

SMOKE SIGNAL

DECEMBER 2016 BURNT FACTORY UMC NEWSLETTER

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: Sharing the Love of Christ
with ALL People.

*"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your
good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven."*

~ Matthew 5:16



It is truly difficult to believe that this December 25th will mark our 11th Christmas with the good and faithful disciples of Burnt Factory UMC! Melanie and I are so very thankful and so blessed to be in ministry with all of you. Over the years, we have experienced many changes at the corner of Jordan Springs and Burnt Factory Rds. Over those 11 years; we have faced many challenges and many struggles. We have said hello and welcomed many new faces and sadly; we have said "good bye until we meet again" to many saints of the church. In all this time, two things have remained constant and that is your deep and abiding faith and hope in Jesus Christ and your willingness to seek His will! We are humbled and very blessed to be a small part of this church and look forward to where God is going to lead us in the coming year!

Melanie and I want to thank you for loving us and showing us what is possible when God's people pull together. We want to thank you for displaying what it truly means to be the hands and feet of Jesus; to truly embrace being the body of Christ. I believe with all my heart that BFUMC authentically and genuinely strives toward fulfilling the mission of the church; which is "To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

In today's mobile and transitory world, it is very rare to be able to worship with family. I am so blessed and thankful to be a part of four generations that worship together. This is extremely rare for a United Methodist pastor. I have the distinct privilege of worshiping with my mother Edna, my son Ben, and my granddaughter Abby. Melanie and I are so grateful and so blessed that you not only love and support us but have loved and supported all my family! We are truly blessed and our cup runneth over!

My entire family wants to wish your entire family the most joyous and wonderful Christmas! We hope that your New Year will be one of great blessing and fulfillment. We hope for each and every one of you a year filled with the love and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ! I close with one of my favorite of Paul's letter introductions. This is from his letter to his beloved church in Philippi and it sums up my feelings. *"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."*

God bless each and every one of you and



We love you!

Melanie and Steve



The family of Burnt Factory UMC wishes to extend our deepest sympathy to Jay and Anne Kackley and family and to Darrin and Kim Bursey and family in the passing of Anne's mother, Catherine Campbell.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Pat Perry and family in the passing of her husband and everyone's dear friend, Sonny.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Charity Merriman and family in the passing of her grandmother, Stella Shifflett.

Our deepest sympathy to Bill and Janie Shope in the passing of their beloved son, Bob.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Wade Noel and Tina James in the passing of their son, Seth, and also to Harley James and Heidi Brown. Seth is their step-son.

All have claimed the promise of the resurrection and have entered the church triumphant.

RELAY FOR LIFE

"The Believers"

The theme for the 2017 Relay for Life is "Decades." Put on your thinking cap for decorating ideas. We will schedule a decorating meeting sometime after the holidays.

The new Relay for Life website is up and ready for you to join "The Believers" of Burnt Factory UMC. If you haven't already joined, the online instructions are as follows:

Log onto: www.relayforlife.org

Click on "Join a Relay" at the top (right side) of the page

Enter "22601" as the zip code

Click on "Relay for Life of Winchester/Frederick County"

Click on "Join this Relay" at the top (right side) of the page

Click on "Create an Account"

Enter your information then click on "create an account"

Click on "Join a Team"

Enter "The Believers" as the name of the team you want to join

Click on Next and donate, if you wish, or donate at a later date

You are now a team member!



If you prefer to join the team without going online, paper applications are on the table in the Fellowship Hall. Complete the form and leave it on the table under the stack and we will add you to the team.

The next Relay for Life meeting will take place at Calvary Baptist Church at 6:00pm on January 9th. If you would like to attend the meeting to learn more about Relay for Life, you are more than welcome. "The Believers" usually have several members in attendance.

Thank you for joining the fight against cancer.

