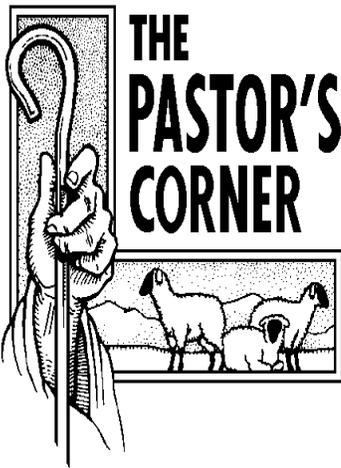




Neighborhood Gatherings February 2017

Newsletter of Relief and Hites Chapel United Methodist Churches



Listening to persons you disagree with can be difficult. You have your ideas as to what is right and wrong. You believe your ways are the best. Disagreements will occur. Listening does not mean

you will agree and accept what the person says or does. After listening, you may decide that the person's actions are wrong and you cannot accept what the person does. Listening can still take place. Some persons may believe that because you listened to them you accepted the position and actions of that person. You can express your disagreements calmly.

Jesus knew what people believed. He loved people while at the same time proclaiming and living out the ways of God. Many persons did not like this. They did not like being told they were wrong. The light shines and people are confronted with their wrong actions in the light of the right. Persons have to choose.

Some persons turned to God for the spiritual cleansing. Some of them changed direction. Others rejected the message from Jesus. Jesus loved and sought people to relate to God and live out the relationship among people. Jesus loved God and so put God's ways first.

You might decide on a different way of action than some persons. You love those persons and want what is best for them. You realize that on occasion they might be doing what is wrong. Each one of us can become misguided. That is hard for some of us to realize. An openness and listening can occur. After listening, you might decide changes are needed while at other times limited or no change is needed. The listening and possible change can take place in formal meeting and planning sessions. It can happen with friends or colleagues.

Sometimes people close themselves off to other people. Love and respect are not shown. Listening and love does not require you to change when you realize a different way is wrong. You might reach the position for compromise. At times, there is no room for this. Jesus showed you the way and leads you along the way. He was one who put love into action.

February is a month in which the theme of love is emphasized with Valentine's Day. Love involves much more than sending a card or purchasing flowers. Love is a way in which you can relate to God and people. It involves your listening and actions. You can strive with the help of the risen Jesus to follow through during the month of February and each month.

*In Christ Jesus,
Pastor Richard*

SWEET SUNDAY

Sunday, February 12th, is Sweet Sunday at Relief United Methodist Church. After the worship service a covered-dish meal will be held followed by an auction of desserts and some canned food items. The proceeds from the auction will be used to help purchase new chairs and tables for the fellowship hall.

Woe to those who go to great depths to hide their plans from the LORD, who do their work in darkness and think, "Who sees us? Who will know?"

*Isaiah 29:15
The New International Version*

O come, let us sing unto the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

*Psalms 95:1
The King James Version*

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>
10/02	18	\$ 452
10/09	22	\$ 291
10/16	15	\$ 290
10/26	14	\$ 232
10/30	17	\$ 312
11/06	13	\$ 342.
11/13	23	\$ 409.
11/20	12	\$ 242.
11/27	13	\$ 285.
12/04	23	\$ 446
12/11	18	\$ 277
12/18	18	\$ 302
12/25	<u>11</u>	<u>\$ 277</u>
Avg.	16	\$ 319



- 2/02 Ann Hinman
- 2/06 Martha Appleton
- 2/07 Lynn Tevalt
- 2/08 Libby Keeler
- 2/22 Xander Haley



Hites Women's Group will meet Thursday,
February 2nd at 2:30 pm in
the Fellowship Hall. Please join us!



February gave a party
The sweets by hundreds came,
the **Snickers, Milky Way, Trix Bars** and
Sweets of every name.
The sunshine spread a carpet
and everything was **grand**.
Miss Weather led the dancing.
Professor Wind led the band.
Come one, come all,
It's Sweet Sunday Time again!

February 12, 2017
Bring a dish to share, a friend and/or neighbor
and something sweet or other
to Auction!!!

