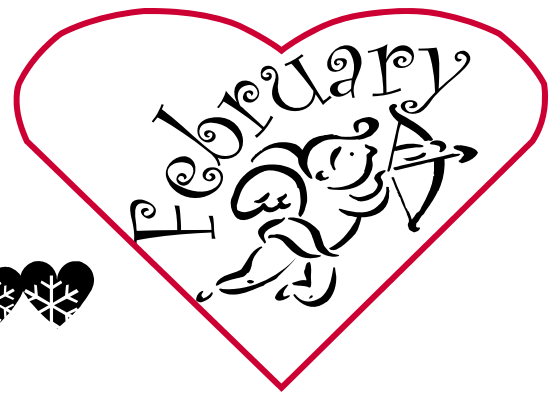


First Word



Financially Speaking ...

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Financially Speaking....
- Thank You
- Easter Offering
- Meet Your Lay Leader
- Pastor's Corner
- Bingo
- Worship Preview

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The 2007 year has come to a close and with that the Finance Committee has completed the 2007 Financial Report. Our total expenses exceeded our income by approximately \$75,000. For the year, our total income through offerings was \$382,385. This comes to an average weekly income through offerings of \$7,354. Our budget for 2007 required an average weekly income of \$9,124. Since our actual expenses for 2007 came very close to what was budgeted for 2007, the weekly shortfall of \$1,770 multiplied by the 52 weeks in the year closely approximates the total shortage of \$75,000. In order to compensate for this shortage, money from our investment accounts held by Wa-

chovia Securities was transferred into our operating account.

The 2008 year will present a similar challenge to meet our expenses. Our 2008 budget, although slightly less than the 2007 budget, will still require an average weekly offering of \$8,929. I am very hopeful that through the actions that our church is undertaking in order to heal ourselves and to rejuvenate our spirit the giving levels will increase and it will not be necessary to draw from our investment account in order to pay our bills.

As always, if anyone has any questions regarding the finances of our church I encourage you to contact myself or anyone on the Finance Committee. As a

committee we make every effort to review all expenditures of the church in an effort to make sure every dollar "goes as far as it can". To that effort we are always eager to hear any suggestion someone may have.

One final note - please make every effort to pick up your offering envelopes located outside the church office. If there is a packet belonging to someone you know that has not been picked up and you might be able to take it to them, that would be very much appreciated.

Respectfully,

Larry Dick

Finance Committee
Chair

BLUE RIDGE HOSPICE

December 21, 2007

First United Methodist Church
308 North Braddock Street
Winchester, VA 22601

Dear Friends of Blue Ridge Hospice,

Thank you for your generous support of Blue Ridge Hospice with your gift of \$267.50. We depend on your donation and support to help us continue to give quality care to our patients and their families.

There may be a limit to what medicine can cure, but there is no limit to how much we care. We are honored to care for patients in our community with a terminal illness and you can be assured it will be used for those patients and families with the greatest needs.

We continue to provide hospice and palliative care to our patients and their families because you have recognized Blue Ridge Hospice with your generous gift.

With Warm Regards,

Ernest J. Carnevale, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer

“Let Love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of saints; extend hospitality to strangers.” Romans 12: 9-13

AMOR Y PAZ

Dear Faithful Friends of First United Methodist Church,

Again, many thanks to you all for the Thanksgiving Offering in the amount of \$267.50. It touches our hearts so to know that there are churches, such as yours, that are taking the time, love and concern to make good things happen to those so less fortunate. We are blessed aren't we?

We ask that your congregation keep our ministry in your prayers– that it may continue doing God's good work within our community.

Thank you again and again for your sharing and caring. God's Blessing on your congregation in the coming New Year– Happy New Year!

Love and Peace (Amor Y Paz)
In Christ,

Martha de la Rosa

AMOR Y PAZ SUNDAY SCHOOL, AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Volunteers

If you can volunteer, there are several different ways to help. Tutoring the children Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 to 5:30 (teaching the children ABC's, numbers from 1-10, colors, shapes) helping with food preparation, special activities/field trips (no Spanish necessary). If you are interested or even curious complete the bottom form and send it to us.

English Classes for Parents of our children are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30 pm or Fridays 9:00 to 11:00 am.

Sunday Classes for the children are during the Sunday Worship from 4:00 to 5:30 pm.

