

Stephens City U.M. Church
 5291 Main Street
 P.O. Box 428
 Stephens City, VA 22655

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The Messenger



August/September 2011

Stephens City United Methodist Church e-mail: scumc@verizon.net
 Phone: (540) 869-2348 web site <http://stephenscityumc.org>

Church Staff
 Rev. Jeff Butcher,
 Pastor

Rev. Waverly Reames,
 Minister of Visitation

Janet Moore,
 Administrative Assistant

David Renner,
 Director of Music

Missy Legge,
 Children & Youth Choir
 Director

Sharon Cooley,
 Children/Youth Choir
 Accompanist

Jacquetta Owen,
 Bell Choir Director

Bobby Cook,
 Building Superintendent

Mary Levesque,
 Childcare

Emma Bridges,
 Preschool Director
 869-1368

Sunday Worship
 8:30a.m.
 9:45a.m.
 11:00a.m.

Sunday School
 9:45a.m.
 11:00a.m.

From the Pastor's Desk...

Dear friends,

The story is told about the children's time during the worship service at a church where the pastor was talking about the importance of listening. She told the children gathered around her how important it was to listen to their parents, and friends, and most of all to God. She encouraged the children to listen carefully and attentively. As she finished speaking one child raised his hand and said aloud for all to hear, "My brother keeps talking to me and I didn't hear anything you said."

During the next two months we will have many opportunities to listen to God and to one another. What we actually want to engage in is what John Wesley called "Christian Conferencing." Christian Conferencing is not debating but is listening for the Spirit of God to speak through you as an individual and through others in the group and then for those in the group to share what they are hearing with one another. No one is trying to score points through their arguments or to try to appear to be the brightest or strongest person in the room. Similar to what we say in the Lord's Prayer it is "not my will, but Thy will be done." Some up-coming opportunities that will allow us to practice Christian Conferencing include our Church Council meeting scheduled for August 11, our Annual Officers Planning Event scheduled for August 20, our worship services on the 10th Anniversary of 9/11, and the District-wide Mission Saturation Event the weekend of September 23-25. Bishop Charlene Kammerer will be preaching on our district that Friday night, our church on Saturday will host the Mini-School for Christian Mission, and on Sunday every church on the district will have a United Methodist Missionary to preach. And that is just a few of the opportunities we will have to listen for God's encouragement and guidance.

The next two months appear to be an opportunity for us to be blessed as individuals and as a community of faith so let us listen and then respond that we might fulfill God's will here on earth as it is in heaven.

Yours in Christ, Jeff



To All and Whom It May Concern,
Please accept our sincere thanks for the use of your wonderful Fellowship Hall. It was greatly appreciated by our church and the young couple who were married. I don't know how but maybe someday and some way we can repay you for your kindness.

God Bless You,
Pastor Paul Marker

I want to thank everyone for the cards and prayers after my accident. Thank you Rev. Jeff and Rev. Waverly for your visits to me in the hospital. I'm so blessed with a great family and church. May God bless everyone.

June Parnell

Dear Church Family,
Thank you for sending flowers to the family in memory of Suzanne. I also want to thank the church for all the love and support it's given us during the recent passing of Suzanne. Knowing that you are there is such a comfort.

In Christian Love,
Rex Wakeman

Dear Church Family,
Thank you so much for the graduation luncheon, bookmark, and pen. I greatly appreciate the support the church has shown the graduates, not only through the luncheon and gifts but through prayer as well. The support of my church family has been an important source of strength for me over the past 17 years and I am very grateful for it!

Thanks again,
Shelby Franklin

Dear Rev. Butcher,
On behalf of Virginia United Methodist Homes, Inc. (VUMH), thank you for your Stephens City UMC gift to the Samaritan Fund. I am grateful you have chosen to contribute to the benevolent work of VUMH to support residents who can no longer meet the expense of their care.

