



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i> *9:00 Women of Praise Bible Study *3:30 Walk CLC *6:45 Choir Practice	<i>2</i> 2:00 Bridge *3:30 Walk CLC *5:30 Yoga *6:00 Band Practice *6:30 Aerobics	<i>3</i> *8:30 Aerobics	<i>4</i> *10:00 Family Karate
<i>5</i> 9:00 & 11:00 Worship No Sunday School today	<i>6</i> *8:30 Aerobics 9:00 Day Camp I *11:30 Men's Study *12:00 & 6:00 Weight Watchers *3:30 Walk CLC *6:30 Men's Study	<i>7</i> 9:00 Day Camp I *3:30 Walk CLC 5:30 Yoga *6:30 Aerobics 6:30 Ladies Bible Study *8:00 AA & Alanon	<i>8</i> 9:00 Day Camp I	<i>9</i> 9:00 Day Camp I 6:30 Stephen Ministry 7:00 Paste Paper	<i>10</i> 9:00 Day Camp I	<i>11</i> 10:00 Scrapbooking 11:00 Bookmaking
<i>12</i> *10:00 Sunday School MIHN Guests this week	<i>13</i> 9:00 Basketball Camp	<i>14</i> 9:00 Basketball Camp	<i>15</i> 9:00 Basketball Camp Jr High Trip leaves, back July 19th	<i>16</i> 9:00 Basketball Camp 10:00 Book Club 2:00 Bridge	<i>17</i> 9:00 Basketball Camp Outdoor Challenge Leaves, back 24th	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> 9:00 Soccer Camp	<i>21</i> 9:00 Soccer Camp	<i>22</i> 9:00 Soccer Camp 2:00 Garden Stone 7:00 Garden Stone	<i>23</i> 9:00 Soccer Camp 6:30 Stephen Ministry	<i>24</i> 9:00 Soccer Camp	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> 9:00 Day Camp II 6:00 Arlington Campus VBS	<i>28</i> 9:00 Day Camp II 6:00 Arlington Campus VBS 6:30 Session Meeting	<i>29</i> 9:00 Day Camp II 6:00 Arlington Campus VBS	<i>30</i> 9:00 Day Camp II 6:00 Arlington Campus VBS	<i>31</i> 9:00 Day Camp II Arlington Campus VBS	

July 2009

Dear Advent Friends,

The May 2009 issue of *Presbyterians Today* carried a very helpful article entitled "Keeping Faith When the Money Runs Out." Here are just a few excerpts from an article by Susan Taylor.

*Whether one believes that the United States is in "a recession marked by rising unemployment" or that we're facing "the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression," few can claim immunity from the recent bad financial news. Not even churches. Economic problems are "spilling over into churches in huge ways," says Clark Simmons, a regional representative for the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) who spends many hours in churches across the South discussing financial matters. And he's hearing a lot. "The reality is that people are scared," Simmons says. "We haven't been through something like this and don't know what it means."*

Taylor quotes many others:

*"Hardship is growing more apparent as people lose their jobs," says Charlie Summers, pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Richmond, Virginia. He goes on to say, "There's a sudden humility that is apparent in people who thought they were masters of the universe...We are not in charge, and this is comforting. We trust in God's providence, and we are reminded that someone else is in control. We are in good hands." Drew Henry, a pastor at First Church in Birmingham, Alabama echoes the same thought when he says, "We see that our money is gone, but faith and community will still be here." He goes on to ask "Where do we put our security? I think to be honest, most of us put it in money. But now that our money is gone," Henry says, "We see that faith and community will still be here...We're asking, 'What's essential?' As people of faith, that's a good question to ask."*

The article ends by giving 10 ways to cope with the financial crisis. They are summarized here:

- 1) Talk to someone you trust.
- 2) Reject language that suggests we are defined by money.
- 3) Think of three ways to spend time that doesn't involve money.
- 4) Don't feed the fear.
- 5) Count your blessings.
- 6) Resist making drastic changes in your portfolio or other assets.
- 7) When spending, ask, "What's the purpose in this purchase."
- 8) Pay for more things in cash.
- 9) Continue to give.
- 10) Remember that you are a part of a community. You are not in this alone.

