



THE TOWER



Monthly Newsletter of
Verona United Methodist Church



January 2017

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Robert J. Weeks
Senior Pastor

Rev. Jeff Allen
Visitation Pastor

Kevin McMullen
*Associate Pastor for
Aisle 7 Fellowship*

Shawna Hiner
Office Administrator

Sheila Fair
Treasurer

Joy Tinsley
Music Director

Ethan Eldred
Worship Leader—A7F

Linda Toler
Organist

Rhonda Reeser
Pianist

Amanda Hall
Director Children's Min.

Bill & Carolyn Harlow
Directors Youth Ministries

Phyllis Mauzy
Nursery Director

Ken & Donna Cason
Custodial Staff

From the Senior Pastor

Comings and goings, hellos and goodbyes, beginnings and endings.... We have so many ways of describing life's inevitable parade of transitions.

I always struggle with messages like this in the last days of December. We're celebrating Christ's birth, of course. But we're also closing up shop on the past year and preparing plans for the next. All the while we're struggling with colder, shorter days (it's the middle of the afternoon as I write—17 degrees and gusty winds).

Sometimes it seems that life is only about comings and goings. This past year we said good-bye to family and church members who left this life. We celebrated births. We made new friends and said good-bye to old ones who moved away.

I once read a letter written in 1844 by a man who was a long-ago neighbor of a farm we owned. The letter, written to a friend who had moved west to the mountains of Virginia, was a lengthy compilation of births, house-fires, and deaths. His last words to his friend were: "Well, such is the way of the world, some coming in and some going out."

If that was all life was about—the comings and goings—then life would be a fairly spare affair. But it really isn't the beginnings and ends that matter most. After all, we have no choice in our births or deaths. Our choices are in what lies between. It's who we become after our births and who we are when we die that matters most.

What will we do with the year before us? Will we put behind us the hurts and disappointments that sometimes hold us back from moving ahead with God's plan for our lives? Will we find time in the midst of hurried schedules to help a neighbor, speak with a child, or kneel in prayer?

The Scriptures tell us in Ecclesiastes 3 that there is a time for every purpose under heaven. What purpose does God have for us in 2017?

For three centuries Methodists have joined in the following covenant prayer at the beginning of a new year. May it be our constant prayer in 2017:

*I am no longer my own, but yours.
Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you,
Praised for you or criticized for you.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service.
And now, O wonderful and holy God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
You are mine, and I am yours. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
Let it also be made in heaven. Amen.*

Have a very happy and blessed new year!

Our Mission

WE **GLORIFY CHRIST** AS WE:
REACH PEOPLE AS THEY ARE
RELATE THEM TO GOD
EQUIP THEM TO SERVE WITH
 US, AND
GO FORTH TO MAKE A HOLY
 DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD

**Newsletter
 Deadline is
 January 23**

Please submit items to
 Shawna Hiner by date
 above for the **February**
 Newsletter. By phone,
 248-7777 or email,
 shiner@veronaumc.com

If you would a copy of
Church Council Minutes
 please contact Shawna in
 the church office:
 248-7777 or
 shiner@veronaumc.com
*All meetings except
 Staff Parish Relations
 Committee (SPRC) are
 open to the congregation.*

**Miss A Sunday?**

Pastor Bob's
 sermons are online.
 Go to
 www.veronaumc.net
 and check it out!

You can also receive
 weekly announce-
 ments by email.
 Call 248-7777

News...**NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE**

Since New Year's Day is on a Sunday, we'll have ONE
 worship service at 10 a.m. with no Sunday School.

January 2017 Meetings

(a list of committees and members is on page 6)

- ◆ Thursday, January 5, 7 p.m., Room 146—Trustees
- ◆ Sunday, January 8, 12:30 p.m., BRMH—Children's Council
- ◆ Monday, January 9, 7 p.m., Room 146—SPRC
- ◆ Tuesday, January 10, 7 p.m., Room 146—Finance
- ◆ Tuesday, January 17, 7 p.m., Room 146—Church Council
- ◆ Thursday, January 26, 6:30 p.m., BRMH—Joint Work Areas (Nurture, Outreach, Witness, Age-Level)

New Pastor's Bible Study Begins January 8th

Understanding and Applying the Bible

Start your new year with a study that will help you understand and apply the Bible to your daily life. For 8 weeks we'll examine how the various sections of the Bible—whether books of history, poetry, prophecy or other—contribute to one unified message of faith, hope, and salvation. Sunday evenings at 6 p.m. in Room 145. Use the tear-off sign-up sheets in the bulletin or contact the church office at 248-7777.

