



**Sunday, December 25**  
**10 a.m.**

*Timothy's Song*



*Timothy's Song*, written by William Lederer, is an inspiring story of a boy, Timothy, who is on a quest to "sing for God." His trials and triumphs to make a 'joyful noise' will make you laugh and make you cry. The Beatitude, "*Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God*", is a true description of Timothy and his innocent, steadfast love for God. Beware! *Timothy's Song*, may transform your heart and challenge you to sing for God "*with all of your heart, soul, and strength.*" This Christmas morning may you come as a child with expectation and an eagerness to hear, sing and celebrate Jesus' birth.

Jacqui Horton, will be our storyteller for the morning. She is a native of Va. Beach and Director of Christian Education at First Presbyterian Church in Va. Beach. She has been telling stories with great enthusiasm in churches, recreation centers, retirement homes, and camps and teaching Biblical storytelling workshops for over 35 years. Jacqui has served in United Methodist and Presbyterian churches in North Carolina , Oregon and Virginia. She was even a Baptist for five years in Charlotte, N.C. Her 'passion' in ministry is telling Bible stories and stories with Biblical truths. Her favorite quote is, "A picture is worth a thousand words but a story is worth a thousand pictures." Come and 'see' for yourself Christmas morning.

Rev. Danny J. Kesner  
Senior Pastor

Rev. Janet Allen  
Associate Pastor

Church Office Hours  
Monday - Friday  
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
757-482-1049  
Fax: 757-482-0432

Email  
[greatbridgeumc@verizon.net](mailto:greatbridgeumc@verizon.net)

Website  
[www.greatbridgeumc.com](http://www.greatbridgeumc.com)

Sunday Services  
Traditional  
8:00 and 11:00 AM  
&  
Contemporary  
9:30 AM

*Order your Christmas Poinsettia beginning  
Sunday, Dec. 11.*

**NEW MEMBERS**

*Bill & Janet Swann  
809 Hidden Harbor Ct.  
Chesapeake, VA 23322  
757-547-5981*

*Eric & Kristen Potter  
Kimberly & Matthew  
835 Catrina Lane  
Chesapeake, VA 23322  
757-410-7405*

*Sandra Dean  
308 Golden Maple Dr.  
Chesapeake, VA 23322  
757-482-2034*

*Wes Brumfield  
236 Britwell Dr.  
Chesapeake, VA 23322  
757-547-7770*

*Chava Lind  
Lily  
1300 Channing Way  
Chesapeake, VA 23322  
757-436-2272*

*God came to us  
because God  
wanted to join us on  
the road, to listen to  
our story, and to  
help us realize that  
we are not walking  
in circles but  
moving toward the  
house of peace  
and joy.*

*Thomas Merton*



*Baptisms*

**November 6, 2011**  
*Peyton Mary Fularon  
Gavin Replis Fularon*

**November 20, 2011**  
*Noah Crispin Smith*

**November 27, 2011**  
*Hannah Jean Glynn  
Jackson Edward Lucas*

*With  
Sympathy*

**Glenwood Fischer, death of wife, Jessie.**  
**Marvin & Gaye Clements, death of Marvin's mother, Doris.**  
**Anita, Jeremy & Ryan Young, death of Anita's husband, Paul.**

***Friday, December 2nd***

*7 p.m.*

*Master's Men "Living Christmas Tree"*

***Sunday, December 11th***

*6 p.m.*

*Children's Musical "Angels Aware"*

*Presented by the Choristers & Kids Under Construction*

*Come here how the angels found out God was going to earth and, more importantly, how he chose to go. It's different, it's fun, it's spiritual, and it truly communicates God's persistent love to all ages.*

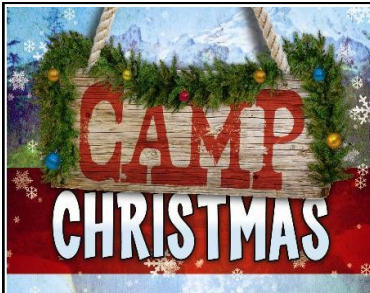
***Sunday, December 18th - Cantata***

*8 & 11 a.m.*

*Festival of Carols by Joseph Martin*

*Presented by Chancel, Sonshine & Alpha & Omega Choirs*

***Nursery will be available for all events.***



Need time to get your Christmas shopping done? The Circle of Love is sponsoring Camp Christmas on Sat., Dec. 3rd for children 4 years old through 5th grade. We are planning some fun, Christmas-themed activities for your kids so you can take care of your errands. If you are interested in participating or volunteering, please contact Nancy Cashman at [nlcashman@cox.net](mailto:nlcashman@cox.net). Registration can be done online

at <http://tinyurl.com/campchristmas>.





## Christmas Offering

Our tradition of receiving a Christmas offering continues this year. It's a time for us to participate in second-mile giving as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. This year we will be supporting such ministries as Union Mission; Great Bridge Food Closet; Jager, WV and many others. Christmas envelopes are available in your quarterly offering envelope packet or in the pews. Please mark "Christmas" on the memo line of your check. Thanks for extending the love of Christ to others through your sacrificial giving.

