



# THE TOWER



Monthly Newsletter of  
Verona United Methodist Church

May/June  
2019

## VERONA UM CHURCH & AISLE 7 FELLOWSHIP CHURCH STAFF

**Rev. Bob Weeks**  
*Senior Pastor*

**Rev. Shawna Hiner**  
*Campus Pastor*  
*Aisle 7 Fellowship*

**Jennifer Cook**  
*Office Administrator*

**Sheila Fair**  
*Treasurer*

**Joy Tinsley**  
*Music Director*

**Shelley Chandler**  
*Worship Leader A7F*

**Linda Toler**  
*Organist*

**Rhonda Reeser**  
*Pianist*

**Amanda Hall**  
*Director Children's*  
*Ministries*

**Bill, Carolyn Harlow**  
*Directors Youth*  
*Ministries*

**Phyllis Mauzy**  
*Nursery Director*

**Ken & Donna Cason**  
*Custodial Staff*

## From the Senior Pastor

In the first weeks of spring in the Shenandoah Valley you would think it would be hard to feel anything but joy and peace. We are in the midst of a spectacular display of God's finest work in nature. The warm sunshine has replaced the chill and gray of winter; the leafless trees are green and lush.

I'm especially fond of spring. Always have been. As winter retreats my flow of advances. I rise earlier to do my chores. I pull weeds, mow grass, throw scratch feed to our chickens, and check the first stores of honey and pollen by the bees.

But even with the extra dose of joy I feel this time of year, I can't retreat from the reality of a world that seems to have no shortage of inconceivable cruelty and systemic evil; including the widening gulf between rich and poor and the political divides throughout the world that poison hopes of human progress in the realms of peace, prosperity, and security.

There isn't a week that goes by that we don't hear of terrorist attacks, school shootings, or domestic violence that leaves us numb as we try to absorb the extent to which human beings daily inflict pain on their fellow human beings.

Still, the Bible, often written in times of war and exile and poverty, calls us to see the joy of life even when the lengthening shadows of winter and human depravity are upon us. Prophets remind us that true, sustainable peace and joy are found only in the God of creation. The God who shines light in the darkness. The God whose Spirit leads his people through disease and warfare in Africa; government persecution in China; terrorist attacks in Sri Lanka; and every other hurdle the enemy puts in our way.

Joy for the Christian is starkly different from the joy the average person longs for and despairingly seeks through human achievement, physical pleasure, and financial gain. Joy for the Christian can't be touched by the lack of any of these things.

Why? Because our joy is in the God who overturned the plans of Satan and the stinging power of death when his son died for our sins on the cross and was consigned to a grave that could not hold him.

Our joy is in every moment of every day and in every season of every year because there is no moment when God is not in control and our destinies are not assured through his son Jesus Christ. May we all carry within us the joyful assurance that Jesus is ours and that nothing in the past, in the present or in the future can separate us from God's love and saving, transforming grace!

*Go in peace and shout for joy, remembering you are a baptized child of the Most High God, the Lord who reigns forever!*

### 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

---

#### July/August Newsletter Deadline is June 10th

Please submit items to  
Jennifer Cook by date  
above for the April  
Newsletter. By phone,  
248-7777 or email,  
jennifercook@  
veronaumc.com

---

If you would a copy of  
**Church Council Minutes**  
please contact Jennifer in  
the church office:

248-7777 or  
jennifercook@  
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...

### UP-COMING SERMONS

**May 5th:** On this communion Sunday we'll explore the power and sacredness of Christian baptism.

**May 12th:** It's Mother's Day and Pastor Bob's sermon will be "Mothering with a Permanent Marker." We'll also honor our UM Women!

**May 19th:** On Graduation Sunday we'll hear "The Greatest Graduation Speech Ever Delivered."

**May 26th:** It's Memorial Day Sunday and we'll gather at 7 a.m. for our annual service remembering our veterans in the Verona UMC cemetery. In our regular services our message will be "The Path to Freedom."

Beginning the first Sunday in June through mid-August,  
we'll spend the summer exploring the story and teachings  
of Jesus in a series from **The Gospel of Mark**



---

**Verona UMC Daycare  
Spring Yard Sale  
May 11th at 7am at Verona UMC**  
*Help support our excellent daycare program!*



Verona Ruritans will be selling BBQ  
chicken on **May 11th and June 15th.**  
Proceeds will benefit the Ruritan  
Scholarship Fund. \$4 per half.

