

April 2015



“Do this in remembrance of me.” Jesus in Luke

The Pastor's Page

Showing Up to Show Down

The Post – Easter Jesus

Jesus came and stood among them and said, “peace be with you.” John 20:19

There is a tremendous build up to Easter Sunday. In fact Resurrection Sunday has its own pre-season called Lent. During the 40-day season of Lent we are asked to look inward and notice the places that need to pruning in order to make way for the new life that God wants to grow within us, and our church. And it is not merely we humans, at this time of year, all of creation is building up towards resurrection. From the daffodil bravely wintering snow and ice to the seemingly dead branch fashioning a new bud of bright green. There is a slow and steady rhythm towards new birth; a deep yearning for renewal.

And so we understand why Easter is at the heart of our identity as followers of Christ. In many ways the statement that God made through Christ's resurrection at Easter is the point of our Christian faith: that death, sin, deceit, and despair do not have the final word, God's hope, peace, and eternal promise will prevail.



However, at the pinnacle of Easter's summit we sometimes miss the power of Jesus's 50 days immediately following his resurrection. Maybe we are so excited to add chocolate, Facebook, or coffee back into our routines that we minimize the fact that the story of Easter in no way ends on Easter Sunday. Rather than proclaiming his resurrection and retreating to heaven, Jesus continually showed up to his disciples to show down some of the specific barriers that prevented them from living out their faith. Like a shiny penny Jesus kept appearing to his disciples – through locked doors of fear, when they were stuck in frustrating fishing moments, during times of deep doubt. He showed up and he showed down their stumbling blocks.

The Holy Spirit is going to give us an amazing Easter Sunday as we have spent the entire Lenten season lightening our load to make room for God's purposes. Immediately following Easter, we, like the disciples, are going to notice where Jesus keeps showing up in our lives to address that which keeps us from following more fully, trusting more deeply, and surrendering more completely. Because God has plans for us and for Memorial UMC. Easter Sunday shows up that God will give us the power to live out our mission; Jesus - post Easter - shows us that God will never, ever give up on us.

Thanks be to God!

Amen!

Mark Your Calendar

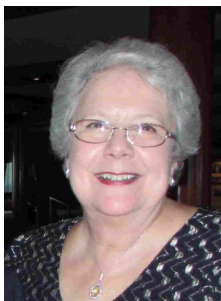
April 26: Dedication of the new Margie Harry Education Wing during the 11 am service.
Refreshments to follow in the Social Hall

Pastor Darcey

United Methodist Church Mission Statement

To make disciples for Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world

Who's Who at MUMC (The Ones Who Make The Church Run)



Joan Benedict VBS Director

Although the title above shows Joan as the VBS Director, she serves in many other capacities for the church, most notably as the chief seamstress. She is also a member of the Staff-Parish Rela-

tions Committee (SPRC), the Education Committee, and is an active member of the United Methodist Women's group.

Joan is a retired government employee. She and her husband, Gary (also retired), moved from Northern Virginia to Providence Forge in late 2009. Both are very happy to be away from metropolitan Washington DC.

She was an instructor for the toddlers in past years and assumed duties as VBS Director in 2014. In addition to other tasks, for that program, she made ALL the children's' costumes for VBS as well as the costumes and outfits that the children wear for the annual Christmas Live Nativity.

Joan says that she really enjoys supporting the church and working with and for the other members of the congregation. She loves the church, the people, and the pastor. She is sorry that Pastor Darcey will be leaving, but she knows that it is all for a greater purpose and she is looking forward to meeting the new pastor

Key Web Links

Appalachia Service Project: www.asphome.org

Capital Area Agency on Aging

(<http://sc-caaa.camp7.org/page-631270>)

Stephanie Rice Conference Education Fund:

<http://www.gofundme.com/stephconferences>

Memorial UMC: <http://www.memorialumccc.org/>

Memorial UMC Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/MUMCCharlesCityVA>

York River District: <http://www.yorkriverdistrict.org/>

Virginia Annual Conference: <http://www.vaumc.org/>

Editor's Notes



Those who were asking for spring should maybe ask one more time. Warm weather IS coming. We just don't know when.

We have a news announcement in place of the "Memorable Members" column on the last page of the newsletter. Beginning next month, that column will be used to introduce some of the many families who are active at MUMC.

