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THE LIGHTED SPIRE

*A monthly publication of
Main St. United Methodist Church
540-942-1179*

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.



September

OCTOBER

2017

Main Street Ministry Staff

Rev. Linda Kusse-Wolfe, Pastor
Rev. Bill Mayton, Pastor Emeritus
Harold Baldwin, Lay Minister
Debbie Richardson, Admin. Asst.
Kathy Vint, Administrative Assistant
Anne Ramsey, Preschool Director
Sharlene Wade, Director of Family
Ministries

Orville Bame, Organist
Don Coffey, Choir Director
Dawn Lemasney, Youth & Children's
Choir Director
Donald Dollins, Handbell Director
Rajitha Brewer, Nursery Coordinator
Karen Jackson, Nursery Assistant

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Church Website: mainst-umc.org

Main Street United Methodist Church
601 West Main Street
Waynesboro, Virginia 22980

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



FROM THE PASTOR

It's a Wonderful Thing!

It's a wonderful thing to have a mission, a purpose, a plan for the day, a reason and a way to go forward. The New Testament offers us both the compass and the road map. First of all, there is a word about how believers are to relate to each other: "Love should be shown without pretending. Hate evil and hold on to what is good. Love each other like the members of your family. Be the best at showing honor to each other..." (Romans 12:9-10)

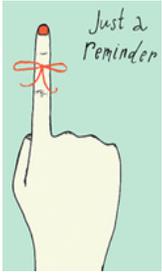
We live in an era where political opinions are strong and diverse within the body of Christ. They were in the time of Jesus also! His followers included a Zealot (Jewish nationalists who endorsed violence in their struggle against Rome), a tax collector (a Jew who collaborated with Rome), fishermen without much formal education and so on. When we come together in the love of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit, we find that when we are not like-minded, we can remain "like-souled." Christians proclaim the power and majesty of what God has done for us through the death and resurrection of Jesus. We proclaim what is eternal and universal (i.e. offered to all). Paul goes on in Romans 12: "Consider everyone as equal and don't think that you're better than anyone else. Instead, associate with people who have no status. Don't think that you're so smart. Don't pay back anyone for their evil actions with evil actions, but show respect for what everyone else believes is good. If possible, to the best of your ability, live in peace with all people." And peace, equality, dignity and honor must begin

Preschool Orientation—August 24, 2017 Getting Ready for the Big Day



Big





THOSE SERVING OUR CHURCH in October

Taking care of our doors each Sunday morning is . . .
Open: Laurie Bame



Our recycling volunteers for the month are . . .
Milt & Judy Simora



Our bus teams are . . .

- Oct. 1 Jonathan & Susan White
- Oct. 8 Tom & Amy Brown
- Oct. 15 Bruce & Debra Allen
- Oct. 22 Ron Hiserman & Sue Ball
- Oct. 29 Eugene & Frances Mooney

Our Lay Readers at 11 am for the month are . . .

- Oct. 1 Bob von Bernuth
- Oct. 8 Dalton Lafferty
- Oct. 15 Tom Brown
- Oct. 22 John Hill
- Oct. 29 Lisa Doughty



Those delivering CD's to our homebound are...

- Oct. 1 Bobbie Fitzhugh
- Oct. 8 Audrey Neese
- Oct. 15 Caroline Baldwin
- Oct. 22 Jean Dillon

Oct. 29 Jackie Mann

Any articles or information for the November "Lighted Spire" should be sent to the office no later than



We wish birthday happiness to those who have birthdays in September, October and

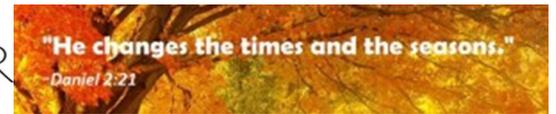
SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



If you haven't already informed the office of your birthday and wish to be included in future listings of birthdays, please call the office at 540-942-1179 and inform us of your special day. Thanks.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



