

SMOKE

JULY 2018 NEWSLETTER
BURNT FACTORY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
STEPHENSON, VIRGINIA 22656
C. STEVEN MELESTER, PASTOR

*"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE MEN THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD
WORKS AND PRAISE OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN" ~ MATTHEW 5:16*

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:
SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST WITH
ALL PEOPLE.

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"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory forever and ever." Gal.1:3-5

As we celebrate another Fourth of July, I can't help but to wonder what the founding fathers of our blessed country would think if they were alive today. I wonder how these giants of insight and political ethics; how these monumental leaders who possessed both integrity and foresight; how these men of vision, courage, and loyalty -- would feel when they realized the depth of depravity, arrogance and hubris that public discourse and political debate have sunk to!

I wonder if these giants of intellect who placed into action, with the collaborative documents known as the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution, the most profound credo of freedom and liberty ever penned in the history of the world; I wonder if they would be ashamed at what has become of the country they had sacrificed so much to birth.

I wonder if they, who took such pains and displayed such genius in figuring out the challenges of separating church and state and yet still undergirded our legal system with the laws of God, would be shocked at how their dreams for the USA have been hijacked. Hijacked by both the far right and the far left!

We live in a time of complete disunity and polarization. We are divided as much today as we were in 1861. Our true statesmen have disappeared. Common decency, mutual respect, and productive dialogue are as extinct as the dodo bird or a moderate. Compromise and negotiation are taboo. Our political conversation on both sides has disintegrated into childish name calling, playing the blame game, bullying, and slander. We use gossip, mistruths, outright lies & deceit as tools of the political game. Both parties have sunk to pandering to the people, to giving them what their itching ears want to hear. Winning at all costs is the motto and it doesn't matter what they do or how they do it. We sacrificed demanding character and integrity and moral high ground out of our public servants years ago. What is important now is not a unified people who with intelligent discourse find a way to agree to disagree for the greater good, but rather continued polarization that just leads to more chaos, mistrust, apathy, disillusionment, disappointment, and hatred. I ask you, believers in Jesus, who is the author of confusion, chaos, disunity, and lies? Who will benefit from our countries continued polarization? Who will profit by splitting us into red and blue states? Who, like a prowling lion looking to destroy, steal and kill desires our demise? The enemy is loose in our culture, our world and yes our churches. I wonder about our future in a growing post-Christian culture and wonder if our founding fathers could have ever dreamed this could have happened.

I don't have the answers to illegal immigration for that is way above my pay grade. I don't have the answers to a lot of things but I know this – the problems we are facing need a new approach by new people on both sides of the aisle! This is not a time to keep playing the name-calling, blame game! This is not a Republican or Democrat problem. This is not a progressive or conservative problem. This is not a "letter of the law" problem. This is a moral problem! I am not blaming anyone and yet at the same time, I am blaming everyone (past & present) but what has happened on our southern border is horrible, immoral, and just plain wrong! I am thankful the separation of families has ceased but it should have never started.

PASTOR'S ARTICLE CONTINUES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE>>>>

PASTOR'S ARTICLE CONTINUES >>>>

I believe Jesus is looking down at our country the same way he looked over Jerusalem before his execution and is weeping for us as he did for them. We have such great potential, we have such great resources, we have such great resolve and yet we do not see or want to accept that the problem is in our disunity. The past four administrations (both Republican and Democrat) are more concerned with winning than fixing problems and care more for power than for resolution.

Jesus was constantly criticized for not participating in outdated and unjust laws. He told the Pharisees, who tried to control him, that they needed to go back and study the scriptures found in the prophet Hosea where it reads, *"For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgement of God rather than burnt offerings."* Wrong is wrong. I can't tell anyone what to think or what to believe – all I can do is seek God's wisdom and continue to try and speak the truth of the Gospel. UMC Bishop Will Willimon said, *"I see the confusion of politics and religion as one of the greatest barriers to grace."* C.S Lewis observed *"that almost all crimes of Christian history have come about when religion is confused with politics. Politics, which always runs by the rules of ungrace, allures us to trade away grace for power, a temptation the church had often been unable to resist."* I hope you understand and trust that my agenda will always be of seeking obedience to the Holy Spirit and to attempting to provide opportunities for transformation as provided by the grace of God through the Holy Spirit. In these difficult times we live, I believe the prophet Micah said it best, *"He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."*

This Fourth of July, I am trying to walk humbly with the Lord the best I can. I am going to seek mercy for myself and for others and I am going to act as justly as I can. I hope you will join me.