Food Boxes contain: Rice, Maseca (corn flower for tortillas), vegetable oil, dried beans (any kind), popcorn, canned jalapenos, whole canned tomatoes, canned corn, lentos, Vienna Sausage. The food boxes are given away the first Sunday of each month, you can bring the products the last Sunday of each month.

Yes, I would like to support the work of Amor y Paz UMC.

Tutor	Mentor	English Classes for Parents
Contributor	Advocate	Monetary donation
Food Boxes help	Supporter	

For additional information call or write:

Iglesia Methodista Unida Amor y Paz (Love and Peace UMC)

102 Montague Ave.
Winchester, VA 22601

Martha de la Rosa—Pastor 662-4531 cell: 974-1485

EASTER OFFERING

The Finance Committee has committed the Easter Offering between Amor y Paz and TOP (Teens Opposing Poverty). If you have any questions contact the church office.



MEET YOUR LAY LEADER

Ralph Gronlund became our Lay Leader in 2007 and decided to continue for 2008. The primary task of a Lay Leader is to work with the church's leadership to address the hopes and concerns of the congregation and community so that our community may become more loving and just. Ralph takes this responsibility very serious and is always available to any questions or concerns the church leaders or congregation may have.

Let's get to know a little about Ralph and his family. Ralph and Liz Gronlund have been attending First Church since 1993 and became members May 14, 1995. Ralph and Liz were married on August 12, 1989. Heather was born in November 1990 and Hunter was born in May of 1995. Both of them attended Discovery Preschool here at First Church. Ralph stated that they were very pleased with the preschool and the kids loved it.

When asked why they decided to make First Church their home, Ralph stated the Sunday School Class that he and Liz belonged to kept them coming back. They found it educational and spiritual with a family like atmosphere. Roger McGaffick invited

Ralph to attend the United Methodist Men's Group and Ralph has been involved ever since.

The family moved away from Winchester in 2000 and came back in 2002. During the time they were away they came back for their small group bible study. The two years they were gone were very trying years and their faith and small group provided them the spiritual support they needed.

Ralph joined the Laity Team in 2005 which later led him to become the Lay Leader. The Laity Team was a great experience even though our church has gone through some trying times. Ralph stated he has enjoyed seeing the inner workings of the church and has gotten a greater appreciation of what people do in relation to what no one knows about.

When questioned on what First Church offers to him and Liz, Ralph stated we have a tremendous place to worship. Our church is beautiful and serves the community in so many ways. There are many ways to serve the Lord in our church and activities to become involved in. The Sunday School for their children Heather and Hunter offers tre-

mendous support and structure. Ralph feels the Sunday School Program is coordinated very well and the children have grown so much spiritually. The Youth Department offers a great safe place to be with their peers and grow in their relationship with Christ. As you can see what an awesome place First Church is to worship God. That is why the Gronlund Family has chosen First Church.

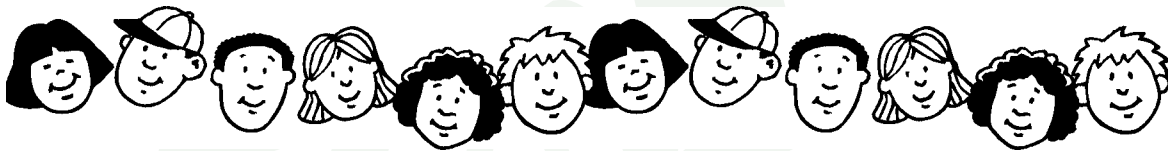
Ralph is employed as a Business Development Manager for an Engineering Consultant Company. He makes sure different projects are staffed with the right people and their clients are happy with their support. He also works with recruiters and government and commercial contracts with Architectural, Aerospace and Information Technology. He has been employed with his company in Chantilly, VA for 17 years. Liz also works for the same company as an Accounts Receivable Manager and the family resides in Stephens City, VA.

Look for more interviews with your church leaders in future newsletters.

SCHOLARSHIPS

High School Seniors, interested in applying for the Shickle/Omps Scholarship, may pick up the application forms in the church office, from the back window of the sanctuary or from the youth director. Application forms must be returned to the church office by March 31, 2008.

Your Scholarship Committee



FEBRUARY IS HEART HAVENS MONTH!

