





SMOKE SIGNAL

2023

Our Mission Statement
Sharing the love of Christ with ALL
people.

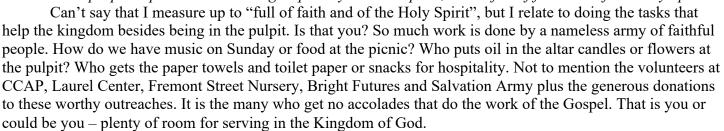
"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:16 Burnt Factory United Methodist Church 1943 Jordan Springs Road P. O. Box 399 Stephenson, Virginia 22656 burntfactory.org PH: (540) 667-4993

From a branch on the Vine,

Do you know the story of Stephen? This is "ph" not "v" – that other guy's story is much longer than Acts 6 and 7. I feel a kinship with Stephen, not the martyr part, but the call he received when he is first mentioned in scripture:

Acts 6: ² So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³ Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn

this responsibility over to them ⁴ and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." ⁵ This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit.



Burnt Factory is moving ahead in God's plan. The kingdom needs workers for the harvest is ready. The church needs the faithful to ask themselves, "What can I do?". The Pastor and staff need your prayers, presence, gifts and service so Burnt Factory can be a witness of the grace and mercy of Jesus Christ. Some may be called to a different path, but for those who stay the course, be a part of God's purpose for the church.

After Stephen had given an account of the history of Israel and the Holy one of God, the Sanhedrin stoned him. Even at death's door, Stephen saw beyond the circumstance and saw Jesus:

⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

The glory of God is here. Do you see it? In the transition before Burnt Factory, can you see Jesus? He is the author and perfector of our faith. He is still saving and redeeming, lifting and loving, present and ahead of

us on the path we walk. Jesus tells us in John's gospel, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. Do you believe? Then carry your faith and good works into a world that is thirsting for the good news.

In Christ, **Reb**

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10



Look what's been going on with Burnt Factory United Women in Faith!

- Eight members were able to attend the "Candle Burning Ceremony" at Montague Avenue Church on July 27th.
- Nine members were able to attend the District Ice Cream Social that was held at our shelter on August 19th.
- Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 16th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall. We are looking for two members to be hostesses and provide snacks. Amy and Jim Shepley will be discussing "Balancing and Aging".

Please let me know if you can provide snacks and be hostess at our next meeting. Hope to see all of you then.

Debbie Moss
Burnt Factory United Methodist
Women in Faith President

Prayer for September

Thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit, our counsel, advocate, teacher, who lead and direct our paths. May we testify of your blessings each and every day. And may we trust you as we await the manifestation of your will in our lives. Amen



4th Angela Wiseman **Bob Hunt** Carol Delauter Zane Bryant Cecilyn Bayliss 5th Randy Willis Denise Willis 8th David Werdebaugh Linda Bodkin **9**th Glenn Bouder 11th Betty Livengood 18th Brendan Luttrell Colton Luttrell 19th Sylvia Woods 20^{th} Sequoia Britton 22^{nd} Liz Duvall **Brandy Woods** Mallory Henschen 23^{rd} Zoey Corron 26th Grant Henschen 30th Debbie Burke



Carter Lynn Kerr

2nd Adam and Brandy Woods 9th Steve and Melanie Melester 21st Jim and Amy Shepley

Buddy's Jokes



- 1. A rooster is sitting on a roof of a barn facing west. If it laid an egg, would the egg roll to the north or to the south?
- 2. Which question can you never answer "yes" to?
- 3. If you drop a yellow hat in the Red Sea, what does it become?
- 4. What appears once in a minute, twice in a moment, but not once in a thousand years?
- 5. What word begins with E and ends with E, but only has one letter?
- 6. How many wives can a man have?

ANSWERS ARE ON PAGE 6. LOOK FOR THE APPLE.



Buddy loved people, and because of that love, he found a way to share a piece of himself with all of you. He never complained and was a light to all that knew him. He made us laugh and reminded us that we can continue to serve the Lord in all kinds of ways even when we are down.