"Grace and Peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord!"

Pastor Steve

What's Happening Down the Worship Road for July

We are beginning a five-part sermon series for the month of July entitled "Life in the Church." We will be looking at what it means to be a part of the church. In today's world, the church is facing many challenges. The church has been misrepresented and characterized inappropriately. I hope this series will serve to reclaim the church and what it means. The church is people, the church is the body of Christ and the church exists to proclaim the Gospel and make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

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|---------|---|
| 7-1-18 | Sermon: "Building the Church"
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13 |
| 7-8-18 | Sermon: "The New Community"
Scripture: Acts 6: 1-6 |
| 7-15-18 | Sermon: "From Magic to Miracles"
Scripture: Acts 8: 4-13 |
| 7-22-18 | Sermon: "The Peaceable Kingdom"
Scripture: Isaiah 11: 6-9 |
| 7-29-18 | Sermon: "The Far Country"
Scripture: 1 st Peter 4: 12-16 & Matthew 5: 10-12 |



Congratulations to Justin and Jessica Buddenhagen!!

A little baby by the name of Naomi has decided to come into the family!

Buddy's Jokes for JULY.....

Daughter: Dad, can I watch TV?
Dad: Yes, as long as you don't turn it on. ☺

I **relish** the fact that you've **mustard** the
strength to **ketchup** to me. ☺

Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other,
"You stay here, I'll go on a head." ☺

Show me a piano falling down a mineshaft and I'll show you A-flat minor. ☺

AND LAST BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST....

What happens when the smog lifts in Los Angeles? UCLA. ☺

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 Roberts 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."

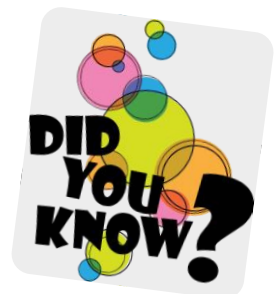
Thank You

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. There are 4 Groups now – 31 people who receive the newsletter via e-mail and an additional 6 people who receive it snail mail.

All I need is your e-mail address.

And... .. you receive it in **color!** ☺

Charfy





- 1st Mike Gerometta
- 3rd Sarah Shoremount
- 5th Diann Duvall
- 6th Kathy Hunt
Isabella Repine
- 7th Janie Bigler
- 9th Aimee Taylor and Tim Heinlein
- 11th Mike Goode 14th Collin Stinnette
- 18th Erin & Avery Woods
- 21st Martha Ludtke
Amy Shepley
- 22nd David Peterson
- 23rd Danny Murphy
Norbert Bonjo
- 24th Jamar Smith
- 25th Judi Eckert
Rick Ours
- 26th Karen Swisher
John Roberts
Debbie Walker
- 27th Irene Reynard
- 28th Elijah Britton
Landon Orndorff

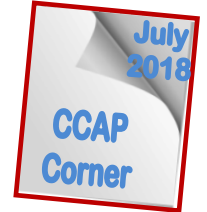


- 4th Bill & Sue Swimley
- 10th Chad & Rennie Earhart
Glen & Carrie Fair
Mark & Lucinda Lentz
- 15th Richard & Bonnie Henry
Sequoia & Stephanie Britton
- 20th Jim & Jean Blankenship
- 24th Chad & Tabitha Lee
- 25th Ken & Mary Lou Wales
- 28th Danny & Amye Murphy
- 29th Ryan & Sue Ellen Rutherford

NURTURE MEET & EAT GROUP

The Nurture Meet and Eat Group will be taking a summer hiatus. We will "regroup" and start meeting again in October. Thanks for all of the great participation in the past. We look forward to starting again in October and hope to see a lot of new faces.

Signup sheets for new members will be available in September. If you have any questions, please contact Patty Leonard at 664-6973 or ricpat5@gmail.com.



CCAP COLLECTION DAY

Mark your calendar for our **next quarterly CCAP Collection at Burnt Factory.** We will be collecting pantry supplies on **SUNDAY, JULY 8 AND JULY 15.**

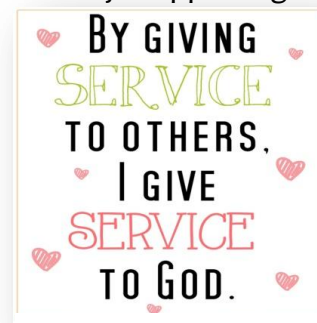
THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NEEDED:

CANNED SOUP, CANNED MEAT (EXCEPT FOR TUNA), PAPER BOWLS THAT CAN BE MICROWAVED, GALLON SIZE STORAGE BAGS, TOILET PAPER, LAUNDRY DETERGENT, WOMEN'S FEMININE ITEMS, SUNSCREEN, CHAP STICK AND BUG SPRAY. TENTS, TARPS AND NYLON ROPE ARE ALWAYS NEEDED AT THE HOMELESS CAMP. BED BUG SPRAY IS ALSO NEEDED. DOLLAR GENERAL STORES HAVE THIS SPRAY.