Contact Debbie Fauble
540-869-4005



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>
12/25	—	54	\$ 1,676
1/01	13	44	\$ 1,638
1/08	15	37	\$ 1,799
1/15	<u>16</u>	<u>53</u>	\$ <u>1,714</u>
Avg.	14	47	\$ 1,706

Also received:

C-CAP	\$ 118
Memorial Fund	\$ 300
Shelter/Fellowship Hall Use	\$ 250
Social Hall Tables	\$ 200
Steeple	\$ 100



SCRAPBOOKING

Scrapbooking with Debbie will be
on **February 3rd**, from 6:00 to 11:00 pm
unless otherwise noted. Soup will be
served!

—Debbie Fauble

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

2/02 Michael Olechnicki

2/05 Jimmy Pence

2/08 Cameron Douglas Whitmoyer

2/16 Debbie Fauble

2/20 Steve Ginn

2/20 Gloria Kern

2/20 Mildred Omps

2/22 James B. Douglas

2/22 J. Rhodes Marston

2/24 Bobby Luttrell

2/25 Jennifer Goldsmith

2/27 Mary Richard

2/28 Brittany Huffman



2/06 Scott and Sallie Wilfong

2/07 Bruce and Karen Luttrell

2/08 John and Phyllis Snapp

2/15 John and Mildred Omps

2/18 Stuart and Susan Chagrin

2/18 Doug and Karon Hughes

2/19 John and Jody Hawse

FEBRUARY LAYREADER

Kim McDonald

**FEBRUARY
OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT**

Our Mission Spotlight this month has changed. Our spotlight is on the Heart Haven Homes. This has been a program of the Winchester District United Methodist Men in our area, but since we don't have an active men's group, the Outreach Committee has added this program to the budget and Outreach.

On September 24th, 1995 the Virginia Commission on Disabilities conducted twenty-one public hearings across the Conference of Virginia to explore the residential needs and alternatives for persons with developmental disabilities. As a result of those hearings, Heart Havens was created at the Virginia Annual Conference in 1996.

Heart Havens was licensed in December 1998 and opened its first home in Virginia Beach on January 25th, 1999. Heart Havens is a ministry of the United Methodist Church that provides for the residential needs of persons with disabilities through the development and management of homes which exemplify the love of Christ. This ministry is accomplished by: establishing and promoting a conference-wide effort to address the residential needs of persons with disabilities; Involving local churches in a significant conference ministry; encouraging client involvement in the life of the community and it's

church; respecting the individual's uniqueness, dignity, and worth; ministering to the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of each resident; understanding the concerns and needs of each resident's family, and affirming God's love and care for all of God's people.

Vision Heart Havens was created as a not-for-profit agency, to provide residential alternatives for disabled persons of all faiths, backgrounds, and not just those of the United Methodist denomination. Parents need the assurance that their children will have a place to live after the parents are gone. They are searching for quality programs for their children and desire a spiritual based program and home for them. Heart Havens hopes to assist in reducing the long waiting lists for services and ease the anxiety of elderly parents caring for their developmentally challenged adult children.

There are presently twelve homes, with more being planned and developed throughout the conference. They are located in Virginia Beach; Kilmarnock; Norfolk; Stuarts Draft; Colonial Beach; Richmond (2); Winchester; Lynchburg; Goochland; Newport News and Ashland. These homes, as well as future homes being planned or developed, could use your on-going and generous financial, prayerful and thoughtful support!

Our local Heart Havens home in Winchester, is located at 3050 Saratoga Drive, in the Kernstown area. It accommodates the same five residents who have occupied the home since its construction and occupancy in Nov 2002! They are: Charles Hale, J L Snider, Danny Smith, John Mason and Stephen Tarrant, who along with the Staff, provide "a home" atmosphere in a typical residential neighborhood. They love to have visitors come by to visit and tour their home! As with all God's work and creation; you will

receive a much greater blessing from your supportive efforts than you will ever provide! Make their Day! Visit them and tour "their home"! You'll be forever glad that you did!