Heaven's Very Special Child

"A meeting was held quite far from earth
"It's time again for another birth,"
Said the Angels to the Lord above
"This Special Child will need much love."

His progress may be somewhat slow,
Accomplishments limited, so you know
And he will require extra care
From the folks he meets way down there.

He may aspire to run, laugh or play
His thoughts at times, may seem far away
In many ways, he won't adapt
And he'll be known as handicapped.

So let's be careful where he's sent
We want his life to be content
Please, Lord, find the greatest people who
Will do an extra special job for you

They will not realize right away
The leading role they're asked to play
But with this child sent from above
Comes stronger faith and richer love

And soon they'll know the privilege given
In caring for this gift from heaven
Their precious charge, so sweet and mild

Is Heaven's Very Special Child."

-author unknown

In 1996 Heart Havens, Inc. was created by the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church (VAUMC) to address the needs and concerns of parents, friends and professionals regarding adults with developmental disabilities. The first Heart Havens home opened on January 25, 1999, in Virginia Beach.

Now with nine operating homes across the Virginia Conference and more in various stages of development, Heart Havens continues to work hard to address the individual needs of its residents.

There are more than

175,000 citizens with mental retardation in Virginia and 1,100 of those special brothers and sisters need urgent services because they have no one left to care, nowhere to live, and they cannot function in our society without trained assistance.

Please consider how a gift no matter how small can change the lives of those who so desperately need a good Christian home.

Questions? Interested?
Please call our office at 1-877-442-8368 or email: geof.whittaker@hearhavens.org

The Children's Ministry

Presents:

**An afternoon
of
GOLDEN AGERS BINGO!!**

**COME, JOIN IN!
It's in your honor & it's FREE!**

**Sunday
February 17th
Immediately following the 11AM
Service
In the
Social Hall**

FOOD - REFRESHMENTS - FUN

**DOOR PRIZES
Will
Be Awarded to
WINNERS!!**

**Yet another way to enjoy one another's
Fellowship, as we come together for fun in the Spirit of
Christ!**

Worship in the Season of Lent

During the season of Lent the order of worship will be arranged to be more consistent with the Basic Pattern of Worship contained in *The United Methodist Hymnal* and *The United Methodist Book of Worship*. This change was presented to the Worship Team by the pastors and after discussion all agreed to this proposal for Lent as reflecting what we understand about worship.

The Basic Pattern of Worship (see page 2 in *The United Methodist Hymnal*) is rooted in Scripture and in our United Methodist heritage and experience. It expresses the biblical, historical, and theological integrity of Christian worship and is the basis of all the General Services of the Church. . . .

Our worship . . . is an encounter with the living God through the risen Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. . . .

The teachings of Scripture give our worship a basic pattern that has proved itself over the centuries, . . . This pattern goes back to worship as Jesus and his earliest disciples knew it—services in the synagogue and Jewish family worship around the meal table. . . .

The Entrance and the Proclamation and Response—often called the Service of the Word or the Preaching Service—are a Christian adaptation of the ancient synagogue service (*The United Methodist book of Worship*, page 13).

The “Entrance” part of the worship service begins as soon as the people begin to gather. There is a time for informal greetings, conversation, and fellowship In the UM Book of Worship we read “This renewing of community is part of our entrance into congregational worship and should not be discouraged” (page 17).

“Proclamation” of the Word begins with the reading of scripture. When scripture is read in worship it is customary for the lector to end with, “The Word of God for the people of God” to which the congregation responds “Thanks be to God.” All Christians view the scripture as being God’s words for God’s people. Throughout the history of the church various traditions have had different ways of interpreting this. Some traditions believe interpreting scripture is a task reserved for those who are the recognized “authority figures in the church”. These traditions would discourage laity from interpreting scripture for themselves and rather interpret scripture for them.

We as United Methodist look to recognized persons to interpret scripture for us. Deacons, Elders, Local Pastors and Lay Speakers may address a congregation after the scripture has been read. They speak to the scripture’s relevance for those of us who have gathered for worship. Normally this takes the form of what we would call a sermon. Other practices include: visual displays, drama, liturgical dance and other art forms to interpret the scripture.

