



The Grapevine

Clarksbury United Methodist Church

15924 General Puller Highway, Hardyville, Virginia August 2019

www.clarksburyumc.com

Our Mission:

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

Pastor Ken's Corner

Luke 11:9-13 (NRSV)

⁹ "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Wow, we just made it through some of the hottest weather ever here in Middlesex County. I know the air-conditioning was working overtime and people were resorting to multiple time-proven ways to beat the heat. We are headed into August and that may be just as hot as July has been. Keep cool and hydrated and do outside work in the cooler morning hours or later in the evening as the day cools.

On the note of heat precautions, we do have a number of our Clarksbury family who are at risk of heat exhaustion and other summer/heat challenges. It would be a good thing to call or, better yet, stop by and visit some of our mature members to check up on them. Everyone needs to know they are cared for. If you know of anyone who, for whatever reason, is having issues staying cool during the hottest part of the day, reach out to me. There may be something we can do to help...maybe a couple of hours during the hottest part of the day to come up to church and sit and read in the parlor or social hall...

Another great part of August is this: Terry and I will take off to visit grandkids (and their parents, too😊) in Oklahoma and then we will go on to Ohio for a family reunion. Warren, David and Fred will be covering pulpit duties on Saturdays and Sundays while we are gone. Rev. Ileana Rosario (Lower UMC) and Rev. Booker Brown (Locust Grove) will provide pastoral coverage. Details will be provided in the bulletin and always, if need be, you can call Warren Wright or Betty Tate and they will assist you. We can't wait to see and hold those grandsons. We have been monitoring Facetime, Skype and Marco Polo for updates through technology, but we want to see them up "close and personal" and hug them.

Saturday, August 3, is the date for the **Cryer Center Mobile Food Pantry** and Zoar has lead. As always there will be plenty of work for everyone who comes to help.

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Prayer is more than just a petition or plea for help; it is recognizing the relationship we have with our Creator. He calls on us to pray and provides an example to his disciples in Luke 11:2-4. Jesus the Christ then describes something about the relationship and the faith with which we offer up our prayers. Ask and it will be given; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened. Each action is met with the proper response from our God and each activity, made in faith, is answered in His time and in His good will. All those responses are out of the LOVE God has for us.

¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

We live in a world where, almost daily, we encounter many examples of people who out of faith and love assist others and **do many good works** for others, often ones whom they don't know and have no real motive to help, other than the moral Christian obligation to assist those in need. Luke describes here how we know, morally, how to do what is right even though we are sinners, and how much more perfectly that the Father is in giving the Holy Spirit to transform us and to be our comforter, counselor, and advocate. We can have FAITH that God knows our needs and is ready to bless us. We need the confidence and faith, to ASK for, SEEK out and KNOCK on the doors of opportunity. God the Father and the Holy Spirit will provide.

We welcome people in our community to receive food assistance with the Mobile Food Pantry and we invite and welcome children from our community to come to our VBS, just as Mary and Martha welcomed Jesus into their home.

So this coming month and for the rest of the year let us be mindful that while we continue to DO “good works” and practice **extravagant hospitality** we are continually mindful of what the Lord is telling us each and every day through our daily readings and constant meditations.

As always, I will make every effort to keep the Prayer Warrior e-mails updated as information and changes become available. Remember, I need your help in providing me with that information and with those changes. Please don't assume that someone else has come forward. If you have an e-mail address and would like to receive the Prayer Warrior updates, let me know and provide me with 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.

Peace & Grace Pastor Ken

Annual Budget for 2019 Operating Funds:	\$114,935.00
Total Received for Operating Funds as of July 2019:	66,413.00
Total Income Needed to Meet June Budget:	67,045.00

COFFEE HOUR FOR August



August	4	Polly Van Benschoten
August	11	Betty Tate
August	18	Joyce Green
August	25	Diane Faulkner

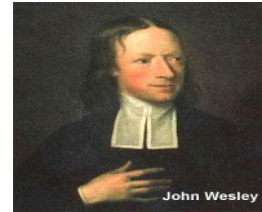
***If you would like to be a part of this church ministry,
please contact Polly Van Benschoten, 776-0569***

UNITED METHODIST SPIRITUALITY AND THEOLOGY

A Message from Your Lay Leader

Warren Wright

SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES: THE GENERAL RULES



The "**General Rules**" of United Methodist Christians includes three basic principles which guide our practice of the spiritual life. John Wesley first proposed these in the mid-1700s as he began a number of small group meetings (called classes or societies) to encourage, spiritually develop and support his new Methodists. The three principles, each with some detailed instructions, are condensed and paraphrased here from our book of theology and order, *The United Methodist Discipline*:

First: by doing no harm: avoiding evil of every kind, especially that which is most generally practiced; such as...taking of the name of God in vain...profaning of the day of the Lord...Drunkenness...Slaveholding...Fighting, quarreling, brawling, returning evil for evil. Uncharitable or unprofitable conversation. Doing to others as we would not they should do unto us. Doing what we know is not for the glory of God. Softness and needless self-indulgence.

