

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**The Journey**, our Sunday School program for elementary children, continues a series of workshops learning about the Apostles' Creed. Workshops include art, games, hands-on and drama. Grade and workshop assignments are posted in the main hall of the Education Building. Children in grades 1-5 meet in Heaven (top floor of the Education Building).

**Sunday School begins with music for all ages at 9:30 am.** Children age 3 years through kindergarten meet in Room 22 with Ms. Sally. Children in grades 1-5 meet in Heaven with Ms. Amy and Ms. Martha.

**Youth Today** - Middle School, 5-6:30 pm; High School, 6-8 pm.

**Youth Next Sunday** - Middle School, 5-6:30 pm; High School, 6-8 pm.

**High School Ski Retreat** - Feb. 18-20. Contact Mary for forms and details at [mpratt@opmh.org](mailto:mpratt@opmh.org).

## MISSION

**Mentors needed! You can help** to decrease crime, substance abuse, poor school performance, teen pregnancy and gang affiliation. The Alexandria Mentoring Partnership is hosting an Open House on Thurs., Jan. 26, from 6:30–8 pm, at The Lyceum (201 S. Washington St.). RSVP Mike Mackey at [mike.mackey@alexandriava.gov](mailto:mike.mackey@alexandriava.gov) or 703-746-4496. Please consider finding some time (once a week) to spend with a child. Whether you would like to help with homework/reading, play a sport, enjoy a hobby, talk and listen or all of the above – the Partnership has a program for you!

## FELLOWSHIP, STUDY AND PRAYER

**Start your new year with old friends and new!** The Membership and Evangelism Ministry is re-forming Dinner Groups (formerly known as Dine with Nine). It's a great chance to enjoy food and fellowship with other members of the Meeting House. If you'd like to join a group, please fill out a form that can be found in the friendship pad or on our website, and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office.

**All are invited to join the Celebration** group in attending the play *Heaven Can Wait*, a classic American comedy, at the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St., Alex., on Sun., Feb. 26 at 3 pm. Get first come, first served reservations (limited number of tickets) by calling Barry or Midge Shawley at 703-212-8212 or signing up at coffee hour after the 11 am service on today or on Jan. 29 (as long as tickets last). Payment of \$20/ticket *must* be made no later than Jan. 29.

### Duty Elder:

Gerry Cooper

### Greeting Deacons:

(8:30) Bob Harris

(11:00) Margaret Whitesides

### Ushers:

(8:30) John Utter (Captain)

Tobey Tracey

(11:00) J.R. Newman (Captain)

David Smith

Becky Melton

Jane Hyatt Thorpe

Michael Sramek

Ellen McCleskey

### Flower Arranger:

Mary McElveen

### Sound:

(8:30) Beth Roberts

(11:00) Billy Richards

### STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Robert R. Laha, Jr.

*Senior Pastor*

The Rev. Ann Herlin Staley

*Associate Pastor*

The Rev. Dr. Joyce Mercer

*Parish Associate*

Mrs. Priscilla Andre-Colton, CCE

*Director of Christian Education*

Mr. Samuel Baker

*Director of Music and Organist*

Ms. Mary Pratt

*Youth Director*

Mrs. Tania Ryan

*Preschool Director*

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Sanctuary: 321 S. Fairfax Street

Office: 323 S. Fairfax Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: 703-549-6670

Email: [opmh@opmh.org](mailto:opmh@opmh.org)

Fax: 703-549-9425

Website: [www.opmh.org](http://www.opmh.org)

The Old Presbyterian Meeting

House is a congregation of the

Presbyterian Church (USA)

Website: [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org)

The National Capital Presbytery

Website: [thepresbytery.org](http://thepresbytery.org)

## WELCOME TO THE MEETING HOUSE

**January 22, 2012**

**We extend a cordial welcome to all visitors** and invite you to consider membership in our congregation. After the service, please pick up a Meeting House mug with information about the Meeting House. We invite you to join us for any of the many opportunities listed in the bulletin insert.

**Service Schedule:** Worship is held at 8:30 and 11:00 am, with communion every Sunday at the early service. Children's music begins at 9:30 am, with Christian education for youth and adults at 9:40 am. A Taizé service of prayer, song, and silence is held at 7:00 pm on the first Friday of the month.

**Childcare** is provided for infants through 4-year olds in the Education Building. Silent pagers are available for parents in case our nursery staff needs to reach you. If your child becomes restless and needs to leave the sanctuary, an usher can direct you to our child care facilities.

**Children's Worship Bags** are available from an usher. Please return the bag with its contents to the red box in the narthex following the service.

**Individual listening devices are available** on the desk in the narthex. Please turn them off as you return them after worship.

**Large print bulletins and hymnals are available** from an usher.

**DVDs of both Sunday services** are available on a lending basis in the church office. Podcasts of the Scripture readings and sermons can be found on the website.

**Restrooms** are available down the stairs from the narthex. Handicapped accessible restrooms are in the Elliot House.

**Our parking lot** is located on the 400 block of South Royal Street, not next door to the sanctuary. For information about additional parking options, see the flyer in the friendship pad.

**Coffee Hour** will be held in Fellowship Hall following the 11:00 am service and is hosted by the Membership/Evangelism Ministry.