In our baptism we are incorporated into the “Priesthood of All Believers” (see *UMHymnal*, page 37 and 1 Peter 2:4-10). This means, among other things, that we believe the Holy Spirit empowers every Christian to hear and interpret scripture. Our newsletter contains the lectionary readings for each Sunday of the month. These include an Old Testament reading, a Psalm, an epistle reading and a Gospel reading. During the season of Lent we will be reading all four appointed scripture readings in worship. One or more of these texts will be the focus of the sermon. Members of the congregation are encouraged to prayerfully consider the other texts which are read. Ask yourself, “What message does God have for our church in these scriptures which have been read?” Then share what you feel that God has revealed to you with someone else in our church.

The Basic Pattern of Worship includes a time within the service for responses to the receiving of God’s Word through acts of commitment and faith with offerings of concerns, prayers, gifts, and service for the world and for one another. During Lent our congregational response to the Word will include concerns and prayers, offering, and thanksgiving (with and without Holy Communion)

The Thanksgiving and Communion, commonly called the Lord’s Supper or Holy Communion, is a Christian adaptation of Jewish worship at family meal tables—as Jesus and his disciples ate together during his preaching and teaching ministry, as Jesus transformed it when he instituted the Lord’s Supper on the night before his death, and as his disciples experienced it in the breaking of bread with their risen Lord (Luke 24:30 -35; John 21:13).

Today The United Methodist Church is reclaiming our biblical and historic heritage, as we seek in this Basic Pattern to worship God “in spirit and in truth” (*The United Methodist book of Worship*, page 14).

Lent is a season of 40 days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday and is a preparation for celebrating Easter. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means “spring.” For Christians, “the seasons of Lent and Easter celebrate the most definitive aspects of God’s redemptive acts” in the lives and history of God’s people.

Lent is . . . a time for growing through repentance, fellowship, prayer, fasting, and concentration upon our baptismal covenant. . . . Lent is thus not giving up something but rather taking upon ourselves the intention and receptivity for God’s grace so that we may worthily participate in the mystery of God-with-us (*Handbook of the Christian Year*, page 106).

Pastor Becky and Pastor Doug

INTRODUCTION TO LISTENING & COMMUNICATION SKILLS

“Listening is one of the most caring behaviors a person can achieve.”

—the basic premise of Lab I: Listening and Caring Workshop

**Beginning February 3rd during the Sunday School hour
Continuing for 6 Weeks**

**Call the church office (662-3151) or Robbin Wilfong (662-2348) if you plan to attend.
(We will need to provide materials for each participant.)**

Who Should Attend:

All persons who wish to strengthen their relationships with others, i.e. members of a church, club, or volunteer organization, people who work together, families who live together, will benefit from this workshop.

What You Will Learn:

This workshop will cover some of the basic skills used in the LAB I: Listening and Caring Workshop. Our culture teaches us how to talk but most of us have difficulty in listening in depth to another person.

The how and why of communications break down – the interpersonal gap – will be explored and skills needed to help narrow that communication gap will be taught. These skills include: paraphrase, perception check, behavior description, productive questions, fogging, and negative inquiry.

Practice What You Learn:

On Wednesdays from 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., there will be practice sessions provided for anyone who is participating in the workshop or those who have participated in a Lab I in the past. We will meet in the church parlor. You may “drop in” at any time, stay as long as you can, and leave when you need too. No pre-registration is necessary for the practice sessions.

If You Have a Conflict . . .

and are unable to attend this training event, opportunities will be provided in the future for full Lab I workshops to advance your learning and improve your listening and caring skills.

HELP!

Please help us to update our records to prepare for a new church directory. Please complete the below information and either mail it to the church office or drop it in the basket in the back windowsill of the sanctuary. Thank you for your cooperation in help us correct our records.

Name	
Spouse's Name	
Children's Names	
Address	
Phone	
Cell phones	
Email addresses	

REPORT ON THE ENVISIONING & RENEWING WEEKEND AT FUMC

On January 11th and 12th approximately 90 members of our congregation met with Dr. John Savage from the Kilgore Group for our Envisioning and Renewing Weekend. During the 11 hours of the workshop, we learned of many reasons why a church can find its membership in conflict. We discussed the expectations we, as individuals, had for our church when we became members and how they differ from our expectations now.