Apologies are in order. Several times in the past I've lost track of a newsletter submission. Please accept my apologies if I've overlooked your submission and also accept my apologies in advance because I KNOW it will happen again in the future.

Thanks much to Sandy Breedy, Doris Fulwider, Kristen Hess, Michelle Black, Pastor Darcey, Kevin Slattum, Stephanie Rice, Steve Werner, and Elva Yates, who all submitted items for the March Messenger.

Gary Benedict - gary3113@gmail.com

Appalachia Service Project – 2015

Memorial UMC now has 20 adult and teen volunteers who will be traveling to western North Carolina July 5 - 11 for the 2015 Appalachia Service project (ASP).

ASP provides life-changing short-term Christian mission trip opportunities, bringing youth, adult, and college volunteers into rural Central Appalachia to make homes warmer, safer, and drier for families in need.



Because of some higher costs, the total for this trip is expected to be \$9,000 or about \$450 per volunteer. We have been able to raise a lot of money for the trip but we're still about \$2,000 short. To cover that shortfall we will be asking friends and families to "sponsor" individual volunteers or the team as a whole. Many who receive this newsletter will be receiving a personal letter asking for sponsorship.

Even if you do not receive a letter, you are encouraged to help support important MUMC mission project. If you'd like to help, please send a check for any amount made payable to Memorial UMC (address on page 10) and note "ASP" and the name of person you're sponsoring or simply "ASP" in the memo line.

We truly appreciate all contributions for ASP, great and small.

For more information about ASP, visit ASP's website www.asphome.org or contact Karen Bates or Pastor Darcey..



Stamps Wanted !!!!!

The UMW is collecting stamps to support the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Stamps should be placed in the designated basket on the M&M table. Contact Doris Fulwider for additional information.

Small Groups

We have an engaging set of small group for folks of every age.

On Sunday morning at 9:45 am we offer three adult Small Groups:

- *Where do we Come from: History of the Christian Church* led by Drew Johnson.
- *The Singing Sunday School* led by Markaniel.
- A biblically based entitled "*The Names of God*" led by Mrs. Carolyn Bates, where you will understand the depth of God's nature by learning the background of the names that the Bible uses for God.

Each Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm at the church we have "Come-As-You-Are" bible study.



Many thanks to the dozens of people who helped with the MUMC "Spring Cleaning Day" on March 28.

In preparation for Easter and the many coming church events,

we cleaned, vacuumed, painted, decorated, reinstalled speakers, weeded, planted, raked, hauled trash, moved furniture, and took care of many, many other chores.

You'll like the look of the church and the area around it.

See you in church!



Galatians 2:20: I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

The Children's Bible in a Nutshell, Part 2 of 3

(See the March Messenger for Part 1)

Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's people. These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels, and no cable. God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti. Then he gave them His Top Ten Commandments. These include: don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance, or covet your neighbor's stuff. Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more: Humor thy father and thy mother.

One of Moses' best helpers was Joshua who was the first Bible guy to use spies. Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over on the town. After Joshua came David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a sling-shot. He had a son named Solomon who had about 300 wives and 500 porcupines. My teacher says he was wise, but that doesn't sound very wise to me.

After Solomon there were a bunch of major league prophets. One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale and then barfed up on the shore. There were also some minor league prophets, but I guess we don't have to worry about them.

(Continued in the May edition of the Memorial Messenger.)

HELP WANTED:

Technology Team Member

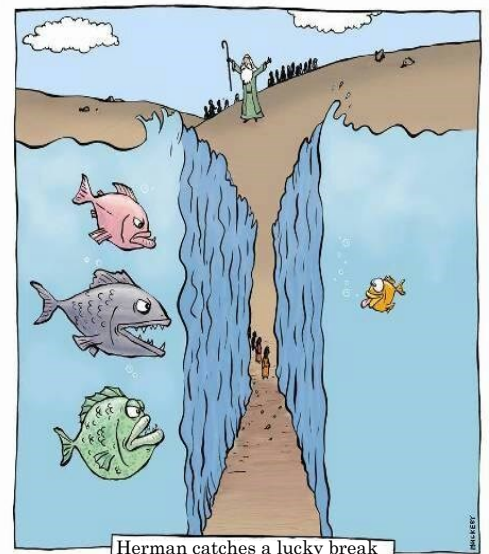
Do you have a knack with electronics and computers? If so, you could help at church. We added new electronics including projectors, expanded speaker systems, new digital thermostats and other items as part of church upgrades. Now we need a few folks who are willing to learn how to use equipment and to help take the burden off our existing two-person technology team.

