

# The Wellspring

Fuquay-Varina  
United Methodist Church  
May 2011

## A NEW SONG

by Rev. Albert Shuler

Psalm 40 reminds me a great deal of the words from the prophet Isaiah 6:8

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,  
"Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?  
And I said, "Here am I; send me!"*

Fewer of us recall the words from the following verses 9-12, where the Lord explains his charge to Isaiah:

*And he said, "Go and say to the people;  
"keep listening, but do not comprehend,  
keep looking, but do not understand."'  
Make the mind of this people dull and  
stop their ears and shut their eyes...  
Then he said "How long, O Lord?"  
He said; "until the cities lie waste without  
inhabitant, and houses without people,  
and the land is desolate; until the Lord sends  
everyone far away, vast is the emptiness  
in the midst of the land."*

What a strange command! What a bizarre way to call a prophet into the Lord's service! To proclaim a new word, to sing a new song in the name of the Lord, and to keep doing so until "vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land." In sum, to never give up proclaiming God's truth.

In a similar 'desolate pit and miry bog,' the psalmist cried out to the Lord, who—in response— set the psalmist feet upon a rock and made his footsteps firm. And the Lord "put a new song" in his mouth, a song of praise to God. As a consequence, the psalmist is assured that "many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord."

Inspired by Psalm 40, the question posed combines the charge to Isaiah and the faith of the psalmist;

How long to sing this new song? How long?

Times have changed since the ancient days of the psalmist and the prophet Isaiah. Or have they? The twenty-first century has not proven to be a new utopia. Far from it! Our times are filled with new fears and new terrors. Wars and rumors of wars are everywhere. Young men and women die to no good purpose, and the lessons of the past seem to be lost on leaders oblivious to the unintended consequences of their policies.

How long to sing the new song? How long?

Listen again to the psalmist,  
who says to the Lord in 40:7-10

*Then I said, "Here I am;  
in the scroll of the book it is written of me.  
I delight to do your will, O my God;  
your law is within my heart."  
I have told the glad news of deliverance  
in the great congregation;  
see, I have not restrained my lips,  
as you know, O Lord.*

*I have not hidden your saving help within my heart.  
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;  
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your  
faithfulness from the great congregation.*

Let us join the psalmist and look beyond ourselves. Let us go out into the world and proclaim the "glad news of deliverance." Let us proclaim the Lord's "steadfast love and faithfulness." Let us proclaim this eternal truth all the days of our lives. Let this be our new song during this season of Eastertide.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Al

# Greetings Friends!

by Rev. Elaine Lilliston

Spring has sprung! Easter has past...or has it? For the secular/retail world, Easter may be a past season. However, as vibrant Christian witnesses in the world today, we know that Eastertide has just begun. We have a message to share and I hope you are as excited as I am with the opportunity to LIVE as though Christ has Risen!!! This is what we have been preparing for throughout the 40 days of Lent.

During the Lenten season of preparation, I beamed with pride with the amazing ways God used our church family. Mid-week services, meals and biblical studies helped us to name and claim the joy of being followers of Jesus Christ while sharing our gifts with one another. Meatless mid-week fellowship meals invited table conversations, shared recipes and an appreciation of the gift of one another. Multitudes ensured the grounds around our church were neatly trimmed, mulched and prepared for the growing season. Garden rows were prayerfully and playfully planted with food for our community. Centrum light bulbs were replaced; closets organized; and, facility upgrades appeared. Children, youth and adults studied and explored seasonal lessons in age level appropriate ways. Thoughtfully prepared Palm Saturday events inspired children and those privileged to serve with them while the bunny came and a sugar high was had by all. Diverse Holy Week services and experiences with

powerful musical worship helped us journey to the cross. Lenten disciplines were maintained... or forgotten...and, in the process we learned something about ourselves, our commitments to the Lord and even our confessions to do better.

For each day is a gift...a new beginning...a gift from God to share. To greet each day and to live as though Christ matters in our life is reflected as we acknowledge our Christian heritage; share common values; and, make authentic choices 24-7. The teachings of Jesus become real when we apply them to our life experiences. As Jesus prepared his friends for life after his physical life on earth would end, he reminded them to “love one another as I have loved you”. In fact, John 15:12-17 is a brief scripture highlighting the importance of the choices we make as we realize each and every one of us has been chosen and appointed to “go and bear fruit, fruit that will last”. The world is watching! AND, we have the opportunity to share the JOY of living as faith-filled witnesses of Jesus Christ. . .for Eastertide has just Begun! May this be a season of celebration, new awarenesses and a renewed commitment to live as the hands and feet of Christ.

Celebrating the JOY of Christ-alive in our lives,



## 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 in this way, call Linda Bridgers at 567-8908.

|               |                            |                        |                       |
|---------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>May 1</b>  | Glenn & Joann Myers(8:15)  | Kitty Blackburn (9:30) | Mary Rose (10:50)     |
| <b>May 8</b>  | Glenn & Joann Myers(8:15)  | Don Reeves (9:30)      | Jim Casper (10:50)    |
| <b>May 15</b> | Glenn & Joann Myers(8:15)  | Linda Bridgers (9:30)  | Susan Smith (10:50)   |
| <b>May 22</b> | Dick Kuhn (8:15)           | Available (9:30)       | Stacey Beard (10:50)  |
| <b>May 29</b> | Glenn & Joann Myers (8:15) | Jean Fox (9:30)        | Scotty Barber (10:50) |

# Global Missions

*This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. —1 John 3:16*

We all know John 3:16 “ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. “ I found it enlightening that 1 John 3:16 was the answer to Jesus’ new commandment - to Love one another.



