



The Grapevine

Clarksbury United Methodist Church

15924 General Puller Highway, Hardyville, Virginia May 2019

www.clarksburyumc.com

Our Mission:

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

Pastor Ken's Corner

John 10:22-30 (NRSV)

²² *At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter,*

²³ *and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon.*

²⁴ *So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense?*

If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."

²⁵ *Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep.*

²⁷ *My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.*

²⁸ *I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.*

²⁹ *What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand.*

³⁰ *The Father and I are one."*

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

WOW, what a great series of Lenten lunches (delicious) with wonderful preaching and music; purposeful five-session Lenten Bible study (*Who Is this Man?*) with great discussions; a full Holy Week with awesome worship services (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday); memorable music; glorious SONrise service (what an awesome sunrise view from Stingray Point with nearly a hundred people there); and our own Easter Sunday service at Clarksbury.

That was one very special week with our *march* out of the end of *April* and our *arrival* in **MAY!**

May--what a jam packed month is ahead of us: Mother's Day; UMW Sunday; Memorial Day with all the memories and flowers blooming; pollen hopefully diminishing; and the portend of summer just around the corner.

On a personal note: Ken and Ashley MacDonald are expecting their first child in early May, O Happy Day!

We will be distributing food on **Saturday, May 4**, in partnership with the Cryer Center through their Mobile Food Pantry; **Zoar Baptist** has the lead this Saturday. Even though **Zoar** has the lead there will be plenty of work for anyone who can help with this community outreach and support. Come out and help; there is plenty of work for all.

²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."

The people who had heard about this miracle worker, this teacher, this man who was drawing crowds of people to himself everywhere he went, want to know is He the **promised Messiah**, the one foretold in prophetic works.

They wanted Jesus to announce himself in terms that they wanted to see and could understand.

They wanted Jesus to declare himself a RULER like DAVID or SOLOMON. The great challenge then and now is who they believed then and who we believe now the SAVIOR of the world IS, and WHAT the Messiah has come to do.

²⁵ Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep.

²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.

²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.

²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand.

³⁰ The Father and I are one."

On the face of Jesus' comments, we see the dilemma the people have. They want something clearly demonstrated...like hosts of angels casting out the Roman rulers and establishing an earthly dominion. Jesus tells them only that the miracles and other "**works that I do**" testify and announce plainly that Jesus is here to do the Father's work.

He further states that those who belong to him hear His voice and will follow. They receive the gift of eternal life; no one can snatch them from Jesus. God the Father has given Jesus something stronger than anything else, and Jesus and the Father are ONE.

As we move into the rest of the Christian year, we should meditate on what the seasons of Lent and Easter teach us. God is great, His LOVE is great, and we can have FAITH in WHO JESUS IS.

God has already done all that needs to be done for our **RECONCILIATION to GOD**. We can then step out with confidence on the path that Christ lays out for us...the WAY, the TRUTH and the LIFE...His WAY!!!

As always, we will try to keep the Prayer Warrior e-mails current and relevant as we get more information and updates. If you have an e-mail address and would like to receive the Prayer Warrior updates, please let me know and provide your e-mail address.

Please remember to be faithful in letting me know if you hear about one of "ours" who is headed to the hospital or is having an issue and is at the hospital or has been to the ER. I would

prefer to hear twice about those in need rather than it be assumed that I must already know.

Nurture and Outreach to our community and our congregation are instrumental in faithfully serving our Lord, not just at Dockside, but throughout the community in various ways. Talk to Jerry Dant about cards or letters or contacting some of our shut-ins. Volunteer for work at Dockside. **See Jerry or Fred or David for more information.**

Jesus is alive, and we're forgiven!

May his GRACE, MERCY and LOVE be with you every day, and may every day your awareness of HIS presence through HIS unbreakable gifts to YOU grow.

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 2019 Operating Funds:	\$114,935.00
Total Received for Operating Funds as of April 2019:	36,983.00
Total Income Needed to Meet April Budget:	38,312.00

COFFEE HOUR FOR May

May	5	Mary Banker
May	12	Dawn Wilt
May	19	Lucy Blevins
May	26	Linda Bartz



*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 meet on Monday May 27th at 7 PM for our monthly business meeting. At this meeting we will continue planning our 2019 activities. The UMM will be hosting the Mother's Day Breakfast on Saturday May 11th at 9 AM. The UMM and UMW will be hosting our Building Fund Barbecue fundraiser dinner on Friday June 14th from 4-6:30 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

Warren Wright

When the Good Lord was creating mothers, He was into His sixth day of "overtime" when the angel appeared and said, "You're doing a lot of fiddling around on this one." God said, "Have you read the specs on this order?" She has to be completely washable, but not plastic. She has to have 180 moveable parts and they must be all replaceable. She must run on black coffee and leftovers. She must have a lap that disappears when she stands up. She must have a kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love affair and she must have six pairs of hands."

The angel shook her head slowly and said. "Six pairs of hands, no way."

