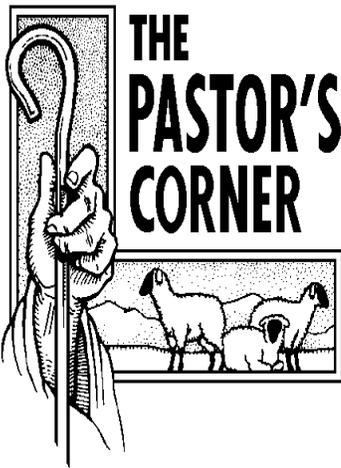




Neighborhood Gatherings

APRIL 2017

Newsletter of Relief and Hites Chapel United Methodist Churches



Resurrection victory is a promise you can claim. This is made possible because Jesus was raised from death to life by the power of God. New life is offered which begins now and continues beyond

death. This earthly life will end at some point. I am grateful that the resurrection message was told me and the offer made to me. I am grateful that no matter how bad or good this earthly life is victory and new life are available.

A power is present from God. Jesus was dead and that was the end of the story so most persons would have thought. Those present that day at the crucifixion would have felt this was the end even though Jesus had spoken of his death and resurrection. With God's presence and power the end was resurrection victory.

With God at work in your life there is resurrection victory now. "Therefore, if

anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" (2 Corinthians 5:17). You can strive to make the most of your life now. With so much you need to do and want to do, the mighty work of God can be easily overlooked until there is a crisis. At that point, God can be sought to solve or end the crisis. You and I can be open to the resurrection work of God now even as we have the assurance of victory in life to come.

Easter can be a constant in your life. Easter Day is special in many church traditions because of the emphasis on the new. Sunrise services are held. Some church congregations have special music. Usually attendance is up that Sunday. The story of resurrection is told again of victory and new life. Yet this new life is for you each day. You can be assured of this life. Good news is proclaimed on Easter Sunday. That good news can be part of your life. Most of you who read this devotional accept this good news for yourself. You can allow it to change your attitudes and actions so that you trust in the victory and live it out.

*In Christ Jesus,
Pastor Richard*



Holy Week

<u>Tuesday, April 11</u>	10:00 am
Bible Study	— Relief
<u>Thursday, April 13</u>	7:00 pm
Communion — Maundy Thursday Service	— Relief
<u>Friday, April 14</u>	1:00–3:00 pm
Children’s Activities	— Relief
<u>Sunday, April 16</u>	
Sunrise Service	6:30 am
Shelter	— Relief
Breakfast	7:00 am
Fellowship Hall	— Relief
Easter Worship	9:30 am
	— Hites
Easter Worship	11:00 am
	— Relief

An Easter Prayer

Of all of God's gifts
Easter shows us our fate,
Forgiven we will rise
and pass through Heaven's gate.

This Easter remember
the sacrifice of a Son,
and through His resurrection
eternal life we have won.

This Easter I pray,
that the love of God
is resurrected
reborn, renewed
inside your heart.
God Bless You!

—Anonymous

HITES CHAPEL NEWS

*“The Church in the Corner
of the Woods”*

150 Chapel Road (Rt. 627)
4-1/2 miles west of Middletown
Sunday Worship: 9:30 am



	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Offering</u>
2/19	19	\$ 325
2/26	20	\$ 291
3/05	17	\$ 362
3/12	14	\$ 437
3/19	20	\$ 340
3/26	<u>20</u>	<u>\$ 291</u>
Avg.	18	\$ 341



4/12 Tanya Heller
4/21 Caleb Ritter
4/23 Chloe Dillinger



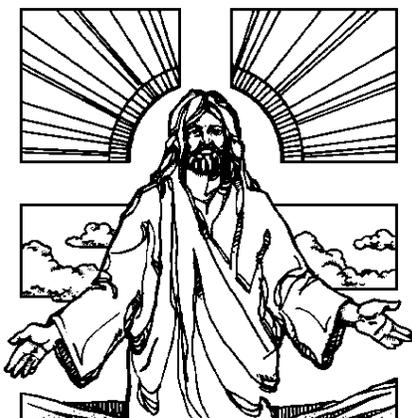
4/12 — Steve & Gail Baker
4/15 — William & Tanya Heller

APRIL LAYREADER

Ethan Keeler



Hites Women's Group met on Thursday, April 6th. The next meeting will be Thursday, May 4th at 2:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us!



"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen."
Luke 24:5

THOUGHTS:

Yesterday is gone Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin.

— *Mother Teresa*

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit.

Jesus (John 15:5)

Let every man and woman count himself immortal. Let him catch the revelation of Jesus in his resurrection. Let him say not merely, "Christ is risen," but "I shall rise."

