



The SPC Post

January 2012
Volume VI, Issue I
Spotsylvania Presbyterian Church

Ministry of the Month: Fellowship

By John Kindig, Elder of Fellowship

Happy New Year to All! Fellowship is the focus of January. Fellowship is an important aspect of the life of the church here at SPC. It provides an opportunity for members to get to know each other besides attending service and hearing God's message each week. The fellowship time between services provides this opportunity. It gives us a vital opportunity to visit with each other as well as a time to welcome visitor and new members. I challenge each member to step out of your comfort zone and introduce yourself to a visitor, new member, or current member you've seen, but do not know. Our church has been known for our warmth and hospitality. Let's keep this up.

Wednesday nights offer another time for fellowship. Our committee offers a low cost meal during the fall and winter. There are also classes and studies offered for children, youth, and adults. We are blessed to have dedicated folks that teach these classes and studies. This provides a mid-week opportunity to "eat out" and study God's word in some really good classes. claned

Wednesday Nights at SPC and a Spiritual Diet for the New Year



By Alan Hager

A healthy diet means focusing on the things that are good for you and cutting out the junk. In our personal lives there is lots of junk. Yes we are all busy, but each of us can trim some time from the TV and the computer to focus on the things that really promote a growing relationship with the Lord.

One opportunity for spiritual growth this year is the robust Wednesday night program we have at church. The dinner time around tables together is a great way to get to know people and enjoy our church family. Following dinner there are events for all ages included in the Wednesday Night program. Starting in January there will be the following classes for adults:

- Men's Study - A new study of the New Testament Book of Mark.
- Women's Study - A new study using a similar resource as last fall.
- The Case for Traditional Marriage - Continues its curriculum but is easy to jump into at any point.
- Music and Faith - A new study on the music we cherish in worship led by Susan Onderdonk.

We will resume weekly Wednesday Night activities on January 11 and run with a consistent schedule until Ash Wednesday on February 22. Dinner and classes will resume the following week. As in the past, dinner will begin being served at 5:30pm and activities start at 6:30pm.

So Wednesday s just won't work for you? Then make the commitment to share in one of the many other opportunities for spiritual growth at SPC. Ladies have a Wednesday morning study at church with child care provided. Men have a choice between a Saturday morning Study (contact Doug Shilling) or a Sunday night class (meets every other week- contact Kenny McKane). Of course we have a host of dynamic Sunday school classes that meet at 9:30 and 11:00am each week. There's even a women's class that meets at 8:30am each Sunday.

Still can't find an option that works for you? Then join with the youth of SPC in the Read the New Testament in 2012 challenge. See the youth page for details.



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Mark Your Calendar!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!	Jan. 1
Downtown Dinner Ministry	Jan. 7
SAM Lunch	Jan. 8
Deacon Meeting	Jan. 10
Wed. Night Programs Begin	Jan. 11
Session	Jan. 16
Men's Breakfast	Jan. 21

Ministry of the Month: Fellowship

By John Kindig, Elder of Fellowship

(continued from page 1)

The Wednesday night dinner and classes resume in January, so mark your calendar for the new year.

These are just a couple of examples of fellowship with God and each other here at SPC. There will many other times throughout the coming year to gather together to worship God and fellowship in His name. I give thanks to God for this mission. I also want to thank my committee members. They make all of this possible. Have a good new year!



Deacon's Corner

Would You Consider Being a Deacon?

By Neal Semich

That was the question I was asked six years ago. The Nominating Committee had considered me for the position of a Deacon. After some prayer and discussion I decided that I would accept the nomination. How hard could it be? I was told that it was just a meeting once a month and checking in with assigned families. Then I went to my first meeting and was handed a three inch binder that contained all the families that I was responsible for. Immediately I was wondering if I would be able to handle the responsibilities of being a Deacon. The first year I really struggled with my Deacon duties and was wondering how I would be able to keep doing it for two more years. My second year I told myself that I could do better. I also asked God to help guide me in my efforts. Near the end of that year one of my family members had written me a nice note thanking me for providing meals for them. This is exactly what I needed. I now saw the outcome of my duties as a Deacon.

