



# October Happenings

## Pastor's Corner

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# First Word

**Dear Members and Friends of First United Methodist Church,**

We had a Church Conference on September 25 and our District Superintendent closed the meeting with the thought that a mediator should be utilized to help the congregation move forward. There are things we will need to work out together. Like you, my emotions (and those of my family) are still swirling. I am, however, fully committed to the process that lies ahead, not knowing what it will be.

As pastor, I do want to encourage you to remain in the spiritual disciplines. It is especially important to do so in times of conflict. As I have said many times before, God can reach out to us in many ways but there are certain channels through which God continually chooses to reveal himself. Christians in the Wesleyan tradition call these "means of grace". One of those means is prayer.

We learn a great deal about how prayer helps when we feel hurt from Moses. In Numbers 14, Moses has differences with some of the Hebrew people. Some of Hebrew people, no doubt, have differences with him. Some of the Hebrew people have differences with one another. In the midst of this, Moses does a remarkable thing. He prays for those with whom he disagrees. He prays that God may somehow bless them.

This idea can also be found, and perfected, in the teachings of Jesus. In the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7), Jesus says, "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven."

We as human beings have trouble letting go of hurt. Becoming released involves a dialogue with God and one another. Though it is difficult sometimes, we need to pray for those who we feel have hurt us. Pray for God to forgive them and for each of us to forgive one another. Praying this prayer helps release us and make us free. Maybe God is speaking to us in this moment, to learn from Numbers 14 and the Sermon on the Mount.

Is there someone who has hurt you? Do you bear bitterness toward someone else? Take a moment like Moses to pray for forgiveness. Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount are challenging, however, they are the path of discipleship.

Grace and Peace,

*Will*

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### Special points of interest:

- Youth News
- October Church Calendar
- Apple Butter
- WATTS
- Need A Ride?
- Pastor's Corner

## Our New Director of Discovery Preschool



My name is Allyson Allison, it is not an echo! I married into this name! I currently live in the Berryville area with my husband and two children, Karl and Kirstin (ages 3 and 1). We moved from the Annapolis, MD area in 2006 and plan to make Winchester our home.

I am blessed that the First United Methodist Church PPR Committee has selected me to be your new Director of Discovery Preschool. I look forward to util-

izing my many years of experience as an administrator and teacher in the private Christian and public school setting. Using God's direction I plan to carry out this directorship to the best of my God given abilities.

I plan to continue to keep Discovery Preschool running smoothly and to provide a great Christian preschool for the community. I will keep the same policies and practices only enhancing certain programs.

## Need a ride.....

Hopefully you recall the action plan for FUMC's recent Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations. One of those goals involved reaching out to those in our congregation that no longer have means

to attend FUMC worship services. We are starting the process of identifying those individuals who may need a ride to attend our services. If you know of someone, please email Patrick Barker,

pebarker@hotmail.com.



## In Bethlehem Inn



The Christmas play, through children's ministries, for 2011 is titled, "In Bethlehem Inn". The play is multi-generational. Rehearsals will be held on Sunday afternoons at 4:00pm. The play itself will be held on December

11<sup>th</sup>. Watch the newsletter and bulletin for more information on "In Bethlehem Inn." Donna White is directing. There will be many opportunities for you to participate. If you are interested, please let Donna know.

# Covenant for Congregational Feedback

The following covenant has been adopted by the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee and the Laity Team based on training received by the United Methodist Virginia Conference. This covenant helps us to address the concerns and needs of our congregation. This will be included in the newsletters quarterly along with the names of members of the committees. It is a covenant that leadership makes to the congregation and acknowledges its responsibility to our Lord Jesus, the United Methodist Church and to its people.

## COVENANT FOR CONGREGATIONAL FEEDBACK

1. Every effort will be made to direct suggestions, concerns or complaints to the party involved first.
2. Any suggestions, concerns or complaints are to be given to the chair of the appropriate committee.  
Suggestions, concerns or complaints received in writing must be signed and dated in order to be able to provide a response.  
Verbal feedback is to be received from first hand knowledge or source, before being relayed to the committee.
3. Suggestions, concerns or complaints are to be reviewed at scheduled committee meeting and a response will be determined.
4. Response to individual(s) will be given in writing and in person by members of the appropriate committee in a timely manner.  
If response cannot be reached or completed, the committee must let the individual(s) know when they can expect the response to be completed.
5. After committee members meet with the individual(s), if there needs to be more follow-up, the committee members will notify chairman of the appropriate committee and it will be reviewed by the committee.

