



THE TOWER



Monthly Newsletter of
Verona United Methodist Church



March 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

We've been talking about grace, faith, and works on Sunday mornings recently. How everything related to our salvation—including our faith and the works that flow out of that faith—are a fruit of God's grace.

I've spent this week thinking about how the sin within our hearts fights tooth and nail against our faith by sewing seeds of doubt and fear.

I'll admit I am no different from anyone else who has ever struggled with the weeds of doubt in my heart. I've doubted my own abilities. I've doubted my place in this world. I've doubted God. Wrapped up with these doubts are fears of failing God and family; of failing my friends and myself.

That's a tough place to be in life. In the sphere of doubt and fear. Overwhelmed by thoughts of trying and failing. Doubting that God can do what he promises. Doubting if God is even there—and fearing the consequences if our doubts become reality.

These seeds of doubt and fear are so insidious, so debilitating to the human spirit, that the Bible spends a good deal of space combating doubt and encouraging faith. Jesus speaks of little else. Feeding multitudes, walking on water, following him daily. All require faith that overcomes doubt and fear.

Doubt and fear are powerful weapons in the hands of the forces of darkness. Our fear of what is foreign and different is often used to gain our votes in elections. Our fear of not fitting in can result in behaviors contrary to God's will. Our fear of dealing with our problems can push us to escaping them through substance abuse. Our fear of failure can drive us to win at any cost.

This is why the Gospel of faith matters now more than ever. In a world careening toward chaos and cataclysm, faith in Jesus Christ reorients our minds, drives out our fears, diminishes our doubts, and reminds us that "faith is the victory that overcomes the world (1 John 5:4)."

We are just now entering the season of Lent, a time of reflection, repentance, and reaffirmation. It is a season that culminates in the crucifixion and burial of Jesus Christ. If the story ended there, then our hopes would have remained buried with Jesus. Doubt and fear would have triumphed.

But the story didn't end in the grave. It goes on in the life-giving, soul-lifting, faith-affirming, hope-sustaining reality of Easter: that Jesus Christ is alive and reigns forever.

Are you addicted to doubt? Are fears your constant companion, holding you back from the life God created you for? Then hear God's Word: "*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths (Proverbs 3:5-6).*"

In Christ's service

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
March 20**

Please submit items to
Shawna Hiner by date
above for the **April**
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...

Ash Wednesday Worship Service

Wednesday, March 1 at 7

A special offering will be received for the Verona Community Center



Lenten Prayer Evening, Friday, March 10, 7 pm

"And it came to pass, that, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, one of His disciples said unto Him, Lord teach us to pray as John also taught His disciples." Luke 11:1

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for Easter. It is also a time for self-examination and focusing on our relationship with our Lord.

On March 10, Susan Allen will be leading us for the Lenten Prayer Evening. It will be a joint meeting with Aisle 7 at 7:00pm in the Community Center. All are invited to set aside a couple of hours to seek God, encourage and strengthen our brothers and sisters in Christ. It will be a time of worship, teaching, praying and fellowship.

We all have our prayer time, but we need to model the Church of Acts. They did three things as a church: 1) studied the word, 2) prayed, 3) celebrated communion.

Please join together and strengthen each other and strengthen our church. If you have questions, contact Pastors' Bob, Jeff and Kevin or Susan Allen and Dick Watson. Please pray for this evening apart and make it a priority during Lent.

In Christ's Service, Dick Watson, Nurture Team-Spiritual Formation & Growth

Adult Mission Trip ~ Volunteers Needed

The Adult Mission team will be traveling to White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia on Sunday April 23 and returning Friday evening April 28th. We will be based out of the Emanuel United Methodist Church in White Sulphur Springs. We will be working to repair homes and/or other structures damaged in the floods of 2016. We will sleep and eat at the Church. Experience is not necessary. If you would like to be a part of this mission experience, please contact Larry Wills- 540-457-1222-ljenew@aol.com or the church office. The drive time to this location is less than 2 hours. If you would like to come for just part of the week, we will make the onsite arrangements to accommodate you.

