

The Wellspring

**Fuquay-Varina United Methodist Church
is a Christ centered community that
Loves God, Learns God,
Serves God, and Shares God.**

January 2012

Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ;

My message is not for those who have never been able to “get” God or affirm in any way that there is a God, either because no one has helped them learn to focus or because intellectually or philosophically the idea of God doesn’t take.

My message is for those of us who have seen God, have had their souls brightened up by God’s light, but who have shut themselves off from the light making a conscious decision, or a series of them, to dig into the darkness and try to block the light.

The problem with too much light, God’s light not excluded, is that we see more than we want to see. Those of us who have had the privilege of getting a glimpse of divine light can respond in three ways. We can try to deny it or neutralize it by shutting our eyes to what we already know is real whether we embrace it as real or not. We can keep our eyes wide open and deal with both resultant extremes: the revelation of God’s love and areas in our lives we didn’t really want to see again. The third option is a middle-of-the-road effort; squinting, eyes mostly closed but with some modest effort to stay reminded of the light without being overwhelmed by greater love than we think we can cope with or without having to worry too much about any more of a clean-up than we care to undertake.

No one can see God head on. It would be too intense if we could, sort of like trying to look at the sun with a naked eye. What we can see is light emanating from God, most clearly in the light that Jesus brought into the world as the permanent catalyst of divine light. Light: *‘And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a apparent unique child, full of grace and truth’* (John 1:14, paraphrase). Shutting our eyes to the light: *‘He came to what was his own, and his own people did not receive him’* (John 1:11).

Opening our eyes to light: *‘But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or the will of the flesh or of the will of humanity, but of God’* (John 1:13-14).

Squinting: *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it’*(John1:15).

My friends, as we enter into the season of Epiphany we are reminded the light is a reality. Darkness has never won out over light, and even in the darkest night of the soul, rays of light may still break through.

Let us look to the future with wide-eyed wonder into those amazing rays of light- lighting up the depths of the darkness within and helping me to helping us to love ourselves and others before we tidy up because the light lets me know at once that God does. As small as we could feel before the Creator, the light shows us that there is no need to run because in God’s family no one is insignificant. “The Lord is my light and my salvation...The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom shall I be afraid” (Psalm 27:1).

Blessings and Peace in the New Year and this Season of Epiphany,

Pastor Al

2012 Stewardship Commitments

The Stewardship Committee is pleased to report the results of stewardship commitments by the FVUMC congregation for 2012. As of December 13, 2011, there were 223 households which had made financial commitments totaling \$874,874 - a 5.4% increase over commitments for 2011. The overall number of households making financial commitments remained relatively unchanged as commitments were received for 62 new pledges totaling \$161,045 while 59 households have not yet renewed commitments for 2012. The total financial commitments made represent approximately 67% of the approved budget of \$1,301,892 for 2012 with the remaining sources of support to fund the budget coming primarily from unpledged gifts.

In addition to financial commitments, service commitment forms were received from 183 persons. The interests indicated will be distributed to the respective ministry coordinators who will contact those who have expressed interest to help them determine how they might serve.

Thank you for your continued commitment and support as we seek to Love God, Learn God, Serve God and Share God at Fuquay-Varina United Methodist Church.

Greetings Friends!

by Rev. Elaine Lilliston

January is a month filled with faith experiences just waiting to happen! During morning worship, we'll greet the New Year (Jan 1st) with a reminder of John Wesley's Covenant Prayer as we gather around the Communion Table during each of our three worship celebrations with 2012 Church Council leaders serving at the Table. Epiphany (Jan 6th), the grand finale of the Advent/Christmas/Epiphany cycle, is a reminder of the coming of the Light of the World and the wise who sought, found and in awe knelt to worship the Christ-child. We'll remember the Baptism of our Lord (Jan. 8th) and have a congregational re-affirmation of our Baptismal vows. The nation will remember the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King and we'll be reminded of our faith which carries us out into the world as disciples of Jesus Christ who modeled servant leadership amongst vulnerable folks as we gather as a church family on the 15th and with the community for worship on the 16th. Youth will have a Discovery Weekend (Jan 27-29th) and our supportive church family will undergird the effort with our time and prayers. And, just because January is such a fabulous month...we will gather for worship with a bonus, fifth Sunday, on the 29th celebrating the gift of new beginnings.