Sincerely,
Christopher P. Henderson, CEO

United Methodist Women
UMW Chairperson—Debbie Jones



United Methodist Women September Activities

Executive Board Meets- Tuesday, September 13th @ 6pm in room 200.
Susanna Circle Meets- Tues., Sept. 13th @ 7pm, rm. 200. Wear comfortable clothes as our mission project for this month is to help clean the church kitchen. Come on, it will be fun!
Phoebe Circle Meets- Thursday, September 15th at 12:30 for lunch and activities.
Mini School of Mission- On Saturday, September 24th the Winchester District UMW will host this important event at our church as part of a UMC district wide *Mission Weekend*. Stephens City UMW will be serving lunch to the attendees and we will need help with the preparation and serving. Call Debbie at 869-5468 if you can help.

August Birthdays



01 Amy Adams	06 Christina Deck	13 Ryan Robinson	24 David Murphy
Ron Hougham	Martha Dilg	Emily Woolever	Shannon Murphy
Paul Levesque	Tracy Robinson	14 Tyler Baron	25 Kim DeGroot
Bobby Miller	07 Jimmy Buchanan	John Mullinax	27 Emili BeDell
George Shoemaker	Megan Lorey	Jacquetta Owen	Lorraine Orndorff
Richard Taliaferro	08 Gary Adams	Jake Ritter	28 Doris Alexander
02 H.B. Alexander	Linda Anton	16 Dana Baker	John Barley
Erin Fitzpatrick	Jessica Grayson	Bob Edwards	29 Pat Florence
03 Jarod Buchanan	Joe Grayson	17 Ryan Judy	30 Andrew Petrie
04 Cameron Brown-Mull	09 Betty Cook	18 Kayla Dyke	31 Shelby Franklin
Dixie Erwin	Diane Coulson	20 Paula Levesque	Daniel Nichols
Missy Steele	10 Rachel BeDell	22 Linda Clem	Jack Turner
05 Quintin DeGroot	Kelly Schrader	Daniel Conroy	
Skylar DeGroot	11 Joshua Rogers	23 Logan Howard	
Travis Strother	12 Kathy Lewis	Becky Schultz	

September Birthdays



01 Sara Colson	15 Melissa Marchand	Ashley Legge	29 Bryan Cooley
Jim Golladay, Jr.	16 Linda Conroy	Chelsea Walden	Eric Fonville
Nancy Swain	17 Carson Allegra	22 Tim Ragaller	30 Tim Nichols
02 Thomas Yancey	Chris Robinson	25 Ted Barker	Karen Murphy
03 Thomas Whipple	18 Faye Barker	Vickie Duncan	
Jeffrey Williams	Cos Georgia	JoAnna Fonville	
04 Sean Marteeny	Eric Gustafson	James Kerr	
07 Jill Lorey	20 Judy Sandy	26 Robert Bursey, Jr.	
09 Ashley Catalano	Cody Schrader	27 Debra Johnson	
10 Julie McCormick	David Schrader	Kenny Lantz	
Donna Steward	21 Marie Buchanan	28 Vic Hart	
14 Robert Aylor IV	Nicolas Helmut	Michael Myers	

Scripture Lessons and Sermon Titles for August and September

August 7 Rev. Waverly Reames to preach, (Holy Communion Served)

August 14 Psalm 133 & Matthew 15:21-28, "Pushing the Boundaries"

August 21 Psalm 124 & Matthew 16:13-20, "You Are Believed In"

August 28 Romans 12:9-21 & Matthew 16:21-28, "Inadequate Justice"



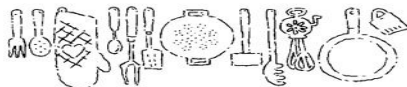
September 4 First part of a two-part sermon series on 9/11
Psalm 139:7-12, "Because God is With Us"
(Holy Communion served)

September 11 Second part of a two-part sermon series on 9/11
Romans 14:1-12, "Accountable to God"

September 18 Exodus 16:2-15 & Matthew 20:1-6
"The Parable of the Hired Help"

September 25 Guest Missionary

KITCHEN MAINTENANCE



Our church kitchen would greatly benefit from a thorough cleaning once a month. The Trustees are suggesting that groups of 3, 4 or more people work together to get this much needed job accomplished. A notebook will be kept in the church's office with details for the monthly kitchen maintenance. The kitchen has been cleaned by the Trustees for May and June and we need volunteers to sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board for July thru the rest of this year and so on. Please help with this much needed task. There are many groups in our church that utilize the kitchen and we ask that you share in the cleaning and maintenance.

