

Window



Fairfax United Methodist Church
10300 Stratford Avenue
Fairfax, Virginia 22030-3217

Address Service Requested

The Newsletter of Fairfax United Methodist Church

LENT 2018

Vol. 26 • No. 1

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Fairfax, VA
22030
Permit No. 5

The Pastor's Corner

Life Together

*T*he believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to the prayers.

—Acts 2:42

Christians were meant to live life together in community. When God began creating the world, God declared creation good (Genesis 1:31). But in Genesis 2:18, God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone." It is the first thing that God declared "not good." We have always been a people who need and desire connections with others.

FUMC is forming **Life Together Groups** to help create intentional relationships among fellow believers. Life Together Groups are comprised of 5-15 people who gather together weekly or bi-weekly (every two weeks), to share life and faith together, deepening their communion with God, each other, and the world. Based on Acts 2:42, the groups commit to sharing meals, reading scripture, praying and gathering (or showing up) regularly. Each group may attend to these practices in their own way, but each group shares the core commitment to sharing in these four specific practices.

People yearn for these authentic relationships now more than ever. In these days of social media, where many have hundreds of Facebook "friends" and Twitter followers, we are more and more isolated from each other. We interact superficially, sharing pictures of our lives but not going deeper. That leaves our souls longing for real relationship.

Forming deep relationships with other Christians is vital to enabling a healthy church made of disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Father Richard Rohr notes that Jesus and the apostle Paul were focused on forming community. Rohr says, "I think to build community, to build relationships, to connect and love with whoever is right around you . . . sounds so simplistic, but you couldn't get any better notion of rebuilding the Church."^[1]

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, also believed that the small groups of believers were critical to the Christian discipleship journey. He began to form groups of people who would "watch over each other in love." He called these groups bands and classes. These were intentional ways for persons to live in communion with each other and hold one another up in faith.

If you hunger for relationships where you can explore your faith and grow in relationship and discipleship, contact Pastor Amy and be a part of a Life Together Group today!

Peace,

Rev. Amy Grant

^[1]Lombard, Mark. "Live in love." Richard Rohr on Saint Francis and Saint Paul, Franciscan Media, 4 June 2017, blog.franciscanmedia.org/richard-rohr-on-st-francis-and-st-paul.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Everyone is invited for pancakes (regular or blueberry), bacon, and eggs on February 13 from 5:30-7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall hosted by the United Methodist Men. The custom of Shrove Tuesday pancakes is from the tradition of using the cooking fat and milk before the fasting of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, the following day. Bring your entire family and enjoy the meal and the fellowship. Reservations are not required. A freewill offering is received.

Lenten Sermon Series

Rebel Jesus

Based on the book by Mike Slaughter, *Renegade Gospel*.

"Tender Jesus, meek and mild." If Jesus was really tender, meek and mild, why did his teaching and ministry cause riots, religious and secular officials to be disturbed, and end finally with a plot to have him killed? This Lenten series will seek to dispel Jesus as a benign figure who simply taught nice ways to live and serve our personal needs. Jesus' call to "follow me" is powerful and life changing. Together during Lent, let us explore this rebel who came to give us a new way to live.

Ash Wednesday is February 14

Drive-Thru Ashes

Ash Wednesday, February 14 | 6:30am-9am

Ash Wednesday marks the start of the holy season of Lent, a time for reflection and repentance in preparation for the celebration of Easter. For centuries, Christians have received a cross of ashes on the forehead as a reminder of mortal failings and an invitation to receive God's forgiveness. Many persons would like to receive ashes in the morning to serve as a reminder and witness to their faith throughout the day. We are offering Early Morning Ashes, but making it one step easier for you! All are invited to drive up to the covered entrance on the side of the building and receive the imposition of ashes with prayer while remaining in their car.

Traditional Ash Wednesday Service with imposition of ashes is on February 14 in the Sanctuary at 7:30 pm. All are invited to begin this journey through the Lenten Season in worship together.



Honduras Muchas Gracias

Many thanks for all the prayer, support and gifts that made the January mission to Honduras a success! Your generosity provided 67 backpacks, vitamins, toothbrushes, shoes, clothes, food and supplies to last the remainder of the school year. More importantly, it has given hope AND help to some of the poorest children in this hemisphere! It is a blessing to serve the Lord with you.

