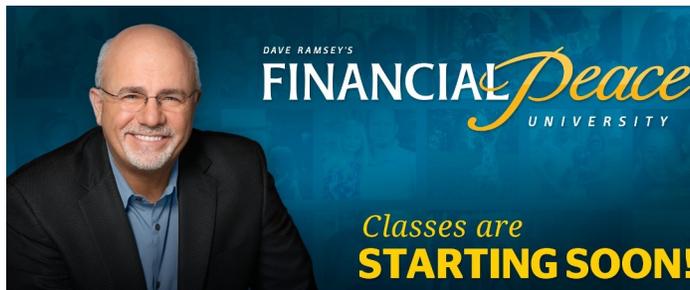


The CHIMES

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A publication of Franconia United Methodist Church, Alexandria, VA



**REGISTRATION
DEADLINE:
MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 9**

A biblically based curriculum that teaches people how to handle money God's way.



**All Church Birthday Party
Sunday, January 25, 2015
5:30—7:30 PM**

**You say it's your birthday
It's my birthday too, yeah
They say it's your birthday
We're gonna have a good time
I'm glad it's your birthday
Happy birthday to you.**

The Beatles—1968
Written by:
John Lennon & Paul McCartney

We all need a plan for our money. Dave's class will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more!

Franconia United Methodist Church is offering a 9-week course, featuring DVD presentations by renowned financial adviser, Dave Ramsey.

Classes start Monday, February 23rd (7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.) in Cokesbury Hall and continue each Monday evening through April 20th.

Topics include savings plans; budgeting; debt reduction; purchase

decisions; insurance; retirement & college planning; real estate & mortgages; and generous giving.

To register online and purchase materials go to [Financial Peace University](http://FinancialPeaceUniversity.com) or call administrative assistant, Shelly Naisbitt, at (703) 971-5151 during business hours or call course coordinator, Thom Hostetter, at (703) 971-9107 during evening hours.

A free lesson preview will be offered in Cokesbury Hall on Monday, February 9 at 7 PM.

Come to YOUR Birthday Party on January 25!

Franconia UMC will celebrate YOUR birthday on January 25! Come and sit with others with whom you share the same birthday month—a table and a dessert for each month! Volunteers are needed to make cakes or desserts and to decorate the tables. Sign up in Cokesbury Hall or contact [Sharon Sheldon](mailto:Sharon.Sheldon@franconiaumc.org) to volunteer.





Cindy Langan, Finance Chair

Franconia UMC ended 2014 with a small deficit of \$458 for the year. The All God's Children's surplus of \$13,735 kept the deficit from being significantly more. Offerings in December were \$34,469, which was \$11,246 less than the December average. Unlike 2013, offerings were not collected at the Christmas Eve services this year. As of December 31st Reserve Funds are \$19,496. The Capital Fund has increased to \$13,350.

Franconia UMC is growing and thriving with new members, new programs and plans that God has for us. We are moving forward with the preparation for the New Praise and Worship Service with the hiring of a Praise Team Leader, Kevin Bennear. The Staff/Pastor Parish Relations (SPPRC) Committee believes Kevin was sent to us to help us fulfill our Vision. The Church Council has stepped out in faith in the belief that God was leading us in this direction. We are asking for your prayers and your financial support as our finances will be stretched, at least in the short term. To fill this position the 2015 budget had to be increased beyond the planned increase. To meet the budget, some cuts in other areas will be required until our financial position is more secure. Our current financial position is tentative—we can pay the bills, but sometimes we need to dip into our reserves to do so.

In the annual budgeting process, we make a plan for the coming year, but

knowing that adjustments will be necessary if revenue does not meet the budgeted projections. Some parts of the budget are easier to adjust than others. Salaries cannot be adjusted easily, so when we the salary allocation and revenue does not meet the budgeted numbers, other areas must be adjusted. Thus with the budget increase in salaries for the Praise and Worship Leader, cuts will need to be made in other places. The Council is prayerfully considering where these cuts will be made so that we can move forward with God's vision for us. We want to be good stewards of the funds we receive and not live beyond our means. Believing that God will provide as needed is a true test of faith. Please pray for the members of the Church Council as we work together to make difficult decisions. Franconia UMC has always been a generous congregation and rises to the occasion when needs occur. Please prayerfully consider an increase in your giving if you are able, so that we can remain financially secure and move forward with God's vision for us.