On that last note, know that your church cares about each of you. Please let us know when we can be of help. After all, we are brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ.

*Dave, Chris and Don*

Copies of *Presbyterian Today* can be found in the library.



## Lonely? Sad? Discouraged?



Going through a tough time—emotionally or spiritually? Struggling with a crisis in life? Or simply feeling down?

Consider letting a Stephen Minister help. A Stephen Minister is a member of our congregation who is trained to listen, care, encourage, pray, and walk alongside you during difficult times. It's confidential, free, and very helpful.

To learn more, talk with a pastor or Stephen Leader.

*Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.*

— Galatians 6:2

**Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!**

## A Great Way You Can Help a Hurting Friend!



Do you have a friend, neighbor, coworker, or relative going through a difficult time?

A Stephen Minister may be able to offer the support he or she needs. Stephen Ministers are members of our church trained to provide emotional and spiritual care to people who are hurting.

To learn how you can help a friend receive care, talk with a pastor or Stephen Leader.

*"As I have loved you, so you must love one another."*

— John 13:34b

**Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!**

**There will be a new training class beginning on Thursday nights in late Sept., 2009. Please prayerfully consider joining this ministry at Advent. Contact Dave, Chris, Don or Elsie McLemore (384-0351) or Bobbie Lencke (317-4448) with any questions.**

**Senior Adventurers will take a vacation until September.**

## Vacation Bible School Arlington Campus July 27-31, 6-8 pm

The theme is the same as the Cordova Campus used, sharing with kids how they may build their lives upon a "Rock" solid foundation—Jesus! We are expecting about 100 children and your assistance is needed. If you are able to help, please call Kelly Henson (598-8774).



Join the "Traveling Adventurers" on Sept. 14-16 for a church van trip to Eureka Springs, AR to see The New Great Passion Play and then on to Branson, MO for 2 nights of shows, mall shopping, good fun, food and fellowship and back to Cordova on Wed. evening. Reservations are a necessity ASAP. The vans will hold the first 24 that reserve. Pricing will be available next week. Contact Dale Parker at 753-5085 for more information and to make your reservation.

## Stewardship Note

In recent years, Advent has been richly blessed in many ways, including financially. This year has been challenging for everyone in the United States and we have not been exempt from the challenges posed by the economy. It is important for our members to know that we understand the financial pressures they are under. Giving estimates can and do change if the jobs are lost, bonus's are cut, and hours are shortened. Yet, giving remains an important part of the spiritual life.

Bad economic times can actually be times of spiritual growth and maturity, as we learn to more carefully manage our funds and to be careful about credit purchases. It is amazing how many things we all have that we do not really need. So, one thing we can do is take some time to look hard at how we spend and how much we spend.

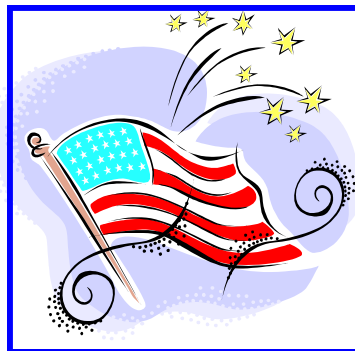
One of the most challenging times of any year is the summer when people travel and families are often unable to attend church. When able, we hope our members will try to be present for worship. When unable to be present for worship, it does help if members keep their giving estimates current. Please think about putting your tithe on automatic deposit if it helps you manage your funds.

The Trustees

### Stay Tuned in for the Late Summer and Fall!

There are exciting things being planned for the late summer and fall.

1. The Junior High Summer Trip is coming up beginning July 15th. This is always a spiritually exciting event.
2. There will be an evening Vacation Bible School in Arlington from July 27-31, 2009.
3. Our new associate pastor should be on staff by about August 1.
4. Sunday School Kick Off is coming up August 23rd. This will be a very special day.
5. We are looking forward to a series of Sermons taken from "Walk Across the Room" by Bill Hybels, beginning on August 30. This series will extend through September and include Sunday School.



**July 5—Celebrate Red, White and Blue Day** with us. In between the two services we will have a time of fellowship with refreshments. There will be no Sunday School—only a nursery for ages birth through 3 years.