Rev. David Bonney

Youth Visit to Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian

All youth are invited to be a part of the Senior High Mission Team visiting the museum in preparation for our summer mission trip to Leech Lake reservation in Minnesota. We are leaving the church following 11:15 service on April 15. Bring \$15 for lunch.

Senior High Camping Retreat

All high school students are invited to be a part of our spring camping experience on April 27-29 in Woodstock, VA for a weekend of camping, fellowship, good food, and spiritual growth. Both indoor and outdoor sleeping options are available. The cost is only \$25. Please speak with Jay to sign up!

Weather Related Closings

The policy of Fairfax Church is that the church will follow the guidelines of the Fairfax County Public Schools regarding closing due to weather conditions. On days that schools are closed, day and evening church activities will be cancelled. In the event of an early closing or when Evening Events are cancelled in schools, all evening activities at church are cancelled. **Any changes to our worship schedule are made independently.** Please check our website and phone system for announcements and changes.

2018 Easter Flowers

If you would like to place an Easter flower in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 1st in honor or in memory of a loved one, please complete the form below. Place it in the offering plate or mail/deliver it to the church office along with your check.

Orders must reach the church office no later than 9:00a.m on Tuesday, March 13 for the flowers to be ordered and the information to be included in the bulletin. The flowers you ordered may be picked up after the 11:15 service on Easter morning. We anticipate that flowers will be picked up by the honoree, unless other arrangements are made.

Please record your order!

.....
Please print clearly and mark with number desired:

Easter Lilies (\$11.00 each) _____

Geraniums (\$6.00 each) _____

Hydrangeas (\$18.00 each) _____

IN MEMORY OF

IN HONOR OF

GIVEN BY

PHONE

If you would like to make a contribution to The Hermitage or an Endowment gift in honor or memory of a loved one, please indicate:

IN MEMORY OF

IN HONOR OF

GIVEN BY

Please make check(s) payable to FUMC.

\$ _____ Flowers

\$ _____ The Hermitage

\$ _____ Endowment Gift

\$ _____ **TOTAL**

Lent Missions Offering 2018

During Lent, we practice sacrificial giving as a reminder of Christ's sacrifice for each of us. Beyond our weekly stewardship commitments and gifts, additional financial gifts are received as a special offering and used to focus on additional diverse needs in our local and global communities.

Sacrificial giving is a meaningful practice for each of us, regardless of age. Some persons take the money they would have spent on eating out, buying coffee or going to the movies and instead donate that money for a special Lenten gift. Children can save an allowance that they might have spent on snacks and share it. There are many creative ways to incorporate sacrificial giving into your Lenten disciplines.

This year, Fairfax UMC has identified selected ministries that are especially important to members of the congregation. Each one will receive a portion of the Lenten Offering. Prayerfully consider making your special gift during Lent to support these life-changing ministries.

Short Term Mission Projects/Honduras: \$2500

Fairfax Church provides support to those members who would like to join together and focus on short term mission projects. This ministry also offers the opportunity to team with other churches to address specific needs in the local community. This year Pastor Bonney is developing and supporting mission opportunities in Honduras.

Local Mission Teams: \$1,000

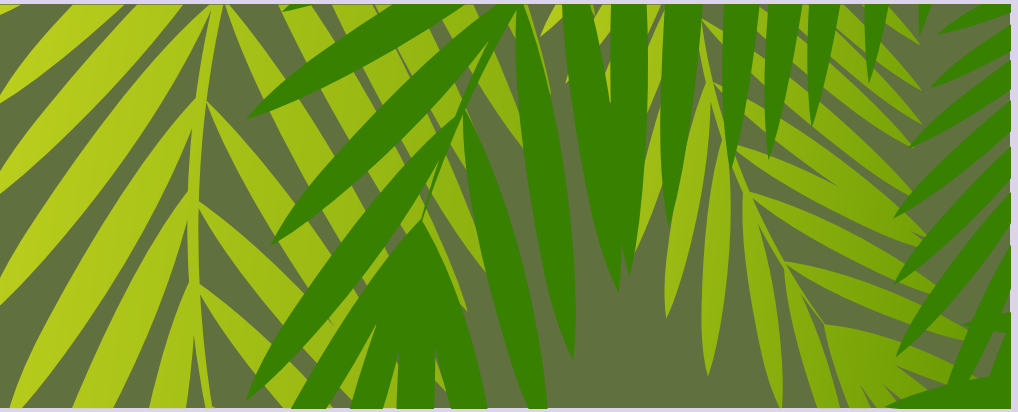
Fairfax Church provides help to our members in supporting short term mission projects of interest to them. Support is also available to team with other church members as well other churches to address specific mission needs in the local community