These items can be placed in our new CCAP bins at the church.

Please see me with any questions; Patty Leonard, ricpat5@gmail.com, 540-664-6973.

Thank you for always supporting this mission.





*Steve and Tammy Cunningham and Family in the passing of Steve's
cousin, Johnny Cunningham.*

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

United Methodist Women

Our 51 school kits were taken to annual conference in Hampton by Pastor Steve. **Now, as summer sales start for school supplies, we can shop for spiral notebooks (70 pages), blunt scissors, crayons (24), unsharpened pencils, rulers, pencil sharpeners and 2 ½ inch erasers. WalMart, Target and Staples seem to be favorite places to shop for bargains. We will need to pack them in 2 gallon plastic bags next June, so we will need to buy those. If you have access to the boxes paper comes in, save those to pack the kits in. We need 7 boxes. Just a heads-up on those. We will need all these items next May.**

Debbie Moss had an interesting program on immigration at our June 28th meeting last week. A very timely subject. Thanks, Debbie, for the information you shared. Thanks also to Susie Gerometta and Martha Ludtke for refreshments we always look forward to. We're Methodists!

Our guest was the UMW District President, Carolyn Woodrum. We reviewed our Living Into Our Purpose and have fulfilled more than enough on the check list to be recognized with the GOLD Achievements.

Penny Croll made us aware of how active we are with Project Esperanza, Valley Light and Valley Shine.

We observed our World Thank Offering. Next meeting in August we will decide on names for our Candle Burning Ceremony. These are all part of fulfilling our Purpose.

Continue to cut out the cancelled stamps and Box Tops for Education. The lavender box is in the Social Hall.

Polly passed out scented drawer packets with missionary names. Pray for your missionary and send them an e-mail birthday message! You might hear back from them.

We don't have an organized meeting in July, but always seem to be active with opportunities to be in mission. **Our next meeting will be August 16th.** If you missed our June meeting, please plan to attend the August meeting and be a part of what we are all about!!

Blessings, Polly Duvall, UMW president



*Congratulations to Kelley Keller and Jamey Zirk who were united in
marriage at Burnt Factory on Saturday, June 23, 2018!*

May you be blessed with a wonderful life together!

Kelley is the daughter of Kay Keller.

The First Aid Dance!



Not breathing!

No heartbeat!

Severe bleeding!

Choking!

Poisoned!



If appropriate, have victim lie down, raise her feet.

Keep her at a normal temperature.

Stay with her.



Call 9-1-1!

Send a runner!

Stay with the victim!



Address broken bones, burns, cuts and scratches, etc.

Faith and Health Corner

July 2018

Wholistic First Aid

Often throughout the summer we are in need of first aid. I would like to share some thoughts with you on **first aid** from a wholistic approach. When we think about **first aid**, we usually consider treatment of injuries and accident prevention for our bodies, and indeed this is an important concern. We can care for our bodies by making sure our homes have a well-supplied **first aid** kit. You can buy one or assemble one yourself.

THE KIT SHOULD INCLUDE: HAND CLEANER, ANTISEPTIC SOLUTION, ANTIBIOTIC OINTMENT, Q-TIPS, BAND AIDS, GAUZE PADS, TAPE, COLD PACKS, A SMALL ACE WRAP, PLASTIC BAGS, PAIN RELIEVERS FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN, AND POISON CONTROL INFORMATION.

First aid and accident prevention in our spiritual life is also needed. Nourish yourself through prayer and live lives that are healed by Christ's words. The bible contains **first aid** if we are hurting so we can be healed. God's words are **first aid** for our souls.

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10

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, meeting the wholistic healing mission of the church by partnering with the Pastor as a healer of the spirit, mind and body.



Burnt Factory UMC “The Believers”



The Relay for Life 2018 event ended at 6:30am June 16th but the money hasn't stopped coming in. At last count “The Believers” have raised \$27,826 for cancer research. \$6,108 of this amount was raised by Pat Perry, HERSELF.