Brenda Drumheller
Susan Williams
Co-Chairmen

Birthdays
in
DECEMBER



- 2nd Kathy Feight
- 6th Sam Lentz
- 7th Robert & Ryan May
- 8th Josh Shriver
- 9th Megan Wilson
- 11th Jean Blankenship
- 12th Ernie Kerns
- 13th Rob Moss
- 16th Mark Hostuttler
- 19th Angela Renner
- 21st Naomi Grace Hahn
- 25th JESUS!**
- Hazel Kerns
- 26th Polly Duvall
- 27th Tom Duvall
- 28th Don Duvall
- 29th Bonnie Henry
- 30th Melissa Clemons



- 21st Jay & Anne Kackley
- 28th Tim & Anne Perrault



*Congratulations to
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert
(Wilson & Theresa)
who were married on
October 28th!*

**Have you given your e-mail address
to Keith Roberts, yet?**

*Do we have...
your@e-mail.address?*

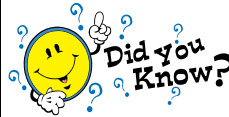
Pastor Steve has special notices he needs to send to those who attend Burnt Factory. The notices will include not only prayer concerns, but also schedule changes during bad weather.

Keith keeps an e-mail list in his computer for just such purposes. Your e-mail address is protected and e-mails are sent, recipients not disclosed, to protect your privacy.

Kindly send your e-mail address to Keith Roberts at john.k.roberts@comcast.net with the message:

"ADD ME TO THE CHURCH EMAIL LIST"

Thank You



*If you would like to receive the
monthly church newsletter in your e-
mail, just let me know and I'll add
you to one of my groups.*

*I have quite a number of people who receive the
newsletter in their email.*

All I need is your e-mail address.

And you will receive it in color! 😊

Charly



*Confirmation
Sunday*

On Sunday, October 30th, the following young people were confirmed into the United Methodist faith.

Elijah Britton	Harrison Fair
Marianna Garrett	Raegan Owens
Hayden Earhart	Paige Flinchum
Catalina Perez	



Faith and Health Corner
December 2016

Holiday Gifts and Traditions

A harried woman and her children were ending their day of holiday shopping. To express her frustration and stress, she stated that whoever created Christmas should be strung up and shot. A bystander brought to her attention that someone had already crucified him. Before you get caught up with your tasks, lists and expectations, put them into perspective. Ask yourself what you should be celebrating: the hectic, stress-laden, financially burdened holiday season, or the gift of peace and hope.

Even though God gives us all we need for a healthy, happy life, we tend to disturb it by "spending" and "observing" the holiday on human terms." Look at the holiday traps that take up your time. Categorize your holiday tasks as "need to do," "should do," "want to do," and "expected to do." Which ones really address the Christmas spirit? Just because you are invited to attend an event or have habitually participated in an activity doesn't mean you have to continue the activity. Prioritize all of your activities. By weeding out those that distract you from the true meaning of Christmas, you will find less stress and more enjoyment from your choices.

Advent is a time for hope, peace, joy, and love, not mounds of gifts, chaotic rounds of parties, or copious amounts of food. Consider what has real meaning for you. Is it the Christmas story you heard as a child or its impact on you as an adult? Think about the music of the holiday and how a stirring rendition of "Joy to the World" or a quiet performance of "Silent Night" displays love and peace in a harried world. Don't let commercialism or stress overshadow the gifts of love and sharing that you offer your loved ones. Remember the spirit of Christmas, share your presence with others, reduce your stress, and create meaningful traditions that demonstrate God's love.

"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights..."

James 1:17 NIV

Until the next time ... Blessings to you and yours,
Theresa

You can reach me at any time by e-mail at tgilbert@afpdocs.com or theresa.h.seddon@gmail.com or by phone at (540) 247-5612.

As your Faith Community Nurse, I am here to serve as a bridge to better health, by meeting the wholistic healing mission of the church by partnering with the Pastor as a healer of the spirit, mind and body.





Welcome to Advent Season!

