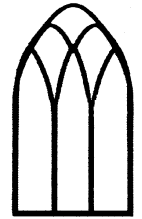




THE WINDOW



THE NEWSLETTER OF FORT HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • CLEMSON, SC 29631 • (864) 654-2061

One Blessing After Another

JANUARY 2012

In the first chapters of the gospel of John, we read "From the fullness of God's grace, we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." The good news of Christmas is that God reveals to us who we really are and who God is in Jesus, the Messiah. We are those who receive one blessing after another. As we reflect on where we have been this past year, a year full of revolutions, war's end in Iraq, soldiers homecomings, and a financial crisis, we remember the blessings that are ours at Fort Hill Presbyterian Church. Let me tell you a few reasons among many I see God's blessings through you, God's people at Fort Hill:

- We glorify God through our worship and music adding voices, bells, and little ones into the joy of sharing songs in praise to God through the music ministry.
- We welcomed new people into the life of faith at Fort Hill including our Kenyan students, our University students, families and retirees to the area who bring us the richness of their presence and who find among us a warm, welcoming community of people who walk the walk.
- We continue to help youth, children, and students grow in faith and discipleship through our outstanding ministries with young people.
- We provided all our staff with medical and pension benefits. Now, for example, Milton Benson, a 35 year employee as Sexton, will have a pension when he retires because of your generosity. And we will receive a \$15,000 IRS refund for providing employees with healthcare benefits.
- We gave 17% of our operating budget (not including the debt payments on the Administration Building) to those beyond ourselves. We supported the mission of University Ministry, Water Missions, Camp Buc, local agencies which meet human needs, missionaries in Haiti, the Congo, and Mexico, among many other ministries.
- In addition to our operating budget pledges, we have given over \$86,000 worth of aid to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, special offerings, *Gifts that Give*, Christmas food baskets, Camp Buc scholarships for children, emergency needs, *Feed the 5000*. These gifts are in addition to our operating budget benevolences and include things like income from our Mission Endowment. This is in addition to health kits, food collections, other in kind gifts, and our sharing our building to important non-profit ministries like Alcoholics Anonymous.

All this is only possible through God's grace working in and through the lives of faithful people who know how generous God has been to each of us. But I also think we need to be honest about our coming challenges in the coming year as a church. We have wonderful faith-filled people and exciting ministries, our challenges are in the area of giving.

- Foothills Presbytery has already cut staff and may cut our University Ministry funds out of necessity, not commitment to campus ministry. We will find ways to continue this critical, cornerstone mission of our church.
- Of Fort Hill Church member households, only 63% pledge to the Annual Operating Budget which keeps the lights on in the building, pays our staff, and pays for the mission of outreach, benevolence, and discipleship. We ended the year in the red even though our Session ministries managed budgets closely and stayed under budget for the most part.
- Fort Hill Church has very little reserve contingency funds for capital needs. We hope to build this into our Annual Operating Budget since we are retiring the debt on the building in late 2012.

I know these are challenges with which God will help us deal. I also trust and pray that your new year is one rich with the blessings and grace of our Lord and Savior, born in Bethlehem, the Light of the World come into our lives.

Yours in Faith,
Laura Conrad, Pastor

<i>Upcoming Scriptures</i>	2
<i>Stewardship Update</i>	2
<i>Choir Corner</i>	2
<i>Disciple Bible Study</i>	3
<i>Sunday School Classes</i>	3
<i>Third Grade Bible Class</i>	3
<i>News from Presbyterian Women</i>	3
<i>Sunday Servants</i>	3
<i>Announcements & Concerns</i>	4-5
<i>Welcome FHPC New Members</i>	4
<i>Church Mouse</i>	5
<i>Meet the Pastoral Counselor</i>	6
<i>Finance Update</i>	6
<i>Fort Hill Medical Mission Trip</i>	7
<i>2011 Advent Decorations</i>	8-9
<i>January 2012 Church Activities</i>	10
<i>January 2012 Birthdays &</i>	11

THE WINDOW

Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

101 Edgewood Avenue
Clemson, SC 29631
(864) 654-2061
www.forthillchurch.org

Laura Conrad, Pastor
Bill Gause, Associate Pastor for University Ministry
Mary Gause, Associate Pastor for Christian Education
Rodney Norris, Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults
Pansy Duke, Parish Visitor
Margaret MacKay, Director of Music
Lori Houck, Office Administrator
Melissa Shook, Administrative Assistant

Upcoming Scriptures for Sunday Worship

1/1 — 1st Sunday after Christmas
Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

1/8 — Baptism of the Lord
Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

1/15 — 2nd Sunday after Epiphany
1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20); Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

1/22 — 3rd Sunday after Epiphany
Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

1/29 — 4th Sunday after Epiphany
Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

February 2012

The Window Deadline

The deadline for articles, announcements, and features for the February 2012 issue of *The Window* is **Wednesday, January 17**.

Please email your item as a Microsoft Word document (.doc) to the church office at [window@forthillchurch.org](mailto>window@forthillchurch.org) or type the item directly into your email and send. If you don't have access to a computer, please leave the item in *The Window* mailbox in the FHOG office.