Buddy hit a homerun!



September 2023

Hello Families!

It's September and that means Fall programming is here! Summer has ended and we are back in full swing in our Children's Ministries! We have new staff starting soon! More to come on that later. Children's church lessons are following the sermon themes for September and Sunday School class is continuing with our Performing Arts Programs, music, skits, acting, drawing, and activities to "Bring our Bibles to Life." Parents! It is sports season again and I love, love, love to come watch our kids play their sports and see their talents! Send me their schedules!

Friendly reminder to all, that when taking pictures of events the church is having, it is awesome to share on the church Facebook page, but if children are in the pictures, please do not share on your personal pages. I appreciate your excitement for all our church does, but not all pictures of children can be shared. Thank you for your cooperation on this.

Have a wonderful September!

Carrie Fair

Minister of Children and Family

One of our amazing youth ladies would like to extend her availability to all church families:



AYDA RODGERS

PET SITTING AND BABY-SITTING

I do pet sitting and baby-sitting!
Talk to me at 540-877-5442
I hope you will be pleased with my service!



September 8th: 6-9 pm Campfire at the Shelter! We will be roasting hotdogs and s'mores, having camp related activities, devotion time, and more! Please have youth bring a chair and flashlight. Friends are welcome!!

September 30th: 7:30-6 pm Mission trip to Massanetta. Youth will be serving at two different sites in

Harrisonburg. Youth need to bring bag lunch and water bottle; dinner will be provided. Cost: \$15



News From the Church Library

Fall is just around the corner and with the thought of fall comes the thought of reading and learning. As we embark on a new journey as a church, what a great time to enhance our spiritual growth by reading books by well-known authors such as Max Lucado, Ray Vander Laan, David Jeremiah, Charles Stanley, Sheila Walsh, Ann Graham Lotz and many others.

Listed below are a few suggested titles by these authors.

- You'll Get Through This Max Lucado
- Living With Confidence in a Chaotic World David Jeremiah
- The Purpose Driven Church Rick Warren
- Just Give Me Jesus Ann Graham Lotz
- It's Okay Not to Be Okay Sheila Walsh
- Living the Extraordinary Life Charles Stanley

Enjoy reading!

Dorís Duvall

Church Librarian

- 1. It's impossible. Roosters don't lay eggs.
- 2. "Are you asleep."
- 3. Wet
- 4. The letter "M."
- 5. Envelope
- 6. 16: 4 Better 4 Worse 4 Richer 4Poorer

"I will see you when I see you. Be happy until we meet again." -Buddy



We celebrate the birth of Casper Alexander Shepley (Alex and Katlyn)

Heavenly Father,
We lift up this newborn baby
boy. We pray you would watch
over him as he grows and
protect his steps. Let his life be
a light that shines brightly on
all those around
him. In the mighty name of
Jesus, Amen.



Have you given your email address to Keith Roberts, yet?

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 email list in his computer for just such purposes. Your email address is protected and emails are sent, recipients not disclosed, to protect your privacy.

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

"ADD ME TO THE CHURCH EMAIL LIST"

YARD SALE to benefit

HELPING HANDS Cancer Outreach

October 7, 2023, 8am-2pm Stonewall Ruritan Building Frederick County Fairgrounds

We are excited to be having a yard sale. Start going through your closets, attics, and basements for donations. Please no clothes or electronics. Remember "Your junk is someone else's treasure."

Donations will be accepted Friday,
October 6 between 3:00pm and 8:00pm.

Sponsored by "The Believers" of Burnt
Factory Church.

Contact Karen Willis if you have any questions.

krwillis1@comcast.net 540-539-6989



Our next American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held at Burnt Factory on Thursday, September 14th, noon till 5:30pm.

