

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

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# The Messenger

February 2012 Issue



Stephens City United Methodist Church  
Phone: (540) 869-2348

e-mail: [scumc@verizon.net](mailto:scumc@verizon.net)  
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

Preschool  
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,

A few weeks ago I attended Pastor's Convocation at the Assembly Center in Blackstone, VA, where so many Conference events are held. Our primary speaker was the Rev. Wayne Muller, a Presbyterian pastor from New Mexico whose books have been in the New York Times Best-Seller List. The theme at Convocation was "Reclaiming the Sabbath" and Rev. Muller was both insightful and helpful on this vital matter. Below is an excerpt from his book *A Life of Being, Having and Doing Enough*. You can learn more by going to his website which is [www.waynemuller.com](http://www.waynemuller.com).

### Seven Steps to Sufficiency

**Listen for the next right thing** – We make thousands of tiny choices a day that make up a week, a year, a life; listen carefully to do what the next right thing is for you.

**Follow the thread** – When making choices, tune into that invisible, intangible, yet consistent guidance that has run through your life thus far.

**Practice beginner's mind** – Become more playful in recognizing possibilities and outcomes.

**Live at the pace of the heart** – Often our lives are forced to run at the speed of the mind, but the heart processes information much slower.

**Watch for what makes you speedy and therefore take on too much** – Often, in our attempt to avoid feelings such as grief or disappointment, we move too fast.

**Notice 'dishonest' kindness** – When we extend ourselves beyond our present capacity, who does it serve?

(cont'd on next page)

**Create boundaries around your accessibility** – Avoid the 24/7 expectation of availability through email, social networks and cell phones.

These are certainly words well worth pondering.

Yours in Christ, Jeff



*To My Wonderful Church Family,*

*I would like to thank all of you for all of your thoughtfulness and many acts of kindness during my recent recovery. I appreciate all the thoughts, calls and cards during my hip surgery. I would especially like to thank Pastors Jeff and Waverly for their visits while I was in the hospital. I am very thankful for all of you!!*

*God Bless,  
Michael Short*

*My Church Family,*

*My heartfelt thanks to all of you who gave my family and I support throughout my father's illness. Thank you to everyone who attended the visitation and funeral services as well. Both John and I were deeply comforted by your presence and support, your kinds words, your prayers and thoughts, the many, beautiful cards, your warm hugs and your love. Thanks to Pastor Jeff's and Pastor Waverly's visits who made our time at Hospice and the hospital much more soothing and calm.*

*I feel very blessed to be a part of this church family.*

*Love,  
Janet & John Moore and  
Family*

*SCUMC,*

*Thank you so much for the prayers, cards, and lovely garden dish. The wonderful food that the women of the church prepared. Also for the visits of Rev. Butcher in our time of sorrow.*

*Sincerely,  
The Florence Family*

*To The Stephens City UM Church Family,*

*Thank you so much for your contribution to Concern Hotline. We will put this money to good use and make every penny count! Our training sessions could not exist without people like you who help us provide the necessary training to handle suicide prevention and crisis intervention situations. Thank you for helping us to make a difference in the lives of those in need.*

*May God Bless You,  
Sue Hildreth  
Concern Hotline*

## February Birthdays



02 John Baker	16 Robin Kerr	22 Zachary Schultz
03 Michael BeDell	Joe Paugh	23 Mindy Brown
04 Anthony Howard	Warren Whitacre	24 Linda Scothorn
05 Camdyn Drago	17 Pam Barley	Megan Shoemaker
06 Tyler Wakeman	Violet Charles	Barry Utterback
07 Anthony Allegra	Ben Conroy	25 Thomas Copenhaver
Jeremy Huffman	Barbara Falcone	Jordan Largent
Robert Falcone	Kelly Orndorff	26 Janet Davis
08 Gretchen Armstrong	18 Janet Moore	27 Alyson Howard
Susan Ritter	Mary Shoemaker	Noah Mullinax
09 Ken Coffelt	Valerie Taylor	Waverly Reames
10 Brian Lewis	20 Nicole Grayson	George Ritter
Cindee Steele	Jenifer Nichols	Linda Taliaferro
12 Christy Taylor	21 Kai Adams	
14 Faye Baker	Kaycee Adams	
15 Brad Largent	22 Georgia Holder	
16 Gwen Hougham	Hazel Hussey	

*If you would like to have you and/or your family added to the birthday list, please contact the church office, 869-2348.*

## Scripture Lessons and Sermon Titles for February 2012

**February 5** Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany Mark 1:29-39  
“The Way It is Suppose To Be”

**February 12** Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany, Boy Scout Sunday

**February 19** Transfiguration Sunday II Corinthians 4:3-6 & Mark 9:2-9  
“A Transitional Sunday”

**February 26** First Sunday in Lent Genesis 9:8-17 & Mark 1:9-15  
“A Beastly Experience”

### COMING UP! Confirmation Classes to Begin on March 4

Confirmation Classes for those in the sixth grade or older (at least 11 years old) will begin on Sunday, March 4. Classes will meet in the Senior High Room from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. There will be eight sessions from the confirmation resource *Credo: Know Your Story, Confirm Your Faith, Live Your Commitment*. In addition to our eight sessions we will make a trip one Saturday to Washington, D.C. to tour Washington National Cathedral and one other large church. Also we have been invited to join the confirmation classes from Braddock Street UMC and First UMC on a confirmation retreat May 11 & 12 at a church camp in the Winchester area.



