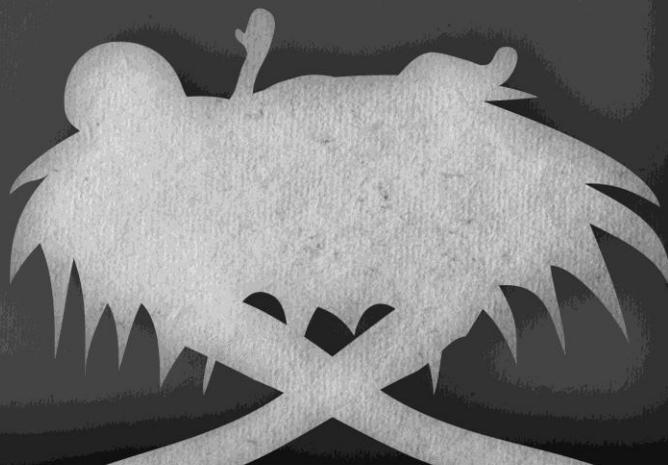


NEW HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Committed to new hope in Christ through family, fellowship, and service.

WHAT IF WE
RETHINK
WHAT WE'RE
CELEBRATING?



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

RETHINKCHURCH



New Hope United Methodist Church

Order of Worship

December 7, 2014

Second Sunday of Advent

Entrance

Gathering, Welcome, and Announcements

Prelude

* Call to Worship

(Isaiah 40:3)

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”

* Opening Prayer

(The Book of Common Prayer)

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets

to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation.

Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins,

that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer;

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. Amen.

* Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

♪ UMH 211

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Wreath Response, stanza 2

♪ TFWS 2090

* Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Proclamation

Epistle Lesson

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Anthem

The Child Who Was Born to Be A King

Hebrew Bible Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-11

Time with the Children

* Gospel Lesson

Mark 1:1-8

Sermon

Decking With Love

Rev. Brian Siegle

Response

Joys and Concerns of the Community

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation

Prayer from Los Posadas

God all-powerful,

**grant that we may rid ourselves of the works of darkness,
and that we may invest ourselves with the weapons of light
in this life to which your Son, Jesus Christ,
with great humility came to visit us;**

so that in the final day,

**when he returns in majestic glory to judge the living and the dead,
we shall rise to eternal life through Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Giving God's tithes and our offerings

Offertory

* Christmas Doxology

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth,*

*You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day
when justice shall roll down like waters
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream,
when nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.*

*And so, with all your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,
whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations.
You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts
and have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation.
You put down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree.
You fill the hungry with good things, and the rich you send empty away.
Your own Son came among us as a servant,
to be Emmanuel, your presence with us.
He humbled himself in obedience to your will
and freely accepted death on a cross.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.
On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."
When the supper was over, he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."
And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us as we proclaim the mystery of faith.*

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

*Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,*

*until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast as his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.*

* The Lord's Prayer UMH 895

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and glory, forever. Amen.**

Sending Forth

* Hymn *Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming* ♪ UMH 216

* Benediction

* Response *Emmanuel, Emmanuel* ♪ UMH 204

* Please stand, as you are able

♪ UMH = The United Methodist Hymnal (red hymn book), ♪ TFWS = The Faith We Sing (black hymn book)

Worship Notes

Liturgist: Hope Salais
The flowers are given today to the glory of God in memory of W.B. French
by Shirley L. French.

Next Week

Liturgist: Linda South

Numbers last week

Sunday School attendance – 15		Worship attendance – 61
<i>Budget Offering</i> : \$1,477.50	<i>Building Fund</i> : \$0	<i>Cemetery Fund</i> : \$130
Budget Received to date: \$85,957.69		Annual 2014 budget : \$92,838
Budget funds received year-to-date :92.6%		Budget funds last year-to-date: 94.6%

PREPARE

THE WAY
OF THE
LORD

Announcements

The Christmas Play is coming quickly! *“Twas the Night Before”* portrays the traditional Christmas story in a light play on a familiar Christmas story. Scene breaks will be filled in with Christmas music performed by the choir, musicians within the congregation, and the audience! Come next Sunday at 6:00pm for a magical evening. Following the play is the Christmas Party, so stick around for refreshments and a great time of fellowship.

