

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



Community Garden – Community Garden – Vegetables are being harvested in the raised garden beds behind the church on 5th Avenue! Please come share your gardening talents by helping maintain the garden. All neighbors are welcome to take what they need. More raised garden beds will be constructed as the interest grows.



Little Free Library – The FUMC Little Free Library is being well used by the community, especially by children. Your book donations for children and youth may be left at the end of the mail hallway. Our LFL is located on the 5th Street side of the church. Many thanks goes to Wil Frederiksen for designing and building this beautiful and durable structure.

FIRST NEWS.....August & September Edition

U
M
C

First United Methodist Church, Hopewell, VA

Welcome to August and September 2017! We have just enough time to squeeze in our summer holiday vacations before those little yellow buses start littering our streets again every morning and afternoon! I hope you have had a chance to get away and -to rest and to refresh some this Summer! Fall is almost here and the Church season picks up a lot!

This year Charge Conference will be special as we get in touch with some of our traditions as Methodists. Our District Superintendent, Rob Colwell, has asked for us to have camp meetings in our James River District Clusters. We, in the Ft. Lee Cluster, have been brainstorming about what ours will look like. The original plans have changed, but I wanted to let you know how things stand now.

The Ft. Lee Cluster will meet on October 1, 2017 at First United Methodist Church:

- 1:00 PM for Charge Conference
- 1:45 PM for Worship
- 2:15 PM for start of Mission

The method we would like to use is to pair up the 6 churches in our Cluster and exchange Charge Conferences so that one elder presides over other church's Charge Conference. We will then combine all churches for worship and leadership commissioning. We will finish by sending churches out in pairs for mission work. We have another planning meeting planned soon, so I will keep you updated! Please plan to attend as you will not have far to go!

Our theme verse is Luke 10:1-2:

10 After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. 2 He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.

We hope to see you on October 1st!
Chris

First News is a regular publication for members and friends of First United Methodist Church. Articles for the newsletter should be submitted to the Church Office no later than the 15th of the month before the Newsletter goes out.

Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Visit our website: www.fumchopewell.org

Phone (804) 458-8076

E-Mail: Office@fumchopewell.org

CHURCH STAFF

Chris Andress, Senior Pastor

Patti Williams, Admin. Asst.

Judy Blevins, Director of Music

Nancy Honaker, Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist

Scott & Patricia Honaker, Youth Directors

Dennis Foxworth, Lay Leader

Nursery Attendant

Cindy Altman, Chapel Pianist/Children's Choir Director

Gloria Donati, Custodian

First News

First United Methodist Church

P. O. Box 636

Hopewell, Virginia 23860-0636

Non-Profit Organization

U. S. Postage

PAID

Hopewell, Virginia

Permit No. 32

Address Service Requested



MUSIC NEWS

August & September 2017

The Chancel Choir will be taking its summer break beginning on Sunday, July 30th. Our soloists will be providing special music for 11:00 AM worship services as well as at 8:45. The Choir will resume weekly rehearsals at **7:30 PM on Thursday, September 7th**, and will return to singing for 11:00 AM worship services on Sunday, the 10th!



The Chancel Choir will then be rehearsing great new music as well as some old favorites, **and we will need a few more voices!** Ability to read music is helpful but is not required, nor is previous experience. Current choir members will gladly help new singers, and every member will welcome you as part of our special choir family! Members who have not been singing with us for a while are encouraged to return! Please pray about singing in the Chancel Choir – adults AND youth are welcome! Join us, and you will surely be blessed! We will be looking for you on **Thursday, September 7th – 7:30 PM!**

The Handbell Choir will resume weekly rehearsals at **6:15 PM on Thursday, September 14th!** **New ringers are welcome** – adults AND youth! Plan now to share in the wonderful experience of ringing handbells! The holidays are coming, so we will soon be preparing handbell music for worship services to celebrate these grand occasions!



Letters of Thanks

As most of you know I was involved in a fender bender during the last week of May. In fact, the driver that ran the red light damaged my 2 year old car so severely that it was determined to be a total loss. The tow truck operator that hauled my vehicle from the accident site later told me that it was a miracle that anyone inside that car survived. My car was initially T-boned on the passenger's side and knocked into the oncoming traffic

where it was then hit on the driver's side. Almost certainly if someone had been in the passenger's seat, they would not be here today. As for me, I broke my sternum and 5 ribs. I also had cuts and bruises from the top of my head down to my knees. I know for certain that I am the miracle the tow truck operator talked about and know the Lord was with me.

I am so thankful that have the opportunity to say "Thank You" to all of my church family for your prayers, cards, calls, visits, meals, cakes, cookies, donuts, candy, balloons, flowers, books, magazines, and DVD's. When something like this happens to you, it makes you more aware of what is really important in your life and there is nothing more important to me than the expression of concern and support that all of you have demonstrated I am truly a blessed person. Thanks again and God bless each of you!