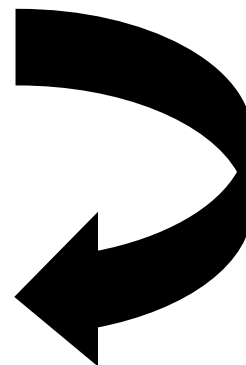


**Blood Drive on  
Thursday, June 27th  
12 pm - 5 pm**  
*Mark your calendar to give!*

---

### Looking Ahead thru June:

June 10-14 - Vacation Bible School  
June 15 - Verona Ruritans Chicken BBQ  
June 16 - Father's Day  
June 20 - Virginia Annual Conference in Roanoke  
June 22 - Youth Mission trip to Kentucky  
June 30 - Organ Concert at 3 pm in VUMC sanctuary



# More of What's Happening



## Honor Our Mothers on Mother's Day, May 13

*Bring a mom to worship this Mother's Day as we honor the women in our community who teach, support, and love our children.*

**Memorial Sunday Service in the VUMC Cemetery** Please join us and our local VFW on **Sunday, May 27th at 7 a.m.** as we remember and honor those who have defended our freedoms with the ultimate sacrifice.

**Annual Memorial Sunday Breakfast, 7:30 a.m.** If there is a Sunday School class, committee, or other group that would like to serve the annual breakfast after the Memorial Sunday Service, please contact the church office at 248-7777.



**Bee There!** If you'd like to come and "poke around" in our church's bee yard for awhile, just let Pastor Bob know and he'll set up a time. Afraid of a sting? Don't worry. We have protective beekeeping suits in several sizes.

Everyone's also invited for a work day cleaning up equipment and tidying up around the bee hives on Saturday, May 18th from 10 'til 12 noon. Extraction of the honey will take place later in June. We were able to raise \$2,500 for missions in 2018!



**Attention Graduates** We will recognize our High School and College Graduates on Sunday, **May 19 at both worship services.** Please let the church office know by **May 13** if you are, or know of, a Verona UMC 2019 High School or College Graduate. Let us know school degree/diploma and date. For High School graduates, let us know further education or career plans. For College Graduates, include all who graduated since last June's recognition - i.e., 2018 December Grads, and let us know of further education/job plans.



## Vacation Bible School 2019 - **R-O-A-R-!**

**June 10-14** 6-8:30 p.m. each evening  
Free meal at 6 p.m.!

Volunteers needed! Groups are needed to prepare and serve dinner each night.

Contact Amanda Hall at  
[amandavumc@gmail.com](mailto:amandavumc@gmail.com) or 280-1455



## The Nurture Work Area

### Between Services Coffee Time

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

May 5 - Witness Team	June 2 - Worship Team
May 12 - Homebuilders	June 9 - Petal Pushers
May 19 - Fearless Conv.	June 16 - Esther Circle
May 26 - Open Door	June 23 - Seekers
	June 30 - Home Builders



**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.

**Altar Flower Donations** Sign up to donate flowers on any Sunday. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board outside the fellowship hall. Donate in honor or memory of a loved one and help beautify the sanctuary. Call church office at 248-7777 for further information.

### Snacks for Community Center Cafe

We are always in need of snacks for the Verona Community Center Café. Little Debbie's products, small bags of chips, small packages of cookies, energy bars, peanut butter crackers, etc. are always popular. Just bring by the café Monday through Friday or drop in the container in our church's Donation Center.



## 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 the Donation Center in the main church entrance and lower entryway. You can leave items at any time during the month.

### Food Pantry Hours:

Every Tuesday: 9am-11am  
2nd & 4th Thursday: 6pm-7pm

## Salt & Peppers News Corner

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

**May 7** - For those who have reservations for the New Market Battlefield Military Museum, we will leave the VUMC at 7:45 am for the Tuesday tour with lunch afterwards at Southern Kitchen.

**June 18** - Please join us for breakfast on Tuesday at the Golden Corral in Waynesboro at 8:30 am. We need your reservation by Sunday, June 16. Please let us know if you need a ride.

**July** - No Activity

**For more info or to make reservations, contact:**

Faye Wills -476-5555, Sandy McAllister -255-6488, Gayle Meeks 248-1325, or Carolyn Anson 248-5697

## Ways to Serve at VUMC

It may be assisting as an usher, greeter, Scripture Reader or AV operator during worship... or working with our landscape beautification team, The Petal Pushers... or teaching children's Sunday School... or in a dozen other ways. Call the Church Office today for more info on how to get involved—248-7777.

## 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.

We have created the Helping Hands Ministry as a way to take care of the need in a timely manner (instead of waiting for a mission week) A list of projects has been posted in the hallway between the Sanctuary and Social Hall. Please review the list weekly to see if there is a project you are willing and capable of doing. If the project will take a few more people, gather up a group and take care of it.