Les Page  
Mission Coordinator

## **Storm Response**

Thanks to all who responded so quickly to the storms that struck NC in April. There is an ongoing need at MERCI and throughout the area.

To get the latest areas of need, please contact Mark Bethea ([mbethea6@nc.rr.com](mailto:mbethea6@nc.rr.com)) , Annette Hall ([annettehall@nc.rr.com](mailto:annettehall@nc.rr.com)), Jennifer Rosa ( [jenrosa3@nc.rr.com](mailto:jenrosa3@nc.rr.com))

## **Costa Rica Trip**

An informational meeting for a planned November Costa Rica Trip will be held on Sunday May 8th following the 10:50 service in room 117/119.

This trip is geared toward women as the main focus will be working with a teen mothers’ home near Carrillos.

Ann Ledford will lead the trip in conjunction with our partner in Costa Rica: Strong Missions.

## **Main Street Kitchen: May 21st**

Only a couple of hours once a month, no commitment is required for being a part of this awesome ministry. Fun, Fellowship and a wonderful time being the hands and feet of Christ. Thanks to all who have and continue to be a part of this ministry, and if you would like to spend a couple hours being blessed, please feel free to contact Paula Cade at 557-4347 with any questions.

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

Our Acts 1:8 celebration next year will be held February 24-26, 2012.

## **Habitat for Humanity**

Habitat for Humanity is building homes in FV in the fall. We hope to have a big team to serve and give a hand up to a local family.

Sign-ups and more info coming this summer!

Habitat for Humanity of Wake County builds safe, affordable houses for qualified homebuyers regardless of race, religion or background. Each Habitat home is built in partnership with homeowner families, sponsors, and volunteers. Our houses are sold for no profit to the partner family who repays an affordable mortgage over 20 years.

Changing a plot of dirt into a house is dramatic, but the real change is what happens when a family transitions out of poverty housing. Affordable homeownership makes new opportunities available to these families and their children, including savings, a sense of security, space to grow, and good neighbors.

Plan to be apart of this amazing mission! Leadership team now being formed if you are interested in being apart of FVUMC leadership on this team contact Annette Hall @ [annettehall@nc.rr.com](mailto:annettehall@nc.rr.com).

Watch the mission board for more information!

## **F-V Food Pantry Food Canned/Dried Fruit**

Are being requested for the Month of May.

Other types of food items are also appreciated, as well as grocery bags.

There is a blue collection container in the lobby. **NO Glass containers please!**



**FOOD DRIVE**

# Eco-Justice Ministries

## Why Consumer Habits Matter to United Methodists

During the last weekend in April, the Eco-Justice Ministry hosted its third Fair Trade Store highlighting spring merchandise that gave people in our church and community an opportunity to purchase items made by artisans around the world who are part of a Fair Trade business paradigm.

In today's world economy, where profits rule and small-scale producers are left out of the bargaining process, farmers, craft producers, and other workers are often left without resources or hope for their future. Fair Trade helps exploited producers escape from this cycle and gives them a way to maintain their traditional lifestyles with dignity.

But what does this have to do with the church? The United Methodist Church has a long history of being an advocate for social justice causes, and this includes fair wages and good working conditions (two elements of the Fair Trade certification).

Did you further know the United Methodist Church Social Principles even addresses this very subject: *"We affirm the importance of international trade and investment in an interdependent world.*

*Trade and investment should be based on rules that support the dignity of the human person, a clean environment and our common humanity. Trade agreements must include mechanisms to enforce labor rights and human rights as well as environmental standards. Broad-based citizen advocacy and participation in trade negotiations must be ensured through democratic mechanisms of consultation and participation."*

From The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church - 2009. Copyright 2009 by The United Methodist Publishing House.

The annual Fair Trade Stores that FVUMC hosts help spread awareness about our habits as consumers and where these habits fit into our Christian walk as we strive everyday in all that we are and do to love God and our neighbors.

Want to know more? Pick up a copy of the *2009-2012 UMC Social Principles* from Debbi Demaris in the church office.

## Bring A Mug....Save A Cup!

Perhaps you've noticed something different at the weekly Hospitality Table in the narthex. We've begun using real cups and mugs instead of disposable Styrofoam cups.



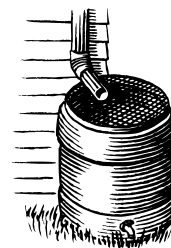
Styrofoam virtually never breaks down and takes up a lot of space in our community's landfill. Our country is increasingly running out of landfill space. When new landfills are opened, they are routinely placed in impoverished areas where land is cheap and the population is in little position to advocate for themselves. We are called to love our neighbors in both direct and indirect ways. Volunteers are washing our weekly batches of mugs, cups, and spoons in a spirit of hospitality and a witness of stewardship of God's creation.