These numbers earned first place honors for top team fundraiser and top individual fundraiser. But “The Believers” didn't stop there. We also earn first place honors for top tacky tourist fashion show fundraiser, top luminaria decorating contest and top campsite decorations.

The fundraising efforts started in October with the dinner served to the Stonewall Ruritan Club, followed by the sale of the wooden replicas of our beautiful church, next was our spaghetti dinner/basket auction, then the 7th annual Jack Duvall Golf tournament, followed by the Singin' Sundae Social. The June fundraisers occurred at the event itself: tacky tourist fashion show, luminaria decorating contest and country ham sale (which ended after the 8:30 service on Sunday).

Theresa and I would like to thank Lindsey Perrault for volunteering to represent our team as our tacky tourist and for recruiting some of her art students to decorate the luminaria bags to represent our team. We would also like to thank Steve Cunningham and family for donating the country ham. His country ham has quite a reputation. Forty three sandwiches were sold at the event and 75 sold at the 8:30 service leaving zero sandwiches for those who attended the 11:00 service. We may go back to preordering the sandwiches next year so that everyone has an opportunity to be guaranteed a sandwich.

A special thank you to the many men and women who assisted with our camp decorations led by Lindsey Perrault and Karen Lynch. Decorating workshops were held weekly for nine weeks with no less than 12 people attending each workshop. We had so much fun in fellowship creating our miniature orchard/fruit market. Lindsey and Karen did an amazing job leading our workshops and channeling

everyone's artistic abilities. We also want to thank those people who worked behind the scenes: Dave Bodkin for building our Winchester-opy board and Linda Bodkin for helping Dave assemble it the day of the event and finish gluing the last minute pages on the board, William Price for building our farm market signs – transporting the decorations, assembling and disassembling them and picking them up at 5:30 in the morning. Thanks also to Eddie Cooper who came back early Saturday morning to help disassemble and load. Numerous men showed up at the church to load up the tents/tables/etc. and then drove to James Wood to set everything up. Numerous women helped make the country ham sandwiches Friday morning to be sold at the event. Irene Hardesty worked behind the scenes making the signs for all of our fruits and vegetables and arrived early on Friday to capture pictures of our campsite and many of the activities during the event. A special thanks to Wilson Gilbert for visiting all of the farm markets to let them know we were honoring them and for picking up and returning all of the items they let us use to advertise their business.

Of course we can't forget to thank EVERYONE who attended the event. The covered dish dinner was a huge success. In true Methodist fashion we had enough food to feed an army. We were blessed with beautiful weather and the third tent came in handy, especially when the early morning dew threatened to destroy our decorations.

This year a total of 10 people visited with each other, played corn hole and walked the night away together – Theresa and Wilson Gilbert, Kenny and Christina Rohrbach, Wayne and Brenda Drumheller, Casey Price, Erin Drumheller, Pat Perry, and Polly Duvall.

We sincerely appreciate the support we received this year from every one of you who made this mission a success. Burnt Factory, led by “The Believers” raised approximately 17% of the \$163,000 raised at this year's event. You should all be proud of the difference you are making in the fight against cancer. We are sure God is proud of his good and faithful servants.

Brenda Drumheller
Theresa Gilbert
Co-captains

Women's Retreat!



WHAT: 2018 Burnt Factory United Methodist Church Women's Retreat

WHERE: Blessings Lodge, Camp Overlook

WHEN: Friday, September 7, through Sunday, September 9

WHO: YOU!

WHY: Come and join us at our "Cozy Mountain Lodge" retreat. Are you in need of a relaxing day in the mountains? Time to slow down, savor a warm beverage while chatting with friends, and enjoy the beauty of the great outdoors? This is a retreat where women slow down and enjoy time with other women and with God. It includes worship, bible study, a service project, and more!

COST: \$100 per participant. This includes two nights at Blessings Lodge, in a hotel-style room, with 4 twin beds (you will have roommates), all your meals (2 dinners, 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches) and all your retreat supplies. If the cost of attending is an issue, scholarship opportunities are available.

QUESTIONS: Angie Wiseman, Becky Dennis, Diana Smith, Kara Lewis or Danette Heinlein

How: Look for a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall, or email, or message any of the above retreat leaders. If you wish to go ahead and pay by check, please DO NOT put the check in the offering plate, but instead hand it to a retreat leader. Write it to BFUMC and put Women's Retreat 2018 in the memo portion of the check.

