



It's
Wreath Making
Time Again

Please join us for wreath making on Friday, December 4, at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This is a time honored tradition at Mount Vernon, and we always have a good time making these 14 wreaths to decorate the outside doors of our church. We'll have coffee, juice and snacks. Remember to bring your clippers and gloves, and also remember that men are welcome to assist in this work. A good turnout will ensure an early finish.

-Peggy Wright

IN THE NEWS!

The winners of the sixth annual Writing Gallery Competition were announced recently at the Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History. The competition was based on the exhibition "If Our Walls Could Talk," a retrospective view of the 150 year history of the Sutherlin Mansion. **Kate Newell** took second place in the Elementary School category. Congratulations, Kate!

News from Missions



Thanks everyone for the great job of bringing in boxes for Operation Christmas Child. We ended up with 74 boxes, which included 20

boxes and a large monetary contribution from Infinity Global Packaging where Ashley deAristizabal works. This might be a record for Mount Vernon before this windfall. Good job!

More news: It looks like we will again be collecting hats, mittens, gloves and scarves for the Cherokee children. Look for the tree in the Fellowship Hall and let's fill it up!

Keep your ears tuned in for any other Mission opportunities this Advent season.

-Beth Ranson

The Advent Season

The Latin word *advent* means "to arrive." The season of Advent is the first season of the Christian year and comprises the four weeks before Christmas Day.

Many Christian congregations follow the custom of the Advent wreath, originally used in the home to count the weeks of the season before Christ's birth. On each Sunday of Advent, an additional candle is lit, signifying the coming brightness of the one who said, "I am the light of the world."

Three candles in the wreath are royal blue (or purple) signifying hope, and a pink candle signifies joy. The white candle in the center is the "Christ Candle," which is lit on Christmas Eve.

The scripture readings during Advent represent both the past and the future. The first two Sundays point to the hope of Christ's "Second Coming." The last two Sundays remember Christ's "First Coming."

In this double focus on past and future, Advent also symbolizes the spiritual journey of individuals and a congregation as a whole, as they affirm that Christ has come, that he is present in the world today, and that he will come again in power.

Another meaningful family tradition during Advent is the Advent Calendar. This tradition is one of daily spiritual preparation for receiving Christ and his spirit. Everyone is encouraged to take 5 to 10 minutes each day to pray and look with anticipation the coming of Christ into the world and into one's heart.

Advent blessings to all,
Barry



Through the end of 2009, the 125th Anniversary commemorative bricks may be purchased for \$125.00 to memorialize or give honor to someone.

THE CARPENTER'S PROJECT installed a door and two partitions in The House of Hope this week. This will allow children and their mothers to have a recreation area separate from the other adults. It also provides another large area for storage.



Mount Vernon UMC volunteers were **Frank Cuthrell, Tom Savastano, Butch Dalton, Chuck Sampson, Jim Daniel, J.G. and Ann Hurt**. After the Thanksgiving holidays, we will need volunteers to help paint the new walls. More about that later!

Recently, **THE CARPENTER'S PROJECT** received donations from **Fran and John Stoneburner, Carol and Lewis Williamson, and April Hogan. Margaret and Harry Milam** donated a rocking chair and two end tables to The House of Hope.

Thank you to all who contributed time, money, and prayers to **THE CARPENTER'S PROJECT** this fall.



125th Anniversary Edition Church Directory

The church pictorial directories are here! They will be distributed this Sunday, November 29. If you were unable to be here during the shoot dates or did not submit a photo, directories will be available for purchase for \$5 each. You may even want a spare!

Community Christmas Dinner

• Community Market at The Crossing •

We will be serving 500 meals of ham, turkey, vegetables, and dessert and meals will be delivered to those who are home-bound. We will also be giving away blankets, toiletry bags, gently worn clothing, and toys.

Volunteers are needed to decorate, pick up guests for the dinner, deliver meals, sort and hand out clothing and gifts, serve dinner, and help clean up. What a great way to celebrate the real spirit of Christmas!

There will be a meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 7th at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints on North Main Street in Danville. Anyone who is interested in volunteering before, or on Christmas Day, should come to the meeting for more details.

Monetary donations can be made out to: **“Community Christmas Dinner”** and either given to Tobias Lutz or mailed to: *Community Christmas Dinner, PO Box 2654, Danville, VA 24541.*

For more information, contact Tobias Lutz at (540) 820-6497 or via e-mail at lutztb@yahoo.com.