Financial Commitment Cards

Financial Commitment Cards were included with the bulletin on November 16. We recognize that November and December was a very busy time and you may not have been able to prayerfully consider your financial commitment to Franconia UMC for 2015. If you did not return your commitment card to Church, you may still do so in January. If you did not receive a Commitment Card, please contact the Church Office or Cindy Langan, Finance Chair.

New Things for the New Year

◆ Weekly Reporting in the Bulletin

In the past year, two measurements for surplus and deficits were used. The table in the weekly bulletin insert included a deficit or surplus amount that included All God's Children's income and expenses. What the surplus or deficit would be without AGC is indicated below the table. The Finance Committee has determined that focus on the financial status of the Church without the AGC amounts included would be more helpful. As indicated in December, beginning this month the AGC revenue and expenses will not be included in the surplus/deficit amount in the table. The fluctuations of tuition and expenses at certain points during the school year often mask the true financial position of the Church. While AGC is part of the church's total financial position, Since AGC is part of our total financial position, the church's total financial position will be noted when significant differences occur. The AGC operation is expected to break even over the course of the year.

◆ New Offering Envelopes

Beginning this month (January 2015) a different kind of offering envelope will be used. The envelopes we have been using for many, many years are expensive and wasteful. The boxes used provided 52 dated envelopes for each year. However, very few members of the congregation use more than half of the envelopes in a box. A box with a smaller quantity of envelopes is not available. In the process of cleaning up the storage areas, many leftover boxes of envelopes had to be thrown out (actually recycled, of course).

Continued on page 3

FROM
THE
PASTOR

By: Pastor Catharine Guest

Jeremiah 29:11, Philippians 1:3-6

As we enter into a new year – 2015! Can you believe it! – we are called to reflect on all that God has done in our midst in the past and where our Lord is leading us into His future. In order to do this it is important to stand still for a moment in the present so that we can clearly see.

In the past year, we have watched a children and youth ministry grow beyond all expectations. We are thankful to Mende Wentzel for her Christ-centered leadership in 2014. As we stand still and marvel in God's present blessings, we hunger for more! More ways to lead and serve our young people as God uses to awaken and deepen their spiritual lives (and our own as we work with them) and we give God the glory! Yet, we stand on tiptoe in anticipation of the wonderful ways God will continue to grow these amazing ministries through the leadership of our new DCYM, Leslye Dwight. God has called Leslye to come and continue building on what has gone before. The Lord Who has begun a good work among us is faithful to complete it! (Phil. 1:6)

But there is more! Over the past three years, various members of FUMC have expressed a desire to begin a new worship service that would be contemporary in format. This desire, which initially seemed to be gentle ripples on the beach, has started coming in every increasing

waves. Under the leadership of the SPPRC, the worship ministry team, and mindful of our vision statement, we have considered our wonderful worship ministries in the past, and stood prayerfully still in the present to consider if this is where God is calling us to ministry. Through our stillness and discernment we feel that God is indeed leading us in this direction for our future and have stepped out in faith. God has blessed our willingness 'to go,' and has called a gifted gentleman, Kevin Benneer, to come alongside us in ministry. Kevin will develop a praise and worship service of excellence in the coming months. God is giving us an exciting future – one of hope and new opportunities – one to prosper us – not for our glory but for the glory of God and the bringing in of the kingdom! (Jer. 29:11)

These wonderful ministries are blessings we have received as God's affirmation of the faithfulness of this congregation to step outside our comfort zones and continue forward in faith. God is also giving each of us the opportunity to pray without ceasing for where God is calling us each to be a part in participating in God's vision for our church, because each of us is vital to bringing God's plan to completion. God has a plan – and all of us have a part to play through the sharing of our time, talent, gifts, service and witness.

As we enter 2015, I invite each of to spend time in thankful contemplation of our past ministries, in grateful stillness as we celebrate where we are in the present, and then listen in joyful contemplation to how God seeks to use each of us for His glory through the ministries of FUMC in 2015. It is going to be an awesome year!

Financial Health

Continued from page 6

The new envelopes are similar to the old envelopes, except the envelopes are vertical rather than horizontal and are not numbered or dated. You will need to put your name and address on the envelopes for recording purposes. The new envelopes are batched in groups of 12 and are available in Cokesbury Hall. You may take as many batches as you need or start with one batch and get more when you need more. Envelopes will be available throughout the year.