If you regularly enjoy the coffee at the Hospitality Table on Sunday mornings, the EcoJustice Ministry asks you to consider bringing your own travel mug for your cup of coffee. This would free our kitchen's mugs for visitors and guests.

*Imagine: the FVUMC brown mug may even become the new "I'm a visitor" sign!*

## Rain Barrels for Sale

Whether it's watering your garden or washing your car, a rain barrel is a great way to help conserve water (and money) which is good stewardship all around. The EcoJustice Ministry is selling rain barrels on a pre-order basis. You order one; we make it. Upon completion, you purchase it for \$50. Proceeds support projects that demonstrate love of God and neighbor in alignment with the UMC social principles and in keeping with the mission of the Eco-Justice Ministry. For more information or to order a rain barrel, contact Tammie Quick at [tlquick@gmail.com](mailto:tlquick@gmail.com) or 557-2131.



# Children's Ministries

## Vacation Bible School 2011 Registration

Begins Sunday, May 22nd for church members

Sunday, June 5th for the community

Children 3 years old (by May 1st and FULLY potty trained) - 5th grade can participate

New this year...ONE registration form per FAMILY...all children may be registered on one form (Forms will be available at the VBS table in the lobby or in the church office)



### 2011 VBS Dates & Times:

Evening Session Sun. June 26-Thurs. June 30 6:00-8:30pm

Contacts: Heather Layman (567-9383) or Lori Jackson (285-3104)

Daytime Session Mon. June 27-Fri. July 1 9:00am - 12:00 noon

Contacts: Marianne Carroll (567-9383) or Jen Froning (868-8188)

Youth Helpers needed! Adult volunteers are still needed for daytime and evening sessions. Meeting for ALL volunteers - Sun. May 22nd 12:00 in room 117/119. LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED!

## A Note of Appreciation!

Thank you to all who helped make Palm Saturday a very JOYOUS event for our children! We had many hands to feed our hungry bunny, hands to stuff our eggs, hands to help make copies and organize folders, hands to put together the activity bags, hands to welcome the children, hands to teach and lead in our various rooms, hands to make palm crosses for Sunday. Each was truly an example of how we serve as the hands and feet of Christ reaching out to each precious child.

## Mom's Prayer & Play Group

### 3rd Saturday Monthly

from 10:00 -11:00 am Room 213 on the Children's wing.

A special time to celebrate Motherhood and offer up prayers of thanksgiving. Specifically designed for Mom's with children ages 6 & under. For more information please contact Lisa Brinkerhoff at [lbrinkerhoff@hotmail.com](mailto:lbrinkerhoff@hotmail.com)

There is power in praying together and offering support to one another. Hope to see you there!



Just as Jesus said,

*"Let the little children come to me."*

We too love the opportunity to spend time with God's littlest blessings.

On Sunday mornings we have nursery available at all three services:

8:15 - one nursery for ages 3 and under

9:30 - three nurseries (infant, movers, toddlers)

10:50 - two nurseries (infant and toddler)

For more information on our nurseries please contact

Toni Drapkin, Nursery Coordinator,

at [tdrapkin@fvumc.org](mailto:tdrapkin@fvumc.org) or visit our website at

[www.WeMakeDisciples.org](http://www.WeMakeDisciples.org).

Stop by any Sunday to chat with our nursery staff or to find out more!

## All God's Children "GAME DAYS"

### 4th Sunday of each month

All God's Special Needs Children Game Day!

If you know someone who may like to attend please invite them to contact

For more information, contact

Diane Gabry at [ggabry@nc.rr.com](mailto:ggabry@nc.rr.com)



# Youth Ministries

## Notes for Seniors

It is hard to believe that the end of the school year is quickly approaching!

This year, we are going to be adding some new traditions for seniors, so please look at the opportunities below and consider how you will participate!



### Senior Names

Kevin needs the name of all high school seniors for their recognition service on June 5. All parents should contact Kevin with this information by calling the church office or emailing [kjohnson@fvumc.org](mailto:kjohnson@fvumc.org).

### Lifeline Senior Speak-Out—May 22

At this final Lifeline of the school year, senior students will have a chance to share what they have learned through the years, and an opportunity to reflect on their Christian journey through the youth ministries of FVUMC.

### Senior Night on the Town—May 22

Following the Senior Speak-Out will be a Night on the Town. We will be headed to downtown Raleigh for the night, and more details will come soon!

### Senior Seminar—Sunday Mornings in May

During the Sunday mornings in May, Kevin will be leading a Senior Seminar class during the 10:50 Sunday School hour. During this class we will be looking at college life, developing faith while in college, and the student's continual connection to their home church.

### Senior/Youth Sunday—June 5

Senior recognition and Youth Sunday are both on June 5 this year! All seniors will be honored in both the 9:30 and 10:50 services and should plan on being at both services. The youth will be planning this worship service, so get it on your calendars!

## Lifeline

All middle and high school students are welcome to come to our weekly youth gathering, Lifeline. We meet every Sunday at 4:30 for time to hang out, worship together, learn from the Bible, and get to know one another in small groups. Come and join us as we continue discover What's the story.