The Virginia Conference has designated December the month in which local churches are encouraged to receive special offerings to support United Methodist Family Services (UMFS). This year UMFS is sending churches its *Christmas Gifts of Hope* catalog in place of a bulletin insert. “Without the support of The United Methodist Church and local congregations like yours, we could not do the incredible work we do,” said the Rev. Joe Torrence, minister of Church Relations for UMFS. “For more than 100 years, UMFS has been empowering children, families and communities in Virginia to work together and realize their shared potential. Your gift is one example of how our connection works at its best and how we can offer Christmas Gifts of Hope to Virginia’s children in need.” Our Communion offering today will go to support UMFS.

The Rev. Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe, General Secretary of the General Board of Church and Society, will be the lead speaker at **United Methodist Day at the General Assembly on Thursday, Feb. 5.** This event, sponsored by the conference Board of Church and Society and conference United Methodist Women, is a unique opportunity for Virginia United Methodists to exercise their calling to witness to their faith by advocating for justice on behalf of the voiceless in our society.

One great way to celebrate the upcoming **75th anniversary of United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)** is by helping to ensure another 75 years. Donations to One Great Hour of Sharing special Sunday offering directly fund UMCOR’s administrative costs. One Great Hour of Sharing will take place March 15, 2015.

The December issue of the Virginia United Methodist Advocate focuses keeping Christ in Christmas. All too often we let the Advent season become a whirl of shopping and parties. But there are many ways to help keep the birth of our Savior in the forefront. After all, Christmas should not be about the number of gifts you receive, but about what you give to others. The Advocate is the official monthly magazine of the Virginia Conference. To subscribe to the Advocate – print, digital or both – call (804) 521-1110 or 1-800-768-6040, ext. 110; e-mail Advocate@vaumc.org; or go to www.vaumc.org/advocate.

There was plenty of talking during the Nov. 22 “**Day of Holy Conversation**” — hosted by Woodlake UMC in the Richmond District and webcast across the conference at multiple sites — but it was generally agreed that the youngest panelist shared a lot of wisdom in her brief comments. Videos of the Nov. 22 “Day of Holy Conversation” are available to view at new.livestream.com/VAUMC/HolyConversation. The morning session is just under two hours long. The afternoon session is one hour and 20 minutes, and the concluding service of Holy Communion is about 22 minutes. There was a large crowd at Woodlake and many people watched at the remote sites and at home on their computers. Voices from both sides of the human sexuality issue and the majority in the middle spoke during the day-long event.

Following the announcement that a St. Louis County grand jury declined to indict Darren Wilson, a white Ferguson, Mo., police officer, for firing six shots in an August confrontation that killed Michael Brown, an unarmed 18-year-old black man, the executive committee of the **Virginia Conference Board of Church and Society** issued the following statement: *"We urge prayer for the family of Michael Brown and the people of Ferguson, Missouri. We give thanks for the witness of the United Methodist churches in Ferguson, where black and white churches are working together for a better community. Regardless of differing views of the grand jury's decision on Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson in the shooting death of Michael Brown, we certainly understand the pain of Michael Brown's family. We must also acknowledge the painful reality that African Americans suffer disproportionately in our legal system. We express our support for Michael Brown's family and their call to channel frustration 'in ways that will make for positive change.' We commend the Brown family and others working non-violently to correct inequities in our system of justice. Their efforts put into practice the words of the United Methodist Book of Discipline which states: 'Therefore, we recognize racism as sin and affirm the ultimate and temporal worth of all persons. We rejoice in the gifts that particular ethnic histories and cultures bring to our total life. We commend and encourage the self-awareness of all racial and ethnic groups and oppressed people that leads them to demand their just and equal rights as members of society.'"* The statement was signed by Jaydee Hanson, co-chair, Virginia Conference Board of Church of Society; the Rev. John Copenhaver, chair, Peace and Non-violence Work Area; the Rev. Scott Hopkins, Peace with Justice Coordinator; the Rev. Marilyn Heckstall, chair, Ending Poverty Work Area; Jim Templeton, chair, Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries; Monica Sprague, chair, Caretakers of God's Creation Work Area; and Suzanne Shrader, Secretary.