Stewardship Update

As of Christmas Sunday we can report that we have received 228 pledges for \$851,019 towards our goal of \$925,000. We would ask that you continue to pray about what God is calling you to do as it pertains to the support of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church and the support that we do in the local and worldwide community. With a potential of 400 pledges we could surpass our goal and increase the support that we currently give. Wouldn't that be a blessing! The Stewardship Team will continue to keep the congregation updated and greatly appreciates the support that has already poured in.



Peace, The Stewardship Team

Choir Corner

"GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN"
(from the notes of Robert Morgan)

During the bitter days of slavery, black workers on American plantations solaced themselves with song and created a unique form of American hymnology...the Negro spiritual. It was the Jubilee Singers of Fisk University that took the plantation songs of the Negro slaves to the entire world. One of the last "spirituals" to be uncovered and published was the Christmas carol, "Go Tell It on the Mountain."

How did it come about?

John Wesley Work, Jr. was born in Nashville on or about August 6, 1871. He grew up singing in his dad's choirs, and when he enrolled in Fisk University, he became active in its music program, though his primary subjects were history and Latin. John later was hired as professor of Greek and Latin, but his greatest love was the preservation and performance of the Negro spiritual.

Most of the spirituals has been published, but "Go Tell It on the Mountain" was largely unknown, though Jubilee Singers from Fisk had performed it since 1879. Some of the original stanzas were obscure as spirituals were unwritten songs passed from plantation to plantation. The chorus, however, was crystal clear and highlighted the theme for the whole: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain/Jesus is Born."

Intrigued by the chorus and melody, John added two new stanzas and every Christmas morning took students caroling, singing "Go, Tell It on the Mountain." It was first published in 1907 in Work's *Folks Songs of the Negro* as sung on the Plantation.

John Work's two sons served on the faculty of Fisk University, working with the Jubilee singers and collecting and publishing African American spirituals and folk music.

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain" is classic in that genre. To black slaves in antebellum America, the birth of a liberating Savior was a message to be heralded from the highest mountains. IT IS STILL, FOR US ALL.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Vernie Roberts

* * * * *

Fifteen members of the Chancel Choir will be traveling to Charleston SC on January 27-29 for their 2nd annual Festival by the Sea. They will be joining with other choirs from the southeast to work with clinician Kenny Potter, choral director at Wingate University in North Carolina. They will practice on Friday night, Saturday morning and afternoon, then present a concert at 3:30 pm at First Baptist Church. If any of you are visiting the Charleston area that weekend, plan on stopping by for the concert. You'll be in for a treat!!! We are grateful for the support given so that we can participate in this event.

Disciple Bible Study

Are you ready to be challenged? Wish you knew more about the Bible? The Christian Education Ministry is offering an 8-week Bible study on the Gospel of Luke offered at two separate times — Monday evenings OR Wednesday mornings from February 6—March 26 OR February 8—March 28. The first study is offered on Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30 pm and the same study is repeated Wednesday mornings from 10:30-12:00 pm. The course requires weekly homework. The cost is \$20 for a workbook which may be paid at the **Introductory Meeting to be held** on Monday night January 30 at 7:00 pm for the Monday night class or Wednesday morning February 1 at 10:30 am in room 205 (please plan to attend intro meeting for the class time you wish to join). Please contact Mary Gause (mary.gause@forthillchurch.org or 654-2061) by January 20 to register for the class.

Sunday School Classes

A reminder that SS resumes on Sunday, January 8 at 9:15 am with classes for all ages. While classrooms remain the same, an updated list of adult topics will be available as soon as possible in early 2012!

Third Grade Bible Class

All third graders are invited to a special SS class that focuses on Bible skills! We will meet on Sunday mornings during the SS hour from January 8—January 29 in room 207. Hope you will join us!

News from Presbyterian Women

Honorary Life Membership Award

Each year at the Presbyterian Women's Birthday Luncheon in the spring, Fort Hill Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team presents an Honorary Life Membership (HLM) to a deserving individual in our congregation for his/her giving of themselves to benefit the life of Fort Hill Church, Presbyterian Women, and/or the greater community. Nominations are now being accepted for the 2012 HLM Award. The deadline for 2012 nominations is January 9, 2012. Nomination forms are located on the window ledge outside the FHOG office, or you may also get a form from a current HLM Committee member (listed below). A listing of past recipients of this award is displayed on two wooden plaques hanging in the covered arcade beside the sanctuary. Please give serious consideration to nominating someone for this award, and do so by January 9! Thank you!



Your 2011 HLM Committee Members,
Donna Crader, Janet Johnson, Lisa Street, Beth Wilkinson

Thank You

We want to thank everyone that brought items for the Campbell Veterans Home, the Harris Psychiatric Hospital, and the Clinton Presbyterian Home.