Second, by doing good: by being in every kind merciful after (our) power; as (we) have opportunity, doing good of every possible sort, and as far as possible to all: *to their bodies* by giving food to the hungry, clothing to the naked, by visiting or helping them that are sick or in prison...*to their souls*, by instructing, reproofing or exhorting all we (converse) with...*to fellow Christians* by the means we have available.

Third, by using the means of grace: public worship, listening to the Scriptures read, receiving the Lord's Supper, family and private prayer, searching the Scriptures (in private study), and Fasting or Abstinence.

United Methodists encourage spiritual growth. Wesley taught that Christian spirituality should include "the means of grace" or "works of piety". The means of grace included:

Centering in Prayer: Wesley encouraged daily private devotion, usually in both the morning and evening, as well as time for family or household devotions. He suggested that these prayers should include expressing: (1) love and gratitude to God, (2) regret for our failures to love and serve others, (3) telling our thoughts, feelings and requests to God, (4) intercessions for others' needs, and (5) simply listening for what God might want to say to guide or correct us.

Searching the Scriptures: Wesley encouraged daily reading of the Scriptures. He suggested that we read the Bible seriously (with prayer), systematically (reading entire books or through the Bible), carefully (with good commentaries and scholarship), and fruitfully (immediately putting into practice what we learn). We are also urged to meditate on what we read and to take every opportunity we can find to hear the Bible read by others in worship or small groups. Wesley asked Christians to always keep a Bible with them so they could read whenever they had time available.

Conferring with Others: Methodists welcome the opportunity to "confer" or converse individually and in small groups in order to encourage one another in the spiritual life, and to help each one to be accountable for responsible discipleship.

Worship and the Lord's Supper: Methodist Christians are encouraged to worship often, at least weekly, and to share in the Lord's Supper or Communion as often as possible, as a means of union with Christ and with other Christians.

Fasting: It's not a discipline that is familiar or popular these days, but in Wesley's era his Methodists were instructed to fast a day or so every week. The motives included: self-denial (how many of us could use a little humility today?), voluntary simplicity, giving our surplus of food or money to the needs of the poor, and as a measure for good health.

Matthew 18:19-20-"Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven. "For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst."

Worship Committee

David Dobson

VBS 2019- Clarksbury UMC

How time flies when you are having fun! Vacation Bible School has come and gone for the year, but it will remain in the hearts and minds of those who participated for some time. The children (and adults) had a great time becoming "fishers of men" just as Jesus taught his Apostles.

The week was full of fun as the stories of Peter, Matthew, John, and Paul came to life in story and crafts. Games were high energy and the music was excellent, culminating in an awesome performance on Friday. Each child created a tackle box to carry their "tools" to help them along the way in fishing for followers, like themselves. Most earned many reward coins that they were allowed to buy at the market before the ice cream finale! We believe all were touched and had a good time based on the quote from one attendee "*can we do it again next week?!"*



I give a heartfelt thanks to all who assisted in making this VBS a success. Remember, it isn't quantity but quality that counts! The dinners were great (thanks CUMC Hospitality Crew, Lucy, Val and Becky), stories were lively (thanks Fred and Jerry); children guided by awesome shepherds (two thumbs up Gayle, Betty, Linda, Diane); games crazy good in fun with much laughter (special thanks youth leader and director Sierra with Stacey, and Chloe); and music that raised a joyful noise (Connie, Eileen, and director Ms. Sydney Funk); and crafting support by everyone, notably Betty Johnson who got the craft events started with another incredible Linus Project blanket made by the kids!

A HUGE SPECIAL AWESOME THANKS to the one who was tireless in pulling everything together for this great VBS, Petra Walian aka: Wonder Woman! Without her expertise and desire to make things great, this would not have been the special event it became. Blessings to you Petra!