Staff-Parish Committee Training Saturday, January 17, 2015 (10am-12pm) at Providence UMC. Rev. Steve Jones, Richmond District DS will lead S/PPRC training. This workshop includes an overview of the responsibilities of the Staff/Pastor Parish Committee; the role of the chairperson; characteristics of effective S/PPRC's; the development of good working relationships with clergy and church staff; an overview of the "appointment preference form" process; a model for annual evaluations of clergy and staff; information about the appointment process; and parsonage issues.

District Leadership Training Saturday, February 7, 2015 (9am-12pm) at Chestnut Memorial UMC. District training focusing on helping those filling specific leadership positions in their local congregations. Training areas include: finance/treasurers, trustees, council chairs, local lay leaders, and nominations/lay leadership development.

Healing Prayer Mondays, February 9, 16, 23, and March 2, 9, 16 (7-9pm) at Susanna Wesley UMC. Rev. Carol Bookwalter will elaborate and more fully cover Healing Prayer in this 6 week class. Watch for further information!

Nominations/Lay Leadership Training. Thursday, March 26 (7-9pm) at Wesley UMC. Led by Cheryl Edley-Worford, Director of Inclusivity and Lay Leadership Excellence at the Virginia Conference. This workshop will focus on building a year-round equipping ministry system – preparing, connecting, and equipping people for ministry.

Register for the above training on the York River District website at www.yorkriverdistrict.org.

"Lord, Teach Me to Pray – Practical Applications for Prayer" will be offered again Saturday, Feb. 21, at Williamsburg UMC. Main speaker will be Dr. Wendy Miller, professor emeritus of Spiritual Formation at Eastern Mennonite Seminary and adjunct faculty at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill., and Perkins School of Theology in Dallas. Register for this event on the Virginia Conference website at www.vaumc.org

Local Events

"At Christmas the Heart Goes Home" Christmas concert by Lana Puckett and Kim Person. TODAY, 3:00pm. The concert will feature music from their CD's "At Christmas the Heart Goes Home" and "The Gift" along with holiday favorites. Location : Providence United Methodist Church (113 Old Dare Rd, Grafton) Contact : (757)898-9160

The **Virginia Handbell Consort** will present a free concert. Your congregation is invited to this special Christmas concert that will help ring in the Spirit of the Christmas Season. Sunday, TODAY, 6:00pm. The Virginia Handbell Consort is a community-wide handbell ringing group made up of some of the best handbell ringers in our area, and they wish to spread their seasonal cheer to everyone through the inspirational sound of handbell ringing. Location : Chestnut Memorial United Methodist Church (1024 Harpersville Rd, Newport News) Contact : info@vhcbells.org.

In Celebration of the 225th Anniversary First United Methodist Church – Hampton Presents ***By Heaven's Light, A Christmas Cantata*** Saturday, December 20, 2014, 7:00 PM Music, Pageantry, and Inspiration for the Advent Season! Location : First UMC, 110 East Queen Street, Hampton, VA 23669 Contact : (757) 723-6577

Local Mission Opportunity

The GUEST homeless shelter program in Gloucester is working on getting the Daysite ready to open. Several volunteers are needed to work at the GUEST House Daysite Facility near the Moose Lodge removing kitchen cabinet hinges and degreasing the frames in preparation for sanding and painting. Please call Kevin Kiley at 804-815-5164 to coordinate times to work. If you are interested in serving on the Daysite Committee (for the Daytime Homeless Shelter), Please Rev. Sven VanBaars at rector@abingdonchurch.org.