January is also a time of new beginnings. It is a time to strive to release the past; to embrace resolutions of good intentions; and to center our lives on the One who has given us the gift of life and life beyond life. One of my favorite seasonal songs is *Emmanuel* with simple lines of focus and direction: "God with us, revealed in us." The world is watching! The world is waiting! The world is seeking! As disciples of Jesus Christ alive in the world today, we have the golden opportunity to reflect the Christ-light to others each and every day in each and every life circumstance! This is a time of new beginnings; time to remember and move on. This is a time to embrace what God is doing and the MANY ways each of us have to share in vibrant ministry and outreach.

F-V Food Pantry Food:

Rice & Dried Beans

Put items in the blue container in the church lobby! *Please no glass containers!*

Main Street Kitchen

January 21st

Contact Paula Cade at 557-4347

I celebrate that F-V UMC is an *externally-focused congregation!* This church family knows the importance of being involved in our community. Members are actively engaged in local schools; reflect Christian values as sports coaches; embrace opportunities to build bridges within our community; and strive to live with authenticity 24-7. While we celebrate opportunities for nurture and faith formation, we do not want to be *spiritually obese* as one author has said. Rather, we realize the importance of faith and actions in the world.

THANK YOU for caring for our community with the love of Christ! THANK YOU for prioritizing life around prayerfully discerned decision making. THANK YOU for respecting others with differing opinions. THANK YOU for being active witnesses in the world today! THANK YOU for being an incredible Christ-centered church family. It is a privilege to be...

In ministry and outreach with you,
Elaine



Hedge Ministry Team

Every Sunday someone is praying during every worship service, for everyone in those services, the message being given, and for God to bless and guide each person in their Christian journey. This is the powerful *Hedge* prayer ministry. To serve, call Linda Bridgers at 567-8908.



January 1

Glenn & Joann Myers(8:00)
Linda Bridgers (9:30)
Mary Rose (11:00)

January 8

Glenn & Joann Myers(8:00)
Dick Kuhn (9:30)
Jim Casper (11:00)

January 15

Glenn & Joann Myers(8:00)
Available (9:30)
Susan Smith (11:00)

January 22

Carole Drake(8:00)
Linda Bridgers (9:30)
Stacey Beard (11:00)

January 29

Glenn & Joann Myers(8:00)
Jean Fox (9:30)
Scotty Barber (11:00)

Children's Ministries

Jesus has been born!

AND, now our children will be exploring the *Life of Jesus* as he invited friends to follow and to share great news about God's love for each of us. Sunday mornings are packed with interesting Sunday School lessons while each Sunday evening our Faith Weaver Friends (2nd and 3rd graders) and Kids for Christ (4th and 5th graders) experience helping others as modern-day disciples.

We are so excited about the opportunities we have to share with our children that we have two different Sunday School lesson plans for each age level each Sunday morning! Please know that we welcome children in worship and realize that some families worship at 8:00am in order to serve and study at the following two services. Thus, children have two uniquely gifted teams serving at each hour (9:30 and 11:00am) to ensure our families are supported in helping our impressionable children grown in faith. Faith Formers are ready to greet children 15 minutes prior to each Sunday School hour so that parents are able to reach the Centrum and/or other classroom settings. THANK YOU for being part of an incredible church family with a message of hope to share with the world . . . in Jesus Christ!

Faith Weaver Friends (2nd & 3rd graders)
4:30-6 p.m. Sunday evenings
rooms # 215-216

New faces are ALWAYS welcome! ALL second and third graders are invited to check out the action each Sunday afternoon beginning January 8th. Coordinator Marianne Carroll with team members Becky Brady, Jennifer Akins, Rob Fields, Keena Teague, and Becky Subat have an amazing schedule of games, crafts and service projects ready to share. Volunteers are invited to serve and to explore with our children by contacting Marianne Carroll (552-7695 or mcarroll35@gmail.com) to assist once or twice a month as extra "helping hands". We are well-blessed by an abundance of children eager to learn, serve and share God.