It's not the hands that are causing me problems," God remarked, "it's the three pairs of eyes that mothers have to have and "that's on the standard model?" asked the angel and God nodded. One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks, 'What are you kids doing in there?' when she already knows. Another here in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't but what she has to know, and of course the ones here in front that can look at a child when he goofs up and say, 'I understand and I love you' without so much as uttering a word." God," said the angel touching his sleeve gently, "Get some rest tomorrow...." I can't," said God, "I'm so close to creating something so close to myself. Already, I have one who heals herself when she is sick, can feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger, and can get a nine year old to stand under a shower."

The angel circled the model of a mother very slowly. "It's too soft," she sighed.

But tough!" said God excitedly. "You can imagine what this mother can do or endure."

Can it think?" Not only can it think, but it can reason and compromise," said the Creator.

Finally, the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek.

There's a leak," she pronounced. "I told You that You were trying to put too much into this model." It's not a leak," said the Lord, "It's a tear."

What's it for?" It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness, and pride."

You are a genius, said the angel.

Somberly, God said, "I didn't put it there."

**Isaiah 66:13-“^{As} a mother comforts her child,
so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem.”**

Scholarship Applications

Fran Miller



If you are a high school senior or college student, applications are being accepted for our scholarship. Your latest transcript must be included. The deadline is May 10. Applications are available on our website.

Worship Committee

David Dobson



Can you believe summer is just around the corner? How about the fact the VBS is at Clarksbury 9 weeks from Sunday (5/19/19)? Working schedules and vacation times into account, the dates for VBS this year will be 21-26 July 2019. The Sunday will be registration and orientation, and the Friday will be a closing. Monday through Thursday, a regular type of VBS program.

Please email me directly with any specific wants, wishes, hopes, etc. and it will be taken into account. I am hoping things to be a little different than expected, but appreciated in a good way. New thoughts are producing a program in-house to tailor to our community and a few crafts that will be “keepers” for years to come. The theme of “Follow the Way” is what is in store, based on the early followers of Christ following “The Way”. We will feature four prominent people from the first century and highlight how they came to follow the way, that is, become disciples of Christ.

We will be looking for volunteers, of course, but also persons to play “characters”, including a Jesus if there is anyone who thinks they are up for the challenge. At the moment, I would appreciate your prayers as the program is coming together.

Please update your Church Directory

New phone numbers for Chuck and Mary Banker

Chuck: 804-3842006

Mary: 804-384-2016

Please update your directories.



If a lion's roar isn't getting you anyplace, try a bear hug.

Nurture and Outreach Committee Jerry Dant



What a great April we had at Clarksbury. We saw some of our home bound members at some of the Lenten Luncheons. Also in April, invitations were sent to the home bound members for a luncheon sponsored by the men of the church. Thank you guys, you did a great job. We enjoyed all who came and missed the ones who could not attend. There will be another time when we can all get together. LOOK AHEAD.

Pastor Ken, thanks for posting pictures of our friend; Melvin Hawley, it was great to see him at his new home and see a big smile on his face. Let's all send him a card or note to keep in touch since he is a few miles up the road. Even better, give him a call. His phone number is in the new church directory.

Outreach LIFT CHILDREN OF MIDDLESEX

Every month is good at CUMC for OUTREACH. This month was no exception. Diane Faulkner made Easter baskets for all of the Sunday school children and the residents at Dockside. The ladies delivered Easter eggs to the home bound members before Easter. Thanks to Diane and the ladies for the Easter treats.

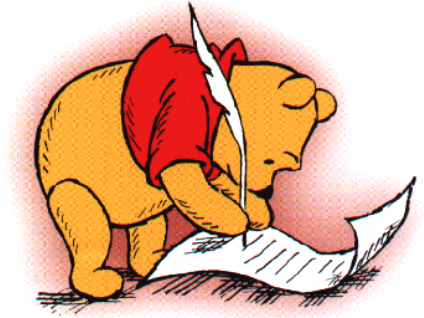
LIFT had an Easter egg hunt for the children of Middlesex County. It is sponsored by local churches joining together to provide Christian activities for the children in hopes of reaching unchurched children and families. Other activities are being planned for the end of school and spring. Won't you consider joining in this effort with our church to REACHOUT to children?

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.

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**
River View on Appomattox
201 Eppes Street
Hopewell, VA 23860

H-L

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**
Riverside Convalescent
Center
P.O Box 303
Saluda, VA 23149

Jean Cree
651 Riverwalk Parkway
Apt # 37
Chesapeake, VA 23320-
6819

MAY POP!

by **Bob Hostetler** Posted in **How to Pray**, May 13, 2019

Maybe you'll soon be getting married. Or [starting a new job](#). Or [launching a business](#). Or moving somewhere new or speaking publicly about something you're passionate about. Or in some other way boldly going where you've never gone before.

