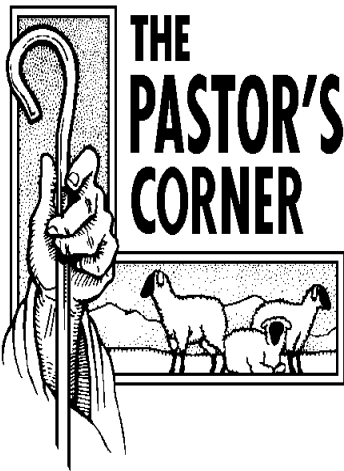




Neighborhood Gatherings

JUNE 2017

Newsletter of Relief and Hites Chapel United Methodist Churches



I have served as your pastor here at Relief and Hites Chapel United Methodist Churches for three years. Hites Chapel and Relief will end the charge relationship as of July 1st. Hites Chapel will have a quarter-time pastor. This person will provide Hites Chapel sermons and lead the worship service. Relief will be joined with Mount Olive to form a new charge. The new pastor will be Victor Gomez. I am being appointed to Ridings Chapel and Reliance United Methodist Churches. Yvonne and I will be living in the Reliance community. Yvonne will be able to keep her part-time job at the Handley and Bowman libraries.

Any time there is a change like this in which a charge is reformulated, decisions have to be made as to organization. New salary structures will be in place. The changes brought about require effort for a

smooth transition. The mission of the church still continues. Hites Chapel and Relief will still be involved in ministering to people and reaching people for Jesus. To forget about the mission of the church and giving all our time to the organizational issue is to miss what Jesus has called us to be about. No matter the change in organization, each one of us can mature as disciples of Jesus and reach out with the love of Jesus.

Sometimes churches have focused so much on the structure that there has been a failure to offer people Jesus. The structure is important. Bills have to be paid and the buildings kept up. Repairs are needed at times. I am grateful for those persons who keep up the maintenance and provide the structure for programs. My prayer is that along with this there is a continual outreach into the community so that people will learn of Jesus and become His disciples.

Jesus calls people through you. You and I become vessels through which He can work in the world. A pastor can help in this whole process by providing some leadership, example and prayers. I trust that Victor will be part of the process, at Relief, as I was part of the process. You can pray for him and support him. Those

persons at Hites Chapel can support the new pastor. God has blessed me through the ministry at Relief and Hites Chapel. This new appointment will be a new chapter in my life and I trust that God will continue to be present and honored. I pray that wherever I am appointed, God will be honored and people will experience Jesus as Lord and Savior. Jesus is the hope for the world. As His followers we have good news for the world.

*In Christ Jesus,
Pastor Richard*



THANK YOU, DAD

Thank you for the laughter
For the good times that we share,
Thanks for always listening,
For trying to be fair.

Thank you for your comfort,
When things are going bad,
Thank you for the shoulder,
To cry on when I'm sad.

This poem's a reminder that
All my life through,
I'll be thanking heaven
For a special dad like you.

—Anonymous

Hello,

My name is Lori Smith, Director for All God's Children Camp, a ministry of the United Methodist Conference. Would you please communicate the information below through your email list and send it as a high priority. This particular week of camp is being held at Camp Overlook in Harrisonburg, which is on our side of the conference and we are still in need of mentors. I appreciate your help in making All God's Children Camp have a successful year. Also, if you have any questions please let me know.

All God's Children Camp is looking for adults ages 18 and up who are willing to volunteer a week (June 25-30) of their summer at Camp Overlook to be a mentor for a child whose mother or father is incarcerated. All God's Children Camp is a place where the campers can leave their day to day struggles and just be kids again. They will have the opportunity to enjoy all the outdoor activities camp has to offer and learn about a true friend named Jesus through bible study, devotions, arts and crafts and worship. Please consider becoming a mentor to one of the campers. Contact Lori Smith at lttlelori@gmail.com or 571-245-9591. Below is the link to our webpage where you can access all forms and any other information you might need.

There is still room for a few campers if you know of anyone who would benefit from this wonderful camp.