Kids for Christ (4th & 5th graders)
4:30-6 p.m. Sunday evenings
rooms # 201-203

Coordinator Frank Lane and service in action team members keep our KFC friends engaged in active service projects; preparing for Camp Chestnut Ridge weekend; and, serving local needs. Bounce in each Sunday beginning Jan. 8th to check out the action; receive the spring events highlights; and, to make biblical truths come alive with fun activities.

Note from Preschool

Preschool returns on January 2nd!
 Look for registration details next month!
 Happy New Year!



Kidz NPraise is the FVUMC Children's Choir Program!

Wednesday Afternoons
 At 4:30pm
 Begins January 18th

Join us on Wednesday afternoons during the school year at 4:30 pm for singing, instruments, drama, games and more! The program is open to all children three years old through fifth grade, and includes handbells and handchimes for our older kidz! The children will gather each week to learn music for worship as well as to work towards a spring musical production. Kidz NPraise begins Wednesday, January 18.

Register TODAY!

Serving In The Church Nursery Are You Ready?



Love: Sharing a warm smile & comforting arms.

Learn: Remember what it was like...
 to live in the moment.

Serve: Give of your time & let the Lord do the rest.

Share: We are each unique. Share your talent & experiences with the children and our staff.

One hour a month - Are you Ready?

If you are serving, Thank You for the gift of your time. If you aren't and you want to learn more about how you can get engaged, contact me, Toni Drapkin, at ttdrapkin@fvumc.org.

Lifeline Youth Ministries

Happy New Year!

We have a great semester ahead of us in Lifeline Youth Ministries! For those of you who have a 7th-12th grader, below is some information that will be really helpful for the new year.



District Mission Fair

Sunday Jan. 8, Meet at FVUMC at 3:30

This Annual event is an opportunity to participate with other Youth Ministries in the Raleigh District in *Stop Hunger Now* and to think about how God is calling us to serve in the world. Please fill out the permission slip sent out by email or get it from him. We will return at 7:30pm!

Life Groups

Wednesdays starting Jan. 4, 6:30-8:00

These groups are a chance for students to grow deeper in friendship with one another and with Christ. Each week involves Bible study, bonding together, prayer and accountability. Groups are divided by middle or high school and by gender. Two new high school groups are being started this January, so come and join us!

Lifeline

Sundays starting Jan. 15 at 6:15-8:00

Our weekly gathering for all 7th-12th graders involves time to hang out, messages that connect with teens, and worship led by youth. Come and join us on Sunday nights!

Parents Meeting

Following Lifeline on Jan. 15, 8:00-8:30

We will have a Parents Meeting for all youth parents on January 15. We will lay out the schedule for the semester and the summer, talk about what we're learning in Lifeline, and give you an opportunity to ask your questions.

Discovery Weekend

January 27-29

The deadline for Discovery registration has already passed, but please be in prayer for this powerful weekend for our middle school students that is led by High School students. To get involved, contact Kevin at kjohnson@fvumc.org or Susan Smith at smooresmith@earthlink.net.

High School Winter Retreat

March 2-4

At the Don Lee Center in Arapahoe, NC. Last year we had an incredible weekend at Camp Don Lee, and this year will be even better! Sign up soon for our high school winter retreat—more details will come at the Parents Meeting.

High School Summer Mission Trip: M25

July 24-29 in Atlanta, GA

This is going to be an incredible mission opportunity for all rising high school students. M25 runs out of a church in Marietta, Georgia, which will be our home base as we minister with the homeless in Atlanta. We will serve people, grow in relationships, and have a ton of fun along the way. Registration materials will be available at the Parents Meeting—check out <http://m-twentyfive.org/> for more information.

Reminder

You can get all of the information you need at:

1. www.fvumc.org/youth.htm which also features a google calendar at the bottom with up to date information.
2. Our official Facebook page, which you can find by searching for Lifeline: Youth Ministry of FVUMC! On Facebook.
3. Kevin's emails: if you are not receiving Kevin's emails, send him your email address at kjohnson@fvumc.org.



Confirmation Highlights

Confirmation (Sundays 4:30-6 p.m.) resumes with Epiphany Ecstasy on January 8th! Continue the journey with incredible mentors as we explore Epiphany; receive spring permission slips; receive an updated calendar; and, prepare for Confirmation Sunday on March 25th.