Children's Council Meeting Sunday, January 8 @ 12:30pm

If you are interested in working with our wonderful children in any capacity in 2017, please attend this meeting to be held in the VUMC fellowship hall.

We will discuss all the year's children's events including Sunday School and VBS. Even if you would like to do "behind the scenes" work instead of working directly with children, please attend. Lunch will be provided.

Attention Council Members— Mark Your Calendars

Our first meeting of 2017 will be held in Room 146 on Tues., January 17 at 7 p.m. All new church council members (and those continuing from 2016) are encouraged to attend. An agenda will be sent out in early January. Charge Conference reports, including budgets and leadership positions for 2017, are available in the church office.

2017 Offering Envelopes are ready for pick up in the social hall (in alphabetical order). If you do not have a box and need one, please call Shawna in the office (248-7777).



The Nurture Work Area

Between Services Coffee Time

The following groups/teams/classes are scheduled to host Coffee and Fellowship time on Sundays in January.

Information and instructions are posted on back of first cabinet door in the kitchen. If there are questions/concerns please contact the Church Office.



- ◆ January 1 (News Year's Day—One Service, 10am) **Seekers**
- ◆ January 8 **Youth**
- ◆ January 15 **Rebecca Circle**
- ◆ January 22 **Open Door Class**
- ◆ January 29 **Worship Team**

Coffee Time: We are looking for additional new groups/teams/classes/families/couples to add to the Coffee Time list – If you are willing to do this about 4 times a year (**or even once a year**) please contact the Church Office at 248-7777.

Wanted: Sunday School Teachers

We Need Adults to work with our Sunday School at all age levels – Please contact Children's Director Amanda Hall.

Altar Flower Donations There is a calendar in the narthex for anyone wishing to sign up to donate flowers on any Sunday. Donate in honor or memory of a loved one and help beautify the sanctuary. Call church office for further information.



Food Pantry Donations

Assist local families in need of food!

On the First Sunday of each month we have a special collection for items for our church food pantry. Collection boxes are located at both entrances to the sanctuary. You can leave items at any time during the month.

Salt & Peppers News Corner

For anyone with a little "salt and pepper" in their hair!

Breakfast at Stella, Bella & Lucy's - Waynesboro January 12th at 9:00 am

Plan to join us for a delicious breakfast at Stella, Bella & Lucy's on West Main Street in downtown Waynesboro on January 12th at 9:00am . Breakfast will cost approximately \$12.00, tip and taxes included. Please let us know if you would like to ride on the church van. We will leave the church at 8:30 am. **RSVP by Monday, January 9th.**

Brunch and Bible Trivia, VUMC Social Hall Saturday, February 11th 10:00 am

You are invited to brunch and a friendly round of bible trivia on Saturday, February 11th in the VUMC social hall. **RSVP by Sunday, February 5th. The Menu:** Sausage, egg, and cheese casserole **or** Ham, egg, and cheese casserole, Fresh fruit, Biscuits with all the fixings, assorted Danish, Coffee, juice or water.

The Million Dollar Quartet, Riverside Dinner Theater Fredericksburg, VA - Friday, March 3rd

This 2010 Tony and Drama Desk Award-winning musical dramatizes the now-famous 1956 impromptu recording session at Sun Record Studio in Memphis during which early rock and roll stars Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins, and Jerry Lee Lewis met and jammed just for fun. On December 4, Carl Perkins was scheduled to record some songs with a new performer, Jerry Lee Lewis. Unexpectedly, Elvis Presley happens to stop by the studio along with his girlfriend, a singer named Dyanne. Remarkably, Johnny Cash also stops by to meet with recording impresario Sam Philips. The four musicians soon begin talking and singing together. On the outside chance that something great (and lucrative) might come out of the session, Philips flips the switch on the studio recorder and the rest is rock and roll history. Hit songs include Blue Suede Shoes, Folsom Prison Blues, Great Balls of Fire, Hound Dog, See You Later Alligator, and many others.

We have reserved 32 seats for the matinee on Friday, March 3rd. We will leave the church at 9:00 am and return by 7:00 pm. The cost is \$68/person which includes a delicious and extensive lunch (taxes and gratuities included), the performance, the van rental, and fuel. **A 50% deposit of \$34.00 is required by Jan. 15 and balance due by Feb. 12.**

Army Field Band, Wayne Theater Waynesboro, VA - Monday, March 20 at 7:00 pm

Enjoy an evening with the Army Field Band on Monday, March 20th at 7:00 pm. The performance is "pay as you will". We will leave the church at 6:00 pm as we need to be seated no later than 6:45. You may also meet us there. Please **RSVP by Jan, 9th** if you **think** you would like to attend. We can easily adjust our numbers without penalty for reserved seats. We want to ensure that we can get seats for anyone who might be interested.