Sunday Servants

Pastor on Call

1/1 Laura Conrad
1/8 Mary Gause
1/15 Rodney Norris
1/22 Laura Conrad
1/29 Mary Gause

Elder at the Font — 8:30 Service

1/1
1/8
1/15
1/22
1/29

Elder at the Font — 10:30 Service

1/1
1/8
1/15
1/22
1/29

Infant Nursery

1/1 Judy Melton
1/8 Lou Phillips
1/15 Amy Worley
1/22 Reagan Blondeau
1/29 Steve, Laura & Caroline Hunter

Toddler Nursery

1/1 Edmee Reel and Austin Adams
1/8 Joy Van Daele
1/15 Jackie & Virginia Ellis
1/22 Lauren & Samantha Young
1/29 Joan Dixon

2 & 3 Year Old Nursery

1/1 Emily & Rich Bartels and
Kristy & Ryan MacRae
1/8 Shannon & Glenn Quattlebaum;
Beth Gregory
1/15 Kerri Kwist
1/22 Dan & Denise Anderson
1/29 Donna McCubbin and Helen Mohr

4 & 5 Year Old Nursery

1/1 Blythe & Marshall Smith
1/8 Shelly & Nathan Wilson
1/15 LeAnne Greene and Corey Norris
1/22 Melanie & Emma Job
1/29 Linda, Ben & Anna Wofford

Offering Counters

1/1 Wayne Madison and Joe Dickey
1/8 Janet Bean and Donna Crader
1/15 Grace & Blackie Cook
1/22 Karen & Tim Burg
1/29 Audrey & Bill Thompson

Announcements & Concerns



CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to:

- The family of church member, Marjorie Lovelace on her recent passing.
- Steve Lefevre and family for the recent passing of his aunt, Helen Lindell.
- Randy Moore and family for the passing of his mother on December 7.
- The family of church member, Jerry Lesley who passed away on December 16.
- The family of church member, Helen Drew on her recent passing.
- Linda Newmark whose husband passed away the week before Christmas.
- Helen Wooten and family for the passing of her mother, Marian McMillan, early Christmas morning.
- The family of Trescott Lee Hinton who recently passed away. He is the grandson of the late Kitty Hinton.



CONGRATULATIONS on the birth of:

- Andrew Adam Ryan Holmes born on December 19. He is the son of Nick and Amy Holmes and brother to Julia and Mason.

* * * * *

Sermon Starters meets each week at 3:30-4:30 pm at the Clemson Downs Corley Center. We will resume on January 4th.

Discovering Faith at Fort Hill is an opportunity for newcomers to explore membership. We will meet next on Sunday, January 22, from 11:30-



Fort Hill Church New Members

Stephen & Rebecca Ackerman — Andy (14) and Ellen & Ethan (7)

Stephen and Rebecca transferred their membership from First Presbyterian Church in Anderson, SC. Rebecca works with the Biological Sciences Department at Clemson University.

Address: PO Box 701, Clemson SC 29633

Phone & Email: (864) 622-9568, arebecc@clemson.edu

David & Judi Cundiff — Alison (22), Will (20)

David recently retired from Royal Dutch Shell Oil, having just completed a 15-year stint in England.

Address: 312 Shorewinds Court, Seneca SC 29672

Phone & Email: (864) 882-8266, ukjudi@btopenworld.com

Bradley & Meredith LeCroy — Crew (1)

Bradley is an Assistant Basketball Coach at Clemson. He grew up in the area and graduated from Clemson University. Meredith has a Marketing Communications background and is currently a stay-at-home mom. They transferred their membership from First Presbyterian Church in Greenville, SC.

Address: 201 Pine Plantation Trail, Seneca SC 29672

Phone & Email: (864) 414-2314, mere.lecroy@yahoo.com

Sarah Morrison

Sarah is a full-time student at Clemson University and is a member of PSA. She has joined Fort Hill as an Affiliate Member. She is an active member of St. Giles Presbyterian Church in Greenville.

Address: 120 Daniel Drive #4, Clemson SC 29631

Phone & Email: (864) 630-9770, smorri2@clemson.edu

Jessica Moyles

Jessica is a full-time student at Clemson University majoring in Elementary Education. She is a member of PSA.

Address: 210 Amberjack Court, Taylors SC 29687

Phone & Email: (864) 270-6215, jmoyles@g.clemson.edu

Hunter Sinclair

Hunter is a student and is engaged to Erin Stroupe. He is transferring his membership from First Presbyterian Church in Macon, GA.

Address: 406 Upper Highland Drive, Clemson SC 29631

Phone & Email: (865) 438-5001, hsinclair@tctc.edu

Frank & Rita Van Lenten

Frank has a Ph.D. in Chemistry and was with DuPont for 26 years. He is now a semi-retired consultant/teacher for Agilent Technical. Rita is a retired preschool teacher. Both are members of the Fort Hill Chancel Choir.

Address: 140 Sorrel Sky Lane, Liberty SC 29657

Phone & Email: 850-3435, fvanlenten@charter.net, ashgram1@charter.net

Leo & Peggy Van Veen

Leo is a realtor and Peggy is a real estate closing coordinator. They transferred their member from First Presbyterian Church in Myrtle Beach SC.

Address: 209 S. Summit Drive, Seneca SC 29672

Phone & Email: (843) 222-4816, vaniiii@aol.com

(843) 222-4591, lvanveen@aol.com



Church Mouse

Oh, Christmas is the time of giving and rejoicing. Fort Hill is SO busy.

Decorating the church for the Advent were: EDDIE PAYNE and EVANNE THIES as coordinators with the help of MANY OTHERS.