Please contact Linda Petrie at 869-0187 or lhpetrie@hotmail.com for further information.



Promotion Sunday

This will be on Sunday, August 28th at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary. The following children will be receiving bibles at the 11:00 am service:

MacKenna Drake	Rebecca Lorey
Jacob Wright	Lawrence Pfouts
Jeremiah David	MacKenzie Crockett

Teachers' Appreciation Sunday

On Sunday, September 11th all Sunday School teachers will be recognized at all three services.

Attention Bell Ringers!

There will be a special Memorial Handbell Rendition for Sun., September 11th during the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services. We will have a rehearsal on Wed., Aug. 24 @ 5:30pm in the bell room. If there are any handbell players who are interested in participating in this program please see Jacquetta Owen.



Middle School (6th-8th grade) & Senior High (9th-12th grade) **Youth Groups**

Come join us!!

Aug 28	Youth Group Kick-off Meetings - 4:30-6pm
Sep 4	Labor Day Weekend - No Youth Meetings
Sep 11	Regular Youth Meeting - 4:30-6pm
Sep 18	Regular Youth Meeting - 4:30-6pm
Sep 24	Awakening Music Festival - 2pm-11pm
Sep 25	No Youth Meetings

Any questions, contact one of the Youth group leaders:

Senior High: Rocky Lorey 869-0605 or lore5@verizon.net.
Cathy Barley 313-4352 or mwbarley@comcast.net

Middle School: Michele Hruska 869-4073 or chel64@comcast.net
Pam Simmers 869-5032 or claysimmers@aol.com
Stephen Kleffman 868-2985 or sdkleff@gmail.com



It's Gleaning Time

Gleaning is alive and well in Frederick County. It's a great project and it's biblical. (Check out the book of Ruth). Gleaning also fills our area food banks and pantries with nourishment for those who need to provide for their family. For the gleaner, it's good exercise and a great time to meet others of like mind. Ginny Miller coordinates the effort for SCUMC. Please let her know if you want to be on her calling list.

What might you be gleaning? How about: kale, turnips, nectarines, strawberries, white potatoes, sweet potatoes, winter and summer squash, corn - apples, and peaches and pumpkin for pie in the appropriate season. If you said all of those listed, give yourself a pat on the back.

UMCOR Needs More School Kits

[United Methodist Committee on Relief \(UMCOR\)](#) has issued an urgent call for more [school kits](#) because the latest shipment of school kits to Haiti has seriously depleted UMCOR's stockpile. The kits, which cost about \$11 each to assemble, provide children with basic supplies such as paper, pencils and other items. If you need directions to learn more about assembling [the kits](#), check out our bulletin boards or call Pat @ 869-1384. To make a gift toward the purchase of materials, write out a check to the church. Identify that it is for school kits.

Winchester District Mini School of Missions

When: September 24, 2011 from 9am-4pm

Where: Stephens City UMC

Registration will begin and coffee will be served at 9am. Men and women, clergy and lay are encouraged to attend. The following classes are being offered:

Spiritual Growth Study: Coming on the Side of Grace: Forgiveness and Reconciliation

Geographic Study: Haiti—Challenges and Hopes

Mission Study: Joy to the World: Mission & Evangelism

It's \$10.00 for the class which includes lunch. (Study books will be available for purchase at registration). Registration forms are available in church office or call the Winchester District office to register at 662-7332. Registration deadline is Wed., Sept. 14!

A Devotion from the Spiritual Life Committee

Daniel Barley and Stephen Kleffman



"You are the new recruit? All right, you are engaged."

"I really have no experience..."

