

NEW HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

FOCUS ON COMFORTING OTHERS



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

RETHINKCHURCH™



New Hope United Methodist Church

Order of Worship

December 21, 2014

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Entrance

Gathering, Welcome, and Announcements

Prelude

* Call to Worship

Tell the timid to take heart.

The Lord our God will come!

(Traditional Monastic Liturgy)

* Opening Prayer

In the advent seasons, when the past has fled, unasked, away

and there is nothing left to do but wait,

God, shelter us.

Be our surrounding darkness;

be the fertile soil out of which hope springs in due time.

In uncertain times, help us to greet the dawn and labor on, love on,

in faith awaiting your purpose hid in you

waiting to be born in due time.

Amen.

(Ruth Duck, USA, 20th cent.)

* Hymn

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

♪ UMH 213

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Wreath Response, stanza 4

♪ TFWS 2090

* Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Proclamation

Epistle Lesson

Romans 16:25-27

Anthem

Mary Did You Know?

* Gospel Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

* Hymn

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

♪ UMH 218

Time with the Children

* The Magnificat

Luke 1:46b-55

Response

Joys and Concerns of the Community

Prayers of Intercession for the World

We are people who journey as vessels containing wellsprings of hope; sharing, replacing, and adding new waters of proclamation, power, prophesy, and prayer to the containers of our life and faith.

We pause and reflect on the movement of the tide in this journey, as it washes upon our shores, cleansing and calling us back to ministry and faith.

Let us pray for ...

O Creator God, let the waters of your womb heal....

O Creator God, may the waters that covered us at our birth once again remind us of our creation in you.

Remind us that we are vessels of the waters of hope and that your outpourings have power to heal and make whole our bruised world.

Let the living waters of creation, womb, baptism, and Spirit encircle us that we may remember we are yours and be thankful. Amen.

Giving God's tithes and our offerings

Offertory

* Christmas Doxology

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

* 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

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

♪ UMH 224

* Benediction

* 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: Mark Charnock

The flowers are given today by Marjorie Sears to the glory of God in honor of Blair Williams' graduation from JMU.

Next Week

Liturgist: Miriam Charnock

Christmas Carol Sing!

Numbers last week

Sunday School attendance – 18

Budget Offering : \$1,765.00

Budget Received to date: \$90,582.19

Budget funds received year-to-date :97.6%

Building Fund : \$254

Worship attendance – 61

Cemetery Fund : \$30

Annual 2014 budget : \$92,838

Budget funds last year-to-date: 100.1%



Have A Blessed Christmas

**May Your Mind Be Blessed With Thoughts
Of His Birth and Sacrificed Life**

**May Your Heart Be Blessed With Faith
in Him As Your Savior And Lord**

**May Your Mouth Be Blessed With His Praises
To Be Shared With Others**

**May Your Hands Be Blessed With Strength
To Help Those In Need**

**“Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy,
which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day
in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.”**

Announcements

Many thanks to the cast and crew who put on our Christmas Play last week. It went very well and we had a great crowd.

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). The *Christmas Gifts of Hope* catalog is available in the narthex. “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 Christmas Eve offering will go entirely toward support of 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.

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.

As of Dec. 1, **Virginia Conference United Methodists have raised \$283,824** (and saved more than 28,000 lives) for Imagine No Malaria since Annual Conference voted to save 100,000+ lives in the next year. Read the stories posted on the conference Imagine No Malaria Facebook page and the conference website about how churches and individuals are raising money to save lives. Only \$10 will save a life. Every Life can Save a Life. For more information, contact Maria Maxwell, Virginia Conference Imagine No Malaria field coordinator, at (804) 521-1160 or MariaMaxwell@vaumc.org.

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.

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.*

See the Christmas lights!



Meet at New Hope UMC at 4:00 pm, TODAY.
Ride the bus to Doswell for a drive-through of the lights.

The Meadow Event Park is proud to present the Illuminate Light Show & Santa's Village. As you drive through the park you will experience hundreds of thousands of LED lights synchronized to music from your car radio. The show features an 80-foot tunnel of lights, 50-foot Christmas trees, dancing snowmen and festive decorations. After the show, spend some time in Santa's Village, where fun awaits your whole family. There will be pictures with Santa, children's activities, Christmas trees, food and more. This year, make the Illuminate Light Show & Santa's Village a new holiday tradition!

Leave the lights, and stop for dinner at Cracker Barrel.
Return to New Hope around 9:00 pm.

\$20 per person for bus and park admission. Dinner additional.

Contact Rev. Brian Siegle at trips@newhopevaumc.org
or 804-785-4671 to reserve a seat!



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

Holiday Art Fair at Gloucester Arts on Main (6580 Main Street, Gloucester Courthouse, VA 23061) Our Annual Art Fair continues thru December 24th at 4 pm. We will be open every day except Monday, from 10 to 6. Unusual gifts made by our artists – a good place to find that special thing for a special person. (804) 824-9464

GUEST update

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.

There is a need for volunteers including on-site monitors, food preparation, and transportation for the GUEST shelters. If you interested in helping in any way, please contact Christy at Salem United Methodist at salemolive2@aol.com.





"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, Kim Davis, 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, Tom Grippotos, Jamie Haden, Brenda and Jeff Hall, Jessica Hall, John Hasty, Jessie Haynes, John Haynes, T.A. Haynes, Thomas Hensley, Angie Horsley, Scott Hurst, Ivan and Sue Hurtzler, Larry Inge, Amy Jackson, Henry Jackson, Andy James, Ruth Jenkins, John Jiles, Kate and Tom Johnson, Donna Kemp, Jim King, Grayson Kirby, Herbert Lann, Jr, Dot Lawson, 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 Sabeau, 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 Catherine Proctor
- Those who find the holidays a difficult time to be joyful
- 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 – Bus trip to see Christmas lights – 3:00pm
Monday – Alcoholics Anonymous – 7:00 pm
Tuesday – Martha Dunlevy's and Jonathan Foster's birthdays
Wednesday – Christmas Eve Worship – 7:00pm
 Holly Siegle's birthday
Thursday – **Christmas**
Saturday – Virginia Humphreys' birthday

Coming Up

December 28 – Christmas Carol sing in worship
 Parsonage Open House – 3:00pm
January 6 – Staff-Parish Committee – 7:00pm
January 17 – Staff-Parish Training – Providence UMC (Yorktown)
February 7 – District Leadership Training



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