*Blessings,
Danette Heinlein*



Vacation Bible School was an amazing adventure!! We spent a week discovering the shipwrecked island of Burnt Factory UMC! We discovered some amazing truths from the Bible! We learned that when you worry, when you're powerless, when you struggle, when you're lonely, when you do wrong---JESUS RESCUES! I am so very grateful for all the many people who volunteered to come out and serve Jesus by serving our children. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus!

Summer Camp will be held July 9, 10, 11 from 9am-1pm. This will be a fun filled day jam-packed with games, snacks, Biblical story time, praise and worship, lunch and crafts/activities! We will plan on only 20 places available for this ministry. Registrations have been distributed during VBS and mailed out, so get your registration in early! Transportation will be available if needed-there will be permission forms to fill out for this in the Director of Children's Ministries office!

Our Monday night singers will take a break in the month of July and we will get started again in August!

I am looking for two teachers to volunteer their time and serve either in the Primary Sunday School room or Late service Children's Church on the 4th Sunday of the month.

The Primary class consists of ages 4-6 and curriculum is provided. This is on an every other month rotation.

The Children's Church position is for grades K-5th, curriculum is provided and is needed on the 4th Sunday of the month only for the late service.

If you are interested in either of these positions, please let Carrie know! Thanks.

Have an AWESOME Summer! Carrie Fair, Director



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From a branch on the Vine

The new name tags some are wearing are an intentional effort to be visible points of contact for visitors. Got a question? “Ask me.” Makes sense, right? Do you think I have answers to the essence of God? The Trinity? What is Heaven like? No, I don’t, but I can point out the Nursery and the nearest bathroom.

There are times when our expectation is to get an answer, and what we get is guidance. You want to know what Heaven is like? It is like a mustard seed, a pearl of great price, and a treasure hidden in a field. It’s an answer, but are you satisfied? Does that disappoint you? I do not know all the answers or am smart enough to ask the questions; but I trust the One who does.

The Apostles and pillars of the early church gave us many answers and generated as many questions. Our God-head, the Trinity, is still a mystery to be revealed. We seek to know God, but we can only absorb and understand within our human limits. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians, Chapter 13: *For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.* Answers are coming, but in the present ... *we live by faith, not by sight.*

We live in a tension between what we know and what remains unanswered. Is that a burden on your faith? You are not alone. It took a supernatural appearance by the Jesus in the upper room and a breakfast on the beach for the Apostles to embrace the risen Lord. For Thomas it required touching the nail marks and the spear wound in Jesus’ side. Paul was knocked off his horse and struck blind to believe in Jesus. Tests of faith are not the same as lack of faith. Not understanding is not unbelief. When Mary was given the news she was with child by the Holy Spirit, she responded, “How can this be?”

Friends, your faith is not in jeopardy if you have questions. Seekers ask questions because they want to increase their faith – a deeper, more personal relationship to God. Like a man born blind and whose sight is restored, we are only beginning to experience the wonder of God. That wonder will not be complete until we are face-to-face. Until then, we grow in knowledge and experience and affirmation of the real and present God.

Do you trust God with your questions? Are you open to His answers? To the truth? Then, hear the words of Jesus from Matthew 7:

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

Ask your questions and seek your answers from the Source of forgiveness, mercy and grace – God the Father as revealed in Jesus the Son and working in our lives by the Power of the Holy Spirit.

In Christ, *Rob*



*Dear Church Family,
Thank you for Camp Overlook!
I had a good time!*

Love, Debbie Knight



Burnt Factory United Methodist Men

We would like to take a look at changing the frequency and intent of our United Methodist Men's Fellowship meeting. We would like to know what best suits your schedule for us to have our meetings. Respond to me either via email or text. See info in my signature block. It is our goal to make the UMM fellowship a place where the men of our church can come together and celebrate our combined walk with Jesus Christ while supporting the ministries of Burnt Factory UMC. Please make every effort to get in touch with me to let me know if you prefer our current Saturday morning meetings or if you prefer a weeknight (keep in mind we are a busy

church and weeknight meetings will have to work around existing church meetings and events). We want to be more intentional in our mission work and focus more on ministry and less on meeting. We still need to meet to conduct the business of our UMMen fellowship, however we want to be intentional in our meeting schedules so that our time can be used in the most efficient way during these busy times that we are now in.

