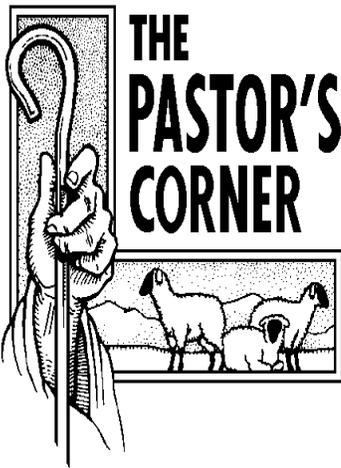




Neighborhood Gatherings

MARCH 2017

Newsletter of Relief and Hites Chapel United Methodist Churches



Who guides you? You have values which are part of your life. For some people making a lot of money and being successful is a value. Other persons add being respected in the community.

Some desire to be remembered. Large sums of money are given to a college and a building is named for a person or family.

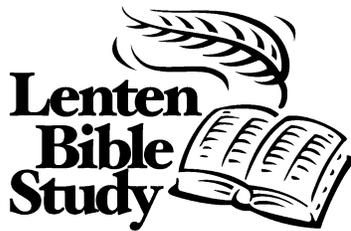
Jesus sought to do the will of God. Many of us pray that as part of the Lord's Prayer, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." That value was lived out by Jesus. So much competes for the first place in our lives as it did in the life of Jesus. So many values vie for attention. Many of those values are good. Making money can help you in paying bills, supporting your family, and giving to good causes. The concern is that when the value of making money is so dominant that illegal means are used to make the money. You can be respected and liked. The concern is when that value leads you to want to be respected so much that you

do not follow the way you know is right. You go along with the crowd.

Those persons whom we may consider examples of the faith valued God and God's ways. They sought to follow the will of God. During the month of March one holiday is Saint Patrick's Day. Many legends developed over the centuries. For many people the emphasis is on parties or parades. The underlying story of Patrick is of a man who sought to live out the will of God. He ultimately felt he was being led back to Ireland to proclaim the good news. God worked through him to have a great impact upon people. God's will became a value for his life which he sought to put into practice. You can seek the will of God and to be about God's ways. You experience that God's will is lived out in your ordinary events of living. Who guides you? You can take time to reflect upon this. Seek God's will for your life.

*In Christ Jesus,
Pastor Richard*





BIBLE STUDY

A Lenten Bible study will be held at Relief United Methodist Church fellowship hall during the month of March and the first week in April. The study will take place on Tuesday evenings 7:00 pm and Thursday mornings 10:00 am. The study will be the same for Tuesday evening and Thursday morning. The main focus of the study will be the life and ministry of John Wesley, the founder of the United Methodist Church. As we study his life, there are scripture passages which can help us understand the revival that he experienced and led.

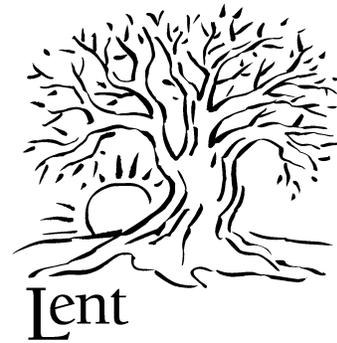
NEW AUDIO VISUAL SYSTEM

Relief United Methodist Church has a new and upgraded audio visual system. Training for this will take place after the potato meal held on March 19th. Those persons interested in learning how to operate this system are encouraged to stay after the meal.

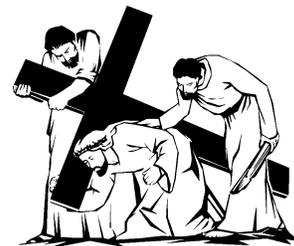


POTATO BAKE

Sunday, March 19th, a Potato Bake meal will be held after the worship service at Relief United Methodist Church. Potatoes and the trimmings for the potatoes will be provided as well as drinks. You are invited to bring a covered dish meal and/or dessert.



<u>Wednesday, March 1</u>	7:00 pm
Ash Wednesday Service	— Relief
<u>Sunday, March 19</u>	After Worship
Potato Bake	— Relief



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

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

¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

—*Philippians 11:3-4 NIV*

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>
1/01	19	\$ 452
1/08	10	\$ 215
1/15	18	\$ 341
1/22	18	\$ 283
1/29	16	\$ 272
2/05	19	\$ 540
2/12	<u>20</u>	\$ <u>311</u>
Avg.	17	\$ 344



3/15 Stephanie Keeler



Hites Women’s Group will meet Thursday,
March 2nd at 2:30 pm and Tuesday,
April 4th at 6:30 pm in the
Fellowship Hall. Please join us!



