



for the month of December, 2005

# Good News of

King's Grant  
Presbyterian Church

vol. 33. no.

## **NEW CONSECRATION SUNDAY**

### **Summary and Thank You**

*Gay Aridas, Moderator of Commitment Ministry*

“It is more blessed to give than to receive.” That is what the Lord Jesus himself said. This being the case, there surely must be some blessed folds out there, for on November 6th, the congregation of King’s Grant Presbyterian Church heeded the call and stepped forward. Pastor Lawrence Willis, from the Carver Memorial Presbyterian Church in Newport News, led us in Worship and during the spiritual commitment time. Immediately following worship, 170 people attended a catered luncheon, hosted by the Fellowship Ministry, as we celebrated the day and the results of your collective commitments.

The attendance and results were very good. Once again our congregation responded to God’s call. To date, we have received 119 pledges (out of 225 giving families) in the total amount of \$475,945! This figure will expand as it does not include what we receive from the “open plate” offering which is generally in excess of \$40,000 per year. Two-thirds of the giving units who presented a commitment card for 2006 increased their amount above the previous year’s figures. This is truly an outstanding fact for our third season of the New Consecration Program.

Each Session Ministry, along with the Finance Ministry, will be developing a recommended 2006 budget for Session to consider as we begin the budgeting process in late November and December. The final 2006 budget will be reported to you in January during our Congregational meeting.

On behalf of the Session, the Commitment Ministry wishes to thank you again for your faithfulness and excellent response to this call. To God be the Glory!



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Linda Chin, Jud Hill, Blake Kappers, Virginia Leschenski, Alison McCrowell, Jack Norton, Ron Oden, Rusty Settlemeyer, Dean Sheppard, Rita Hamilton, the Carson Family, Chuck Marzahn, Susan Sauer, Joe Good, Carolyn Perry, Peggy Miller, Dan Moorad, Charles Elliott, Cornelia Mayo, John & Frances Chisholm, Cindy Runkle, those impacted by Hurricane Katrina, Roots & Wings Campaign, our sister church in the Congo - CPK Salembao, our missionaries - Tim & Juji Boyle

Garry Garren (*Georgia Jones' brother-in-law*)  
Merritt Breiner (*Gretchen LeFever's father*)  
Bill Campbell (*Lillian Campbell's son*)  
Brittany Doyle's father  
Mr. Hammaker (*Jeff Hammaker's father*)  
James & Frances Harris (*Sel Harris' parents*)  
Dr. Felda Hightower (*Phil Hightower's father*)  
Stanko Milinovic (*Stoja Milinovic's husband*)  
Mildred Briggs (*Pat Briggs' mother*)  
Elizabeth Fuller (*Charlotte Mandigo's mother*)  
Susan Brown (*Betty Chidester's mother*)  
Artie Menge (*Helen Bernd's brother*)  
Cameron Jacob (*Margaret Vadersen's granddaughter*)  
Fan Cobb (*Betsy Leonard's mother*)  
Megan Rosenberg (*Katie Dillon's sister*)  
Karen Mintz (*Margaret Vadersen's daughter*)  
Ed Stapleford (*Nancy Hall's father*)  
Parents of Chris Stone  
Shirley VanDeveer (*Mark VanDeveer's mother*)  
Tommy Williams (*Alice McCrowell's father*)

**The Golden Guys & Gals** will celebrate the Christmas season at **Gus' Mariner Restaurant** on **Dec. 14th at 11:30 a.m.**

Please make your reservation for lunch by calling **Mary Runkle** or **Donna Perry**.

THE ABSOLUTE DEADLINE IS  
**SUNDAY, DEC. 8TH**



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



**Month of December**

Susan Donaldson, Susan Sauer, Joi Ries, Brenda Stone, Dean Ives, Kevin Marti-  
nette, Samboun Ok, Irene Diehl, Molly  
Beiderman, Kim Dempsey, John Rossman,  
Melanie Fleeger, Carolyn Lammers, Jayna  
Boaz, Nicole Austin, Matthew Heinemann,  
Tyler Jones, Joshua Heinemann, Carol  
Baden, Virginia Weinmann, Bruce Beider-  
man, James Dillon, Kevin Holbert, Ray  
Hetherington, O.B. Rock, Joe  
Jordana, Sara Gifford, Matthew Flitton,  
Shelley Swain, Patricia Briggs, Brian  
Miller, Jeffrey Bernd, Bruce Bradley,  
Linda Chin, Melissa Swartworth, Hallie  
Parent, Carter McCrowell, Alexander  
Hoertz, Gary Thompson, Beth Mitchell,  
Kaitlin Christenson, Richard Lammers,  
Beverly Kingsley, Stephanie Barfield,  
Adam Bowling, Janice Matthews, Betsy  
Leonard, Suzi Phelps

