



The Grapevine

Clarksbury United Methodist Church
15924 General Puller Highway, Hardyville, Virginia July 2018
www.clarksburyumc.com

Our Mission:

To receive and share God's love through worship, education, service and outreach.

Pastor Ken's Corner

Ephesians 2:13-14, 19-22 (NRSV)

¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

¹⁴ For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.

¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰ built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.

²¹ In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord;

²² in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

Summer is here...let the vacations begin. With summer we are finally enjoying something different from rain and chilly temperatures. Now we can start thinking about commenting on how it's too hot and humid. ☺ ☺

As we celebrate Independence Day let us be mindful and respectful of the memory of those who have given their lives for our freedom and of those who sacrificed so much in the past as well as those who serve today to maintain those freedoms. Someone once said, "Freedom is only one generation away from loss." Essentially, each generation passes on to the next generation the freedom they receive from their parents. We need each generation to embrace the cost of freedom for their children.

Also, the Fourth should be more than just a day of BBQ's, backyard burgers and hot dogs...just saying. Consider visiting a local cemetery and pay your respects to those who served, place a flag, have a silent moment of thanks, do something that stands out as different from just ANY other DAY. In all respects....enjoy the festive occasion with family and friends!!!

We have the Cryer Center Mobile Food Pantry on Saturday, July 7, and Clarksbury is the lead church this time in our rotation. Come by and see if there is anything you can do to help, or just visit.

¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.

What great servant hearts we are blessed with here at CLARKSBURY UMC and that is just the start of July. ☺ ☺

To God be the Glory! We are truly greatly blessed by gifted servants. It is through Christ's grace and His shed blood, that when we were far off, he brings us together and gives us peace, breaking down barriers and ending hostility to make us all one group of children of God.

¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰ built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.

We are NOT strangers...we are family because of Christ. We are no longer strangers nor aliens, but citizens AND saints in the household of GOD, which was constructed by those who came before us AND with Jesus Himself as the foundation upon which all our security is based.

He is alive, and we're forgiven!

He is the **Way**, the **Truth** and the **Life**!

Keep our Soup Ministry, those who serve and are served, in your prayers for July.

Talk to Jerry Dant about cards or letters or contacting one or several of our shut-ins. Volunteer for work at Dockside; see Jerry or Fred or David for more info. We are blessed **TO BE** a blessing.

We, together, have pledged OUR prayers, OUR presence, OUR gifts, OUR service and OUR witness for Christ and His Church.

Peace & Grace
Pastor Ken

Annual Budget for 2018 Operating Funds:	\$112,331.00
Total Received for Operating Funds as of May 27, 2018:	46,677.10
Total Income Needed to Meet Budget:	46,805.00

COFFEE HOUR FOR July

July	1	Dawn Wilt
July	8	Terry Cleveland
July	15	Linda Bartz
July	22	Becky Foster
July	29	Mary Banker



*If you would like to be a part of this church ministry,
please contact Polly Van Benschoten, 776-0569*

United Methodist Men News

Warren Wright-UMM President



The UMM will be off the months of July and August, returning on Monday, September 24th at 7 PM.

Remember that there are no membership or dues requirements to be a part of the United Methodist Men of Clarksbury, just a willingness to serve Jesus Christ within your church and community.

Mission-To Help Men Grow In Christ, So Others May Know Christ.

A Message from Your Lay Leader

VA UMC Annual Conference meets in Hampton June 15-17, 2018

By Warren Wright



With over 3,000 Clergy and Laity delegates in attendance, the 236th session of the Virginia Annual Conference kicked off early Friday morning. Under the leadership of Bishop Sharma D. Lewis, the theme for the for the 2018 Virginia Annual Conference, held June 15-17, 2018 at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton, Va., was "Servant Leaders Making a Difference." The conference theme was based on I Peter 4:10, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." Service was incorporated in the conference theme and lived out in The Great Day of Service, a three-hour period on Saturday, June 16 when the conference session was halted for conference attendees to participate in service. 1637 people registered and service included clean up in the Hampton community including alleyways and a historic cemetery of freed African-Americans. Other participants stayed inside the convention center to put together 3,000 UMCOR kits and listen to three different social justice talks.

