

Devote yourselves to prayer . . .

Colossians 4:2a

To have someone listed on the Prayer Panel, please contact the Church Office.

In the Hospital

Kay Keesecker—recovering from hip replacement

At Home

Victor Covington—battling cancer

Jim & Ellen Meranda—health concerns

Expectant Families

Michael & Christal Shelly—November 2011

Josh & Gretchen Soirez—December 2011

Jay & Tammy Cougnet—December 2011

Missions Focus

Bruce & Deb Robinson, CrossWorld, Haiti

Leader Focus

Kitty Miller, Women’s Mentoring

Your Giving...

	11/20 Week:	November Total:
Budgeted	\$35,612	\$142,448
Remaining:	\$8,591	\$45,741
Given	\$27,021	\$96,707

Budget Goal to date: (July 2011—November 2011) \$727,520

Giving to Date: (July 1st—November 20th) \$604,548

Did you know? The process to find our next Student Ministry Director continues. We continue to bring candidates in for interviews. There are currently two promising candidates. Frank, Mike, Eric, Liz and a leadership team are involved in the process. Please keep them in your prayers as we move forward.

PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY—You are encouraged to submit prayer requests on the Welcome Panel, by calling the Church Office, emailing Colleen (cgrammer@huntvalleychurch.org) or by calling Pat Phelps (410-870-0026); please provide a detailed message and include your contact information so we can contact you, if necessary.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be held on Wednesday, December 14, from 1pm—7pm in the Church Auditorium. More details will be coming next weekend.

HVC In Community

A VERY SPECIAL WELCOME to all of our guests. If you would like help with any personal needs or concerns, please stop by the Information Center in the Foyer or speak to one of our ushers.

A FOND FAREWELL . . . OF SORTS—Today is the last Sunday for Eric Heiland as our Director of Student Ministries. After 8 years of faithful and successful leadership we are privileged to help launch him into his new ministry. Starting in December Eric will be working with Youth for Christ in Parkville High School and creating a new ministry to juvenile offenders called “Uncuffed.” We are grateful to God for Eric’s impact and ministry. Eric, Tracy and his family will continue to call HVC “home” and will be volunteering in the children’s ministry. The Youth Ministry will be hosting a reception for the Heilands this evening at 6:30pm after the third service.

CONGRATULATIONS—We extend our joy in the Lord to Tom & Tamara Watson on the birth of their daughter, Sadie Adeline, born on Tuesday, November 22, 2011.

COMMUNION & PRAYER NEEDS—Communion will be celebrated at *all* services today. Elders will also be available *after* each service to pray for special needs. Elders are set apart in scripture to “give [their] attention to prayer and the ministry of the word” (Acts 6:4;cf. James 5:14).

A GUIDE TO ADVENT is available in the Foyer for \$3 to enrich the spirituality of your Christmas season. This year we are using a guide prepared by The Urban Skye Community in Denver which is led by Rev. Dave Meserve who preached here earlier this year. It is not a book of readings for deep theological reflection so much as it is a small guide designed to help people connect with God. It employs insights from Celtic spirituality, such as the idea of “thin places,” and it is the sort of thing you could give to friends who are not yet spiritually convinced or committed but who are open and interested. Take a look on your way out today!

PRE-SCHOOL BIBLE STORY TIME—Join us on Tuesday, December 6th from 9:30—11:00am in the Children’s Auditorium at the Main Campus for our monthly Pre-School Bible Story Time. All preschoolers and their caregivers are invited—and please invite a friend or neighbor with preschool-aged children to come. Come share quality time with your preschooler while hearing a Bible story, singing songs, doing crafts, playing games, and enjoying imaginative play. This month we will be learning about and celebrating the birth of Jesus! Nursery care is available for children under age 2.