## A LETTER FROM SUSAN TO THE KING'S GRANT FAMILY

Dear family - brothers and sisters in Christ near and far. It is over due time for this newsletter update. My sister asked me if there was going to be a 'theme' for it: ... Extravagant Love...are the only two words apt to fit. "Extravagant love" in the midst of tremendous hope; "extravagant love" in the midst of devastating disappointment; "extravagant love" in the skilled hands, compassionate eyes and tender words of medical team members; "extravagant love" in the hugs and embraces of family members; "extravagant love" expressed in the words, pictures and notes found in the cards arriving daily; "extravagant love" in whispered 'I love you' embraces all through the nights.

I cannot make any sense out of these past weeks in any other context...the joy and hope and answered prayers as things came together for a trip to M.D. Anderson (thanks to so many of you). And God being so faithful in granting me the one thing that would be the biggest gift of all from down south: the assurance that MD Anderson would approve of the treatment that I was getting here at the Navy Hospital! I got it. Came back here, had tests done again just to make sure and we thought we were on our way to diagnosing the cancer in my breast. That was what the Halloween surgery was about. Instead, a cavity filled with cancer: my bowels pretty much no longer functional. And now, four weeks later, am back in our home, first full week of hospice care under our belt.

So, that's where we are. Sel has most of the complete set of stories behind some exceptional chapters full of God's timing and planning. I imagine they will be shared as this fantastic community continues to be used by God in all His wisdom and glory. Be sure to ask about the sudden courtside appearance of the recliner! Keep your eyes open or you can miss miracles! And let me assure so many of you who are parents and who wonder about the young adults who live beyond your everyday reach: most of them have written me the most wonderful notes full of their hopes and dreams and calls for their future. I sit here with tears rolling down my face - full of praises for these 'fearfully and wonderfully' made young disciples - products of hope, dream, prayers, teaching, mission outreach of all of us. God has been faithfully at work! To God be the glory!

The created huge cards from LOGOS and Church School kids are awesome. One will never be able to say that kids at King's Grant don't know how to say I love you, God loves you, please get well.

Please feel free to call and stop by for a brief visit. Within the week, I understand some schedules will be made up when those who can will be asked to come sit with me those hours that both Ron and Marie are at work at the same time. We have tried not to accept much food: Ron is showing himself to be quite the proficient and efficient meal planner and preparer. There will be times down the road where the food will be very welcome, believe me!

'Tis time to end- The magic carpet ride continues - in the midst of extravagant love-----it just gets better and better. Susan

## CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP DINNER - DEC. 11TH

Get your holidays rolling by attending Fellowship's "Christmas Celebration with Sounds of the Season." Spaghetti dinner will be provided by the Fellowship Ministry at 6:00 p.m. **NO COOKING!!!** Come and enjoy! After dinner enjoy Christmas music by various church choirs and members of our congregation. Come for a great evening of music and fellowship. Hope to see YOU!



**NEXT EVENT: Jan. 6th, 2006  
MISSION FELLOWSHIP DINNER**  
at 6:00 p.m. The college students on Mission Trips last summer will be preparing the meal and speaking of their experiences. Come and hear what they have to say.

Jan. 29th, 2006 - 6:00 p.m. - potluck  
**6th ANNUAL MEN'S CAKEBAKE**  
with the  
**2nd ANNUAL WOMEN'S DECORATE  
A HAT NIGHT**

## FLOWER CHART

There are openings for Sundays in 2006. Please sign up for a Sunday on the calendar posted outside the middle door of the Sanctuary. Cost is \$30. Forms are also located by the chart to specify the type/color of the flowers you would like and the dedication for the Sunday bulletins.

## REMINDER:

*There are more than 12 Sundays this year that no payment has been received for the Sanctuary flowers. Please check to make sure your payment is in before the end of 2005. Checks for \$30 need to be clearly marked "flowers."*

*Thank you!*

*The Worship & Music Ministry*

## Attention Church Family!

You are cordially invited to a **FREE** dinner, compliments of the college mission team!!! Come enjoy some Mexican coffee & meet our very special guests!!!! Mark your calendars!!!!!! Plan to join the college Mission Trippers on Friday, Jan. 6 for a delicious dinner, with Pasos de Fe missionaries, Todd & Tricia Reinschmidt & their daughter Kaitlyn. The dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m., the program at 7:30 p.m. It is **FREE!!!!!!** The team welcomes all of our church family to come & hear of the trip's adventures, including our adventure with a giraffe, as well as mission opportunities for 2006. Don't miss it!