Please give ALL payments to the committee members or Shawna Hiner. DO NOT put the payments in the offering plate.

For more information on upcoming events, contact:

Carolyn Anson -294-2061, Faye Wills -234-9410, Sandy McAllister - 255-6488, Gayle Meeks -248-1325, or Laura Gurkin - 887-2889

A Stewardship Prayer for the New Year

Loving and merciful God, You are the God of new beginnings. You sent us Your Son so that we may begin anew and enjoy new life in Your Spirit. We ask you to bless this new year, to guide and direct our plans, and to show us how to find the resources necessary to carry out these plans. Give us the wisdom to take advantage of opportunities we may have to help and serve others, to bring peace to the hearts of those who are troubled, and hope to those who suffer. Help us approach this new year as good stewards of your abundant gifts, with an awareness of your daily presence, and the obedient spirit we need to be your faithful servants. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.



Online Giving Available

It's easy, safe and secure. Go to the church website (veronaumc.com) and click on the online giving banner OR drop by the church office during the week and Shawna can assist you in setting up your online giving.

Join a Prayer Group

Prayer is the foundation of everything we do as a church. In the Bible we are called on to pray without ceasing—come join your voice!

Pastor's Prayer Group

Mondays at 9 a.m., Verona Community Center

Prayer Life Group

Mondays at 7 p.m., Verona Community Center

Wednesday Evening Prayer Group

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., Next to Library

Friday Morning Prayer Group

Fridays at 10 a.m. at VUMC

Numbers that Matter thru 12/18

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Sunday School (VUMC) Avg. Attendance | 88 |
| Worship Avg. 2016—VUMC/A7F | 209/52 |

GENERAL FUND OFFERINGS (VUMC only)*

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| General Fund Weekly Need | 8737 |
| General Fund Weekly Avg. 2016 | 7402 |
| Gen. Fund Giving 1st 3 Weeks December | 25,828 |

*Does not include designated gifts including the Community Center, Aisle 7 Fellowship, Food Pantry, Building and Memorial Funds, Youth Missions, etc.

What gifts will we bring?

Will you join others in offering your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service to help our church fulfill its mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world in 2017?

After celebrating God's gift of His Son during the Christmas season, are you praying about how to share that gift in 2017? Our church has a heart for missions and sharing the Good News of Jesus, a resolution to being present each Sunday, to praying daily, to an increased tithe, to active participation in the church's ministries, will make an eternal difference in our world!



Hours for Community Center

Cafe open from 8:30-5:30, Mon.-Friday. Groups may reserve rooms from 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Volunteer at the Community Center

Can you give a few hours to the Verona Community Center each week? We are scheduling volunteers to serve as hosts on three-hour shifts, M-F 8:30-5:30 / Saturday 8:30-12
Email Lydia Weeks at lydspot@yahoo.com
for information or to volunteer



Youth Group is for 6th - 12th grades. BRING A FRIEND!

Our Youth Coordinators are Bill & Carolyn Harlow. Reach them at 578-5575 with any questions.

JANUARY YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

January Youth News

Sunday, January 8, 5:30-7pm - Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH

Sunday, January 15, 5:30-7pm - Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH

Thursday, January 19, 6:30-7:45pm - Youth serving Ruritans, BRMH

Sunday, January 22 - Youth Outing

Sunday, January 29, 5:00pm - Youth Mission Team Meeting, BRMH

Sunday, January 29, 5:30-7pm - Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH

Coming In February

Sunday, February 5 - Souper Bowl Luncheon- proceeds will benefit the youth group's summer mission trip

Children's News

Children's Activity for ages 4yrs-5th Grade

Eli's Fun Center

January 22 from 5 to 7pm

Pizza dinner provided

Children's Council Meeting on Sunday, January 8 at 12:30 pm in the BRMH
(more information on page 2 of this newsletter)

Thank you to Joy Tinsley, Lisa Glover, Bob and Lydia Weeks, Patty Wagoner, and all of the parent volunteers who helped make the children's Christmas program spectacular. Thank you to all of the parents who brought their children to many weeks of rehearsals and preparations. And lastly, a huge THANK YOU to all of the children for their hard work and dedication. This has been a wonderful year working with the children, and this was such a great way to finish 2016 by sharing God's love!

For More Information email Amanda at amandavumc@gmail.com

Please keep our VUMC leaders in your prayers...