### LENTEN BIBLE STUDY *24 Hours That Changed the World: A Lenten Study*



Rev. Butcher will begin a 7 week Lenten and Easter study beginning Tuesday, February 28. A morning session will be offered at 10:00 a.m. and an evening session at 7:00 p.m. We will be using Adam Hamilton's *24 Hours That Changed the World*. The study will be similar to his Advent Study that we used a few months ago. Through the use of a DVD we will journey to the Holy Land and consider what transpired there that changed the world. The weekly topics include: The Last Supper; The Garden of Gethsemane; Condemned by the Righteous; Jesus, Barabbas and Pilate; The Torture and Humiliation of the King; The Crucifixion; Christ the Victor. Adam Hamilton is senior pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection near Kansas City. He was named by PBS's Religion and Ethics Newsweekly as one of the top "Ten People to Watch."

**Cost of Dr. Hamilton's book is \$15. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin boards.**



### Want to Learn How to Communicate with Those Who Are Deaf?

Donna Day, Outreach Specialist for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing with Access Independence, will begin teaching an adult class in ASL (American Sign Language) on March 6. The course is for beginners and each lesson will be held at the Access Independence office in Winchester. Registration forms are available in the church office. Payment is not required until the need for the class is determined.

### MAMA at Middletown Elementary School

MAMA provides children that have been identified by the school nurse as being home alone on the weekend a bag of groceries to tide them over for that two day period. Numerous area churches are participating and we are teaming with the SC Mennonite church to do the fourth week in subsequent months.

The things to consider when assembling food stuffs is the price, weight of the filled bag, and the variety of items so that there are 3 well balanced meals as well as snacks for 2 days.

So, if you want to help, we are proposing only the following items be brought to church and left in Rm. 204, and others will assemble the MAMA bags. Needed are:

Chef Boy R D cans of pasta and meatball or mac & cheese, Vienna Sausage, Store brand cans of fruit, Store brand cans of green beans, Minute Maid Fruit Punch Fruit Coolers because they're in plastic pouches, Special K Fruit Crisp Bars, Store Brand saltines that contain 4 packages, Goobers PBJ and Kellogg's Variety pack cereal (8 individual boxes).



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

Come join us!!

Middle School

**Sun., Feb. 5—Sub Sale, meet at 8:30am, no meeting that afternoon**

**Sun., Feb. 12—Reg. Meeting, 4:30-6pm**

**Sun., Feb. 19—Reg. Meeting, 4:30-6pm**

**Sun., Feb. 26—Reg. Meeting, 4:30-6pm**

Sr. High

**Sun., Feb. 5—No Meeting**

**Sat., Feb. 11—Parents' Night Out—5-9pm, FH**

**Sun., Feb. 12—Reg. Meeting, 4:30-6pm**

**Sun., Feb. 19—Dinner at Salvation Army**

**Sun., Feb. 26—Reg. Meeting, 4:30-6pm**

Any questions, contact one of the Youth group leaders:

Senior High: Rocky Lorey 869-0605 or [lorey5@verizon.net](mailto:lorey5@verizon.net).  
Cathy Barley 313-4352 or [mwbarley@comcast.net](mailto:mwbarley@comcast.net)

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

**BIRTHS!**

**Wyatt William Lotz was born on January 19, 2012 weighing 7lbs. 8ozs. He is the new son of Jeston & Travis Lotz and new baby brother of Harper Lotz.**

**Congratulations to the Lotz family on their new baby!**



**Preschool Registration**—Stephens City United Methodist Preschool registration is open to all church members. Please pick up a packet in the church gathering area if you are interested in registering for preschool during the 2012-2013 school year. Students must be 3-years-old by September 30, 2012 to be enrolled in the 3-year-old program and 4-years-old by September 30, 2012 to be enrolled in the 4-year-old program. Please turn in registration forms to the Preschool mailbox in the church office. Please call the Preschool Office at 540-869-1638 or email questions to [stephenscitypreschool@google.com](mailto:stephenscitypreschool@google.com).

**Community Garden**—Do you like to eat homegrown vegetables, but you aren't able to have a garden? You are in luck! We are starting a Community Garden at the home of Deborah Phillips. Please join us in the development of this garden! We currently need Committee members for this and there is a display and sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area, or you may contact Deborah at 869-8487 or [debphillips@hughes.net](mailto:debphillips@hughes.net). After all, "Give a man a tomato; you have fed him for today. Teach a man to garden; and you have fed him for a lifetime!"