JUST WALK ACROSS THE ROOM

March 19 & 26 / 6-8 PM / Rm 146

A Two-Session Bible Study on How to Share Your Faith in Jesus

In this two-session study, we'll listen as Pastor Bill Hybels of Willow Creek Church shares his firm conviction that the highest value in personal evangelism is being attuned to and co-operative with the promptings of the Holy Spirit. This means playing only the role you are intended to play—walking when the Spirit says to walk, talking when the Spirit says to talk, and falling silent when the Spirit suggests that you've already said enough.

More than two thousand years ago, Jesus himself introduced the perfect model for evangelism. He left the marvelous adoration of the angels and the perfection of heaven, and he chose to "walk" clear across the cosmos. With fresh perspectives from his own reflections and experiences collected during his most recent decade of ministry, Hybels shows with undeniable clarity the power of this approach to evangelism.

The stakes are high. The implications eternal. And you may be only a conversation away from having unparalleled impact on someone's life—if you will just walk across the room.



The Nurture Work Area

Between Services Coffee Time

The following groups/teams/classes are scheduled to host Coffee and Fellowship time on Sundays in March and April. Information and instructions posted on back of first cabinet door in the kitchen. Questions/concerns? Please contact the Church Office.



- ◆ March 5 Open Door
- ◆ March 12 Rebecca Circle
- ◆ March 19 Worship Team
- ◆ March 26 Home Builders
- ◆ April 2 Witness
- ◆ April 9 Petal Pushers
- ◆ April 16 (Easter) Esther Circle
- ◆ April 23 Seekers
- ◆ April 30 Youth

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
Adults needed to work with Sunday School at all age levels – Contact Children’s Director Amanda Hall.

Altar Flower Donations 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 at 248-7777 for further information.



Food Pantry Donations

URGENT: Assist local families in need!

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.

WE CAN ESPECIALLY USE:

Toothpaste / toothbrushes / toilet paper / deodorant / shampoo. (The regional Food Bank doesn't have these items so they must be purchased by our church food pantry).

Salt & Peppers News Corner

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

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

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

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:

Faye Wills –234-9410, Sandy McAllister -255-6488,
Gayle Meeks –248-1325, or Laura Gurkin - 887-2889

Need for Weekend Volunteers at Verona Community Center

Can't volunteer on weekdays?

Are you sometimes free for 2 or 3 hours on a Saturday morning or afternoon (or an occasional Sunday afternoon)?

We have more and more groups using the center on weekends and we have a great need for volunteers to be present during their events. For more information and/or to volunteer. For more information and/or to volunteer, call Lydia Weeks at 757-619-3515 or email lydspot@yahoo.com



CHURCH PICTORAL DIRECTORY

Mark Your Calendar now for June 13-17

More information will available in the upcoming months

Order Your Apple Dumplings Now

Apple Dumplings will be made **Friday, March 31st**. Call 248-7777 to place your order! Pick up will be 12-4 pm on March 31. Proceeds benefit missions and projects around the church.



1st Anniversary Celebration!

Sat., March 18, 6-8:30 p.m.

*Free Food &
Entertainment*

**Faithful Men
Desperate Measures
Valley Harmony
Fritz Horisk
Virginia Girls Choir**

**Please come and join us as we
celebrate the first anniversary of
the Verona Community Center!**

**“The Christian
does not think
God will love us
because we are
good, but that
God will make us
good because He
loves us.”**

C.S. LEWIS

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

Sundays at 10 a.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

Online Giving Available

It’s easy, safe and secure. Go to (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.

Numbers that Matter thru 2/19/17

Winter weather and only one worship service on Jan. 1 & 8 severely affected attendance and offerings in January. Please consider “catching up” on your offerings if you missed during one of those Sundays.

Sunday School (VUMC) Avg. Attendance	91
Worship Avg. 2017—VUMC/A7F	177/42
Worship 2/19/17—VUMC/A7F	227/37

GENERAL FUND OFFERINGS (VUMC only)*

General Fund Weekly Need	8064
General Fund Weekly Avg. 2017	6984

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



AUDIT for Church Account Holders

Attention all groups (classes, women’s groups, ministries) with accounts in our church’s name. Please begin to prepare for the audit which will be done in April. Please make sure you give your audit form and all of your bank statements to Sandy Rankin or leave in the church office. Thank you.

Sandy Rankin, Finance Chair

The Finance Committee

will meet Tuesday, April 18, 7 p.m. in Room 146. Please mark your calendars. We will audit accounts of church groups at this meeting.