A second list is also posted that allows people to request projects to be done. You can also select one of those projects without it being moved to the current projects list. Contact Doug May for more information 540-241-5605.

**Join the Verona UMC Prayer Group & Experience the Power of Prayer**  
Pastor's Morning Prayer Group Wednesdays at 9 am, Verona Community Center



# Where The United Methodist Church Stands as of April 27, 2019

*Message from the Interim Bishop of the Virginia Concerning the Actions of the February Special General Conference*

## Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Virginia Conference,

Greetings in the name and spirit of the Risen Christ who promises to journey with us always! Another step along the journey of our United Methodist Church was taken on Friday. The Church's Judicial Council (Supreme Court) reviewed, in the light of our Church Constitution, the church laws that were passed by our Special General Conference (global legislative body) in late February. The actions of that General Conference centered on our Church's positions related to the practice of homosexuality.

Many faithful United Methodists and churches have been significantly impacted by these decisions. Some have agreed, some have disagreed. Regardless of people's perspectives, many questions have been raised, hurt inflicted, unity tested, prayers raised and significant conversations started about our future. Let us always remember that this is about people's lives, for whom Christ died and rose again.

At the conclusion of this letter, I will share links to resources in which you can find detailed explanations of each decision that the Judicial Council made. Here, in simple language, I want to summarize the basics of our Church position and changes that were found to be constitutional. **Most of the changes will take effect starting January 1, 2020 except for the "gracious exit" provisions which are effective from now until December 31, 2023.**

1. **NOTHING CHANGED ABOUT** the Church position that "all persons are individuals of sacred worth, created in the image of God," and that "we will seek to live together in Christian community, welcoming, forgiving, and loving one another, as Christ has loved and accepted us." "We commit ourselves to be in ministry for and with all persons." The Church also believes that "sexual relations are affirmed only with the covenant of monogamous, heterosexual marriage." and it does not allow same-sex marriages in our churches and by our pastors. The church does not ordain or appoint "self-avowed practicing homosexuals".
2. **MAJOR CHANGES FOUND CONSTITUTIONAL**
  - a. The definition of "self-avowed practicing homosexual" now includes people living in same-sex marriage, domestic partnership or civil union, or who publicly state it. These persons are not considered qualified for [UMC] ministry.
  - b. Boards or District Committees on Ministry must make a full examination and shall not approve anyone who does not meet the qualifications for ministry and the bishop shall rule unqualified persons, if recommended, "out of order." Bishops may not consecrate a "self-avowed practicing homosexual" as a bishop.
  - c. A pastor who has conducted a same-sex marriage shall be given a minimum penalty, after due, fair process, of one-year suspension without pay for a first offense and termination for a second.
  - d. If allegations are brought against a pastor, any resolution of the offense must include agreement from the person bringing the allegation. The resolution must identify the harm caused and how that will be addressed by the pastor.
1. **7 PROPOSED CHANGES WERE FOUND UNCONSTITUTIONAL.** Some of these sought to provide a way in which to certify that only persons who would "uphold, enforce, and maintain" the Book of Discipline (our book of order) could serve in certain committees. Other proposals suggested an additional process for removing bishops from active office. The Judicial Council found these unconstitutional because of lack of balanced and fair processes.
2. **"GRACIOUS EXIT PROPOSAL"** was found to be constitutional for churches thinking of leaving the United Methodist denomination concerning homosexuality for a limited time from now until December 31, 2023. They would have a "limited right" to disaffiliate for reasons related to the Church's law concerning homosexuality for a limited time. Approval for such a move would require:
  - a. A two-thirds vote of the members of the local church
  - b. Terms related to financial and legal matters, apportionments and clergy pensions
  - c. Approval by a majority vote of the Annual Conference

When I was growing up, I had a Sunday School teacher who was fond of saying, "God has brought us this far...and God isn't finished with us yet!" While the decisions by the 2019 General Conference and the rulings of the Judicial Council are important, they are, by no means, the final word in the journey of The United Methodist Church.

Take some time to read the detailed material and reports that are linked to this letter. Talk to those of different perspectives in your local church and community. In less than two weeks, I will begin to visit all of our districts for further conversation and worship with you (see the link to your invitation). Then the Virginia Annual Conference will gather in Roanoke June 20-22. Visitors are welcome.

In just about one year, May, 2020, the General Conference will convene again to further pray, discern, further refine, and redefine who we are as United Methodists, as we have for over 250 years. This is not a time for "waiting" but for working with one another, building relationships with all of God's people and seeking God's will for our next steps on the journey. Please feel free to contact your District or our conference office with questions or concerns. As Wesley reminded us: "Best of all, God is with us!"