After my third year as a Deacon I felt that I had not really fulfilled a complete term as Deacon, so I signed up for another three years. A lot has occurred in the past three years, but it really does not seem like it has been three years. Each year I have strived to do better than the year before. Being a Deacon has provided me with the opportunity to grow with my church families and to be with them during the happy and sad times. It has been a growing experience for me over the past six years. I just hope that I have served my church families well over the past years.

Truthfully, the duties of a Deacon can be daunting at times. If you ever get the phone call asking "Would you consider being a Deacon?", I would tell you to deeply consider the chance. It has been very fulfilling for me over the past years.



Bible Study

New Disciple Study Beginning January 8

By Stan Huie



The Discipleship Class will start a new study into 2 PETER & JUDE beginning on January 8th during the 9:30 hour.

The early church had learned how to deal with persecution from outside the community, but needed help defending themselves against those who would destroy their community from the inside. Differences within the community were not uncommon, but the church needed to contend with those who purposely distorted the gospel for their own gain. Peter and Jude denounce these false teachers, encouraging their readers to stand firm in the faith, holding to the promise that Jesus would someday return. That situation hasn't changed much - there are still those who propagate unbiblical teaching in the church.

Join us as we receive guidance on how to recognize and defend ourselves against such practices.



Music Notes

By Susan Onderdonk
Music Director

Do you have a favorite hymn or worship song we use here at SPC? Want to know more about it? Come join in a new adult course meeting on Wednesday nights beginning January 11.

For six weeks we'll look at congregational song from many angles—historically, culturally, liturgically and theologically. We'll also learn a bit about the people who composed the music and wrote the words and have time for our own personal reflections.

This class will ask you to join in singing with others, but doesn't assume any musical knowledge. It will meet in the choir room from 6:15-7:15 Jan. 11, 18, 25, Feb. 1, 8 and 15. All are welcome! See Susan Onderdonk for more details.



General Fund Income Statement Summary

For the month ending November 30, 2011

	Budget	Current YTD
Revenues		
Donations General Fund	\$634,207.00	\$528,570.22
Interest Income	\$0.00	\$538.48
Other Income	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Revenues/General Fund	\$634,207.00	\$529,108.70
Expenses		
Total Personnel Expenses	\$330,594.00	\$291,218.98
Total Operating Expenses	\$233,850.00	\$188,967.68
Total Benevolence Expenses	\$69,763.00	\$56,489.59
Total Expenses	\$634,207.00	\$536,676.25
Net Income (Loss)	\$0.00	(\$7,567.55)
Change for Change		\$214.35

Communicate and Communicate Some More

By Alan Hager



As a follow up to our annual congregational meeting and my own report for 2011, I want to highlight the importance communication has for our church in this coming year. We delayed the time for our annual meeting and ended up holding it between the two worship services on December 11. The turnout for the meeting was excellent but the shortened timeframe for the meeting itself needs to be explained. The meeting was pushed back further into the year (almost the very end of the year to be precise) to allow the Session more time to review the changing patterns of attendance and giving at SPC. These are important developments that not only to be monitored but understood. There's not a lot discretionary time in December from which to select a meeting date- hence the Sunday morning format between the services.

We conducted our business as good Presbyterians: decently and in order, but the need for deeper communication remains. Consequently, the Session will be hosting gatherings of church members and friends according to our Deacon family units in the coming year. (The congregation is broken into family clusters according to an alphabetical listing of last names.) These gatherings will be with members of Session and the pastor and will be a time to not only discuss the situation with our denominational decision, but the overall needs and concerns people may have about the life of the church. This may include issues like, what will it take for us to be a more effective church? And, what are the significant needs in our church and community that God may be calling us to address?

In the meantime, may we each enter the most important communication of all- prayer with our Lord as we listen to Him and lay our lives before for Him.

"In seed time learn, in harvest teach, in winter enjoy." —William Blake

"The first fall of snow is not only an event, it's a magical event." — Unknown

"Kindness is like snow, it beautifies everything it covers." — Unknown





Kids' Korner

By Jan Saylor



Encouraging children to know and experience the God of Wonder.