Please contact Pastor Darcey or Kevin Slattum if you'd like to become part of this exciting and challenging church support team.



New Worship Series: Showing Up to Show Down

April 12	John 20:19-23	Showing up to Show Down: Fear
April 19	John 20:124-31	- Showing up to Show Down: Doubt
April 26	I Peter 2:4-6	Margie Harry Building Dedication
May 3	I John 3:1-7	Showing up to Show Down: Rootlessness
May 10	John 21:1-14	Showing up to Show Down: Being Stuck
May 17	John 21:15-19	Showing up to Show Down: Unforgiveness
May 24	Acts 2:1-21	Showing up to Show Up for Others: Pentecost





Going to the Zoo

By Stephanie Rice

This weekend I spent an entire day at the San Diego Zoo. I had been before but not since I was about 13 years old.

I was fascinated by all the animals and truly in awe of creation. Some of the animals were so strange and beautiful and I couldn't help but be amazed by them.

There was one animal I was particularly taken by: the giraffe. Giraffes have fascinated me since I saw them on safari in Africa. They are certainly beautiful and, let's face it, weird. They have long necks and skinny legs and incredibly long blue tongues. But what I find



most interesting is that because of their body shape they have no natural enemies and because of their tongues and necks they are always able to find food.

Giraffes just roam around eating, drinking water, playing with each other. They are strong, beautiful, calm creatures. They live their lives without worry and fear.

I want my soul to be like a giraffe: strong, beautiful, and calm without worry or fear. I want to have no natural enemies. I want to be able to always find nourishment and love. Just as giraffes were created to be strange, beautiful creatures, so to was I created by God to be uniquely me and to be able to withstand and thrive in the world. May we be like the giraffes.

Stephanie's Update: I am enjoying my new job! Thanks for all your prayers. I also moved to Pasadena to be closer to work and it is an amazing area with so much to do and with LOTS of good food. Graduation is also quickly approaching (yay!). In lieu of graduation gifts I am asking people to donate to a fund that will help me attend continuing education conferences this summer. You can find the info online at www.gofundme.com/stephconferences.

Thank you so much!



Recipe of the Month

This month's recipe from the "Hallelujah" cookbook was contributed by

Liz McIntyre

See more great recipes in the Memorial UMW "Hallelujah It's Cooking Time" cookbook, now only \$10. This will be a GREAT gift. Contact Nancy Bates for your copy.

SUNRISE CASSEROLE

2 12oz. pkg. Johnsonville Breakfast sausage links	1/2 tsp. pepper
1 30oz. pkg. ORE-IDA Country style hash browns	2 c. (8oz) shredded 4 cheese Mexican style cheese
9 eggs	1/2 c. diced sweet red pepper
3 c. milk	1/2 c. thinly sliced green onions
1 1/2 tsp. ground mustard	2 c. salsa or picante sauce (optional)
1 tsp. salt	

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Cook sausage to package directions. Cool slightly and cut into 1/2 inch coins. In a large bowl, mix milk, mustard, salt and pepper. Add hash browns, sausage, cheese, red pepper, green onion and mix well. Pour into a greased 13x9x2 baking dish. cover and refrigerate overnight. Remove from refrigerator 30 min. before baking. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 65-70 min. or until set and golden brown and internal temp. is 165 degrees. Let stand for 10 min before serving.

Dates to Remember

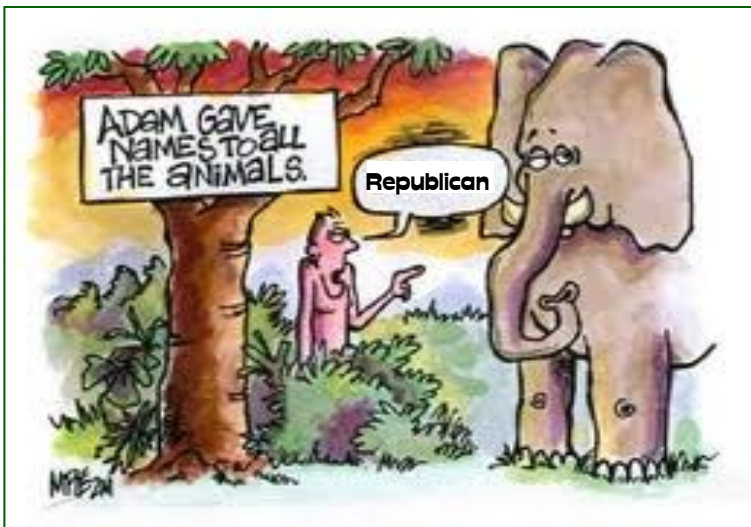
April 26 - Margie Harry Education Wing dedication
 May 24 - Memorial Day Picnic at the Hess Home
 May 24 - Youth Lock-in (after picnic)
 June 7 - Graduation Sunday
 June 21-26 - Camp Westview on the James
 July 5-11 - ASP Mission Trip
 Aug 2-5 - Vacation Bible School
 Aug 6 - Faith Night at the Diamond