You can register with Dennis Loeffler (chester@gmail.com) or go online at: https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?order=DATE&range=10&zipSponsor=burntfactory

[Enter Sponsor Code (burntfactory)] [Click "Find a Drive"] Click Burnt Factory "See Times" Select a Time Sign-In

To proceed through Check-in at the Blood Drive, consider completing "Red Cross Rapid Pass": https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/manage-my-donations/rapidpass.html

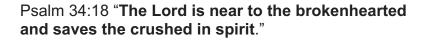


CONDOLENCES

As many have experienced the loss of a loved one, please remember them in prayer:

The Miller Family, at the passing of Cindy

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them. For the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.







Burnt Factory United Methodist Men September 2023



We are closing in on Apple Butter weekend to be held October $19^{th} - 21^{st}$. Mark your calendars now so that you will be ready. We need everyone's help to make sure that this event is successful. We will have a sign-up Genius set up soon to help everyone know exactly when help is needed. We have provided another article below detailing the event and schedule.

Our potato patch was a wonderful success. On August 26th and 27th, faithful Tater Heads showed up to help us harvest our 2023 crop. Even after the deer had dug up several hills to sample this year's crop, we were able to gather 1,800 pounds of potatoes that were distributed to Winchester Rescue Mission, Fremont Street Nursery, CCAP's Winchester Freedge, The Evans Home and the Highland Food Pantry. Special thanks to everyone who adopted a row this year and special thanks to Dave Darsie, Marcia Etu and Jim Grayson for their TLC on the potato patch this summer.

Gleaning begins in September. The Society of St Andrew just got a Winchester Gleaning Coordinator in place and they have apple gleanings scheduled for each Saturday in September and October. Keep an eye out for emails with more details for each event. Did you know that with enough help, the Society of St Andrew can glean 5-10 tons of apples during each event? That all goes to feed those hungry in our communities.

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

Steve Cunningham
President Burnt Factory UMMen







APPLE BUTTER 2023

Events leading up to the event where a lot of help is needed: This is a church-wide project and we can use the help of everyone, there is something for all ages to help with.

Thursday, October 19th we begin peeling apples at 9:00 AM. While we have peeling machines the manual process of cleaning and quartering the apples (known as 'snitting') is very time consuming and needs a lot of help. If you can't make the early shift we can use some help later in the day to relieve some who have been working all day. The more help the quicker we finish.

Friday, October 20th we will put up the kettles and canopies over the kettles and at 9:00 AM we will wash the quartered apples and repack them. A good crew of 10-12 people can get this done fairly quickly

At midnight, we will begin to cook the apples and will need 20-30 helpers to stir the apples that will be cooking in the kettles. We need stirrers all night, so if you can stay the night it would be very helpful, the more the merrier and this is a wonderful time of fun and fellowship.

Saturday October 21st Early morning, we are hoping that the morning crew will come to relieve those who have been stirring all night and to help when the apple butter is ready and we jar up the apple butter and clean up. The job of quarting the apple butter happens pretty fast and we can use fresh hands in the morning hours to help. We are hoping that by trimming back our project this year that the canning process will be more efficient this year and we will have a decent closing time.

With all duties the more help that we have the easier the task will be.

The fellowship is amazing, even with all the work, this event is very fun and provides a wonderful opportunity to hang out and enjoy the time that we can spend together.

WATTS Newsletter Update September 2023

As you prepare your fall wardrobe, remember our WATTS ministry. We are always in need of larger size clothing items including coats, jackets, sweatshirts, sweatpants, blue jeans, and shoes among other clothing items. If you have any of these gently used items, let me know and I can gather them from you and hold them for our week of hosting our WATTS guests this fall.

