



# First Word



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## Voices of Youth

Dear Congregation,

After a long and in-depth auditioning process which started last October, I was accepted into the Voices of Youth Choir. Voices is a mission choir of about 30 high school youth from the Virginia Conference whose primary purpose is to experience United Methodist missions and to share their faith through music. I am thrilled and honored to have been accepted into Voices, and I am already excited about what God has in store for us.

In July, Voices will travel to Brazil to learn about the Virginia Conference partnership with the Methodist Church of Brazil through *Initiatives of Hope and the Shade and Fresh Water project*. During this three-week experience, in addition to our choir performances, we will conduct a performing arts camp for over 100 needy children. More information about the Voices of Youth Tour will soon be available at [www.VoicesofYouth-VA.org](http://www.VoicesofYouth-VA.org).

I am counting on your prayers, but am also in need of the gift of your financial support for this ministry. Every contribution you make will help toward the \$3,000 I need to raise for this mission trip. Your tax deductible contributions can be made out to First UMC with Rachel Carson VOY as the memo and placed in the offering plate during worship.

Thank you in advance for all of your support. I am proud to be representing First United Methodist Church on the Voices of Youth 2008 Tour.

In Christ,

Rachel Carson



Volume 10, Issue 4

April 2008

**Special points of interest:**

- Briefly highlight your point of interest here.
- Briefly highlight your point of interest here.
- Briefly highlight your point of interest here.
- Briefly highlight your point of interest here.





## Worship Preview

### April 6

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41  
Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19  
1 Peter 1: 17-23

**Luke 24: 13-35**

**Flowers:** Kellogg

**Acolytes:**

**8:30** Alina Grzywacz

**11:00** Robby Baccary &

Connor Foulds

**Lectors:**

**8:30** Youth

**11:00** Youth

### April 13

**Acts 2: 42-47**  
Psalm 23  
1 Peter 2: 19-25

John 10: 1-10

**Flowers:** Phyllis Lee

**Acolytes:**

**8:30** Matthew Ours &

Alex Shepley

**11:00** Ryan Seabright &

Spencer Corbett

**Lectors:**

**8:30** Shelly Lee

**11:00** available

### April 20

Acts 7: 55-60  
Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16  
1 Peter 2: 2-10

**John 14: 1-14**

**Flowers:** available

**Acolytes:**

**8:30** Luke Grzywacz &

Bailey Disque

**11:00** Rachel White &

Patrick Wilfong

**Lectors:**

**8:30** Janie Dickens-

Bowman

**11:00** available

### April 27

**Acts 17: 22-31**  
Psalm 66: 8-20  
1 Peter 3: 13-22

John 14: 15-21

**Flowers:** available

**Acolytes:**

**8:30** Sami Day & Olivia

Dickens-Bowman

**11:00** Grant Johnson

**Lectors:**

**8:30** available

**11:00** available

## New Photo Directory

*We are in the process of preparing for a new photo directory of our First Church family. Plans are already in the works. We need your help in order to complete our directory accurately and timely!*

First of all, if you have not filled out the bulletin/newsletter insert with your current address and telephone information, please do so. Even if you have not moved or changed any of your information, it would be very helpful to have your form on file for the directory team. You do not have to be a member of First Church to do this...we want to include everyone who attends our church.

Second, mark your calendars for the week of August 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>. This is when the photographers will be here to take the photos that will be included in the directory. Watch for more information to come soon as to when you can begin signing up for your photo appointment.

Third, if you have any photos of the many activities sponsored by our church, please forward them to the church office or Jennifer White. We would love to include all of the many ministries/groups that are working in our church. They can be returned to you if you would like. If you are involved in an activity in the next couple of months, take

your camera along and snap some photos that we may be able to include in our activity pages.

We appreciate your timely cooperation in this important church endeavor. If you have any questions contact the church office 662-3151 or Jennifer White 723-0289.