In attendance at the Annual Conference representing Clarksbury were Pastor Ken and Terry. Once again this year, I represented the York River District as an at large delegate along with Fred Dant who also was a York River District delegate at large. My duties as a delegate began the day that I received the 2018 Book of Reports (consisting of 195 pages plus addendums). It is my responsibility to read and understand all of this report before attending conference and voting on any amendments or resolutions. Pastor Ken, Terry, Bob Tabler, and Don VanBenschoten delivered 10 sewing kits, 12 school kits, and 45 cleaning buckets for Clarksbury's contribution to "Kits for Conference".

Service of Remembrance and Holy Communion

The Rev. Ileana Rosario, pastor of Lower UMC, York River District, preached for the Service of Remembrance and Holy Communion in which 63 conference clergy and laity who died since the last Annual Conference were remembered.

Harry Denman Awards

The clergy Denman award went to the Rev. Larry Cochran, pastor of Belmont UMC, Richmond District. Laity award went to Kevin and Judy Mooers, members of the Northumberland Charge, Rappahannock River District. Youth award went to Justin Robins, member of Shady Grove UMC in Mechanicville, Richmond District.

Conference Vision

Bishop Sharma Lewis reviewed the vision she introduced at last year's Annual Conference: Disciples of Jesus Christ are lifelong learners who influence others to serve. This is her vision for the Virginia Conference for the next four years.

She reminded those gathered that all Virginia United Methodist churches will have a process of intentionally-forming disciples by 2020. She clarified that each church will have to individually choose what this will look like for their context. She suggested that each church begin in prayer, have a conversation about their potential mission fields to form disciples and to study three books that she recommended:

Developing an Intentional Discipleship System: A Guide for Congregations by Junius B. Dotson
Engaging Your Community: A Guide to Seeing All the People by Junius B. Dotson
From Membership to Discipleship: Grow Maturing Disciples Who Make Disciples by Philip Maynard
Virginia Conference presented awards from Global Mission Connections

The Rev. Amy Valdez Barker, executive director for Global Mission Connections, presented six awards to the conference for categories based on the ranking with the U.S. annual conferences. These awards were: United States Disaster Response (#1), International Disaster Response (#3), Missionary Support (#1), Mission Initiatives (#4), In Mission Together (#2) and Health-related Programs (#4).

Conference Business

Eight churches were discontinued in five districts. Two new faith communities and one chartered church and their pastors were introduced.

The body discussed three of eight resolutions on Saturday, June 16.

Resolution 6 - Gracious Accommodation Virginia Annual Conference. The resolution had to do with the implications of possible irreconcilable theological differences between that of the local congregation and United Methodist polity and discipline particularly as it pertains to ministry to and with members of the LGBTQ community on local congregations' buildings, assets and liabilities. The resolution was called out of order by Bishop Lewis as it called to ignore a part of the Discipline; it is improper as a matter of church law as only General Conference can enact changes in the Discipline.

Resolution 3 - Compassionate Support for Members of the Armed Forces, Veterans and Their Families Suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress and Moral Injury. The committee recommended concurrence. The resolution was approved.

Resolution 1 - Affirm Unity in Christ. The committee recommended concurrence. It resolves that the Virginia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church urges the 2019 General Conference to affirm unity in Christ in the midst of our diversity, to challenge in love all that divides and to offer to all people God's saving grace through Jesus Christ that transforms the world. They urge and pray that the 2019 General Conference will resist schism and express openness to diverse perspectives in matters of sexual identity and practice. They urge all faithful United Methodists to pray for a way forward that nurtures an inclusive, evangelical, and faithful Church. The resolution was approved.

Two motions were made from the floor on Sunday, June 17:

Jan Rivero brought a motion that the annual conference condemns the manipulation of Scripture to justify political policy that is contrary to the command of Jesus to love all people, especially children. She spoke to the motion about the history of children being separated from their parents and is now being done on the U.S. southern border. After speeches for and against the motion was adopted.

The Rev. Tom Thomas brought a motion from the floor about an exit path to be considered by General Conference for churches pertaining to the outcome of the plans from the Commission on a Way Forward and the Council of Bishops. The motion was tabled.

Clergy and lay members voted on the corrected proposed Constitutional Amendment 1 on Friday, June 15. General Conference Secretary Gary Graves, in an email to conference secretaries, said, "It is imperative that this vote occur during the very next session of your annual conference (2018 or prior to May, 2019)." Results will be announced after all annual conferences vote on the amendment.