**Art work** on Meeting House coffee mugs and on the front of the bulletin is by Meeting House member, Betty Heiby.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

**Our prayers are with those in the military and other government services who are currently deployed overseas:** Michael Woodgerd, Rod Moore, Josh Himes, Dean Janka, Charles Bell, Emily Miller, David Lewis, Spencer Sullivan and Malarie Speight-Younger.

**Our sympathies go to** Tom, Maggie, and Steven Dabney, on the death of his wife and their mother Karen Dabney, on January 13.

**Our prayers are newly offered for** Anna Davis' mother, Jimmi Lue Holmquist.

**Our prayers continue for** Larry Rood's brother, Jim; Bob Floyd; Mary Payne Gilbert's cousin, Harper Cossar; Peggy and Jim Newman's brother-in-law, Rex Wilkinson; Judi Elmore's friend, Diana Lucio; Martha Johnston's friend, Robyn Kay; Martha Hopkins' father, Ed Hopkins, and step-mother, Lois Hopkins; Olivia Michener's aunt, Charlotte Happel; Beth Brummel's mother-in-law, Terry Beresik; Mariellyn Peake; Lee Posey's sister, Frances Tyler; Lisa DeVaul's mother, Barbara Winski; Debra Thayer; Doug Peterson's aunt, Helen Peterson; and Kay Phillippe.

**A burial service for Bob Neitz** will be held at 1:00 pm on February 23, 2012 at Arlington National Cemetery. Please gather at 12:30 pm at the Administration Building.

## CELEBRATIONS

**The flowers today** are given to the glory of God and in honor of the of 3 and 4 year olds Sunday School class children, from their teachers

**The rose on the pulpit** celebrates the birth of Declan Michael Corcoran, son of Courtney and Shane Corcoran, and grandson of Dave and Ellen Smith, on January 12.

## CHURCH NEWS

**Please join us at 3 pm** today in Heritage Hall to celebrate the coming addition to Ann and Terry Staley's family (a girl). Ann has suggested no gifts; however if you like, bring a favorite children's book as a gift. We will celebrate with cake and ice cream. If you have any questions, please call Marjorie Scott at 703-549-9120 or 703-625-2428.

**Calling all Meeting House artists!** Exhibit your work at the 3rd annual Meeting House art show on Sun., Feb. 12. A portion of sales benefits Family to Family and the organ fund. Please email Anne Browne at Anne.w.browne@gmail.com if you are interested.

**On Feb. 14 from 10-11:30 am in Heritage Hall,** the Meeting House will host the Senior Speaker's Event: *Staying Connected: Employment & Volunteer Opportunities for Alexandria's Seniors.* Local experts will speak about how to explore job opportunities and volunteer options that are geared towards seniors and their unique experience and talents. The event is sponsored by Senior Services of Alexandria and is open to the entire community. Please register by calling 703- 836 4414 ext. 10 or at [www.seniorservicesalex.org](http://www.seniorservicesalex.org).

**Calling all chili chefs and chili lovers!** Mark your calendars for March 18 when OPMH youth will host a Chili Cook-off from noon to 2 pm in Fellowship Hall. The event will be a fundraiser to help defray costs of sending youth and chaperones to Montreat and Massanetta conferences this summer. The Youth will also hold a bake sale. Entry forms and guidelines will be available soon, or chefs may contact Caroline Duncan, 703-549-7202 or [duncfamily@aol.com](mailto:duncfamily@aol.com). For information or to volunteer, contact Linda Woodhouse, 703-212-8611 or [LRWoodhouse@comcast.net](mailto:LRWoodhouse@comcast.net).

## ADULT EDUCATION

**Sunday Mornings, from 9:40-10:40 am:**

***Creeds and Confessions continues through February 5.*** The creeds and confessions of our church are one way the church has articulated its understanding of the truth in various times and situations. Over the next three weeks Madeline Jervis will lead guided discussions of the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Scots Confession and more contemporary confessions. Ms. Jervis is an honorably retired Teaching Elder in National Capital Presbytery and Pastor Emeritus of Clarendon Presbyterian Church.

***What's A Presbyterian?*** begins today, in Westminster Hall. Designed for those interested in membership at the Meeting House, this class provides a basic understanding of Presbyterian theology, worship and sacraments, church polity (governance) and an overview of church history. The final session focuses on the ministry and mission of the Old Presbyterian Meeting House. This makes a great "refresher" course for parents of confirmands and confirmation mentors. Leadership is shared by church staff. Continues through February 19.

**One God, Many Faiths: Reformed Theology Engages Religious Pluralism** – Join us for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual convocation of the Reformed Institute on Sat., Jan. 28, from 9:30 am – noon, at National Presbyterian Church (4101 Nebraska Ave, NW in DC). Dr. Richard Plantinga, Professor of Religion at Calvin College, tackles this challenging and timely topic. For more information or to register, please visit [www.reformedinstitute.org](http://www.reformedinstitute.org), or call 703-518-5125. RSVPs encouraged but not required.

**More on the Confessions:** For those who've missed the Sunday morning classes, or who would like to continue to explore the confessions of the PCUSA in a more in-depth way, consider the course offered on this topic by the Reformed Institute, on alternate Saturdays in February and March, at National Presbyterian Church. The course meets from 9:45 – noon on Feb. 4, 18, March 3, 17, and 31. Instructors include Bruce Douglass, Melissa Kirkpatrick, Ann White, Eric Springsted, and more! Cost is \$75; registration deadline Jan. 30. See [www.reformedinstitute.org](http://www.reformedinstitute.org).