Then various families participated in the lighting of the Advent wreath: JESSICA & LARRY GOODWIN; DAVID, JOAN & JAKE ALEXANDER; LAURA & DICK SHICK; JAMES NAMPUSHI; CORTLAND YOUNG; AVERY CONRAD; BRUCE, LAUREL & KATHERINE WHISLER; TOM & CAROL POLLOCK; CAL, KAREN, HANNAH & BEN SAWYER; LARRY & CINDY SLOAN; JESSE, JACQUIE, ANN & BROOK HUDAK; DAVID, TERRI, SAM & MADDIE BRUCE.

Plus there was communion served in December under the direction of SUZAN SIMMONS and with the help of: REEL ADAMS; EDMEE REEL; TERRI BRUCE; HELEN MOHR; TOM McINNIS; NANCY & DUSTY OATES; TERRI SMITH; JOANNE TRENHOLM; HENRY MELTON; RANDY MOORE; and TIM BURG.

A special thanks goes out to the following who have agreed to serve as church officers for next year: DAN ANDERSON, BETH DURHAM, MIKE McLEOD; DUSTY OATES, BEN SILL, LARRY SLOAN, JEREMY WRIGHT, BILL THOMPSON, RAENOTA MERRILL, TOM SHEALY, AUSTIN REEL, and JO JO MARTIN as elders. Deacons are: DAVID CRUM, LEE DAVIS, ANN RASH, BLYTHE SMITH, EVANNE THIES, NICKI WALD, SHELLEY WILSON, and MYRA CATO. Trustee is LEE CHURCHFIELD.

I love the Angel Vespers and the special service for the little ones coordinated by: CATHY OLKER and JUDY BLACKWELL. Dinner for the Angel Vespers was done by the FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY. Plus Holiday Time our was done by FELLOWSHIP CHILDREN'S MINISTRY for the elementary children.

One Saturday this month I was dashing around and heard all these little voices, it was Gift Day for the children. PASTOR MARY had many who were directing the activities as the children made gifts for their loved ones: KRISTEN McINNIS, JOAN ALEXANDER, JACKIE HUDAK, JESSICA GOODWIN, NANCY SPITLER, LAUREN YOUNG, KAREN SAWYER, SUSAN & JULIE MATTHEWS, JUDY BLACKWELL, LISA BRITT, SUZAN SIMMONS, AMY ELROD, EVANNE THIES, FRAN LILLY, DONNA CRADER, MARY STUART TURNER, BETH DURHAM, HELEN MOHR, SUE LIMBER, HEATHER WRIGHT, JACKIE ELLIS, and PASTOR RODNEY plus the MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH and ADVISORS.

Oh, I forgot to list the Keepers of Fort Hill Youth Choir: DYLAN & JORDAN BOLGER, and WILL REYNOLDS who played the guitar along with the choir director, KRISTY MacRAE.

I saw MILTON and then BOB & NAN JONES carrying in lots and lots of boxes that I hear them say were to be filled with food for the needy at Christmas. LINDA GAHAN, DIANE HASELTON, and NAN JONES were helping to coordinate all those activities.

Wow and there are so many more besides these 106. Have a happy Holiday.



Announcements & Concerns (continued)

2:00 pm. Childcare and lunch are provided. If you are interested in learning more about the mission and ministry, please let the church office (melissa.shook@forthillchurch.org) know so someone can contact you.

CIRCLE 1 AND CIRCLE 5: Please note that these Circles have changed their meeting date for January to the second Monday of the month — JANUARY 9, 2012. Each Circle will meet at its usual time though just a week later due to the New Year weekend.



Dear friends of Fort Hill Presbyterian Church,
We truly appreciate all of the love, prayers, and acts of kindness that you showered on Randy and me during the time of his mother's death. Your support provided us with strength and courage from above during our time of bereavement.

Yours in Christ,
Clinta Moore



Davis, Monica, and the extended McGregor family wish to express our sincere appreciation to all of you at Fort Hill for your love and many expressions of caring following the death of our son, Dave. As we look forward to a new year we thank God for Fort Hill Church and for the Christian love that holds us together.

Meet the Pastoral Counselor

My name is Jane Barker, LISW and I am a Licensed Independent Social Worker. I have a Master of Social Work from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, a Certificate of Theology and additional graduate work at the Center for Bowen Family Systems. I specialize in working with families and individuals in promoting healing and supportive relationships by encouraging spiritual and emotional well-being.

Areas of Specialty:

Parenting, Crisis, Trauma, Marriage and Family Relationships, Women’s Issues, Spiritual Growth

I enjoy working with families in strengthening **parenting** skills in a complex world where life is hurried and communication is technologically advancing at a fast pace. Parenting by grace is becoming more and more critical for the health and well-being of our children. I have experience in working with children with ADHD, non-verbal learning disorder, depression, and other childhood profiles.

I have varied experience in working with families and individuals in **crisis**. We may not always prevent life tragedies such as grief, loss, divorce, chronic and acute illness but we can certainly respond by recognizing a relationship with a loving God.

I also have experience in working with **traumas**. Lives today are often touched by war and violence, sexual, physical, and emotional abuse and neglect. Supportive and positive relationships are essential for a healthy response to trauma.

Marriage and Family Relationships is a cornerstone of our healing experience. Having healthy and healing relationships is essential for well-being and health.

Women’s Health is also an area of expertise. Through my own life experiences I have had access to passionate and supportive relationships. I consider it an honor and an act of grace to walk with other women in their journey towards healing.