If you would like to have printed labels for your envelopes, please contact the Church Office and we will provide labels for you.

These newly designed envelopes will save money and will be more environmentally responsible. In the first year, the estimated savings will be \$400 or more. Since the envelopes are not dated, none will need to be discarded and more will need to be ordered only when the supply gets low.

Please pick up your envelopes in Cokesbury Hall if you have not and PLEASE REMEMBER TO PUT YOUR NAME ON THE ENVELOPES!



YOUR SUPPORT *Counts*



Welcome to New Staff Members at Franconia UMC:

Shelly Naisbitt joined the staff as Administrative Assistant in December. Shelly is a graduate of the Air Force Academy and she is a war bride. She ordered her husband, Dave, to marry her four hours before he deployed to Operation Desert Shield in October, 1990. She joined him six weeks later and they honeymooned in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Upon the birth of their first son, Shelly became a stay-at-home mom and the family followed Dave around the world for the next 20 years. After numerous assignments, far too many to list in this column, Dave finally retired from the Air Force in December of 2014 and they relocated to Virginia, to be closer to their children. Shelly and Dave live in Kingstowne and they have two sons: Eric, 22, is a Legislative Assistant for a state senator in Raleigh, North Carolina, and Paul, 19, is a student at the College of William and Mary.

Rev. Leslye Dwight is coming to Franconia UMC as our new Director of Youth and Children Ministries. Leslye is joining the staff at Franconia UMC after serving as the Youth Minister at Embry AME Church. She was ordained in the Washington Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church and is working toward



On January 6 All God's Children (AGC) will reopen its doors to welcome more learning, laughing, and loving. The children will learn more about their alphabet and numbers, will hear and tell stories, and will learn more about the world

around them. We will learn Bible verses and be involved in activities relating to Creation, our biblical theme of the month.

Be prepared to see our halls become a winter wonderland as we learn about the many aspects of this season.

Imagine the joy and wonder of very young children experiencing snow in only the third or fourth year of their lives. Magical!

Don't forget that FUMC families can register at the same time as returning AGC families.

Mark your calendar for **January 27** to register for next year. Classes fill quickly.

For more information contact Myleen Lankford at agcdirector@franconiaumc.org.

preschool registration

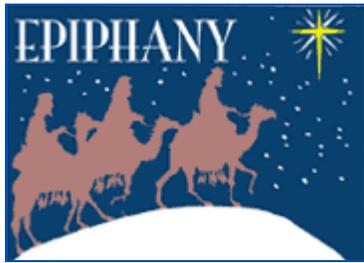


becoming an Itinerant Elder under the AME Church's Board of Examiners and is enrolled at Wesley Theological Seminary. Leslye has a bachelor's degree from Bowie State University and a master's degree in Human Services Management from McDaniel College. Leslye begins on Monday, January 5. She is looking forward to using her gifts and skills of evangelism to reach the youth and cultivate spiritual growth.

Kevin Bennear will begin the week of January 19 as Praise Team Leader and will be continuing the development of the new Praise and Worship Service for Franconia UMC. Kevin is the baritone vocalist and concert moderator for "The President's Own" United States Marine Band. He has a Bachelor of

Music (Music Education/Vocal/Choral Emphasis) from West Virginia University, a Master of Music (Vocal Performance) from the University of Tennessee and a Artist Performance Diploma (Voice) from the Peabody Conservatory of Music. He performed the National Anthem with Renee Fleming at the 2014 Super Bowl and has been a soloist for the Fourth of July at the White House since 2006. He has previously established full praise teams and is excited about starting a praise and worship team at Franconia UMC.

What is Epiphany?



Epiphany (Koine Greek: "manifestation", "striking appearance") or **Theophany** (Ancient Greek meaning "vision of God") is a Christian feast day that celebrates the revelation of God the Son as a human being in Jesus Christ.

In Western Christianity, the feast commemorates principally (but not solely) the visit of the Magi (wise men) to the Christ child, and thus Jesus' physical manifestation to the Gentiles. Eastern Christians commemorate the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River, seen as his manifestation to the world as the Son of God.