UMCOR: \$2,000

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) responds to natural or civil disasters that overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. UMCOR's global and national work aids refugees, feeds the hungry and provides immediate and sustained relief in more than 100 countries. Fairfax Church has a history of responding quickly and generously and church members have assembled thousands of kits that were distributed by The United Methodist Committee on Relief. [www.gbgm-umc.org/umcor]

Youth Mission Projects: \$8,000

This summer our junior high students will serve with Youth Works on the Eastern Shore, VA. Our senior high youth are traveling to Leech Lake Reservation in MN to serve with Youth Works. For more information, contact Jay Campbell at jcampbell@fairfaxumc.org.



FACETS: \$2,000

(Fairfax Area Christian Emergency & Transition Services)

This non-profit organization provides emergency intervention and education programs for homeless and low income people in the Fairfax area. Fairfax Church prepares and delivers hot meals to families in motels and living in the woods along the Route 50 corridor. For more information on meal preparation and delivery, contact Jean or Bob Cockrell (703-425-1133) rlcockrell@aol.com. www.facetscares.org

Food Pantry: \$2,000

Fairfax Church provides food deliveries to our neighbors primarily through Britepaths, previously called Our Daily Bread. For more information, contact Kerryn McMeans at ekmcmeans@verizon.net and Sue Almond at almond@cox.net.

Helping Hands/Senior Ministry: \$326

Helping Hands is a way for our church community to help members and others in the local community who may have housing maintenance needs. Widows, the elderly, ill, low-income and single families are just some who may benefit from short-term mission assistance. For example, building accessible ramps, lighting entrance ways, helping with general home upkeep and maintenance which could include painting, gutter repair, or simply changing a light bulb! Funds for Helping Hands are used to offset costs of materials for projects.

Rising Hope Capital Campaign: \$3000

Rising Hope UMC is a mission of the Alexandria District of the United Methodist Church. They are in a 3 year \$500,000 goal Capital Campaign that will allow them to replace well-used kitchen equipment, the refrigerator and freezer in the food pantry, and the building's HVAC system, and purchase a new church van to transport individuals to and from Rising Hope and other locations. Campaign contributions also will help decrease the building mortgage, and provide additional financial resources for the church's ministry and mission. Our support will help them meet their Capital Campaign goal.



Lenten Study Made for a Miracle

Do you know that you were made for miracles? This Lent and Easter use your God-given gifts and talents—yes, you do have them—for God's glory and discover that you are made for a miracle. Pastor Amy leads this six-week study based on the Mike Slaughter book Tuesday evenings February 20-March 27 at 7pm. Sign-up by contacting Pastor Amy at agrants@fairfaxumc.org.

Pastors' Easter Egg Decorating Party and Breakfast on March 17

Pastor Bonney and Pastor Grant invite you to the Annual Egg Decorating on March 17! A fantastic breakfast is served at 8:00am sponsored by the United Methodist Men. The cost of the breakfast is a donation with proceeds for The Lamb Center. The egg decorating begins at 9:00am but breakfast is served until 10:00am. Please bring one dozen hard-boiled eggs for each child and a basket. All kids and families are welcome!

Calling All Singers and Actors!

The children's music ministry is presenting the musical **Rescue in the Night: The Story of Daniel in the Lions' Den** at both the 9:30 and 11:15 worship services on April 22. All children are invited to participate in this wonderful expression of faith through song and drama. Adult volunteers are also needed to assist in the rehearsals and presentation of the musical. Please contact Rachel Ackerman at rackerman@fairfaxumc.org to find out what role you or your child may play in bringing the Bible alive in worship. Rehearsals begin February 11 and intensify during the month of March.