Interested in **growing spiritually**? The integration of emotional and spiritual health is essential for recognizing your worth as a Child of God. God Grace is a powerful gift of healing. I find it an awesome experience to walk with another in recognizing Worth.

Who Am I? Besides being a “therapist”, I am a mother, daughter, friend, and Child of God. My daughter, Casey, is a 14 year old passionate young lady. She is adopted and has been truly a blessing. I enjoy watching her grow. She has been with me for 5 years. Parenting has been the toughest job I have ever had, but the one I enjoy the most. Besides walking the road of adoption of an abused child, my life story includes the lessons learned from being a part of a family which endured chronic illness and caregiving for 18 years.

Casey and I attend St. Mark Methodist Church. Casey is active in the youth group and we both volunteer in the life of the church.

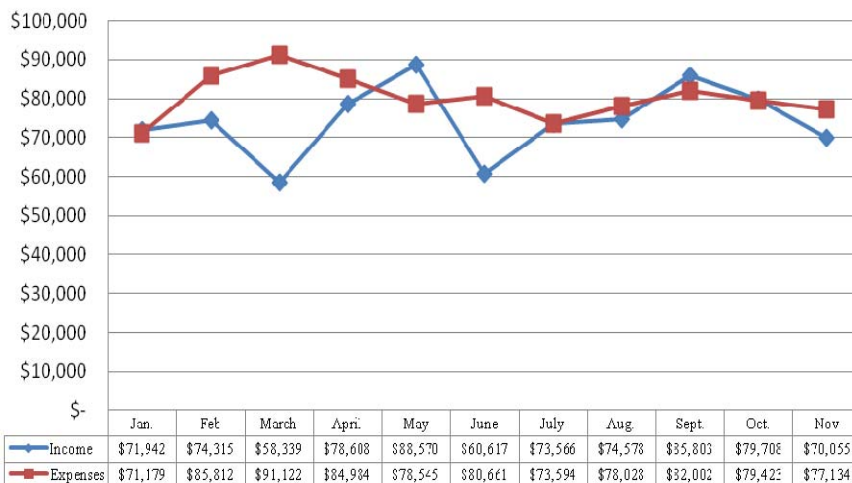
As a family, Casey and I enjoy camping, hiking, and just being with each other in outdoor fun. And of course, we are Clemson fans. Go Tigers!

Finance Update

Through November, total income was \$816,206 while expenses were \$882,487. The year to date deficit is \$62,282. Thank you for what you do to support Fort Hill with your pledges and giving, but we must work to reduce this shortfall. Session Ministries continue to do an outstanding job of managing their budgets as expenses are at 91% of budget, but income lags behind as it is at 86% of budget. Please review your pledges and offerings to Fort Hill Ministries, so we can further reduce this deficit.

The mortgage balance as of November 30 was \$116,248.05 and will be retired next year.

Fort Hill Income/Expenses 2011



Fort Hill Medical Mission Trip: We're Fond o' Rwanda

On October 21st, George and I flew to Rwanda with the Browns and John and Cathy Spragins on our first medical mission trip. The purpose of the trip was to bring Bob's cataract-removing skills to a remote area of the country to people who had no access or funds for such surgery — in short, "to heal the blind." We felt fortunate to be with such experienced medical team members and excellent travel companions.

The trip went smoothly: 30 hours driveway to driveway. Our carry-on's held our clothing and personal stuff. Our checked baggage held all of the team's medical supplies and equipment, plus an 88 lb. surgical laser Bob was bringing to a Doctor from Burundi. Susan carried the precious autoclave sterilizer in a green carry-on like one would carry a (very heavy) baby. Fortunately, the trip through Rwandan Customs went smoothly, which was a relief based on the Browns' previous experiences there. Arriving in Kigali, Rwanda's capital, we were met by Dr. Piet Noe, a young Belgian eye surgeon who lives and works in nearby Gitarama, a city of about 40,000. Piet and his staffer, Pierre, gathered us up and took us to his home for dinner and a sleep.

The following day, we stopped by Piet's Kabgayi Eye Center for a short tour, then loaded the remaining baggage and carry-on's into and on top of a 4WD Landcruiser. Five of us crammed cozily with our carry-on's into the back and one person sat in the front with the driver. The drive to Kibogora took about five hours and was an opportunity to see the countryside. We made a couple of stops to stretch legs and rotate positions. The road conditions on the unpaved portion of the trip were very difficult during the last two hours of the ride. Fortunately, we had a good driver. We traveled past tea and coffee plantations, rice paddies and tilapia farms. The part of Rwanda we saw is beautiful with steeply terraced, rolling hills going into the distant mountains.

Find Rwanda on a map of Africa. Try. Kibogora Hospital is located in the southwestern part of Rwanda on a hill overlooking Lake Kivu and the Congo. It is in the Albertine Rift, featured in last month's National Geographic. The complex was begun as a mission by European Methodists in the 1940s. The hospital was built in the 1960s and has continued to grow over the years. Along with several contributing medical centers, it serves approximately 250,000 people in a rural region. Rwanda, the size of Maryland, has about 11,000,000 inhabitants; is the most densely populated country in Africa. Most are subsistence farmers, and almost all of the country except for national parks is cultivated. Approximately 60% of the population is under the age of 20, in large part because of the genocide that occurred in Rwanda in 1994 that took the lives of 800,000 to 1,000,000 people. Today it is relatively stable and safe, but we encountered aftereffects of that horrific experience on a daily basis in the people we met.