Update from Commission on a Way Forward

The Rev. Tom Berlin, member of the Commission on a Way Forward, presented a report on the work of the commission prior to the start of the Clergy and Laity sessions on Friday, June 15. The commission is a 32-member group with representatives from nine countries and held their first meeting in January 2017.

Berlin shared that materials from the commission will be available in July.

During the presentation, Berlin spoke about the phrase in the Discipline that says “homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching” as well as the statement that “self-avowed practicing homosexuals” cannot be ordained.

“We have another issue where people are actually leaving the church over this,” Berlin said. “It’s the ‘leaving of the church’ that is one of the issues before us.” Some people are leaving because some clergy are performing same-sex marriages. Some people are leaving because clergy cannot perform same-sex marriages.

“This has possibly been one of the most Christian exercises I’ve ever been through,” Berlin said. All the meetings of the commission, he stated, had been based in Bible study and prayer.

Berlin admitted that he had hoped the commission could find the one solution to bring peace to the entire church.

“We are everywhere. We are in red and blue states. In African nations, homosexuality is illegal. In six of those nations, it can be punished with the death penalty.” Berlin said this changes the conversation considerably. Eastern and Western Germany are different. It’s ludicrous to suggest that “all younger people think alike, but Gallup polls show younger people are more progressive.”

He also spoke to each of the three plans that came out of the commission’s work. In February 2019 delegates will go to a four-day General Conference.

Great Day of Service 2018

There were 1,637 people who participated in the Great Day of Service on Saturday, June 16 from 2-5 p.m. This day of service allowed participants three options for service: the building of 3,000 UMCOR kits, participating in three social justice talks and eight locations around the Hampton area with service projects that included cleaning historic cemeteries and alleyways.

A Service for the Ordering of Ministry

Nineteen people were ordained elders, two were ordained deacon, 11 were commissioned as provisional members, two were recognized for orders and 32 were licensed as local pastors in the Saturday evening Ordering of Ministry service.

Bishop B. Michael Watson, retired bishop in the Southeastern Jurisdiction, delivered the sermon on the topic of “But, I Haven’t Finished Yet.”

Closing Worship

Bishop Lewis based her sermon on the Annual Conference 2018 Scripture: I Peter 4:10. She shared that at her installation service in 2016 that she wanted the Virginia Conference 'to stir up the gifts' and felt that the Great Day of Service showed that the conference could discover those gifts and employ them to serve others.

Wrap-up stats

Annual Conference members brought 44,774 disaster relief kits for United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to Annual Conference. Kits included: 29,409 Hygiene kits; 13,367 School kits; 703 Birthing kits; 334 Layette kits; 840 Cleaning kits; 16 Bedding kits; 102 Sewing kits; and 3 miscellaneous kits. At the Saturday morning retirement service, 44 pastors retired.

Attendees of conference contributed almost 9,000 pounds of canned goods and boxed dry foods as part of the "4 Cans 4 Conference" drive.

Members approved a 2019 budget of \$31,615,000, down \$185,000 from the 2018 budget.

The Conference Treasurer reported that statistics show a decline but membership stood at 320,000. Worship attendance stood at 100,000. Engaged in small groups were at 95,000. Some 75,000 serve in mission reaching over 1 million in their communities and around the world. Financial resources are good. Virginia Conference church members tithed \$200 million. Church owned assets generated \$25 million. Eight hundred and eighty-one churches paid 100 percent of their apportionments, a 2.6 percent increase over 2016.

A conference offering of \$111,000 was collected. The offering was divided between the following: Cambodia, Brazil, Mozambique, Volunteers in Mission (VIM) teams working with Native Americans, Haiti, Cuba recovery, Puerto Rico recovery and new this year, Moscow Seminary.

Conference Web Site- You can go to www.vaumc.org for more Annual Conference information.

In closing I want to give thanks to the York River District for allowing me to be a representative at the Annual Conference, however I present this report to you as your Lay Leader. It was a wonderful experience to be at the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church doing God's work in all corners of the world and here at home in the Good Ole USA. I always consider the time that I spend at Annual Conference as my "**Spiritual Retreat**" and this year was no exception.

Warren Wright, Lay Leader and York River District Delegate at Large to the Annual Conference.