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. Mon.-Saturday and 2-9 p.m. on Sunday. Call Judith at 255-3987.



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.

MARCH YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

- ◆ **Sunday, March 5, 5:30-7pm** –Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH
- ◆ **Sunday, March 12, 5:30-7pm** –Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH
- ◆ **Thursday, March 16, 6:30-7:45pm** –Youth serve the Ruritans, need preparing and serving meal
- ◆ **Sunday, March 19, 5:30-7pm** –Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH /Hollywood dance tickets go on sale
- ◆ **Sunday, March 26, 4:30-7:30pm** –Youth meeting/ Going to THOI Synagogue in Staunton. *We will go out for supper youth will need to bring money for supper.*

Sunday, April 16, 6:30 am -The youth will be participating in the Sunrise Service for Easter, youth parents needed to help with the preparing the breakfast immediately following the sunrise service.

Dance for Missions—the Youth Mission Team is hosting a "Hollywood" theme dance at the Verona Community Center on Saturday, April 29, 6-10pm. A DJ will provide the music, we will take pictures, light refreshments provided. The dance is for all ages, individual \$15, couples \$25. Tickets go on sale March 19th. Dress attire will be casual or formal.

Keep us in your prayers as we plan and prepare for our June mission trip. Your prayers and other support mean so much to us. Thank you VUMC!

Children's News

BLAST (Believe, Learn & Share Together) for ages 4yrs-5th Grade is held every Sunday, 5 to 6:30pm—Dinner served. Bring a friend!

Children's Book Authors Visiting March 12

The authors of a Christian children's book series based on "Connor the Courageous Cutter" will be visiting our Sunday morning worship services and evening BLAST for children on March 12th. We will hold BLAST that evening from 5-6:30 p.m. at the Verona Community Center as we invite the Verona community to be part of this special event. Books with the authors' autographs will be available for purchase.

A native of McLean, Va., **Scott McBride** became inspired to write children's books while attending graduate school at the University of North Carolina. As a husband and father of two boys, he felt called to share fun and exciting faith-based stories with good moral messages to both adults and children. His stories focus on things he truly loves: the Lord, boats, and the sea. He hopes both kids and parents alike find joy and happiness as they share in the adventures that wait for Connor and his friends in Serendipity Sound.

Rod Thompson currently serves on active duty in the US Navy, with 15 years of service. An award-winning, produced screenwriter of both shorts and features, Rod writes stories that feed the soul and occasionally pass down valuable life lessons. A loving husband and father, he lives in Virginia with his wife and three sons.



Egg-Normous Easter Event- April 8, 9:30am Pancake breakfast with the Easter Bunny, followed by Egg Hunt at VUMC 10am to 12:00pm: crafts, snacks, games, and visiting with the Easter Bunny at VCC. Hosted by VUMC and A7F.

VBS 2017 June 19-23, 6:00 to 8:30pm. Please contact Amanda at 540-280-1455, or amandavumc@gmail.com if you would like to help in any capacity. Sunday school classes/groups are needed to prepare and serve dinner nightly. *Note-this year VBS is Mon.-Fri.*

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

Virginia Conference UMC News • World and National News
• Local Church News • Conference Events • Mission
Opportunities • Clergy News • The Bishop’s Viewpoint

Timely Issues: Each issue of the Advocate focuses on an important area within the church.

Unique Voices: The Advocate features commentary and articles from conference clergy and laity in every issue.

Bible Study: Each month a different pastor or lay person offers personal insight into the Bible lesson.



Please enter my new subscription to the Virginia Advocate

Please renew my subscription to the Virginia Advocate

I have enclosed payment (make checks payable to Verona UMC/memo: Advocate) for:

Print 1-yr: \$20 2-yr: \$30 3-yr: \$40

Online 1-yr: \$10 2-yr: \$15 3-yr: \$20

Print/Online 1-yr: \$25 2-yr: \$35 3-yr: \$45

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Return to the Church Office by March 31, 2017

BackPacks for Braves

The second semester at Verona Elementary is off and running! We are currently feeding 27 children each week. The items we need always seem to be the same but these really are the items that are on my shopping list each week: **small cans of wieners & beans (wiener beanies), fruit cups, small bags of chips, granola bars, pudding cups, snack size packages of cookies and self-stable chocolate milk.**

Please leave food items in the red tub marked Backpacks for Braves located in the front hall.