- January 15th** "This I Believe"
January 22nd "Mission Reflections" & Pizza/Game Night permission slips are due
January 29th "Sharing Our Story"



Confirmation

Music Ministries

The FVUMC Music Ministries needs YOU Get Involved Today!



As the New Year begins, this is the perfect time to consider how God might be calling you to use the gifts and talents He has blessed you with! Do you have a gift to share? Keep in mind that God can take the SMALLEST offering and turn it into something HUGE! Read on to find out how God could be planning to use *your gifts* for HIS GLORY!

- ♪ **The Worship Choir** is open to ANY adult who wishes to sing praises to God! The choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings, 7:15-8:45 pm, and regularly leads worship for the 11:00 am worship service. Additionally, the choir participates in Christmas and Easter Cantatas, a fall choir retreat, and other special events! All voice parts are welcome and needed, and no previous experience is required! You don't even have to be able to read music—we'll teach you everything you need to know! No reservations are required—simply show-up and join us in lifting praises to the King! Childcare is provided at all rehearsals.
Rehearsals each Wednesday in January beginning January 4th.
- ♪ **The Instruments of Praise** is an orchestral ensemble that provides music for the 11:00 am worship service. The group rehearses bi-weekly on Wednesday evenings, 6:30-7:15 pm, and new members are welcome at anytime. The group includes strings, woodwinds and brass instruments—any youth or adult with previous experience is encouraged to join! **Rehearsals begin January 4th.**
- ♪ **The Praise Choir** sings each week during the 9:30 am contemporary worship service, and rehearses on Thursday evenings, 7:00 – 8:30 pm. The Praise Choir sings alongside the Praise Band, and the music each week is contemporary and uplifting. This group is open to ALL (youth and adults welcome)—no previous experience or audition required! Simply show-up for rehearsal on Thursday night and join the fun!
Rehearsals each Thursday in January beginning January 5th.
- ♪ **The Praise Band** provides music each week for the 9:30 am worship service, and rehearses on Thursday evenings, 7:00 – 9:00 pm. This contemporary ensemble includes vocalists, guitarists, keyboardists, drummers and occasionally other instruments (horns, strings, etc.). Although this is an auditioned group, there are often needs for additional instrumentalists and vocalists—anyone interested in the group should contact the Director of Music Ministries.
- ♪ **The Men's and Women's Ensembles** are choral groups for those on a tight schedule! Each group will meet for three rehearsals on Sunday evenings, 7:00 – 8:00 pm, and then sing for worship. These ensembles offer an opportunity to sing with a choir WITHOUT the long term commitment!
The groups are open to ALL—previous experience is not required!

 - ♪ **Women's Ensemble:** Rehearsals on Sundays, Jan. 8, Jan. 22 and Jan. 29, 7:00 – 8:00 pm
Women's Ensemble will sing in worship on Sunday, February 5 at the 11:00 service.
 - ♪ **Men's Ensemble:** Rehearsals on Sundays, Feb. 12, Feb. 19 and Feb. 26, 7:00 – 8:00 pm
Men's Ensemble will sing in worship on Sunday, March 4 at the 11:00 service.
- ♪ **The Youth Handbell Choir** is an awesome ringing experience open to any youth, grades 6 – 12. The group rehearses on Wednesdays, 5:30-6:15pm and rings throughout the year during worship. No previous experience is required—just show-up and join the fun!
Rehearsal each Wednesday in January beginning Jan. 4th.
- ♪ **The Alleluia Ringers** is FVUMC's Beginning Adult Handbell Choir, and the group has a few openings for 2012! No previous experience is required, as we will teach you everything you need to know! Rehearsals are Sundays, 3:30 – 4:30 pm, and the group rings in worship throughout the year. Anyone interested in ringing should contact the Director of Music Ministries!

Interested? Is God speaking to you? Get involved TODAY!

Visit the church website, www.fvumc.org, for current schedules on each of the FVUMC Music Programs.