Pinnacle Living (formerly Virginia United Methodist Homes, Inc) provides housing alternatives for retired clergy and their spouses in the Virginia Annual Conference. They have one home in Winchester located at 2716 Saratoga Drive. Betty Murphy, the widow of Rev. Floyd Murphy, has been living in this home since 1995. I met Betty recently and she is a very active person and enjoys her home. Pinnacle Living was looking for a group to partner to do some small maintenance jobs around the Winchester home. Burnt Factory UMMen voted to accept this ministry opportunity. Currently there are six jobs that need some attention. I will be contacting some of the men in the church to assist with some of these projects. We need to paint a bathroom, replace the mailbox post, paint some wrought iron supports on the front porch, repair an outside storage room door, replace the kitchen floor (only about 10' x 16') and do some maintenance on a step leading off of the carport to the back yard. Most are small jobs and can be done in a day. Betty receives a lot of visitors on the weekends and would rather the work be done on a weekday if at all possible. Betty keeps the home in immaculate condition and is very happy to give you a tour of the entire home. I look forward to this ministry and hope you will join me in supporting Pinnacle Living and Miss Betty.



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

Steve Cunningham
President, Burnt Factory UMMen

ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE IS A PROPOSED UMMEN CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PROPOSED UMMEN CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January: Emphasis is placed on sponsoring and implementing annual prayer breakfast. This will serve as the meeting for the month.

February: No Meeting (Unless a mission project becomes apparent)

***March:** Regular Meeting (Plan Potato Project)

April: No Meeting (Unless a mission project becomes apparent)

*****UMMen continues to provide support for church picnic set up, shelter clean up, RFL set up, Fall Festival, Etc.)**

***May:** Regular Meeting.

June: No Meeting. (Unless a mission project becomes apparent)

***July:** Regular Meeting.

August: No Meeting (Unless a mission project becomes apparent)

***September:** Regular Meeting (Confirm Apple Butter Project Plans)

October: APPLE BUTTER

***November:** Last Meeting of the year (Finalize Prayer Breakfast Plans)

December: Enjoy the Season!

I want to suggest for your consideration that we entertain a change in the structure of our UMMen meetings & that we stress more prayer with each other and more relationship building. I would suggest that we meet less often but with more intentionality & that we have a meal, a program, and a mission focus. We have tried evening meetings and Saturday morning meetings and neither seems to attract new people. I would suggest that we switch back to an evening format to try once again to attract younger men. No matter when we meet or how we meet, I believe relationship, prayer, and mission must be the unifying bonding agent. We need to try something.

“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!” Isaiah 43: 18

Steve Cunningham
President Burnt Factory UMMen



Senior High had a night; Junior High had a night; and we all had a night together. The month of June ended with a Pool Party at Pastor Steve's House.

Heaven was the topic for our Regular Meeting on the 10th. Where is it? What's it like? Many questions with not as many answers, but we all have the assurance there is a place prepared for us. Thanks Angie and Crystal for chaperoning.

The Junior High Pool Party was a blast. Hamburgers, hotdogs, relay race, basketball and egg toss. 10 of our Youth descended on Pastor Steve's House and no 911 calls. Thanks Steve and Melanie for the great welcome.



Upcoming Youth Events:

July 8th Combined Youth Meeting (including Rising 6th graders)
4:30 – 6:30 Fellowship Hall



July 15th Combined Youth Hike (including Rising 6th graders)
1:00 – 5:30

Meet after church, pack lunch and appropriate clothes. We plan on taking the bus to Sky Meadows. Please let Pastor Steve or Mr. Rob know if you are coming so we have enough transportation.

July 25th Senior High (including Rising 8th graders)
6 – 7:30
Pastor Steve's House (1625 Whittier Avenue, Winchester)

Pastor Steve: 540-550-3189/ pastorsteve58@comcast.net
Mr. Rob: 540-303-7161/ ram288@comcast.net

2018 Virginia Annual Conference Report

The theme of this year's Annual Conference was based on 1 Peter 4:10: "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." "When you use the gifts God has given you, you will discover that God will give you the power you need to operate in your gift," Bishop Lewis stated. "It is by grace we received the gift and it is by grace that we use the gift. Just think about it: when someone gives you a gift, what do they expect you to do with it? *They expect you to use it.*"



Bishop Lewis encourages all of us to use our gifts to continue with her 4 year vision of Disciples of Jesus Christ who are lifelong learners who influence others to serve. We can choose how this looks as individuals and individual churches.

