

Confirmation 2009: Join us!

ALL sixth graders are welcome to turn over a new leaf and to join Confirmation 2009!!!

We are an active vibrant group of middle school-aged youth joyfully engaged in thoughtful reflections on what it means to be a Christian disciple in the world today.

You will find us studying during the Sunday School hours (9:30 or 10:50) in the youth wing of our church facility and each Sunday evening (4:30-6:00 p.m.) at 607 East Academy Street unless otherwise noted in our schedule. Join Us!



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. 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.



PowerPoint Team Substitutes

The Power Point team is in need of substitute to fill in for vacations, illnesses and emergencies. Please email Kristin Minor at jkminor@embarqmail.com if you are interested in joining this team.

New Recycling Opportunity!

In an effort to expand the recycling program at F-V UMC, the EcoJustice Ministry Team has placed new, blue recycling containers in the rooms on the adult wing of the church.

Place your discarded paper, plastic and aluminum cans in these bins, and the materials will be collected weekly by a member of the recycling team. No sorting required!

There will be detailed information posted in each room about what materials can be recycled.

To learn more about this ministry, send an email to EcoJustice-FVUMC@gmail.com.



Reflecting on the Scriptures: Growing in Faith

One of the strengths of growing in faith is a commitment to read and reflect on scriptures. Each Sunday, the lectionary texts for the coming week are noted in our worship bulletins.

Texts are selected from the Old and New Testaments, Psalms, and Epistle lessons. The total amount of reading fills approximately one letter-sized page.

You are invited to consider a new year's resolution to read one of the lectionary scriptures each day during the week AND to use Saturday as a day of preparation for worship as you ponder the lessons read previously.

Since the lectionary defines four scripture passages to read each week, we will add a fifth reading each week with a focus on prayer and/or discipleship.



Wishing for *The Wish List*

The 6-8th grade Sunday School class led by David Labrecque is looking for 20 copies of the book *The Wish List* by Eoin Colfer. The class (which meets at 10:50am) will study this book after the first of the year. If you have a copy or would like to donate a book, please contact David by email at fr@mindspring.com or by phone 349-0711. Thank you in advance for your help.

Prime Timers Seeking an Organizer

The Prime Timers Group is seeking someone (or several someones) to coordinate future events. Please contact the office if you are interested in learning more about the position.

Coupons for our Troops

Got Coupons? Our Quiet Care Ministry has adopted a base in Vilseck, Germany to send manufacturers' coupons for use by military members and families on base. Donate current or recently expired (up to two months) coupons. Drop your coupons in the box located in the front of the church that is labeled "Coupons for Troops." You can cut them out or place the entire flier in the box. For questions, contact Amy Hendrickson at ahendrickson35@yahoo.com.



Women's Ensemble begins Jan. 18

The next session of the Women's Ensemble begins Sunday, Jan. 18. This group is open to ALL WOMEN (adults and youth) 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! Plus, this is a SHORT-TERM COMMITMENT—only 3 Sunday evening rehearsals from 6:45-7:30pm on: Jan. 18, Jan 25, and Feb. 8.

No need to sign-up ahead of time—simply join us in the Choir Room for the first rehearsal as we come together to sing praises



and enjoy fellowship with other women!

Questions? Contact Jennifer Harrenstein, Director of Music Ministries, at 552-4331 ext. 105 or jharrenstein@fvumc.org.

January Book Club

Darkness Is My Only Companion

By Kathryn Greene-McCreight

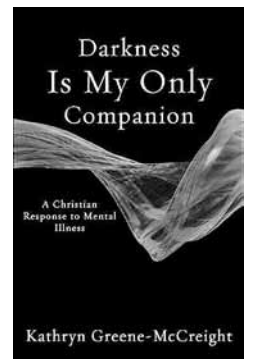
Where is God in the suffering of a mentally ill person? What happens to the soul when the mind is ill? How are Christians to respond in the face of mental illness?

In *Darkness Is My Only Companion*, Kathryn Greene-McCreight confronts these difficult questions raised by her own mental illness—bi-polar disorder. With brutal honesty, she tackles often avoided topics such as suicide, mental hospitals, and shock therapy.

Greene-McCreight offers the reader everything from poignant and raw glimpses into the mind of a mentally ill person to practical and forthright advice for their friends, family, and clergy.

Her voice is a comfort to those who suffer from mental illness and an invaluable resource for those who love and support them.