FEED THE HUNGRY

We still have people in the community who do not have enough food. Help us help them by contributing canned goods and other non-perishables.

Food donation Sunday is always the first Sunday of the month.



Save the Date

May 16

UMW Second Annual

"Spring into Mission"

Fashion Show Wallace Manor,
 Providence Forge



Ongoing Mission Series

Michelle Black

We have many giving projects that we collect items for on an ongoing basis. Each month, we will spotlight one of these projects to offer more information and a gentle reminder to save those glasses, pop tabs, and other items. This month we are highlighting "New Eyes for the Needy."

The Lower Elementary class is always collecting old eyeglasses. Once they have a nice collection, they clean them and discuss how glasses can make a big difference in someone's life with their teachers, Mrs. Slattum and Mrs. Hofmeyer

Here is some information from the New Eyes' website:

- New Eyes empowers children and adults in the United States and overseas with the improved vision they need to pursue a better quality of life for themselves and their communities.
- 11 million people in the United States struggle with uncorrected vision and have no resources to buy eyeglasses.
- Uncorrected vision problems can seriously affect a person's life.
- For children, not having glasses can lead to poor self-esteem, failure in the classroom, developmental delays, learning disabilities, social maladjustment, and even juvenile delinquency.
- For adults, the lack of corrective

New Eyes for the Needy



glasses can mean the difference between employment and unemployment.

- For seniors, poor vision can limit their ability to read medicine labels, navigate stairs and perform other tasks required to lead an independent life.
- New Eyes purchases eyeglasses for needy residents of the U.S.
- We help when no one else can.

Please, please bring in your old glasses and put our little lens cleaners to work!

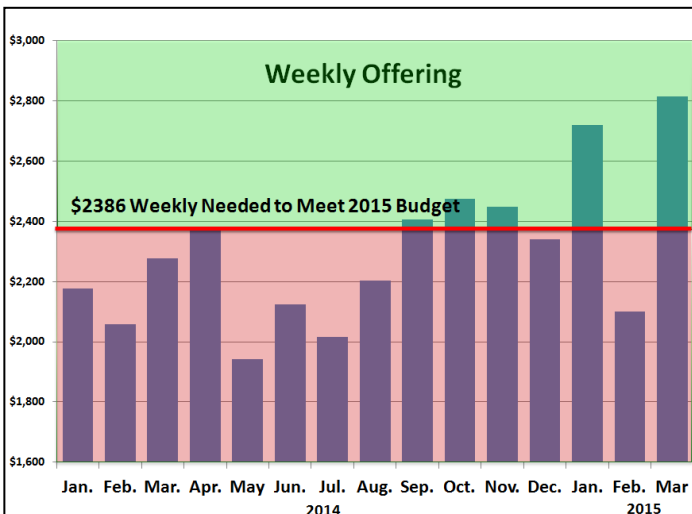
Update on Giving

Kevin Slatum

For the first quarter of 2015, our average weekly offering was \$2545. This amount meets our budgeted operating expenses and also gives us some extra funds to help cover the expected decrease in offerings often seen during summer because of vacations and travel.

The extra funds also give the church the flexibility in prioritizing the various church endeavors including missions, church programs, social hall upgrades, outdoor updates such as playground and landscaping, and similar projects.

Thank you for your contributions and dedication to our church ministries.



Lets keep the Earth GREEN and FULL of wonderful creatures! But HOW???

Psalms 96: 11-13

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it; let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them. Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy; they will sing before the LORD, for he comes, he comes to judge the earth.