WATTS' BBQ chicken dinner September 9th at Winchester Moose Lodge

Take-outs only and picked up via drive thru - we will sell from 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM or until sold out so preorders are encouraged. Go to Chicken BBQ Tickets, Sat, Sep 9, 2023 at 12:00 PM | Eventbrite 1/2 chicken only - \$9.00

½ chicken with 2 sides - \$12.00

Sides are coleslaw and macaroni salad, and the \$12 meal includes a roll and bottled water too! Our annual fundraiser is here again! Join us on Saturday, September 16, 2023 at Winchester Moose Lodge for a fun evening where we recognize all the volunteers, churches, community organizations, and businesses who make WATTS a success each and every season! The food promises to be delicious, the music will be lit, and you can dance, mingle, and raffle your way through the evening. It was a BLAST last year, so we hope you'll join us again and bring a friend or two! This event is the major means through which we secure necessary funding for WATTS and the upcoming shelter season.

Tickets \$50

On sale NOW! Link over to Eventbrite by clicking the "Find Tickets" button or go to our website:

If you have any question about the WATTS ministry, please let me know.

Steve Cunningham WATTS Lead Volunteer tamtut@comcast.net (540) 207-7404



Burnt Factory UMC will be sending another mission team to Delaware County, PA (southwest of Philadelphia) November 12-17. We will continue rebuilding homes following flooding in September 2021. Our church believes everyone is called to mission and desires to provide opportunities for all to share their gifts and talents in Christian service. Volunteers are lay or clergy, young and old, with differing abilities, vocations and at different phases in life. Our mission team needs you!

The first team meeting will be Monday, September 18 at 7 pm in the Lower Cottage. I hope to see you there! Please contact Marcia Etu, team leader (<u>marciametu@gmail.com</u> or 518-744-5159) for more information."



Despite the hot weather our church picnic was very successful. The attendance was around 150. Tables were laden with an abundance of food. The waterslide is always the best entertainment, either slipping or sitting and watching.

Our next event will be the Family Fall Festival on October 28th with Trunk or Treat and fall activities.

All Nurture Team activities center on fellowship, support, and encouragement for our church family. The hospitality table on Sunday mornings is an example of the Nurture ministry.

Please consider becoming a part of the Nurture team. We offer good hours with great pay and benefits. Fresh faces and new ideas are always welcome.

I'll be available after BLT on September 12th @ 1 o'clock or you can text me for more information.

Peace & Joy Donna Gallagher 540-431-9027

CCAP Corner

September 2023



CCAP, the Congregational-Community Action Project, is a cooperative ministry of 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.

A 2nd Friendly Neighborhood FREEDGE has opened in Stephens City – the newest FREEDGE is located at 700 Aylor Rd. at Abundant Life Church. Both this FREEDGE and the original one, located at 419N Cameron Street in Winchester are open 24 hours a day! These are intended to serve low-income residents. At the dedication of the 2nd FREEDGE, Reverend Miller of Abundant Life Church said in prayer, paraphrasing Matthew 10:42: "I pray, lord, that those who come will receive not only nourishment to their bodies, but nourishment to their souls." Drop by and check out either of these locations if you have food to share.

Current Donation Needs:

- We are now accepting Gently used FALL clothes, jackets and shoes for men, women, and especially children's sizes. We always need men's jeans, men's t-shirts, women and men's sweatpants and sweatshirts, and adult backpacks.
- Donations may be dropped off Monday thru Friday between the hours of 9am and 2pm at 112 S. Kent St.

<u>Volunteers</u> are needed to assist our drivers with produce and goods pickups from our local stores (Sheetz, Martins, Walmart, Target, Dollar General, Starbucks). The runs are made Monday thru Saturday from 8-11am. Volunteers are also needed in the Clothing Area (either at the House or the Sorting Area). One day a month or week would be tremendous help. Please contact me, or anyone on the Outreach Committee if you would like to learn more about volunteering in any area at CCAP.

Thanks so much for your continued support of this important outreach.