Joyce Miller	09/04	Heather Moentmann	10/06
Stephanie Schaefer	09/06	Troy Fitzhugh	10/07
Phyllis Goff	09/06	Ann Kennedy	10/08
Teresa Towler	09/08	Tom Steele	10/08
Katherine Guthrie	09/10	Cassi Furr	10/09
Norma Harris	09/14	John Hill	10/10
Mildred Broughman	09/14	Byron Ford	10/11
Rodger Daniels	09/14	Jacqueline Carter	10/12
Debbie Bays	09/16	Lisa Doughty	10/17
Tracy Straight	09/17	Amelia Ammons	10/17
Edith Schleicher	09/17	John Huddle	10/17
Frank Bridgeforth	09/21	Gene Woodward	10/19
Phillip DePauk	09/22	Gini Carlton	10/20
Ty Lafferty	09/26	Caroline Baldwin	10/20
Janet Pompeo	09/30	Brian Flock	10/22
Millie Runkle	10/01	Evamarie Evans	10/24
Wesley Farris	10/02	Alison Perkins	10/25
Sheila Woosley	10/03	Joseph Lucas	10/25
Stephen Winslow	10/04	John Hensley	10/27
David Wolfe	10/04	Troy Bowie	10/28
Henry Vance	10/05	Charlotte Combs	10/31

MSUMC Book Club Resumes

We had such fun reading *Murder at the Rummage Sale* this summer that we've decided to read and discuss another book together. "Take This Bread" by Sarah Miles is a 21st century spiritual memoir. Sarah was a war journalist during Central America's civil wars and a "happy and functional atheist" when she wandered by a lovely church in her San Francisco neighborhood. For reasons she couldn't fathom, Sarah was drawn to enter that church and kneel before the altar for holy communion. Jesus claimed her as His own and gave her the ministry of feeding the hungry. We will meet on Tuesday mornings, beginning September 19, 10 am, in the Holy Grounds Coffee Room. Please

Main Street Preschool

It's that time of year again! The halls of MSUMC are no longer quiet. Instead, they are filled with the music of little feet! I am delighted to announce that we are bringing back our entire staff from last year! Thank you to Pastor Linda, Doris Scott and Cathy Parrigan who have agreed to help with Chapel classes.



Also, thank you to Dawn Lemasney for her willingness to teach music again this year, Terrance Williams for teaching Spanish, and Ann Walker for

We're Going Back To School reading to the children



every month. What amazing opportunities we are providing to the

children!

September will be a month full of many "firsts" for our students. Many will be letting go of their mom and dad's hand for the very first time. They will make new friends, learn to share, communicate their needs and feelings, use manners, imagine, create, play, learn, grow and shine! Please pray for



the children and our staff as we transition into this new school year.



On Wednesday, October 25th, Main Street Preschool will be hosting a fall fundraiser dinner. Immediately following dinner, we would like to invite you to join us downstairs for an Art Show and Open House. Our staff

greatly appreciates your continual support of the preschool and would love to share with you just a little bit of what the children have been busy doing. All proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to enhance the student's learning experiences at MSP.



Also, we

Trick or Treat



will have a school-wide field trip to Back Home on the Farm and Trick-or-Treating throughout the church. We will

need lots of hands on deck for Trick-or-Treating, so please let me know if you would like to help hand out candy to the children on Tuesday, October 31st. The more the merrier!



Main Street Calendar

Worship: Helping People Love God

8:30 am Informal Worship
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Traditional Worship
Ministry at Augusta Rehab: 10:00 am First Sundays
Ministry at Waynesboro Manor: 9:45 am Third Sundays
Masterpeace Ringers: 4:30 pm Sundays
Caritas: 5:30 pm Sundays
Joyful Noise: 9:45 am Sundays
God's Kids: 10:15 am Sundays
Handbells: 9:30 am Wednesdays
Chancel Choir: 7:00 pm Wednesdays