**New Church Directory**



## Remember These Individuals...

### SHUT-INS

- Ruxton Health Care** \_\_\_\_\_ Elma Anderson  
(110 Lauck Drive Winchester, VA 22603)
- Rose Hill** \_\_\_\_\_ Lula Lewis  
110 Chalmers Court Berryville, VA 22611)
- Evergreen** \_\_\_\_\_ Albert Robinson  
(380 Millwood Ave. Winchester, VA 22601)
- Hilltop** \_\_\_\_\_ Lucille Miller, Mary Everline  
(111 Denny Lane Winchester, VA 22603)
- Westminster-Canterbury** \_\_\_\_\_ Virginia Lee  
290 Westminster-Canterbury Drive Winchester, VA 22603)
- The Willows** \_\_\_\_\_ Hazel Fries, Jean Loy  
(1881 Harvest Drive Winchester, VA 22603)

Please keep these service personnel in your prayers:

**Sean Cloud** Marine Corps  
Stationed in Iraq

**David Kent** Marine Corps  
Stationed in Iraq

**Jeremy Duncan** Army  
Stationed in Kuwait

**J. B. Hughes** Army  
Stationed in Iraq

Please let the church office know if there are persons in your family serving overseas who need to be added to this list. *Please remember in your prayers all the men and women serving our country.*

## Prayer Requests

### Please remember the following members in your prayers:

Charles Cochran, Larry Cooper & Family, Albert Elgin, Jim Petry, Jeanne Spaid, Nancy Palmer, Alice Shell, Steve Spaid, Velma Ritenour, Edith Anderson, Ruth Harrell, June Starke, Kathy Baccary, Jean Loy, Dick O'Hara, Patsy Gochenour, Charles Cochran, Melvin Wine, Doug Purnell, Rick Ours, Judi Eckert, Mary Carter.

### Please remember the following friends and family in your prayers:

Henry & Irene Reynard, Arlie Funk, Bill Bowman, Carol Patterson, Dan Evans, Bonnie O'Hara, Betty Martin, Phyllis King, Betty McCune, Bunky Woods, Anna Snyder, Bob Dumont, Pat Lockwood, Bruce Clevenger, Dee Waddell, Bob Cloud, Jr, Bob Cloud, Sr., Tracy Kowasic, Kayla Roy, Noah Foley, Mike Brooks, James Ware, Gladys Wilson, Lee Warner, Melissa Bozick, Susan Williams, Crystal Shanholtz, Fran Ricketts, Nina Metz, Jane Morris, Sonny Cooper, Earl Byram, Erika Reid, Therman Perry, Jeanette Shickle, Becky Moseley, Wanda Legge, Paul & Carey Booth, Bill Morris, Richard Mitcham, Barbara Rinker, Pearl Bruckey.



**Prayer  
Requests**



## Pastor's Corner

### Don't Shoot the Messenger!

Recently I received some criticism following a sermon in which I reported that I had been told by many upon my arrival at First United Methodist Church that there was no hope for renewal, that First UMC is a dead church. How quick we are to hear the bad news and not listen for the Good News! In that sermon my objective was to counter those premature reports of death with God's Good News in Christ. The reports of the death of this church were and are, in a word, WRONG!

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*For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give.*

—Isaiah 62:1-2

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Pastor Doug challenged the leaders of our church as we entered into a season of fasting from meetings during Lent to search the scriptures for what new name God may have for our church. Clearly we have been in a wilderness time which many have mistaken for death. Perhaps we were lost, perhaps we were weary of the journey, perhaps we were tempted to return to the past because the future seems so unclear and frightening. But wilderness times are not death – perhaps we experience the shadow of death, but it is not death. It is a time of God preparing us to enter into a new future and a time of God preparing that future for us. All of this is not for our sake but to give glory to God. The name God has for our church from Isaiah 62 is Delight United Methodist Church.

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*You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, . . .*

—Isaiah 62:3-4a

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My message in that sermon and my message today is this: God is in the midst of doing a new thing! Look for it. Celebrate it. Talk about it. Spread the Good News. Let's bring gossip back to its original meaning (from Old English *god-sibb*, from *god* + *sib*, meaning akin to God) and begin spreading the Good News about First United Methodist Church. God says of our church, "You shall be called My Delight Is in Her."

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*Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."*

—Isaiah 62:10-12

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In response let us be a church that "delights" in God.

*Pastor Becky*

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## First Church Caring Team

*Nancy Crim*

*Alice Dicks*

*Margaret Johnson*

*Lois Everline*

*Patsy Slonaker*

*Lou Anne Purnell*

*Betty Carper*

*Mary Lou Taylor*

*Evelyn Wilfong*

*Corrine Newcome*

*Joan Bush*



The first thing on our list is to THANK all of you who have helped with being greeters at the Sunday services. We have had so many comments from parishioners on how wonderful it is to be greeted and made welcome when they enter into the sanctuary. We also have been receiving comments from the greeters on how much they have enjoyed meeting and greeting the members of our congregation and getting to know them.

