



# FRAZER FAMILY NEWS

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DECEMBER 2010

## NEWS & EVENTS

### DON'T MISS 'THE BELL AND THE ROSE'

Frazer's Music and Worship Ministry will present an encore performance of "The Bell and the Rose" Christmas Musical Drama Saturday, Dec. 11 and Sunday, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. in Wesley Hall. Invite your friends and neighbors to enjoy this moving story of a tight-knit but financially hard-pressed family in Victorian England who must rediscover the true meaning of Christmas in the midst of a tragedy that threatens to steal a child's faith. Featuring Sanctuary and Contemporary adult choirs, children's choirs, orchestra and praise band, Celtic musicians, drama, dancers, and more, combining music from traditional Celtic to Contemporary, favorite carols to stunning soloists, this is a Christmas event you don't want to miss.

### CHURCHWIDE IN HIS STEPS TRAINING

**JAN. 8** Mark your calendar for Saturday, Jan. 8 when Frazer is planning a church-wide In His Steps training day. Come for spiritual insight, practical instruction, motivation and inspiration for areas of ministry you signed up to serve in 2011. More information about this event and specific training times will be available soon.

### WINTER/SPRING 2011 CONNECTIONS

**COMING SOON** Connections is your guide to Bible studies, activities, Sunday School classes, Life Groups and other small groups available at Frazer. The Winter 2011 edition will be available in the Atrium and throughout the church in mid-December. Be sure to pick up your copy and begin deciding where you want to get plugged in and grow in 2011. You can also view it online at [frazerumc.org/groups](http://frazerumc.org/groups)

### TASTE OF FRAZER COOKBOOK

Taste of Frazer cookbooks will go on sale in December. Enjoy a variety of delicious recipes from Frazer members. Cost is \$10 and all money from cookbook sales will benefit the Community Ministries United Appeal Fund. Cookbooks will be available in the Atrium and Frazer Bookstore this month.

### MORE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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## 'The Bell and the Rose' returns to Frazer Dec. 11 and 12

By Mac McLellan NEWS STAFF WRITER

Frazer will once again present "The Bell and the Rose" Christmas musical drama, and this year's production promises to be even better than before. If you are expecting a traditional telling of the story of Jesus' birth taken from the books of Matthew and Luke in the New Testament, be prepared to find yourself in Victorian England, where you will rediscover the true meaning of Christmas. Performances will be Saturday, Dec. 11 and Sunday, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. in Wesley Hall.

"The Bell and the Rose" will feature adult and children's choirs, a full orchestra, dance, drama and music ranging from traditional carols to contemporary numbers, with a Celtic thing. This year, Frazer welcomes Celtic piper John Maschinot as the featured guest artist for this original production. Wayne Sigler, Frazer's Director of Worship and Music, selected the music, a team of Frazer members developed a concept of how to put it all together, and Ken Roach, Frazer's Director of Communications, developed the story which centers on a young girl named Caroline, who experiences tragedy that threatens to steal her faith.

"The one thing that is central to the whole play is a Gospel message, but without coming right out and doing the Christmas story. Even though it is set in Victorian England, it puts our need for Jesus in a more personal way," said Beth Crittenden, who plays the character of Caroline's Mother. "You can look at the



PHOTO BY MAC MCLELLAN

Cast members Michael Gross, Joy Atkinson and Beth Crittenden rehearse a scene from "The Bell and the Rose"

nativity scene and that's very sweet and nice and wonderful, but how does that relate to me in 2010? This is a story about an average family dealing with death and children. "The Bell and the Rose" makes the need for a Savior more real than just watching Mary, Joseph and the shepherds. I love the cantatas we used to do, with the three kings and all that, but in Wayne's and Ken's heart we see how can we make it more where people can really identify with it."

See Christmas Musical page 6 »

## Atlanta piper to make special appearance in 'Bell and the Rose'

By Mac McLellan NEWS STAFF WRITER



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN MASCHINOT

Atlanta-based musician John Maschinot will appear as a guest musician, playing the Irish pipes, during Frazer's Christmas musical drama, "The Bell and the Rose," Dec. 11 and 12 at 7 p.m. in Wesley Hall.

Frazer will welcome guest musician John Maschinot for this year's Christmas production of "The Bell and the Rose," Dec. 11 and 12 in Wesley Hall. John Maschinot is a performer, teacher, recording artist, music director, promoter and radio producer, and well known as a player and exponent of the Irish flute and of the uilleann, or Irish, bagpipes. He has been active in the Atlanta-area traditional music community for more than 30 years.