For additional information, contact Jennifer Harrenstein, Director of Music Ministries,
at 552-4331 ext. 105 or jharrenstein@fvumc.org

Spiritual Formation

A Morning with Dr. Mickey Efird: January 7th



Our Education Committee is very excited to present Dr. Efird as he leads us thru a teaching session of his course:

“How to Get the Greatest Benefit from Bible Study”

It is about making the Bible plain and understandable for everyone, from the pastor to the person in the pew. -Mickey Efird

Suggested Donation: \$3.00

Child Care check-in and Continental Breakfast begins at 9:00am

Session is from 9:30 to 11:30

Pre Register for this event online at FVUMC.org, pick up registration forms in the lobby or Church office.

Childcare is available-please register for childcare online or call Debbi DeMaris @ 552-4470 to make a reservation .

Registration Information

For the Mickey Efird Event: January 7, 2012

Name _____

Address (street, city, state, zip) _____

Email _____ Phone# _____

Please make check payable to FVUMC with Efird in memo line.
Contact Debbi DeMaris with any questions at
552-4331 x106 or ddemaris@fvumc.org

Financial Peace University

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University.

This is a video-based small group study that teaches families how to beat debt, build wealth, and give like never before. Learn how to get out of debt and stay out of debt, build wealth and really be in control of your money, and eliminate the stress of financial problems. Radio personality and author, Dave Ramsey will teach you in 13 life-changing step-by-step lessons how Dave went from rags to riches and you can too.

Quote from Louis Falzetti,

Executive Vice President Financial Peace University,
After watching literally hundreds of thousands of families work through Financial Peace University, we have found that the average family eliminates \$5,300 in debt and saves \$2,700 during the 13-week period. That's a major turnaround! However, I'm not only talking about a financial turnaround. Throughout the process, lives are being changed, families are learning how to communicate about money, parents are learning how to teach their kids, and singles are developing the self-accountability needed for a successful life.

Preview Nights (*childcare available*)

Monday: Jan 23rd at 6:30pm

Wednesday: Jan 25th at 6:30pm



Monday Nights

Feb. 6 to May 13
from 6:30-8:30 pm.

Location: F-V UMC Centrum

Wednesday Nights

Feb. 9 to May 16
from 6:30-8:30 pm

Location: Rm 117

**limited enrollment of 30 participants for the Wednesday night class.*

Cost

\$93 per family unit when purchased thru Fuquay-Varina UMC
(\$199 retail) includes all materials and a lifetime membership.

Child Care

childcare registration required 2 weeks prior to class

Contact Debbi DeMaris to register at 552-4331 ext. 106

New January Studies

<u>Adult Sunday School</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Study</u>	<u>Room</u>	<u>Begins</u>
Koinonia	9:30 AM	Invitation to the Old Testament	117	1/1/2012
Adele Prince	9:30 AM	Adult Bible Study Series	118	1/1/2012
Upper Room	9:30 AM	Upper Room Devotional	119	1/1/2012
Friends	9:30 AM	Study of the Old Testament	120	1/8/2012
Christian Fellowship	9:30 AM	Efird Study: Book of Isaiah	121	1/1/2012
Bob Marley	9:30 AM	Adult Bible Study Series	122	1/1/2012
SEEKERS	9:30 AM	Efird Study: Book of Acts	123	1/1/2012
C.L.A.Y.	9:30 AM	TBA	124	1/1/2012
At the Well	11:00 AM	Book of James	117	1/1/2012
Pura Vida	11:00 AM	Book of James	123	1/1/2012
Christians Under Const.	11:00 AM	TBA	118	1/1/2012
Day by Day	11:00 AM	Efird Study: Genesis thru Revelation	122	1/15/2012
Back to Basics	11:00 AM	Lectionary	124	1/1/2012
Awakening	11:00 AM	Book of Romans	125	1/1/2012

For Sunday School Class descriptions go to church website www.fvumc.org
or pick up a brochure in the Church lobby at the Welcome Center



<u>Small Groups</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Study</u>	<u>Room</u>	<u>Begins</u>
L.I.F.E. *	Sunday	4:45 PM	A Life of Giving Thanks	123	1/8/2012
CONNECTINGS *	Sunday	4:30 PM	Living as United Methodist Christians	117	1/22/2012
Small Group	Sunday	6:30 PM	Serving from the Heart	124	2/12/2012
PinC	Monday	9:30 AM	Not a Fan	117	1/9/2012
WiF	Monday	9:30 AM	Crazy Love	123	1/9/2012
Small Group	Monday	7:00 PM	Prayer: Does it Really Make a Difference?	123	1/15
SoWers	Thur.	6:00 AM	TBA	123	TBA
Small Group	Friday	6:30 AM	The Passion Narratives	117	TBA

* Child Care Available

Is your small group not listed? Please register your group with Debbi DeMaris.
Registration forms are in the Church Lobby at the Registration display or in the Church office.
Are you interested in starting a small group? Contact Debbi DeMaris.