Luke 11:29-32

Worship Committee

FROM JUNE 27, 2016 | Justin Taylor

By Dave Dobson

As we approach the Fourth of July, many struggle with whether and how to acknowledge America's independence, without blending Christian worship and civil religion together. Especially during times of war, churches have historically embraced patriotism in America. But sometimes that combination has given the impression that our commitment to nation is the same as our commitment to Christ. Too many churches have sung "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" alongside songs of worship, without realizing the confusion that can result.

A bit of searching in historical newspapers suggests that these services were fairly common in early national history, although references to them were rare to nonexistent on years when the Fourth of July fell on a Sunday. I would be interested to know if this meant that they did not hold them in those years, or whether pastors mentioned the Fourth of July during those Sunday services. I would also be interested to know when churches transitioned to having patriotic "God and country" services on the Sunday before the Fourth, instead of special meetings on the Fourth of July.

The fact that patriotic services have deep historical roots in America is significant. As believers, we are always located in a certain time and place, and patriotism can be a valuable thing. But for a Christian, patriotism can only be a second-order good. It needs to be placed in its proper context. Let's not confuse patriotism with worship.

Should we be joyful that we live in America- yes. Should we celebrate our national independence- yes. However, we must always be cognizant of the fact that it is because God has blessed us, it is HE who deserves all the adoration. Send up that firework for the Glory of God!

WORSHIP HAPPENINGS and IN THE WORKS

- Summer season means VBS. Contact Jerry Dant with any questions or time you might be able to help out. Philippi Christian Church, 8-13 July, 6:00-8:15pm.
- Some Saturday contemporary worship has live music. Stop on by this summer and enjoy some excellent fellowship, praise, and worship in a relaxed setting.
- We are working to put together a special Sunday PM service late summer to include live music and a potluck dinner.

Peace and Love

Dave

Community Outreach Box Tops for Education



Just another way Clarksbury UMC can reach out to our community. Simply cut out those little logos from cereal & snack boxes, cans & jars of food, paper goods, food & trash bags, a wide variety of things -- and bring them to church. A Big Jar in the social hall is awaiting them. With your donations St Clare Walker Middle School will gain the financial benefits schools can earn in this program.

Counting your blessings builds up your thank account.

Nurture and Outreach Committee

By Jerry Dant, Chairperson

As you know June has been a very busy month with graduations, Confirmation of our granddaughter as well as very hot and rainy weather.

I guess what I am trying to say is "I have not interviewed" a member of our home bound church family this month. I have enjoyed visiting each person we have featured in the newsletter and will be back with another featured member next month.

Outreach

Jerry Dant

Eileen Crittenden, R.N., a member of the Nurture and Outreach Committee has offered to check our blood pressure one week-end a month. In July she will be available the 4th week-end after the service on Saturday and Sunday.

We will let you know in the newsletter each month the week-end Eileen will be available for this great ministry. As usual, our Nursing Home Ministry is going great at Dockside and we are always happy to have others join us for this great ministry. Look for the posters showing what a great time we have with the residents at Dockside. Please come and help so you can be on the next poster. Sorry we left David out on this poster, but he will be on the next poster

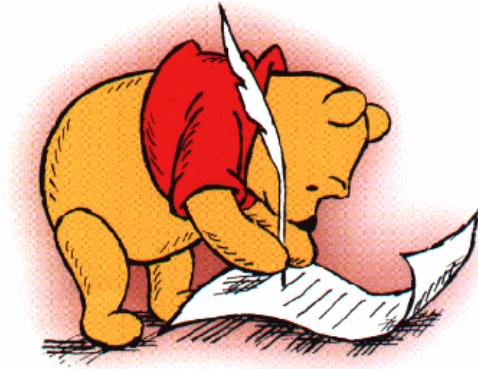


Mail a letter or card of happiness to our home bound members!

If your last name starts with the letter listed below, please send a card or note to the shut-ins listed.

Birthdays are in bold type.

Why not make a home bound member smile by sending them a card often as well as on their birthday. If we all participate, our home bound members will get a card frequently from church members, and will have more great memories of Clarksbury.



