



Light From The Hill

FEBRUARY, 2018...The Pastor's Corner...Rev. Norman L. Ramsey, III

Dear Laurel Hill:

When was the last time you spent exclusive, intentionally-set-aside time with Jesus? Was it earlier today? Was it last night? Was the TV still on? Were you squeezing Jesus into your schedule? Or, did you wait to set your schedule after you met with Jesus?

These are not abstract questions? They are questions, I hope, that help us remember where we're going and why we do the things we do. Jesus said there is something we always need to remember.

"You call me 'Master Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them." (John 13: 13 - 17)

It's not just the things in our lives that need updating. Our spiritual direction needs updating on a regular basis. To take for granted we're doing what is right and obedient to the Lord without getting renewed and our relationship updated is to foster an obsolete and dysfunctional relationship with the Lord.

Would you think you could go several days without renewing the washing of your bodies and people not notice you were getting stinky? Neither should we think we could go several days, little less weeks or months, and not get stinky spiritually without regularly cleansing ourselves and clarifying our way "through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit." (Titus 3: 5)

This regular practice of setting aside time and devotion to the Lord is something Jesus says blesses us *if* we go ahead and do it. We don't wait until we think we need it. We always need it.

My grandfather reminded us often growing up, "If you can smell yourself, someone else has been smelling you for a good while." So, don't try to be the exception to the rule. The messenger is not greater than the one who sent him.

Love you very much,

Norman Ramsey

LAY MINISTERS FOR FEBRUARY, 2018

Praise & Worship: 8:45 A.M.-Sunday School: 9:45 A.M.-Worship: 11:00 A.M.

OUR USHERS

February 4 Kirby Miller, Joe Corley, Randy Welch

February 11 Stuart Walton, Raymond Stevenson, Buddy Whitlow

February 18 Bill Robinson, Gene Russell, George Kaloski

February 25 Craig Pollard, Phil Deane, Ray Alexander

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

February 4-11 Jeremy & Stephanie Rowan

February 18-25 Harley Gostel

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

February 4 & 11 Muriel Jenness

February 18 & 25 Jenny Nelson

OUR ACOLYTES

February 4 Eliana Horne

COMMUNION

February Nancy Henry

Millie Peterson

OUR GREETERS

February 4 Bill & Linda Robinson

February 11 Judy Walker and Elaine Ogburn

February 18 Randy and Meade Welch

February 25 Eugene Hicks and Joe Corley

SOUND TECHNICIANS

February 4 & 11 Keith Gostel

February 18 & 25 David Duke

TELLERS

February 4 Jeremy Rowan and Peggy Singlemann

February 11 Pam Wilson and Lois Miller

February 18 Randy Welch and Jenny Nelson

February 25 Phil Deane and Randy Welch

BIRTHDAYS IN FEBRUARY: Steele Martin, Emily Price, Janet Stoneman, Jenny Nelson, Gary Hughes, Linda Kinsey and Barbara Walton

FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

CONGRATULATIONS to Jay and Leslay Brockman on the birth of Edie Jean Brockman on December 21, 2017. Edie is the granddaughter of Billie Jean and John Brockman and the great granddaughter of Mae Holder. May God richly bless Edie Jean and her entire family.

HAVE YOU AND YOUR SPOUSE BEEN MARRIED FOR 50 YEARS OR MORE? If so, the Varina community invites you to a special dinner and fellowship on Saturday, March 17, 2018. There will be a social hour starting at 4:30 pm followed by dinner at 5:30 pm at New Bridge Baptist Church on Elko Road. Dress is church attire. Contact Barbara in the office for more information.

FISH NEWS-A trip to Lancaster, Pennsylvania in April, 2018, to see "The Life of Jesus" is in the planning stages. Contact Kirby or Pam if you are interested.

BOWLING TOURNAMENT FOR FISH: I am so proud of you! We have a bowling team for the FISH tournament and might have a second team. Now we NEED SPONSORS. You can make a donation, sponsor a penny a pin, or give however you want. And, of course, you are invited to come cheer for our team(s) on tournament day-Saturday, Feb. 24 beginning at 9:30am.

Thank you so much for making our Laurel Hill family an active participant in this fundraiser. We are going to have a lot to fun and help others too. It's a win-win for everybody.

ALSO--We will be collecting toothpaste for FISH for the month of February. Bring this or any item and put in the box in the hallway beside the elevator.

ALSO . . .

Mark your calendars for June 9.
That is the date of the FISH golf tournament.