*Christ
IS Coming!*

This is a time that we prepare for the arrival of the Christ Child, and stay focused on the fact that Christ is the reason for the season.

Our numbers for Sunday School and both worship services are increasing. This time last year many people were finding their way on Sunday mornings to our temporary sanctuary to learn and worship. Remember how we worshipped on Christmas Eve at Greenwood Fire Hall and the children told the Christmas story at 6:00p.m. and the Communion and Candlelight Service was at 8:00p.m.? Great attendance for those services.

Now we are blessed to have our new facility beautifully decorated and reminding us that love abounds! All sections of the building remind us that Jesus is in our hearts and we want to share His love to everyone.

Our children will be presenting their program at 6:00p.m. on Sunday, December 11, in the sanctuary. The choir will be presenting a cantata, "Once Upon A Night," by Pepper Choplin at 7:00p.m. on December 18. Christmas Eve Services will be Saturday, December 24, at 6:00p.m. (nursery available) and 8:00p.m. (no nursery offered). On Christmas Day we will worship together at 11:00a.m. with nursery available. No Sunday School or Children's Church.

These events take us to the end of the year. There are many opportunities for worship, activities, Bible studies and meetings. They offer special times to be with friends and family as we serve God through others each and every day. Don't miss those opportunities! Keep the reason for the season alive! Wish everyone a "Merry Christmas!"

Polly Duvall, Worship Chair



The Laurel Center Another shout out to our Barnt Factory family for their tremendous support for the Laurel Center. Once again the staff was amazed with the amount of supplies I delivered. Thank you all for displaying love in the way Jesus has taught us.

Blessings, Donna Gallagher

"Meet and Eat" – for 2017

The Nurture Ministries Team started a new fellowship activity in 2015 called "Meet and Eat." We meet once a month in small groups ranging in size from 7 to 9 persons and enjoy meals and fellowship. Beginning in January, the current groups will be scrambled and new groups will be formed. These dinners are a great opportunity to **meet** fellow parishioners, **eat** good food, share stories, and get to know one another. We hope you will join us. There will be a new sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall for anyone who would like to join. If you are already a member of the "Meet and Eat Group," you will automatically be part of the next rotation and do not have to sign up again. For additional information/questions, please contact Patty Leonard: ricpat5@gmail.com or 540-664-6973.

From a Branch on the Vine

"Where's your list? Gotta have your list if you want anything for Christmas." Oh, the *list*. We have all been asked for one, and usually with it being the condition if we are to get what we want. When I am asked for the "list," I invite my family into my closet so they can decide what I have that is soooo last year and how to update my wardrobe. I can't remember the last time I bought my own clothes. Surprisingly, I am not a fashionista.

New clothes are nice, but do clothes make the person? I know my wife would like me to try. I am hopeful that if I keep my clothes long enough they will come back in fashion. Unfortunately, being ancient is not the same as vintage. Still, I do try and clothe myself with Christ...

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ *Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.* ¹⁴ *And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.* **Colossians 3:12-14**

In Paul's letter, was he talking about a Jesus Tunic or a Cloak of Christ? Of course not. He was imploring his brothers and sisters (including you and me) to have the heart and character of Christ as we live in community. How are we to relate to others? What attributes of Jesus should we embrace?

Compassion: Feeling what the other is feeling.

Kindness: Acts to bless others, without expectation of something in return.

Humility: Putting other's needs before your own.

Gentleness: Tender responses.

Patience: Bear with unpleasantness.

Are these how you want to be treated? For me – yes, yes, yes. Still, people are fallible, imperfect and make mistakes. What should I do when I am desiring compassion, kindness and patience and do need to receive them? **FORGIVE**. It is the balm created by God to heal the wounds inflicted by broken people living in a broken world. And, when, not if, we are the ones who hurt our fellow man, humbly seek forgiveness.

How is all this possible? These virtues are bound (infused) by love, and love is of God.