Once final response is determined, it will be given in writing and in person by members of the appropriate committee and reported back to the committee once completed. This documentation is to be retained with committee files.

### Members of the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee:

Chairperson:	Robbin Wilfong 540-662-2348	Shirley Place 540-667-5452
Vice-Chairperson:	Brett Osborn 540-678-9152	Anne Shickle 540-667-8160
	Pat Dawson 540-667-1948	Becky Starliper 540-877-2160
	Melody Harmon 540-667-3514	

# October Calendar

## October 2

8:30 am Worship  
 9:45 am Sunday School  
 9:45 am Children's Choir  
 11:00 am Worship

## October 4

7:00 pm PPRC Meeting

## October 5

5:15 pm 3-F Dinner  
 6:00 pm Hand Bell Choir  
 7:00 pm Chancel Choir

## October 6

7:00 pm Disciple 1 Bible Study

## October 8

8:00 am UMM Breakfast  
 9:00 am Women's Bible Study

## October 9

8:30 am Worship  
 9:45 am Sunday School  
 9:45 am Children's Choir  
 11:00 am Worship  
 5:00 pm Youth Meeting

## October 10

6:45 pm Trustee Meeting  
 7:00 pm Finance Meeting

## October 12

6:00 pm Hand Bell Choir  
 7:00 pm Chancel Choir

## October 15

9:00 am Women's Bible Study

## October 16

8:30 am Worship  
 9:45 am Sunday School  
 9:45 am Children's Choir  
 11:00 am Worship  
 4:00 pm Play Practice  
 5:00 pm Youth Meeting

## October 17

6:45 pm Worship Meeting

## October 19

5:15 pm 3-F Dinner  
 6:00 pm Hand Bell Choir  
 7:00 pm Chancel Choir

## October 20

7:00 pm Disciple 1 Bible Study

## October 22

9:00 am Women's Bible Study  
**All day Apple Butter making at the APR Campus**

## October 23

8:30 am Worship  
 9:45 am Sunday School  
 9:45 am Children's Choir  
 11:00 am Worship  
 4:00 pm Play Practice  
 5:00 pm Youth Meeting

## October 24

7:00 pm Church Council

## October 26

6:00 pm Hand Bell Choir  
 7:00 pm Chancel Choir

## October 27

7:00 pm Disciple 1 Bible Study

## October 29

9:00 am Women's Bible Study  
 11:30 am Women's Luncheon

## October 30

8:30 am Worship  
 9:45 am Sunday School  
 9:45 am Children's Choir  
 11:00 am Worship  
 4:00 pm Play Practice  
 5:00 pm Youth Meeting

## October 31

Happy Halloween

## Hanging of the Greens

**When:**

**Sunday, November 20th**

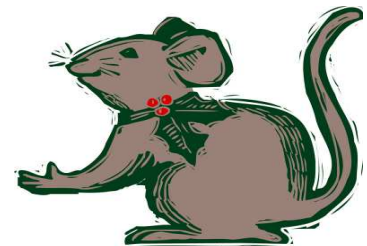
**Time:**

**12:45 to 4:00 pm**

**Where:**

**First UMC Sanctuary**

If you have an hour or two to share, come help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. Pizza will be provided. Come and help make ready for our Lord and Savior's birth. If you have any questions contact the church office or Melody Harmon at 667-3514.



## Sunday Morning Worship

The Worship Committee would like to invite you to assist with the weekly Sunday worship services. There are no tests or auditions required, just a personal desire to worship and serve God. If you feel called to help, please contact one of the people listed below for that particular activity, or let Kristen know at 540-662-3151 and she will relay the information to the appropriate coordinator.

<b>Altar Guild</b> -----	Cheryl Dyksen	540-662-1348
<b>Communion Assistant</b> ----	<b>Music/Choir Rep</b>	
	Melody Harmon	540-667-3514
<b>Scripture Readers</b> -----	Melody Harmon	540-974-9753
<b>Worship Leader</b> -----	Susie Brown	540-877-9016
<b>Sound System</b> ----- 8:30	Alan Cavanagh	540-678-9042
11:00	Jack Wilfong	540-662-2348
<b>Ushers</b> -----	Kenny Burcham	540-667-5262
	Craig Stultz	540-662-3651
<b>Acolytes</b> -----	Mark St. Amand	540-247-3372

## Apple Butter



Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 22 for the United Methodist Men's annual apple butter making. Plan on coming out and spend some time stirring and fellowshiping with your church family.