We were warmly greeted at Kibogora by the Administrative Director, Sheila Etherington. After getting luggage to our bungalows on the grounds, we went to the chapel area in the hospital that had been designated as a temporary Operating Room, and began setting up for the next day's surgeries. I say "we" meaning that George and I followed directions and learned from the Browns and Spragins as we went along. It was really interesting to see a bare room turn into an OR.

Surgeries began the next morning. Dr. Brown did the cutting edge work in the OR, assisted by Susan and Cathy. My job was to coordinate the patient flow, administer eye drops, and pat shoulders. George and John kept the sets of surgical tools sterile and did "go for" work. Our patients ranged from 10 to 93 years old. One memorable patient was an 18 year old who had had to leave school because he could not see. He didn't smile until at last the patch came off. Then he didn't stop. The oldest was a spry 93 year old who came carrying a cutout colored paper doll made by the children in his village to bring him good luck. Our interpreter, a student, was very dedicated — perhaps in part because she herself had a prosthetic eye. In all, Dr. Bob performed 59 surgeries. Dr. Noe and his team joined us for a couple of days, performing an additional 37 non-cataract operations. It looked like the OR in MASH. We were in awe.

But we did manage to get out of the OR. Saturday afternoon after surgeries we walked the dirt road into the nearby market. Sunday, between morning and afternoon surgeries, we attended the Methodist Church, along with about 1,200 locals, where Cathy presented our (your) greetings through an interpreter.

Being with the patients was my favorite part of the trip. I often sat in the hall waiting area with them when there was time and truly admired their courage to come in with faith and trust that they would be helped. The post-op mornings, when bandages from the previous day's surgery were removed, and the patients knew they were going to be able to see, were so uplifting that it made one want to sing and dance. Sometimes we all did. You could really feel God's presence during those moments.

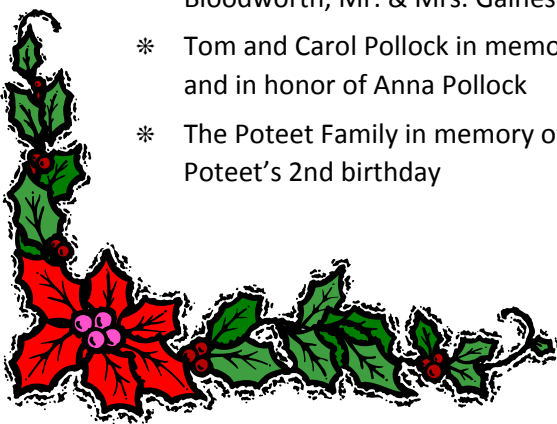
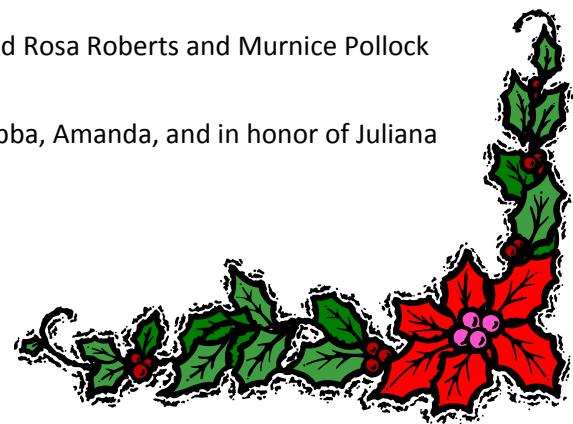
It was a wonderful trip! George and I are so grateful that we had the opportunity to be a small part of it. This article barely scratches the surface. I wish you could have been there. The Fort Hill Medical Mission outreach makes the world a better place, as do Bob and Susan Brown.

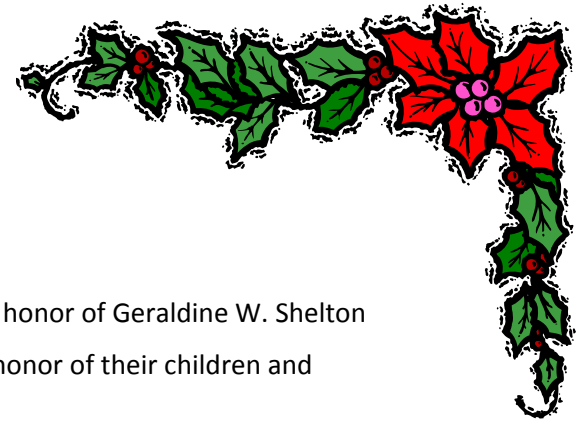
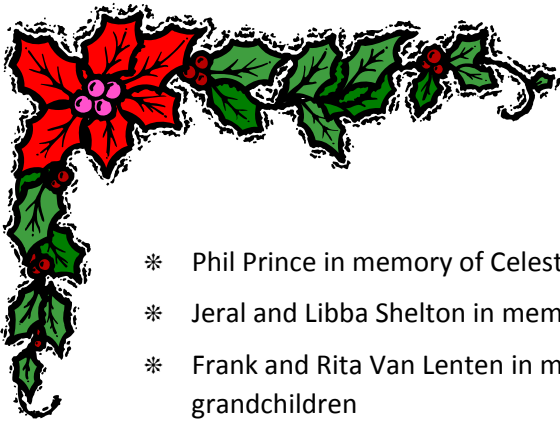
Cile Dunkelberg