Weekly Children's Offering = Support for 5 Haitian School Children

Our goal this year is to raise \$1,800 which will support 5 children through HOM (Haiti Outreach Ministries). It is nice to know our offering is going to such a wonderful cause. So kids, be sure to bring your offering to Sunday School and the WAY. We will provide regular updates throughout the year to see how we are doing!

Our Christmas Program Is Always a Blessing!



What a blessing to have the children share the Christmas message with us.

Thank you to each child and family for their time and commitment to celebrate our Lord's birth with us at SPC.

Mark Your Calendar for....

Family Night Dinner and a Movie



Featuring "Chicken Run"

February 3, 6:00 pm

Watch for more Details

Vacation Bible School Summer Will Be Here Before You Know It



While shoveling snow this winter, your thoughts may turn longingly to the warmer days of summer! The hard working Children's Ministry Team is already making plans for a fabulous VBS in July. The theme this year is: Sky...With God, Nothing is Impossible! VBS will be held July 16-20. So while your fingers and noses are freezing, keep in mind — summer fun is just around the bend!



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING Help Others In Our Community

The Souper Bowl of Caring is here! Last year the children's classes collected hundreds of containers of soup & assorted other non-perishable food items in an effort to help the hungry in our area. Anyone can donate - just leave your canned food or non-perishable food in any of the children's Sunday School classrooms any Sunday in January. (We have 5 of them this year.) S.E.C.A. was VERY grateful to receive all that food! This year, we have upped our goal to a total of 1,000 cans/ containers.

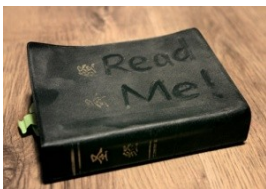


Summer in January!

Between or after services...

Sunday, January 8

Learn about all the good things in store for youth this summer! Information and applications for mission trips will be available for high school students as well as information concerning the middle school camp, "OTE" at Ligonier. You can also learn more about Vacation Bible School, SPC Music Camp, and other goodies that will be squeezed into summer 2012.



NT 2012 CHALLENGE: IT'S ON!

You've listened to Tim make "outrageous" statements just so he could back 'em up with Bible verses. You've wondered if the Bible really says what your parents say it does. You've heard your youth leaders tell you to actually read it. It's time to stop talking about reading the Bible and just do it, so in 2012 we're throwing up a challenge: Read the entire New Testament, the whole thing, in a year.

Here's how in 5 easy steps:

1. Tell Tim or another leader to count you IN!
2. We'll give you the schedule (5 chapters a week!)
IMPORTANT: Mark progress so you can SEE it.
3. Get a legit, but easy to read version. (We recommend the NIV. *The Message* doesn't count.) **Sit it by your bed, desk, or toilet...wherever you're sure to see it every day.**
4. Get a witness. Have a friend read too. Get your mom, dad, or a leader to join in. **Having a partner will be a huge help!** Follow the NT 2012 Challenge on the youth Facebook page or SPContheweb.org.
5. Reap the rewards.

The Bible is its own reward, but we're going to make this worth your while too, celebrating milestones along the way, adding incentives, and in the end...well, the end could be a squeal! But you gotta read.

JAN. 1: RESOLVE TO READ THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2012

1	Sunday School	11 am
8	Summer in January! Sunday School	am 11 am
11	Wednesday Night Bible Studies	6:30 pm
14	Golden Skate World Fundraiser *	6-8 pm
15	Sunday School Sunday Night Youth Group **Middle School Donut Run	11 am 6 pm 7:30 pm
18	Wednesday Night Bible Studies	6:30 pm
22	Sunday School Sunday Night Youth Group **HS Donut Run	11 am 6 pm 7:30 pm
25	Wednesday Night Bible Studies	6:30 pm
29	Sunday School Sunday Night Youth Group	11 am 6 pm

*FUNDRAISER ON WHEELS!

Bring the entire fam to Golden Skate World on Saturday night, January 14 from 6:30-9 p.m. It's \$8 per person, includes skates (roller blades \$1 more). Let the cashier know that you're from SPC and \$3



of each admission will be donated to the youth ministry. It's easy, fun for the entire family, and contributes toward the faith formation of your favorite teenagers.

DONUT RUN!