Check the weekly bulletin

for more information as the date gets closer. The men will need **LOTS** of peeling and cutting help a couple of days before the apple butter is made. If you have any questions see a member of the UMM or contact the church office at 662-3151.

## FUMC Financial Health

**Thanks to all for responding to the FUMC's General Stabilization Fund project. Since introduced over a month ago, giving is up over 10% on average. Much thanks!**

The reasons for this campaign are simple.

1. FUMC's 2011 expenses are exceeding its income due to a decrease in giving.
2. As a result of these patterns, the projected deficit for 2011 will be in excess of \$30,000.
3. To combat this shortfall for 2011, FUMC Council enacted a 15% reduction to most non-ministerial support salaries and ministry activities and a withdrawal from our general fund securities to address this shortfall. Obviously this action is not sustainable for FUMC's future.

If you can, please keep this positive momentum going. Through our joint efforts, we are taking small steps to minimize the proposed reductions and withdrawals, this year and into next year. So, if you can, please consider providing what one may pay for lunch outside (for example, may be for some a \$5.00 footlong from Subway one day a week) toward this effect.

Many thanks for the shrewd caring of FUMC's financial health by the Finance Committee and Church Council. Now it is time that FUMC's congregation provide its own oversight to our church's financial health so it can carry on its mission within the community as a loving and compassionate family of Christian fellowship that is firmly grounded in the faith through worship, service, lifestyle and study. Please accept this "Call to Action"...our collective individual actions can make a difference. Thank you for all that you do to financially support the ministries of FUMC.



## 10 Week Women's Bible Study

All women are invited to participate in a 10 week study on the book of Esther. Beth Moore, well-known author and leader of many in-depth Bible studies, will be our guide. "Just as it was tough being a woman in Esther's day, it's tough today. Beth peels back the layers of history and shows how very contemporary and applicable the story of Esther is to us." This interactive study features 9 weeks of personal, daily assignments and 10 weekly group sessions with video. Our first session will be Sunday, October 2 at 12:15 in the chapel. We will share a light meal together as we view the introductory video. The rest of our sessions will be Saturday mornings from 9 to 11 am in the chapel (Oct.8 - Dec.10). Please contact Robbin Wilfong (662-2348) or Kathy Baccary (667-5529) with questions or to order your workbook.

## Who Is Your Coach

In this game of life when things go wrong  
And the first quarter is way out of bounds  
I'll look to the bench, for my Coach knows a play,  
Which will turn this whole game around.

God is my Coach and on Him I rely  
To send in the plays I must heed,  
But the field is so long and each yard is so tough  
How will I get the score that I need?

Then low and behold from the sidelines they came  
A mighty team of ten more.  
His signals said in this game of life,  
All Mankind can help you to score.

I'm now at the 50 yard line in the game,  
And it's 4th and inches to go.  
My offensive line didn't fail me, you see,  
For the yardage, I was too slow.

I couldn't make the ground, I'd lost the ball,  
And I thought my Coach would scream,  
But instead He said, "you've done your best,  
Now I'm sending in my defensive team."

"They'll keep your opponents from scoring,  
And they'll get you back the ball.  
The defensive team I'm sending in  
Will allow you again to stand tall."

It takes eleven men and eleven more,  
And that makes twenty-two,  
An offense and a defense,  
If your game plan is to run smooth.

There are special teams and a coaching staff  
And players of a hundred or more,  
So, if I only can hold on to a faith that's strong,  
The whole team can help me to score.

If you want to win in this game of life,  
And score on that final day,  
Get yourself an offensive line,  
Who will take you all the way.

That's my game plan, on this playing field of life,  
When my three time outs are all gone.  
To cross over that goal line, for God is my Coach,  
And my offensive line is strong.

Patricia Wheeler Gochenour

November 16, 1986

## Virginia Conference Apportionments

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We are very thankful to have Laura Anderson visit our church on September 25th and speak to us about our Virginia Conference apportionments. These are the funds that we as a local church pay to the district and conference. These funds are not only benevolent in nature, like those that help with the minimum needs of missionaries and ministries throughout the globe. These funds also provide the health benefits and pensions for all the active and retired clergy throughout the confer-

ence. As we give our tithes and offerings, please consider the impact these funds make not only, on the mission and ministry of our district and conference, but our local church as well.

**“The power of our apportionments — our collective First-Mile giving — is that it enables United Methodists to do together what no church, district or annual conference could do alone.”**  
*from the VA Conference website*

## From the Pastor Parish Relations Committee

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The Pastor Parish Relations Committee would like to announce some staffing changes that have been taking place:

Wayne Corbett, our organist/music director, will begin taking remaining vacation Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> and then retiring from his position on Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>.