*If you would like to help shop, pack bags, and/or deliver these weekend food Backpacks
– please contact Sue MacTavish*

The Season of Lent

Lent is a season in the Christian year, a hallowed forty-day period of sacrifice leading up to Jesus' death and Resurrection. During Lent, Christians prepare for Holy Week and Easter by fasting, praying, and reconciling with the Lord

Beginning on Ash Wednesday (March 1st this year), Lent is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. By observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians replicate Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days.

During Lent, many Christians commit to fasting or giving up certain types of luxuries as a form of penitence. Many also add a Lenten spiritual discipline, such as reading a daily devotional, to draw themselves near to God.

HYMN FESTIVAL



The 4th Annual Staunton Choral Society

Hymn Festival

Sunday April 2, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.
Verona United Methodist Church

Featuring

The Staunton Choral Society

directed by Raymond Hebert
with Congregational Singing

Three VUMC members will be singing:

Doris Wright, Melinda Wills, and Sue MacTavish.

An offering will be collected to benefit the Staunton Choral Society, a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization

www.stauntonchoralsociety.org

www.facebook.com/StauntonChoralSociety

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.

Lay Servant Academy— March 31- April 2, 2017

The Lay Servant Academy is about equipping laity to carry out the mission of the church of making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. All courses are open to everyone. Each course is designed to help those serving the local church to learn more about leadership, personal faith development and a deeper understanding of the UMC. Many courses offered this year will support those seeking to become Certified Lay Servants and Lay Speakers. To register and for more information on the Academy, visit the website. Registration questions may be directed to Sandy Kelley at sandkelle@yahoo.com and other questions to Beth Christian at bethchristian@vaumc.org.

Summer Camp at Overlook Retreat & Camp Ministries

Summer Camp programs
(day camp and overnight)

for children & youth designed to:

Create a Christian environment in an out-of-doors setting that will be conducive to personal and group experiences with God and learning His will for our lives.

Visit the website

for more information:

<http://overlookretreatandcampministries.weebly.com/>

or call the camp office to register
today: 540-269-2267

**BROCHURES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN THE
CHURCH OFFICE**

Once you have attended your week at camp you can submit your receipt to the VUMC office for reimbursement of half the cost!



VERONA UMW



Remember your Prayer Partner

FROM JOY UTBERG, UMW PRESIDENT:

Did you miss the Unit meeting on Sunday 2/26? You missed an insightful program on Maternal & child health, and the impact of poverty on these issues. Please join us for future programs focused on women & children.

The UMW invites you to participate in a church-wide collection for the UMCOR health kits for Conference. The most needed kits right now are the Health Kits and Bedding Kits. Over the next few months we will be collecting the items below that are part of the Health kits. If you would prefer to donate funds towards the supplies or shipping costs, please make a check out to Verona UMW and give it to one of the UMW officers.

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming UMW events listed below.

- **Mar. 18**– District Spiritual Life Retreat – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm @ Vision of Hope UMC (snow date March 25). Let me know if you need a registration form.
- **Mar. 25** - VUMW Executive Meeting- 10am Room 146
- **April 22** – Potato bar luncheon at Verona Community Center for Food Pantry clients & community members

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—usually meets 3rd Monday, 7pm 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.

UMCOR Kits for Conference The Verona UMW is sponsoring a church-wide collection for the UMCOR health kits for Annual Conference in June. The most needed kits right now are the Health Kits and Bedding Kits. Over the next few months we will be collecting the items that are part of the Health kits. In March, we would ask for donations for the items below. Each kit requires the quantity noted.

- (1) Hand towel
 - a. 15 x 25 inches to 17 x 27 inches
 - b. Kitchen, cleaning, and microfiber towels not acceptable
- (1) Washcloth
- (1) Toothbrush
 - a. Adult size only
 - b. Do not remove from original packaging

A good place to get the towels & washcloths is at Costco. The hand towels come in packs of 12 and the washcloths come in packs of 24.

In April and May we will be collecting other items needed in the kits.

Items may be brought to the church office. Thank you.



