

Prime Timers February Event

The Prime Timers (senior adults of our church and community) will enjoy a lovely Valentine concert by the NC Master Chorale Chamber Choir at 4pm on Saturday, Feb. 14 at Peace College. On the program are Irish love songs and the music of the Beatles. We will leave the church at 2:30 pm and stop for dinner at Captain Stanley's after the show. If you'd like to ride the church bus, get your reservation in early! Contact Joan Kuhn at 557.3768. Ticket price for the concert is \$12.80.

Building Bridges - You Can Help

We have an exciting opportunity to build connections with the Spanish-speaking congregation that meets at FVUMC on Sunday nights, Inglesia Monte de los Olivos.

Already underway is a bridge activity that involves helping the Hispanic Sunday School for grades 1 through 5 that meets from 7 to 9 pm each Sunday. The children learn songs and Scriptures in English and Spanish. We are also in need of some caring people to help out with the younger children who are 2 to 5 years old.

Please call Kerry Vitkus at 740-6464 or Debra Murphy at the Church if you could see yourself as part of this ongoing mission as we work to become more connected to our Hispanic sisters and brothers in Christ.

Chili Fundraiser Coming Feb. 1: Pre-order Today!

The youth will be selling chili after worship next Sunday, Feb. 1. Use the form below or call Kristy at 552-4331. All proceeds will benefit the youth mission trip to a Migrant Mission Center in Tampa Bay, Florida.



Name: _____

Phone: _____

of Quarts: _____ Mild Medium Hot

Amount Due: _____ (\$5 per quart or \$9 for 2 quarts)

Wednesday Night Lectionary Class

Pastor Richard's lectionary class is back in session. If you would like to read, study and discuss the text we use for music and preaching in worship on Sunday morning, come on Wednesday evening at 7:00pm. We are currently meeting in room 122. Come and enjoy our fellowship!

Women of Faith Bible Study - Jan. 29

"You don't have to wait until you have a problem for God to minister to you. Health and wellness are issues that women discuss daily in our society; yet Christians often overlook the issue of spiritual health." Join us Thursday mornings from 6-7am in the chapel as we explore Spiritual Wellness. This 12-week study involves some outside commitment and a chance to strengthen your spiritual wellness. All women are welcome! Study guides have been ordered and should be here for our first meeting. If you are interested or have questions please contact Jennifer Harrenstein (jharrenstein@fvumc.org) 552-5269, Marie Weller (mweller@fvumc.org) 567-1778, or Stephanie Weeks (sweeks@fvumc.org) 552-7458. We hope to see you on Thursday, Jan. 29!



Help with PowerPoint at 10:50

The Power Point team is in need of a new member to run the 10:50 worship service on the 4th Sunday of each month. We are also desperately in need of substitutes to fill in for vacations and emergencies. Please contact Kristin Minor at 567-0353 or jkminor@embarqmail.com if you are interested.

Family Retreat at TVR

For many years, families at FVUMC have enjoyed an annual weekend family retreat at Teen Valley Ranch in the NC mountains. This year, March 20-22 is reserved for our church, and all are invited. The retreat includes worship, camp activities (horses, repelling hiking, etc.) fellowship, and all meals. For pictures and other information about TVR visit their website www.tvr.org. Cost depends on the number of participants and ages of the children. If you're interested in attending or would like more information, please contact Tammie Quick at tlquick@gmail.com or 557-2131.

Children's Church Volunteers

Serve as a volunteer with our Kindergarten-2nd graders! Contact Keena Teague 772-5368 davidkeena@bellsouth.net

Lenten Reflections

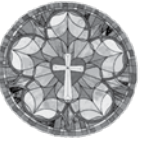
If you'd be willing to write a brief reflection (250-500 words) on a Lenten theme (prayer, fasting, suffering, the cross, repentance, forgiveness, for example), please contact Debra Murphy. Submissions are needed by Feb. 15. Many contributors will be needed to fill a book for the 40 days of Lent. Scripture passages can be "assigned" or you can choose your own.



A special focus for this year's book will be the Bible's book of Psalms. Questions? dmurphy@fvumc.org or 552.4331.

New Members' Class

Our next new members' class (known as "Connectings") will begin on Sunday, February 22 and conclude with a church-wide potluck luncheon on Palm Sunday, April 5. The class will join the church on Easter Sunday, April 12.



"Connectings" introduces potential members not only to the life and ministry of FVUMC but to our Methodist heritage and our connection (and responsibility) to global Christendom. Topics include: the marginalized status of the early church; the process of canonizing scripture; the history and development of the sacraments; a theology of Christian worship; the challenges of discipleship in a consumer-capitalist culture; the responsibilities and privileges of church membership.

The class meets at 10:50 in room 117-119. Childcare is available. If you have questions and/or would like to register for the class, contact Debra Murphy at dmurphy@fvumc.org or 552.4331.

METS Begins New Short-Term Study

If you are going to carry Christ's name by professing to be a Christian man, then surely you should reflect his nature. Transformation—the process of becoming holy begins in your mind.

Our men's group, M.E.T.S. (Men eager To Serve) will offer a seven-session course titled Peter - Walk The Talk which explores how the apostle Peter challenges us to think differently, which will radically affect our behavior. The study begins January 29th and will be held Thursday nights at 7:00 in Room 127 in the adult wing.