Jennifer White, our treasurer, has taken a full time position in town and will be transitioning out of the part time position at our church.

Our youth director, Mary Vorous, has had a sense of redirection in her life and will be embarking on a new ministry. Her last Sunday will be October 9<sup>th</sup>, but she too will be helping us transition through October.

We are so grateful for their many years of service to God and their gifts they gave us. We pray for God’s continued blessing on their lives.

Change comes in our lives for many reasons and as with any change in life, be it in our personal lives or as a group, there is a time of confusion before the new beginnings. We have the assurance, as followers of Christ that He will be with them and us as a congregation during these transitions.

Our Pastor Parish Relations Committee will be providing updates in the weeks ahead to keep this congregation informed during this process of transition. In our immediate

future you will be seeing several of our church members stepping forward to help with the transitions in each of these areas. Please join us in thanking them for their service to God and His church during this time.

## October Youth News

### *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."*

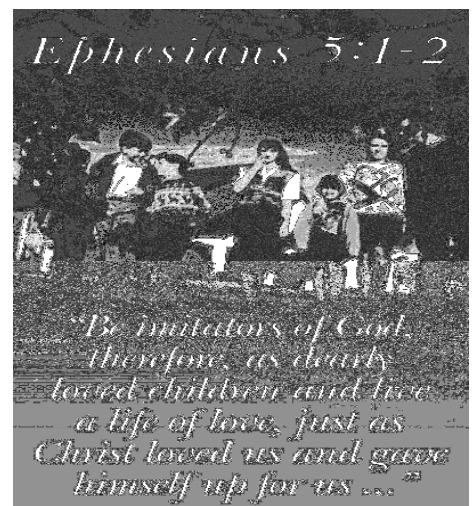
Dear Parents & Youth,

As most of you know by now, I have resigned my position as Youth Director here at FUMC as of Oct. 9th. Please know that this decision has not come lightly. I have been praying and discerning about my resignation. As hard as it may be to go through transition and change, I believe when we are called to make a move, we all have to trust that God has plans that we may not understand. God has called me into ministry elsewhere for various reasons, some reasons known and many unknown. My prayer is that you, as the parent, use the gifts and talents God has given you to take ownership of the youth ministry until there is decision and discernment about what is the best path for the ministry at this time. Please know that the process of discerning how, who, and when this will happen is not an easy one. This task should be prayed on and discerned very carefully. Our youth are very important, and they need this decision to be taken very seriously.

My 7 and half years at FUMC has been a true blessing in many different ways. I have crossed paths with many loving people and families and I thank you for sharing your lives with me. My prayer for FUMC is that you always be reminded of the reflection of Christ that hopefully I have shared with you and some seeds have been planted here for further growth in your relationship with Christ. May you continue to know the importance of our youth knowing, and having a true relationship with Jesus Christ. I have seen the Christ that lives within yourselves; you possess His love and can share it with our youth as well as I have. So, believe and know that God lives within these walls and that you have much to give our teens. May we all have trust, faith and much prayer about God's plans that are way greater than any we can come up with ourselves.

Much Love, Peace & Grace to you,

*Mary*



**FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
308 NORTH BRADDOCK STREET  
WINCHESTER, VA 22601  
& APPLE PIE RIDGE  
CAMPUS DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM THE  
APPLE PIE RIDGE  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**WEB SITE:  
WWW.FUMCWINCHESTER.ORG  
Church: 540-662-3151  
Fax: 540-662-1462**

*Staff*

*Rev. William M. White  
Pastor*

*Mary Vorous  
Director of Youth  
Ministries*

*Kristen Grzywacz  
Office Manager*

*Allyson Allison  
Preschool Director*

*Susan Brown  
Lay Leader*

*Jennifer White  
Treasurer*

*Ellen Cavanagh, RN  
Faith Community Nurse*

*Queenie Dockeney  
Custodian*

*Wayne Corbett  
Organist and Music  
Director*

*Jim Harmon  
Choir Director*

*Melinda Russell  
Hand Bell Director*

*Wayne Corbett &  
Melinda Russell  
Children's Choir Directors*

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## Women's Luncheon

**Women of the church!!  
Let's get together!!**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29<sup>TH</sup>**

**11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**for our**

**WOMEN'S LUNCHEON**

**Bring a salad to share**

**Drinks/dessert will be provided**

**There will be singing, fellowship, and  
news about Bible study and ministry  
opportunities!**