Randy Honaker

* * * * *

*A special "Thank You" from FUMC to **Gary Hamilton** for ordering the necessary parts to get the Church's Emergency Defibrillator in good operating order.*

*Thank you very much for your donation to our shelter. We appreciate your help and your gift will help us care for the animals entrusted to us. **Hopewell Humane Society***

*Thank you for your support of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (**UMCOR**). Through your gift, you are helping to provide assistance for survivors of human trafficking, funding for health and development projects that alleviate hunger and poverty....General Board of Global Ministries*

***Life Light Ministries** sent a thank you note for our contribution of \$250 to their organization.*

***Good News Jail & Prison** sent a thank you note for our contribution of \$200 towards helping to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with men, women and children behind bars.*

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

(1) - Doris Nowlan, (3) Jay Martin, (4) Katherine Cave, (6) Vonnie Barglof, (6) Mekia Hill, (6) Wesley Myers, (6) Teresa Sherrill (7) Joshua Poe, (8) Ann Henry, (8) Russ Tatum, (9) Eddie Cave, (13) Maddy Birchett, (13) Susan Cross, (13) Gloria Donati, (13) Haley Hines, (13) Wendy Weitkenper, (14) Rocky Anderson, (14) Kaitlyn Birchett, (14) Jay Lovelady, (15) James Coleman, (15) Terri Dail, (17) Rev. Chris Andress, (18) Ian Blaney, (20) Gary Hamilton, (21) Megan Aycock, (21) Frances Marks, (22) Rhonda Lee, (22) Carl Mason, (23) Amy Jordan, (23) Denise McCormick, (23) Charles Steininger, (23) Hal Zavislak, (24) Kelsey Diradour, (25) Kaye Holcomb, (26) Susannah Andress, (26) Gene Day, (27) Christian Blankenship, (29) Kyle Futch, (31) Amber Posey

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

(1) Lee & Courtney Bujakowski, (2) Eric & Jaclyn Hines, (3) Randy & Pat Rainey, (5) Jason & Laura Poe, (8) Jimmy & Linda Lovelady, (15) Donnie & Nancy Karabaich, (22) Ted & Diane Lowder, (23) Gene & Jeannie Day, (27) Robert & Edna Traylor, (28) Wilfred & Linda Frederiksen, (30) Roger & Nancy Miles

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

(1) – Ron Cahoon, (1) Margie Dixon, (4) Alex Kaufman, (7) Emma Blaney, (8) Bill Crafton, (9) Bill Garvin, (10) Donnie Parr, (11) Randy Sealey, (12) Jean Rigney, (13) Tony Sherrill, (14) Verna Brundin, (16) – Ed Daley, (17) Lee Bujakowski, (17) Frank Cuffe, (19) Willard Lesley, (20) Margie Dowden, (21) – Bunn Armstrong, (21) James Bornschein, (21) Truman Tench, (22) Joe Hudson, (22) Dennis Lipke, (22) Wendell McCallister, (28) Scott Jones, (29) Laura Poe

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

(6) HD & Barbara Hammond, (19) Bob & Mary Tinker, (21), Carl & Verna Brundin, (21) Jarrod & Kayla Pandel, (28) Hal & Diana Zavislak

Treasurer's Report for month ending June 30, 2017:

Operating fund:

Beginning balance as of 5/31/17.....	\$28,355.27
Income for June.....	20,148.14
Expenses for June	(20,741.04)
Balance as of 6/30/17	27,762.37
Designated Funds Balance as of 6/30/17	23,056.53
Money Market Balance	77,502.57
Love & Needy (Separate Checking Account) ...	500.00

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP NEWS AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES –

Hello FUMC!

In June, we decorated and mailed summer cards for those in our congregation who can't make it to church regularly. Also, the weekend of June 24, five of us traveled to Christchurch, VA for the Society of St. Andrew's Harvest of Hope retreat. We joined four other churches to glean about 3,000 lbs of broccoli and about 7,300 lbs of corn (needless to say, we didn't have broccoli for lunch on the way home). The produce was then taken to local food pantries and given away to families in need. Hunger is a serious problem, and it affects people right here in our community. Even in the United States, the number of food insecure children is 1 in 6. If you'd like to learn more about how you can help, visit endhunger.org.

We had a pool party at Shari and Jeff Moosman's house on July 22. Good food and a good time were had by all. THANK YOU to the Moosmans for opening their home to us and extending such a gracious invitation to come enjoy their pool.