—Lori Smith

Director, All God's Children Camp
The Virginia Conference of
The United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 5606, Glen Allen, VA 23058
(571) 245-9591
Micah 6:8

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>
4/02	17	\$ 373
4/09	16	\$ 453
4/16	25	\$ 386
4/23	18	\$ 219
4/30	21	\$ 350
5/07	17	\$ 233
5/14	17	\$ 515
5/21	<u>15</u>	<u>\$ 232</u>
Avg.	18	\$ 345

Happy Birthday!



6/19 Kevin Feathers
6/22 Kelly Dillinger



The next meeting will be Thursday, June 1st
at 6:30 pm in the
Fellowship Hall. Please join us!

RELIEF UMC NEWS

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

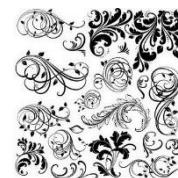
Sunday Services at Relief:
Sunday School, 10:00 am
Worship, 11:00 am



	<u>S.S.</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Offering</u>
4/23	15	49	\$ 1,694
4/30	10	49	\$ 1,883
5/07	15	47	\$ 1,904
5/14	17	69	\$ 1,883
5/21	<u>12</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>\$ 1,618</u>
Avg.	13	51	\$ 1,706

Also received:

C-CAP	\$ 74
Memorial Fund	\$ 150
Native American Sunday	\$ 16
Shelter/Fellowship Hall Use	\$ 350
Women's Retreat	\$ 416



SCRAPBOOKING

Scrapbooking with Debbie will be
on Friday, June 16th, from 6:00 to 11:00
pm unless otherwise noted. Soup will
be served! Note that there will not be
Scrapbooking in July or August.

—Debbie Fauble



- 6/06 Adrian Anderson
- 6/07 Connie Gallond
- 6/12 Alexis Swing
- 6/14 Amy Coontz Ahern
- 6/15 Frances Copenhaver
- 6/15 Ruth Weisgerber
- 6/19 David Boyd
- 6/19 Sam Fauble
- 6/19 Daniel Snapp
- 6/21 Esther Brill
- 6/23 Sarah Roy
- 6/23 Marshall Snapp
- 6/23 John Sweet
- 6/24 Matthew Messick
- 6/25 Dylan Anderson
- 6/28 Seth Boyd
- 6/30 Karon Hughes
- 6/30 Christian Loy
- 7/01 Lisa Turk
- 7/01 Janet Unger



- 6/18 Charlie & Sharon Boyd
- 6/24 Charlie & Jennifer Roy
- 6/27 Guy & Bambi Beringer
- 6/20 Brad & Erin Peterson
- 6/20 Wesley & Brooke Smith

JUNE LAYREADER

Kim McDonald

LAYREADERS: Layreaders are needed for July thru December. Please sign-up in the Narthex.

UPCOMING
Events

- June 9th – 10th 8:00–3:00 pm
Yard Sale
Breakfast & Lunch Available
Relief UMC
- June 16th – 18th
Annual Conference
- June 25th – 29th 6:00–8:30 pm
VBS
Relief UMC
- July 16th 11:00 am
Relief Sunday School
Worship and Picnic
Location TBA
- August 27th 11:00 am
Homecoming Worship and Potluck
Relief UMC
- September 10th
Senior Luncheon after
Worship — Relief UMC



Just a reminder of the Yard Sale on June 9th & 10th. The money will benefit the Medical Compassion Fund. Thank you!

—Joanna



We need all kinds of help for 2017 Vacation Bible School. Bible School will begin on Sunday, June 25th and go through Thursday, June 29th. But, before those dates we will have workshops for decorating on Wednesday nights, May 31st and June 14th. The week before VBS we will have workshops on June 20th, 21st, and 22nd. I pray for the success of our VBS and that we can show people outside of our four walls how important it is to share our faith in Jesus Christ.

—Joanie Anderson

Nurture Committee



JUNE OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT

A special thanks to those who provided health kits, money for toothpaste and shipping costs. We have thirty school kits and as of this writing ten health kits. There is a great need for health kits.

The emphasis from the Outreach/Mission Committee for this month is the collection for Annual Conference. This is an

offering which is received during Annual Conference, which is June 16th–18th at Hampton, VA.