Verona UMC Leadership Roster for 2017

Names in bold are new to their position Numbers in () indicate initial year of service

Church Council **Doug May** Chairperson (17), Bob Weeks Pastor, Chad Brown Lay Leader (14) , _____ **Chair of Trustees (Elected by Trustees)**, Sandy Rankin Chair of Finance (16), **Joy Utberg** **President of UMW (17)**, Doug May President of UMM, Ruth Wright Membership Secretary (14), _____, Chair of Nurture Ministries, **Benny Craun** **Chair Outreach Ministries (17)**, Corkie Collie Chair of Witness (14), Doug MacTavish, Lay Member of Annual Conf. (15), _____, Chair of SPRC, Sheila Fair, Church Treasurer, **Tessa Hickman**, **Youth Representative**, Janice Bussard, President of Daycare Board (15), Donna May, Recording Secretary of Council (14), _____ **Chair of Age-Level Ministries**, Judith Cariker, At-Large (15) , Jean Bean, At-Large (16), Amanda Forbes, At-Large (16), Nancy Coiner, At-Large (16), Don Swanson, At-Large (16)

Trustees **Dennis Garber (19)**, **Charles Cook (19)**, **Steve Sutton (19)**, Wayne Smith (18), Bernard Bean (18), K C Morlino (18), Donna Cason (17), Bee Myers (17), Danny Link (17),

Staff-Parish Relations **Chairperson to be elected, Steve Sutton (19)**, **Barbara Alexander (19)**, **Amanda Forbes (19)**, Kim Chandler (18), Helen Sullivan (18), Janet McAllister (18), Pat Forester (17), Anzie Linger (17), Lay Leaders, Lay Member Annual Conference

Finance Sandy Rankin, Chairperson, District Steward (16), Chuck Wright, Assistant Chair, Sheila Fair, Treasurer, Lisa Shifflett, Financial Secretary, Chad Brown, Lay Leader, Doug MacTavish, Lay Member of Annual Conf, **Doug May**, **Chairperson of Council**, _____ **Chair of Trustees (Elected by Trustees)**, _____, Chair of SPRC, Larry Wagoner, At-Large Member, Benny Craun, At-Large Member, Counters: Carolyn Harlow, Sandy Rankin, Alisa Brooks, Missy Stacy, Donna May, **Patti Propst**

Lay Leadership Rev. Bob Weeks, Chair, **Sue MacTavish (19)**, **Steve Reeser (19)**, **Scott VanLear (19)**, Fred Lackey (18), Irene Sutton (18), Tammy Shifflett (18), Joyce Brubeck (17), **Mike Utberg (17)**, Doris Wright (17), Lay Leaders

Nurture **Chairperson to be elected**, Dick Watson, Spiritual Formation & Growth (13), Susan Allen, Christian Education Coordinator (15), Chuck Wright, Sunday Sch. Superintendent (16), Scott VanLear, Asst. Sun. Sch. Superintendent (16), Gayle Meeks, Worship Chair (14), Amanda Hall, Children's Ministries Director (Staff Position), Lydia Weeks, Wedding Coordinator, Joy Tinsley, Choir Director (Staff Position) Ruth Wright, Membership Secretary (14)

Witness Corkie Collie, Chairperson (14), Becky Reeser (14), Carla Harris (14), **Larry Propst (17)**, Shawna Hiner, Overlook Retreat & Camp Ministries & Advocate Keyperson (13)

Outreach **Benny Craun**, **Chairpersons (17)**, Doug May, Missions Coordinator (15), Helen Sullivan, Health & Welfare Coord. (11), Curtis & Shirley Carter, Becky Woolfrey, Connexions Card Ministry, Barbara Shuler, Newborn Ministry, Pat Forester (13), Danny Link (16), Food Pantry Coord.

Age-Level Ministries **Chairperson to be elected**, Amanda Hall, Director of Children's Ministries (staff position), Carolyn & Bill Harlow, Youth Directors (staff position), Phyllis Mauzy, Nursery Director (staff position), Lillie Cash, Bereavement Meals (09), Doris Wright, Asst. Adult/Family Min. (09), Lu Weeks, Asst. Adult/Family Min. (09), Mel Holst, Asst. Adult/Family Min. (10), Barbara Shuler, Asst. Adult/Family Min., Faye Wills, Carolyn Anson, Sandy McAllister, Laura Gurkin, Salt & Peppers Ministries, Jean Bean, Apple Dumplings (14), Carolyn & Bill Harlow, Sr. UMY Leaders (staff position), **Joy Utberg**, **UMW President**, Doug May, UMM Pres (11)