Thank you my church family and friends for your thoughts and prayers and cards in August and September when my two brothers passed away – and again in October when I was in the hospital. I felt it all and I am doing better. I am so blessed to have my family, friends and God looking out for me.

Love, Peggy Miller

## GAP/RAP MEETING

Grandparents and Relatives as Parents (GAP/RAP), a support group for caregivers who are raising either their grandchildren or another relative's children, meets at St. Nicholas Catholic Church the 1st Tuesday of the month. The meetings are open to all and are held from 6-7 p.m. in Room 103. Additional information can be obtained by calling Christine Delo, the support group coordinator.

## STAFF GIFT

Each year it has been the practice of the congregation to present a monetary gift to the staff families of our Church. The opportunity is with us again to participate in showing love and appreciation for those that minister to us in such a dedicated and loving manner.

Please place your gift in the offering plate and mark it as *Staff Gift*, or give it directly to Sylvia Maume or Don Tillman. Please have your gift in by Sunday, December 18th.

## Farewell Corner

This month we bid Steve and Ann Burke farewell. Steve is with the law firm of Williams Mullen in Richmond. It is a bitter sweet move for the Burkes. They have lived in Virginia Beach for 24 years and will leave behind Ann's parents and Steve's mother in Williamsburg and the many friends they have made through the years. But it will be a sweet move because their daughter, Elizabeth, her husband, Steve, and granddaughter, Annie, will be living just a couple of blocks from Ann and Steve. Ann is looking forward to the role of being grandmother to Annie.

Steve, Ann, and their children Elizabeth, Adam and Patrick were active in many areas of the church during their years at KGPC. Steve served on the Session and taught the adult "Seekers Class" in Sunday School. Ann served on the Christian Education Ministry, taught Sunday School and Summer Bible School. She was, also, in the bell choir. Elizabeth, Adam and Patrick were active in the Sunday School and Youth groups. Adam and Patrick served as ushers. Adam is now in Charleston, SC and Patrick a senior at Virginia Tech.

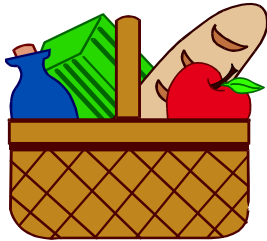
With friends and family in the area we will not bid the Burkes good-bye but a fond, "we will see you again soon".

## Outreach Project

Would you please be a blessing to someone else this Christmas? The church will have a list of families who need food. Would you provide the groceries (uncooked) for Christmas dinner for one of these families? We will provide you the name, address, phone number and number of people in the family; you buy and deliver the groceries at your convenience, but preferable a few days before Christmas.

Please call Bruce or Lilly Bradley to volunteer. More than one family can team up to buy groceries.

Providing a meal for someone else will make your own feast tastier! Thanks for sharing.



*And the King will answer them,  
"Truly I say to you, as you did it  
To one of the least of these  
My brethren, you did it to me."  
Matthew 25:40*

## YOUTH MINISTRY

A BIG THANKS for your continued support of our mission projects! Thanks to all who supported our PJ Bake Sale in Nov. Thanks to the generosity of our buyers, the PJs will be able to buy Christmas gifts for the 60 residents of the Ballentine Home in Norfolk. The youth will be hosting a Christmas party for the residents on Dec. 18. Thanks to all who helped by baking, as well! We couldn't have done it without you!

### Upcoming PJ events:

- Dec. 4 Assist with Advent Event 3-7 p.m. @ church
- Dec. 11 "Wrap" party 5-6 p.m. @ church
- Dec. 18 Ballentine Home Christmas Party - meet @ church at 1 p.m.

### Upcoming PYF events:

- Dec. 4 Assist with Advent Event 3-7 p.m. @ church
- Dec. 11 Bread Sunday 5-6 p.m. @ church
- Dec. 18 Yankee Gift Exchange & Appetizer night 5-6 p.m. @ church...bring a \$1 unisex gift & Christmas appetizer to share

NO PJs or PYF on Sunday, Dec. 25 or Sunday, Jan. 1

## KING'S GRANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### December Prayer Vigil – Newsletter Item

Before the holiday hustle and bustle gets too intense, King's Grant Presbyterian Church will hold a prayer vigil on Friday, December 9, beginning at 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. The event is open to church members and residents of the Little Neck Peninsula, who wish to reserve a quiet hour to share with God their reflections of the past year (or more) filled with blessings, joys, concerns, sickness, sadness and tragedies. There will be no formal program, simply time reserved for prayer and meditation. As we await with joyful anticipation the celebration of the birth of our savior, this December prayer vigil provides an opportunity to bring closure to the year 2005 with remembrance of the past circumstances that marked the year for each person and to draw strength and hope from the God who loves us most.