We learned how over time our expectations may be broken and how we then feel a “pinch” or “crunch”. “Pinches” is the term used to describe those little uncomfortable incidents that draw your attention away from feeling good about the church family. “Crunches” are those incidents that hurt us, create feelings of deep anger and often affect us to the point of tears. We also learned the most appropriate way for us to respond to those pinches and crunches. We were also taught about the difference between changes and transitions and began to learn about the elements necessary to make healthy transitions. We participated in a process that helped us to begin to: define our present, imagine our future, size up our gifts or our strengths and create a plan.

We defined our present strengths through the results of the congregational on-line survey and the personal interviews conducted by Dr. Savage. From the congregational survey, which addresses 15 characteristics of a healthy church, we identified our top 3 strengths of those characteristics as: having an empowered lay leadership, effective pastoral leadership and open and caring community. The characteristics that were identified as our weakest were: effective transparent organization, stimulating shared vision and mission and the ability to make healthy transitions.

We began to imagine the future and talked about God’s calling for our church through one-on-one interviews and then sharing those stories with another group. Out of those groups there were repeated themes or key ideas that were heard. Once each group identified those themes, we began to hear some of the themes repeated over and over from other groups. These various Ministry Themes were weighted by each individual in the group as to what they believed to be imperative to be worked on immediately to create an atmosphere of healing and reconciliation in our church family.

A group was formed for each area or theme that was identified and the group began to write a Possibility Proposition that described the future of that Ministry Theme using specific criteria. The Possibility Proposition for each Ministry Theme is listed at the end of this report. Each group then identified and listed what strengths and gifts we already had to help us turn the Possibility Proposition into reality and what gifts we needed to develop. The first step of creating a plan began when all individuals made suggestions for each of the Ministry Themes, which then may be used to develop a specific action plan.

On Sunday, January 13th, 38 of our members and leaders of our congregation met to further develop the action plan. It was clearly evident that the groups throughout the weekend believed the Ministry Themes of Spirituality and Communication were imperative to be implemented immediately. With that mandate before them, the Sunday leadership group charged the Lay Leadership committee to gather together a team or Initiative Group to begin the work on specific goals and then implementation using ideas from the Possibility Proposition for Communication and the Laity Team was charged with gathering together an Initiative Group to implement ideas from the Possibility Proposition for Spirituality. Workshops and training pertaining to those themes will begin in February and March, please watch for further details.

All the Ministry Themes will be addressed over time. Please be patient during this process. We will begin with 2 or 3 at a time so we will not be overwhelmed and can realistically achieve our goals. Please read and consider carefully the following Ministry Themes. The goal for all involved is a return to a caring and healthy ministry. One built on a foundation of shared commitment, vision, direction, and love. The success will be determined by the active involvement of all who attend First United Methodist Church as members and participating friends. The Advisory Group requests and encourages your thoughts, ideas, and opinions. Please share your gifts and talents with us during this process.

Renewal Program - January Update

Priority Ministry Themes

Communication

FUMC communicates the life, operation, and functions to the whole of the church community and provides multiple mechanisms to increase the free flow of information.

Spiritual

FUMC is alive with Holy Spirit walking with God accepting his grace, guided by scripture, fellowship and sacrament and living our faith.

Music

First United Methodist Church recognizes and celebrates music as an integral element of worship and vital to the spiritual development of the church community. We build on a tradition of quality worship music by including alternative styles and genres that meet the many and varied needs of the congregation. All are welcomed to learn and grow in their faith through participation in the music program.

New People/New Ideas

Age is just a number at FUMC.

FUMC's website and blog attracts a diverse congregation of new arrivals to the valley while keeping current members up to date and involved. Small groups meet individually on a weekly basis to discuss the week's sermon and come back together monthly for a community discourse. This forum unites both services for a truly "United" Methodist Church. A greeting team makes all newcomers feel welcome and invited before each service. Once a month, local musicians contribute their gifts to a contemporary worship service in addition to an evening concert.

Involvement

We have encouraged all members to participate in many activities of the church beyond attendance at Sundays worship service. This has given those participants a better understanding of our church's programs, thereby, stimulating their desire to become a contributing factor in God's work. Enthusiastic participation has reached a high level and continues to grow.

Outreach

FUMC is known within the greater Winchester area as a growing congregation that provides an outlet for its members to utilize their talents and gifts to respond to identified community needs within and outside the Winchester community.



Priority Ministry Themes

Healing

FUMC provides a safe place with healthy communication and resources in order to help individuals heal with God's help. Through the healing process we are empowered to help others and further the kingdom of God.