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).

Ash Wednesday Service—March 1

The 8:30 and 11:00 Choirs will sing at the Ash Wednesday service. Robes will be worn and we will meet at 6:30p.m. in the Choir Room.

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.



**Remember
in
Prayer**

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

Our Christian Love and Sympathy are extended to Peggy Saufley in the recent loss of her brother, Charlie Wheeler.

Confirmation 2017

For youth in middle and high school
September 10 through October 29
Classes held on Sundays, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

For youth in middle and high school who desire to publically declare their intention to live out the vows of the baptismal covenant. Pastors Bob Weeks and Kevin McMullen will share what it means to be a Christian, living out your faith, your commitment, and God's call.

Youth may participate whether or not they have previously been baptized.

To sign up or to receive a confirmation packet with more information, call 248-7777 or email shiner@veronaumc.com

19 things you might consider giving up this Lent and beyond:

We've all been there—giving up chocolate, biting our finger nails, diet soda....

But are there matters of the heart that God is calling you to give up this Lent? Here's 19 possibilities:

1. **Fear:** God is on my side. In Him I am more than a conqueror. (See Romans 98)
2. **The need to please everyone:** I can't please everyone anyway. There is only one I need to strive to please.
3. **Envy:** I am blessed. My value is not in my possessions, but in my relationship with my Creator.
4. **Impatience:** God's timing is the perfect timing.
5. **Sense of entitlement:** The world does not owe me anything. God does not owe me anything. I live in humility and grace.
6. **Bitterness and Resentment:** The only person I am hurting by holding onto these is myself.
7. **Blame:** I am not going to pass the buck. I will take responsibility for my actions.
8. **Gossip & Negativity:** I will put the best construction on everything when it comes to other people. I will also minimize my contact with people who are negative and toxic and bring other people down.
9. **Comparison:** I have my own unique contribution to make and there is no one else like me.
10. **Fear of failure:** You don't succeed without experiencing failure. Just make sure you fall forward.
11. **A spirit of poverty:** Believe with God that there is always more than enough and never a lack.
12. **Feelings of unworthiness:** You are fearfully and wonderfully made by your creator. (see Psalm 139)
13. **Doubt:** Believe God has a plan for you that is beyond anything you could imagine. The future is brighter than you could ever realize.
14. **Self-pity:** God comforts us in our sorrow so that we can comfort others with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.
15. **Retirement:** As long as you are still breathing, you are here for a reason. You have a purpose to influence others for Christ. That does not come to an end until the day we die.
16. **Excuses:** A wise man once said, if you need an excuse, any excuse will do.
17. **Lack of counsel:** Wise decisions are rarely made in a vacuum.
18. **Pride:** Blessed are the humble.
19. **Worry:** God is in control and worrying will not help.

Verona UMC Calendar of Events - March 2017

3/1	6:00pm TOPS, RM 143AB	3/19	5:00pm BLAST Children's Activity, BRMH/Downstairs
	6:30pm Evening Prayer Meeting, Golden Deeds		5:30pm Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH
	7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary		6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study, RM 145
	8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141		8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141
3/5	5:00pm BLAST Children's Activity, BRMH/Downstairs	3/20	9:00am Pastor's Prayer Meeting, Community Center
	5:30pm Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH		2:00pm Esther Circle-RM 146
	8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141		6:30pm Scouts-Arrow of Light, Sanctuary/BRMH
3/6	9:00am Pastor's Prayer Meeting, Community Center	3/21	10:00am Staff Meeting
	6:30pm Scouts, RM 141,142		7:00pm Church Council Meeting, RM 146
3/8	6:00pm TOPS, RM 143AB	3/22	6:00pm TOPS, RM 143AB
	6:30 pm Scouts, BRMH		6:30pm Evening Prayer Meeting, Golden Deeds
	6:30pm Evening Prayer Meeting, Golden Deeds		6:30pm 11:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
	6:30pm 11:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary		7:15pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
	7:15pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary		8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141
	8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141	3/26	5:00pm BLAST Children's Activity, BRMH/Downstairs
3/9	12-5pm Blood Drive, BRMH		4:30pm Youth Mtg/Thoi Synagogue,Staunton/Dinner out
3/10	7-9pm Evening of Prayer, Community Center		6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study, RM 145
3/11	10:00am Rebecca Circle, RM 146		8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141
3/12	4:00pm NA, RM 146	3/27	9:00am Pastor's Prayer Meeting, Community Center
	5:00pm BLAST Children's Activity, BRMH/Downstairs		6:30pm Scouts, RM 141,142
	5:30pm Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH		6:30pm SCS Rehearsal, Sanctuary
	8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141	3/28	10:00am Staff Meeting
3/13	9:00am Pastor's Prayer Meeting, Community Center	3/29	6:00pm TOPS, RM 143AB
	6:30pm Scouts, RM 141,142		6:30pm Evening Prayer Meeting, Golden Deeds
	7:00pm SPRC, RM 146		6:30pm 11:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
	7:00pm Daycare Board Meeting		7:15pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
3/14	10:00am Staff Meeting	3/31	8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141
	7:00pm Trustees Meeting, RM 146		APPLE DUMPLINGS
3/15	6:00pm TOPS, RM 143AB		6:30pm SCS Rehearsal, Sanctuary
	6:30pm 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		
3/16	7:00pm Verona Ruritans-BRMH (Youth serving)		
3/18	6:30-8:30 pm Verona Community Center Anniversary		