Global Missions

ACTS 1:8

"... and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all of Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

ACTS 1:8 MISSION CELEBRATION WEEKEND: APRIL 20 - 22, 2012

FVUMC has embarked on a journey to dramatically grow our mission outreach through the commitment and involvement of our members. Through mission outreach, we can Serve God and Share God, two components of FVUMC's Vision. The Pastors, Staff, and Mission Team are planning this "Mission Celebration" weekend to:

1. increase awareness of the people & entities we support through mission outreach
2. increase involvement in FVUMC's mission outreach as defined in our Acts 1:8 Plan
3. increase mission funding, to increase the scope & depth of our outreach

We have an exciting program planned that runs from Friday morning through Sunday evening. It includes many different events that will provide multiple opportunities for the congregation to really get to know the missionaries and the outreach programs we support with our gifts of prayer, time, and money.

Please put this on your calendar and look for continued news on the details of the weekend during the coming months. We ask for your prayers and support for the success of this Acts 1:8 Celebration weekend. We are not the original disciples, but we have all been called to Serve God and Share God.

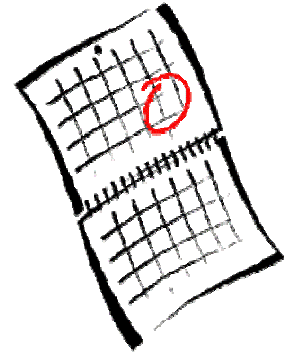
*Father, in the same way that you gave me a mission in the world,
I give them a mission in the world. -John 17:18*

Go everywhere in the world, and tell the Good News to everyone. -Mark 16:15

We have many ways you can be involved in planning and assisting with the weekend events as well. Please contact me if you'd like to join one of our event teams.

Blessings,

Ann Ledford 773-0334 or ledford1428@gmail.com)



From the Mission Field...

I went on my first international mission trip to Haiti. Among some well traveled missionaries, I navigated the difficulties of the trip with little problem. My senses were overwhelmed with the differences in our cultures, the tropics, and economy. At first glance I would say that these people have little hope. After living among them for over a week, I would say they are industrious, ingenious, productive people, that have hope in their country and people. It was hard, but rewarding work, building the church in Rode, Haiti. I think we filled each others hearts, possibly mine more than theirs. I will do it again!
~Stu Vogt

Operation Christmas Child

3342 shoeboxes in 251 Cartons
were collected and delivered!

Thanks to Jayne Chambers for the coordination!

Mission Team 2012

Thank you to all who have served on the Mission Team in 2011. Much was accomplished and could not have been done without the variety of talent and insight.

Welcome to the new members of the Mission Team and thank you to those who continue to serve.

Mission Coordinator- Les Page

Acts 1:8 Coordinator - Ann Ledford/Stu Vogt

Jerusalem Leaders - Paula Cade/Suzanne Jones

Judea Leaders - Jennifer Rosa/Craig Judd

Ends of the Earth Leader - Rob Pavone/John Chambers

Emergency Response - Mark Bethea/Kim Ward

Admin - Eddie Dewey

Treasurer - David Bell

Youth - Kevin Johnson

Pastor - Al Shuler

At Large - Keith Strandtman

Women's Ministries



Circle of Faith
January 3rd
10:00am Choir Room

ALL ladies of the church are invited to our meeting, January 3rd at 10:00 in the choir room. Betty Tilley will present our annual Pledge Service. For 2011 we gave \$1900.00 to Missions, \$195.99 to World Thank Offering and \$78. 00 to Prayer and Self Denial. Praise The Lord!
 Questions, call Fran Sykes at 552-9220.

Women's Breakfast

Saturday, January 14th

8:00 - 9:30 am Room 117 / 119

Speaker: Ann Ledford will update us on the recent Mission trip to Costa Rica.
All are welcome to attend.