Join the discussion on Friday, January 16 at 6:30 pm. Contact Debra Murphy at 552-4331 or email dmurphy@fvumc.org.



Support our youth mission trips!

Variety Show Jan. 25 at 5:00pm

Come support the youth of our church and enjoy a family gathering for all ages. Come and be entertained with a variety show, featuring acts from the PULSE Praise Team, The Drama Team and so many more!



This event is free of charge. A donation will be taken to support the middle school and high school summer mission trips!

Chili Fundraiser

The youth will be selling chili during the vices on Sunday, February 1st. Get your chili you will be prepared to watch the Superbowl Chili will be \$5 per quart or \$9 for two quarts!

If you missed out because we sold out last year... don't be left behind! Preorder your mild, medium or hot chili by January 18th!

To pre-order call Kristy at the church office 552-4331 or watch the bulletin on January 11th and 18th for a tear off insert and place it in the offering.

All proceeds will benefit the youth trip to Tampa Bay, Florida where the youth will work with a Migrant Mission Center.



It's a Wrap!

From December 26 through January 19, seasonal items can be recycled in Wake County.

Christmas Trees: Last year 3,381 trees were collected through the Holiday Wrap Up Program. The goal is to collect more trees this year, which are chipped and used as cover material for County park trails. Christmas trees can be brought to Harris Lake County Park in New Hill seven days a week from 8am-5:30pm. They can also be brought to Convenience Center #2 – 6000 Old Smithfield Road in Apex from 7am-7pm daily. Be sure to remove all decorations including tinsel.

For Fuquay-Varina residents: Christmas trees are collected curbside from December 26 - January 22. Remove all decorations, including any nails from the stand, place at the curb for pickup. There will not be a specific day for pickup, but will be removed as soon as possible as time warrants, so please leave curbside and they will be collected. Trees can also be dropped off at Action Park, which is located off of Wake Chapel Road.

Wrapping Paper and Other Items: Wrapping paper (except foil paper), holiday cards, cardboard boxes, chip board (such as wrapping paper roll tubes and cereal boxes), and SBS board (such as shirt boxes). Bring what you collect to Convenience Center #2 – 6000 Old Smithfield Road in Apex from 7am-7pm daily. Please note that Harris Lake Park does not collect these types of recycling.

For more information, visit www.wakegov.com/recycling.

If you need help getting your recycling to the convenience center, email our EcoJustice Ministry Team at EcoJusticeFVUMC@gmail.com.

Give a gift to the Earth this Christmas-Epiphany season!

Fuquay-Varina UMC

Weekly Times

January 4, 2009



Clothing Closet Is Jan. 10

On Saturday, Jan. 10 from 8am to Noon is the next Clothing Closet. Volunteers are needed on Thursday (late afternoon) and Friday (9am-5pm) for setup and clothes sorting. Please bag each family member's clothes separately to help speed up setup time. Write on the bag or include a note on the top with the category: Mens, Mens Large, Womens, Womens Petite, Maternity, Teen, Girls, Boys, Infant (up to 4T). If the shed behind the church is full, please bring your items on Thursday or Friday to the adult wing. For more information or questions please contact Roberta McCormack 567-2765.

Circle of Faith UMW

The Circle of Faith has changed meeting times effective January 2009. We will now meet the SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month at 10:30am in the Chapel. All ladies of the church are invited. We anticipate many ladies joining us by meeting in the daytime. Meetings are one hour. Questions - Fran Sykes - 552-9220.

Women's Bible Study

The PinC Ladies Bible Study group is starting a new study on 1/12/09. The topic is *Experiencing God* by Henry Blackley. Please contact Mary Kay Davis at 418-6278 for more information.

Christianity and Other Faiths

Join Debra Murphy for a 4-week series of Sunday morning conversations beginning January 11 at 9:30 am in room 117.

We will explore the beliefs and practices of Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Shinto, and we'll talk about Christianity's relationship to people of other religions.

To sign up or for more information, contact Debra at 552-4331 or email dmurphy@fvumc.org.



Sunday Lunch and Book Discussion

Who'd have thought that a book about the Trinity would sell 2 million copies and spend months on the New York Times best-seller list? The Shack has done just that, though not without controversy from various corners of Christendom.

If you've read this book and loved it (or hated it), join Debra Murphy for a lively discussion on Sunday, January 25 at noon in room 117. We'll have lunch together and then talk about this provocative book. To sign up (so we can order enough food): dmurphy@fvumc.org or 552.4331.