At such times, prayer can be your *firma terra*, your force field, and your fuel. If you're about to take brave new steps of any kind, try adopting—or adapting—some of the following prayers:

1) “Lord, as you were with Abram when you called him out of Ur, so be with me in this new venture. You are my shield, my very great reward, and I know that nothing is too hard for You.” (Based on Genesis 15:1, 18:14)

2) “May the God before whom Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has been my Shepherd all of my life to this day, bless these steps I now take.” (Based on Genesis 48:15-16)

3) “God, make me strong and courageous in this new undertaking. Let me not be afraid or discouraged, knowing that as You were with Joshua so you will be with me wherever I go.” (Based on Joshua 1:9)

4) “In what I am about to do, may I be like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season, whose leaf does not wither, and who prospers in whatever they do.” (Based on Psalm 1:3)

5) “Lord, Your word says that You direct the steps of the godly and delight in every detail of their lives. Let it be so with me as I take the next steps on this path.” (Based on Psalm 37:23, NLT)

6) “May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.” (Psalm 90:17, NIV)

7) “I trust in you, Lord, with all my heart. Help me not to lean on my own understanding but to acknowledge You in everything. Make my path straight. Help me not to be wise in my own eyes but to hear Your voice telling me, ‘This is the way; walk in it.’” (Based on Proverbs 3:5-7 and Isaiah 30:21)

8) “Lord Jesus, never let me forget that, whatever happens, You have promised to be with me always, all the way to the end of the age.” (Based on Matthew 28:20)

9) “Father God, please grant that whatever I do, whether in word or deed, I may do it wholeheartedly, in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to You through Him.” (Based on Colossians 3:23)



Thank you for your interest in LIFT Children of Middlesex!

What is LIFT Children of Middlesex?

A community outreach ministry with a focus on reaching children that do not know Jesus. We want to create opportunities to be with children in our community allowing us to share the love of Jesus. We are planting seeds for God to harvest.

When did this ministry begin?

In April of 2018 Zoar and Harmony Grove joined together to share concerns that many of the children in the Middlesex schools did not know about Jesus and did not know the true meaning of Christmas or Easter. Since that time, Christians and church leaders from several churches in Middlesex have joined together in a variety of ways to connect with children and their families.

What events has LIFT participated in this past year?

- ❖ In Summer of 2018, we printed and distributed flyers with a list of all vacation bible school programs in Middlesex County.
- ❖ In September we hosted an outdoor family movie night at the elementary school with a good turn-out of families.
- ❖ We were invited to participate with other community organizations at the elementary school for parent/teacher night. We talked with the families about churches in the community.
- ❖ We were invited to participate in "Trunk or Treat" at MES by handing out candy and we included handouts from participating churches.
- ❖ Handed out books about Christ's birth at the Urbanna Parade to children along the parade route.

What are our future opportunities?

- ❖ Presently, we are planning an Easter Egg Hunt at the elementary school. There will be three stations: crafts, Resurrection Eggs, and the "hunt". The children will be grouped by age. This will take place on Saturday, April 13 from 1:00-3:00 PM with a rain date of April 14 from 2:00-4:00 PM. We invite you to join us.
- ❖ We are in the process of compiling a list of children's activities from each participating church. This list will be distributed to each child that comes to the egg hunt. It will be included with an Easter book about Christ in a matching bag.
- ❖ We are working closely with Middlesex Elementary School and they have agreed to give out flyers to children about the Egg Hunt, put it on their website and Facebook page and announce it on the intercom. In addition, we will advertise in the Southside Sentinel, church congregations, signage and through social media.
- ❖ We have been invited to meet with the principal at MES near the end of the school year to discuss future projects.

We meet on the third Monday of each month and it is our intention to rotate meeting locations so we all have an opportunity to host. Please join us for our next meeting. It will take place in the Fellowship Hall of Clarksbury Methodist Church in Deltaville, Monday, March 18 at 5:30PM – 6:30PM. **Please bring information about your church activities for children and families to include on the handout.**

Our email is: liftmiddlesex@gmail.com | FB Page: LIFT Children of Middlesex | Website: liftnchildrenofmiddlesex.org

Please remember us in your prayers.



The Grapevine

May 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	2	3 Melanie Glenn	4 Mobile Food Pantry 9-11 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
5 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Communion	6 Soup Ministry 11 a.m.	7	8 Paul Bisogno Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	9	10	11 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
12 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	13	14 Jaime Mears EYcircle 7p.m.	15 Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	16 Charles Decker	17 Christoper Glenn	18 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
19 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Easter Worship	20 Morgan Duke Kim South Soup Ministry 11 a.m.	21 Finance & Church Council 7 p.m.	22 Betty Chenowith Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	23	24 Jim Salmon	25 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
26 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	27	28	29 Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	30	31	

The deadline for the June 2019 Grapevine will be Tuesday, May 23. Send items to:
pwalian2@gmail.com

May 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 **May** is Betty Farmer

Counters for **May** are Fran Miller and Terry Cleveland
 Betty Farmer and Cacky Guill will serve as **ushers** for **May**