We now have the new list for sign up in the window for the months of April, May and June. Please sign up to be a greeter for a Sunday or two. Several members of the congregation have offered to make calls and help us in any way they can, which is greatly appreciated. Recently we welcomed Lou Anne Purnell to our Caring Team.

The Caring Team has continued to make calls to the nursing homes and visiting the shut-ins. We have also delivered several Prayer Shawls which were made by the J.O.Y.S. Team and goodie bags from the Children's Ministry Team. All were greatly appreciated.

Another task we have undertaken is recording the names entered into the registration book into the computer and contacting members of the church that have been absent for several weeks to let them know they are missed. Please sign (legibly) the registration book when it is passed and if you know of anyone that would like to be contacted or visited, that information may be included also. (Name, address, phone number) Visitors that attend services are sent a note thanking them for worshipping with us.

As you can see we have a lot going on and have some new plans in the works for the future. We will keep you updated on those plans in the First Word monthly newsletter. Remember our team welcomes your suggestion and or comments. Feel free to contact any of the above listed members.

## A Joyous Celebration of God's Gifts

Our celebration is right around the corner! Do you have your gift ready to share? We will begin the evening with a pot-luck dinner at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 5th. Bring your favorite dish and don't forget to bring it in a disposable container so the kitchen staff can enjoy the performance too. Contact Ann Hoffman at 667-4621 on what dish you would like to bring. Various gifts will be displayed and performed at 6:30 p.m. Questions regarding your gift contact, Ellen Cavanagh at 678-9042.



## April Youth News

Happy  
Spring

May we find  
refreshment  
from God's  
word and  
the spring  
air!



### 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.”

**First United Methodist Church**

**308 North Braddock St.  
Winchester, VA 22601**

**Phone: 540-662-3151**

**Email: [mvorous@fumcwinchester.org](mailto:mvorous@fumcwinchester.org)**

April 7th-Stephen Storrs  
April 10th-Alex St. Amand  
April 13th-Rachel Carson  
April 16th-Alex Shepley  
April 24th-Grant Morrison  
April 24th-Ian Morrison  
April 29th-Lauren Delmerico  
April 29th-Paula Delmerico



*252 McGuire Road*

*Winchester, VA 22603*

*678-4014 email:*

*[mvorous@fumcwinchester.org](mailto:mvorous@fumcwinchester.org)*

*Mary's Home address &  
phone number.*



## April Youth News Cont.

**April 5th-** Talent show, come for dinner at 5:00 and stay for the gifts and talents show which will start at 6:30. Bring what God has blessed you with and share with others.



**April 6th-** Regular youth night from 4:30-6:30. Come for dinner and greet our guest for the evening. Our guest is a couple of college students from Shenandoah University who are coming to share a devotion time with you.

**April 13th-** Regular youth night from 4:30-6:30, come for food , fun and a great message.

**April 18-19-** Acquire the fire concert in Baltimore. Please make sure you have money for your meals, your room and two day concert tickets have been prepaid for. We will leave the church at 2:00 promptly please be here by 1:45.



**April 20th-** No Sunday Evening youth due to "ATF" concert re-covering.

**April 26th-27th-** Confirmation Retreat at Huntington Ridge Retreat Center.

**April 27th-** Parent's/Youth Meeting 4:30-6:30, please bring a covered dish to share with everyone. Meat and drinks will be provided.

**April 28th- May 1st-** Mary will be away at Princeton for youth forum.

### Heads Up Youth and Parent's:

If you are going on one of the summer mission trips, there will be a mandatory meeting on May 18th from 4:30-6:30, youth will have their regular youth time. Come for dinner and the meeting will follow.





## The Bell

### The Bell

#### I KNOW WHO I AM

I am God's child (John 1:12)

I am Christ's friend (John 15:15)

I am united with the Lord (1 Cor. 6:17)

I am bought with a price (1 Cor. 6:19-20)

I am a saint (set apart for God). (Eph. 1:1)

I am a personal witness of Christ. (Acts 1:8)

I am the salt & light of the earth (Matt.. 5:13-14)

I am a member of the body of Christ (1 Cor 12:27)

I am free forever from condemnation (Rom. 8: 1-2)

I am a citizen of Heaven. I am significant (Phil.3 :20)

I am free from any charge against me (Rom. 8:31-34)

I am a minister of reconciliation for God (2 Cor.5:17-21)

I have access to God through the Holy Spirit (Eph 2: 18)

