Mission

Make sure your RSVPs are in for the upcoming **Music for Mission on January 28!** Space is limited and you won't want to miss this elegant evening of fellowship and fundraising. 100% of the evening's net proceeds will go to *Children of Uganda* and *Bright Beginnings*, two organizations that help children at risk. What better way to start the New Year? For questions, contact Susan Bell skrausebell@starpower.net or Mary Beth Ray marybethray@verizon.net.

2012 GPC Pledges

As of January 5, we have received 112 pledges for a total of \$446,078 towards our pledge goal of 140 for 2012. The 2012 pledge envelopes are now available to be picked up in the narthex.

Church Directory

Copies of the new GPC photo directory are set to ship to the church January 23, 2012. Families and individuals who submitted photographs or participated in the 2011 portrait sessions can pick up their copies from the church narthex on the Sunday after GPC receives them. An electronic copy of the directory will also be available.

THE MONTHLY MEMO

The deadline for the **February Memo** is **January 30**.

Adult Issues Class — January 2012 Sundays, 9:30 a.m. ~ Washington Room

Adult Issues continues its exciting season of presentations intersecting faith, the arts, current affairs, interfaith matters, and Christian living. The forum draws on local talents as well as thinkers from across the nation, and from the Reformed Institute and various seminaries.

January 8: In this first of a two-part series, Dr. David Little, retired from Harvard's Divinity School, speaks on "Evangelicals versus Ecumenicals: A Reversal of Fortunes" discussing the two groups' notably different interpretations of the Acts 2:1-13 Pentecost account of the miraculous "tongues of fire."

January 15: "Where Do Ecumenicals Go from Here?" Although Ecumenicals prevailed in the late 1940s and 1950s, Evangelicals came to outnumber them after the 1960s. Dr. Little discusses the political and social consequences of this religious shift.

January 22: Dr. Sharon Freeman speaks on "Africa, External Influences, and What It Means to the African Diaspora," exploring how outside actors are impacting African countries, especially China, with a concern for the social well-being of people living where a broad segment of Americans have ancestral connections. Dr. Freeman is president of the All American Small Business Exporters Association (AASBEA), and author of *China, Africa, and the African Diaspora*.

January 29: As we approach *Black History Month* in February, Reverend Henry Ferry, Professor of Theological Education at Howard University, speaks on how the Presbytery helped save the Howard University Divinity School after World War I. More details to come on this fascinating topic.

GPC Library

Check out our two new books in the GPC adult library: both authors spoke at the *Adult Issues* class during the fall of 2011. ***Breaking through the Stained Glass Ceiling: Women Religious leaders in their own words.*** (206/F453). Maureen E. Fielder, editor. Includes interviews with The Reverend Susan Andrews, Barbara Bradley Haggerty, Dr. Elaine Pagels, Dr. Phyllis Traible, Dr. Rosemary Radford Reuther, and others. ***After the Murder of My Son: a Memoir.*** (261.81/W538). Mary Rondeau Westra. "...a story of heartbreak and hope..."

Children of Uganda 2012 Tour of Light

We are still urgently looking for some homestay accommodations for the *Children of Uganda* during their seven-day visit to Washington DC, January 23–30. Please consider hosting two or more of these wonderful children and young people so they can experience the warmth of American hospitality. Besides offering them a place to sleep and a good breakfast, we ask that you drive your guests to the designated drop-off (possibly GPC) for their daily activities and pick them up in the evenings. During most of their time in DC, they will be together as a group for rehearsals, performances, etc. If you would like to help, please contact Pat Davies as soon as possible, at pdaviesdc@aol.com or (202) 337-0991.



Backward Glances

JANUARY 2012

Last year marked the 400th anniversary of the *King James Version of the Holy Bible*. The work commenced at the direction of Britain's King James (James I of England and James IV of Scotland) in October 1603. It was the effort of 54 scholars drawn from the clergy and the universities and was completed in 1611.