**Parents' Night Out**—Go out on a date to celebrate Valentine's Day. The Sr. High youth are offering a parents night out on Saturday Feb 11<sup>th</sup> from 5pm till 9pm, in the Fellowship hall. A free will offering will be available to support this summer's mission trip,

**Do You Buy Groceries?** Martin's Grocery store offers a program where they will sell the youth group gift cards at a 5% discount. The Sr. High youth are selling the gift cards to help raise money for their summer mission trip to work with children in downtown Brooklyn. If you are interested in purchasing some, please see any Sr. High youth, or contact Rocky Lorey (869-0605 or [lorey5@verizon.net](mailto:lorey5@verizon.net)) or Cathy Barley. Thank you for your continued support.

**Ash Wednesday Service on February 22**

Our annual Ash Wednesday service will be on February 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. This is a service that is about redemption, preparation and cleansing from sin. Our scripture lessons will be the traditional readings for Ash Wednesday: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17; II Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21. Rev. Butcher will preach on "The Danger of Lent." There will be the imposition of the ashes as we remember our mortality and seek the grace of Christ.

**New Members to be Received on Sunday, February 26**

A number of persons have indicated a desire to unite in membership with the church. If you would like to be part of that group please contact the Church Office or speak to Rev. Butcher @ 869-2348.

## A Devotion from the Spiritual Life Committee

Daniel Barley and Stephen Kleffman



Do not be a fan of Jesus. Be a fan of sports teams, athletes, actors, musicians and bands. Be a fan of painters and writers and independent films. By all means go forth in fandom of George Clooney and Hemingway and Apple products, but never, whatever you do, be a fan of Jesus. To be a fan is to stand on the sidelines, to worship from afar, to heap worldly praise and honors upon something; any fan of Jesus would be all too willing and ready to place him atop the highest pantheon of spiritual leaders, civil rights activists, political thinkers, or social reformists; they will laud him as a teacher or maybe adore him for his moral instruction, indeed, they may even call him God, but whatever their opinion of Jesus should be, it always stops there. A fan does not imitate or emulate, but instead adulates and congratulates. Being a fan of Jesus consists in little more than thinking him “a neat guy”.

But Jesus doesn't want fans. “Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me,” he says in Matt 10:38, “is not worthy of me.” He declares that there will come a day when many will come to him as ardent fans, like so many groupies vying for an autograph, saying “Lord, Lord,” but on that day he will tell them, “I never knew you” (Matt 7:23). Christianity is anything but the Jesus Fan Club; true, we gather every Sunday to admire and to worship him, to honor and to praise him, but the substance of our connection with him lies not in our being fans but rather in our being *disciples*.

A *fan* stands aside and admires disengagedly; a *disciple* is actively involved, participating in the work of his master. Whereas a *fan* is merely a spectator, with a spotless jersey purchased in the gift shop, a *disciple* is a player, and the stains and the grass marks on *his* jersey are his evidence. James 1:22 encourages us, “Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves; do what it says.” Perhaps this might be just as adequately phrased, “Do not be merely fans, but disciples.” Thus, when asked about Christ in our day-to-day lives, let us pray that we might be able to say, when asked what we think of him, “not a fan,”—a disciple.

Prayer: “*Glorious Lord, we pray that we will not simply be fans of You, but Disciples. Give us the strength to pick up Your cross and follow You, that we may do Your Word. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen*”

## United Methodist Women

UMW Chairperson—Debbie Jones



### February UMW Special Events

**February 11th (Saturday) at noon-Winter Wonderland Ladies Tea-** You are invited to a very special tea/luncheon in the Orrick Fellowship Hall. Shirley Ryder, who has spoken at Women's Christian Gatherings for over 30 years, will be our guest speaker and there will be special music by our own talented Jacquetta Owen and Ryan Magalis. Tickets are \$5.00 and are on sale now until Tuesday, Feb. 6th. See Debbie Jones for tickets after each Sunday service or call her at 869-5468 or e-mail [drdjonesy@yahoo.com](mailto:drdjonesy@yahoo.com)

**February 25th (Saturday) from 8:30-Noon-** UMW will have a Bake Sale in the Fellowship Hall during the UMM Pancake Breakfast.

**Please note\*\*\*** The regularly scheduled Susanna and Phoebe Circles will NOT meet in February.

**Mark your calendars-March 3rd (Saturday)-** UMW District Breakfast at the Lee Jackson

**Happy Valentine's Day  
From all the SCUMC staff!**





## 2012 Winter/Spring (January–May) Schedule



### **Choir Rehearsals on Wednesday Nights**

**Primary Praise/Wesley Singers/Youth Choir Director, Missy Legge**  
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)

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

### **FEBRUARY 2012 WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Sunday, Feb. 05 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

8:30 Stephen City Ringers, Worship leader  
11:00 Stephens City Ringers, Chancel Choir

Sunday, Feb. 12 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

8:30 Worship leader  
11:00 Primary Praise, Chancel Choir

Sunday, Feb. 19 TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

8:30 Worship leader  
11:00 Wesley Ringers, Wesley Singers, Chancel Choir

Wednesday, Feb. 22 ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00 PM Wesley Singers, Youth Singers, Chancel Choir, Stephens City Ringers

Sunday, Feb. 26 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

8:30 Worship leader  
11:00 Youth Ringers, Youth Singers, Chancel Choir

**Join a choir today! Contact: Missy Legge, 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 lead worship on Christmas Eve.

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**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.

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