One Body

FUMC acts as one body with a shared vision that crosses generational boundaries, building Christian relationships between all ages and all groups with unity and interdependent active Christianity.

Youth

FUMC provides a contemporary worship service to enhance our youth's spiritual journeys. All youth feel welcomed and loved unconditionally. We provide a place for the youth to grow as disciples of Christ through nurturing their gifts and talents. We offer them opportunities for service and mission outreach.

Caring

We are supporting our congregation during good times and trying times. We are greeting all who enter the church with friendly smiles, handshake or hug. We are wearing name tags and providing them to visitors. We are visiting and/or calling the ill and shut-ins on a regular basis. We provide physical and spiritual support for those who are experiencing difficulties. We provide age appropriate activities such as senior luncheons served by the youth and younger church members. We track attendance through attendance pads and contact those who have been absent for a period of time with a card, note or call. We contact visitors in appreciation of their visit to our church with an invitation to return.

Children

FUMC Children's Ministry is Bible-based, fun-filled, and hands-on that extends beyond Sunday services. CM seeks and utilizes involvement from all generations to enrich the activities for children and offer opportunities for service. Ownership of and participation in this ministry is board-based within the congregation. Activities occurring include but are limited to:

- Intergenerational events
- Children's worship services
- VBS (members and beyond)
- Quarterly events
- Mission opportunities

Whenever possible, the attempt is made to bridge the CM with other church ministries.



FEBRUARY YOUTH NEWS



*First United Methodist Church
308 North Braddock St.
Winchester, VA 22601
Phone: 540-662-3151
Email:
mvorous@fumcwinchester.org*

Lent

First United Methodist Youth Mission Statement

“We are servants of Christ witnessing to His people through our words and actions as we grow in discipleship.”



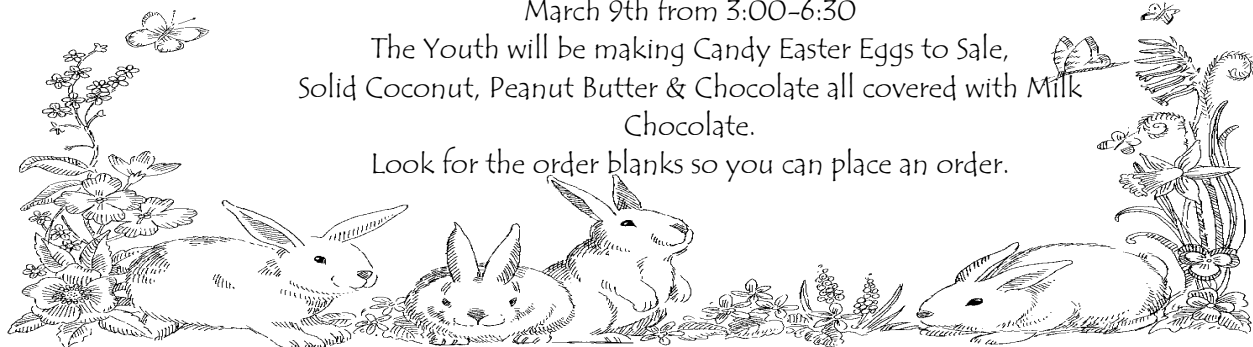
Happy Birthday to.....
February 4th- Cody Lieklider
February 13th- Bryon Shepard
February 16th- Ethan Costello
February 25th- Lexi Gryzwacz

Youth Fundraiser Coming Soon!

March 9th from 3:00-6:30

The Youth will be making Candy Easter Eggs to Sale, Solid Coconut, Peanut Butter & Chocolate all covered with Milk Chocolate.

Look for the order blanks so you can place an order.



YOUTH NEWS CONTINUED

February 3rd— Serving Salvation Army dinner from 4:00-6:00 .

February 5th— Shrove Tuesday from 5:00– 6:30, United Methodist Men Pancake Supper/ Youth are asked to help out serving and cleaning up. Part of the proceeds will go toward the summer mission trips.



February 10th— Parent's Meeting from 4:30-6:30, please bring a side dish to share. The meat and drinks will be provided.

February 11th— 30 Hour Famine Meeting at Braddock St. UMC at 4:00 p.m.. If you are interested in helping out please try to attend.

February 16th— The confirmation class will be going to the Washington Cathedral, we are opening this trip to the youth group if you are interested. Watch for more details.