As a young adult, John roamed the North Georgia Mountains in search of farmhand labor, music and adventure. He developed a fondness for mountain music and community. It wasn't until he met the great uilleann piper Joe Shannon in Chicago that he was smitten by Irish music and the pipes in particular. He saw the kinship between Irish music and Appalachian music and has, over time, developed a style and repertoire re-

flecting this, on both pipes and Irish wooden flute.

In 2000, John became part of Celtic Fire, an educational trio that performs and teaches under the auspices of Young Audiences/Woodruff Center, featuring Celtic music and Irish step dance. Celtic Fire has performed in more than 100 schools throughout Georgia to more than 50,000 students. John also can be seen and heard every Tuesday evening at The Marlay House restaurant and pub in Decatur, Ga., performing Irish, Americana and World music in an informal acoustic session with some of the region's most compelling musicians.

Frazer is delighted that John will share his talents as part of this year's production of "The Bell and the Rose," as an accompanist and also acting as a street musician during a scene of the production. To learn more about John and hear samples of his music, go to [www.johnmaschinot.com](http://www.johnmaschinot.com).



Want to watch a sermon again? Check TV broadcast times at [wfrz.com](http://wfrz.com) or watch online at [frazerumc.org/media](http://frazerumc.org/media)

Tune in to WFRZ on Knology and Charter Channel 13, Brighthouse Channel 122 and UHF Channel 34.

### SIGN UP FOR FRAZER'S E-MAIL NEWSLETTER

Our e-mail newsletter is your weekly connection to news, events, classes and volunteer opportunities at Frazer.

Click straight from the newsletter to videos, worship guides, surveys and more from [frazerumc.org](http://frazerumc.org). Once you sign up, you can manage your subscription at any time.

### SIGN UP TODAY AT FRAZERUMC.ORG.

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## Announcements

### NEWS + EVENTS

#### CHARGE CONFERENCE DEC. 13

A charge conference will be held Monday, Dec. 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Jane Bridges at [janeb@frazerumc.org](mailto:janeb@frazerumc.org) for details.

#### SIGN UP NOW FOR FEBRUARY COUPLES RETREAT

Join Walt and Patti Wiley from Winning with Encouragement Ministries as we spend the weekend taking a humorous yet discerning look at what God intended for our marriages. Couples are invited to this uplifting weekend retreat Feb. 4-5, 2011 at beautiful Lakepoint State Park Resort in Eufaula. Cost is \$189 per couple. To register, contact Sandy Boswell at 495-6391 or [sandy@frazerumc.org](mailto:sandy@frazerumc.org). The deadline to sign up has been extended to Jan. 16. For more information, go to [frazerumc.org/couples](http://frazerumc.org/couples)

#### DISTRICT RETREAT TO FEATURE KIM HENDRIX

District Superintendent Ron Ball invites you to a time of worship, study, and fellowship at the Montgomery-Opelika Laity & Clergy Retreat, Feb. 25-26, 2011 at Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat in Fort Mitchell, Ala. \$70 fee includes private room and home-cooked meals in the modern Retreat House, and featured speaker will be Frazer's Kim Hendrix. Contact the District Office at 239-7329 for more information or to register.

#### CITYWIDE TOWN HALL ON ANTI-BULLYING

Frazer will host a community-wide Anti-Bullying Town Hall meeting Sunday, Jan. 23 at 6 p.m., featuring Jessica Brookshire and sponsored in part by Crimestoppers. More details will be available in the coming weeks.

### SERVING + GIVING

#### BLOOD DRIVE SUNDAY, DEC. 12

Give the gift of life Sunday, Dec. 12. LifeSouth will be in the Fellowship Hall from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. for a blood drive. The blood mobile will also be outside the west entrance of the Atrium Wednesday, Dec. 8 at 5 p.m. Please consider donating the gift of life to help meet critical blood supply needs in our community.

#### ANGEL TREE MINISTRY

Thanks to the generosity of the Frazer Family, all of the angel tags for local foster children have been adopted. We have received 100 additional "Angels" from the Salvation Army to help provide Christmas gifts for children of local low-income families. If you would like to help make Christmas special for one of these children, please visit the Angel Tree table this Sunday morning to pick up a tag. All Angel Tree gifts should be returned by Sunday, Dec. 12.

#### SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGERS

Volunteers are needed to serve as Bell Ringers for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Drive. Frazer members will be ringing bells now through Dec. 24 at the Sam's Club and Chantilly Wal-Mart locations. Sign up for a two-hour time slot in the Atrium Sunday mornings. Call Bill Allison at 244-0467 for more information.

#### FOOD PANTRY AND HOMELESS HYGIENE KIT DONATIONS

The Food Pantry is in need of donations of non-perishable food items and the Homeless Hygiene Kit Ministry needs travel and full-sized personal hygiene items. Bring your donations to the Donation Station carts located throughout the church or to Community Ministries office Monday-Thursday mornings.