Join us for our Hites Chapel All You Can Eat Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, April 1st from 4 pm until ?? We will be serving Spaghetti in a meat sauce, garden salad, texas toast, drinks and dessert. The price is \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under age 12. We’re located at 150 Chapel Road, Middletown, VA. Please mark your calendar!!

**EASTER IS A TIME
OF MANY MIRACLES**

Flowers sleeping ‘neath the snow,
Awakening when the spring winds blow;
Leafless trees so bare before,
Gowned in lacy green once more;
Hard, unyielding, frozen sod
Now softly carpeted by God;
Still streams melting in the Spring,
Rippling over rocks that sing;
Barren, windswept, lonely hills
Turning old with daffodils—
These miracles are all around
Within our sight and touch and sound,
As true and wonderful today
As when “the stone was rolled away”
Proclaiming to all doubting men
‘That in God all things live again.

—Helen Steiner Rice
Lovingly



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>
1/22	17	46	\$ 1,875
1/29	12	43	\$ 1,663
2/05	13	41	\$ 1,899
2/12	<u>12</u>	<u>64</u>	\$ <u>1,451</u>
Avg.	13	48	\$ 1,722

Also received:

C-CAP	\$ 45
Shelter/Fellowship Hall Use	\$ 325
Social Hall Tables	\$ 643



SCRAPBOOKING

Scrapbooking with Debbie will be on Friday, March 17th, from 6:00 to 11:00 pm unless otherwise noted. Soup will be served!

—Debbie Fauble



3/04 Gladys Fletcher
3/04 Danielle Snapp
3/05 Greg Unger
3/08 Guy Beringer
3/08 Denise Luttrell
3/08 Phyllis Snapp
3/11 Doug Hughes
3/12 Vivian Gleason
3/14 Heather Swing
3/15 Kourtney Ginn
3/17 Stuart Chagrin
3/17 Clayton Hardy
3/17 Marian King
3/24 Stephen Alger
3/28 Molly Thorne
3/31 Kimmy Orndorff
4/02 Elwanda Luttrell
4/03 Hannah Milhon
4/06 Uta Alger
4/07 Phyllis Snider
4/09 Nancy Pence

MARCH LAYREADER

James Douglas

APRIL LAYREADER

Elwanda Luttrell

¹² At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, ¹³ and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. ¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

—Mark 1:12–15



MARCH OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT

The Outreach emphasis for March is the C-CAP Easter Baskets. Easter Baskets will be available for filling. These can be picked up on Sunday, March 5th. These baskets can be filled with candy, school supplies, personal items, such as toothbrush, toothpaste, combs, socks, gum, etc. Also, other suggested items are puzzles, games, coloring books, crayons, play-doh, balls, marbles, small cars, jump ropes, books, and many other items which are readily available at many stores for one dollar. Basically any item that could be put in the Samaritan Shoebox would be appropriate for the Easter baskets. The exception is that chocolate or other Easter candy **can** be put in the baskets. The Outreach Committee will wrap the baskets, so we just need to have the baskets filled and returned no later than Sunday, March 26th. Please leave any filled baskets in the office just inside the front doors. These baskets will be distributed by C-CAP on Friday, April 7th to those who have made applications.

Thanks for your help with this outreach project. The children in our area will certainly enjoy receiving one of these baskets.

Please continue to bring used eye glasses and hearing aids for use by the Lion's Club. Also, we are now collecting bottles that liquid cream comes in for a 2017

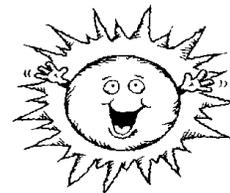
Christmas Project. These can be given to me.

Thanks for all the bleach bottles. I am sure that the Our Family Group is going to enjoy making Easter baskets from them.

On Monday, March 13th, the Outreach Committee will be serving dinner to the WATTS' guests.

Please continue to bring food and place in the box in the vestibule for C-CAP, as well as an offering to place on the altar railing during communion on the first Sunday.

—*Elwanda Luttrell*
Outreach Chair



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 DaySpring 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

Please remove Rebecca Webster as Rebecca passed on February 12th.

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 April 2017 Neighborhood Gatherings Newsletter is Friday, March 31st. The April Newsletter will be available Sunday, April 9th. The charges are necessary because I will not be in the office during March.

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

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