Hallmark of the 3 Day Weekend

Instructions:

- 1) Bring a few \$ to Youth Group.
- 2) Join the car pool to Krispy Kreme in Central Park after Youth Group.
- 3) Consume untold dozens of delicious donuts while reveling in the fact there is no school the next day.



JANUARY

Birthdays

- 1st ~ Doug Batchelor, Trish Stevick, Sarah Black, Donna Nickens
2nd ~ Mike O'Brien, Sonny Talley, Diana Chaplin, Andrew Stec
3rd ~ Debbie Walden
4th ~ Carla Metheny, Michael Rinker, Emma Lubeshkoff
5th ~ Matt Semich, Jocelyn Elgeti, Hailey Phelps
6th ~ Blair Bolen, Brian D'Orazio, John Anderson, Steve Matthews, Alivia Teri
7th ~ Zach Shaw
8th ~ Mattie Manning
9th ~ Jon Longenecker, Jim Stevick, Blake Batchelor, Hannah Batchelor, Sarah Batchelor, Alexander Walter, Tim Jordan
10th ~ Cameron Bradman, Lauren McAlexander, Morgan Eackles, Cole Hoppe, Philip Matthews, Steve Harcourt
12th ~ Emily Thompson
13th ~ Seth Wagner, Edna Ritz, Alexa Kraynak, Catey Kraynak
14th ~ Herbert Drolshagen, Liz Clark
15th ~ Sarah Neely, Shelly Thompson, Lauren Behrends
16th ~ Kerry Heath
18th ~ Debi Jarman, John Smith, Jacob Morris
19th ~ CJ Forsing, Vicki Burrow, Bill Peed, Conor Cockrell, Sydney Harcourt
20th ~ Amanda Beachum, Kyle Chalmers, Abigail Morris
21st ~ Beth Gulatsi, Robin Judy
22nd ~ Sue Miller, Becki Rinker
24th ~ Wendy Arnold, Ed Johns, Deb Bedford
25th ~ Steve Judy, Richard Tatum
26th ~ Victoria Rice
27th ~ Tom Eackles, Quinton Throm
28th ~ Corey Koch, Joyce Talley
29th ~ Dori Dzialo, Taylor Rinker, Evelyn Way
30th ~ Brannan Glessner, Dawn Semich, Jamie Tatum
31st ~ Phil Walden, Buck Paschall, Karen Shick

Senior Adult Ministry (SAM)

By Bill Mickelson

We have a lot of exciting events planned for SAM. Come join us for the fun and fellowship of being a Senior.



Sunday, January 8, 12:30pm Sunday Lunch with Friends: Join fellow members and friends at the Golden Corral Buffet and Grill, 10320 Spotylvania Avenue, near Route 1 and Mine Road for our monthly gathering. This luncheon is the second Sunday of each month (unless otherwise noted) and provides great fellowship and food. No reservations needed – just pay at the door and look for us in the dining room. Tables will be held until 12:45pm, so please arrive early. Any questions or lunch location suggestions, please call Martie Levere at (540) 220-4847. Remember we welcome new friends, so please come join us!

February 7-17th (Tuesday – Friday) Panama Canal Cruise: We are embarking on an 11 day cruise through the Panama Canal (Tues – Fri) February 7th – 17th leaving and returning from Ft. Lauderdale. If interested, call Nancy and pick up a flyer with the details.

Saturday, February 11, SAM sponsored SPC wide Red Cross Blood Drive. Save the date.

Sunday, March 4, 12:30pm “Fiddler on The Roof” at Riverside Dinner Theater: Superbly crafted with historical and ethnic significance, “Fiddler” has touched audiences all over the world with its humor, warmth, and honesty. This poor peasant dairyman tries to maintain his Jewish heritage in the face of changing social mores. The musical score includes: *If I Were A Rich Man*, *Matchmaker*, *To Life!* and *Sunrise, Sunset*. “Fiddler” is considered one of the greatest musical comedies of our era. Our group rate is still \$46.00 per person or \$92.00 per couple. For those of you who are on our list already, the money is due by January 17. Make your check out to “**Lee’s Hill 55 Club**” and give to or mail to Bill Mickelson, 9410 Dalmahoy Lane, Fredericksburg, VA 22408.





