



Celebration Times

Fairlington Presbyterian Church, 3846 King St., Alexandria, VA 22302 February 2006

Worship in February

February 5

*Faith in Ordinary Time:
What's in it for Me?*
Mark 1:29-39 &
1 Corinthians 9:16-23

February 12

*Faith in Ordinary Time:
Letters from Home*
1 Corinthians 1:1-9, 9:24-27

February 19

Rob Ross preaching

February 26

Faith in Extraordinary Time
Mark 9:2-9

Session Highlights from January 9, 2006 Meeting:

Session elected the following to serve in 2006:

- Patricia Guenther as Clerk,
- Connie Hansen as Personnel Chair,
- David Kim as volunteer staff/Coordinator of Outreach & Communication Ministry,
- Mary Olsen as Chairperson of FPC 60th Anniversary Cte.

**Next Stated Session meeting:
Mon., Feb. 13th at 7 PM.**

Greetings from Our Christian Educator

Many exciting things continue to happen at Fairlington, and I want to take a moment and mention three to you. First, a big thank you goes out to the 15 people (about 10% of the congregation!) who took part in liturgist training. We reviewed the focus and movements of worship and how to research/deliver liturgy. They will be leading worship over the next six months. If you were unable to attend training, but desire to be a liturgist, please talk with me.

Second, an update on the Adult Education program. The *Adult Bible Study* continues to meet and discuss the Gospel of Mark. They have found the study to be engaging and challenging, and welcome anyone who wishes to join. Also, the *Bible for Beginners* class has begun to meet in the old office. Its final session will be on Feb. 12. Starting Feb. 19, *Worship for Beginners* will begin in the same room. I will lead this class as we talk about the significance of different parts of worship, the purpose of the church year and how to engage in individual or family worship during the week in addition to corporate worship on Sunday mornings. *Worship for Beginners* is open to anyone, whether or not the person attended *Bible for Beginners*.

Finally, an update on the youth. On Sat., Jan. 14, at the bright and early hour of 7:20 am, five youth and four adults met at FPC to help ALIVE move furniture from those who had too much to those who did not have enough. The ALIVE leader that day told us that we were the largest group they have ever had for a Saturday morning! Congratulations go out to Libby Lyon, Ben Lyon, Jay Lyon, Genevieve Griffin, Emily Seman, Shannon Harvey, Susan Harvey and Rhianna Shabsin!

On Sun., Feb. 5, the youth will again convene to help those in need in Alexandria. They will be participating in Souper Bowl Sunday, joining thousands of other youth across the country. Souper Bowl Sunday coincides with Super Bowl Sunday each year and was started by a simple prayer said in one youth group: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat." This prayer gave birth to an idea. Why not ask parishioners to give one dollar each for the needy as they leave worship on Super Bowl Sunday? Young people receive the donations then send every dollar directly to the charity of their choice. Since 1990, ordinary young people have, with God's help, generated an extraordinary \$28 million for soup kitchens, food banks and other charities across the country. Our youth have participated for the last several years and will continue their participation this year. (For more information check out www.souperbowl.org.)

Thanks go to all our inspired leaders and lively participants. If you have any questions about these or other happenings at FPC, contact me at 703-931-7344 or rob@fpcusa.org. See you in worship!

Rob Ross (Director of Christian Education)



To submit articles for Celebration Times: e-mail office@fpcusa.org or dellinger@virginia.edu

Ministry-Centered Church Design for Fairlington Presbyterian Church

By Marnie Brown

The Ministry-Centered Church has a different way of managing church life. The chart, which accompanies this article, shows how this way of operating the church creates opportunities for everyone in the congregation to engage with what God is calling them to do and become part of the life of the congregation. The Ministry-Centered Church defines the responsibilities of each person serving the congregation and the community. Notice that the Pastor plays two roles: Moderator of the Session (Preacher, Teacher and Guide to the congregation) and Head-of-Staff (supervisor of all day-to-day operations of the church). There are three levels of ministry in this model: Officers, Staff, and Ministry Volunteers.

As members, we have six responsibilities: worship, prayer, study, pledging, fellowship and service. There will be some times in your life when you will seek activity, and some times when you will need a break. Most of us come to church seeking a genuine and fulfilling connection with God and the church community. Where in the FPC community might you fit?