#### 'RE-CYCLE' YOUR OLD BIKES

Do you have an old bicycle taking up space in your garage? With a little work, it may be as good as new, and bring a smile to someone in need. Frazer member Byron Smyth is turning his passion of cycling into a ministry of repairing old bicycles to supply to Frazer-supported ministries across the world. The first shipments will go to the orphanages in Moldova and all sizes are needed. If you would like to donate an old bike, please contact Byron at [byronsmlyth@gmail.com](mailto:byronsmlyth@gmail.com) or 391-2853 or Butch McPherson at 495-6325 or [butch@frazerumc.org](mailto:butch@frazerumc.org).

## Announcements

### DISCIPLESHIP + FELLOWSHIP

#### CONNECT WITH LIFE GROUPS

Life Groups are small groups who meet regularly for Bible study, fellowship and service, and to challenge each other to be more like Jesus. Groups typically meet in homes at any time other than Sunday morning, as an alternative for those whose schedules keep them from participating in a group on Sunday mornings. Groups are forming now and leaders/facilitators and host homes are needed for the January term. Call the Adult Education office at 495-6368 or go to frazerumc.org/lifegroups for more details.

#### I.CONNECT FOR WOMEN DEC. 9

Moms, join us for i.connect Thursday, Dec. 9 from 9-11 a.m. in room 8114. This is a great time of fellowship among women as we share life, encourage and be encouraged while enjoying a great spiritual lesson over coffee and bagels. This month's lesson will be on preparing your home for the holidays. E-mail Sandy Boswell at sandy@frazerumc.org for pre-school nursery reservations.

#### DON'T MISS S.P.I.R.I.T. DEC. 9

S.P.I.R.I.T. of Frazer presents a special Christmas performance by the Halcyon Show Choir Thursday, Dec. 9, at 6 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner cost is \$5. Please make reservations for dinner by calling Faye Jackson, at 279-8727.

#### NOON SALAD LUNCHEON

Frazer's December Noon Salad Luncheon will be Tuesday, Dec. 14 from noon-1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Dr. Don Hill will speak about "Controlling the Out-of-Control Feelings." Cost is \$5 and no reservations are required. This event is open to the public.

### CHILDREN + STUDENTS

#### CRAVE CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Crave Student Ministry will serve the Magnolia Terrace apartment community (across from Frazer) Wednesday, Dec. 8. Join us as we sing carols, give Christmas gifts to children and serve a Christmas-style dinner to the residents. Students and adults need to sign up to help. We'll meet at 5:45 p.m. in the East Sanctuary and return by 8 p.m. For more information, contact the Crave office at 495-6409 or kathy.hiebert@frazerumc.org.

#### OPPORTUNITIES FOR SINGLES

Singles Small Groups will begin a three-week study on Rick Warren's "The Purpose of Christmas" Tuesday, Dec. 7 at 5:30 p.m. All singles are invited to join us for this Christmas series. Also, don't forget about our weekly TNT gathering, each Tuesday evening at 6:55 p.m. and our ongoing divorce recovery groups that also meet Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. For more information, call the Singles office at 495-6368.

#### GROWING STRONG IN GOD'S FAMILY BIBLE STUDY STARTS IN JANUARY

Part of the Navigators 2:7 Series, this study is designed to help you build a strong foundation for your Christian life through enriching Bible study, Scripture memory, and group interaction. This study begins Wednesday, Jan. 5 at 6 p.m. in room 8253 and is open to all adults who seek a biblical and practical approach to discipleship. This study is especially recommended to parents of students in CRAVE University as it is the foundational material for some of the 'Core Curriculum' being taught. George and Dorrie Cox are the facilitators.

#### A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF MATTHEW-VERSE BY VERSE.

The Devoted Duos and Cornerstone Sunday School classes will be studying the Book of Matthew verse by verse using the John MacArthur New Testament commentaries. This study will feature a lecture/discussion format each week with small group discussion at certain points in the gospel. Devoted Duos meets at 8 a.m. in room 7201 and Cornerstone meets at 9:30 a.m. in room 7210. Couples in their 20s, 30s and 40s are encouraged to join these welcoming groups. Come study the life of Jesus and what it means to be a follower of Christ. This study will begin Dec. 5 and will be taught by Bob and Sandra Passmore. For information contact bpassmore@charter.net or call 546-2765

## CARING FOR OUR CONGREGATION

### BIRTHS

We rejoice with our members who have recently welcomed a new child into their family.