We're preparing for another busy fall season and will resume the regular UMYF schedule starting September 10. Mark your calendars for the September 23 Community Outreach Event, when we'll bring back the Fall Bash (petting zoo, games, pumpkin decorating, and food). We'll also have a lock-in this fall. More details will be provided in the coming weeks.

We hope you're having a great summer. As always, we thank you for your continued prayers and support.

With Love,

UMYF

UNITED METHODIST MEN

NEWS AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES –

Hope everyone enjoyed their summer vacation! Remember our meetings will start by up in September. Hope to see you then.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

NEWS AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES --

September 25th - General Meeting
October 8th - Luncheon
November 11th - Yard and bake sale
November 12th - General Meeting
December 4th - Christmas

AUGUST - STEWARDSHIP

Ushers: J. Lovelady, J. Armstrong, W. Frederiksen, D. Parr, S. Williamson

Greeters: 8:45 a.m. Worship Service

August 6, 2017 Christy Frank
August 13, 2017 Joyce Purr and Ben Farmer
August 20, 2017 Curly Moore
August 27, 2017 Margie Dowden

Greeters: 11:00 a.m. Worship Service – Chancel Choir

SEPTEMBER STEWARDSHIP

Ushers: B. Henry, J. Dye, B. Rackley, T. Tench

Greeters: 8:45 a.m. Worship Service

September 3, 2017 Christy Frank
September 10, 2017 Joyce Purr and Ben Farmer
September 17, 2017 Curly Moore
September 24, 2017 Margie Dowden

Greeters: 11:00 a.m. Worship Service – Guilders Circle



Dear friends,

In 2016 the missions committee with your help saw the completion of 2 projects that we had envisioned. The community garden and the Little Free Library. Both are working very successfully, and for that we are thankful. We tried to have a community yard sale this year but it did not happen. We will be revisiting that idea in the near future. One thing we would REALLY like to achieve is to honor our mission commitments.

To date we have only been able to pay less than half of the recipients on our budget, and we are already more than halfway through the year.

I know that we as a church are always requesting support of cash and kind from you and we appreciate your wonderful generous responses. We are so blessed to live in this land of plenty and God calls us to share the abundance that we have. The church exists for mission. That is its purpose. Please consider missions as one of your priorities for giving.

Thank you,

Dale Lipke (missions chair)

The Hopewell Food Pantry still needs volunteers to assist with Meals on Wheels one morning a week. Volunteers are needed for approximately 1 hour on one weekday morning prepping for delivery to Hopewell clients. The plan is to have 5 volunteers and each would serve one day a week. This could be a great fit for someone who is retired or semi-retired. If you or anyone you know may be interested, please contact Dick Commander at 530-3546 (home) or 836-3933 (cell) for more information. Drivers are not needed at this time - the two routes in Hopewell are covered.

PLEASE REMEMBER LOOSE CHANGE FOR THE RED BOX!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR– SEPTEMBER 10TH



The annual Dinner on the Grounds will take place Sunday, September 10th after the 11 o'clock service. The church will provide meat, rolls and beverages. Please bring a covered dish to share!

Help is needed to set up tables, chairs and tents outside the morning of September 10th at 9:00 am.



**COMMUNITY OUTREACH
SEPTEMBER 23RD**

Mark your calendars for the September 23 Community Outreach Event, when we'll bring back the Fall Bash (petting zoo, games, pumpkin decorating, and food).

Welcome to our new Nursery Attendants!

There are some new faces in the Nursery!!
Please join FUMC in welcoming our new Nursery

Attendants:

Mary Katherine Taylor
Tori Marie Pierce
Gloria Donati

We are delighted to have a fully staffed nursery and encourage you to bring your children and grandchildren to Church.



***SCHOOL SUPPLY & BOOK BAG GIVEAWAY
With a HOT DOG DINNER***

August 26th FROM 5-6:30

The annual school supply and backpack give away is scheduled for Saturday, August 26! We will hand out back packs and serve a community supper of hot dogs, chips, cookies and a beverage.

We need your help to make this event a success! Please volunteer to help serve our community! We need people to greet families as they come into the church, serve food and provide fellowship to the community! We will begin set up at 3:00. We look forward to seeing everyone!

Please donate school supplies to the bin located at the end of the hall just past the nursery. Last year our church donated over 100 backpacks to area students, helping them to get excited about a new school year! This success carries over throughout the year. Thank you for your continued support of our students in Hopewell and beyond!

Items most needed for backpacks are:

No. 2 pencils, Expo markers (dry erase)

Crayola crayons, Glue sticks

Student scissors

Spiral Bound notebooks

Composition note books

Plastic supply boxes. (pencil boxes)

Prefer not to shop? Carol Elmore and Angie Hildreth love to shop!

Donations are always welcome. Please indicate that it is for the school supply drive.