

# WHO WE R

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Vol.4

January 2018

Issue 1

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*Koinonia* is a Greek word that is used often in the New Testament. The simple meaning of the word is fellowship but the simple meaning is inadequate to the fullness that is meant in the scripture. The word is used as a description of the church – not the building – but those who are followers of the Way of Jesus. It is a particular and peculiar way of being in the world. It is a ‘body’ of Jesus people who try to embody the life of Jesus. Generosity, compassion, boldness in denouncing anything that dehumanizes others, self-giving love, and the cultivating of the fruits of the Spirit is what we are about. Do we get it right all of the time? (You should be at least smirking a bit here). NO! However, and here is the beauty and the fullness of who we really are, when we do get it wrong we know and practice repentance, forgiveness, and reconciliation. Read through the Gospels and Acts and study the Letters and writings of the New Testament. Study the prophets and the stories of our forefathers and foremothers in the faith. If we are even remotely serious about this grand adventure of God’s Kingdom then we will want to know how all of this comes into being and how people lived it out. That is what we are doing and will be doing in the weeks to come. We will listen and learn and worship and study and be together for fellowship and shared meals – and all the while – we will be living the Kingdom way. Join us.

REVIVAL is ‘on’ in our church. It is beginning right now. Do you feel it? Do you hear it? Are you experiencing it? Pay attention and prepare and participate. The actual event of Revival will take place in April, the 13<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars now. More and more details will be forthcoming. The event of the Revival will be the grand and joyous celebration of what is transpiring and transforming our church right now. *Pastor Jim*

## **Opportunities to connect and grow:**

Wednesday Night Alive – Wednesday Nights – 5:30 pm meal: 6:15-7:15 study: 7:30 Choir. The early spring study is *Serving from the Heart: Finding Your Gifts and Talents for Service*.

Saturday, January 27 - Bishop Lewis will be teaching and preaching at Verona UMC beginning at 9AM.  
(See the flyer that is included in this email)

Tuesday, February 13 - 5:30 pm ‘til everyone has had enough PANCAKES! (Shrove Tuesday)

Wednesday, February 14 - 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Worship (the season of Lent begins)

Sunday, February 18 - Our Covenant Missionary from Crossroads Mission, Mark Stransky will be with us. Details about times to meet and hear Mark will be forthcoming.

Saturday, March 10 - **5 Talent Academy**. (A flyer is attached and others are posted in the Fellowship Hall) ***Beyond Sunday School: Empowering Regular Folks to Lead a God Movement***. This exciting event will be held at Bridgewater UMC beginning at 8:30 am. Cost prior to 2/7 is \$25 per person (35\$ after the 7<sup>th</sup>) You can register at [vaumc.org/5talent](http://vaumc.org/5talent).

March 25- April 1 is Holy Week. Information about additional services for that week will be forthcoming.

### Sanctuary Flower

Jan 14 Joy McNelis  
Jan 21 Mike and Bev Earman  
Jan 28 Tom and Janet Baggott  
Feb 4  
Feb 11 Joy McNelis  
Feb 18  
Feb 25 Sue Rinker

If you would like to volunteer to provide flowers for the sanctuary next year you can sign up in the social hall or call the church office.

### Team Schedule

Jan 14 Team 1  
Jan 21 Team 2  
Jan 28 Team 3  
Feb 4 Team 4  
Feb 11 Team 5  
Feb 18 Team 1  
Feb 25 Team 2

IMPORTANT  
JOINT MEETING  
**ADMIN. COUNCIL  
AND  
COUNCIL OF  
MINISTRIES**  
Monday, January  
15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00PM

### Out of the Building into the Burg!

Ever wanted to go on a mission trip and just didn't have time. We will be working at **Cedar Grove UMC on the new building which will house the Mission Central Children's Clothes Closet and Medical Supplies Jan 17, 2018 through January 24, 2018** excluding Sunday. Whether you have a few hours or a week to give you are welcome. And the best part, you get to sleep in your own bed at night. Email [pastorbob.asburyumc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbob.asburyumc@gmail.com) for more information and to let me know you want to join us.

It's time to gear up for **Relay For Life** 2018! Relay will be held Friday, May 4, 2018. This is the 10-year anniversary of MUMC's Relay team, Jeremiah 29:11, formed originally in memory of Jane Lamb, and now in memory & honor of all members of MUMC who have battled cancer. All are invited to join our team - below is the link if you would like to join:

[http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?fr\\_id=88898&pg=team&team\\_id=2243442](http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?fr_id=88898&pg=team&team_id=2243442)

Even if you don't join, you can support Jeremiah 29:11, either by making a donation or supporting our fundraisers. Stay tuned for information on vegetable soup sales, Easter fudge, and more!

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