*A son, "Braden" Allen, born to Holly and Todd Worley Nov. 1, 2010.*

*A son, "Gates" David, born to Annie and David Garner Nov. 9, 2010.*

*A daughter, "Jesie Bell" born to Heather Dailey and Frank Chinoski Nov. 22, 2010.*

### DEATHS

We extend our deepest Christian sympathy and love to those families who have recently experienced the death of a loved one. Remembering these families in your prayers, giving them a call or sending a card provides healing ministry and extends the love of Christ during this time of loss and grief.

*Joe Raiford*

*Hester Garrett*

*Charles Stowd*

*Father of Madelaine Gilchrist*

*Father of Tina Whitaker*

*Son of Thelma Riedel*

*Daughter of Beth and Jamie Weafer*

*Father of Don Cooper*

*Father of Millie Knight*

*Father of Robert Saunders*

*Father of Pam Tillman*

*Carol Barnett*

*Father of Dave Holden*

# Frazer members become hands and feet of God in their own community

By Dr. Martha Poole Simmons  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

About a year ago, Frazer member Jeff Hand and a group of men decided to visit some public housing communities in Montgomery to share the Gospel, with the desire to bridge the gap between poverty and riches, white and black, young and old, homeless and home owner, lost and saved. Through this outreach, Inner City Evangelism (I.C.E.) was created and since then, the organization has strived to feed the homeless, hungry, outcast and destitute in Montgomery and share the love and good news of Christ to people in areas of the city that most people avoid.

While many Christians have good intentions to love the unlovable and reach the unreachable, those words are often just empty promises with no true action taken. Through their outreach efforts to the Trenholm Court and Gibbs Village residents, the members of I.C.E. have answered the call to serve the least and the lost, and demonstrate God's love to all, and encourage others to join them in reaching out to our brothers and sisters in need to change Montgomery's streets, neighborhoods and beyond.

I John 3:17-18 says, "If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." I.C.E. volunteers strive to live by this mandate, and seek ways they can help those in our city who need it most.

Two Frazer Sunday School classes, Devoted Duos and Cornerstone, are involved with this ministry, and Devoted Duos class member Jennifer Hand, along with other members, began the ministry at Trenholm Court. Bob Passmore, who leads both Sunday School classes with his wife Sandra, has been serving at Trenholm Court for several months and he said they believe the ministry there is aligned with the Bible's calling to help the less fortunate.

"This is church outside the walls which is what we are supposed to do," Bob said.

Since volunteers began visiting with and serving the residents at Trenholm Court and Gibbs Village, several outreach opportunities have occurred. Last Thanksgiving and Christmas,



PHOTOS BY MARTHA POOLE SIMMONS

Inner City Evangelism volunteers listen along with the children to a Bible lesson during an outreach event at Gibbs Village in Montgomery in October.

Frazer's Men's Ministry volunteers delivered 200 turkeys to families at Gibbs Village. In March, an Easter outreach drew in children from Gibbs Village and sparked monthly activities at the community center, where children came for games and crafts. In January 2011, I.C.E. plans to start Wednesday night indoor Bible studies at the Trenholm Court community center.

The I.C.E. ministry is having a profound, meaningful impact on the residents in the housing projects as well as on the volunteers who minister there. Wanda Cole has lived at Trenholm Court all of her life and has two children, ages 11 and 22. She said, "The children have fun here." Her sixth grade daughter said, "I come here to play and to learn about God. He died for our sins." Rachel Phillips, a volunteer, came to one of the activities at Trenholm Court last summer. "I think that it is amazing to see God work. Every time that I come, I am so anxious and nervous, but when I get there I just have this love for all of these children," she said. "I think it is amazing how God can use anyone as long as you are willing to do what he asks you to do. I plan to be a part of the Wednesday night ministry here. There is such a need right here in Montgomery. We don't have to go to another country to serve God."

Along with the spiritual needs of the people at Trenholm Court, the physical needs are abundant as well. Many of the old units are boarded up and slated for future demolition, while the community center needs cleaning, painting and refurbishing, particularly in the stair well, the walls and floors. Broken glass litters areas where children play. The

deserted, shabby buildings create a depressing scene for those who drive into the area but with the help of volunteers from I.C.E., things can improve. Plans are also underway to get the youth living at Trenholm Court involved in cleaning up the community center to allow them to take ownership in their neighborhood and give them a sense of pride.

"We're really praying for God's direction in everything. Many of the people at Trenholm Court don't have vehicles which is one of many obstacles in getting them to church. We are basically bringing the church to them," Jennifer Hand said.

I.C.E. can always use additional volunteers, particularly in January when they begin the new Wednesday evening program at Trenholm Court, which will begin after Jan. 12. New and used Bibles with commentary are also needed to distribute to both children and adults. This month, I.C.E. will give each child a Bible wrapped in Christmas paper. They are also in need of new or used clothing in all children's sizes, and arts and craft supplies. Financial donations are always welcomed, and 100 percent of donated funds are used to help the hungry, homeless and needy in Montgomery. I.C.E. members give of their time and pay their own expenses for the privilege of serving their community.