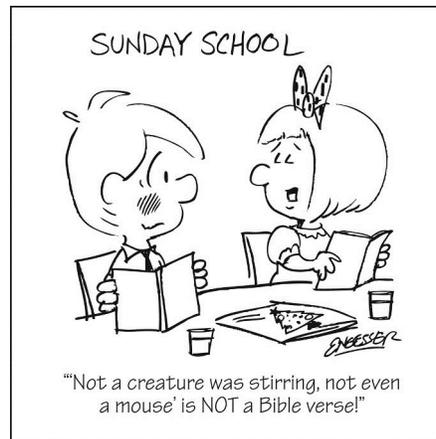
Have you read a book or seen a movie that touched you and reaffirmed your faith in God? The Chimes would like you to share your thoughts on the books and movies that you would recommend or not recommend to those seeking God in their lives. Please let the editor (Janet Hedrick, jhedrick815@gmail.com) know of your interest. Would you submit a review on the movie "Unbroken" and/or "Exodus: Gods and Kings"? How about the book "The Closer" by Mariano Rivera?

The traditional date for the feast is January 6. In many churches, Epiphany is celebrated on the first Sunday after January 1.

Epiphany also marks the end of **The Twelve Days of Christmas**, the festive Christian season during which we celebrate the birth of Jesus. The Twelve Days may begin on Christmas Day or on December 26.

Dictionary.com (based on the Random House Dictionary):

1. **Epiphany**: a Christian festival, observed on January 6, commemorating the manifestation of Christ to the gentiles in the persons of the Magi; Twelfth-day.
2. **epiphany**: a sudden, intuitive perception of or insight into the reality or essential meaning of something



BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

- January 1, 1735—Paul Revere
- January 1, 1752—Betsy Ross
- January 1, 1895—J. Edgar Hoover
- January 2, 1920—Isaac Asimov
- January 3, 1892—J.R.R. Tolkien
- January 6, 1412—Joan of Arc
- January 7, 1800—Millard Fillmore, 13th President, (1850-1853)
- January 8, 1935— Elvis Presley
- January 9, 1913—Richard M. Nixon, 37th President (1969-1974)
- January 10, 1945—Rod Stewart
- January 14, 1741— Benedict Arnold
- January 14, 1919—Andy Rooney
- January 15, 1929—Martin Luther King Jr.
- January 16, 1909—Ethel Merman
- January 17, 1706— Benjamin Franklin
- January 17, 1899—Al Capone
- January 17, 1928—Vidal Sassoon
- January 17, 1942—Mohammad Ali
- January 18, 1782—Daniel Webster
- January 18, 1882—A.A. Milne
- January 18, 1904—Cary Grant
- January 19, 1807—Robert E. Lee
- January 19, 1809—Edgar Allen Poe
- January 20, 1930—"Buzz" Aldrin
- January 21, 1824—Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson
- January 23, 1737—John Hancock
- January 26, 1925—Paul Newman
- January 27, 1756—Wolfgang Mozart
- January 27, 1832—Lewis Carroll
- January 29, 1843—William McKinley, 25th U.S. President (1897-1901)
- January 29, 1880—W. C. Fields
- January 29, 1945—Tom Selleck
- January 29, 1954—Oprah Winfrey
- January 30, 1882—Franklin D. Roosevelt, 32nd U.S. President, (1933-1945)

For more, click on [Birthdays in January](#).



Mission Breakfast—January 11

On the Second Sunday of each month, a breakfast is served following the 8:30 AM service with donations designated for a specific mission.

In January, the dollars contributed will support the work of Nancy Robinson, our missionary in Sierra Leone.

Nancy and her husband Kip have been in United States for several months as Bishop Yambasu in Sierra Leone has placed all non-essential staff on administrative leave during the Ebola crisis until further notice. In Nancy's words, "We continue in mission stateside building bridges of understanding and awareness as to the role and response of the church in Sierra Leone to the Ebola crisis and ongoing ministry, and how we can all work together."

While Nancy and Kip are working from their home in Richmond, they are still closely connected to their friends and their work in Sierra Leone. Their friends in Sierra Leone continue to battle Ebola, fear, deep grief, hunger and stigmatization. Their colleagues on Bishop Yambasu's staff, their church family in Freetown, and the staff at their compound remain Ebola free, but have felt the impact.