Cogitating on the Confessions

By Session

Feeling ready for the New Year? We've got something to help! The Westminster Confession of Faith, written in 1646, is designed to help us better understand our God and our faith. While not the infallible, it seeks to summarize the key themes of the Bible, the complete and inerrant word of our Lord. We invite you to read and study this month's excerpt from the confession, review its associated scripture, and take joy in

God's infallible hold on your life and circumstances.

The Westminster Confession

Chapter 10: Of Effectual Calling

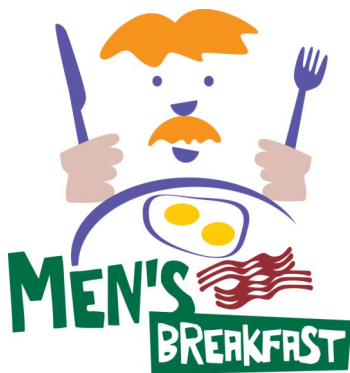
I. All those whom God hath predestinated unto life, and those only, He is pleased, in His appointed time, effectually to call,[\[1\]](#) by His Word and Spirit,[\[2\]](#) out of that state of sin and death, in which they are by nature to grace and salvation, by Jesus Christ;[\[3\]](#) enlightening their minds spiritually and savingly to understand the things of God,[\[4\]](#) taking away their heart of stone, and giving unto them an heart of flesh;[\[5\]](#) renewing their wills, and, by His almighty power, determining them to that which is good,[\[6\]](#) and effectually drawing them to Jesus Christ:[\[7\]](#) yet so, as they come most freely, being made willing by His grace.[\[8\]](#)

II. This effectual call is of God's free and special grace alone, not from anything at all foreseen in man,[\[9\]](#) who is altogether passive therein, until, being quickened and renewed by the Holy Spirit,[\[10\]](#) he is thereby enabled to answer this call, and to embrace the grace offered and conveyed in it.[\[11\]](#)

III. Elect infants, dying in infancy, are regenerated, and saved by Christ, through the Spirit,[\[12\]](#) who works when, and where, and how He pleases:[\[13\]](#) so also are all other elect persons who are incapable of being outwardly called by the ministry of the Word.[\[14\]](#)

IV. Others, not elected, although they may be called by the ministry of the Word,[\[15\]](#) and may have some common operations of the Spirit,[\[16\]](#) yet they never truly come unto Christ, and therefore cannot be saved:[\[17\]](#) much less can men, not professing the Christian religion, be saved in any other way whatsoever, be they never so diligent to frame their lives according to the light of nature, and the laws of that religion they do profess.[\[18\]](#) And to assert and maintain that they may, is very pernicious, and to be detested.[\[19\]](#)

Curious to learn more? Just ask the Adult Ministry Team or Pastor Alan Hager for more info!



Men's Breakfast

Join us January

21st

7:30am

Good food and fellowship!

Weather Cancellations



If the weather outside is frightful, call (540)898-4673. Any church or youth activity cancellations will be available on a recorded message. Closings will also be posted on the SPC website and the SPC Facebook page.



We will not necessarily follow the lead of the schools!



SPC Presbyterian Women

By Carolyn Miller

The Presbyterian Women invite you to join them on January 17, 2012, for our monthly meeting. Refreshments at 12:00 p.m. And our Bible study starts at 12:30pm. If you need a ride, please call Carolyn Miller at 548-2746.

On December 15, we made 11 fruit baskets and delivered them to the shut-in members of our church.

Our mission project for January will be collecting paper towels for Micah Ministries. Thanks for all the donations to the "Charlie Brown Tree!"

Want to begin receiving SPC prayer requests?



Join our e-prayer team!
Contact the church office to add your email to our database.

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."
James 5:16



To Our Church Family,



On behalf of my family, I would like to thank our church family for the cards, prayers, and words of comfort that have been given to us upon the passing of my father, M. Williamson Watts. We were blessed to have his love and guidance for 90 years and we continue to be blessed to have the love and support of our family here at SPC.