To donate items or money to I.C.E., or receive more information about opportunities to donate your time to volunteer with this ministry, go to [www.innercityevangelism.com](http://www.innercityevangelism.com) or contact Jennifer Hand at 322-1460 or [Jennifer@innercityevangelism.com](mailto:Jennifer@innercityevangelism.com). I.C.E. has planned two Birthday Party for Jesus



I.C.E. volunteers play with the children at Trenholm Court (top) and at Gibbs Village (bottom) during October outreach events.



I.C.E. member Jennifer Hand, right, and other volunteers serve Thanksgiving dinner to residents at Trenholm Court Nov. 13. Many volunteers, including students from Frazer's Crave Student Ministry, helped with the event and also cleaned the Trenholm community center.

events for December- one Saturday, Dec. 11 at 11 a.m. at Trenholm Court and the other at Gibbs Village on Saturday, Dec. 18 at 11 a.m.

"The women off the street are the closest to my heart. Ministry has to be a way of life. Every time that I am out there, I feel closest to Jesus. God is right there with me," Jennifer Hand said. "I know that when people go away on mission trips, they return on fire for the Lord, but they can find that right here without leaving Montgomery."

# 'He said Go, so I went': Frazer member reflects on Kenya mission trip



PHOTOS BY KENYA MISSION TEAM

A team from Frazer traveled to Kenya in October. From left: Brian Word, Chris McInnish, Jimmy Parsons, Rebekah Harris, Sandra Wood, Tsopel Robinson, Marc Johnson and Carol Sue Reeves.

By Chris McInnish SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

What would cause a husband and father of three to take a week and a half off of work and travel halfway around the world to spend time with people he has never met? My journey began several years ago as I started paying attention to our church family's missions. I always thought a calling to go would be an intense emotional feeling. That never happened. What I have discovered is that going is a command instead of a suggestion. So this year I was going to go on a mission trip out of obedience instead of a calling.

As the year began I asked God where He wanted me to go. The voice I heard said, "Africa." I prayed again, asked others to pray for me and the answer was clear. "Chris, I want you to go, not for what you can do, but so you can see what I am doing." Africa it is.

Nine of us went on the mission trip this fall to the Kitale Growth Church in Kitale, Kenya, near the Ugandan border. As a predominately Christian nation surrounded by Islamic nations, Kenya is well positioned for spreading the Gospel. Kenyans speak both English and Swahili allowing them to communicate easily with us and their neighboring countries.

Poverty, hunger, and malnutrition are pervasive in Kenya. Transportation systems are slow, bumpy, and crowded. Frazer is the first Western church to establish a relationship with the Kitale Growth Church. The CRAVE Student Ministry trip back in the spring began a relationship between our congregations. Our trip this fall deepened that relationship.

Our experience began with an honor as we witnessed Kitale Growth Church Pastor Geoffrey Muguri be ordained as a Bishop. Two ordained members of our group participated in the ceremony. After worshipping on Sunday morning, our team split up. One group taught with the children of the church and the others led a study for the church leaders. Even though Christianity is prominent, the scriptural knowledge and resources are very limited. Basics such as how to study the Word and how to handle church growth and disciplinary situations are often missing, and the people have an incredible hunger for help.



Chris McInnish visits with a new friend at the Ordination of Bishop Geoffrey Muguri of the Kitale Growth Church in Kenya.

On Monday afternoon God began rocking our worlds when we visited the local hospital. Conditions were not what we were accustomed to in the United States. Wards were set up dorm style and most beds held two patients and their families. Flies were everywhere and people washed their clothes in the walkways. We visited the patients, providing milk and an orange, and prayed for them. In the children's ward, we came to a beautiful little girl with meningitis. She could not see or hear us, was in constant pain and had been there for a while. I think the doctors had done most of what they could and God was her only hope. A few minutes later we were praying for Michelle who been burned on her hands and head and was in severe pain.

We don't know how God answered our prayers for most of those in the hospital, but he did reveal his answer for at least one little child. As one group came to a young child, he was constantly vomiting. They waited patiently for him to stop, but eventually just began praying. Immediately the child stopped vomiting, looked up, smiled, and started clapping. His mother's amazement was written on her face. We do serve a powerful God and He called us to the sick.

Wednesday morning we shared the gospel at the men's prison annex and at the women's prison. Approximately 40 prisoners accepted Christ that morning. One of the women at the prison had delivered an infant son Tuesday night and named him after one of our group members, Brian Word.

Tuesday afternoon we spent with students at a local boarding school answering questions from the students. A common perception is that Christianity is for the weak. In a culture where the powerful are often corrupt, honest servant leadership is not the norm.