Patty Leonard - Outreach CCAP Rep

September 2023 Faith and Health Corner





Lyme disease is a tick-borne illness that can cause serious long-term symptoms if left untreated

Lyme disease is caused by bacteria transmitted through tick bites

People who participate in outdoor activities or jobs are at higher risk of Lyme disease

Lyme disease can cause skin rashes, fever, chills, fatigue, joint and muscle pain, paralysis, and other loger-term outcomes if left untreated

Currently, there are no approved vaccines available to prevent Lyme disease in people exposed to ticks that carry Lyme disease. This clinical trial will evaluate if an investigational (study) vaccine is safe and effective in preventing Lyme disease. By choosing to volunteer, you will represent others like you – in age, race, ethnicity, and from communities like yours.

This study may be an option for healthy adults and children over 5 who live in areas where ticks that carry Lyme disease are found and frequently participate in activities that may put them in contact with ticks:

Outdoor occupations such as landscaping, forestry, or wildlife and parks management

Frequent outdoor recreational activities such as hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, or gardening

Living in or frequently visiting wooded areas, tree lines, tall grass, open fields, lake sides, or riversides

Owning a pet that may return from outdoors with attached ticks

For those of you who do not know, I am a Clinical Research Coordinator at Amherst Family Practice. This vaccine opportunity is amazing for anyone that spends time outdoors. There is compensation for your time. I would love to tell you more about the study.

If you think you might be interested, or would like more information please email me at <u>tgilbert@afpdocs.com</u>. As always praying for your health and well-being. Praying that today you will be both blessed and be a blessing.

Theresa

You can reach me at any time by e-mail at <u>tgilbert@afpdocs.com</u> or <u>theresahgilbert@gmail.com</u> 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.



The Believers – September 2023

THANK YOU!!!!!

Janie Shope gave us a donation of \$100.00 IN HONOR of her prayer partner.

Looking Ahead

Our next fundraiser will be on October 7^{th} . We will be having a yard sale at the Stonewall District Ruritan building. It's an awesome way to clean out your basement! See more details in Karen Willis' article.



Childhood Cancer Awareness Month Facts

- 43 children in the U. S. are diagnosed with cancer every day.
- Worldwide, about 400,000 children and adolescents develop cancer each year, only half of whom are diagnosed.
- Nearly 10% of children with cancer develop the disease because they inherited a genetic mutation.
- Cancer is the leading cause of death by disease past infancy for U.S. children.
- More than 80% of U.S. childhood cancer patients now become long-term survivors.

"Cancer can touch you, but not your soul; neither your thoughts, nor your heart."

On behalf of Lisa Garver, Lisa Patterson and myself we appreciate your support.

Theresa Gilbert, RN Faith Community Nurse

Greetings from the Outreach Team

Recently, I have found that it isn't always easy to do a good deed. In fact, it can sometimes be a bit of a struggle.

On Saturday, August 12th we had a terrific church picnic. When everyone had eaten and had a chance to make a plate to take to others or enjoy at home, there was still a full pan & a half of fried chicken and a crock pot of hot dogs and buns to go with them. The suggestion was made that we take the food to where it would be eaten and appreciated. The Rescue Mission, The Salvation Army. and the Evans Home were suggested. Phone calls to each organization resulted in answering machines or voice mails. We wanted the food to be enjoyed while still fresh and hot, so we thought, let's just put the food in the car and take it to them! So that's what Dana (my husband) and I did.

We started at the Rescue Mission. We knocked, went to the back door knocked, waited a bit and nobody was home. We went to the Evans Home and got no answer. We even peeked in the windows to be sure. It was the same at the Salvation Army. Another round of phone calls lead to more voice mails.

Feeling a bit desperate, we called Outreach Team members Patty Leonard and Steve Cunningham for ideas. They both said to go to the Freedge (Free Fridge) on N. Cameron St. Patty had been there earlier in the day and said it was empty. So that's what we did. It was late in the afternoon and the Freedge was still empty, but we were glad because we had a lot to fill the shelves. Leaving Sunday School the next day, Dana said "Let's go see if the food is still there." So we did. There was not one thing left of all that chicken and all those hotdogs and buns. It really felt good to know we provided nourishment and a real treat to whomever took that food.