## Welcoming ALL 6th Graders

On April 17 we officially welcomed the 6th graders into our Lifeline ministry! If you haven't had a chance to join us yet, all current 6th graders (rising 7th graders) are welcomed to join all of the opportunities our youth ministry has to offer!

## Summer

During the summer, Lifeline will continue to meet! We will gather each week to worship together as we have during the school year. We will also have a weekly afternoon local mission experience—more details will come soon!

## Middle School Mission Trip

All rising 7th and 8th graders, we will be going on a mission trip called Estoy Loco on August 5-7. Mark your calendars for this event in Winston Salem! You will get more details soon!

## Communications

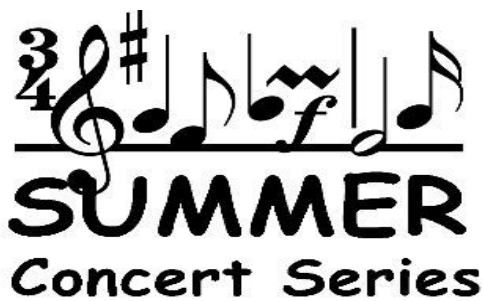
Be on the lookout for Kevin's monthly e-newsletters! If you are not receiving these, send an email to [kjohnson@fvumc.org](mailto:kjohnson@fvumc.org) so he can put you on the list.

Also, be sure to check out the youth section of the website. There are links to newsletters, forms needed for registration, and the officially updated Google Calendar. Finally, become friends with Kevin on Facebook and join the Fuquay-Varina UMC Youth Ministries Facebook page.

**FVUMC RECYCLES!**



# Music Ministries



## SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 22

*Annual Handbell Concert, 5:00 pm*

An annual tradition at FVUMC, this year's handbell program will feature familiar hymn tunes like "Morning Has Broken" and "When the Saints Go Marching In", songs made popular in the secular world like "Chariots of Fire" and "The Prayer" (original artists Andrea Bocelli and Celine Deon) as well as songs new to all. The program will be presented by FANFARE and The Alleluia Ringers handbell choirs, in conjunction with Souly Brass. You'll hear beautiful bells and chimes, mallets and other percussive techniques, and Boomwhackers! (What's a Boomwhacker you ask? Come see for yourself!) Admission is free and open to the public, and childcare will be provided at no cost.

Sunday, June 12

*An Evening of Praise & Worship  
with the FVUMC Praise Team, 5:00 pm*

Join the FVUMC Praise Team for an evening of worship as they share old favorites and new contemporary songs with a message that will speak right to your heart. Come and sing along, or simply enjoy the opportunity to be in the presence of the body of Christ as we lift our voices in praise.  
All are welcome, and childcare will be provided.

Tuesday, July 12

*The Lake Junaluska Singers in Concert, 7:00 pm*

The Lake Junaluska Singers, directed by Dr. Melodie Galloway, serve as musical ambassadors for the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church and travel nationally and internationally.

This 16-voice ensemble presents concerts throughout the year at the Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center, along with performance tours.

Concerts include classical, choral music, spirituals, comedy, and musical theatre. Bringing hope to the world through inspiring music is the primary focus of the Singers' ministry. Admission is free and open to the public, and childcare will be provided.

Sunday, July 24

*Tagé on Steel in Concert, 4:00 pm*

Back for a third year in a row, FVUMC will host Tagé on Steel from the Washington DC area! This group of steel drum musicians will wow and impress you as they offer selections of both sacred and secular tunes on a wide range of steel drum instruments. Admission is free and open to the public, and childcare will be provided.

Sunday, August 7

*One Achord in Concert, 5:00 pm*

FVUMC's own One Achord will present a program of a cappella men's music, and yes, they've got a few tricks up their sleeves! The program will include some traditional a cappella favorites, as well as a few pieces that will get your toes tappin'! There will also be some special songs just for the kids... this is a program the entire family will enjoy. Don't miss an exciting concert of high-quality music from the men's quintet, One Achord! Admission is free and open to the public, and nursery care will be provided.

## Host Homes Needed

As part of this year's Summer Concert Series, FVUMC will be hosting The Lake Junaluska Singers, an adult vocal ensemble that serves as musical ambassadors for the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church and travels nationally and internationally. The group will be here on Tuesday, July 12 and FVUMC will need to provide host homes for these musicians. As a host, your responsibilities would include providing transportation to your home following the concert Tuesday evening, one night's lodging, breakfast Wednesday morning, and transportation back to the church Wednesday morning. If you have availability to help extend hospitality to one or more members of this group, please contact Jennifer Harrenstein at [jharrenstein@fvumc.org](mailto:jharrenstein@fvumc.org) or 552 - 4331 ext. 105.



## July Steel Drum Workshop

Tagé on Steel will be offering a Steel Drum Workshop on Sat., July 23. The workshop is open to adults and youth ages 10 and up and participants will have the opportunity to learn a piece of music on the steel drums as well as the option to participate on drums in Sunday worship the following day. Two workshop opportunities will be held at 10:00am-12:00pm & 1:00-3:00pm at a cost of \$25.00 per participant. Space is limited to 12 participants per session and will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. For more information or to sign-up to participate, please contact Jennifer Harrenstein, Director of Music Ministries, at 552-4331 ext. 105 or [jharrenstein@fvumc.org](mailto:jharrenstein@fvumc.org).