Delegates to VA Annual Conference Doug MacTavish, Lay Member of AC (15), Gayle Meeks, Alt. Lay Member of AC (15)

Child Protection Committee Teresa Blum, Chairperson (11), Bob Weeks, Pastor, Amanda Hall, Children's Coordinator, Carolyn Harlow, Youth Director, Dana McCray, Daycare Director, _____, SPRC Chairperson

Daycare Committee 2017 Janice Bussard, President (14), Kristen Landes, Parent Rep, Davian Gale, Parent Rep, Larry Wagoner, Finance Rep, Teresa Blum, Betty Sutton, Steve Sutton, Gayle Meeks, Sheila Fair, Treasurer, Janet Myers, Staff-Parish Relations Committee Rep.

Greetings from Aisle 7!

We have been so blessed by God in the year 2016 and we look forward to His continued work in our church plant mission work. And we are very excited on how 2017 will be starting. Here's a small glimpse:

Aisle 7 has a new teen ladies' small group that will be meeting regularly in January at Verona Dairy Queen. The group will be reading and discussing the book "Lies Young Women Believe: and the Truth that Sets Them Free". In this book, the authors expose a number of the lies most commonly believed by our teen generation. The book is filled with real-life accounts from some of the young women that were interviewed for the book, along with honest stories about how the authors overcame lies they themselves believed when growing up. Please pray this study emboldens our young ladies and lets them see the beauty that God created within them.

Our last Community Meal was enjoyed by the members of Aisle 7 and folks from the community as well, so we've decided to continue with hosting regular Community Meals after the service. We believe demonstrating that we care for the physical needs of Verona is a wonderful way to show our community that we love them! "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 23:35-36

Also, every other month, Aisle 7 has been hosting a Ladies Event where ladies of all ages come together in fellowship and participate in a fun craft project. We have a small devotion before the fun begins and we've been focused on 1) what does it mean to be created in God's image, and 2) what does it mean to be "fearfully & wonderfully made". We are excited to have our next event in February where we explore what true love looks like!

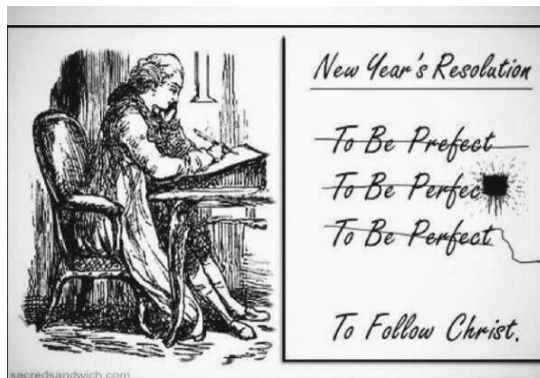
In God's awesome grace, Pastor Kevin

Helping Hands Ministry

There are a number of small building and repair projects in our community (in neighbors' homes and around our church building) that can be taken care of in a short amount of time with one or two people doing the work. A list of these projects is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex between the Sanctuary and Social Hall. Please review the list weekly to see if there is a project you are capable of doing. If the project will take a few more people, gather up a group and take care of it.

Questions? **Call Doug May at 241-5605.**

10 Questions for Christians in a New Year



Once, when the people of God had become careless in their relationship with Him, the Lord rebuked them through the prophet Haggai. "Consider your ways!" (Haggai 1:5) he declared, urging them to reflect on some of the things happening to them, and to evaluate their slipshod spirituality in light of what God had told them.

Even those most faithful to God occasionally need to pause and think about the direction of their lives. It's so easy to bump along from one busy week to another without ever stopping to ponder where we're going and where we should be going.

The beginning of a new year is an ideal time to stop, look up, and get our bearings. To that end, here are some questions to ask prayerfully in the presence of God.

1. *What's one thing you could do this year to increase your enjoyment of God?*
2. *What's the most humanly impossible thing you will ask God to do this year?*
3. *What's the single most important thing you could do to improve the quality of your family life this year?*
4. *In which spiritual discipline do you most want to make progress this year, and what will you do about it?*
5. *What is the single biggest time-waster in your life, and what will you do about it this year?*
6. *What is the most helpful new way you could strengthen your church?*
7. *For whose salvation will you pray most fervently this year?*
8. *What's the most important way you will, by God's grace, try to make this year different from last year?*
9. *What one thing could you do to improve your prayer life this year?*
10. *What single thing that you plan to do this year will matter most in 10 years? In eternity?*



VERONA UMW



Remember your Prayer Partner

FROM JOY UTBERG, UMW PRESIDENT:

I'm excited to be the new UMW President for 2017. We are planning several hands-on mission projects to support the UMW focus on women & children. Stay tuned for details coming in future newsletters.