Please submit  
bulletin  
announcements by  
Wednesdays at  
12 noon.

The deadline for the  
January  
newsletter is  
Wednesday,  
December 14th.

### Director of Children's Ministries-

Great Bridge UMC, Chesapeake, VA- PT salaried position available, January, 2012. This position will oversee all aspects of children's ministries (birth – 5<sup>th</sup> grade), such as Sunday School, VBS, serving on the Education Committee and other ways that will engage our children in the faith. Other duties include recruiting and training volunteers, serving as a resource to volunteers and staff, and additional duties as assigned. Send resume by Dec. 9 to [kittymagoo@aol.com](mailto:kittymagoo@aol.com). Church phone-482-1049. Fax 482-0432.

### Thanks for the Memories

On Sunday, December 11th, following the 11 a.m. service, we will gather in the social hall to give our thanks to Thom Kinsey for serving the Lord as our Director of Adult and Children's Ministries for the past 3.5 years. Come enjoy some refreshments and wish Thom the best as he begins a new chapter in his life, retirement.



## Finding Peace

### Meeting Dates

#### Upcoming Events

- ~ Tuesday, Dec. 6 Progressive Dinner for Circle of Grace.
- ~ Sat., Dec. 10 the UMW will host the Prayer Breakfast from 8:30 - 11 a.m.
- ~ Tuesday, Dec. 20 UMW unit providing meal for Get Smart

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK



#### The Warming Tree

Sponsored by the Circle of Love

**Gloves, mittens, hats, scarves, & socks are needed to decorate our tree.**

These warm articles are donated to needy children in the Chesapeake School System. The tree is located near the church office and will remain up until Sunday, January 1st.

#### **Circle of Faith**

2nd Monday of the month at 7 PM in room 112.

Mission Project: Women's Division of the Salvation Army

#### **Friendship Circle**

1st Monday of the month at 10 AM at various homes.

Mission Project: BabyCare

#### **Circle of Grace**

1st Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM in room 136 or at various homes.

Mission Project: CHIP for first time MOMs

#### **Circle of Light**

2nd Tuesday of the month at noon in room 119.

Mission Project: Lighting the Way to Education at Linden Elementary in Norfolk

#### **Circle of Love**

3rd Monday of the month at 7 PM in various homes.

Mission Project: Great Bridge Food Closet

#### **Kay Reel Circle**

3rd Wednesday of the month at 10:30 AM.

Mission Project: Angel's Soldiers

All ladies are welcome to visit any of the circles.

Please call the church office to verify meeting locations. Child care can be provided if necessary.



### Lost and found

Please check out the numerous items located in the two Lost and Found containers behind the kitchen door. All items not claimed will be donated to CHKD. Thank you

# Looking Ahead to 2012



## A Special Event for 4th & 5th Grade Students

You're invited to participate in a three part Spiritual Photography Pizza Party! With the wonder of Christmas upon us, what better way to capture the Joy of the Season and Gift of God's Son than through photography. The class begins in the Season of Epiphany - God revealing God's self to the world in Jesus. Part One [Noon on Sunday, January 8th] - Learn some basic photography skills and see how to connect your own photos with John 3:16 - and eat pizza! Part Two [Noon on Sunday, January 22nd] - Bring your photos on a cd/stick to share with the group & receive positive feedback - and eat pizza! Part Three [Coffee House on Sunday, January 29th] - Share your Spiritual Photos with the congregation in an exhibit during Coffee House!

## Beth Moore Bible Study

Beth Moore's "James: Mercy Triumphs" is a study of James, Jesus' own brother, who starts out as skeptic, but with one glimpse of the resurrected Savior turns an unbeliever into a disciple. Join this 8 week study that begins on Thursday, January 12th from 9 - 11 a.m. in room 136.



**GBUMC's 4th annual  
Chili Cook-off, Wednesday, Jan. 11**

**Do YOU have what it takes?**

### Mark Your Calendar!



A faithful, righteous prophet of God...suddenly disobeys and runs away! As a result he encounters a terrible storm, an enormous fish, a tiny worm, a mighty wind, a blazing sun, a wicked empire and the greatest revival in history.

Join Pastor Danny & other church members to see Sight & Sound Theatre's newest production, "Jonah" in Lancaster, Pa. on March 23, 2012.

Registration forms are available at the Welcome Centers.



201 Stadium Drive  
Chesapeake, VA 23322  
www.greatbridgeumc.com

NON PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
CHESAPEAKE, VA  
PERMIT NO. 27

Return Service Requested



Mailing Label



### *Christmas Eve Services*

*Saturday, December 24th*

*5:00 p.m.*

*Informal service for families with children*

*8:00 PM*

*Holy Communion and Candlelight Service*

*11:00 PM --*

*Holy Communion and Candlelight Service*

### *Sunday, December 25th*

*10 a.m. - Jacqui Horton, Story Teller  
No Sunday School or Coffee House*

### *Sunday, January 1st*

*10 a.m. - Covenant Renewal Service  
No Sunday School or Coffee House*



Open Hearts.  
Open Minds.  
Open Doors.