2011 Advent Decorations

Poinsettias are given by:

- * Blair Bolen in memory of his aunt, Mary Lou Walker
 - * George and Joan Booth in memory of Family Members, and in honor of Mabel Joan Merreighn
 - * Doug and Lynn Carlson in memory of Bev Carlson and Dick Hendon
 - * Hap and Jeannette Carr in memory of Chalmers and Willie Carr, Gary and Ada Dewitt, and Slick and Katherine Ellison
 - * Chuck and Laura Conrad to the glory of God and in memory of Joyce and Carroll Smith, Laura's parents
 - * Alice Dorn in memory of Helen Stacy
 - * Derrick and Beth Durham in memory of Richard Sherer and Otis and Pat Durham
 - * Barbara Fox in memory of Dr. Rudolf Elling and Dave McGregor
 - * Will, Beth, Billy, Rees, and Miller Gregory in memory of Maggi McCrorey
 - * Larry and Jayne Horne in memory of Don and Phyllis Seymour, and Gene and Loretta Horne
 - * The Howard Family; Tim Ann, Seth, Finley, and AJ in memory of Rowland Howard and Barbara Templeton
 - * Jack and Billie Jackson in honor of their children and grandchildren
 - * Paul and Sherry Kantzler in memory of Mildred Kantzler and in honor of Dorthea Lowman
 - * Betty Long in memory of Jim Long, and in honor of her Fort Hill Family
 - * Jim, Donna and Corey McCubbin in honor of Chuck and Betty Cruickshank
 - * Don and Janna McKale in memory of our parents; Don and Mildred McKale and Willard and Ruth Fredregill
 - * The Mostertz Family in memory of Alton Lavern Fogle, Sr. and William Carl Mostertz, Sr.
 - * Stephen, Ethel, Colin and Patrick Pettigrew in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Frank Cayce, Mr. Lucian Bloodworth, Mr. & Mrs. Gaines Pettigrew and Mr. Plowden
 - * Tom and Carol Pollock in memory of Carol's parents George and Rosa Roberts and Murnice Pollock and in honor of Anna Pollock
 - * The Poteet Family in memory of Libby Crowther, Billy, Juju, Bubba, Amanda, and in honor of Juliana Poteet's 2nd birthday
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- * Phil Prince in memory of Celeste
- * Jeral and Libba Shelton in memory of Ernest V. Shelton and in honor of Geraldine W. Shelton
- * Frank and Rita Van Lenten in memory of their parents and in honor of their children and grandchildren
- * Mike and Joy Vassallo in memory of Ginny Snider and Elaine and Dom Vassallo

Wreaths Are Given By:

- * John and Claudette Bennett in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary
- * Jim and Marchita Culpepper in memory of Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Williams and J.W. Culpepper
- * Lin and Kay Dearing in memory of William Ashley Dearing and in honor of Tripp, Lucinda, Dearing and Banks Eaves
- * Bob and Becky Fant in honor of their children Chris, Emily and David
- * Gaston and Lib Gage in memory of Libby Crowther and Larry and Grace Massey
- * Will, Beth, Billy, Rees, and Miller Gregory in honor of Bill and Caye Gregory and George and Margaret Ann Rodgers
- * Ron and Kathy Hughes in memory of Jeffrey Craig Ellers
- * Tom and Sue Hunter in memory of Jimmy and Tomy Hunter
- * Karen Lindenmeyer in memory of Carl Lindenmeyer and in honor of Vincent, Victor, and Brian
- * Bob and Lou Mixon in memory of Mr. and Mrs. E.R. Brown and Mr. and Mrs. G.F. Mixon
- * Stephen, Ethel, Colin, and Patrick Pettigrew in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Whiteside
- * Jerry and Edmee Reel in memory of their parents J.V. and Ruby Reel, and Bob and Helen Franklin
- * George and Margaret Ann Rodgers in honor of their grandchildren Keller, Billy, Rees and Miller
- * Clarence and Elaine Rogers in memory of their loved ones.
- * Jere and Rosemary Ross in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Martin and Mr. and Mrs. John E. Ross, Jr. and in honor of Mary Frances Ross and Lauren Rose Ross
- * The Ruoff Family, Irene, Ellen, and Owen in memory of Frederick Ruoff
- * Jeral and Libba Shelton in memory of Libba's parents Allie Wilson and Leonard Orr Huff
- * Bill and Alice Thalheimer in honor of our church family
- * Dorothy Vedder in memory of Mr. and Mrs. S.J. Robbins and Edwin Vedder