Please mark your calendars for some upcoming events listed below, especially the first Unit meeting on February 26 for the annual Call to Prayer service.

- ◆ Jan. 28 – VUMW Executive Meeting Room-146
- ◆ Feb. 2 – UM Day at General Assembly – Richmond
- ◆ Feb. 26 – VUMW Unit meeting – Call to Prayer & Self Denial
- ◆ Mar. 18– District Spiritual Life Retreat –9:00 am – 1:00 pm @ Vision of Hope UMC (snow date March 25).
- ◆ Mar. 25 - VUMW Executive Meeting-Room 146

If you have any questions about the UMW, or are thinking of joining, please feel free to contact me at 943-6846, or reach out to one of the other officers:

Gayle Meeks – VP

Linda Garber - Secretary

Millie Davis – Treasurer

Grace Dick – Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Lydia Weeks – Reading Program Joy Tinsley – Nominating

VUMC UMW CIRCLE MEETINGS

Esther Circle—meets 3rd Monday, 7 pm in homes – Pat Foster, Chair

Rebecca Circle—meets 2nd Sat., 10 am at Gayle Meeks, Chair

**Not a
Member
of the
United
Methodist
Women?**

Talk with me and let
me tell you about how
Great it is to be a United
Methodist Woman
Joy Utberg,
Verona UMW Pres.

BackPacks for Braves

Happy New Year! We start off 2017 feeding 27 children at Verona Elementary. Please leave donated food items in the red tub located in the front hall, marked Backpacks for Braves. We need small cans of wieners & beans (wiener beanies), fruit cups, apple sauce cups, small bags of chips, granola bars, pudding cups.

If you would like to help shop , pack bags, and or deliver these weekend food Backpacks – please contact me at 248-3607.

Thank you, Sue MacTavish



Compiled by the
United Methodist Women
Verona United Methodist Church

Get Your Copy Today

"Angel Baby Stories: Powerful Stories of Faith"

Now on Sale by our UM Women
for only \$10 a copy

You will want a copy of this outstanding book for yourself and more copies to give all your friends. True Stories of Faith written by members (or friends of members) of our Verona UMC Congregation. Get your copy Now!

When one woman told her story at the United Methodist Women (UMW) meeting, a fire was ignited. That one story prompted others to tell their stories and the idea for *Angel Baby Stories* was born. The UMW of Verona United Methodist Church pulled these powerful stories of faith together to share with others.

The stories are certainly not all about babies, and they are certainly not all about babies who died. But, they are stories about someone's baby whose life event somehow caused the author to realize that God had touched them and strengthened their personal faith in God.



VUMC Chancel Choir News

We encourage prospective members to come and experience the fun and inspiration of a VUMC choir practice—there are no tryouts, all are welcome. The 11:00 choir practices from 6:30 to 7:30pm. The 8:30 choir practices from 7:15 to 8:15pm (there is a fifteen minute "overlap" when the choirs practice together).

Inclement Weather Rule:

If Augusta County Schools close early or cancel school, **NO CHOIR REHEARSAL!**

* *The 11 a.m. Choir will begin wearing robes on Sun. Nov. 6th and wear them through Easter.*

online
GIVING
easy. fast. effective

Online Giving Helps Everyone

- Online giving means your offering is received by the church no matter what the weather or if you are out of town
- With online giving, you can enter a contribution schedule for the whole year (or beyond) and never have to worry about whether or not you've missed a Sunday
- Online giving reduces our church volunteers' work in recording cash and checks
- Online giving makes more sense for younger adults who seldom handle cash or write checks
- Online giving makes church planning easier as giving becomes more regular and predictable
- Online giving reduces your personal time in giving—stop ordering checks, worrying about the check you forgot to write, and searching for your checkbook on Sunday mornings
- Online giving gives you the opportunity to use credit or debit cards and e-checks
- Online giving allows you to make a donation while it's on your mind, day or night
- Donations can be made from your phone, your computer, your tablet—anywhere you have an internet connection
- Online giving allows you to make general or special donations

Contact Shawna in church office (248-7777) for help. To set up your account visit:
<http://veronaumc.net/online-giving/>

Note that there is a 3% fee paid by our church for use of a credit or debit card. You have the option to add that fee to your donation. If you use an e-check, the fee is 50 cents per transaction.