There were eight Resolutions included in the Book of Reports. Resolutions are not disciplinary actions and not all are required to be addressed at Conference. Three were addressed:

RESOLUTION 6 - Gracious Accommodation Virginia Annual Conference. The resolution had to do with the implications of possible irreconcilable theological differences between that of the local congregation and United Methodist polity and discipline particularly as it pertains to ministry to and with members of the LGBTQ community on local congregations' buildings, assets and liabilities. The resolution was called out of order by Bishop Lewis as it called to ignore a part of the Discipline; it is improper as a matter of church law as only General Conference can enact changes in the Discipline.

RESOLUTION 3 - Compassionate Support for Members of the Armed Forces, Veterans and Their Families Suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress and Moral Injury. The committee recommended concurrence. The resolution was approved.

RESOLUTION 1 - Affirm Unity in Christ. The committee recommended concurrence. It resolves that the Virginia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church urges the 2019 General Conference to affirm unity in Christ in the midst of our diversity, to challenge in love all that divides and to offer to all people God's saving grace through Jesus Christ that transforms the world. They urge and pray that the 2019 General Conference will resist schism and express openness to diverse perspectives in matters of sexual identity and practice. They urge all faithful United Methodists to pray for a way forward that nurtures an inclusive, evangelical, and faithful Church. The resolution was approved.

UPDATE FROM COMMISSION ON A WAY FORWARD

The Rev. Tom Berlin, member of the Commission on a Way Forward, presented a report on the work of the commission. The commission is a 32-member group with representatives from nine countries and held their first meeting in January 2017. Rev. Berlin shared that materials from the commission will be available in July. There are three plans that came out of the commission's work. In February 2019 delegates will go to a four-day General Conference. Stay tuned for an educational session conducted by Pastor Steve.

GREAT DAY OF SERVICE

A Great Day of Service was new this year for attendees to be Servant Leaders. Over 1,600 conference attendees participated. This day of service allowed participants three options for service: the building of 3,000 UMCOR kits, participating in three social justice talks and eight locations around the Hampton area with service projects that included cleaning historic cemeteries and alleyways. Here's your own Daniel Renner with the Youth Delegation and the Bishop!



(Angela's article continues on the following page)

(Angela's article continues... ..) LOOK WHAT YOUR CONFERENCE DID AND IS DOING:

KITS included: 29,409 Hygiene kits; 13,367 School kits; 703 Birthing kits; 334 Layette kits; 840 Cleaning kits; 16 Bedding kits; 102 Sewing kits; and 3 miscellaneous kits.

Contributed 9,000 pounds of canned goods and boxed dry foods as part of the "4 Cans 4 Conference" drive.

Members approved a 2019 budget of \$31,615,000, down \$185,000 from the 2018 budget.

Virginia Conference church members tithed \$200 million.

Membership stands at 320,000. Worship attendance stood at 100,000. Engaged in small groups were at 95,000. Some 75,000 serve in mission reaching over 1 million in their communities and around the world.

A conference offering of \$111,000 was collected. The offering was divided between the following: Cambodia, Brazil, Mozambique, Volunteers in Mission teams working with Native Americans, Haiti, Cuba recovery, Puerto Rico recovery and new this year, Moscow Seminary.

I urge you, if you ever have the chance to hear Bishop Lewis speak, please do so! Her heart is on fire for Jesus and she will move your spirit! It was my honor and privilege to represent BFUMC at the Virginia Annual Conference. If interested, additional information can be found on www.vaumc.org.

Respectfully submitted, Angela Renner



Upcoming Walks - LV87 & LV88

Men's Walk LV87 October 25 - 28 2018

Women's Walk LV88 November 1 - 4, 2018

Northern Virginia 4H Educational Center

600 4-H Center Drive, Front Royal, Virginia



Download [Pilgrim Applications](#) and the accompanying [Sponsor Covenant](#) by visiting www.lvemmaus.org

If someone has an interest in The Walk to Emmaus or you believe that someone should have an interest, the easiest "next step" is to bring them to the next Gathering. Plan to arrive with those friends and an extra dish at the Pot Luck Dinner which starts at 5:30pm, then accompany those friends into an hour's singing, praising, and sharing at the Gathering (6:30pm until 8:00pm).

June Gathering Macedonia UMC - NOTE this is the 3rd Saturday of each month

What is a monthly Gathering?

A monthly gathering is an opportunity for our community to gather for worship, communion and fellowship. A typical format for our Loudon Valley gatherings is to begin at 5:30 with a potluck meal and fellowship and then move into the sanctuary or chapel for praise and worship, announcements, a 4th Day testimony, a meditation from clergy, and the sharing of Holy Communion.