I had the opportunity to listen to a woman staying at the Ruritan for our WATTS week; an incredible story of addiction and prostitution perpetuated by a boyfriend – a 22 year-old trying to survive a war that is still inflicting damage. Do I see a bad person or a person who has made bad choices? She is broken like me. So, I clothe myself with Christ. I offer compassion and kindness and humbly see her in a spiritual struggle. It is only by the Grace of God that I am not in her situation. I see someone who God loves and to whom God has asked me to show His love.

When you see another child of God that is hurting, put on Christ. It may be the only face of Christ they meet.

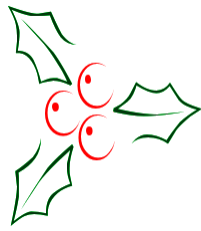
...for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. **Galatians 3:27**

From Deb and I - Have a Joyous Christmas!

In Christ, *Rob*



Kid-Min Connection!



“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth” Galatians 4: 4-5

I would love to wish everyone a joyous and blessed Christmas season! May God pour out blessings upon you all. Thank you all for an amazing year! We have had a crazy year full of transition and adjustment but we are back into our church home and I am grateful for all the support and love you all have shared this year. Thank you to all of my wonderful volunteers, teachers, and families! We are so blessed by you all! My job is such a blessing to me because I get to pray, love, and teach your children every week! God Bless! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Love Miss Carrie

ARE YOU READY FOR AN “ADVENT”URE?

This Advent I have prepared for families a Reverse Advent Calendar. They are available in the downstairs hallway. Your family can participate in this mission opportunity together. It's easy! First choose the charity of your choice such as SPCA, CCAP, etc. Then place a box somewhere in your house where your family can gather to read the scripture chain for that day and place an item for your charity in the box. Then you can even add a prayer!

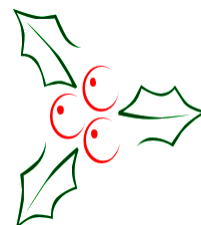
Upcoming!

Children's Christmas program “The Christmas Cupcake” will be December 11, 6:00pm

In January Sunday School will look a little different! **ALL Children** from age 5-5th grade will gather in the Sanctuary at 9:45-10:00 for a Mini Praise and Worship Service before Sunday School. We will pray, praise, sing and pray some more! This will begin Sunday, January 8th!!!! Teachers are invited to participate in this time of worship with the children. We are super excited to begin this time of children's worship for the New Year!!!

Christmas Blessings,

Carrie Fair—Director of Children's Ministries





On November 5th, the Youth helped package over 20,000 meals to be delivered to those around the world who would go hungry. Thanks to Brucetown UMC for hosting the Stop Hunger Now event held at the Stonewall Ruritan.



Off we went to Eagle Eyrie (Lynchburg) for the Middle School Retreat. 14 Young men and women made the journey where we explored what it means to be the friend Jesus was to the paralyzed man waiting for help to be healed. Who will be the one to lead another to the Living Water? Special thanks to Miss Joy and Miss Tammy for making another trip even better.

November 19th, several of our future leaders gave their time to help with the Thanksgiving Give-away at CCAP. Good job, Madison, Cynthia, Tyler and Leah!

You have been blessed so that you may be a blessing to others. In so doing, the richness and grace of Jesus Christ will be known.



What's ahead

Upcoming Youth Events:

- December 9 -11th** High School Retreat at Camp Overlook
Leaving Friday from BFUMC at 5:00pm; back approximately 2:30pm on Sunday
- December 11th** Children's Christmas Program at 6:00pm
- December 24th** Christmas Eve Services at 6:00pm and 8:00pm
- December 25th** Merry Christmas – One Worship Service at 11:00am; No Sunday School
- December 28th** End of Year Celebration 5:00pm – 8:00pm Social Hall
Cookie Exchange and White Elephant gifts
- January 7th** Prayer Breakfast at the Ruritan 9:00am
- January 14th** Parents Night Out for the FaithSeekers Class
More details to come
- January 15th** Regular Meeting Upper Cottage 4:30pm – 6:30pm
Parent Volunteer(s) to provide dinner
- January 28th (Sat.)** Motel Ministry Upper Cottage 9:30am – 1:00pm

Contact Mr. Rob: ram288@comcast.net, 540-303-7161

Burnt Factory United Methodist Men



We would like to introduce our 2017 UMMen officers to you.

