

NEWSLETTER

Pearisburg, Virginia 24134 [921-1021]

June 2018

Dr. Brian Burch, Pastor

Worship Where Every Sunday is Special

Honoring graduates

June 3 during worship let's praise God for our graduates! Give us the name and pictures of your family member who is celebrating a graduation this spring; and we will put them up on the big screen. We will also recall at our Methodist heritage and giving thanks for the day when John Wesley learned to love God with all his heart and all his mind. It was a day he felt truly saved. He understood Ephesians 2:1-10 and "Put it in Writing."

Remember Your Baptism

As a part of our Water VBS theme, Sunday, June 10 during worship you can take part in a renewal of your baptism service. If you have not been baptized, it would be an excellent opportunity to declare your love of Jesus. Why not "Dive Right In" as offered in Acts 8:26-40.

Father's Day

Leslie Sharp had a double blessing on Mother's Day; she won the drawing of the big basket of flowers. Which man in our midst will find his name drawn this day? Jesus' discussions with his disciples in Mark 4:26-34 are the foundation for the sermon "Talks with Dad."

Jim Goddard Sunday

Many of you have heard his wife Kim preach. She is our District Superintendent. You get a chance to hear Jim too. Jim is using this phase of his life to lead trips to the Holy Land and visit churches and share with them a vision for "Next Steps" ministry. He has a passion for motivating us to invite others to worship and follow Christ. See you June 24.

Tour Israel

October 8-19, travel with Kim & Jim Goddard on a 12-day exploration of the Holy Land. Cost is \$3,895 and allows persons to go from Dan to Beersheba walking and learning throughout Israel and Palestine. For more information call Kim Goddard at 276-492-6392. Organized by the Society for Biblical Studies.



- June 6 – Men's Prayer Breakfast - 8am
- June 10 - 15 – VBS

Every Wednesday:

Handbell Ringers – 6 pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal – 7 pm

(There will be **no** Primer Timers program for the summer. Meetings will resume in September.)

Youth News

The youth group has several activities planned this summer. They will start off by helping out with VBS, then with Camp in the Community in July. They are also planning to attend a baseball game and have a picnic. A rummage sale is planned for August 4. You may drop off donated items to the church or contact Edgar or Renee if you need items picked up.

The group consists of a wide age range and as some get older, at times it would be beneficial to divide the group for certain activities. Please prayerfully consider lending a hand to help make this possible.

Water You Doing in June?

The VBS team is searching for volunteers! We have opportunities for service before and during the week of VBS, June 10-15.

We are in need of:



- ~ Preschool Bible Story Volunteers
- ~ Missions Leader
- ~ Crew Leaders (will work with a small group of children during the week at each station)
- ~ Terra Cotta Pots (various sizes)
- ~ Watering Cans
- ~ Refrigerator Box

And, what is VBS without children? All children aged preschool-rising 6th graders are invited to attend a week filled with the Holy Spirit, fellowship, and fun. If your children will be attending, please let either Kim, Emily, or Sherry know so we can plan accordingly.

Thank you for your support of VBS!

Prayers for our church

- Praying for our Church: Your church leaders are in prayer specifically for our church. Would you pray with them that we might hear God's voice and see the Holy Spirit work among us?
- Growth in worship attendance: a heart for new persons, a welcoming attitude, willingness to worship in ways that speak to our community, that our church staff will be filled with the Holy Spirit.
- Additional resources: to pay our regular bills, for HVAC for the second floor of the education wing, for a more functional stove in the church kitchen
- Volunteers: at least 5 more to help with VBS, 1 to 2 to help with the Children's time, 1 to help with youth Sunday school.
- Camp in the Community: that we can sign up 44 more kids, that we can build relationships with those children and provide a means for them to follow up after this day camp July 16-20.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Were given this month in loving memory of:

Eugene Altizer Gordon Hylton
 Jesse Lee Morris Marilyn Mustard
 Robert Richard Teresa Showalter

Stewardship Report-Budget

Received May a year ago.....	\$ 17,587.17
Received May	\$ 20,585.00
Received Y-T-D a year ago	\$ 98,489.70
Received Y-T-D	\$ 92,438.50

Annual Conference

Mark Haynie as our church representative, Brian Burch as our Pastor, and Nancy Haynie as a District Representative will be attending the Holston Annual Conference June 10-13. What happens at these four days of meetings? Ordination of new clergy, memorial services for deceased clergy and their spouses, retirement services, lots of reports, a few votes and official announcements of the 2018 assignments of which churches will be served by which pastors. What affects you directly? Bob Hayes will introduce the 2018 AT Chaplain. We will receive an honorable mention award in Evangelism. We will also receive the 5-star award for excellent in sharing our finances with others. Our costs for medical insurance will go up; primarily to cover the cost of retiree health care. The experimental Methodist Clergy Group that Pastor Brian has participated in for Giles County the last three years will become mandatory for every pastor. Rev. Betsy is projected to become the Associate Pastor Broad St. UMC in Cleveland, TN. (Pastor Brian's home church). Rev. Gilbert (Buddy) Butler and his family are projected to be coming to Rich Creek UMC starting July 1.

In Memoriam

J. Gordon Hylton
 May 2, 2018

Our condolences go out to the family of J. Gordon Hylton at his passing. Gordon was a member of Pearisburg First UMC since April 15, 1962.

Kits for Liberia

You did it! You did more than was expected. Our goal was to assemble 20 school kits for children attending Methodist schools in Liberia. Our final number was 31 kits which are all assembled and heading off by container ship to be distributed by missionaries. Your mission committee used a part of the \$674 you donated during the Lenten Offering to cover the shipping. They also approved \$250 from the Lenten Fund to assist with education and care for the orphans from South Sudan who are currently living in a refugee camp in Uganda. Yes, God blessed us so that we could be a blessing to others.

More Lights!

The Second floor of our education wing doesn't get as much action as the rest of our building does. However, it is the home for our library, history room, Macy Back Pack Ministry room, three active Sunday school classes and our youth room. With about half of the lights upstairs not functioning due to bad ballasts, the trustees approved an inexpensive plan to remedy this issue. Two rooms now have lights and the rest should be completed in June.

Long-Term Dreams

Around 18 years ago, your church leaders discussed the future of the parsonage. One of the concerns raised then was that the current home did not meet the requirements that it had a handicap accessible bathroom. Those were not major concerns in 1955 when the home was built. In May your Church Council approved a plan to upgrade the first-floor bathroom in the parsonage which would eliminate this concern. We are currently taking bids from various contractors; with a dream to see construction take place between July 23 and November 16.

Playground Bench

Our playground continues to improve. A six-foot bench with wrought iron arms and legs is on order. The bench comes embossed with the words: "Loretta Oakley Community Playground." Rejoicing that what started as a desire to honor a lady who loved children her whole life is continuing to see improvement.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
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 Pearisburg, VA
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First United Methodist Church