"God does nothing but by prayer, and everything with it." John Wesley

Cooper Abbott, Anna Akers, Tim and Judy Aldridge, Harriet Ammons, Douglas Anthony, Bertha Ashley, Alfred Bennett, Larry Bradshaw, Billie Brockman, Josh Broome, Dickie Brooks, Nancy Brooks, Meagan Brown, Lori Bunch, John Burton, Leon Carter, Gene Chaffin, Neal Christie, Kate Clark, Kristen Cole, Edith Mae Collier, Mike Conrad, Ann Corneal, Jordan Crowell, Jim and Sarah Crumpton, Tamika Daniels, David Darden (not of West Point), Doris Day, Butch Dixon, Peter Dolezal, Wilton Dunn, Jen Elswick, Bea Farewell, Dennis Fary, Cathy Gallagher, Donna Garrett, James Garrett, Debbie Goodrich, Rondal and Norma Gouch, Robin Gray, Jamie Haden, Brenda and Jeff Hall, Jessica Hall, John Hasty, Jessie Haynes, John Haynes, T.A. Haynes, Angie Horsley, Scott Hurst, Ivan and Sue Hurtzler, Larry Inge, Amy Jackson, Henry Jackson, Andy James, Ruth Jenkins, John Jiles, Donna Kemp, Jim King, Grayson Kirby, Herbert Lann, Jr, Rachel Lawson, Susan Lawson, Sandy Lee, Johnny Lewis, Leigh Brown Lindsey, Elmo Marshall, Ashley Martin, Rita Michaels, Michele Murphy, Anita Newcomb, Marianne Nichols, Jeannie Oakes, Bobbie O'Neil, Charlotte Palmer, Maurice Parker, Julia Phillips, Eugene Pierce, Barbara Pinkenstein, Alissa Rhodes, Jane Riddick, Jeff Rilee, Louisa Roane, Severn Robbins, Rev. Jane Sabean, Mike Salais, Richard Salais, Karen Sallam, Abbi Schaub, Brantley Sears, Ann Shoaff, Robert Slavely, Edith Smith, Jessica Smith, Ernest and Gladys Stanley; Bob Staul, Carol Steele, Pat Stowe, Charlie Sturtz, Lloyd Taylor, Nell Thimsen, Charles Thrift, Chris Tomlinson, Keith Tremel, Virginia Vranian, Jesse Walton, Margaret Walton, Floyd Gene Ward, Stanley Ware, Sylvia Weathers, Bobby Wilson, Nannie Mae Wilson, Robert Woodfin, Carolyn Yarrington

- Families grieving loss of loved ones including Grace Jackson
- Those who find the holidays a difficult time to be joyful
- Those not experiencing the joy of a community of faith
- Those traveling
- Those living amidst violence and disasters of natural and human origin, the locations of which are too many to list, but include the countries of Ukraine, South Sudan, Israel, Palestine, Democratic Republic of Congo, Syria, Iraq, the Philippines, China, and the countries of Western Africa.

Church Calendar



This Week

Today – Play Rehearsal – after worship

Ann Mouser's birthday

Monday – Alcoholics Anonymous – 7:00 pm

Tuesday – Staff-Parish Committee – 7:00pm

Wednesday – Choir Rehearsal – 7:00pm; Bible Study – 8:00pm

Vernon Willis' birthday

Saturday – Play rehearsal – 10:00am

Macey Chapman's and Crystal Dunlevy's birthdays

Coming Up

December 14 – Christmas play and party

December 24 – Christmas Eve Worship

December 28 – Parsonage Open House



Don't forget to check out our website (www.newhopevaumc.org) for up-to-date information about New Hope, the Virginia Conference, and the world. Download bulletins, listen to sermons, and more! We're also on FaceBook at www.FaceBook.com/newhopevaumc and on Twitter @NewHopeVAUMC

New Hope United Methodist Church

www.newhopevaumc.org

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(804) 785-3420 ***Emergency: (804)854-6520*** (804) 785-4671

Pastor: Rev. Brian D. Siegle, pastor@newhopevaumc.org

Lay Leader: Miriam Charnock, layleader@newhopevaumc.org

Accompianist: Thelma Downey

Choir Director: Stuart Conner