Thank you,
Evelyn Watts Way & Family



Thank You for Your Kindness



We would like to thank you all for your cards, notes and prayers. Leyda has been transformed from her broken earthly body to her glorious heavenly one.

We would also like to thank Alan & Katherine Hager for their love and support during this difficult time.

Jim & Beverley Bouchard and Family

ATTENTION!!

Newsletter articles for the February newsletter MUST be turned in by **January 15** to Sheila Miller at: smiller@spcontheweb.org



Wednesday Night Dinner Menu

Wednesday Night Dinners Resume January 11, 2012

January 11—Baked potatoes with fixin's & dessert
January 18—Tacos with fixin's & dessert
January 25—Soup night (beef & chicken) & dessert



Volunteers Needed!

Lyne Shackelford, Elder of Facilities

Do you still need to make a New Year's Resolution for 2012? Why not volunteer to serve SPC with your time and talents this year?

The Facilities Committee can use you in several different ways: shoveling snow, light repair projects around the church, mowing grass, etc. We have several wonderful volunteers that are always ready and willing to do whatever is asked of them, but we can always use a few more to spread the work around!

We are also looking to add people to the opening and closing list for Sunday services at SPC. Right now openers and closers are serve once every four weeks or so and with more people on the list, the time of service could be less than that. Would you consider volunteering for 1 Sunday every month or so?

To volunteer to help with facilities related tasks, please contact Lyne Shackelford at (540) 786-8966 or Sheila Miller at the SPC office (smiller@spcontheweb.org or 898-4673). Thank you in advance!

Thank You Dear Church Family,

We all would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for the generous Christmas gifts we received this past season.

We continue to feel blessed to have the opportunity to minister to your families and are humbled by your graciousness to us. We look forward to the joys and challenges in 2012 as we minister with you and to you at SPC.

Love in Christ,

*Alan, Bryan, Tim, Jan, Susan, Donna,
Janet, Sheila, Roxanne, & Scott*





SPC Servant Schedule ~ January 2012

“Serve the Lord with gladness!” Psalm 100:2

January	1	8	15	22	29
Opener	Chuck Penick	George Lamont	Rich Hicks	Kevin Brooks	Lyne Shackelford
Closer	Jim Bolen	Jim Bolen	Jim Bolen	Jim Bolen	Jim Bolen
Offering Counters	Mary Cottle Randy Cottle Wendy Arnold	Bob Eldridge Shirley Emerick Bill Schlimgen	Roy Hazelwood Peggy Hazelwood Mary St. John	Julie Olsen Harry McCatharn Wendy Arnold	George Firehammer Neal Semich Marta Smith
Fellowship Time Hosts	Deacons	Bereans Class	Purpose Seekers	NSYBR Class	Vickie Peed Greg & Robin Woodard
9:30 a.m.					
Nursery Infants	Karen Cockrell Tara Taffera	Julie Floyd Angie DeYong	Annie Moran Patsy Greenstreet	Adrienne Clarke Bobbie Almassy	Jordan Shilling Tanya Shilling
Communion Servers	Team II: Russ Batchelor*, Margaret Berkland, Sue Pauling, Annette Jones, Robin Judy, Dennis Johnson * = Team Captain				
11:00 a.m.					
Lay Reader		Don Barnes	Ed Jones	George Firehammer	Steve Judy
Nursery	Patty Mellott	Gillian Willis	Gabie Everett	Pamela Quinones	Ruth Robbins
Jr. W.A.Y. 3 yr.—K5	Charlotte Kidwell	Bridget Petry	Amy Watkins	Tracy Aubrecht	Jan Saylor
The W.A.Y. 1 st – 5 th Grade	Jan Saylor	Sue Brooks	Debbie Herman	Patty Lyons	Jan Saylor
Communion Servers	Team II: Rich Hicks*, Andy Dorman, Jack Clevenger, Bobbie Kerns, Carol Bausser, Ann Harris, Ginny Clevenger, Roy Hazelwood, Betty Sickman, Bob Simmons, Randy Cottle Sandy Dorman, Kathie Lilley, Marta Smith, Stan Huie * = Team Captain				
Acolytes	Christian High	Benjamin Herman	Cory Longenecker	Micah High	Philip Matthews