*Grace and Peace, Peter D. Weaver, Interim Bishop, Virginia Conference*



## Community Center Report

**Since it's opening in 2016, the Community Center has served over 40,000 people!**

- The Verona Community Center Café serves hundreds of guests each month with free coffee, snacks, and wi-fi.
- Showers and laundry facilities are used daily for those in our community who lack one of both of these services. Also, mission teams from out of the area use the center's showers while serving in our community.
- Training for new volunteers is available by contacting Lydia Weeks at lydspot@yahoo.com.

### Support the Community Center:

Your financial support is crucial to our on-going service within the Verona community. Send donations made out to Verona Community Center, P.O. Box 780, Verona, VA 24401. The center is now an IRS-recognized non-profit organization—your donations are tax-deductible.

### What are you doing on Thursday

**afternoons?** Spending three hours occasionally at the Verona Community Center is a great way to serve your community!! The 2:30-5:30 shift is often available for volunteers. Usually it's quiet -making it a great opportunity to catch up on your reading. Other times it can be busy - a chance to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors. To volunteer at VCC contact Lydia at Lydspot@yahoo.com or call 886-1460.

*Thank  
you!*

*For your continued financial, prayer, and volunteer support for the Verona Community Center. We've served over 40,000 guests since 2016 thanks to your help!*

## Numbers that Matter thru 4/28/19

Sunday School (VUMC) Avg. Attendance	79
Worship Avg. 2019—VUMC/A7F	198/60

### GENERAL FUND OFFERINGS\*

VUMC General Fund Weekly Need	8064
VUMC General Fund Weekly Avg. 2019	8071
A7F General Fund Weekly Need	1678
A7F General Fund Weekly Avg. 2019	1680

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



### To set up your account visit:

<http://veronaumc.net/online-giving/>

Contact Jennifer in the church office at 248-7777 for if you have questions or need assistance.

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.

DEVOTE  
YOURSELVES  
TO PRAYER,  
BEING WATCHFUL  
AND THANKFUL  
COLOSSIANS 4:2

## REACH OUT TO HELP OTHERS IN JESUS' NAME

- ♦ **Pastor's Discretionary Fund—Helping local residents' emergency needs**
- ♦ **UMCOR U.S. Disasters Fund—Note on check "UMCOR #901670"**
- ♦ **UMCOR International Disasters Fund—Note on check "UMCOR #982450"**
- ♦ **Donate to our Adult Missions or Youth Missions—Note either fund on check**


**VERONA  
UMC**

# YOUTH GROUP

## Upcoming Dates:

**May 5 - 5 pm- 5:30 pm** - Mission Team Meeting,  
5:30 pm - 7 pm youth meeting and supper provided

**May 16 - 6 pm** - Youth will serve Ruritans, youth need  
to help plus one parent volunteer

**May 17 - 10 am - 1 pm** - Car wash at Ace Hardware.  
Proceeds to benefit the youth mission trip. Youth and  
adults needed to help.

**May 19 - 6- 7:30 pm** - Youth meeting with supper provided

**June 2 - 6- 7:30 pm** - Youth meeting with supper provided

**June 16 - 8:30 am** - Youth Mission Team Commissioning Service at VUMC

**June 20 - 6 pm** - Youth Team Meeting; potluck supper; team please bring an item to share for the meal. We will load the trailer with tools and cots/air mattresses.

**June 22 - 29** - 2019 Youth Mission Trip to Winchester Kentucky. Please keep the youth and adults in your prayers

**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.*

## CHILDREN'S NEWS



**VBS 2019 - ROAR!** June 10-14. Volunteers needed!  
Groups are needed to prepare and serve dinner each  
night. Contact Amanda

**May 11** - We will have a special Saturday evening  
BLAST on May 11. We will meet from 5 - 7 pm.  
*No regular BLAST on Mather's Day May 12th.*

**May 19** - BLAST- Children will participate in the Simp-  
ly Gospel Choral concert. This will be our last BLAST  
event until fall.



Thank you to everyone who helped with the Easter Egg Hunt. We had lots of excited children and families join us. It's such a blessing to share the love of God with our community.

# Greetings from Pastor Shawna

## *Greetings!*

Holy Week is such a special week in the life of the church. VUMC and A7F held a Maundy Thursday Service – a dramatic musical written and directed by Carol Brydge. Aisle 7 had a simple, but powerful Good Friday Service, both services were held at Verona UMC.

Easter Sunday at Aisle 7 was a wonderful experience. My first Easter as a Licensed Pastor and Lindsay and Brooke Atkins and Autumn Hitt confirmed their belief in Jesus Christ and were baptized into God's holy church. It was an honor to be a part of their special day. We had 120 in attendance, the children sang enthusiastically and besides the three baptisms we also had a time to remember our baptisms. Throughout the service our music was passionate tribute to the risen Lord. Thank you to Bob Brydge for playing guitar Sunday as Doug Boxley spent time with his family.