**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.**



3/2	Linda Toler	3/10	Barbara Collie	3/16	Mary Cain	3/27	Frances Johnson
	John Carper		Brian Linger	3/17	Linda Wiseman		David Roadcap
3/3	Mark Hisey		Darlene Propst Viel		Greg Bean		Billy Weeks
	Morgan Smith	3/12	Anne Thompson	3/19	Elizabeth Vallee		Melinda Wills
3/4	Zack Woods		David Wagoner	3/20	Christina Cason	3/30	Ashley Smith
3/5	Janette Gordon	3/13	Travis Wills		Don Swanson		Melissa Sumner
	Wanda Broce		Doug May		Luke Wiseman		Daniel Wright
3/6	Benny Custer	3/14	Kim Cash	3/21	Chuck Wright	3/31	Dwight Shuler
	Virginia Pullin		Madi Reeser		Rob Carper		Dwayne Shuler
3/7	Michael Cook		Katie Mazingo		Roger Moats		Brandon Reeser
3/9	Terry Smith	3/15	Earl Shifflett	3/23	Daniel Cash		
			Connie Rohrer	3/24	Carol Brydge		
			Danny Link	3/25	Sean Weeks		
			Larry James	3/26	Bill Lambert		
					Judith Cariker		
					Nick Minor		
					Tommy Upton		





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

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Staying in touch:

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

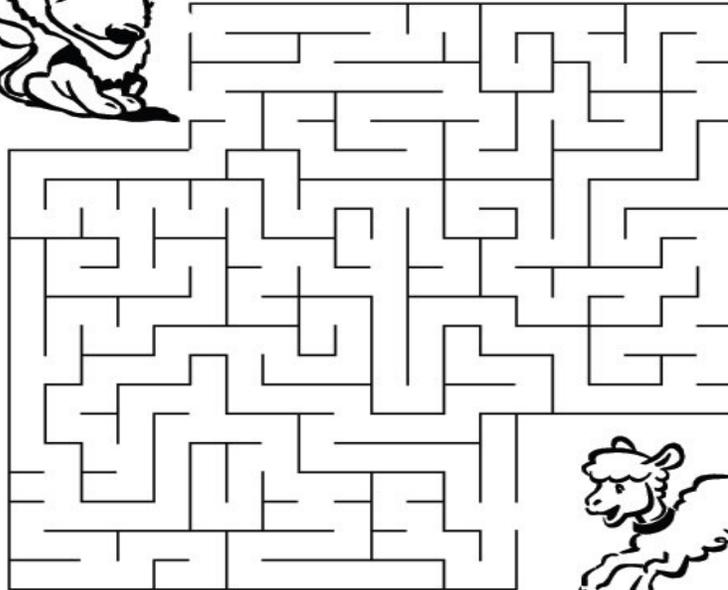
Senior Pastor: Rev. Bob Weeks
Pastor's Study: 540/248-7778
Email: bobweeks@veronaumc.com

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.

MARCH



comes in like a lion



goes out like a lamb

