

## Footprints

*By Margaret Fishback Powers*

One night I dreamed a dream.  
I was walking along the beach with my Lord.  
Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.  
For each scene,  
I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,  
One belonging to me and  
One to my Lord.

When the last scene of my life shot before me  
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.  
There was only one set of footprints.  
I realized that this was at the lowest  
And saddest times of my life.  
This always bothered me  
And I questioned the Lord  
about my dilemma.

"Lord, You told me when i decided to follow You,  
You would walk and talk with me all the way.  
But i'm aware that during the most troublesome  
Times of my life there is only one set of footprints.  
I just don't understand why, when I need You most,  
You leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child,  
I love you and will never leave you,  
never, ever, during your trials and testings.  
When you say only one set of footprints,  
It was then that I carried you."

“Footprints”, written by Margaret Fishback, Thanksgiving, 1964, Echo Lake Youth Camp, Kingston, Ontario, Canada. Copyright 1964 by Margaret Fishback Powers.



*A Community in Christ*

**Chester United Methodist Church**

*Our Mission: Rooted in God, Growing in Christ, Bearing Fruit in the Spirit*

12132 Percival Street, Chester, Virginia 23831 \* Church: (804) 748-6006 Fax: 748-0859



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January 1, 2012

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

First Sunday  
after Christmas

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*Please sign the red attendance register, sign up for activities in which you would like to participate and pass it to your neighbor.*

*ENTRANCE*

Chimes

Prelude

*Joy to the World*

Pianist

Call to Worship

Leader: The angel said: "Do not be afraid, for I am bringing you good news of a great joy for all the people.

**Congregation: To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."**

\* Opening Carol No. 230

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

\* Opening Prayer

**Eternal God, you have brought us again to the glad season when we celebrate the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that his Spirit may be born anew in our hearts this day. Amen.**

Welcome, Announcements and Greeting

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

Special Music

*Sing*

Fresh Start Band

Prayer for Illumination

**Let the words of our mouths, and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.**

Scripture Readings

*Isaiah 40:27-31; 63:9*

*Hebrews 13:5*

Sermon

*"The Story Behind Footprints"*

Rev. Dr. M.T. Kutz

Reading (unison)

*Footprints in the Sand*

Celebration of Holy Baptism

pages 39-43

Offering

Offertory Music

*God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*

inHarmony

\* Doxology

*What Child Is This*

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him;

The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**God of love and power, forgive us when we think we have traveled this journey alone and in our own might. Everything we have and every step we take is under your providential care. Help us to walk when we can and allow you to carry us when we can't. And wherever we travel, may we walk next to you. Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING

A Service of Word and Table III

pages 15-16

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer No. 895

Breaking the Bread and Lifting the Cup

Giving the Bread and Cup

*At the direction of the ushers, please come by the center aisle and, as you are able, kneel at the communion rail. Please eat the bread and drink the juice as you are served and then wait for the table dismissal to return to your pew by the side aisles. If you are unable to come forward, please tell one of the ushers and the pastor will bring communion to you.*

Special Music

*Lulay Alleluia*

inHarmony

Prayer after Receiving

The Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition No. 607

## SENDING FORTH

- \* Closing Hymn No. 606      *Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine*  
(Sung to the tune of, "I Sing the Almighty Power of God")
- \* Benediction
- \* Postlude

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\* *Please stand as you are able. Bold print indicates a response in unison.*

**Today We Celebrate** the Holy Baptism of *Elizah Rae Amsel* who was born May 14, 2011 in Warrsburg, MO to Christopher and Rebekah Amsel.

**The Flowers on the Altar** are given to the Glory of God in celebration of our 20<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary by Kris and Joe Spadaccia.

## CALENDAR

### January 1- January 8, 2011

Today:	11:00 AM	Traditional Service
Mon.-Thurs.	9:15 AM	Nursery School
Monday:		Office Closed
Tuesday:	10:00 AM	Prayer Group
	7:00 PM	Stephen Ministry
Wednesday:	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Bulletin Deadline</b>
	9:30 AM	Visitation Team
	6:00 PM	High School Youth
	6:30 PM	United Methodist Men
Thursday:		
Friday:		
Saturday:		

<b>Next Sunday:</b>	8:30 AM	Fresh Start Service
	9:45 AM	Sun. Sch/Sm. Groups
	11:00 AM	Traditional Service

#### Music Schedule:

Sunday:		No Rehearsals
Tuesday:		
	6:30 PM	JumpStart Band
Wednesday:		
Thursday:	6:30 PM	Fresh Start Band
	7:30 PM	Chancel Choir