Wednesday afternoon we visited a local orphanage named Great Mercy. The orphanage housed 121 children ranging from toddlers to teenagers. Girls were sleeping at least two to a bed. Many did not have beds at all. Boys had even less space. The kitchen was a small shed, with a single pot, sitting on rocks, with a wood fire underneath. The most amazing thing I learned was that the staff and teachers were volunteers. There was no money for pay, so they just volunteered.

After a tour and a short performance for us, we made crafts with the smaller children and took the older ones



The Kenya team meets with the children of the Kitale Growth Church in Kenya.

out to play. Their only soccer ball was made of some trash with string wrapped around it. We brought several new balls, jump ropes, and Frisbees. We also left a significant donation for food. Throughout our trip, I felt a sincere connection with the Kitale Growth Church and saw the many obvious ways God was using us as His vessels. But, the most telling moment of long term impact came during a dinner at the Bishop's house with some of his leaders. One of the leaders in the church shared how the Bishop had taught from the pulpit how to study God's Word. During the trip in the spring our group had taught the Bishop a process for Bible study. After we left, he taught the pattern for several weeks. Now one of the members of the congregation was fluently reciting how he prays for revelation before he reads, how he reads with a pen in anticipation of this revelation, how he meditates on what is revealed and develops an action plan for change.

This was my first mission trip and I hope He has plans for me to go on more trips. Our team grew as God stretched us and revealed himself. Many of us had never been on a mission trip and never taught or spoken publicly about our faith. For me this was an act of obedience. He said to go, so I went, and my obedience was greatly rewarded. All I can say is that we serve a powerful God.



Brian Word holds newborn "Brian," his namesake, who was born in a women's prison the Kenya team visited during their mission trip. Brian Word had previously visited and spoke to the women at the prison during an earlier mission trip to Kitale and the mother wanted to name her child in his honor.



PHOTO BY MAC MCLELLAN

A scene from last year's production of "The Bell and the Rose." This year's performance will feature the same cast and Frazer's 300+ voice adult and children's choirs, along with a few updated elements to the production.

## Christmas Musical

*continued from page 1*

Janet Gibson, who plays the adult Caroline, who narrates the story. Janet said she felt the audience would be able to relate the story to their own lives as well.

"People will relate to the fact that everyone experiences pain in their life and they go through phases where they maybe feel that God is far away. Then He helps them through a time in their life that strengthens their relationship, so I feel that others will relate to the pain that Caroline experiences and how it brings her closer in her relationship with God," she said.

Joy Atkinson is returning for her second year as young Caroline, who in the play struggles with understanding the death of a young neighbor.

"I just think my character is really sad. If you think about it, it's really like your baby brother dying," Joy said. "I feel the message is that as Christians we really need to reach out to others."

If you saw the Bell and The Rose last year, be sure to invite a friend to this year's production. If this is your first opportunity to see this incredible production, be prepared to enjoy the wealth of talented singers, musicians, actors, dancers and others who made "The Bell and the Rose" possible, and be reminded that Jesus came into the world to be involved in our lives, to care about us, and to help us through difficult times. For more information about "The Bell and the Rose," go to [frazerumc.org/christmas](http://frazerumc.org/christmas)

## Program provides safe place to heal for children dealing with divorce

By Dr. Martha Poole Simmons NEWS STAFF WRITER

Divorce affects children for life unless intervention occurs. Children of divorce are at a higher risk for anxiety and depression, lower psychological well-being, lower academic performance, delinquency, promiscuity, substance abuse, poverty, and becoming divorced themselves. Parents going through the trauma of divorce have enough trouble trying to understand their own feelings and may not be equipped or emotionally strong enough to deal with the child's issues without help. Divorce Care for Kids (DC4K) is a church-based program for children ages five and up who are experiencing loss and struggling with the hurt and pain of divorce or separation. It is a structured 13-week, biblically based course consisting of songs, scriptures, activities and games, all designed to help children work through the stages of loss, restructuring their lives and accepting their situation.

The primary goal of DC4K is to teach the children to recognize what they are feeling, how to communicate to others what they are feeling and to realize that God loves them no matter what. Participants meet at Frazer on Tuesdays from 5:30-7 p.m. for 13 weekly DC4K sessions. Each session features activities, lessons, games, crafts, music and videos that all combine to teach biblical concepts that pertain to a divorce-related struggle. Each DC4K participant receives an activity book which contains a variety of puzzles, activities, journaling exercises, drawing and a Gospel presentation to help children sort through their thoughts and emotions. It also helps them discover what God says about their situation. This program encourages interaction and open communication between parent and child during the week. Parents are

provided with information about each evening's topic, and are also provided with other parenting resources to help reinforce what both parents and children are learning through the program.