I appreciate your prayers for the upcoming Women's Emmaus Walk, May 2-5 at Camp Overlook. This will be my first year "teaming." Please keep the pilgrims coming and all those teaming and otherwise involved in your prayers.

In June we will have a short sermon series on "Spiritual Gifts." The last Sunday in June we are planning on having our service at the Verona Camp Ground. We will have music, a message, and a covered dish lunch. This will be a great opportunity to meet others in our community and have a special worship service outside. More details will follow.

I also ask for your prayers as I prepare for the Course of Study for licensed local pastors. I have already begun reading and working on assignments. I will go to Duke Divinity School for classes July 14 -26. I am excited about this opportunity—the classes seem interesting. Again, thank you for your prayers and support.

We continue to see growth at Aisle 7 and especially see God at work. Please keep us in prayer as we continue to discern how God wants to use us to impact the community of Verona and beyond.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Shawna Hiner  
430-5462/shawnahiner@vaumc.org



## **Thank you so much for your generous contributions**

to our first Remote Area Medical clinic offered in Harrisonburg Virginia! We were able to serve 601 individuals with 856 services totaling \$304,882 in free medical, dental and vision care over the weekend of March 2-3, 2019 at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds.

Over 800 volunteers showed up to register patients; cook and serve volunteer meals; provide interpretation and translation services; treat hypertension and high blood sugar, provide mammograms, pap smears and immunizations; screen for HIV and Hepatitis C; conduct full dental exams including hygiene, fillings and extractions; and provide full vision exams including patients leaving with their brand new glasses made on site. A

wealth of community resources were on site as well as lots of support from our sponsors and donors.

Unfortunately, these services are greatly in need in our area and some patients were turned away once we met capacity as our ability to provide care was maxed out. 100% of donated goods and funds were used to provide patient care. Again, thank you for your support of this effort. We could not have done this without the wealth of generosity from our community.

-Laura Hull - RAM Harrisonburg Clinic Host Group





## Donation Processors Needed

### DUTIES INCLUDE

- Counting and posting to accounts all cash and checks collected during the offering at regular services and special events/services or that come into the church during the week. Posting is done in our "Church Windows" accounting software.
- Accurately completing an Excel spreadsheet with all donations to the proper fund/account. This spreadsheet is provided to the treasurer.
- The spreadsheet totals and the items posted in Church Windows are checked and should always match.
- Ensuring that everything is posted correctly so that the Church financial reports and yearly giving statements are accurate.
- Keeping accurate backup documentation – copies of checks, giving envelopes and other documentation as needed each week.
- Filling out the deposit slip and taking the deposit to the bank (night deposit box).

**TRAINING IS PROVIDED** on Sunday Mornings downstairs in the Treasurer's office starting at 10 AM. Donation processing normally takes a team of two people about 2 hours to complete. Processing on another day (Monday or Tuesday) is fine after the processors have been fully trained and are confident of the procedures. Contact the church office (248-7777) to volunteer and/or for further info.



## Technology Team Forming

Technology has become a part of our worship and part of how our church functions. Individuals have helped out in the past and this has been a blessing to our church. People with all levels of ability and technology understanding would be on the committee.

Please contact Doug May if you are interested at 540-241-5605 or [dougem@outlook.com](mailto:dougem@outlook.com)



## The Staunton Choral Society Spring Concert

The Staunton Choral Society presents its 2019 Spring Concert, "**Lift Your Voice**" twice on the weekend of May 18–19.

- On Saturday May 18 the Concert will be at 7 pm at Christ Lutheran Church (2807 N. Augusta, Staunton).
- On Sunday May 19 the concert will be at 7 pm at Calvary UMC (2179 Stuarts Draft Hwy., Stuarts Draft).

From your favorite hymns and spirituals to show tunes, to swing, and even a little "Mission Impossible," there is something for everyone. *Verona UMC members Doris Wright, Melinda Wills, and Sue MacTavish* are singing and would love to see you there. Admission is free, with a free-will offering. For more information call Doris, Melinda or Sue, or go to [www.stauntonchoralsociety.org](http://www.stauntonchoralsociety.org)

## We are again soliciting donations of UMCOR kit supplies with this year's focus on Cleaning Buckets (used in flood recovery)

The average cost of the items to fill the bucket is \$75. Please take an ornament or two from the Angel tree in the Narthex noting specific items to be donated. Items needed by end of May.