Don McFaden
 Glen Sutton
 Roger Moats
 Louise Roadcap
 Frances Johnson
 Ray Smith
 Charles Cook
 Larry Staples
 Harle Jackson
 Joy Tinsley
 Bill Welliver
 Kitty Wine
 Bobby Breeden
 Fred Foster
 Jeff Spiggle
 Elijah Smith

Thelma Smith
 Dot Hess
 Patsy Dastoli
 Willie Lockridge
 Donald Smith
 Ronald Smith
 Margaret Helmick
 Jean May
 Inez Fultz
 Howard Rexrode



Notes of Sincere Appreciation

Our Christian Love and Sympathy are extended to Alisa Brooks in the loss of her mother, Harriet Koch.

Congratulations to Brandon and Adrienne Aljets in the birth of their son, Grayson Caldwell born December 2, 2016. Proud grandparents are Randy and Gail Smith.

Our Christian Love and Sympathy are extended to Danny Link in the recent loss of his aunt, Reba Ohelm.

Our Christian Love and Sympathy are extended to Kim Cash and Family in the loss of her mother, Betty Jo "B.J." Rohr.

Dear. Rev. Weeks, thank you once again for allowing us the privilege of presenting the ministry of The Gideons International in your church. I am pleased to report the offering received from your worship service was \$425.49. This generous gift will purchase approximately 340 New Testaments for distribution through The Gideons International. Our prayer is that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ will ultimately be glorified through the salvation of souls. Please know of our prayers for you, your ministry and the congregation. *Gideons International*

Thank you to all the donors and volunteers for braving the cold weather on December 15. 44 units were collected, the best we've had. Thank you again, *Helen Sullivan*

During this season, I want to take the opportunity to express appreciation to your church family for support of the Backpack for Braves program. To provide this service to our needy students is such tremendous kindness and generosity, not only to the children, but for the community in general. Thank you so much for making this possible. May you all have a safe and blessed season. *Jane Curtis, Verona Elementary*

I would like to thank my church family for the love and support shown to me during Hunter's rehab and passing. The prayers, cards, food and visits were appreciated. A special thanks to Rev. Kevin for his services. *Herthel Chestnut*

I thank the combined choirs, children, Linda Toler and Rhonda Reeser for a GREAT Advent and Christmas season! The music was exceptional.

A special thanks to Shawna Hiner for her continued support and encouragement. I am so appreciative of my Christmas gifts! It is an honor to be part of such a giving congregation. I wish for all of you a bright, blessed & Happy New Year! *Joy Tinsley, Director of Music Ministries*

Thank you for your support and encouragement this past year. Thank you for all my gifts during the year and especially at Christmas. You are all so generous and it is an honor to be your Office Administrator and sister in Christ. May God's blessings be with each of you this new year! *Shawna Hiner*



Verona UMC Calendar of Events - January 2017

| | | | |
|------|--|------|--|
| 1/1 | 10:00am ONE WORSHIP SERVICE, Sanctuary 8:00pm AA, RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 | 1/18 | 6:00pm TOPS, RM 143AB 6:00pm Evening Prayer Meeting, Golden Deeds 6:30pm 11:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary 7:15pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary 8:00pm AA, RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 |
| 1/2 | OFFICE CLOSED | 1/19 | 7:00pm Verona Ruritans-BRMH (Youth serving) |
| 1/3 | 10:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Women's Bible Study, Community Center | 1/20 | 9:00am Pinewood Derby, BRMH until 5pm |
| 1/4 | 6:00pm TOPS, RM 143AB 6:00pm Evening Prayer Meeting, Golden Deeds 6:30pm 11:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary 7:15pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary 8:00pm AA, RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 | 1/22 | TBA Youth Outing 5-7pm Children's Activity-Eli's Fun Center, Verona 6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study, RM 145 8:00pm AA, RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 |
| 1/5 | 7:00pm Trustees, RM 146 | 1/23 | 9:00am Pastor's Prayer Meeting, Community Center 6:30pm Scouts, RM 141,142 7:00pm Prayer Life Group-Community Center |
| 1/8 | 12:30pm Children's Council Meeting, BRMH 4:00pm NA, RM 146 5:30pm Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH 6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study, RM 145 8:00pm AA, RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 | 1/24 | 10:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Women's Bible Study, Community Center |
| 1/9 | 9:00am Pastor's Prayer Meeting, Community Center 6:30pm Scouts, RM 141,142 7:00pm SPRC, RM 146 7:00pm Prayer Life Group-Community Center | 1/25 | 6:00pm TOPS, RM 143AB 6:00pm Evening Prayer Meeting, Golden Deeds 6:30pm 11:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary 7:15pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary 8:00pm AA, RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 |
| 1/10 | 10:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Finance Meeting, RM 146 7:00pm Women's Bible Study, Community Center | 1/26 | 6:30pm Joint Work Areas (Nurture, Outreach, Witness, Age-Level) Committees Meeting |
| 1/11 | 6:00pm TOPS, RM 143AB 6:00pm Evening Prayer Meeting, Golden Deeds 6:30pm 11:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary 7:15pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary 8:00pm AA, RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 | 1/29 | 5:00pm Youth Mission Team Meeting, BRMH 5:30pm Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH 6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study, RM 145 8:00pm AA, RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 |
| 1/14 | 10:00am Rebecca Circle, RM 146 | 1/30 | 9:00am Pastor's Prayer Meeting, Community Center 6:30pm Scouts, RM 141,142 |
| 1/15 | 5:30pm Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH 6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study, RM 145 8:00pm AA, RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 | 1/31 | 7:00pm Prayer Life Group-Community Center 10:00am Staff Meeting |
| 1/16 | 9:00am Pastor's Prayer Meeting, Community Center 6:30pm Scouts, RM 141,142 7:00pm Esther Circle 7:00pm Prayer Life Group-Community Center | | |
| 1/17 | 10:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Church Council, RM 146 7:00pm Women's Bible Study, Community Center | | |