## Special Music for Worship

As the summer months approach there will be many opportunities for soloists and ensembles during our worship services. If you have a gift of praise to share, consider making your offering of music during worship. Contact Jennifer Harrenstein, Director of Music Ministries, at [jharrenstein@fvumc.org](mailto:jharrenstein@fvumc.org) or 552-4331 ext. 105 for more information.



## Men's Ministries



F-V UMM  
Meet on the  
3rd Mondays

All men are invited to attend the monthly meeting on the third Monday at 7:00 Room 126.

To stay in touch, visit our Google Group Site at <http://groups.google.com/group/fvumc-um>

4th Saturday  
Men's Breakfast  
May 28th



## Ongoing Men's Ministries

**Prayer Warriors** meet the third Monday of every month, in the Prayer Chapel at 8:30pm for devotion and intercessory prayer.

**Men Eager to Serve (METS)** meet on Thursday nights from 7-8:30pm in Room 127 for a time of service, fellowship, and accountability.

## UMM Upcoming Events:

May 13-15: Father/Child Canoe Trip.

Details to come!

For more information regarding upcoming events, contact [ummen@fvumc.org](mailto:ummen@fvumc.org) Or Si Weeks at 552-7458.

# Women's Ministries



**Women's Retreat  
2011**  
**Saturday, June 25th**  
**9:30 am - 3:00 pm**  
**FVUMC Centrum**

*Session Topics Include:*

- ♥Financial Freedom ♥Fitness
- ♥Meditation & Fasting ♥
- Missions ♥Nutrition ♥Prayer ♥
- Spiritual Gifts

Registration begins May 1st  
Tickets \$10.00 (includes lunch)

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- ♥Spiritual Renewal ♥
- ♥Praise & Worship ♥
- ♥Fellowship ♥

Fuquay-Varina United Methodist Church



**2nd Saturday  
Women's Breakfast**  
**May 14th**  
**In Room 117/119**  
**8:00-9:30**

All Women of the church are invited to attend and bring a friend! Breakfast will be served at 8:00 am and set up begins at 7:15. Volunteers are still needed to bring food and / or help set-up.

For more information email  
Penny Downey at [pgdowney@aol.com](mailto:pgdowney@aol.com)  
or call 919-946-0639.  
Childcare can be arranged in advance if needed.



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

**UMW Circle of Faith  
May 3rd**

*Our meeting date has changed!*  
Come join us on the first Tuesday of the Month  
at 10:00am in Room 127.

## Upcoming Events!

**July 22-23, 2011**

**Beth Moore Living Proof  
Women's Conference**

Charlotte, NC (7pm Friday  
thru 12pm Saturday)

Life Changing Bible Study! Inspiring Worship!  
\$65/person, Group of rooms- reserved through the  
FVUMC Women's Ministry.

To reserve your spot contact Cathy Vogt at  
[jakenmorgan@embarqmail.com](mailto:jakenmorgan@embarqmail.com) or 919-607-2150

**August 19-20, 2011**

**Joyce Meyer Live! Raleigh**

Hear the teaching of Joyce Meyer at the  
RBC Center. Free of charge.

We will try to attend as a group from FVUMC!  
More information soon to come.

Questions? Contact Cathy Vogt at  
[jakenmorgan@embarqmail.com](mailto:jakenmorgan@embarqmail.com) or 919-607-2150

**Sept 29- Oct 1, 2011**

**Fall Women's Retreat at Teen Valley Ranch**

in the beautiful North Carolina Mountains!  
Thurs. evening, thru Sat. 12noon.

More information coming soon!

Contact Cathy Vogt for more information  
[jakenmorgan@embarqmail.com](mailto:jakenmorgan@embarqmail.com) or 919-607-2150.



# Spiritual Formation

## New Studies beginning in May!



### **Pastor's Study: Journey through the Bible**

Come spend time with Pastor Al in this weekly bible study. Remember to bring your bible and be ready to participate in some lively discussions about the selected text Pastor Al will choose for the day.

Facilitator: Pastor Al Shuler

Wednesdays: 10:30am or 6:30pm

Room 117/119

Beginning May 4 (6 weeks) bring your bible!

### **Change the World, Recovering the MESSAGE and MISSION of JESUS**

By Mike Slaughter

Jesus called us to follow him, to live a life of active faith, feeding the poor, healing the sick, welcoming the alien, and rescuing the desperate. It's easy to get stuck in our religious habits of just going to church, tossing a few bucks in the offering plate, and occasionally reading our Bible—but Jesus has bigger plans for us. We are called to be his hands and feet in the world. He wants to use us to change the world.

Change the World: A Study for small groups links Bible study to global mission and local service projects.

Participants will be challenged to take a leading role in the congregation's mission efforts.

Facilitator Rob Pavone,

Adult Sunday School Class: *Pura Vida*

Room 123 @ 10:50am

Beginning May 7th (6 weeks) cost \$5.00

### **How to Get the Greatest Benefit from Bible Study** by Mickey Efird

Familiarize yourself with Dr. Efird and discover tips on "How to Get the Greatest Benefit from Bible Study" We have taken some of the most frequently asked questions about Bible study and posed them to Dr. Efird in an interview. Come and join in the discussion!