February 17th— Regular Youth time, 4:30-6:30.

February 24th— Regular Youth time, 4:30-6:30.

February 29th— March 1st– 30 Hour Famine. Starts at 6:00 p.m. here at FUMC. This is an district youth event and we will travel to Braddock St. UMC on Saturday for some of the event.

Every Wednesdays from 6:00-6:45 youth meet for Worship Team and some music in the Senior High room!

Special Notice:

- We have purchased and tie dyed youth t-shirts, if you have not paid for your t-shirt please get your money in ASAP. They cost us about \$8.00 each.

Share your faith



*First United
Methodist Church
308 North Braddock Street
Winchester, VA 22601*

*Web site:
www.fumcwinchester.org*
Church: 540-662-3151
Fax: 540-662-1462

Staff

Becky Cloud
Doug Sasser
Pastors

Mary Vorous
Director of Youth
Ministries

Kristen Grzywacz
Office Manager

Debbie MacKnight
Preschool Director

Ralph Gronlund
Lay Leader

Jennifer White
Treasurer

Queenie Dockeney
Custodian

Wayne Corbett
Organist and Music
Director

Gary Fisher
Choral Director

Melinda Russell
Hand Bell Director

Youth Choir Director

Amy Shepley & Mary Beth Ours
Children's Choir Directors

Non-Profit Org
U. S. POSTAGE
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Winchester, VA



In February we celebrate Valentine's Day as a time to remember our sweethearts and those we love. Let us not forget the scripture from John 13: 1 "*Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.*" Is this not the most tremendous show of love one can think of? As we think of those who are dear to us, remember our Savior Jesus Christ and how much he loves us!



WORSHIP PREVIEW FOR LENT

1st Sunday of Lent	2nd Sunday of Lent	3rd Sunday of Lent	4th Sunday of Lent	5th Sunday of Lent
February 10	February 17	February 24	March 2	March 9
Scripture:	Scripture:	Scripture:	Scripture:	Scripture:
Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7	Genesis 12: 1-4a	Exodus 17: 1-7	Psalm 23	Ezekiel 37: 1-14
Psalm 32	Psalm 121	Psalm 95	Ephesians 5: 8-14	Psalm 130
Romans 5: 12-19	Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17	Romans 5: 1-11	John 9: 1-7, 35-41	Romans 8: 6-11
Matthew 4: 1-11	John 3: 1-17	John 4: 5-42		John 11: 39-45

DISCOVERY PRESCHOOL

I hope everyone had a safe and joyous holiday season. Thank you for the love gift. It is a pleasure to serve as your Preschool Director and I appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Discovery Preschool is now registering students, ages 2-5, for the 2008-2009 school year. Information sheets and registration forms will be available in the narthex for you to take to family, friends, or neighbors that may be interested. If you have any questions please contact me at 540-665-1696. Church members receive a 5% discount on tuition. Available openings are filled on a first come/first served basis and fill up fast, so please register as soon as possible if you are planning for your child to attend.

Our activities in December included a birthday party for baby Jesus. The children brought baby gifts to donate to the Abba Pregnancy Center. At our Christmas program, our preschool families brought hats, gloves and scarves to donate to CCAP to help keep families warm this winter. The students are also working on quilts to donate to Project Linus this spring. This month the children are learning about the story, "Stone Soup", and are encouraged to bring in canned goods for CCAP. These are some of the missions the preschool contributes to during the school year.

Thank You,

Debbie Macknight



Significant Youth Events for 2008

Regular Youth every Sunday evening from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Food, Fellowship, Games and a Message.

Worship Team every Wednesday 6:00 to 6:45 p.m.

Confirmation every Sunday during the Sunday School hour.

February 16th Washington Cathedral Trip– Open to all youth.

February 17th Ski Trip to Whitetale.

February 29th thru March 1st 30 Hour Famine

March 9th Easter Egg Making Fundraiser.

March 26th Confirmation fieldtrip to United Methodist building in D.C.

April 18th-19th “Acquire the Fire” Retreat, Baltimore, MD.

April 26th-27th Confirmation Retreat with Braddock Street UMC

April 28th thru May 1st Mary away at Princeton for training.

May 18th Confirmation Sunday

June 1st Youth host breakfast for visiting Youth Choir.

June 8th Graduation Sunday.