Men's Ministries



F-V UMM

Meet on the 3rd Mondays
 All men are invited to attend the monthly meeting at 7:00 Room 126.

To stay in touch, visit our Google Group Site at

Men Eager to Serve (METS)

Meets on Thursday nights from 7-8:30pm in Room 127 for a time of service, fellowship, and accountability.

Men's Breakfast
4th Saturday
7:00am



Our Life In Community



Melissa Beck, Austin Monk,
 Karen TerMeer, Sharon Preston,
 Yvonne Wight, Lori Culberson,
 Robert Kinton, Kitty Blackburn,
 Tom Myatt, Lynn Mills,
 Shirley Baker, Bill Colagiovanni,
 Fran Applegarth, Alice Schmelzer,
 André Carson, Dub Hornsby,
 Shirley Hicks, Maxine Senter,
 Vickie Cardin, Emily Ashworth,
 Kevin & Debbi Braswell,
 Diane Rubin, Henry Hanmann,
 Carole Nanzetta, Phil McCray,
 John & Beth Silveira, PJ Ramsey,
 Clay King, Ellen Tinsley

Interested in becoming a member of Fuquay-Varina UMC?

Come join Connectings!

Classes begin on January 22 at 4:30 in Room 117.

Childcare is available!

Participants will join our church on March 11th.

Share in fellowship with others as you discover-

- + History of the United Methodist Church and church FVUMC
- + Vision Statement: *A Christ centered community that loves God, learns God, serves God, and shares God.*
- + Membership Vows: *To faithfully participated in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.*
- + Spiritual Gifts Inventory: find out what yours are!

Contact Debbi DeMaris at ddemaris@fvumc.org or 552-4331 ext 106 to sign up today!

Prayer & Anointing Stations with Stephen Ministers Now Available



Prayers for healing and anointing with oil will continue to be available during the service of Holy Communion the first Sunday of the month at all three services. Stephen Ministers will be stationed in locations at the rear of the sanctuary to offer prayer for individual requests as well as anointing with oil if desired. Additionally, there will now be

Stephen Ministers at the front of the Centrum for those who wish to kneel while receiving the healing oil and prayer.

All prayer requests are kept in confidence, and the Stephen Ministers are available for additional prayer after the service if that is requested.

The name "Christ" is derived from the Hebrew for "Messiah," and means literally "covered in oil, anointed, or the anointed one." The practice of anointing is found repeatedly in both the Old and New Testaments. The familiar words of Psalm 23, "you anoint my head with oil," (Psalm 23:5) remind us that God welcomes us to his banquet as an honored guest. In Hebrews 1:9, we are told that "God has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy" (Hebrews 1:9). Thus, when a person is anointed with oil, it symbolizes the presence and work of the Holy Spirit in that individual's mind, body, and spirit.

Here at FVUMC, the healing oil will continue to be placed on the altar and consecrated at each service with the communion elements; that oil will be carried to the prayer stations by the Stephen Ministers. During prayer and upon request, the anointing will be done by making a small sign of the cross on an individual's forehead with the words, "In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." These prayer and healing stations are available to all as an expression of God's grace and love.

January Book Club

Picking Cotton

by Jennifer Thompson-Cannino,
Ronald Cotton, and Erin Torneo



Nearly everyone in prison protests their innocence, but Ronald Cotton was telling the truth. Cotton was just 22 when he walked into a Burlington, NC police station to answer allegations; he spent the next 11 years seeking freedom. "Put a man in a cage with beasts and throw away the key, and it's usually not long before the man is a beast himself," he writes in this unusual joint memoir, written with his accuser and now friend, Jennifer Thompson-Cannino. Considering the odds stacked against him -- a bum alibi, a victim focused on being the strongest possible witness, a justice system all too willing to send another young black man to jail -- it's extraordinary that Cotton emerged from prison at all. More stunning still was his willingness, upon exoneration by DNA evidence, to forgive the people who had put him there, including victim Thompson-Cannino, whose erroneous identification of Cotton in a police line-up had begun his horrible odyssey. Their story, told here in alternating sections, emphasizes that both were victims. Still, as both acknowledge, Thompson-Cannino, traumatized as she was, spent the next decade in freedom, marrying and having kids, while Cotton endured prison. Left mostly unexamined is the role that race played in his incarceration, but even the most cynical reader will be impressed by Cotton's resilience and grace.