This study is open to all men in our community regardless of their religious affiliation. There will be no cost associated with this study. If you have any questions - contact Charlie Gray at charliegray@nc.rr.com.



Youth News

New Youth Book Club

If you are in senior high and enjoy reading and discussing books then join us on Feb. 1, immediately following church in room 126. We will be discussing *The Great Divorce*, by C.S. Lewis. Bring \$3 for a pizza lunch. The book club will meet every other Sunday and a reading list will be given out at the first meeting.

Youth Jam Session at Lifeline

Calling all youth in 7-12th grades: Come and join Lifeline on February 8! We will discuss Christian music and the role of music in our lives. Then, we will break out into a jam session! Bring your instrument or your voice. We will provide music and snacks. The youth CD library will be there too – so you can check out some of the latest Christian music.



Middle School Winter Retreat

Feb. 20-21 is the middle school retreat. Our program is called, "I Promise, They Don't Have Cooties." This is a program on human sexuality, specifically designed for middle school youth, 7-8th grades. The guest speaker, Gretchen Shea, is a youth ministries director in Raleigh. She is the author of the material that will be used. The retreat starts Friday night. The youth will return home to sleep and come back all day Saturday. The cost is \$20 which covers all food and supplies. To register contact Kristy Hochhalter at youth@fvumc.org or at the church office. The deadline for signing up is Wednesday, February 11.

Note to Parents

Parents of youth who are eligible to attend the winter retreat above are asked to participate in a 1-hour session led by Kristy Hochhalter, Director of Youth Ministries. We will go over the retreat program materials and answer questions, so that parents can choose for their family whether their youth will participate.

The hour-long sessions will be held on Feb. 1 during the 10:50 service on the adult wing and Wednesday, Feb. 4 from 7:30-8:30pm in room 127. Please plan to attend one of these sessions.

VBS Planning Meeting – Jan. 27

Join us at 7pm in the choir room for the first VBS planning meeting of the year. Area leaders and volunteers from last year as well as anyone interested in helping this year are welcome. We will be collecting feedback from last year and brainstorming for this year. We will also give a brief overview of the packages we are reviewing and gather feedback on those as well. If you have any questions please contact Penny Downey at penny.downey@tyco-electronics.com or Rebecca Hayes at hayesreb15@hotmail.com.

Valentine's Banquet

Tickets for the youth group's Valentine's Banquet fundraiser are on sale in the church lobby or by contacting the office. Support the youth by attending the banquet, because all proceeds go toward the youth scholarship fund. Last year over \$2,000 in scholarships were given and this year the need is even greater!

Tickets are \$35 per couple, \$20 for an individual. Childcare is an additional \$5 per family. Our entertainment will be the Newlywed Game, with our game show host Matt Harrenstein. The banquet will be Friday, Feb. 13 at 7:00pm.

How Would God Rate Our Discipleship?

This time of the year, many people are participating in performance reviews in the workplace. Most of us know our strengths and weaknesses with regard to work, but have you ever reflected on performance as a disciple for Christ? Would you know how to get started evaluating where you are on your faith journey?

A few months ago, a Vision Committee was created to begin the process of evaluating where we as a congregation are in our mission to create disciples who create disciples...and where to focus attention in the coming years. The Church Council has formally commissioned the committee as newly-renamed Catalyst Team and given the approval to distribute a series of three questionnaires in the coming weeks.

Please pick up a blue sheet in the lobby and return the questionnaire by Feb. 8. Your responses to these questionnaires will help guide us in our journeys to evaluate strengths and areas for focus.

Your feedback is critical! We need you to pray and then participate by completing these questionnaires. This isn't a job for a committee. This is a calling to the entire congregation.



Fuquay-Varina UMC

Weekly Times

January 25, 2009

Lunch and Book Discussion Today

Who'd have thought that a book about the Trinity would sell 2 million copies and spend months on the New York Times bestseller list? *The Shack* has done just that, though not without controversy from various corners of Christendom. Join Debra Murphy for a lively discussion TODAY at noon in room 117. We'll have lunch together and then talk about this provocative book.



Efird Bible Study Series

The Jesus we find in John is different from the synoptic Gospels. Learn how Jesus is presented on two levels as you gain new insights and marvel at how Jesus was in control even as he was nailed to the cross. Dr. Efird's favorite Gospel is likely to become yours as you uncover a Jesus different than you find in other accounts. This DVD-based study begins on Sunday, Feb. 1 at 10:50 am and runs for several weeks. If you have questions and/or would like to register, contact facilitator Barbara Patterson at jmpatterso@aol.com

Women's Ensemble - Join Us!!

It's not too late to be a part of the Women's Ensemble! This group is open to ALL WOMEN (adults and youth 6th – 12th grades) who love to sing praises to the Lord. Previous experience or the ability to read music are NOT required. We will teach you everything you need to know! Rehearsals are on Sunday evenings from 6:45-7:30pm tonight and Feb. 8. The Ensemble will sing at the 10:50 am Worship Service on Sunday, Feb. 15. Join us in the



Choir Room as we come together to sing praises and enjoy fellowship with other women! Special thanks to Music Ministry Volunteer Sharon Haigler who will direct this session. Questions? Contact Jennifer Harrenstein, Director of Music Ministries, at 552-4331 ext. 105 or jharrenstein@fvumc.org.