This August was the last luncheon meal that Outreach provided for the Salvation Army. We had begun by serving "to go" meals at CCAP during Covid. When that was no longer necessary, we moved to serving at the Salvation Army once a month. We started with 30 to 40 guests, but for a host of reasons, we saw that the numbers of people we served dropped dramatically and the team decided to stop serving there. We may look for new opportunities to serve meals or perhaps try a new way get food to those who need it in our community. We will discuss it at our next meeting on September 7th.

It occurs to me that maybe the struggles we face are just one of the ways God uses to show us opportunities we wouldn't have seen otherwise.

Continue to read the newsletter about some of the new and ongoing ways you can serve. It is a fun and rewarding way to fellowship with each other and share God's love. We welcome you to join us!

Grace and Peace,

Sharon Woodard, Outreach Chair







September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 8:30am-In- Person Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11 am In-Person Worship	28 10-11:30am Bible Study: Religion and Science 6:30-8pm Bible Study: Religion and Science	29 5:30-6:30 Praise Team Practice 6:30-7:30 pm Choir Practice	30 9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours	31 7-8:30pm Boy Scouts	Print Newsletter Visitation 4-8pm Enders and Shirley Funeral Home Cindy Miller	2 2pm Funeral Cindy Miller
3 8:30am-In- Person Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11 am In-Person Worship	4	5	6 10-11:30am Bible Study: Religion and Science 6:30-8pm Bible Study: Religion and Science	7 7-8:30pm Boy Scouts 7-8:30pm Outreach Team	8 6-9pm Youth Fireside Chat	9
8:30am-In- Person Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11 am In-Person Worship 1pm-4pm Grayson	11 10-11:30am Bible Study: Religion and Science 6:30-8pm Bible Study: Religion and Science	12 12pm-2/4 BLT 5:30-6:30 Praise Team Practice 6:30-7:30 pm Choir Practice	9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours 7-8pm Church Council	14 12-5:30pm Red Cross Blood Drive 7-8:30pm Boy Scouts	15 4-7pm Emmaus Community (shelter)	16 10-11:30am Women In Faith
17 8:30am-In- Person Worship 9:30-10 am Blood Pressure Checks 9:45am-Sunday School 11am In-Person Worship	18 10-11:30am Bible Study: Religion and Science 6:30-8pm Bible Study: Religion and Science 7-8pm Mission Team Meeting	19 5:30-6:30 Praise Team Practice 6:30-7:30 pm Choir Practice	20 9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours	21 7-8:30pm Boy Scouts	22 United Way Day of Caring	23
8:30am-In- Person Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11 am In-Person Worship	25 10-11:30am Bible Study: Religion and Science 6:30-8:00pm Bible Study: Religion and Science	26 12pm-2/4 BLT 1-2pm Nuture Team Meeting 5:30-6:30 Praise Team Practice 6:30-7:30 pm Choir Practice	9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours	28 7-8:30pm Boy Scouts	29 Print Newsletter	30 Rhodes Wedding 7:30 am – 6pm Youth Trip to Massanetta

C. Steven Melester, Pastor Burnt Factory United Methodist Church 1943 Jordan Springs Road P.O. Box 399 Stephenson, VA 22656 PH: (540) 667-4993

BURNT FACTORY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

www.burntfactory.org



Sue-Haupert-Johnson Resident Bishop Virginia Conference Richmond, Virginia The Rev. Dr. Victor Gomez, District Superintendent Winchester, VA 22601 www.winchesterdistrictumc.org



September 22, 2023

It's a single-day service event like no other! Day of Caring brings together teams of volunteers to help nonprofit organizations across Winchester, Frederick, Clarke, Shenandoah, Page, and Warren counties. Our volunteers take to the streets, offices, playgrounds and schools of our community. They dedicate their day to painting, landscaping, cleaning and more. All to prove the amazing difference one day can make when we work together. Spend one day volunteering with us at local nonprofits to complete more than 100 projects. Let's Live United!