Steve Cunningham was elected as President,
Tim Stinnette as Vice President,
Ed Cooper as Treasurer and,
Dave Darsie as Secretary.

We would like to thank Patrick Thompson for his service as President of the UMMen fellowship and Tommy Duvall for his many years of service as Secretary.

The UMMen voted to move our meetings back to Saturday mornings in an effort to make the meetings more accommodating for everyone's schedules. Our next meeting will be Saturday, December 17th, at 8:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. We will have coffee, drinks and light refreshments. Every male church member is a member of the Burnt Factory UMMen fellowship and is invited and encouraged to attend our meetings.

Our goals for 2017 will align with the Burnt Factory UMC goals that were set at this year's charge conference as we will strive to enhance the mission and ministry opportunities for the men of Burnt Factory.

Also worth noting the Winchester District UMMen will hold their Annual Fall Rally on December 10th at Crum's UMC at 8:00 AM. This is the annual business meeting of the District UMMen and they will elect their 2017 officers and have a small worship service with a message from Rev. Tom Barnard and wonderful music led by Andrew Davis. It should be a worthwhile event. If you are interested in attending, let me know and if you wish, we can set up a car pool to attend together.

We are looking forward to moving forward into 2017 and working together as we put our faith in action by making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

If anyone has any questions, feel free to contact me (540) 207-7404; tamtut@comcast.net.

Steve Cunningham
President, Burnt Factory UMMen

A Message From Your Newsletter Coordinator....

Would you like you and your family's names on the Birthday list in the newsletter?

AND

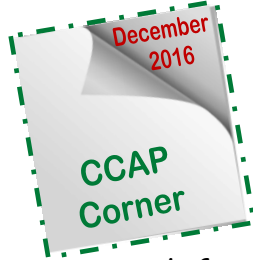
Would you also like you and your spouse's names on the Anniversary list?

I don't need the year of your birth or anniversary, just the month and day! 😊

Well, all you have to do is let me know. My email address is cdwinter@comcast.net and my phone number is (540) 722-4408.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Charly



CCAP, the Congregational-Community Action Project, is a cooperative ministry of 45 area churches and one synagogue serving Winchester and Frederick County that have joined together to provide financial, material and supportive assistance to people in need. CCAP is located at 112 and 106 S. Kent Street.

Thank you so much for your generous donations for the Thanksgiving food collection. We were able to supply enough food for 16 complete Thanksgiving dinners for CCAP. 600 families were served on the day of the giveaway and several members of our Burnt Factory Family helped with the distribution of the food.

On November 23rd, to continue our tradition of a Thanksgiving Eve offering, we collected 38 new blankets for the CCAP Christmas Giveaway and 2506 diapers and 100 wipes for The Red Wagon Ministry. Again, we thank you for your wonderful giving to two important ministries serving those struggling to stay warm and diaper their children.

**VOLUNTEERS, TOYS AND TEEN GIFTS ARE GREATLY NEEDED FOR THE CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY
ON DECEMBER 12th AT MT. CARMEL BAPTIST CHURCH**

Toys and gifts for kids and teens are greatly needed. If you have any to donate, please take them to Mt. Carmel Baptist Church on Friday, Dec. 9th from 8:30 am – noon or contact Patty Leonard for pickup. The set-up date is Friday, December 9th from 8:30 am – noon at Mt. Carmel (and may continue into the weekend). The Giveaway is December 12th from 8:30 am-1:00 pm (or later). If you are able to spare any time to help, even an hour or two, volunteers are greatly needed and appreciated.