I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realms (Eph . 2:6)

I cannot be separated from the love of God (Rom.8:35-39)

I am established, anointed, sealed by God (2 Cor. 1:21-22)

I am assured all things work together for good (Rom. 8: 28)

I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit (John 15:16)

I may approach God with freedom and confidence (Eph. 3: 12)

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Phil. 4:13)

I am the branch of the true vine, a channel of His life (John 15: 1-5)

I am God's temple (1 Cor. 3: 16). I am complete in Christ (Col. 2: 10)

I am hidden with Christ in God (Col. 3:3). I have been justified (Romans 5:1)

I am God's co-worker (1 Cor. 3:9; 2 Cor. 6: 1). I am God's workmanship (Eph. 2:10)

I am confident that the good works God has begun in me will be perfected (Phil. 1: 5)

I have been redeemed and forgiven (Col. 1:14). I have been adopted as God's child (Eph 1:5)

I belong to God!

(This lovely article was sent in by Kathy St.Amand)



## New....

If you would like to keep up with what is happening here at First Church, check out the bulletin board outside the Nursery. This board will have all the minutes displayed from the various committees. Keep in mind that during Lent we fasted from meetings. Once the church meetings begin again in April they will be

posted as they are received on this board.

Church Committee secretaries please make sure to get your minutes to the office via email or leave them in the box on the office door. Thank you for your cooperation.



*Just a  
Reminder...*

## Congratulations!!!!

On March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Becky, Doug, Mary, Kristen and Jean were certified in CPR/AED and First Aid. An American Heart Association instructor freely gave the class. The importance of CPR and early defibrillation was discussed. The American Heart Association has initi-

ated the PAD program (public access to defibrillation). This means “making AEDs available in public and/or private places where large numbers of people gather”. Purchasing AEDs is only the first step. I have been certified to teach CPR/AED and First Aid as well. I am committed to teach any person who is will-

ing to learn these valuable skills. I highly encourage you to visit the American Heart Association website. If you do not have access to a computer, please see me and I will get the information for you.

Ellen Cavanagh

## Free to Good Home

Home Computer System with Tower, Keyboard, Mouse, Monitor & Speakers. All in good working order. If interested call the church office and speak with Kristen.





**Spring Happenings!**

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

Spring Happenings!

**PARENT'S NIGHT OUT**

**APRIL 11TH 5-9 PM**

(In Social Hall at the Church)

Bring a Bag Dinner for each child

We'll be doing Crafts for Mother's Day and Father's Day

Movies Afterward!! (Popcorn included)

Suggested Donation - \$10, or donate as you are able

**SATURDAY APRIL 12th - DISTRICT VBS TRAINING**

**2-5PM at church in Social Hall**

*Hosted by the Children's Ministry...*

Helpers may be needed for Food, Serving, etc.

**Contact: Amy Shepley**

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY MEETING**

**April 13th Immediately following the 11 AM Service**

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# 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	

## Norman Ramsey in Concert at First Church

### Norman Ramsey in Concert at First UMC

Sunday, April 13, 2008 at 6:30 pm

Norman Ramsey is a Christian music recording artist and serves as pastor of White Memorial United Methodist Charge in Shawsville, Virginia. In addition to performing traditional hymns and contemporary Christian music, Norman composes and performs his own music. He recently completed an album of songs based on the fifteen talks describing the Christian life on the Upper Room Walk to Emmaus.

An offering will be received at the concert supporting a mission trip to Brazil that Norman and his daughter Hannah will take in late May.

Norman and Pastor Becky Cloud have served together as Spiritual Directors on the Walk to Emmaus many times, and Norman sang at G. H. and Becky's wedding in 1996.

**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

**PAID**

Permit No. 136

Winchester, VA

## **March of Dimes, March for Babies**

Every year, half a million babies in the U.S. are born prematurely. Premature birth is the leading cause of newborn death and many life long disabilities. The funds we raise in WalkAmerica support research that saves babies' lives.

The mission of March of Dimes is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. This year Dayle Disque is organizing the walk which will be held at Winchester Medical Center 1840 Amherst Drive on Saturday, May 17th at 9:00 a.m. If you would like to participate or make a donation contact Dayle at 869-3186 or [www.marchforbabies.org/personal\\_page.asp?w=41000319&u=Dayle](http://www.marchforbabies.org/personal_page.asp?w=41000319&u=Dayle) Disque. Thank you in advance for helping save babies lives.