To join the dinner and discussion on Friday, January 20th, contact Suzanne Jones at dsjones@nc.rr.com or Matilda Storm at matildastorm@embarqmail.com

February 24 - *The Cellist of Sarajevo* by Steven Galloway

March 16 - *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity*

for the Women Worldwide by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn

Community Martin Luther King Worship Service

Monday, Jan 16th

New Providence Baptist Church,
Hilltop-Needmore Rd.

F-V UMC youth
participating in singing a song

Benefit Concert

For John Silveira

January 6th

6:30p-8:30p

at STARS Theater and Arts Center
in downtown Fuquay-Varina.

John has been courageously battling Leukemia and Lymphoma for several years.

Long Time Gone - a Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young cover band consisting of several FVUMC praise team members - will perform. Donations will be accepted at the door by Banded Brothers. 100% of donations will go toward the Silveira family. Banded Brothers will match all donations up to \$500.00. Please make checks out to Banded Brothers with *General Donation* on the memo line. Come on out for food, fellowship, and great music!

LOVE GOD | LEARN GOD | SERVE GOD | SHARE GOD

A Christ-centered community that **loves God, learns God, serves God, and shares God.**



Did you know...

The SHAPE of our Vision Statement logo represents:

- **CROSSLET** – This heraldic cross is made from four smaller crosses arranged at right angles to each other with their tops pointing north, south, east and west, traditionally thought to represent the message of the cross going out to the four corners of the earth. “Jesus said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.’” - Mark 16:15
- **CIRCLE** – One of the oldest symbols used to represent God, eternity, completeness

The COLORS of our Vision Statement logo are based on the traditional liturgical color interpretation:

- **LOVE** – *Blue*: Symbolizes hope for the future
- **LEARN** – *Purple*: Symbolized personal and spiritual preparation
- **SERVE** – *Green*: Represents life and growth; living one’s spirituality to the fullest
- **SHARE** – *Red*: Represents passion, love, the power of the Holy Spirit actively at work in God’s people
- **GOD** – *Gold*: Used on the highest holy days of the year



The Wellspring

Fuquay-Varina United Methodist Church

Love God. Learn God. Serve God. Share God.

919-552-4331

www.FVUMC.org

100 South Judd Parkway SE

Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526

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Upcoming Events

January

<i>UMW Circle of Faith</i>	1/3
<i>Youth Life Groups begin</i>	1/4
<i>Benefit Concert</i>	1/6
<i>Dr. Mickey Efird Event</i>	1/7
<i>Faith Weaver Friends begins</i>	1/8
<i>Kids for Christ (KFC) begins</i>	1/8
<i>Confirmation begins</i>	1/8
<i>District Mission Fair (Youth)</i>	1/8
<i>Women's Breakfast</i>	1/14
<i>Youth Lifeline begins</i>	1/15
<i>Youth Lifeline Parent Meeting</i>	1/15
<i>Martin Luther King Service</i>	1/16
<i>at New Providence Baptist Church</i>	
<i>Kidz NPraise begins</i>	1/18
<i>Book Club</i>	1/20
<i>Main Street Kitchen (MSK)</i>	1/21
<i>New Members/Connectings begin</i>	1/26
<i>Discovery Weekend</i>	1/27-29

February

<i>Financial Peace University begins</i>	2/6 & 2/9
<i>Main Street Kitchen (MSK)</i>	2/18
<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	2/22
<i>Lenten Studies begin</i>	2/29

Looking Ahead:

<i>High School Winter Retreat</i>	3/2-4
<i>TVR Family Weekend</i>	3/16-18
<i>Confirmation Sunday</i>	3/25
<i>Palm Saturday Events</i>	3/31
<i>Holy Week</i>	4/2-7
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	4/8
<i>Acts 1:8 Celebration (2012)</i>	4/20-22
<i>M25: Youth High School Mission Trip</i>	7/24-29

Bulletin:
bulletin@fvumc.org
Notices are due
Tuesdays at noon

Newsletter:
newsletter@fvumc.org
Articles due by the
15th of the each month