OFFICERS (Elders serving on Session, Deacons and Trustees)

The Session, elected and ordained by the congregation, is responsible for everything that happens in the church. It is comprised of the Pastor, who serves as Moderator of Session; the Clerk; and the Elders.

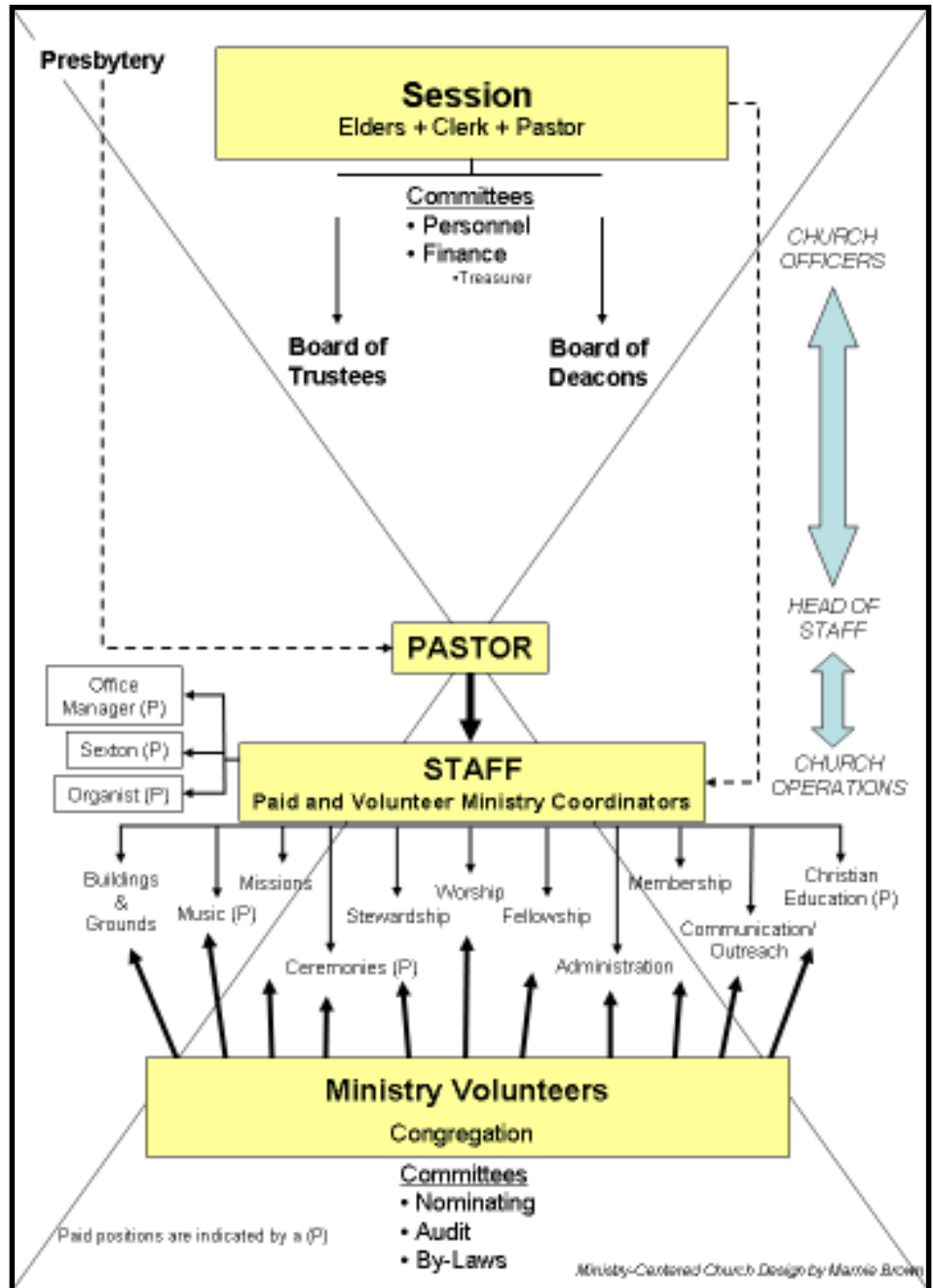
- The Pastor is a member of presbytery, not a member of the congregation, and is responsible for leading worship, preaching, guiding the congregation, and equipping the membership for full

participation in church life.