**Worship Services held each Sunday
at 8:30 and 11 a.m.**

with Sunday School at 10 a.m.

**Our second campus, Aisle 7 Fellowship,
meets at the Verona Community Center at 10:45 a.m.**



| | | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|------|-----------------------|------|-------------------|------|----------------|
| 1/1 | Derek Jackson | 1/9 | Wendy Sailer | 1/19 | Kitty Wine | 1/26 | Doug Shifflett |
| 1/2 | William Bussard | 1/10 | Rachel Lambert | 1/20 | Dennis Garber | | Stacy Dunsmore |
| | Susan Allen | 1/12 | Paige Sailer | | Ruth Reeves | | Cole Sailer |
| 1/3 | Cassie Alger | 1/13 | Marie Cason | 1/21 | Galen Halpin | 1/28 | Gene Van Pelt |
| 1/5 | Harry Lockridge | 1/14 | Zack Gurkin | | Jordan Blosser | 1/29 | Millie Davis |
| | Grace Lambert | 1/15 | Katelyn Neighbors | | Max Jones | 1/30 | Amy Wiseman |
| | Clay Lambert | 1/16 | Teresa Bishop | 1/22 | George Mozingo | | Dave Alexander |
| 1/6 | Sue MacTavish | | Derek Shifflett | 1/23 | Robbie Wiseman | | Don Alexander |
| | Bob Evers | | Tammy Drega | 1/24 | Mary Jane Staples | | Amy Moore |
| | Becky Swanson Gilkerson | 1/17 | Tanya May Fitzpatrick | | Janice Bussard | | Pam Arbogast |
| 1/8 | Larry Mauzy | | Peggy Dunsmore | | Ken Cason, Jr. | 1/31 | Linda Custer |
| | Mariah McAllister | | Marci Lackey | | Dwayne Tooley | | |
| | | | Debbie Link | | Andrew Wiseman | | |
| | | | Matthew Mozingo | | Natalia Munoz | | |
| | | | Boyd Glover | 1/25 | Jenny Spiggle | | |
| | | | Joe Ruoto | | | | |





Verona United Methodist Church
 P.O. Box 47 - 406 Lee Highway
 Verona, VA 24482-0047

Non-profit Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Staunton, Virginia
 Permit No. 444

Return Service Requested

Staying in touch:

Church Phone #'s : 540/248-7777 Fax 540/248-2243
Church Website: www.veronaumc.net

Senior Pastor: Rev. Bob Weeks
 Pastor's Study: 540/248-7778
 Email: bobweeks@veronaumc.com

Sunday Schedule:
 Worship 8:30 a.m.
 Fellowship Time 9:30-10 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
 A7F Worship 10:45 a.m.
 Worship 11:00 a.m.

Winter Clothes Word Search

c e b l t n s i f a b t
 m s o d f e v c p r e d
 r s o d u t w m a k h h
 o e t x s t d a c r y t
 t c t j l i s a w b f l
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 k p z z q t g g l o v e
 i f k r y w e n n f d t

boot
 cap
 coat
 earmuffs
 glove
 hat
 hood
 jacket
 mitten
 scarf
 sweater