GOD INTERRUPTED “THE FIRST CHRISTMAS”

November 27, 2011

*To enjoy what you have not,
you must go by a way you enjoy not.
To find the knowledge you have not,
you must go by a way you know not.
To become what you are not,
you must go by a way in which you are not.*

- John of the Cross

Message Series

God Interrupted is the theme for this year's Advent messages in anticipation of Christmas. This is a season of the year filled with beautiful images of life running smoothly, filled with love and joy, but real life is very different. So, in fact, was the *first* Christmas! There was nothing smooth or easy about those long-ago events. We yearn for God to intervene in our lives to bless and help us, but when He does it is often experienced in very disruptive ways that we do not even recognize. That is because, frequently, our lives of control and predictability are the very thing from which we need to be saved. Join us for this series of messages which looks at embracing God's interruptions for the opportunities that they really are. Next Week: *Unwelcomed Blessings*

GOD INTERRUPTED "THE FIRST CHRISTMAS"

Genesis 11:27-12:9 (NLT)

The Family of Terah

27 This is the account of Terah's family. Terah was the father of Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran was the father of Lot. **28** But Haran died in Ur of the Chaldeans, the land of his birth, while his father, Terah, was still living. **29** Meanwhile, Abram and Nahor both married. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife was Milcah. (Milcah and her sister Iscah were daughters of Nahor's brother Haran.) **30** But Sarai was unable to become pregnant and had no children.

31 One day Terah took his son Abram, his daughter-in-law Sarai (his son Abram's wife), and his grandson Lot (his son Haran's child) and moved away from Ur of the Chaldeans. He was headed for the land of Canaan, but they stopped at Haran and settled there. **32** Terah lived for 205 years and died while still in Haran.

Chapter 12

The Call of Abram

The LORD had said to Abram,

"Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father's family, and go to the land that I will show you. **2** I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. **3** I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you."

4 So Abram departed as the LORD had instructed, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran. **5** He took his wife, Sarai, his nephew Lot, and all his wealth—his livestock and all the people he had taken into his household at Haran—and headed for the land of Canaan. When they arrived in Canaan, **6** Abram traveled through the land as far as Shechem. There he set up camp beside the oak of Moreh. At that time, the area was inhabited by Canaanites.

7 Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "I will give this land to your descendants." And Abram built an altar there and dedicated it to the LORD, who had appeared to him. **8** After that, Abram traveled south and set up camp in the hill country, with Bethel to the west and Ai to the east. There he built another altar and dedicated it to the LORD, and he worshiped the LORD. **9** Then Abram continued traveling south by stages toward the Negev.

GOD INTERRUPTED "THE FIRST CHRISTMAS"

November 27, 2011

9am and 10:45am

Call To Worship

Songs Of Worship

Community Matters

Offering of Gifts

Prayer

Scripture Reading

Message
Frank Boswell

Sacrament of Communion

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Closing Prayer

Elders Available for Prayer

5:30pm

Same Service, Only Different . . .

GO Team Luncheon—You are Invited!

Looking to hear about what God is doing through our HVC supported missionaries? On December 11 from 12:30-2:00pm, join the GO Team for lunch at the Point and meet Scott & Meghan Dillon, missionaries in Cusco, Peru. The Dillons serve in pastoral ministry as well as in a local city orphanage. Please RSVP no later than December 5th to Melissa Corkum (melissa@thecorkums.com).

Welcome

We would like to extend a very special welcome to all our guests and visitors. If you would like help with any personal needs or concerns or would like more information about HVC, please stop by the Information Center or fill out this Welcome Panel. It may be placed in the offering plate or handed in at the Information Center.

I would like to:

- _____ receive, as a first time visitor, a CD of today's message
- _____ learn more about what it means to be a follower of Christ
- _____ know more about the next Vision Possible class for newcomers
- _____ receive offering envelopes
- _____ learn more about _____ Impact Groups or _____ Youth Ministries
- _____ update my family's information (see below)
- _____ have Prayer Team pray about (name & phone# required):
- _____ other _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

I am a: ___ 1st time guest ___ 2nd time guest ___ attender ___ member

Your Age Group (check): ___ 12-17 ___ 18-30 ___ 31-50 ___ over 50

Number of Children Attending: _____

Age Groups of Children (check): ___ B-preK ___ K-4th ___ 5-8th ___ 9-12th

Service You Most Regularly Attend: ___ 9am ___ 10:45am ___ 5:30pm