Discipleship: Helping People Grow in Faith

Agapetons Prayer Group: 4:00 pm Third Sundays
Youth Group Activities: 6:00 pm Sundays
Book Club: 10:00 am Tuesdays
Women's A.N.G.E.L. Circle: 7:00 pm Fourth Tuesdays
Wonderful Wednesday: 3:00 pm Wednesdays
Fellowship Dinners: 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm Wednesdays
Discipleship Classes: 6:00 pm Wednesdays
Women's Social Concerns Circle: 11:00 am Second Thursdays
Women's Dorcas Circle: 11:00 am Second Thursdays

Ministry Teams: Helping People Serve Christ

Church Council: 6:30 pm 3rd Monday of every month
Finance Meeting: 6:30 pm 2nd Tuesday every month
Trustees: 6:00 pm Second Sunday of every other month
"Spire" Volunteers: 9:00 am Last Thursday of every month
Mourning to Morning Grief Support: 4:00 pm Wednesdays

Special Monthly Events

September 4th - Labor Day - **CHURCH OFFICE Closed**
September 11th - Patriot Day
September 13th - 6:00 pm Taize Healing Service
September 19th - Book Club Resumes
September 22nd - First Day of Autumn
October 8th - 8:30 am - Blessing of the Animals
October 10 - 16: Mission Trip to Guatemala
October 19th - Articles for November Spire Due
October 29th - Trunk or Treat
October 31st - Halloween (Preschool Trick or Treat)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November 19th - 12:00 pm CHARGE CONFERENCE



THOSE SERVING OUR CHURCH in September

Taking care of our doors each Sunday morning is . . .

Open: Laurie Bame

Our recycling volunteer for the month is . . .
Don Short



Our bus teams are . . .

Sept. 3 Ron Hiserman & Sue Ball
Sept. 10 Eugene & Frances Mooney
Sept. 17 Lew & Murhl Blessing
Sept. 24 Rodger & Brenda Daniels

Our Lay Readers at 11 am for the month are . . .

Sept. 3 Lucy Stultz
Sept. 10 Dot Trott
Sept. 17 Doug Edwards
Sept. 24 Tracy Straight



Those delivering CD's to our homebound are...

Sept. 3 Suzanne Hall
Sept. 10 Lynn Pruett
Sept. 17 Judy Simora
Sept. 24 Peggy Ribet

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November "Lighted Spire" should
be sent to the office no later than
October 19th. Thank you!





Mission Moment

“Love God. Grow in Faith. Serve Christ.”

This is the mission statement of Main Street UMC. It is also a measure of spiritual maturing within our church. Consider your own spiritual journey and see if you agree. **Love God** is

the entry way for many who come into our fellowship. It's the experience of public worship, the enjoyment of an ice cream social, the pleasure of a fellowship meal together and joining Tables of 8 to know one another more deeply. It is a joy that includes all and gives us identity as part of the body of Christ. And yet, Christ calls us on to more... to **Grow in our Faith**. That will take some effort and commitment on our part (as well as the church's!). Are you a part of a small group that will challenge and stimulate your faith? Sunday School? Wednesday night Bible study? Agapetons intercessory prayer group? Christian Book Club? UMW? Youth Group? Both the members of your group and the material studied will push you on "toward perfection" (as John Wesley liked to say)... to the ability to love with the love of Jesus and to deepen that daily walk with God. James, the brother of Jesus, said that "faith without works is dead" (see James 2:14-26). If we are faithfully growing as disciples, we will find ourselves ready to **Serve Christ**. Serving is what we do (not just what we think or profess). Serving Christ is our willingness to feed the hungry, to teach children and youth in Sunday School, to sing in the choir, to play handbells, to partner with Methodists in Guatemala, to send school kits around the world. Perhaps our most profound service for others is our willingness to pray for them- daily, earnestly, lovingly. Serving is what we do, as long as we have life and breath, as the people of God. It is an expression of the joy of our salvation. Where are you on this continuum: **Love, Grow, Serve?** Let's move on to the next level together. For we are here at Main Street UMC for such a time as this!