— *Phillips Brooks*

RELIEF UMC NEWS

"In Sharing, We Know Christ."
 5275 Middle Road (Rt. 628)
 Six miles SW of Valley Avenue

Sunday Services at Relief:
Sunday School, 10:00 am
Worship, 11:00 am



	<u>S.S.</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Offering</u>
2/19	12	42	\$ 1,859
2/26	13	42	\$ 2,462
3/05	17	53	\$ 2,469
3/12	15	49	\$ 1,661
3/19	15	61	\$ 1,703
3/26	<u>17</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>\$ 2,091</u>
Avg.	14	50	\$ 2,040

Also received:

C-CAP	\$ 58
Shelter/Fellowship Hall Use	\$ 405
Social Hall Tables	\$ 390
Tables	\$ 200
UMCOR	\$ 13
Women's Retreat	\$ 600



SCRAPBOOKING

Scrapbooking with Debbie will be on Friday, April 21st, from 6:00 to 11:00 pm unless otherwise noted. Soup will be served!

—*Debbie Fauble*



4/02 Elwanda Luttrell
 4/03 Hannah Milhon
 4/06 Uta Alger
 4/07 Phyllis Snider
 4/09 Nancy Pence
 4/11 Ruth Snapp
 4/14 Earl Luttrell
 4/16 Charles Boyd
 4/19 Carroll Messick
 4/22 Lynn Painter
 4/22 Joanna Smith
 4/22 Emily Swing
 4/24 Nick Campbell
 4/26 Lisa Milhon



4/11 Adrian & Joan Anderson
 4/13 Jim & Margaret Douglas
 4/20 Jim & Kim Huffman
 4/20 John & Robin Sweet
 4/20 Barnaby & Dale Watten
 4/24 Dave & Kathy Holliday

APRIL LAYREADER

Elwanda Luttrell

Don't forget to save items and grocery bags for the "YARD SALE" June 9th and 10th.



APRIL OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT

A special thanks to Eunice Musser, Pastor Richard, Phyllis Snapp, Doris Hardy, Sheila Snapp, Robin and Ken Cibroski for helping me with the WATTS dinner at Macedonia UMC on Monday, March 13th. Also thanks to Debbie Faule, Jeanie Painter, Eunice Musser, Ken and Robin Cibroski for contributions for the dinner. It was a huge success!

Also, a special thank you to all who took Easter Baskets to fill and returned them. We have at least seventy-five baskets to deliver to C-CAP.

We no longer need any of the Game sheets that come with the Saturday Paper. We have a large supply. Thank you for all your donations.

The Outreach emphasis for April is the Our Family Program. May is officially Mental Health Month, but we are going to spotlight this Outreach area of our church in the month of April. One in four American adults which is 43.8 million people has a diagnosable mental illness, according to the most recent statistics. Of these, only about 14.6 percent of the US population receive mental health care. Millions have serious illnesses such as schizophrenia, bi-polar disorder, PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder), depression, or OCD (obsessive-compulsive

disorder), hyperactivity, addictions, and many other serious illnesses.

Relief Church has been one of the churches that **is** making a difference in the lives of some of the people who have been diagnosed with a mental illness in our area. Some of these folks have great disabilities, while others are able to work, but they need a little extra support. This difference is carried out by the members of the Outreach committee and others in the church who have helped with special projects. Relief Church supports and provides monetary and volunteer staff who go to Our Family, which is a mental health peer group that meets four days a week at Bethel Lutheran Church on Route 522. In May we plan to provide a meal for the group. Monthly visits are anticipated by the group. During the time we are there, we work with them on crafts, provide puzzles, adult coloring sheets, word search puzzles, and such projects as the USO Christmas Cards and Veterans Days appreciation bags. Throughout the year, there are many craft opportunities, such as: January — scrapbooking and snowman cards; February — Valentine mugs and cards, March — Easter Basket Ducks — (made from the bleach bottles you provided (they loved them), April — Sun Catchers and scrapbooking. Special Mother's Day and Father's Day projects are being planned.

The number in the group varies from fifteen to twenty-five depending on the day, and the weather, as some have other health issues that prevent them from attending when the weather is bad. There are a couple who are dually diagnosed, which means that they have a mental illness, but also are developmentally challenged or have an addiction diagnosis.

The group enjoys getting out on trips, and are planning to attend our annual Yard

Sale, on Friday, June 9th, where they will be treated to breakfast, provided by the Outreach budget.

During recent months, money from the Outreach budget has been sent to Heart Haven, WVRS (local Christian Radio Station in Middletown) and Red Bird Mission, as well as supplies for crafts for Our Family. We try to use and recycle items from previous craft activities, but sometime need additional items.

We appreciate all the support that we receive on the activities by the Outreach Committee.

Please continue to bring food and place in the box in the vestibule for C-CAP, as well as the offering placed on the altar railing during communion on the first Sunday. The first quarter amount sent to C-CAP from Communion Offerings was \$251.00.