Did you know that some of our animals are disappearing? As more and more people populate the Earth, there is less room for our creatures to live. Forests get cut down and areas that used to be open land are cleared for shopping centers and housing developments. The more this happens, the less space our creatures have to live which could leave them endangered.

The good news is there are things we can do to help! Talk to your family about planting native plants that help feed and provide protection to our bugs and animals then plant these native plants in spaces where lawns currently carpet. Grass unfortunately does not feed or provide shelter to almost anything, and there's a LOT of grass around.

The benefit to native plants? In time, you might get the opportunity to see new creatures in your own backyard and you're helping to preserve one of God's greatest gifts to us. God entrusted us to take care of His Earth- so let's get to it!

You have the POWER to promote change in our environment. I challenge you to plant one native plant this spring and see what happens...

By Drew Copland



Good Friend Cake

1 cup Kindness	2 cups Courtesy
3 cups Truthfulness	2 cups Dependability
1 Tbs Freedom	10 Tbs Compassion
2 cups Modesty	3 Tbs Helpfulness
2 cups Sharing	2 cups Attentiveness
4 cups Laughter	2 bushels of Hugs

Simmer all ingredients with love for a lifetime. Serve with smiles, heartfelt praise, and good humor.

Please Lock the Doors !!!

Help, please! In spite of frequent reminders, we often discover that exterior doors or doors to storage areas are left unlocked after normal church hours.



To help maintain the security of the church, you or someone in your group should take the time to ensure that ALL exterior doors are secured (even if you did not use them) before leaving the facility, then double-check to make sure the front door is locked when you exit. If you access either of the locked storage areas for any reason, please remember to lock the door when you're finished and put the key in its storage hook or nail.

Margie's Minions



Margie's minions are all excited for this year because of all the things we are making, including:

- Sweaters, hats and blankets for Knit for Kids. Our last shipment in December, was distributed in Chile, Costa Rica, Mongolia, New York, the Pacific Northwest, Romania, Rwanda and Uganda.
- Baby bundles for Matthews Haven that will be blessed in October along with our annual donation of coats.
- Lap robes/quilts, scarves, chemo hats and various other items for Hunter Holmes Maguire Veterans Hospital in Richmond. Please pick up a list of items needed for our Veterans (on the M&M table). We will be personally delivering these items from time to time to the hospital.

Proverbs 31:20: She extends her hand to the poor,
Yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy.



One Easter Sunday morning as the pastor was preaching a children's sermon, he reached into his bag of props and pulled out an egg. He pointed at the egg and asked the children, "What's in here?"
"I know, I know!" a little boy exclaimed, "pantyho!"

Missions Moment

By Michelle Black

Happy anniversary, Knit for Kids!

About a year ago, one woman shared her passion for a charity that was very close to her heart. Since then, "Margie's Minions" have grown in numbers, knowledge, scope, and in closeness to each other and to Christ. To date, 150 items have been sent abroad and to the U.S. through World Vision's Knit for Kids, 33 items to neighboring counties through Matthew's Haven, and 15 items have been delivered to the Richmond area VA hospital.

Contributions have come from 19 different crafters, aged 16 to 90, including 5 brand-new knitters and crocheters. More items are currently being created and collected for all three causes, and there is always room to "pull up another chair" for a new member-whether or not you've learned how to knit, crochet, or quilt yet! The group has also received generous donations of yarn and funds for these very worthy causes.

Many thanks to everyone who has joined and supported the "Minions" along the way. It's been so encouraging, and we're only just getting started!

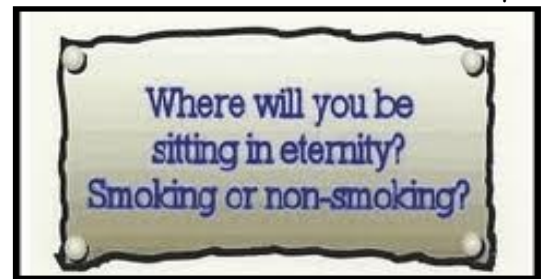
Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.
-Galatians 6:9 NIV



Attendance

Date	Total
Feb 25	79
Mar 1	68
Mar 15	87
Mar 22	90
Mar 29	82

Year to Date Average: 88



Monthly Verse

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this is not from yourselves; it is a gift from God." Ephesians 2:8

From the Church Archives ...

Recognize anyone?