The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus, Chapter 13, sets forth the objectives of a regular monthly gathering: 1) make visible the Christian community – persons of various churches and denominations who are united in pursuing transformation in the calling of "one Lord, one faith, one baptism" (Eph. 4:5); 2) to encourage one another to continue our walk with the Lord and to persevere in grace through the practice of piety, study, and action; through membership in a group reunion; and through active participation in one's own church; 3) to inspire one another to make profound changes in our own lives and in the environments in which we live; 4) to maintain relationships with other Emmaus pilgrims in order to build a vital community of persons to support future Walk to Emmaus weekends; and 5) to educate the Emmaus community in the Walk to Emmaus movements, weekends, and method for living in the Fourth Day (excerpt from [The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus](#), Chapter 13).

For More Information, Contact Josh or Sue Morimoto Josh, cell 703-967-8679, e-mail, JMorimoto@Weichert.com. Sue, cell 443-880-0987, e-mail, smori01@comcast.net.



2018 Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30am-Worship 9:45am-10am-Children's Praise & Mini Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 11:00am-Children's Church	2	3 7:00pm-Voices of Youth perform at Burnt Factory NO CHOIR PRACTICE	4 	5	6	7
8 CCAP COLLECTION DAY! 8:30am-Worship 9:45am-10am-Children's Praise & Mini Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 11:00am-Children's Church Blood Pressure Clinic 4:30pm-6:30pm-Combined Youth Meeting in the Fellowship Hall	9 9:00am-1:00pm Children's Summer Camp at Burnt Factory 6:00pm RFL Captain's Mtg. at Calvary Baptist	10 9:00am-1:00pm Children's Summer Camp at Burnt Factory 6:00pm-Choir 7:30pm-SONrise Singers	11 9:00am-1:00pm Pastor's Office Hours 9:00am-1:00pm Children's Summer Camp at Burnt Factory 6:30pm-Sing-A-Long at Evergreen Nursing Home	12	13	14
15 CCAP COLLECTION DAY! 8:30am-Worship 9:45am-10am-Children's Praise & Mini Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 11:00am-Children's Church 1:00pm-5:30pm-Combined Youth Hike at Sky Meadows	16	17 NO CHOIR PRACTICE	18 9:00am-1:00pm Pastor's Office Hours	19	20 CCAP Meeting CCAP Building Kent Street	21 8:00am-UMMen Social Hall
22 8:30am-Worship 9:45am-10am-Children's Praise & Mini Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 11:00am-Children's Church	23	24 6:00pm-Choir 7:30pm-SONrise Singers	25 9:00am-1:00pm Pastor's Office Hours NEED August Newsletter articles by 3:00pm-TODAY 6:00pm-7:30pm-Senior High Youth at Pastor Steve's	26	27 Printing August Newsletter	28
29 8:30am-Worship 9:45am-10am-Children's Praise & Mini Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 11:00am-Children's Church	30 RFL-Sell Cakes/Pies at Frederick County Fair thru August 4 th	31 RFL-Sell Cakes/Pies at Frederick County Fair thru August 4 th NO CHOIR PRACTICE				

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Burnt Factory
United Methodist Church
Newsletter



CHURCH PICNIC

CHURCH PICNIC: Coming to the shelter that is over the hill, behind the church, and down by the creek on **Saturday, AUGUST 11, 2018**, from **1:00PM** until **6:00 PM**. We will share a potluck meal at **1:30** with the church providing Fried Chicken and Hot Dogs with buns.

This is the social event of the year and a great time to fellowship with our church! It is a great time to get to know the people that you don't know from the service that you don't attend and also get to know the person that sits down the row from you in church.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE NEVER BEEN TO "THE CHURCH PICNIC," THIS IS WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

BRING A DISH TO SHARE-SIDES, SALADS, DESSERTS, CASSEROLES (YOU GET THE IDEA THAT WE LIKE TO EAT!)

BRING A CHAIR TO SIT AND TALK AWHILE. TALK TO ONE PERSON THAT YOU HAVE NEVER MET.

THERE WILL BE A WATER SLIDE, SO... COME PREPARED FOR YOU, YOUR CHILDREN, OR YOUR GRANDCHILDREN TO GET A LITTLE WET AND WILD! A TOWEL MAY BE IN ORDER.

The Nurture Team looks forward to a phenomenal turn out for this upcoming event, so mark your calendars now!

Amy Shepley