The theme for Conference this year is “A New Thing”. The recipients of the offering this year are a mixture of long-term mission commitments and partnerships with new and emerging opportunities for engaging in God’s mission locally. This year the offering goal set by Bishop Lewis is \$200,000. She has designated the offering to focus on the following missional priority projects:

METHODIST MISSION IN CAMBODIA: \$50,000

For continued support of our conference partnership with the Methodist Mission in Cambodia as they move toward being an autonomous Methodist Church.

METHODIST CHURCH OF BRAZIL: \$25,000

For our continued long term support of the Shade and Fresh Water ministry with at risk children across several conferences in the Methodist Church of Brazil.

METHODIST CHURCHES IN MOZAMBIQUE: \$25,000

Our partnership with The United Methodist Church of Mozambique focuses on education by providing lay training resources that strengthens their discipleship and witness across both conferences in Mozambique. This year part of the offering will also go to help with disaster recovery at Chicuque Rural Hospital following a typhoon.

LONG TERM DISASTER RECOVERY IN VIRGINIA: \$50,000

We are committed to a long term response to those whose lives were changed by tornadoes and Hurricane Matthew in 2016. The funding of the recovery will allow further teams to answer the call to make a compassionate response.

**ETHNIC MINORITY MISSIONAL
MINISTRIES: \$25,000**

Funds for grants to go toward developing ministry outreach in the conference to immigrant populations and other marginalized groups.

**VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION:
\$25,000**

To provide funds to small membership faith communities that may lack resources who wish to engage in short term mission experiences.

**The United Methodist Church
Sharma D. Lewis, Resident Bishop**

Virginia Conference
10330 Staples Mill Road, P.O. Box 5606
Glen Allen, Virginia 23058
(804) 521-1100

April 22, 2017

Dear Virginia United Methodists,

Theologian and Biblical Scholar Walter Bruggeman says, "The greatest task of the Christian message in our time is whether it is able to engage and transform despair into hope." God calls us to participate in that transformation by compassionately giving to others.

Our goal is to receive \$200,000 during our Annual Conference session. This year's offering will focus on missional priorities and

projects in Cambodia, Mozambique, Brazil and Virginia. As your bishop, I ask you to join with me in responding to the call of transforming lives from despair into hope through our missional offering.

*Peace and Blessings,
Bishop Sharma D. Lewis*

This special offering will be received by the ushers at the end of the service on Sunday, June 11th.

This month at Our Family, the Outreach Committee served brunch to the group, as well as helped them make Mother's Day gifts (a decorated flower pot with chalkboard decorations and a potted plant). For Father's Day next month, they will be making bird feeders from two liter drink bottles. Also, they will be our guests at breakfast at the Yard Sale on Friday, June 9th.

We no longer need creamer bottles. Thanks for all these. Remember to bring your used eyeglasses and hearing aids for the Lions Club and put them in the box in the office off the Narthex. Also, keep the items coming for C-CAP.

A special thanks for all the Outreach support.

*—Elwanda Luttrell
Outreach Chair
(540) 869-7198
elwand@verizon.net*

THOUGHTS: A father is someone you look up to no matter how tall you grow.

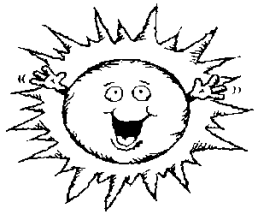
—Unknown

When God gives you light, walk in it!

—Unknown

Often in life, we forget the things we should remember, and remember the things we should forget.

—Anonymous



SUNSHINE CARD SIGNING SUNDAY, JUNE 11th

Thank you to those who shared our card ministry by signing the cards on May 14th. Signatures were Joe, Uta and Ashley Alger, Joanie Anderson, Jim and Margaret Douglas, Herb Earnshaw, Sam and Debbie Fauble, Donald Graff, Kathy Holliday, Eunice Musser, Neal and Jeanie Painter, Sheila Snapp and yours truly. May God richly bless each of you, and also the receivers!

A total of 38 cards were sent: thirty-four thinking of you, one missionary's birthday, one sympathy (Swing) and two graduation (Campbell and Luttrell).

Also, a big thanks to those who share in other necessary ways. May God bless all of you. We'll be sending mostly thinking-of-you cards in June. Others will be sent for special needs occasions if necessary.