January 2012 Fort Hill Church Activities

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8pm Rm 205—AA	2 7pm CR, TH, Dung. — Boy Scouts	3 7am TH — Men of Church Breakfast 6pm Lib — Fellowship Min. 6pm TH — Folk Dance Group 8pm Rm 205 — AA	4 3:30pm Downs — Sermon Starters 6pm BH — Cub Scouts No Choir practice	5 6:30pm YR — Y&YA Ministry 8pm Rm 205 — AA	6 12:30 Rm 205 — AA	7 6-10:30pm BH, TH — CAPS
8 1-4:30pm TH — CAPS 3:30-6pm CR, CCR, Conf Rm — Officer Training 6-8pm Conf Rm — Preschool Board 8pm Rm 205—AA	9 9:30am CR—Circle 3 12:15 CR — Circle 1 3pm CR — Circle 5 4pm CR — GS 2851 5:30pm Lib — Christian Action Ministry 7pm CR, TH, Dung. — Boy Scouts	10 5:30pm Conf Rm — Music Committee 6pm TH—Folk Dance 6:30pm Rm 210 — Finance Ministry 6:30pm Conf Rm — Worship Ministry 7:15 Rm 206 — CE Ministry 7:30 Lib — Circle 2 8pm AA - Rm 205	11 3:30pm Downs — Sermon Starters 6pm BH—Cub Scouts 6pm Choir Rm — Chancel Bells 6:30pm Youth Choir 7:15pm Choir Rm — Chancel Choir	12 9am Conf Rm — Transformation Team 8pm Rm 205—AA	13 12:30 Rm 205—AA	14 9am-6pm CCR — NAMI
15 1-6pm FHOOG Office — NAMI 3:30-6pm CR, CCR, Conf Rm — Officer Training 8pm Rm 205 — AA	16 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 7pm CR, TH, Dung. — Boy Scouts	17 6pm TH — Folk Dance Group 7pm CR — Session Meeting 8pm Rm 205 — AA	18 3:30pm Downs — Sermon Starters 6pm BH—Cub Sc. 6pm Choir Rm — Chancel Bells 6:30 Youth Choir 7:15 Chancel Choir	19 5 pm Lib—Fort Hill Investment Club 8pm Rm 205—AA	20 12:30 Rm 205—AA 6pm TH — Cub Scouts	21 9am-6pm CCR — NAMI
22 11:45am Lib — Discovering Faith 1-4:30pm TH—CAPS 1-6pm FHOOG office — NAMI 3:30-6pm CR, CCR, Conf Rm— Officer Training 8pm Rm 205 — AA	23 4pm CR — Girl Scouts 2851 7pm CR, TH, Dung. — Boy Scouts	24 6pm TH — Folk Dance Group 8pm Rm 205 — AA	25 3:30pm Downs — Sermon Starters 6pm BH — Cub Scouts 6pm Choir Rm — Chancel Bells 6:30 Youth Choir 7:15 Chancel Choir	26 9am Conf Rm — Transformation Team 8pm Rm 205—AA	27 12:30 Rm 205—AA	28 9am-6pm CCR — NAMI
29 11-5 TH — Kathy McGee 1-6pm FHOOG Office — NAMI 3:30-6pm CR, CCR, Conf Rm — Officer Training 8pm Rm 205—AA	30 7pm Room 205 — Disciple Bible Study Intro Mtg. 7pm CR, TH, Dung. — Boy Scouts	31 6pm TH — Folk Dance Group 8pm Rm 205 — AA			Sunday Schedule 8:30 Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship - Sanctuary	Key to abbreviations: CR-Club Room TH-Tartan Hall Conf. Rm.-Conference Room CCR-Cooper classroom BH-Bethlehem Hall LIB-Library YR-Youth Room



This
Month's
Birthdays

1/1 Zander Levin

1/2 Susan Brown
David Durham
Susan Pressley

1/4 Mike Blackwell

1/6 Gene Johnson
Barbara Madison
Donna McCubbin
Vi Richwine

1/7 Jo Ann Koonce

1/8 Lynette Sefick

1/9 Nicholas Berkemeier
Eva Henry
Betty Pettigrew
Karen Shepherd

1/10 Beth Smith

1/11 Dick Bledsoe
Cooper Littlejohn
Henry Marcum

1/12 Gus Gustafson

1/13 Karen Burg
Derick Durham
Rosemary Ross

1/14 Angie Winchester

1/15 Will Cundiff
Ross Davis
Mary Limber

1/16 Mary Freeman
Polly Peters

1/17 Kitty Alverson
Robert Dancy
Seth Wiles

1/18 Will Grey Gause
Bonnie Lanier
Mimi Thomas

1/19 Ashley Jarrett
Jay Kennedy
Lois Sill

1/20 Cindy Deaton
Rita Van Lenten
Kyle Weeks

1/21 Harriett Salley

1/22 Michelle Blackwell

1/23 James Cobb
Sarah Thomas

1/24 Thomas Adams
Brittain Alexander
Beth Durham
Jane Polk
Jason Sanders
Hunter Sinclair

1/25 Roger Koonce
Gail Rabai
Pete Smith

1/26 Ever Deaton
Terrie Jarrett
Melissa Shook
Kristen Smith
John Stevenson
Sara Walling

1/27 Pat Cowden

1/28 Bill Thompson

1/29 Joan Alexander
Harold Cheatham
James Culpepper

1/31 Martha Bailey
Carole Kohlmayer
Susan Limber
Randy White



This
Month's
Anniversaries

1/1 Jerry & Beth Chapman
Leo & Peggy Van Veen

1/2 Nick & Amy Holmes
Gene & Janet Johnson
Gary & Marty Winters

1/8 Bradley & Meredith
LeCroy

1/24 Bill & Audrey Thompson



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