Pastor Linda

Beloved

Agapetons Prayer Group

Do you feel a "holy nudge" from the Spirit to be in prayer for your church, your community and our world? Agapetons ("loved ones") are a small group committed to daily prayer. We meet monthly (on a Sunday at 4 pm, in the Spares and Pairs Classroom) to share our experiences in prayer, to discern the leading of the Holy Spirit and to encourage one another. Agapetons practice "lectio divina" (holy reading), a way of praying the Gospels, intercessory prayer and quiet listening. Our new study book will be Pastor Bill Hinton's excellent book on The Lord's Prayer. Please contact Pastor Linda for more information and know that you are welcome.

September 2017



Worship Scriptures & Sermons

- Sept. 3 Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:21-28
"No Faking It!"
- Sept. 10 Romans 13:8-14, Matthew 18:15-20
"Family Problems"
- Sept. 17 Romans 14:1-12, Matthew 18:21-35
"Opinions and Humility"
- Sept. 24 Philippians 1:21-30, Matthew 20:1-16
"We're Here for You!"

October 2017



Worship Scriptures & Sermons

- Oct. 1 Philippians 2:1-13, Matthew 21:23-32
"Like Minded or Like Souled?"
World Communion Sunday
- Oct. 8 8:30 am: Blessing of the Animals in
the Fellowship Hall
Philippians 3:4b-14, Matthew 21:33-45
"Why Did Christ Grab Hold of Us?"
- Oct. 15 Philippians 4:1-9, Matthew 22:1-14
"Stand Firm"
- Oct. 22 I Thessalonians 1:1-10, Matthew 22:15-22
"Praying Constantly"
Report from Paxot 2, Guatemala Mission Team :
8:30 am and 11 am
- Oct. 29* I Thessalonians 2:1-8, Matthew 22:34-46
"Examined and Approved"
Reformation Sunday: 501 Years

***There will be one service at 10:30 am on**

Save the Dates!

Wonderful Wednesdays—For children in grades K-5 Starts on September 20

Last year's popular after-school program is back! All kids are welcome and we can even pick up your child at any Waynesboro elementary school or Hugh K. Cassell Elementary.

We meet at church for snack and homework time, followed by Bible lessons, music, games, crafts and service projects. Pick up time is at 5 pm, just in time for dinner.

Highlights from last year included stuffing Christmas stockings for the Salvation Army, singing songs with nursing home residents, walking to Kline's for ice cream, and playing "the Frog Game" (ask one of the kids about it!). It just so happens that we also learned how to read the Bible, trust God, pray for one another and share Christ's love with the wider world.

There is no charge for this amazing weekly program, but space is limited. Advance registration is required. Sign up at the kickoff party on Sept . 9 or contact Sharlene



Wade (solutions@rockbridge.net or 241-1599).

Sunshine Singers Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 11:00 am at MSUMC

If someone you love is living with Alzheimers or dementia, please bring them to share in a time of music and fellowship.

Singing is good for the mind, body and soul! Those with memory disorders may find it challenging to participate in community events -- this program is a comfortable, safe place to enjoy singing with a beloved family member, friend or caregiver. We join together singing the old favorites, including hymns, folk songs and popular tunes.

There is no cost, but please call the office at 540-942-1179 to reserve

Save the Dates!

Fall Kickoff Party

Saturday, Sept 9, 3-5 p.m. at the Parsonage

We're starting the year off with a bang, with music, games and snacks! This event is for all kids, youth, parents and program volunteers.

Bring your calendar to plan for all our fun fall events including The Crop Walk (9/24), Trunk or Treat (10/29) and a new Christmas musical (12/17 during 11 a.m. worship). Bring a friend -- the more the merrier!

Sunday programs, including Sunday School, handbell ensembles, children and youth choirs and Youth Group will all begin on **September 10th.**

Wednesdays Evening Programs - All Begin at 6 pm

September 13 Taize Healing Service

Bible Study begins: Bring your Bible!