The study was created by the Church Initiative to work in conjunction with the Divorce Care program for adults. More information about the programs of the Church Initiative can be found at [www.churchinitiative.org](http://www.churchinitiative.org) or by calling 1-800-489-7778.

Frazer's seven Safekeepers work each week with children in DC4K and have witnessed positive results from children's participation. Mark and Donna Lee, Bob and Elizabeth Dougherty, Lana Williams, Margaret Ann Huggins and George Godsy provide a caring atmosphere for children who are struggling with major adjustments in their lives. Elizabeth has been a DC4K volunteer for two years.

"The most beneficial thing that I have observed is how each Safekeeper takes his own personality and works with each child. A bond occurs, and trust builds each week. I feel that each week I am not doing the work. It is God that helps me to step back to give these kids the love, compassion, and understanding that they need," she said.

George Godsy, who participated in DC4K as a youth, has been serving as a Jr. Safekeeper for three years and has assisted children during seven DC4K sessions. "It is just a great program. It will help children. If a child goes through the sessions and doesn't catch on to something, by going through the sessions again, he will probably catch on then," George said. "This is a safe place for kids. They tell us anything, and it warms my heart to hear them. I remember that I would have liked to have had a program like this when my parents divorced. I am thankful to be a part of it."



PHOTO BY MARTHA POOLE SIMMONS

Children find a safe place to share and heal during a weekly DivorceCare4 Kids program offered at Frazer. A new 13-week session will begin in January.

Margaret Ann Huggins said, "My children went through the DC4K program, and I went through the adult version, DivorceCare, and I participate as a Safekeeper because it keeps reiterating that people are never alone. There is a plan, a future, even when times seem bleak and sad. There is always God's love, and this love can be through one of the adults or children in the program."

DivorceCare 4 Kids meets at Frazer Tuesdays from 5:30-7 p.m. A new session is scheduled to begin in January and run Jan.4-March 29. Cost per child is \$15. For more information on DC4K and other Divorce Recovery programs at Frazer or to sign up, contact Caroline Wingard, Frazer Singles Small Group Coordinator at 495-6368 or [caroline@frazerumc.org](mailto:caroline@frazerumc.org).

## The Gift of Love



**GINGER'S CORNER**

Ginger Koerner

Last year at this time we were recovering from a flood that damaged a bedroom in our home. We needed the trim replaced, a closet rebuilt and new carpeting installed. All the repairs were completed, but there was a problem with the carpet, and it needed to be reordered. The carpet was laid the day our daughter Janet and her teenagers, Hannah, 17, and Joel, 16, came for Christmas.

One of my greatest joys and something I look forward to every year is decorating for Christmas, but last year nothing was done when they arrived. I wanted to sit down and cry. Our grandchildren realized how disappointed I was and decided they would do everything that needed to be done.

They wasted no time. Hannah trimmed tree, and I hate to say it, but she did a better job than I've ever done. Then the rest of the decorations were put into place and soon our house looked like it was ready for carols to be sung, and a plate of cookies to be set out for Santa.

Meanwhile, Joel got out Paul's tool box and repaired a few things that needed fixing. He put together a small chest Paul had bought. He was so helpful and never seemed to run out of steam. Neither complained about anything they were asked to do. And everything was done in a loving, giving spirit. Those two kids had a ball and we enjoyed watching them complete their tasks. Hannah who loves to cook, even cooked our supper while they were here.

That was last year. We've had 12 months to think about that week. As I look back on those few days, I realize I don't remember all the lovely gifts given on Christmas Eve. I remember the gifts given by two grandkids working hard to make our Christmas what it had always been in the past. It was a special, precious gift, because they gave of themselves.

Long ago in Bethlehem God gave of Himself. He gave us our Savior, Jesus. He did it in a loving and giving spirit. He did it for sinners—like us. It was a loving and special gift.

*GINGER KOERNER volunteers in the Frazer kitchen and serves as a substitute Sunday School teacher. She has sung in the choir, directed children's choirs and drama. She is married to Paul and her hobbies are quilting and reading.*

## Dealing with family feuds



**THE FAMILY COUNSELOR**

Dr. Don Hill,  
Ph.D., LPC

A characteristic of many family relationships is one I call "conflict-habituated." This is a relationship where tension and conflict are always present. From the time the family comes home from daily activities until they leave the next morning the air is filled with such tension you could almost cut it with a knife. This is not to imply that the family is physically abusive with one another, but their time together is spent arguing and nagging.