Prior to that time there had been several versions of the Bible in use, including the Bishop's Bible, Tyndale's, Coverdale's, Matthew's, Whitchurch's and the Geneva. The Anglican clergy though opposed the use of the Geneva Bible because it contained marginal notes to assist the reader in arriving at his own interpretation. They believed that a reader wishing assistance in interpretation should seek it only from them. Those views were opposed by the Puritans and the Presbyterians. Since King James had experienced difficult times with the Presbyterians when he was King of Scotland, he would have preferred their absence.

In spite of these early differences, the resulting King James Bible became a version that we still use regularly today.

The Heritage Committee
By Doug McFadden

Winter Homeless Shelter Dinner Volunteers Needed!

The Georgetown Presbyterian Church will again be hosting the Georgetown Ministry Center winter homeless shelter this year - from February 12 through 25 and from March 25 through 31. Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve dinner each night for the shelter's twelve guests, and to help with the shelter move in and out. Preparing and serving dinner for the guests, and sharing the meal with them, is a very enjoyable and rewarding experience, especially if you team up with family and friends and make it a group effort. For more information or to sign up for a specific date, please contact Pat Davies at (202) 337-0991 or pdaviesdc@aol.com.

Home Health Aide

A woman previously employed by the Jennings family seeks a position as a home health aide. She is a US citizen with an excellent command of written and spoken English and has extensive experience as an elder care CNA in both private-duty and continuing-care facilities. A devout Christian, she provides gentle and attentive care. Please call Shelley Jennings at 703-356-1367 for more information.

2012 Chancel Flowers

If you would like to contribute to the **Chancel Flowers**, please fill out a donation sheet (located in the narthex) and either place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office.

Happy Birthday

JANUARY 2012

January 1	Jacksen Alexander Ellen McKay	January 16	Mary Bernabucci Colin Ladd
January 2	Catherine McKenzie	January 17	Brody Ryan
January 3	Jake Clark	January 18	Martha Hoagland
January 5	Ricky Del Sontro	January 21	Bart McKenzie
January 7	Barbara McClure Ginny Thornburgh	January 22	Mark Coldren Scott Leachman Neal Petersen
January 8	Angela Newnam	January 25	Emily Schlesinger
January 9	Noah Altamar	January 28	Lindsay Tuchtan
January 11	Peter A. Address Eleanor Frierson	January 29	Margaret Carvin
January 12	Naomi Bradshaw	January 30	Laura Blood
January 14	Tom Lotterman Marco Santarlasci		Jennifer Hillman James Wilson

Imagine a world without flowers...

As members of the GPC Flower Committee, we can't! We are passionate about the joy and beauty flowers bring to worship and to our congregants in need. Please consider offering a few hours once every two months to create our Sunday arrangements. Committee members provide all the training and support you need and you can tailor flower assignments to your schedule. No experience required. Seasoned floral designers, please come too! Contact Patricia Berl at pberl@brighthorizons.com or 202-337-3374 or after services during hospitality gatherings.

Our Pastors Remember

Read all about it! What did the pastors say about the state of the Presbyterian church? Which pastor preached only from notes? Who told a story about a Smithsonian official who at age 100 kissed the ladies at church? Which pastor started a "Women in Theology" study group? All of these stories and many more are in the Heritage Committee's latest book, *Our Pastors Remember*. This collection of oral history interviews can be yours for \$10. Purchase your copy in the Georgetown Room after worship or contact Phil Fleming or Jolene Blozis to reserve one.

Answers:
Clarence Ammons, p. 181; Campbell Gillon, p. 99-100
Simmons Gardner, p. 128-129
Richard Oman, about Charles Greeley Abbot, former Secretary of the Smithsonian, p. 47
Dana English, p. 110-111

Fair Trade Coffee & Candy

Buy Fair Trade Coffee and Candy at the coffee/ doughnut table before or after church. Coffee: \$7.00/bag; candy: \$3.00/bar. Proceeds go to the Mission Committee. Thanks!

Facebook

For those of you already on Facebook, check out the GPC page. Join us and help make it lively!