"No one has any experience of the battle of Armageddon."

"But I'm really unfit..."

"You are willing, that is enough."

"Now, really, I know of no occupation for which mere willingness is the final test."

"I do. Martyrs. I am sending you to your death. Good day."

With this scene, Gabriel Syme, G.K. Chesterton's embodiment of the common, ordinary man, finds himself thrown into a service for which he feels wholly unprepared. Syme is hardly alone in this feeling; a great multitude of others have expressed similar sentiments over orders rather less drastic than martyrdom.

Faced with a burning bush and ordered to command one of the world's most powerful men to free his enslaved kinsmen, Moses insists that he is unfit to do the job, arguing that he is "not eloquent of speech" and stutters. Instructed to defeat the Midianites, Gideon protests, citing the fact that he is the "least in [his] family." Apparently, without even saying a word, Jonah simply flees when God comes to him with the order to preach to the Ninevites. If God had a nickel for every time he heard "I can't do it," and if He cared about money, He would be very rich indeed.

When faced with the call to do something for which we feel ill-prepared or uncomfortable about doing, it can be easy to turn down opportunities to serve, on the basis that "someone else can do it better." We think, "Oh, he can speak well; let him do it," or "She's good with kids; she can do it." There seems to be the idea that some are better qualified at what God wants them to do than others. Ultimately, however, there is only one qualification necessary for serving God, and that is *willingness*.

The Bible, in some sense, is a history of unqualified men and women doing things for which they did not think themselves fit to do. And by any earthly calculation, their assessment might have been correct: a shepherd boy the king of Israel? A fisherman a great preacher? A carpenter's son, born in a barn, the savior of the world? But God does not need us to be ready; in fact, the historical trend suggests that He prefers otherwise. God cares more for our willingness to say, "Here I am; send me," than whether or not we have the talent or the skill to do it. He will supply those things if we will supply ourselves.

Prayer:

Father, we ask that You would show us Your will for each of us, that You would make clear Your calling and show us how we might serve You and Your plan for ourselves and for the world, and we also ask in Your name that we might have willing hearts who do not ask "Why me?" but instead beg, "Send me" Give us a willing heart to do Your bidding; we know that You will supply us with everything we need. In the holy name of Your son, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Boy Scout Troop 15

Troop 15 attended Boy Scout Resident Camp during the week of July 10th – 16th at Rock Enon near Gore, VA. During the week at camp, scouts worked on a myriad of merit badges and scout skills. Four scouts participated in the Frontier Program, which consisted of:

- Earning the First Aid and Swimming Merit Badges
- Learning how to make and safely manage camp fires
- Outdoor cooking skills
- Knife and ax safety
- Knots and lashings

In all, nine scouts attended this year's camp and earned about 40+ merit badges. Some of the other merit badges earned were Environmental Science, Space Exploration, Indian Lore, Wilderness Survival, Emergency Preparedness, and many more. Three scouts and one adult were elected into the Order of the Arrow. The Order of the Arrow is Scouting's National Honor Society and its purpose is to:

- Recognize those who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and through that recognition cause others to conduct themselves in a way that warrants similar recognition.
- Promote camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship as essential components of every Scout's experience, in the unit, year-round, and in summer camp.
- Develop leaders with the willingness, character, spirit and ability to advance the activities of their units, our Brotherhood, Scouting, and ultimately our nation.
- Crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

We will soon begin planning out our program for the next year (September – August).



Presenting

"Sowing & harvesting For the kingdom"

An Evangelism Rally

Monday, August 22, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.

Location:

Leesburg UMC
107 W. Market Street
Leesburg, Virginia

Guest Speaker will be
William H. Willimon, Bishop
Alabama Annual Conference
United Methodist Church



This event is sponsored by The Winchester District
United Methodist Ministers' Association.