September 20 The Parables of Jesus from a Middle Eastern Perspective "The Great Banquet" Luke 14:15-26

September 27 "The Syro-Phoenician Woman" Matthew 15:21-28

October 4 "The Good Samaritan" Luke 10:25-37

October 11 "Forgiveness" by Adam Hamilton

October 18 "The Woman in Simon Peter's House" Luke 7:36-50

October 25 "The Serving Master" Luke 12:35-38

Quarterly Adult Bible Study—Begins October 1st

Christian Fellowship Class participates in the Adult Bible Studies Quarterly which is part of the International Bible Lessons. The class studies and discusses the weekly lesson focusing on scripture and pertinent commentary suggested by the Study Guide. Other materials will be used at various times throughout the year. Beginning October 1 and continuing for the month, the class will be using Adam Hamilton's WHY - Making Sense of God's Will. A DVD will be used with study questions and discussion. The goal is to increase our Biblical knowledge, grow in

What's Happening

...From Pastor Linda

"Inklings" Sunday School Class for New Attenders

How do we practice our faith as Christians as we turn the Good News of God loose in the world in which we live? In this class (9:50 am, Sundays, in the library) we will begin with a biblical passage each week to ground us in the Gospel's perspective. We will discuss: biblical authority, the Wesleyan quadrilateral, LGBTQ inclusion and the United Methodist Church, free will and grace, our witness of faith. Please join in a good discussion as we discern together the movement of the Holy Spirit in our time. Please call the office to register.

(September 10, 17 24, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.)

Wanted: Ten Brave Christians

Main Street UMC is in the happy circumstance of having many new attenders and soon to be new members. It is time to commit anew to our spiritual disciplines as we focus on evangelism in our community. "Unbinding the Gospel" is an eight week (meeting weekly) study for church leaders (past, present and future) who experience the Holy Spirit's Leading to go deeper and become more articulate about the attractive beauty of Christian faith. With God there are no outsiders! How can we prepare ourselves to be more grounded in love, more inviting in action, more clear in mission within our community? Is God leading you to join us? Please leave your name with the office or talk to Pastor Linda and we will discern together.

Mission Partners with Guatemalan Methodist

Please be in prayer for our Mission Team traveling to Guatemala in October, to develop our mission partnership with the congregation of "Jesus El Buen Pastor Metodista" in Paxot 2, Guatemala. The Team will be gone from October 10 through October 16: Holly Andrus, Becky Grandle, Stephanie Schaeffer, David and Linda K Wolfe. Paxot 2 is Mayan Indian village of 1000 near Chichicastenango at an elevation of 6800 feet. We will visit with the teachers and children of the Methodist After School Program (325 grade school students), explore how we can partner with this vibrant church to provide increased nutrition to the most impoverished children, talk with health care providers (including midwives) at the local clinic, do home visits to local families, and participate in Friday afternoon worship (with attendance of over 200). Please look forward to a report back from

Then our marching orders are clear: "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:17-18). Our purpose, as believers, is to reach toward unity, agree in what is good and godly, and offer reconciliation to a world that knows great animosity. As our hearts ache over the civil disturbances in Charlottesville, let's do all we can to reach out in love to one another and to our community. Jesus is Lord! He is at work in our midst and within our community. Let's align ourselves carefully with his mission, his ways and his great promises. Then we will be able to stand secure!

Pastor Linda



Blessing of the Animals October 8th—8:30 am

At early service (8:30 am) in the Fellowship Hall, we will celebrate the heritage of St. Francis of Assisi, whose special relationship with animals is well remembered. Please bring your (well behaved) dog, cat (in a carrier), bird, hamster, other pet or a picture of your pet(s) to receive a special blessing during our worship time together. We will be glad to take a photo of you and your pet(s)

Opportunities for Mission and Ministry

and print it for you along with a blessing from St. Francis.

Items Needed in the Main Street Pantry

September - "Bring What You Like"
October - Peanut Butter



The Main Street Food Pantry operates from Monday through Thursday, 9:30 - 11:00 am, to assist people in our community in need