### Worship Services

Traditional: 8:00 a. m. &  
11:00 a. m.

Contemporary: 9:30 a.  
m.

DANNY J. KESNER

Senior Pastor

Home: 410-9312

JANET ALLEN

Associate Pastor

Parsonage: 389-5499

Church Office: 757-482-1049

# GBUMC Youth

# December 2011

## Want detailed info?

MS & HS emails go out every week. Please email [gbumcyouth@verizon.net](mailto:gbumcyouth@verizon.net)

Like text messages better? Go to [www.greatbridgeumc.com/youth](http://www.greatbridgeumc.com/youth) and click on the link!

## High School Prayer Breakfast every other Friday, 7 – 8 AM!

December 2 @ Erin Clark's  
912 Meadow Trail Rd.

December 16 @ Addy Hawkins'  
317 Cheshire Forest Dr.

## High School Special Events

Work Crew @ Young Life Rockbridge  
– January 27 – 29

Ski Trip @ Massanutten & Camp Overlook  
– February 10 – 12

Mission Trip in Chesapeake, VA  
– June 24 – 30

**Thanks to everyone  
who helped with  
Operation Christmas Child!**



## **Sunday Nights!!**

**Middle School Youth**  
4:30 – 6 PM

**Feeding Frenzy for MS & HS**  
6 – 6:30 PM (Cost: \$1)

**High School Youth**  
6:30 – 8 PM

*\*Changes this month:  
No MS or HS Youth activities  
December 21 through January 4*

## **MS Girls Refuge Wednesday Nights!**

December 7 and fun over Christmas Vacation!  
This Refuge series has been meeting since the beginning of November and will start a new series in the new year.

## **Middle School Special Events**

MS Retreat @ Triple R Ranch  
– December 9 – 11

Mission Trip in Romney, WV  
– August 5 – 11 with the Jeremiah Project

## **High and Middle School Special Events**

30 Hour Famine - In Chesapeake  
– January 20-21

The 30 Hour Famine gives students a chance to help overcome hunger — by going without food so others don't have to. Students learn about hunger and fundraise to help feed and care for children living in poverty.

On Famine weekend, students get a crash course in global hunger by going 30 hours without food!

# Penn Jillette's (of Penn & Teller) 10 Commandments for atheists

1. The highest ideals are human intelligence, creativity and love. Respect these above all.
2. Do not put things or even ideas above other human beings.  
(Let's scream at each other about Kindle versus iPad, solar versus nuclear, Republican versus Libertarian, — but when your house is on fire, I'll be there to help.)
3. Say what you mean, even when talking to yourself.  
(What used to be an oath to God is now quite simply respecting yourself.)
4. Put aside some time to rest and think.  
(If you're religious, the Sabbath; if you're a Vegas magician, the day with the lowest grosses.)
5. Be there for your family. Love your parents, your partner, and your children.  
(Love is deeper than honor, and parents matter, but so do spouse and children.)
6. Respect and protect all human life.  
(Many believe "Thou shalt not kill" only refers to people in the same tribe. I say it's all human life.)
7. Keep your promises. (If you can't be sexually exclusive to your spouse, don't make that deal.)
8. Don't steal. (This includes magic tricks and jokes — you know who you are!)
9. Don't lie. (Unless you're doing magic tricks and it's part of your job.)
10. Don't waste too much time wishing, hoping, and being envious; it'll make you bugnutty.

In his newest book, atheist magician Penn Jillette tells how he was challenged by a conservative radio host to come up with an atheist's version of The Ten Commandments. He says, "I wanted to see how many of the ideas that many people think are handed down from God really make sense to someone who says, 'I don't know.'"

Jillette is one of the more famous atheists of our time because of his great work in the entertainment business. His book, *God, No!*, did well on the New York Times bestseller list finishing as high as 12<sup>th</sup> one week. Tim Tebow's, Tina Fey's, and Rafael Nadal's books were on the list that week as well. Thankfully, Tebow's book outpaced Jillette's (and I'm a Tennessee Volunteer fan)!

It's interesting to see how close Jillette's top ten is to God's 10 Commandments. He basically copies God's law word-for-word in 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. In his defense, the talk show host asked him for *his version* of the 10 Commandments.

What jumps out to me is that he doesn't hate the idea of a god. It's his displeasure with those who claim to be "God's people" past and present, in my opinion, that leads him to this worldview. This link: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZhG-tkQ\\_Q2w](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZhG-tkQ_Q2w) is a self-documented, private monologue from Jillette about a time when a fan gave him a Bible after a show. During this video, Jillette even says, "How much do you have to hate someone if you believe that there is a way to eternal life and not share it!"

It's unbelievable how close he is to being morally good, thoughtful in arguments, and understanding of Christian faith, yet so far away in his thoughts.

Are we comfortable with this? Are we okay with people proclaiming that there is no god without a Christian response about God's commandments and Jesus' grace?