As 2016 comes to a close, The Outreach Committee would like to extend our sincere thanks for supporting CCAP through your generous donations, volunteering and prayers. Our church has given so much to so many. Our church is truly the “hands and feet of God.”

The next CCAP business meeting is January 19th, 10:00 am, at Christ Episcopal Church on Boscawen Street. I can be reached at ricpat5@gmail.com or by cell at 540-664-6973 if you have questions about CCAP, need help with picking up a donation or if you would like to learn more on how to volunteer.



*Merry Christmas,
Patty Leonard*

To my Burnt Factory Family I wish to extend a BIG Thank You for giving me the opportunity to coordinate your monthly Church Newsletter for another year.

Thank You also to the Newsletter Regulars who have sent me their articles in such a timely manner each month.

It has been such a pleasure for me to find just the right graphic and headline font to go with each article. I really do appreciate each person allowing me to make any changes I feel necessary. Although I never change the content, I may take a paragraph and center it or bold it to bring attention to it. I even like to add some color. It is so wonderful that you trust me.

Thanks again for another great year!





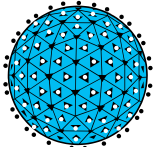
Charly





DECEMBER 2016 CHURCH CALENDAR



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
December 4 th – 2 nd Sunday of Advent – The Candle of Christ <u>Our Way</u> December 11 th – 3 rd Sunday of Advent – The Candle of Christ <u>Our Joy</u> December 18 th – 4 th Sunday of Advent – The Candle of Christ <u>Our Peace</u> December 24 th – Christmas Eve Candle Light Service – The <u>Christ Candle</u> is lit December 25 th – Christmas Day – One Service at 11:00 – No Sunday School/No Children's Church				1 WATTS Program at Ruritan	2 PRINTING DECEMBER NEWSLETTER WATTS Program at Ruritan	3 WATTS Program at Ruritan
4 WATTS Program at Ruritan 8:30am-Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 11:00am-Children's Church 4:00pm-5:00pm-Christmas Program Practice	5 WATTS Program at Ruritan 7:00pm-Nurture Ministries 7:00pm-Advent Study	6 10:00am-Busy Hands Small Group/Jani Shope's 7:00pm-Trustees 6:00pm-Choir 7:30pm-SONrise Singers	7 10:00am-Advent Study	8	9 YOUTH 9 th – 11 th High School Retreat at Camp Overlook	10 YOUTH 9 th – 11 th High School Retreat at Camp Overlook
11 Youth H.S. Retreat-Camp Overlook ends 8:30am-Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 11:00am-Children's Church Blood Pressure Clinic 1:00pm-Singles Group 6:00pm-Children's Christmas Program	12 7:00pm-Advent Study	13 6:00pm-Choir 7:30pm-SONrise Singers	14 10:00am-Advent Study	15 7:00pm-UMW	16	17 8:00am-UMM
18 8:30am-Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 11:00am-Children's Church 7:00pm-Choir presents Cantata "Once Upon A Night"	19 7:00pm-Advent Study	20 10:00am-Busy Hands Small Group at Jani Shope's 6:00pm-Choir 7:30pm-SONrise Singers	21 10:00am-Advent Study  First Day of Winter	22	23	24  Christmas Eve Services 6:00pm and 8:00PM
25 Merry Christmas ONE SERVICE ONLY 11:00am-Worship No Sunday School No Children's Church	26	27 NO CHOIR PRACTICE	28  5:00pm-8:00pm – YOUTH End of Year Celebration Social Hall	29	30 NEED January 2017 Newsletter articles by 3:00pm- Jan. 4! <i>Thanks, Charly</i> Printing-Jan. 6!	31  New Year's Eve

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BURNT FACTORY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
NEWSLETTER

December

2016