- The Clerk manages the Session's agenda, serves as Parliamentarian, and is responsible for the Church Membership Register, among other duties.
- The Elders, elected and ordained by the congregation, serve with the Pastor as the governing board of the

church. They, along with the Pastor, are responsible for oversight of all aspects of church life. They make policy, oversee the spiritual life of the church, and make sure that programs and activities are appropriate for the congregation. They are responsible for communicating with the

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From the Pastor...

FAITH IN ORDINARY TIME

Milestone moments often ignite our faith in new ways. The birth of children, the deaths of loved ones, surgery, divorce, job loss, and other “come to Jesus moments” can spark our faith and move us to new heights of spiritual maturity. But what about the days when everything is ordinary? We wake up, go to work, run errands, do laundry, pay bills, go to bed, and do it all over again the next day. What about our faith in “ordinary time”?

Liturgically, “Ordinary Time” is that time in the life of the church when we count the days around the big Christian festivals or seasons (Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost). “Ordinary” in this case does not mean “mundane”; it comes from the word “ordinal” as in “counting.” We are counting the days around the special Christian holy days.

But let’s face it: most days really *are* ordinary. We do laundry. We take out the trash. We shop for groceries. **How can we jump start our faith without having to go through a crisis?** This is one of the themes for worship in February. In the quest for spiritual maturity, you are also encouraged to:

- Attend a class (check out the bulletin for offerings)
- Pray (with an elder on Sundays, with a group at 6:30 AM Tuesdays)
- Join a small group (contact Rob Ross at rob@fpcusa.org or 703-931-7344 ext. 15)

God bless you this month. May your days be blissfully ordinary.

-Jan

Make Plans to Attend Valentine Candy Sale

On Sun., Feb. 12, the Presbyterian Women will have a Valentine Candy Sale following the worship service. The purpose of the sale is to pay for baby sitting. Remember those chocolate dipped strawberries? Candy contributions should be brought to the first conference room near the side door by 10 am where we will pack and price the candy. Containers will be provided; just let us know in advance so that we can estimate the number needed. For more information, contact Helene Patterson at 703-354-3026. ❖

Celebrate the Gifts of Women

On Sun., Feb. 26, the Presbyterian Women will celebrate the Gifts of Women by recognizing the 100th anniversary of the ordination of women as deacons, 1906-2006, and the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women to the office of word and sacrament, 1956-2006. ❖

Celebrations

Birthdays

Bonnie Stephens (2/03)

Wendy Shelley (2/04)

Katherine Stickers (2/08)

Joe Seman (2/12)

Martha Holmes (2/13)

Emily Foster (2/13)

Bonnie Nasr (2/13)

Victorine Tata (2/14)

Debra Roepke (2/15)

Denis Wobembong (2/15)

Peggy Wertime (2/16)

Tricia Wikert (2/16)

Valerie Hollis (2/17)

Elvin Wobembong (2/17)

David Dragon (2/21)

Lura McAdam (2/22)

Virginia Berton (2/26)

Garnet Willow (2/26)

William Burns (2/26)

Emily Seman (2/27)

Anniversaries

Steve & Linda Hoogeveen App
(2/11)

***Celebrating the Difference Christ Makes in Our Lives through
Ministry in Our Church, Our Community, and Our World***

Ways to Contact Fairlington Presbyterian Church

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Alexandria, VA 22302

Ministers

The Congregation

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston

jan@fpcusa.org

Mondays are monastery days.

Day off is Saturday.