**A new Sunday
school class is
forming ...**



Bible study is an important part of our Christian journey. There are a number of Sunday school classes at Mount Vernon which afford us the opportunity to learn and grow in our faith. If you are not enrolled in a class, you may wish to become involved in the following resurrected class. This is a dynamic group of various ages ... yet to be named ... but it was formerly known as the “Jeff Fager” class, which met in the upstairs classroom over the Sacristy. Hope you can join us Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in the Parlor.

We started on the Letter of James – defining characteristics of a first-century Christian. The class is open to suggestions for future studies. Barry Foster delivered a fascinating historical setting for the penning of James’s Letter. We are quite fortunate to continue our study of the Bible, combining Barry’s knowledge with our interest in strengthening individual faith through education.

See you Sunday or any Sunday you can join us, 9:45–10:30a.m. (There were 16 present on Sunday, November 22!)

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



For children ages 4 – 4th grade
Sunday, December 6
4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Sponsored by the Younger Youth Fellowship

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

We will have Wednesday night dinners on December 2 and 9, and that's it until after the holidays.

- December 2 Barbeque chicken, corn pudding, green beans, rolls and dessert
 December 9 Covered dish dinner, followed by a program of Christmas music.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

As you know, **Tony Miller** is recuperating from surgery and will be out of commission for a number of weeks. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Frank Cuthrell, our multi-talented, always-available jack-of-all-trades is taking care of our church facilities in Tony's absence. In this regard, you can be most helpful by turning off lights, closing doors, helping to set up for meetings, etc.

We would like to give Frank a big **THANK YOU** for his faithfulness and expertise.

Birthdays

<u>November</u>	
5	Virginia Farley
26	Thomas Fuquay
27	Helen Stanfield
28	Tom Burch
	Nelson Rich
	Alyce Roach
	Sarah Southward
29	Ian Brande
	Susan Daniel
	Carr Slayton
30	Wally Yates
	5 Catherine "Kate" Newell
	6 June Thomas
	8 Suzanne Fisher
	Al Hill
	Tom Leggett
	Sam Swanson, Jr.
	12 Vaden Guthrie
	13 Robin Crews
	Kathy Fowler
	14 Eric Bucklew
	Christine Ethington
	Carolyn Garrett
	Alan Huff
	Clinton Wickers
	Joe Cornett
	16 Jan Sutherland
<u>December</u>	
1	Emma Tatum Rich
2	Betty Ann Berry
	Bill Fuller
3	Brad Hodges

Sunday, November 29, 2009

- Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.– Barry Foster
 Crucifer: 11:00 a.m. – Christopher Waters
 Acolyte: 11:00 a.m. – Weber Harris
 Ushers: 8:30 a.m. Paul Stanfield*, James Bucklew, Steve Daniels, Randy Handy, Alt. John Morris
 11:00 a.m. Andrew Farley*, David Fuquay, Frank Grogan, Tommy Hodges, Tom Leggett, Alt. Gene Saunders

Altar Flowers: Given to the glory of God and in honor of Tom and Betty Leggett by Pete and Jean Brown.

Sunday, December 6, 2009

- Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. – Barry Foster
 Crucifer: 11:00 a.m. – Douglass Dey
 Acolyte: 11:00 a.m. – William Gourlay
 Ushers: 8:30 a.m. Fred Duncan*, James Bucklew, Steve Daniels, Randy Handy, Alt. David Johnston.
 11:00 a.m. Bill Griffith*, David Fuquay, Tommy Hodges, Tom Leggett, Tom Underwood, Alt. Gene Saunders

Altar Flowers: Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. George H. Pollok, Sr., Owen L. Foster and Norma W. Foster by Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Foster.

Nov. Altar Guild: Jan Sutherland*, Mary Lou Dunn, Sarah Moore, Jane O'Neill

Dec. Altar Guild: Jan Sutherland*, Libby Spainhour, Fran Ashby, Tommie Blackmon

Thought for the day

The years race by in furious procession, making each hour a priceless possession. Rejoice in the gift of this special year and embrace the future with enthusiasm.

Important Reminder!

Have you turned in your Commitment Card yet?
To date, 127 cards have been presented for a total commitment of \$301,999.00

OUR RECORD Worship Attendance			
Date	8:30 am	11:00 am	Offerings
Nov. 8, 2009		318	\$ 7,095.00
Nov. 15, 2009	35	139	\$ 5,751.00
<i>[Growing in Faith..GOD FIRST!]</i>			