—Elwanda Luttrell
Outreach Chair

THE LAST SUPPER

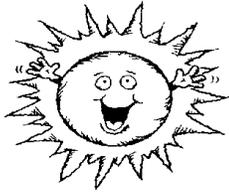
On the day before the crucifixion, Jesus gathered the Apostles and shared the Pass-over meal with them.

“And as they were eating, he took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them and said, ‘Take: this is my body.’ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, ‘This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.’”

Mark 14:22–24



The Apostles were instructed to continue this rite in remembrance of Christ.



**SUNSHINE CARD SIGNING
SUNDAYS
MARCH 12TH APRIL 2ND**

A lot of people on our list look forward to their card each month. Thank you to all who have taken the time and made the effort to sign. I pray more of you will do likewise to also show your love and support to these special people. A big thank you to those who help in other important ways.

We'll be sending mostly St. Patrick's Day cards for March and Easter cards for April. There will be others if special needs cards are necessary. For those of you who like to sign before worship, I'll do my best to have the cards available very early in the Fellowship Hall

In February, we sent 31 Valentine cards, one sympathy card, and two get-well cards, making a total of 34 cards. There were no missionaries' or deacons' birthdays on that Sunday. Signatures were Joanie Anderson, Herb Earnshaw, Donald Graff, Eunice Musser, Jeanie Painter, Lynn Painter, Sheila Snapp and yours truly. May God bless each of you — the signers and the receivers!

Please let me know of anyone to whom you would like a card sent. Let me know by phone (540) 869-0220 or email ruthearnshaw@yahoo.com

Peggy Brewer & Family: The message inside a thank-you card: "Your comforting expression of sympathy will always be remembered with deep gratitude." On the left side: "Relief Church Family, thanks for your sympathy card and thanks for your prayers

and for your friendship. Love and Prayers, Peggy Brewer & Family"

Nat Painter: His Day Spring card says "God is using YOU for His special purpose to SHINE His light, to SHARE His love, to SHAPE His people. YOU are making a DIFFERENCE in ways you don't even realize, and you're very much APPRECIATED." The Bible verse is II Corinthians 9:8 NIV: "God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." Love, Nat"

Nat printed an insert titled The Value of a Smile from the Wincog Devotional "It costs nothing, but creates much. It enriches those who receive it, without impoverishing those who give it. It happens in a flash, and the memory of it sometimes lasts forever. None are so rich that they can get along without it, and none so poor but are richer for its benefits. It creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in business, and is the countersign of friends. It is rest to the weary, delight to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and nature's best antidote for trouble. Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen, for it is no earthly good until it is given away. If in the last minute rush someone should be too tired to give you a smile, we should leave one for them. For nobody needs a smile so much as those who have none left to give!" Nat drew an unsmiling face and a smiling face at the end of this insert.

? WHY NAMED RELIEF ?

The question arose from one of the missionaries to whom we sent a birthday card: "Why is your church named Relief?"

Esther Brill provided an explanation she received from Winnie Smith written in

the December, 2016 *Neighborhood Gatherings*.

Ruth Snapp wrote another explanation: "Two local historians, Garland Quarles and J. Floyd Wine recorded the naming of Relief the same way: In 1887 the postmaster requested a name for the post office and proposed the name Reno. However, the Postal Service approved the name Relief. As to the name Lick Skillet, my great aunt Edna told me her brother, Marshall Snapp, was in Middletown talking to the Everlys and they asked about the people in Relief. Marshall told them they were down to *licking the skillet*. I believe this was about 1898. Aunt Edna was not happy that Relief became known as *Lick Skillet*. Note: Aunt Edna was Miss Edna F. Snapp who was the treasurer for Relief Sunday School for forty years."

I think it's quite understandable how Relief UMC, when it was dedicated in 1892 in the community of Relief, that it chose the community's name designated in 1887 by the Postal Service.

However, since Ruth's version says the Postal Service approved the name Relief, I think it's possible that the Smith's hill (Esther Brill's understanding) was the actual reason for the word Relief!

—Ruth Earnshaw



If you have new information on your current address, phone or email, please let me know. You may call the church office at 869-5775, leave a note on the desk in the office or email me at amitch@shentel.net. Thank you for helping to keep our data current!

—Brenda

FYI

Mailing address:

5275 Middle Road

Winchester, VA 22602-2788

Charge Office Phone: 869-5775

Pastor Richard's Cell Phone:

1-434-989-1772

Email: pastorrichard80@gmail.com

Websites: Reliefumc.com

Hiteschapelumc.com

Newsletter

The deadline for our May 2017 Neighborhood Gatherings Newsletter is Friday, April 21st. The May Newsletter will be available Sunday, April 30th.

Please make an effort to put your articles in the newsletter.

The Monthly Newsletter is now on both church Websites. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to let me know.

Call the Charge and Relief Office at 869-5775 or email me at amitch@shentel.net

—Brenda

*Relief and Hites Chapel
United Methodist Churches
5275 Middle Road
Winchester, VA 22602-2788*