A-C

Roegean Speight **09/10**
#208
Commonwealth Sen Living
460 South Main Street
Kilmarnock, VA 22482

Ivey Huff **10/12**
233 Mae Lane
Wake, VA 23176

Jane Crittenden **8/22**
P.O. 30
Hardyville, VA 23070

D-G

Sue Myers **09/30**
Westminster Canterbury
132 Lancaster Drive
Irvington, VA 22480

Reggie Jackson **7/12**
Riverside Convalescent
Ctr.
P.O. Box 303
Saluda, VA 23149

Melvin Hawley **11/25**
17504 General Puller Hwy
Deltaville, VA 23043

H-L

Betty Morris **9/27**
221 Sturgeon Point Loop
Deltaville, VA 23043

Myrtle Clark **10/2**
P.O. Box 302
Deltaville, VA 23043

Pastor Jim Salmon **5/24**
26306 Mattaponi Trail
Milford, VA 22524

M-Z

Annette Johnston **3/17**
Dockside Rehab Center
74 Mizpah Road
Locust Hill, VA 23092

Jean Cree
Georgia Manor #62
651 Riverwalk Place
Chesapeake, VA 23320

Joyce Mathews **8/27**
451 Fishing Bay Estates
Box 11
Deltaville, VA 23043

JULY POP!

(POWER OF PRAYER!)

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, Wonderful Creator, you have made yourself known in your son, Jesus. In His birth you have restored the dignity of human nature. In His death and resurrection you have revealed to us the fullness of your grace and mercy and your love.

By the power of the Holy Spirit let us share in His divine life-even as He partook of our humanity. As we hear and reflect on your word this day, help us to respond with believing hearts and put our faith into practice. We ask in His name. AMEN

Another Opening Prayer

Almighty God, Wonderful Creator, you have made yourself known in your son, Jesus. In His birth you have restored the dignity of human nature. In His death and resurrection you have revealed to us the fullness of your grace and mercy and your love.

By the power of the Holy Spirit let us share in His divine life-even as He partook of our humanity. As we hear and reflect on your word this day, help us to respond with believing hearts and put our faith into practice. We ask in His name. AMEN

We know God is never far from any of us, "and in Him we live, and move, and have our being;" Acts 17:28

***There are many different types of prayers that are recorded throughout the Bible.
Here are 9.***

- 1. Prayer of Confession** - When we acknowledge our sin and helplessness **and** see God's mercy.
- 2. Prayer of Praise** - When we adore God for whom He is.
- 3. Prayer of Thanksgiving** - When we express gratitude to God for what He has done.
- 4. Prayer of Petition** - When we make a personal request of God.
- 5. Prayer of Intercession** - Asking a request of God on behalf of another.
- 6. Prayer of Commitment** - Expressing loyalty to God and His work.
- 7. Prayer of Forgiveness** - When we seek **His** mercy for personal sin or the sin of others.
- 8. Prayer of Confidence** -Affirming God's all sufficiency and the believer's security in Hislove.
- 9. Prayer of Benediction** - a request for God's blessings.

Friends and Family of Jesus

July 8-13, 2018

PHILIPPI CHRISTIAN CHURCH

6:00pm to 8:15pm

Vacation Bible School

Join us for a week of fun while we learn about the
Friends and Family of Jesus.

Age appropriate lessons, Snacks, and
Activities will be provided.

Registration forms may be found at

www.philippichristianchurch.com





The Grapevine

July 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Communion	2 Soup Ministry 11 a.m.	3 Betty Tate Fred Dant Trustees Meeting 7pm	4 Val Bradley Jamie Sibley	5 Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	6 T.C.Moore	7 Eric Miller Mobile Food Pantry 9-11 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
8 Charlie Weis 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	9 Vaughan Crittenden	10 Lewis Musick Warren Wright	11	12 Raymond Jackson Reggie Jackson Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	13	14 Jean Hattorf Billy Jackson Elizabeth West 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
15 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	16 Delores Decker Soup Ministry 11 a.m.	17 Finance & Church Council 7 p.m.	18 Mary Banker	19 Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	20	21 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
22 Camcy Courten	23 .	24	25	26 Alexander Crittenden Bob Tabler Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	27	28 Brian Crittenden 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
29 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	30	31 Beth Bristow				

The deadline for the August 2018 Grapevine will be Wednesday, July 25.

Send items to vanben@va.metrocast.net

July Birthdays (If you know of any additions, deletions or corrections that should be made to the birthday calendar, please let the newsletter editor know.)

Scripture reader for **July** is Dawn Wilt

Counters for **July** are Dawn Wilt and Diane Faulkner
Gayle Gilliland and Mary Banker will serve as **ushers** for **July**