We continue to provide crafts, puzzles, coloring sheets and support to the Our Family Peer Support Group. At our January visit, the group did scrapbooking, New Year's search words, coloring sheets and made snowmen cards. We are now collecting coffee cream bottles and two-liter bottles for upcoming crafts. I no longer need any additional bleach bottles. Thank you for collecting these for us.

Included in this report, you will find the yearly mission/outreach through the Mission/Witness/ Nurture Committees. I think you will find it quite amazing how much is spent and how far-reaching your donations go. This, however, does not include all the contributions members of the congregation make out of their own pockets to missions, which are not directly sent/given in the name of the church.

Thanks for all your support.

—Elwanda Luttrell
Outreach Chair



Please see attached pages at the end of the newsletter for 2016 Mission Outreach!

—Elwanda Luttrell
Outreach Chair

It is the duty of nations, as well as of men, to owe their dependence upon the overruling power of God and to recognize the sublime truth announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord!

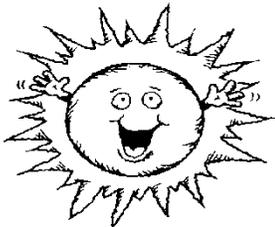
—Abraham Lincoln



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

Robert Snapp
1686 Springdale Rd.
Winchester, VA 22602



SUNSHINE CARD SIGNING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 05TH, 2017

We're signing the first Sunday because we're sending mostly Valentine cards. We'll have others as usual for special needs people available very early in the Fellowship Hall for those of you who like to sign before worship. I pray the recipients will feel our love and support of them.

Thank you to all who take the time and make the effort to sign. Also a big thank you to those who help in other important ways.

In January, we sent 31 New Year's cards, one sympathy card, three get-well cards and one retirement card, making a total of 36 cards. There were no missionaries' or deacons' birthdays on that Sunday. Signatures were Joe and Uta Alger, Joanie Anderson, Jim and Margaret Douglas, Herb Earnshaw, Donald Graff, Eunice Musser, Lynn Painter, Sheila Snapp and yours truly. May God bless each of you — the givers 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

I received this note on 11.29.16 from Sheila Snapp's mom. It was buried under one of my "piles." Sorry for the delay!

Madge Strosnider: "Thank you for thinking of me when I broke my hip and had surgery and was at a rehabilitation facility. I'm home now and getting physical therapy and a bath and someone is sitting with me at night. Thank you for all your prayers and encouragement. Forever thanking my daughter, Sheila, and your church. God bless you all. Love, Madge"

Nat Painter He writes to "Dear Church Family," **Verse on the outside: Top:** "Thinking Of You" **Middle:** "Just thinking of you makes my day a little brighter . . ." **Inside:** ". . . And my heart a little lighter. Thanks For Being You" **Nat wrote:** "In my daily devotional I read the following:" "I have come that they may have life . . . abundantly" — John 10:10 NKJV "What kind of Christian are you: 1) Am I approachable? 2) Am I gracious? 3) Am I real? A little boy in Sunday School knew the kind of answer he was supposed to give, so when the teacher asked 'What's brown, furry, has a bushy tail and stores nuts?' he muttered 'I guess the right answer is Jesus — but it sure sounds like a squirrel to me!' 'Walk with me, work with me, watch how I do

it,' says the Lord." Nat says: "Thank you for your monthly card, love and prayers. Love, Nat"

? WHY NAMED RELIEF ?

The question arose from one of the missionaries we sent a birthday card to. Smith's steep hill remains the only explanation I have so far. Ruth Snapp is still working on another. Maybe next month? If you know of another reason or if you investigate and find another reason, please let me know!

— *Ruth Earnshaw*

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

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

The deadline for our March 2017 Neighborhood Gatherings Newsletter is Friday, February 17th. The March 2017 Newsletter will be available Sunday, February 26th. The deadline for our April 2017 Newsletter will be Friday, March 31st. The April Newsletter will be available Sunday, April 9th. The reason for these changes are because I will not be in the office during March. I'll be at the beach!

Please make an effort to put your articles in the newsletter. It will be Lenten Season and we'd like to have all activities listed for our congregation.

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*