So, until next time: *Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6*

United Methodist Men News

Warren Wright-UMM President



The UMM will be off for the summer in July and August. We will return on Monday September 23rd 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.



Nurture & Outreach

Jerry Dant

July has been a very hot month for all of us. It has actually been too hot to even crack the door for a breath of air. Let's hope that August will not be quite as hot and we can all try to visit the members of our church, who would love to see a smiling face for a visit. Of course, if you are not able to visit, why not send them a pretty card or a call for a friendly chat. I challenge each one to call or visit a member this month.

With the heat as bad as it has been, it is a great time to REACHOUT and check on our friends and neighbors. We never know the NEEDS of OTHERS until we take the time to stop and look. Some people have a condition where they can't go out in the heat, so a helping hand would be welcomed. They might need something from the market, pick up their mail or even dump their trash. A neighbor might have a dog that needs to be walked or given some fresh water. Think of how Blessed they would feel with a helping hand and I promise you will feel Blessed as well.

LOVE, INTEGRITY, FAITH, TRUTH

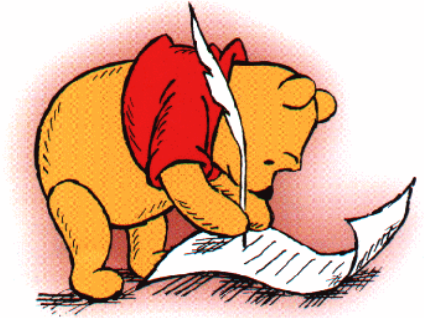
LIFT is sponsored by local churches joining together to provide Christian activities in hope of reaching children and families in the community. They are working on plans for the upcoming school year and winter. LIFT will have its first fall meeting on August 5th at 6:00 p.m. You can check with a local church to find the location. Hope to see many of you at the meeting.

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

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

Serving Overseas:
Floyd Andrew Forrest 2/5
BCO.1-52 TFApocalypse
APO AE 09322

August PoP!

God's Unfailing Love

A devotion to help you feel gratitude even when everything seems to go wrong.

by **Erin MacPherson** From
- Posted on Jul 2, 2018

*Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. —1
Thessalonians 5:18 (ESV)*

It was one of those grumbling days. You know the ones. Days when a lost backpack makes you late for school drop-off. When there is nothing left in the fridge except for an old apple and an almost-empty gallon of milk. When appointments are missed, plans get canceled, important documents get lost. I texted my husband that nothing was going right. That I was in a bad mood. And that I was tired of the frazzled, crazy, lukewarm way I was feeling. Then I opened up Facebook.

My friend Sarah, the one battling breast cancer, the one who laughed as her husband shaved her balding head, had posted on Facebook about reading Corrie ten Boom's book *The Hiding Place*. There is a story in the book in which Corrie and her sister stand together in the middle of their desperation and thank God for the fleas in their room. In her own post, Sarah gave thanks for her own "fleas"—for the cancer that had changed every "what should have been" in her life, that had stolen her hair, her health, her way of living. Yet she was thankful. Because God had used those "fleas" to help her to trust in Him.

So I got onto my knees and thanked God for my own fleas. For mistakes, for problems, for niggling issues that seem to overtake my days. And while my "fleas" aren't nearly as awful as those of Sarah or Corrie ten Boom, I know that God wants me to be grateful, not grumbling, no matter what circumstances come my way.

Lord, help me to be thankful even for the "fleas" in my life so that I can honor You and find hope in Your grace. Amen.

Digging Deeper: 1 Chronicles 16:34; Colossians 3:15





The Grapevine August 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Mobile Food Pantry 9-11 (Zoar) Suzie Powell Helen Johnson 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
4 Victoria Forest 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Communion	5 Soup Ministry 11 a.m.	6 Marion Miller	7	8	9	10 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
11 Gayle Gilliland Donald Wilhite 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	12	13 Jordan Tullos	14 Ken Wilt	15	16	17 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
18 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m.	19 Soup Ministry 11 a.m.	20 F. Myrtle Clark	21	22 Jane Crittenden	23	24 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
25 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	26	27 Betty Ann Tabler Jim Chenowith	28	29 Lynn Bisogno	30	31 Jade Tullos 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship

The deadline for the September 2019 Grapevine will be Monday, August 26 Send items to:

pwalian2@gmail.com

August 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 August is David Dobson

Counters for August are David Dobson and Allen Miller

Linda Bartz and Linda Dobbins will serve as **ushers** for August