2011 Fall (September–December) Schedule



Choir Rehearsals on Wednesday Nights *(Sign-up Tables will be set up starting on Sunday, August 21)*

Primary Praise/Wesley Singers/Youth Choir Director, Missy Allegra
Rehearse in Rm. 200

5:30-6:00pm, Primary Praise Choir (K-Grade 2)
6:00-6:45pm, Youth Singers (Grades 6-12)
6:45-7:15pm, Wesley Singers (Grades 3-5)

Hand Bells Director, Jacquetta Owen
Rehearse in Rm. 212

5:30-6:15pm, Stephens City Ringers (2+ years exp.)
6:15-6:45pm, Wesley Ringers (Grades 2-5)
6:45-7:30pm, Youth Ringers (Grades 6-12)
7:30-8:15pm, Joyful Ringers (0-2 years exp.)

Director of Music, David Renner
7-8:30pm, Chancel Choir (Adults, rehearsal in the Sanctuary)

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

September-December 2011, Youth, Children choirs and Bell Groups will lead worship at the 8:30am services as follows:

1st Sunday—SCR (8:30 & 11am worship services)
2nd Sunday—Joyful Ringers (8:30 & 11am worship services)
2nd Sunday—Primary Praise (8:30 am)
3rd Sunday—Wesley Singers and Wesley Ringers (8:30 am)
(some alternating months for Wesley Ringers)
4th Sunday—Youth Singers and Youth Ringers (8:30 am)

Chancel Choir leads worship each Sunday, September– December at the 11am service.

Join a choir today! Contact: Missy Allegra, Jacquetta Owen or David Renner

**If you would like to make a donation for special music, checks can be made to:
SCUMC, c/o Music Performance**



SCUMC INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL CHOIRS 2011-2012

Wesley Ringers—A bell choir for children, 2nd grade-5th grade. Rehearse from September-May every Wednesday night in room 212. The choir will ring occasionally at the 8:30 or 11am morning worship, September-May. They will lead worship on Christmas Eve.

Youth Ringers—A bell choir for youth, 6th grade-12th grade. Rehearse from September-May every Wednesday night in room 212. The choir will ring every 4th Sunday at the 8:30 or 11am morning worship, September-May. They will lead worship on Christmas Eve.

Joyful Ringers—A bell choir for adults with 0-2 years experience. Rehearse from September-May every Wednesday night in room 212. The choir will ring on the 2nd Sunday of the month at the 8:30 and 11am worship services, September-May. They will lead worship on Christmas Eve.

Stephens City Ringers—A bell choir for adults with over 2 years experience. Rehearse from September-May every Wednesday night in room 212. The choir will ring on the 1st Sunday of the month at the 8:30 and 11am worship services, September-May. They will lead worship on Christmas Eve.

Primary Praise—A vocal choir for children, K-2nd grade. Rehearse from September-May every Wednesday night in room 200. The choir will sing every 2nd Sunday at the 8:30 or 11am worship, September-May. They will have an Advent/Christmas program and lead worship on Christmas Eve.

Wesley Singers—A vocal choir for children, 3rd-5th grade. Rehearse from September-May every Wednesday night in room 200. The choir will sing every 3rd Sunday at the 8:30 or 11am worship, September-May. They will have an Advent/Christmas program and lead worship on Christmas Eve.

Youth Choir—A vocal choir for youth, 6th-12th grade. Rehearse from September-May every Wednesday night in room 200. The choir will sing every 4th Sunday at the 8:30 or 11am worship, September-May. They will have an Advent/Christmas program and lead worship on Christmas Eve.

Chancel Choir—A vocal choir for adults (18 yrs. and beyond) that read 4 part choral music-soprano, alto, tenor and bass. They rehearse from September-May every Wednesday night., 7-8:30pm in the sanctuary. The choir sings every Sunday at the 11am worship service. They will perform on Christmas Eve.

Youth Participation Policy—In fairness to all, musical participants will sing or play in their own age/grade level ensembles unless invited by a director to ring bells or sing in a different choir. If invited by the director to join an additional ensemble, the musician's primary responsibility is to ring or sing in his/her age/grade level ensemble.

Soloists—Soloists and small groups who sing throughout the year are regular committed members of a choir.