Church archive picture provided by Joyce Dill



CHURCH SIGNS:

(Seen on actual church signs around the nation)

- Prevent truth decay. Brush up on your bible.
- We don't change the message. The message changes us
- WalMart isn't the only saving place
- Experts made the Titanic. Amateurs made the Ark
- God, help me be the person my dog thinks I am.
- Wrinkled with burdens? Come to Jesus for a faith lift
- This church is prayer-conditioned
- God didn't create anything without purpose but mosquitos come close
- Trust in God but lock your car
- Our Sundays are better than Dairy Queen

At Sunday School

The Sunday school teacher was describing that when Lot's wife looked back at Sodom she turned into a pillar of salt, when Bobby interrupted. "My mommy looked back once while she was driving," he announced, "and she turned into a telephone pole."

Another Sunday school teacher said to her children, "We have been learning about how powerful the kings and queens were in Biblical times. But there is a higher power. Who can tell me what it is?" Tommy blurted out, "I know, Aces."

After explaining the commandment to honor your father and mother, a Sunday school teacher asked her class if there was a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters.

One boy, the oldest in his family, immediately answered, "Thou shalt not kill."

Lot again... A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt."

His son asked, "What happened to the flea?"

Kids' Page



Help every pencil to find the way to the picture in the middle of the maze the color all the eggs.



Memorial United Methodist Church

April 2015

May 2015

April 2015

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mar 29	30	31	Apr 1 6:30pm Come-as-you-are bible study	2 6:30pm Knit for Kids 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship	3 B - James Trogdon	4 B - Gracie Daniel & Lydia Ruffin
5 Canned Goods Drop-off 9:45am Small Groups 11:00am Easter Service	6	7 B - Ann Pace	8 6:30pm Come-as-you-are bible study	9 6:30pm Knit for Kids	10 B - Ginna Slattum	11 B - Adam Hofmeyer, Sarach Neal, Chris Clark
12 8:45am Finance 9:45am Small Groups 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Choir Practice 12:15pm Trustees 12:45pm Admin Council	13	14 B - David Hess	15 6:30pm Come-as-you-are bible study	16 B - David Hess, Jr. 6:30pm Knit for Kids	17	18
19 Newsletter Deadline 9:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am Missions 9:45am Small Groups 11:00am Worship	20	21	22 6:30pm Come-as-you-are bible study	23 B - Sara Comer 6:30pm Knit for Kids	24 B - Nancy Bates	25 Knit for Kids Field Trip to Powhatan Fiber Festival -
26 9:45am Small Groups 11:00am DEDICATION of the New Wing - 12:15pm Dedication Reception	27	28	29 A - Gene & Carol Hofmeyer 6:30pm Come-as-you-are bible study	30 B - Alex Yates 6:30pm Knit for Kids	May 1	2



Memorial
United Methodist Church
 11000 Courthouse Rd
 Charles City, VA 23030
 804 829-6511

<http://www.memorialumccc.org/>



Farewell to Pastor Darcey

As most of the congregation is now aware, Memorial UMC will receive a new Pastor, effective July 1, 2015. We will find out who our new pastor will be sometime in late April or early May.

Memorial has come a long way under the leadership of Pastor Darcey over the past six years! We have moved from being a part-time charge to having a full-time pastor. We have grown both in numbers and in engagement of our church members to fulfill our mission of making disciples for Christ. We have much to be grateful for!

Although we are sad to be saying goodbye to Pastor Darcey and her family, we encourage you to consider that God has big plans for Pastor Darcey and for Memorial. Pastor Darcey's new church is much closer to her home and will be strengthened through her leadership. We trust that God is holding us all in his hands. We pray for Pastor Darcey, her family and for her new congregation and all that God holds for them. We pray for the Virginia Conference, our District Superintendent and for the pastor that will be sent to us as the appointment process unfolds. We pray for our congregation that our bonds of Christian love for each other and our work in this community and around the world remain strong during this time of change and that we face the future with hope and trust in Jesus.

If you have additional questions or concerns about the process, please direct them to Pastor Darcey or a member of the SPRC: Patty Slattum, Joan Benedict, Hannah Black, Mark Daniel, David Ledbetter, Scotty Hager, Ginna Slattum, Steve Werner, or Janet Werner.

Stay tuned for opportunities to help to celebrate how far we have come with Pastor Darcey and to send her and her family off to the next stage of their ministry and to welcome our new Pastor!