Sponsored by UM Women.





**Sundays  
5-6:30 p.m.**

- Fellowship Hall
- Dinner Provided
- Children age 4-12

### **Verona Ruritans Offer Three \$500 Scholarships**

You must be from Staunton, Augusta, or Waynesboro and have been accepted this fall to a Trade, two or four year school. **Applications are due by June 1st.** Contact Fred Wills 430-0612 or stop by the church office for an application.



### **Summer Camp at Overlook Retreat & Camp Ministries**

**Day camp and overnight summer Camp programs just north of Harrisonburg 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 our website for more info:**

<http://overlookretreatandcampministries.weebly.com>

### **5th Sunday Offerings**

Our Fifth Sunday Offering on June 30 will go to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. This fund is used to meet emergency needs of families in the community and to meet the missional needs of the church. Ushers will have offering plates at the entrances to the sanctuary to receive your special offerings.



### **VUMC Chancel Choir News**

*Choir Rehearsals on Wednesdays  
@ 6:30pm and 7:15pm*

*Combined Choir rehearsals will  
begin on April 3 for the May 19  
Simply Gospel Concert.*

## ***Simply Gospel Concert***



The combined choirs of VUMC invite you to join us on **May 19, 2019** at **6:00 pm** in the VUMC Sanctuary for a special Gospel Concert. We will perform well-known hymns set in southern Gospel arrangements.

The VUMC Children's Choir will perform as well.

Special guests include Chris Tortorice, Dr. Eloise Kornicke and The Harriston Christian Center Praise Band.



# VERONA UMW



## Remember your Prayer Partner

# United Methodist Women News

### From Joy Utberg, UMW President:

A big Thank You to those who have already purchased the supplies for the UMCOR cleaning buckets. There are still many ornaments left to choose from if you haven't taken one yet. Let me know if you have any questions.

### Upcoming events:

- **Sunday May 12** – UMW Sunday. We will be awarding our Special Mission Recognition Pin during one of the services.
- **Late May/early June** we will be assembling the UMCOR cleaning buckets to be delivered to Annual Conference. Stay tuned for more info on that.
- **Saturday June 1** – UMW day at Ferrum College. For anyone who has not gone to this before Ferrum puts on a program and luncheon especially for UMW to recognize the role UMW played in establishing the school. Program begins at 9:30am, and it takes 2 hours to get there. Registration is due by May 15, and the cost is \$17.
- **Monday June 10** – We are serving dinner for Vacation Bible School and will need 5 or 6 volunteers to cook, serve & cleanup. Dinner is served at 6pm, so we should arrive no later than 5:15.

If you have any questions about the UMW, or are thinking of joining, please feel free to contact me at 569-2702, or reach out to one of the 2019 officers:

Carol Brydge – VP Susan Walker - Secretary  
Millie Davis – Treasurer Grace Dick – Spiritual Growth Coordinator  
Lydia Weeks – Reading Program Joy Tinsley – Nominating

### 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.

### VUMC UMW Circle Meetings

Esther Circle–3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 2:00pm  
at the church–Linda Wiseman &  
Shirley Webster, Co-Chairs  
Rebecca Circle –2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, 10am  
at the church – Gayle Meeks, Chair

## Join the UM Women's Reading Program

The purpose of the United Methodist Women's reading program is to encourage women to expand understanding of God's mission, to increase sensitivity to all human beings and to encourage critical thinking about issues facing humanity.  
**Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers.** Inspiring and funny, the author tells hilarious and wrenching tales about various predicaments that have sparked her prayers and inspired her to encourage others to pray anytime, anywhere and any way.

**A Girl Called Problem.** This is a novel for young readers about a 13 year old girl and what happens when her people move to a nearby village.

**Whatever Happened to Dinner?** Recipes and Reflections for Family Mealtimes. The (local) author examines the role food and mealtime play in the family.

**A New Dawn in Beloved Community: Stories With the Power to Transform Us.** These are stories of people, in their own words. Their goal is to help the church build beloved communities in ways that can transform the world. **For info. about borrowing books from our lending library contact Lydia (886-1460) or Lisa (248-3379)**



Debbie Link, Barbara Breeden, Faith Bridges, Winston Jackson, Thelma Smith, Dot Hess, Patsy Dastoli, Ruth Weaver, Ronald Smith, Margaret Helmick, Jean May,

Inez Fultz, Howard Rexrode, Elijah Smith, Don & Caroline McFaden, Roger Moats, Frances Johnson, Ray Smith, Harle Jackson, Jeff Spiggle, Joy Tinsley, Kitty Wine, Bill & Nancy Welliver, Farris Gwin, Wilma Shuey, Corkie Collie, Scott Arbogast, Parker Staples, Kathy Poarch

## ***Our Christian Love and Sympathy are Extended To***

- The family of Cindy Roberts Alexander, who passed away on April 24. She was the daughter of Paul Alexander.
- Harrisonburg District Superintendent Victor Gomez upon the death of Mr. Ramon Suarez, maternal grandfather of Victor. Mr. Suarez died Friday morning, April 26th. He was 96 years old. A funeral service was held on Saturday, April 27th in Mexico.