The interesting thing about this kind of relationship is that the family often does a good job of hiding it from the public. When they are in social settings they are usually polite, discrete, and congenial with each other. Some may even be convinced that this family lives in a perfect environment and could compete for the world's best family. But within the confines of their house the battle lines have been drawn and there is open season on hostilities being declared. "Conflict habituation" means, as strange as it may sound, that there may be some psychological ego fulfillment in their actions.

At any rate, the dominant force behind this family relationship is the effort of one to rule over the other. Paul said, "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." (Ephesians 5:21) When this happens conflicts are drastically reduced.

Rather than stay in constant conflict, it is important that each family member give in occasionally—even if you think you are right. It does not hurt to give in every once in a while. No one can be right 100 percent of the time. In fact, the one who is willing to give in from time to time just might be the one who is creating the conflict to begin with. When you step back from the situation and assess it all over again you might find that the issue was not worth the misery that resulted from the conflict. Studies show that most problems families argue about are usually insignificant for the outcome. Family feuds can be lessened when we focus on the big problems and not make the trivial ones into battles that continue to cause conflict. The old saying "pick your battles carefully" certainly stands true in trying to maintain better family relationships. Jesus gave wonderful advice when He said, "Be at peace with each other." (Mark 9:50)

*DR. DON HILL, founder of Frazer's counseling ministry, has been a staff member for 21 years. He has a Ph.D in psychology and is a former college professor and dean. He is married with a son and daughter-in-law who are also Frazer members.*

## Teaching children the importance of saving money

*Overcoming and eliminating debt can be overwhelming and even seem impossible. If you would like to get started on Dave's Financial Peace program with his seven Baby Steps to Financial Freedom, or would like to learn how to create a budget, call Chuck Robbins at 281-4452. Financial coaches are available to help you.*

Dear Dave,  
We have two kids, ages 8 and 11. When they get some money we have them take out 10 percent for tithes or giving, and 10 percent for saving. It's difficult with the younger one sometimes, because all he wants to do is spend money. And really, what's the point if he gets ten dollars of putting away just a dollar? How do you convince a child this age that it's good to save?

—Allen

Dear Allen,  
First, I think you've got a nice plan in place working with them on saving and giving. With a kid who's eight, you start out by explaining it the best you can on his level. Then, if he still doesn't want to do it, you make him do it anyway. Sometimes, as a parent, you have to pull rank

when it comes to doing what's best for the kid.

Now, here's the point of saving, even if it's only a dollar. You want to make sure you teach them a pattern of habits that will help them win in life. When your kids have homework you make them sit down and do it. Then, you help them when they need help, right? The point is you want them to learn good study habits, so that when they get into high school and beyond they can succeed. That one dollar won't make him rich right now, but getting into the habit of saving—because his mean, old dad made him do it when he was a kid—will make him wealthy one day!

You might try setting goals for him, too. Lots of younger kids have trouble with the concept of saving. But if you set



**DAVE SAYS**

Dave Ramsey

some goals, and let him save up a little bit of money and pay for something himself, it will be a real lesson for him. It will show him that delaying pleasure really pays off.

Make sure you start out small, with a few easily attainable goals. Then, you'll be paving the way for bigger things, like saving for a car and maybe even college!

—Dave

*Reprinted with Permission. For more great financial advice from Dave Ramsey, visit [www.davesays.org](http://www.davesays.org).*




# FRAZER FAMILY NEWS

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## Men's Ministry Annual Pancake Breakfast for Missions

### MEN'S MINISTRY ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST FOR MISSIONS DEC. 11

The Men's Ministry will host their annual Christmas Pancake Breakfast Saturday, Dec. 11 in the Fellowship Hall. Pancakes and sausage will be served from 7-11 a.m., along with milk, juice and coffee. Santa Claus will make a special appearance to take pictures with the children between 8:30-10:30 a.m. Santa photos are free and will be printed while you wait. Tickets are \$5 and include one adult and one child under age 12. Tickets are available this Sunday in the Atrium and in the Frazer Bookstore. All proceeds will be used by the Men's Ministry to fund local outreach and missions.



## Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight Services

### CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION & CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

Come and go communion will be offered in the Sanctuary by our pastors from 12 to 2 p.m. Christmas Eve. This is a special time of worship for the entire family.

Don't miss our Christmas Eve Candlelight service, as we gather together for Christmas carols, reading of the Christmas story and to light candles in celebration of the coming of the Light of the World. Services will be offered at 5 and 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



### YOUTH WORSHIP ARTS PRESENTS 'THE INCREDIBLE JOURNEY' DEC. 19

Enjoy our outstanding youth choir as they lead us in worship through music and creative arts in the "incredible journey" to the manger of Bethlehem Sunday, Dec. 19 at 6 p.m. in Wesley Hall.

**FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND  
EVENTS, GO TO FRAZERUMC.ORG**