Schools in West Africa are closed indefinitely as gathering is not allowed. Quarantine prevents farmers from farming and selling. While Nancy and Kip currently have 24 chickens at their home in West Africa, they indicate that some of those will surely be dinner before they return due to scarcity of food.

The churches in Sierra Leone remain active. The motto is Prayer, Prevention and Care as teams of trained volunteers go out into communities in need.

Although Nancy and Kip do not know when they will return to Sierra Leone, they are planning for 'After Ebola'. Nurses and doctors are needed, schools will reopen and teachers need salaries, orphaned children need family, food and scholarships. Pastors need support in caring for and rebuilding community. Plans are underway to identify orphans and the stigmatized who have survived Ebola but cannot go home. The all new United Methodist University of Sierra Leone will break ground in early 2015.



Mission Breakfast in February

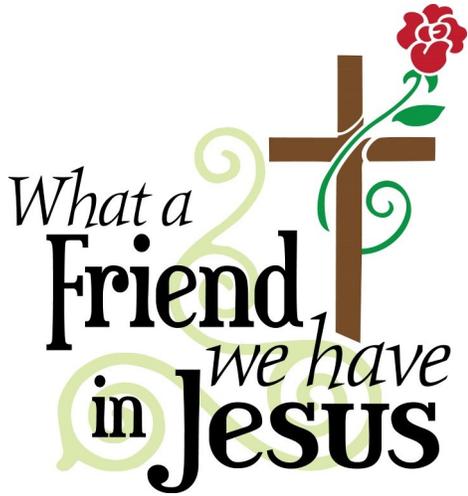
The February Mission Breakfast on Sunday, **February 8**, will support the **Deaf- Blind Camp of Maryland**.

Every summer deaf-blind individuals travel from across the country to spend a week in Anne Arundel County.

Their destination? The Deaf-Blind

Camp of Maryland on the shores of the Chesapeake Bay—a place that provides camaraderie, growth and most of all, smiles.

Watch for more on the Deaf-Blind Camp of Maryland in the February issue of *The Chimes*.



What a Friend we have in Jesus

This familiar hymn reminds us that Jesus is a true friend, one who is always with us to comfort us in time of need. But sometimes it's hard to recognize Jesus' presence in our busy lives, especially when we experience difficult situations and Jesus may seem less real than our problems. We may find it hard to talk to our friends about how challenging life can be during those times.

Stephen Ministry is all about helping people remember Jesus' love in trying times. Stephen Ministers have received extensive training to help them be Christ's presence to hurting people. A Stephen Minister usually meets with the individual for about an hour each week in a confidential setting to listen to that individual talk about what is happening in their lives. A Stephen Minister doesn't try to solve the problems of the person they serve, but they do reassure the other

individual that God loves them as they seek their own path to healing and wholeness.

If you are interested in hearing more about Stephen Ministry, please contact our Pastor Catharine Guest or Barbara Lawrence (702-628-5283). A class is to start this month.

Need A Stephen Minister?

If you or somebody you know is hurting and may benefit from Stephen Ministry, please share the name with Pastor Catharine Guest or Barbara Lawrence (702-628-5283). Maintaining the confidential nature of Stephen Ministry is essential and, thus, we cannot disclose whether or not someone has a Stephen Minister caring for them. We will certainly pray for all who are lifted up as needing God's special care.



Simple Random Acts of Kindness

Winston Churchill once said, "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."

Following are some simple and affordable ways to give—and get—joy in the coming year.

- ◆ When you're out, compliment a parent on how well-behaved

his/her child is.

- ◆ When everyone around you is gossiping about someone, be the one to butt in with something nice.
- ◆ Cook a meal or do a load of laundry for a friend who's going through a hard time or for an

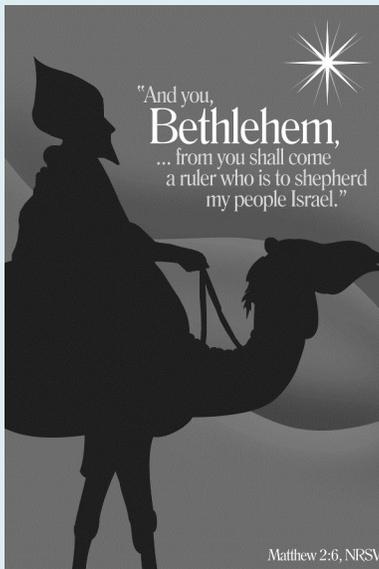


Always pray to have eyes that
see the best in people,
a heart that
forgives the worst,
a mind that
forgets the bad,
and a soul
that never loses faith in God.