Facilitator: Barbara Patterson

Adult Sunday School Class: *Day by Day*

Room 122 @ 10:50am

Beginning May 15 (4weeks)

### **Outlive your Life**

by Max Lucado

Everyone wants to know that their time on earth has some significance. We all want to make a difference. There are difficult days in our world's history. Billions of people are poor, millions go hungry or thirsty every day. Disease claims thousands of lives daily. But you and I have been given an opportunity to make a big difference. What if we did? What if we rocked the world with hope? Infiltrated all corners with God's love and life? We are created by a great God to do great works. He invites us to outlive our lives, not just in heaven, but here on earth. What if you lived in such a way that your death is just the beginning of your life? This study will show you not just "why" but "how" to live intentionally so that everything in your life—your time, your skills, your passions—all add up to something bigger than you.

Facilitator Eric Coates

Adult Sunday School Class: *C.L.A.Y.*

Room 124 @ 10:50am

Beginning May 1 (6 weeks)



Randy Smith and family, Anthony Kiaski and family, Diana Thomas and family, Jean Fox, André Carson, Lynn Sapp, Venie Weather, Dub Hornsby, Susan Ogburn, Shirley Hicks, Maxine Senter, Eddie Ragan, Joe Weede, Bill Colagiovanni, Virginia Jones, Vickie Cardin, Kevin & Debbi Braswell, Diane Rubin, Henry Hanmann, Carole Nanzetta, Phil McCray, John & Beth Silveira, Dorothy Herring, PJ Ramsey, Clay King,

# Our Life In Community

National Day of Prayer  
**May 5th**  
 Town Hall at 12 Noon

## *The Spiritual Spinners*

*Fuquay-Varina United Methodist Church*



**For All Who Love To Ride And Help Others:**

100km (~62 mi)

Challenging ride with several of the best climbs in the area from beginning to end.

50km (~31 mi)

A few good climbs along with some great rollers.

30 km (~19 mi)

A scenic route along rolling country roads.

*Fully supported with SAG & Rest Stops  
 Lunch provided for all riders and volunteers*

### **Event Details:**

#### When

Saturday, May 14, 2011

#### Where

Fuquay-Varina UMC  
 100 South Judd Parkway SE  
 Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526

#### Start

8:00 am (100 km)

Check-in begins 7:00 am

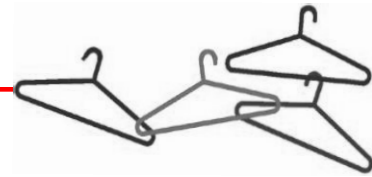
8:30 am (30 km & 50 km)

Check-in begins 7:45 am

*Cost: \$25 Online until 9pm May 12th [www.active.com](http://www.active.com)*

*\$35 Day of Event - cash or check only*

*<http://www.active.com/cycling/fuquay-varina-nc/ride->*



## **The Clothing Closet**

### Donations

Drop-off in the sheds in gravel parking lot.

### Volunteers

Needed on 5/5 Thursday evening and  
 5/6 Friday- 9am-6pm

### Give-a-way

May 7th (Saturday) from 8-11:00 am

\*\*\*Attention Bakers\*\*\*

We are looking for breakfast items  
 such as muffins to share.

Please bring to the church kitchen!

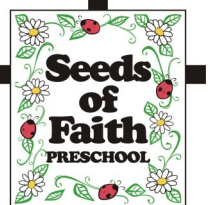
## **Preschool Happenings!**

We have celebrated the life, death & resurrection of Christ. We have wept & then felt unbound happiness, like children in awe Of God's greatness. At preschool we filled our ark banks with many coins & then turned them into cows, pigs, chicks, bunnies, and ducks. We learned that in giving these animals people who were hungry could begin to learn how to take care of these animals so they would always be fed. In May we will again feel sadness mixed with exhilaration as our 4 year olds graduate on Wed., May 18th & get ready to move into kindergarten. Then we will enjoy the lazy days of summer with some time off & some fun summer camp weeks.

(For more info on summer camps go to the church website & click on Preschool).

We wish you rejuvenation as we begin new journeys.

Blessings,  
 Ms. Lynne



## Hear this Good News!

As it is recorded in the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, Jesus took His disciples with Him to the garden to pray. Jesus was sorrowful and deeply depressed and asked His friends, His brothers, to watch and pray with Him.

*A friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to help in time of need.* -Proverbs 17:17

I am happy to say I have a friend! I am even happier to say I have a brother in my friend! I see Jesus in my friend and brother! My friend and brother stood close to me during my turmoil and when I called on him to watch and pray with me, his worry caused him sleepless nights. I did not think that he would lose his rest and sleep for the likes of me, but my prayers were answered through his heartfelt loyalty. The cloud of sorrow and despair was lifted the very moment I realized just how close Jesus is! My friend, my brother has Jesus in his heart! My friend and brother is a Stephen Minister

Do you need a friend, a brother or sister? Do you need to hear about Jesus? Perhaps you too will find Jesus' answers through a Stephen Minister?

Stephen Ministers are available, willing, waiting and ready to care, just for you!