For those of you who like to sign early, I'll do my best to have the cards available in the Fellowship Hall.

Please let me know of anyone to whom you would like a card sent. Also, if you know of anyone who needs to be removed from our list. Let me know by phone at (540) 869-0220 or send me an email: ruthearnshaw@yahoo.com

Nat Painter: We received two cards this month. The first says "Whatever comes your way today—circumstances around you

or feelings within you...Praying you'll be certain of God's still, small voice saying, 'You are Mine...I love you...and I'll never let you go.'" and **Nat says** "Thank you so much for the love and prayers, the church material and cards. I look forward to them. Just know that you folks, too, are always in my thoughts and prayers. Please be open and understanding and welcome whatever changes may come your way in the church structure.

Love, Nat" The Scripture reading on that card says "Nothing now...in the future...win the whole world will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."—ROMANS 8:38–39

Outside, the second says: "'God Bless Your Ministry. The Lord has gifted you and placed His hand upon you to bless you and make you a blessing. Your ministry is not yours to produce—as you rest in Him, He will work; as you abide in Him, He will bring fruit; as you sow, He will give the increase. You are in God's place, doing God's work at God's perfect time. By Roy Lessin" Inside: Thanking God for you—that He has called you to Himself, equipped you for ministry, and will continue to work through you as you follow in His steps." **Nat says:** "The literature you sent this week seemed to all have come through. Thank you so much for being there and all you do. I am doing well and work very hard to hang in there and with the help from above. **Love, Nat**" The scripture reading on that card says "Ye have not chosen Me but I have chosen you and ordained you that ye should go and bring forth fruit and that your fruit should remain." —JOHN 15:16

NOTE: This came in last year too late to include in June. Nat wrote "I was going through some of the many notes last evening that I have stuck in my Bible and ran across this little note that I had written to

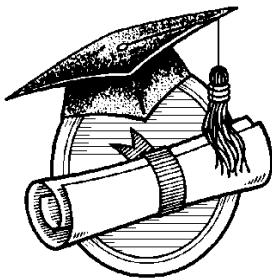
myself about my daddy on Sept. 15, 2013. I know this is sooo late. Sorry.

I STILL LOVE YOU, DADDY

I think of my daddy often. He was quite a loveable and hard-working man. It is sad to me that we don't say enough good things about our loved ones while they are still with us. Andrew never had a lot to say, but his character was so warm and appreciative. Many of you knew him but most of you didn't. He attended Relief Church regularly, both Sunday School and Worship Services and would offer prayer when called upon. He didn't tell me how to live but he showed me how it was done. I saw him express his love for life and family through his actions.

Righteousness in your heart produces beauty in your character. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven. (Matthew 5: 16)

I'm still loving you and missing you, daddy. Love, your youngest, Nat



CONGRATULATIONS, NICK !

Nicholas Silmon Campbell graduated this year from Millbrook High School on Saturday, June 3rd at 9:00 am. He received an Advanced Studies Diploma with a Governor's Seal. His proud parents are Ernie and Sheryl Campbell. The late Jimmy Wisecarver is his maternal grandfather and

his proud paternal grandparents are Ernest and Judy Campbell.

Nick has also earned an Early College Scholar Certificate as a result of his academic achievement in college-level coursework while enrolled in high school. He is a member of the National Honor Society and is a Captain of the Varsity football team. He is also a member of Key Club and the Public Relations Officer for DECA. Nick has been accepted to James Madison University and will major in Engineering. A project Nick will be involved with at JMU will be designing a bicycle for a young area student with cerebral palsy.

Reminder

Earl Luttrell asks us to please, when we leave the elevator, to make sure both the gate and the door (test them) are completely closed! That's the only way it will move from one level to the other.



Thank you to John and Phyllis Snapp for the nice note to Herb thanking him for his service to our country. Part of theirs read: "and as the verse said from Earl and Elwanda, 'because of you *Old Glory* flies today and we have our freedom."

It's never too late to thank someone for anything!



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 July 2017 Neighborhood Gatherings Newsletter is Friday, June 23rd. The July Newsletter will be available Sunday, July 2nd.

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 home amitch@shentel.net

—Brenda