*A Community in Christ*

Ministers  
 Pastor  
 Music Director/Organist  
 Director of Spiritual Formation  
 Middle School Youth Director  
 High School Youth Director  
 Facilities Manager  
 Financial Administrator  
 Secretary  
 Nursery School Director  
 Church Website

Every Member of the Congregation  
 Dr. Margaret T. Kutz: [pastor@chesterumc.org](mailto:pastor@chesterumc.org)  
 Joshua Wortham: [music@chesterumc.org](mailto:music@chesterumc.org)  
 Rev. Dr. Jim Davis: [dsf@chesterumc.org](mailto:dsf@chesterumc.org)  
 Susan Nixon: [mseyouthdirector@chesterumc.org](mailto:mseyouthdirector@chesterumc.org)  
 Jenni Deckert: [hsyouthdirector@chesterumc.org](mailto:hsyouthdirector@chesterumc.org)  
 Jimmy Willingham: [facilities@chesterumc.org](mailto:facilities@chesterumc.org)  
 Jerri Hunter: [finance@chesterumc.org](mailto:finance@chesterumc.org)  
 Terry Wisegarver: [cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org](mailto:cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org)  
 Jenni Deckert: [nurseryschool@chesterumc.org](mailto:nurseryschool@chesterumc.org)  
[www.chesterumc.org](http://www.chesterumc.org)

**Pastor's Blessing:** Pastor Marg is available after all services if you have a car (or new driver) upon which you would like her to pray for God's blessing.

*We are blessed that all visitors have chosen to worship with us today. You are invited to stop by our Welcome Center in the Atrium or the table in the narthex where we have prepared gift bags for you. Information and brochures on our church may be found at our Welcome Center. Thank you for worshipping with us today!*

**Metro Richmond at Prayer:** Pray to overcome in Christ's name the heritage of racism and for racial reconciliation in Metropolitan Richmond.

**Children's Music Rehearsals** will resume on Sunday, January 8. If your child has been missing out, then it's time to get involved!

**Joy Singers** will resume rehearsals on Tuesday, January 10 at 10:00 AM! Been thinking about joining? Now is the perfect time!

**Home Groups:** The next Home Group sessions will begin the week of January 22. This will be a six week study entitled The Hole in Our Gospel by Richard Stearns and it is accompanied by a study guide. Home groups provide opportunities to form friendships, to grow in faith and to become more involved in the life of the church. If you are interested in participating in a home group, please register in the pew pad or on the church web site ([www.chesterumc.org](http://www.chesterumc.org)) Questions? Contact Stan and Diane Hargraves (706-1454 or [dash84@comcast.net](mailto:dash84@comcast.net)).

**Halftime:** Please save the date for our next HalfTime dinner/program which has been rescheduled for **Wednesday, February 15, at 6:15 PM**. The Chancel Choir will be hosting the dinner and allforONE will provide the entertainment. The cost of the meal will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for children, with a \$20 family maximum.

**Connections:** Join us to learn more about the mission, vision and much more of Chester UMC. Sessions will be held January 22 and January 29 at **9:45– 10:45 AM** in Room 116. Please register in the pew pad/clipboard or notify the church office (748-6006) if you are planning to attend.

**Chancel Choir Tour:** Travel with the Chancel Choir this summer as we embark on our 4<sup>th</sup> biennial performance tour. On July 26 through 31, we will venture through Greensboro, NC, Atlanta, GA (including stops at Stone Mountain and the Martin Luther King National Historic Site), Cape Girardeau and St. Louis, MO (with time to view the city from the top of the Gateway Arch), and Lebanon, KY with 5 concerts along the way. Singers and "Roadies" must sign up by submitting a \$100 deposit on or before Sunday, February 5. Submit checks (made payable to CUMC with TOUR in the memo line) to Joshua Wortham to secure your seat on our charter bus.

**KEEP IN PRAYER:** Ernie Sanders; Joe Furr, Sr.; Bill McCarney; Andrea McCarney (Bill & Silvia's daughter-in-law); Linda Willingham; Kirk Bray (Dee & Jim Watkin's nephew); Evangeline (Pam Earley's granddaughter); Doug Pike, family of Barbara McHugh; family of Dick Martinko, Wayne Stuart; Jennie Sisler (daughter of Joan & Joe Furr); Georgia Townsend (granddaughter of George & Jane Townsend); Barbara Zoller, Terri Moody's mother; Mary Bishop (Terri Moody's grandmother); Nothera Goynes; Lisa Sharpe; Dennis Conley & family (nephew of Paul & Diane Duffy); Betty Waldrop & family; family of Adam Sabo (Bobbi & Joe Welchel's nephew); Alexa Nixon; Baby Harper (infant daughter of Kristal & Chris Norman, our CUMC backyard neighbors); Doug Wheeler (Judy Dyson's brother); Dillon Brown (Jim Dyson's great nephew); Pamela Overton; Emily Scott (Phyllis & Dennis Knaack's daughter); Sylvia Whiter (Merlin Mitchell's niece in England); Marr Snyder (nephew of Bill & Karen Comer and Mike & Sylvia Wray); Tom Welchel (Joe Welchel's father); Beth Scarborough (Holly Scarborough's mom); Beth Newsome; Julia Bowman; Joanna McVicker; Brenda Norris; Judy Dyson; Edwina McCoy; Nellie Ervin.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR ARMED SERVICE MEMBERS:**