Endowment Grant Applications

The Endowment Committee is pleased to announce that there are funds available for grants in 2018. If any member of the church congregation or staff has a worthwhile project that can improve any of our ministries: worship, music, education, congregational care, welcoming, fellowship, outreach/missions, or church facilities, and which is not already a line item in the church budget, you are encouraged to obtain a grant application and fill it out. Applications are available at the church office or on the church website. The completed grant application must be delivered to Libby Barricks at the Church office not later than February 20, 2018 to be considered by the Endowment Committee. If approved, grants will be funded in April.

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY

March 25 at 8:15, 9:30, and 11:15am

We enter the Sanctuary on Palm Sunday to celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem waving palm branches and saying, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna!

HOLY THURSDAY

March 29 at 8:00pm

As we pause and remember Christ's final meal with his disciples before he was crucified, the United Methodist Men will present The Lord's Supper drama by Ernest Emurian, portraying Jesus and the disciples together in the Upper Room. Come and get a deeper look into the lives of the disciples as they journeyed with Christ to the cross.

GOOD FRIDAY

March 30 at 7:00pm.

On Good Friday, FUMC joins with New Life International Church to experience the darkness that is Christ's death on the cross. The congregations together move through Christ's walk to the cross.

EASTER SUNDAY

April 1

6:30am (Sunrise Service)

Our youth are leading the community Easter Sunrise Service at Old Town Square in Fairfax at 6:30am. Please come and bring a friend!

8:15, 9:30, and 11:15am

Come Sunday morning to proclaim in the community of believers, "Christ is Risen, Christ is Risen indeed!" A brass quartet from George Mason is participating at the 9:30 service.



Please bring fresh flowers to add to our Easter cross on the lawn.

We Welcome New Members . . .

Melissa Miller 11612 Iron Brigade Drive Unit Ave, Bristow, VA
Brenda & Alexander Miller 10645 Yorktown Drive, Fairfax, VA

The Sacrament of Baptism . . .

Administered on December 3, 2017 to ...

Grace Elizabeth Miller,

daughter of Patrick and Melissa Miller, born on April 11, 2017..

Our Sympathy is Extended to the Family and Friends of:

- **Phyllis and Jon Fadely.**
Beula Davis, Phyllis' cousin, died on January 6, 2017 in Rocky Mount, VA.
- **Charlie and Audrey Apps.**
Irene Apps, Charlie's mother, died on December 17 in North Carolina.
- **Cheryl and Marvin Dickerson.**
George Dickerson, Marvin's brother, died on December 11, 2017 in Fairfax, VA.
- **Natalie Doub.** Cyrus H. Doub "Cy," Natalie's husband, died on November 29, 2017 in Ashburn, VA.
- **Irby Hollans.**
Frances Jo Cox Hollans, Irby's wife, died on December 10, 2017 in Fairfax, VA.
- **Russell L. Jorns** died on October 29, 2017 in Annandale, VA.
- **David Godwin.**
Debra Godwin, David's wife, died on December 21, 2017 in Winchester, VA.
- **Linda E. Gramlich** died on November 14, 2017 in Silver Spring, MD.
- **Todd and Eloisa Steiner.** Magdalena Yambao, Eloisa's mother, died on November 7, 2017 in Fairfax, VA.
- **Diane Clouse.** Terri Northcutt, Diane's sister-in law, died on October 27, 2017 in North Carolina.



Fairfax United Methodist Church

10300 Stratford Avenue Fairfax, VA 22030
703-591-3120 www.fairfaxumc.org

Amy Grant

Associate Pastor
agrant@fairfaxumc.org

Jay Campbell

Youth Ministries
jcampbell@fairfaxumc.org

Diana Jenkins

Weekday Preschool
preschool@fairfaxumc.org

Pamela Kipps

Wesley Pastoral Intern
pkipps@fairfaxumc.org

David J. Bonney

Lead Pastor
dbonney@fairfaxumc.org

Linda Burke

Executive Director
lburke@fairfaxumc.org

Natalie Gray

Children's Ministries
ngray@fairfaxumc.org

Chris Burke

Modern Worship
cburke@fairfaxumc.org

Elizabeth P. Barricks

Administrative Ministries
lbarricks@fairfaxumc.org

Jonathan Giblin

Music Ministries
jgiblin@fairfaxumc.org

Rachel Ackerman

Children's Music Ministries
rackerman@fairfaxumc.org