We are collecting the following items for the next 3 months
February - toothpaste
March - juice
April - tomatoes

FOR 2017, FISH:

- *Assisted over 340 households, including 344 children, with more than \$85,000 in emergency financial and in-kind assistance;
- *Distributed almost 4,100 clothing and household items; and
- *Operated through the generous contribution of more than 4,275 volunteer hours.

We appreciate your prayers and thank you for your support of FISH in 2017 and your continued support for 2018.



THE VIRGINIA CHORISTERS

The Virginia Choristers will be our guests on Sunday, February 25th during the worship service and in a concert after lunch at 1:30 P.M. We have invited them to share lunch, which they are very excited about, and hope you all will bring extra to bless them. Please plan to stay after lunch for the concert. You will enjoy their beautiful voices. Thank you, in advance, for everything you will do to make them welcome. They love to come to Laurel Hill

Go Deeper!



8:45am – Praise & Worship
9:45am – Sunday School
11:00am – Traditional Worship

February 4, 2018: Getting on the Right Mark (Hebrews 12)
*(Men's Breakfast at 8:00 AM & Spud Sunday after 11:00 AM Service
From Noon to 1:30 P.M.)*

February 11, 2018: Get Set for Faithful Action (Malachi 3)
(Scout Sunday)

February 14, 2018: Ash Wednesday Service, 7:00 PM
(Hosted by Willis UMC, 8360 Willis Church Rd, Henrico, VA 23231)

February 18, 2018: As We Go Forward (Matthew 28: 16 – 20)

February 25, 2018: Go Deeper (Hebrews 13: 2)
*(The Virginia Choristers, 11:00 am Service, Luncheon,
Concert at 1:30 PM)*

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to **David and Becky Torrence**, and their entire family, at the death of David's mother recently. Please remember David and Becky with your cards, calls, prayers and any other expression of your love and concern. Also, please keep the **Comer family** in your prayers at the death of James Comer this past week. Please keep their family in your prayers and remember them in thoughtful ways.

David and Becky Torrence-8304 Willis Church Road, Richmond, Va. 23231
Craig and Kristin (Comer) Pollard-9432 Kenna Way, Mechanicsville, Va 23116

A WORD FROM WORSHIP...

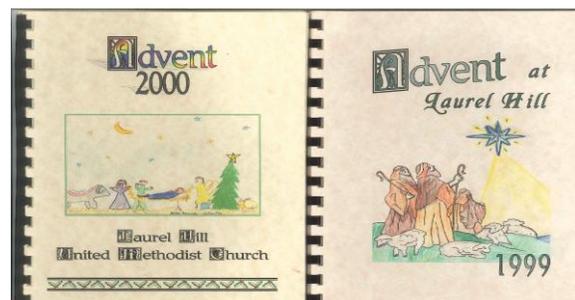
Blessings from Worship! It's hard to believe its 2018! Thank you to everyone who participated in repairing our Chrismons and making new ones. When we meet again we will make new symbols for our tree. Please consider coming to the next Gathering, we have a wonderful time of fellowship. Thank you also to those who helped in decorating our church for the Advent Season and with building the Nativity.

Worship met this month and we discussed the Advent Devotionals for 2018. What was discussed is a Christmas Memory book. The church did this in 1999 and also 2000. If you would like to share your special Christmas Memory, please write it down and send it to me. We will need 40 stories to make our booklet.

I would like to involve the Sunday School and Weekday School in this project for illustrations.

As we move from the Season of Advent into the Season of Lent, may we all remember how much the Father loves us in that He gave His only begotten Son!

God loves you so much that He calls you His Child. "How great is the love the Father has given us so freely! Now we can be called Children of God." (1 John 3:1)



In His Service,
Sheree Gostel



LADIES OF LAUREL HILL

LADIES OF LAUREL HILL will meet on Tuesday, February 13th at the church at 10:30 AM to prepare flower arrangements for our shut-ins. Then, lunch will be at The Parsonage, 2501 Caliber Drive, Henrico, VA 23231.

COMMUNITY ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE



February 14th, 2018, the Willis United Methodist Church will be hosting our Community Service for Ash Wednesday. You are invited to be a part of this service, as well as, part of the choir.

We will share in Holy Communion plus share in the imposition of ashes. The service starts at 7:00 PM.

EASTERN HENRICO FISH SPONSORING A BOWLING TOURNAMENT

We have our teams ready! We now need sponsors who will provide support for our teams' efforts on February 24th at 9:30 AM at Bowl America on Williamsburg Road.

Please see Pam Wilson or Kirby Miller if you can help give support to our bowling teams.