**In Iraq:** Jeff Swain (Debbie Yerby's cousin)

**In Afghanistan:**

Heather Tittle Briggs & Travis Cooper (530<sup>th</sup> HHC from Ft. Lee);  
SSgt. John Trimble (nephew of Harry Trimble; great-nephew of Tish Manuel);  
PFC Kyle Goodall (friend of Williams and Koch families);  
CW02 Frank B. Allen (Brad), son of Claudia Alicea

**Pentagon:** CDR Hersch Weinstock (son of Ann Stuart)

**Seymour-Johnson Air Force Base - Goldsboro, NC:** Lt. Richard M. Smyth, USAF (Tish Manuel's great-nephew)

**Human Relations Day** is Sunday, January 15, 2012. Almost everyone seeks to be a part of a good community, one that nurtures and supports. The Human Relations Day offering (received each year on the Sunday before the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday) helps support improving the fabric of communities and the quality of life for those who live in them.

		Leading Our Worship <b>TODAY (January 1, 2012)</b>
<b>Acolytes:</b>	<b>11:00</b>	Peter & Shelby Koch
<b>Greeters:</b>	<b>11:00</b>	Juanita Timmons, Ed Thompson, Janis Hargrave
<b>Ushers:</b>	<b>11:00</b>	TBA
<b>Nursery:</b>	<b>11:00</b>	Ginger Chadwick
<b>Liturgists:</b>		Bruce Johnson, Maggie Poulsen

## Join the Fresh Start Sunday School Class in Study, Fellowship and Service:

- **New Series beginning January 15**—Visitors and new members welcome—*With All Your Heart*—biblical professor and archeologist Rev. Ray Vander Laan takes us on a journey through Sinai and Israel, a region that is still largely desert but at times filled with lush, bountiful places. Discover how Jesus called people to live in the Promised Land; what we can learn during times of abundance and in times of desert; and how God led his people back to the desert often to relearn the lessons they had forgotten.
- **Wednesday, January 4, 6 PM**—We'll celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas, take down the Chrismon Tree and have dinner together.

**The Fresh Start Class meets every Sunday morning at 9:45 in room 207.** Call Susan Petrey, 275-9258, for more information.

## United Methodist Women News:

- **Executive Committee meeting--**Wednesday, January 11, 7:00 PM in Room 207. All unit officers and fellowship leaders are asked to make plans to attend.
- **Frances Allen Fellowship** will meet on Tuesday, January 10 at the home of Carla Faris. All women of the church are welcome. Call Janis Hargrave, 526-4156, for details.
- **Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship** will meet Thursday, January 12, 10 AM in Davis Fellowship Hall. Call Martha Miles, 748-5476, for details.
- **Jean Craig Fellowship** will meet Monday, January 9, 7:00 PM in Room 116. Visitors and new members are always welcome. Call Susan Petrey, 275-9258, for details.

Call Susan Petrey, 275-9258, to learn more about UMW, our three participating fellowships, and how you can become involved.

### Leading Our Worship Next Sunday (January 8, 2012)

<b>Acolytes:</b>	<b>11:00</b>	TBA
<b>Greeters:</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Megan Carson, George Emerson, Richard Parisi
	<b>11:00</b>	Juanita Timmons, Ed Thompson, Janis Hargrave, Mindy Kelley
	<b>5:00</b>	Bill & Karen Comer
<b>Ushers:</b>	<b>8:30</b>	TBA
	<b>11:00</b>	TBA
	<b>5:00</b>	TBA
<b>Nursery:</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Leanne Ferry, Julie Ferry, Matt Coyner, Sherry Thomason
	<b>9:45</b>	June Gilliam; Matt Coyner
	<b>11:00</b>	Jo Lynn Topping
	<b>5:00</b>	Audrey Smith
<b>Welcome Center:</b>	<b>9:45</b>	Ruth Boyd; Dewain Hammond; Cindy Yuconis
<b>Liturgists:</b>		Brenda McCormac, Don Schmidt