*The heartfelt counsel of a friend is as sweet as perfume and incense.*

-Proverbs 27:9

Susanne Young 552-7503

Polly Sheets 552-5035

Bob Sorrels 552-0505

Thearon Willis 820-1845

Mel Cade 557-4347



## Six-Year Anniversary for Partners in Prayer Ministry

In May, 2010 the Partners in Prayer Ministry will be six years old. This prayer ministry has blessed FVUMC and its members during these six years. Now it is time to prepare for another year. Past volunteers are invited to accept the invitation to volunteer again. New volunteers are also needed for this ministry.

Jeremiah 29:12 - *Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.*

Isaiah 56:7 (end) - *for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.*

The Partners in Prayer ministry lifts up before God our Church members and their families, our Church staff, and our Church ministries every day. Members who answer God's call to serve as a partner in prayer will pray for up to 12 individuals or ministries by name each day for one year. The Church will provide prayer cards with family groups kept together.

Thank you to all past Partners in Prayer volunteers. You are invited to volunteer for another year.

New Partners in Prayer volunteers are needed for this ministry. During May 2011 worship services, church members will be invited to volunteer for this prayer ministry. Please accept this invitation to serve our church by picking up one or more prayer cards before and after church services in May.

Matthew 21:13 (beginning) - *"It is written," he said to them, 'My house will be called a house of prayer.'*

James 5:16 - *Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.*

*The prayer of a righteous man (person) is powerful and effective.*

This ministry currently has 130 volunteers. 200 or more are needed to covenant with God to pray for our Church family about 2 minutes each day.

For more information contact Keith Strandtman at 621-1509 or [robinkstr@gmail.com](mailto:robinkstr@gmail.com)

## A Final Resting Place

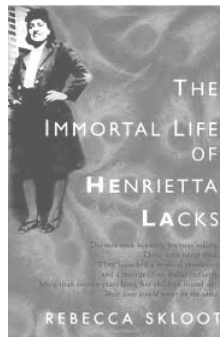
Would you be interested in a final resting place on our church property? There has been some interest in developing a Memorial Garden with a Columbarium at FVUMC. The construction and maintenance of this project should be fully funded by the sale of niches for inurnment of the cremated remains. If you have an interest or for further information, please contact David Jenkins at 552-9629 or Jim Dewey at 577-0197.

## Graduation Celebration!

Please feel free stop by rooms 117/119 on May 7 from 2:30 -5:00pm to congratulate Jason Cramer! (Teresa and Chuck Cramer's son).

## May Book Club

*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*  
by Rebecca Skloot, (Macmillan, 2009)



From a single, abbreviated life grew a seemingly immortal line of cells that made some of the most crucial innovations in modern science possible. And from that same life, and those cells, Rebecca Skloot has fashioned in *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* a fascinating and moving story of medicine and family, of how life is sustained in laboratories and in memory. Henrietta Lacks was a mother of five in Baltimore, a poor African American migrant from the tobacco farms of Virginia, who died from a cruelly aggressive cancer at the age of 30 in 1951. A sample of her cancerous tissue, taken without her knowledge or consent, as was the custom then, turned out to provide one of the holy grails of mid-century biology: human cells that could survive--even thrive--in the lab. Known as HeLa cells, their stunning potency gave scientists a building block for countless breakthroughs, beginning with the cure for polio. Meanwhile, Henrietta's family continued to live in poverty and frequently poor health, and their discovery decades later of her unknowing contribution--and her cells' strange survival--left them full of pride, anger, and suspicion. For a decade, Skloot doggedly but compassionately gathered the threads of these stories, slowly gaining the trust of the family while helping them learn the truth about Henrietta, and with their aid she tells a rich and haunting story that asks the questions, Who owns our bodies? And who carries our memories?

To join the dinner and discussion on Friday, May 20, contact Judy Casper at [jacasper@earthlink.net](mailto:jacasper@earthlink.net) or Matilda Storm at [matildastorm@embarqmail.com](mailto:matildastorm@embarqmail.com)

Visit the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist church at <http://nccumc.org> and learn more about what the UMC is doing!

## PrimeTimers: Come Join Us!



Tuesday, May 24

Bentonville Battleground. We will have lunch on the way home.

Tuesday, June 21

A cook-out and a program honoring our Father's or other important men in our lives.

to sign up & if you need a ride, please contact Debbie Corr at 557-7437.

## Divorce Hurts.

### Find Help at DivorceCare.

DivorceCare is a special weekly seminar and support group for people who are separated or divorced. It's a place where you can be around people who understand what you are feeling. It's a place where you can hear valuable information about ways to heal from the hurt of divorce.

There is a DivorceCare group meeting every Monday evening at 7:00pm in room 127, beginning May 2, 2011.

You can visit the FVUMC website for more information or contact Thearon Willis at [thearonwillis@nc.rr.com](mailto:thearonwillis@nc.rr.com)

DIVORCE *Care*

### Did You Know...

...that you can make electronic payments to the church? FVUMC is able to set up ACH drafts. So, you can complete a form that will allow FVUMC to draft your checking account on the 1<sup>st</sup> and/or 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. You will not incur a charge for this payment. You can download the form from the church's web site at [http://fvumc.homestead.com/files/ACH\\_Electronic\\_Giving\\_Form.pdf](http://fvumc.homestead.com/files/ACH_Electronic_Giving_Form.pdf).