## **Welcome to Our Newest Members at VUMC**

Brooke Atkins, Lindsay Atkins and Autumn Hitt were all baptized at Aisle 7 Fellowship on Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019

*We are so glad to have them as a part of the body of Christ at Aisle 7 and Verona UMC!*

## ***A Note of Sincere Appreciation***

Thank you so much for all the birthday cards, messages and calls. I am so blessed to have such wonderful church friends and family. All of you helped make my 90th Birthday very special.

*Sincerely, Polly Brumfield*

## **5 Interesting Facts About the Gospel of Mark**

### ***(Focus of Our Summer Sermon Series)***

Each gospel account, including Mark's, plays an important role in the New Testament account of the life of Jesus. Its significance is revealed in the way it:

- Establishes Jesus as the prophesied Messiah
- Proves him to be the sinless Son of God that he claims to be
- Records his authority over nature, demons, and disease

### ***Here are some interesting facts about this important book:***

#### **1. Authorship is attributed to John Mark**

Next to the apostle John, there's more biblical information about Mark than any other gospel writer. Luke mentions him several times in the book of Acts. Mark eventually became an important part of Paul's life, and is one of the last people mentioned in Paul's final letters (2 Timothy 4:11).

#### **2. It's the shortest gospel**

When you compare the original-language word count, Mark is significantly shorter than the other gospels. From longest to shortest, the gospels stack up like this:

Luke 19,482 / Matt 18,346 / John 15,634 / Mark 11,304

But don't let Mark's brevity fool you! It's packed with a lot of detail. When compared to Luke, Mark offers considerably more detail. Mark's account of Jesus' words is more specific. For instance, when Jesus raises a young girl, Mark is the only one who shares Jesus' command in Arabic, *Talitha cumi*. Luke only gives a Greek translation.

#### **3. It's action packed**

In relation to the other gospels, Mark doesn't focus on dialogue nearly as much as he focuses on Christ's actions. This is seen in the way Mark uses the Greek word "euthus" typically translated as "immediately." Its use gives Mark's gospel an explosive sense of motion and immediacy. Throughout his gospel, Mark focused on Christ's power over demons, illness, nature, and even death—emphasizing Jesus is a true champion.

#### **4. It's focused on Gentile readers**

Unlike Matthew, Mark seems intensely focused on communicating the gospel to readers who aren't overly familiar with Judaism.