Office Manager

Gloria Garidel

office@fpcusa.org

Mon.-Fri., 9 AM - 1 PM

Sexton

Wesley Mitchell

Mon.-Fri., 6 AM - 1 PM

Director of Christian Education

Rob Ross

rob@fpcusa.org

Tue: 9 AM - 5 pm; Sun: 9 AM-1 PM

Building & Grounds

Coordinator

Karen Tokarsky

Membership Coordinator

Marnie Brown

Ceremonies Coordinator

Lisa Dockins

Elders

Joseph Andy

Brad Bennett

Jeannette Davis

Connie Hansen

Brooke Hatfield

David Hoover

Darlene Johnson

Elaine Marini

Mary Olsen

Will Painter

Alison Trimble

Trustees

Shannon Harvey

Michael Lempke

David Siegrist

Deacons

Darrin Allen

Gloria Effiong

Susan Fiscus

Pat Keene

Vernette Kukolich

James Njimbong

Helene Patterson

Charlotte Ross

Glenna Shields

Mission Coordinator

Beth McFarland

Music Coordinator

Chris Hatfield

Director of Choirs

Chris Hatfield

Organist

Michael Dennis

Worship Coordinator

Open

Nursery Staff

Debra Carroll & Zalika Cole

Fellowship Coordinator

Erin Gingras

Stewardship Coordinator

Michael Lempke

Communications &

Outreach Coordinator

David Kim

Computer CORE Director

Deb Roepke, 703-931-7346



congregation, so that they know how the congregation is responding to God's call and to church life.

As the governing board of the church, the Session establishes the Mission and Vision for the congregation, and they are the spiritual leaders of the congregation. They develop and implement the church's strategic plan, setting goals and evaluating how well the objectives were met each year.

The Session is also responsible for staff management and financial management for the church. These responsibilities are delegated to two Session committees: Personnel and Finance, both chaired by a serving Elder. The Church Treasurer is a member of the Finance committee.

The Session delegates congregational care to the **Board of Deacons**, elected and ordained by the congregation. The Pastor works with the Moderator of the Deacons, to help the Deacons reach out in Christian love and prayer to all members of their congregational Shepherd Groups. They call and visit the sick. They arrange for meals to be prepared and delivered to those who need them. They arrange for rides, special needs, and special attention for those in the congregation who need it. They manage the Deacon's Fund, which offers financial support when emergency situations arise. They are the congregation's primary source of Christian care.

The Board of Trustees is also elected and installed by the congregation. The Session delegates responsibility to the Trustees for all legal requirements for the church. They ensure the church meets state government requirements and serve as legal

representatives for the congregation. As financial managers, the Trustees also manage the church's long-term financial assets and provide financial advice to the Session as needed.

STAFF (Pastor, Ministry Coordinators and other paid staff)

The Session delegates responsibility for all day-to-day operations of the church to the church Ministries. The Ministries are coordinated by both paid and volunteer staff. As Head of Staff, the Pastor supervises the Ministry Coordinators and ensures that they follow appropriate planning, and have enough space, money and volunteers to carry out the church's work. There are several paid staff members who work for the Pastor, not for the Ministry Coordinators. They are listed on the left side of the STAFF box in the model.

The Ministry Coordinators are responsible for:

- Working with Ministry Volunteers to serve God and the community
- Working with other staff on common projects and programs
- Working with the Officers and Ministry Volunteers to plan, implement and evaluate programs that support church goals and objectives. Planning must include goal-setting, implementation, and evaluation
- Planning for, recruiting, training, supervising, recognizing and evaluating ministry volunteers
- Managing the program budget
- Providing monthly and annual written reports to the Session, etc.

Ministry Coordinators manage the programs, and Ministry Volunteers participate and serve in

ministry activities and programs. The arrows in the chart indicate that ministry coordinators and ministry volunteers work together to make ministry happen.

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS (the Congregation)

You will notice that there are three Congregational committees. The Clerk of Session chairs the By-laws Committee, and Elders chair the Nominating and Audit committees. These committees are comprised of serving Elders and members of the congregation.

Ministry volunteers are the eyes, ears, mouth, hands and feet of God for our congregation. People are called to do many and varied things in service to God. Some activities support the congregation; some reach out to the community. Fairlington Presbyterian seeks to be a ministry-centered church; a community where people can engage with God and with others to build a better world. Each person brings unique gifts and individual interests and commitment. What you do in your professional life may or may not be what God is calling you to do within the Church.

What is it that you believe is important for the Church to be doing? What do we need? What do you need? How can we help you do what God is calling you to do? How can you help others? Where do you fit? ❖