Please contact Joan Thomas at [jthomas@fvumc.org](mailto:jthomas@fvumc.org) or 919-552-4331 ext. 107 for more information.



**A Called  
Charge Conference**

Tuesday, May 31st at 7:00pm  
Rooms 117/119

To elect our New Building Committee.

# Safe Sanctuaries

**Training: Sunday, May 15th**

**Who:** Anyone who is volunteering or would like to volunteer with children or youth.

Certification is valid for 5 years.

**When:** Sun. May 15th following the 9:30 & 10:50 service

**Where:** Conference room

**What:** The purpose of this training is to make FVUMC a safe place for all children, staff and volunteers. Denise Frie will be going over our Safe Sanctuary policies and procedures, taking pictures for ID badges, and collecting paperwork to run a background check.

## Mother's Day Special Offering

Mother's Day has become important to the United Methodist family of the NC Annual Conference as caring persons in all 12 districts combine efforts to assist residents within our retirement communities whose resources have been depleted. The Mother's Day offering provides an opportunity for each of us to have a part in providing a 'more abundant' life for residents who need financial support.



Thank you for your prayers and expressions of sympathy in the death of our mother and grandmother, Hazel Dale, from the families of Diana Thomas, William Thomas, and Tara Critcher.

## What an Honor!

Jean & George Gierman are being honored by their home church, Bethel UMC in Tottenville, Staten Island, NY on Sunday May 29, 2011.

Jean served as their organist/pianist for 25 years, Sunday school teacher, and church newsletter founder. George served as Lay Speaker and Superintendent of the Church Cemetery. Elias Price, Jean's great-great grandfather was one of the founding members of Bethel UMC - 150 years ago. Jean will be unable to attend the ceremony however her son Paul and family will represent them.

Visit [www.bethelumcsi.com](http://www.bethelumcsi.com)

## FVUMC Staff

Senior Pastor Albert Shuler

Associate Pastor Elaine Lilliston

Director of Adult Ministries Debbi DeMaris

Director of Youth Ministries Kevin Johnson

Director of Children's Ministries Stephanie Weeks

Director of Music Ministries Jennifer Harrenstein

Associate Director of Music Ministries Felicia Wermke

Office Manager Jane Gue

Administrative Assistant Terri Pavone

Financial Secretary Joan Thomas

Preschool Director Lynne Sorrels

Organist/Pianist Diana D. Thomas

Nursery Toni Drapkin

Property Manager/Custodian Bob Anderson

ashuler@fvumc.org

elilliston@fvumc.org

ddemaris@fvumc.org

kjohnson@fvumc.org

sweeks@fvumc.org

jharrenstein@fvumc.org

fwermke@fvumc.org

jpgue@fvumc.org

tpavone@fvumc.org

jthomas@fvumc.org

fvumcpre@yahoo.com

tdrapkin@fvumc.org

banderson@fvumc.org

**Church office Hours Monday thru Friday 8:30am-5:00pm**

# *The Wellspring*

Fuquay-Varina United Methodist Church

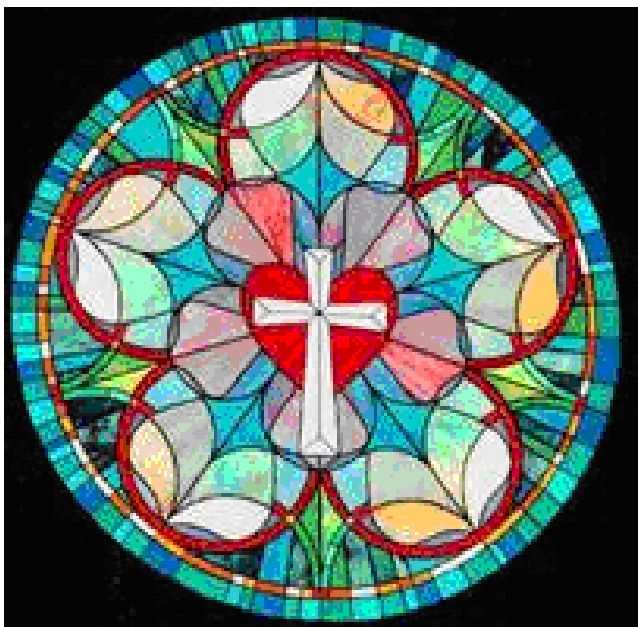
919-552-4331

[www.WeMakeDisciples.org](http://www.WeMakeDisciples.org)

100 South Judd Parkway SE

Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526

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Fuquay-Varina, NC  
27526



## ***Interested in Joining FVUMC?***

Come to our CONNECTINGS/New Member Class on Monday Evenings at 6:30pm in Room 117.

Class will be held on May 16, June 6, 13, and 20.

Joining day is May 29th.

Facilitators: Pastor Albert Shuler and Debbi DeMaris.

Find out what it means to be part of the Body of Christ at Fuquay-Varina United Methodist Church.

Four engaging interactive sessions will enable you to meet persons currently actively engaged in diverse ministry opportunities, as well as, to journey with others who are new to our church family while learning/reviewing basic United Methodist beliefs and our structure as a church family.