# Verona UMC May/June 2019 Calendar

## Church meetings/events

**May 11** - Day Care Yard Sale and Chicken BBQ

**May 12** - Mother's Day

**May 13** - VCC Board Meeting 5:30 pm

**May 13** - SPRC Meeting 7 pm

**May 14** - Trustees Meeting 6:30 pm

**May 19** - Simply Gospel Concert 6 pm

**May 19** - BLAST Ends for summer

**May 21** - Church Council Meeting 7 pm

**June 10 - 14** - Vacation Bible School

**June 11** - Trustees Meeting 6:30 pm

**June 15** - Ruritan Chicken BBQ

**June 16** - VBS Sunday

**June 18** - Finance Meeting 7 pm

**June 22** - Youth Mission Trip to Kentucky

**June 27** - Red Cross Blood Drive 12 - 5 pm

**June 30** - Organ Concert - Jesse Ratcliff 3 pm

**Worship Services** held each Sunday at 8:30 and 11 a.m. with Sunday School at 10 a.m.

**Aisle 7 Fellowship**, our second campus, meets at the Verona Community Center at 11:00 a.m.

**Prayer meeting** held Wednesdays at 9 a.m. at the Verona Community Center

**Choir rehearsals (COMBINED)** held Wednesday evenings at 6:30 in the Sanctuary

**Rebecca Circle** - 2nd Saturday; monthly 10am Rm 146

**Esther Circle** - 3rd Monday; monthly 2pm, Rm 144

## Community meetings/events

**AA** - Sundays & Wednesdays; weekly 8pm, Rm 302

**AL-ANON** - Sun. & Wed.; weekly 8pm Rm 141

**NA** - 2nd Sunday; monthly 3pm Rm 146

**S-ANON** - 2nd & 4th Tuesdays; monthly, 6pm Rm 302

**TOPS** - Wednesday; weekly 6pm Rm 143

**Girl Scouts** - 2nd & 4th Wed.; monthly 6:30 pm Rm 141

**Happy Notes** - Thursday; weekly 9:30am in sanctuary

**FAA** - Thursday; weekly 6:45 Rm 201

**Verona Ruritans** - 3rd Thursday; monthly 7pm BRMH



5/2	Davy Reeves, Jr. Robin Rexrode	5/15	Frances Costello Linda Huntley Connor Harmon Isabelle Fitzpatrick
5/3	Mike Cook Melissa May Travis Chandler	5/16	Sara Alexander Nancy Talley Pam VanLear Buzz Cain
5/4	Jeff Harris	5/18	Debbie Powers Samara Little
5/5	Alicia Wright	5/20	Lauren Mzingo
5/6	Larry Miller	5/21	Martha Kiser
5/7	Saige Breeden	5/22	Cody Crummett Katilyn Huffinan
5/8	R.W. Rohrer	5/23	Troy Austin Larry Ritchie
5/11	Fred Foster Jackson Wagner	5/24	Samantha Harlow Patty Wagoner Anita Moore
5/12	Wanda Weaver	5/25	Robert Minor Tracey Davis
5/13	Steven Cason Josh Hall	5/26	Dayton Moore Garnett Andes
5/14	Pete Reeves Joy Tinsley Sarah Jennings Will Robinson	5/27	Ruth Weaver Mel Holst Garriek Welch

5/28	Helen Bussard Brent Hisey
5/29	Heather VanLear
5/30	Robert Roadcap
5/31	Brett Wills



6/1	Tim Rexrode
6/2	Rodney Bussard Rhonda Reeser
6/3	Jordan Morlino Don McFaden
6/5	Joe Huffman Patsy Mayle Mike Powers
6/7	Joanne Watson
6/8	Tessa Hickman Eleanor Jennings
6/9	Jeff Weeks
6/10	Shirley Carter Bill Sullivan

6/11	Russell Davis	6/27	Shirley Webster Jayne Tooley Cindy May
6/12	Jamie Glover Jason Lambert	6/28	Don Dixon Elsie Walker Jeffrey Weeks
6/13	Kristen Swanson	6/28	Janet McAllister Scott Gurkin
6/14	Myrtle Lambert Carolyn Harlow Lorena Karicofe	6/29	Sandy Rankin Conrad Sandhage Jeff Bean
6/15	Heather Andes	6/30	Winston Jackson Becky Woolfrey Bobby McAllister Dreema McAllister-Wilson Stephen Little Jeremy Spiggle
6/17	Amy Hisey		
6/18	June Flavin Sandy Rousseau Titus Showalter		
6/20	Amanda Hall		
6/21	Barbara Morris		
6/22	Colton Lackey		
6/23	Reid Tutwiler		
6/25	Doris Thompson Wayne Smith Scott VanLear Andy Tutwiler Dustin Zickefoose		
6/26	Curtis Craig Wally Arms		





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

Return Service Requested

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

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

Bible Pathway  
Adventures

WORD SEARCH

## NEW TESTAMENT BOOKS

R C K J L U K E J S A A V O V K T W L U  
O O V C P M R A M U E M U A U Y H H A D  
M R J W E R E Y R C F P M V Z X E E V N  
A I O M J U D E Y H C D Y R T N S Q X O  
N N C H A X H X I N O H S E E U S S G V  
S T I W S T N X Y M L G Z V N D A H P K  
K H V G O M T O T E O A D E B I L W H X  
T I M R P Q A H G P S C F L Q M O C I Q  
O A H X A H B T E E S W O A V A N Z L Z  
A N Q T Q G I W T W I M Z T O R I O I L  
N S L R N L B L H I A B H I A K A I P J  
J E Y N M W W E E G N Z J O T C N K P E  
O A C T S J Z U G M S G I N J T S L I T  
D G A L A T I A N S O A V O F F C J A I  
Y E G T U O C L W S H N C J N R C S N M  
L J J C X K A Z Z U W H E B R E W S S O  
B Y H O R Q L H E W P X J A M E S N J T  
L H Z D H C V T B F P V G T Z M O V W H  
T K H D E N K W K K P O G U N Z S Q H Y  
R E P H E S I A N S W X G O O P A L V D

JAMES	ROMANS	EPHESIANS
PHILIPPIANS	CORINTHIANS	COLOSSIANS
GALATIANS	MARK	HEBREWS
MATTHEW	JUDE	REVELATION
ACTS	LUKE	THESSALONIANS
PHILEMON	JOHN	TIMOTHY