©GodFruits.com

elderly person at Franconia UMC.

- ◆ Introduce yourself to the new neighbor who just moved in down the street.
- ◆ Leave a nice server the biggest tip you can afford.
- ◆ Let the person behind you at the supermarket checkout with one or two items go ahead of you.
- ◆ Give someone a compliment or better yet, a HUG.
- ◆ Volunteer to read to students at Franconia Elementary School.
- ◆ Play cards or a board game with senior citizens at a nursing home.
- ◆ Sit for someone who is caregiving so they can get a break.
- ◆ Buy a cup of coffee for the person behind you.
- ◆ Write your spouse a list of things you love about them, just because.
- ◆ Purchase some extra dog or cat food and drop it off at an animal shelter.
- ◆ Say yes at the store when the cashier asks if you want to donate \$1 to whatever cause.
- ◆ Offer to return a shopping cart to the store for someone loading groceries in his/her car.
- ◆ Take all your change to Coinstar and donate your collection to charity.



JANUARY

January (in Latin, *Ianuarius*) is named after Janus, the God of beginnings and transitions; the name has its beginnings in Roman mythology, coming from the Latin word for door (*ianua*) since January is the door to the year.

January's birthstone is the garnet which represents constancy.

January is, on average, the coldest month of the year within most of the Northern Hemisphere.

***That blasts of January
Would blow you through and
through.***

William Shakespeare, *The Winter's Tale*

I Have a Dream . . .

Excerpts from the speech delivered by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the Lincoln Memorial on August 28, 1963—100 years after the Emancipation Proclamation was issued on January 1, 1863.

I am happy to join with you today in what will go down in history as the greatest demonstration for freedom in the history of our nation.

Five score years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand today, signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This momentous decree came as a great beacon light of hope to millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice. It came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity. . .

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a *dream* today!

I have a dream that one day, *down* in Alabama . . . little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands

with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.

I have a *dream* today!

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, and every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight; "and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together."¹

This is our hope, and this is the faith that I go back to the South with. With this faith, we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith, we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith, we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.

And this will be the day -- this will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with new meaning:

My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing.

Land where my fathers died, land of the Pilgrim's pride,

From every mountainside, let freedom ring!

And if America is to be a great nation, this must become true. And so let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire. Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York. Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania. Let freedom ring from

Continued on page 9

Advent at Franconia UMC



A Night in Bethlehem



More Photos on Page 10 . . .



Christmas Concert 2014

On December 14 the Music Ministry of Franconia United Methodist Church presented their Christmas Concert. Music included a variety of stylistic pieces from Billings, Handel, Herbek, Hurd, to Un-Young La. The Chancel and Chamber Choirs and the Chancel Ringers participated,

along with the instrumental ensemble composed of alto saxophone, cello, Euphonium, Flute, Guitar, Violin, and Viola. Franconia's lay readers provided informative and lively narration. An elegant reception with delicious food in Cokesbury Hall followed the concert.

Please consider contributing your talents to the many music opportunities that exist at Franconia United Methodist Church. Check out the church's website at FRANCONIA MUSIC and contact Jay Parrotta at jfparrotta@gmail.com for more information.

A Night in Bethlehem: Saturday, December 20, 2014

A Christmas experience so real, you felt as if you'd been there!



I Have a Dream . . .

Continued from page 6

the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado. Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California.

But not only that:

Let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia. Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee. Let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Mississippi. From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

When we allow freedom to ring,

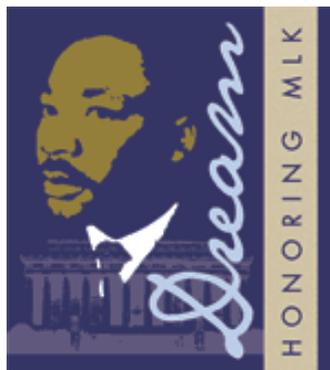
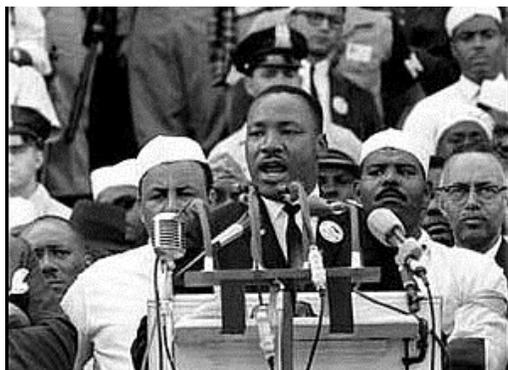
when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when *all* of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual:

Free at last! Free at last!

Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!

¹Isaiah 40:4-5

For the complete speech, go to: [I Have A Dream](#)



Chuck Knows Church is expanding to a new series, premiering January 12, 2015.

A spinoff of the popular series “**Chuck Knows Church**”, **THE COMMITTEE** is a humorous and poignant look at the struggles congregations face as they look toward the future. Using real world topics, **THE COMMITTEE** is sure to open discussion in your church. And it's 100% free!

The plan to produce 12 episodes. The programs will be 10—13 minutes in length and will address various subjects. Designed for both individual viewing and group study, each episode has a downloadable study guide.

In **THE COMMITTEE**, Park Grove Community Church has lost its way, lost its pastor and is closing its doors... unless it reinvents itself. Will it become a vital congregation again? **Watch starting January 12, 2015!**

Go to [THE COMMITTEE](#) to learn more.

Chuck Knows Church is an ecumenical ministry and produced by Discipleship Ministries of The United Methodist Church.



Month of January is . . .

- National Bath Safety Month
- National Blood Donor Month
- National Braille Literacy Month
- National Hobby Month
- Hot Tea Month
- National Oatmeal Month
- National Soup Month

Special Days in January . . .

- 1 New Year's Day
- 5 National Bird Day
- 6 Three Wise Men Day or Epiphany
- 12 National Pharmacist Day
- 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebrated on the third Monday, which is January 19 in 2015.
- 15 National Hat Day
- 18 Thesaurus Day—Birthday of Peter Roget, author of *Roget's Thesaurus*. (Born on this day in 1779.)
- 18 Winnie the Pooh Day—Birthday of A.A. Milne author of Winnie the Pooh
- 19 National Popcorn Day
- 20 Penguin Awareness Day
- 21 National Hugging Day
- 23 National Pie Day
- 23 National Handwriting Day—Celebrated on the birthday of John Hancock whose signature appears on the Declaration of Independence
- 27 Chocolate Cake Day
- 28 Fun at Work Day
- 28 National Kazoo Day
- 29 National Puzzle Day
- 29 National Corn Chip Day
- 31 Inspire Your Heart with Art Day



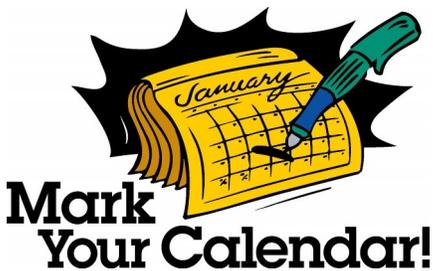
Franconia United Methodist Church
6037 Franconia Road
Alexandria, VA 22310
www.franconiaumc.org



All Church Birthday Party
Sunday, January 25
See Details Inside—Page 1

The CHIMES

January 2015



Franconia United Methodist Church . . . is a multi-generational, Christ-centered community called to reach out to the young adults and families in the Franconia/Kingstowne area. We welcome all and together respond to the challenges of daily life through worship, study, and fellowship. As led by the Holy Spirit, through dynamic and innovative ministries, we will make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Thursday, January 8 Church Council 7:30 PM in Cokesbury Hall

Sunday, January 11 Mission Breakfast in support of Missionary Nancy Robinson, Sierra Leone

Thursday, January 15 DEADLINE for articles for February issue of *The Chimes*

Monday, January 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Sunday, January 25 All Church Birthday Party—5:30—7:30 PM

Tuesday, January 27 Registration for All God's Children pre-school

Sunday, February 8 Mission Breakfast in support of the Deaf-Blind Camp of Maryland

Wednesday, February 18 Ash Wednesday, beginning of Lent

Sunday, April 5 EASTER

Sunday, April 12 Easter Concert

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

The CHIMES
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Photos in this issue of the Chimes were taken by Tom and Peggy Brown and by Ken and Frankie Todack.