

The Wellspring

November 2011

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

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Over the past 5 weeks, we have journeyed together in our study of the book, *Treasures of the Transformed Life*. The study has helped us to revisit the commitment we made when we joined this church to support it by our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. In our study of prayer, we learned that prayer requires confession (being honest with ourselves and with God about our sinfulness), brings about change in us to conform us to God's will, results in unity in our community as we pray together, and allows us to hear God's commissioning for his work for us, individually and corporately. That week's lesson ended with two challenging questions: Are you brave enough to ask God to show you the impossible? Are you willing to let him open your mind's eye to see the unthinkable?

As we examined presence we discovered that it's not just mere physical attendance but engaged presence. The book's author, John Ed Mathison, says, "A shared history is a beautiful thing. It opens a lot of doors, and it allows things like intimacy, trust, and transparency to come in. Really knowing each other develops more understanding and forgiving, and also creates an atmosphere in which people feel like they can be real. We can let our guards down and be more willing to confide in one another and share our burdens." We were to ask ourselves: What kind of excuses have I made for not attending church? When I don't show up, who do I let down? How can I be more present and fully engaged?

We looked at the biblical principle of tithing. In John Ed's words, "A tithe is very specifically 10 percent of what we take in, and gifts are anything beyond that expected tenth. Tithing is not about the actual amount of money. It's about the amount of obedience. The tithe is a command." We read God's instruction to test him: *Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse—the whole nation of you—because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. (Malachi 3:8-10)* What excuses have I made for not tithing? For robbing God?

Our study of service began with this quote from Albert Einstein: "Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile." In John Ed's words: "You and I were created for a purpose, and that purpose is to serve. You and I don't just pick out a place to serve. Rather, God calls us to a specific place to serve. God has a place for every person. And when he gets them there, he empowers them to do what he needs done. A lifestyle of service gives us credibility with others as true messengers of Christ. The most impressive witnesses are those who first serve in some way, earning the right to be heard when they share the gospel. Where's God calling you to serve? Are we depending on ourselves or depending on God?"

In the mail, you should have already received forms to make these intentional commitments:

1. How much you will pay for our church and how many times you will attend worship services in 2012,
2. How often you will participate in Sunday school or another small group study in 2012,
3. What areas of service you are willing to participate in for 2012, and
4. How much you will give in 2012 to support the ministries of this church and the spread of the gospel around the world.

From noon on Friday, November 4th to noon on Saturday, November 5th, we are having a prayer vigil inviting each person to spend time in prayer about how he or she will respond to what we've learned over the previous 6 weeks. Then Sunday, November 6th, is Commitment Sunday.

So how has your life been transformed over the past 6 weeks and what are you willing to commit to?



Greetings Friends!

by Rev. Elaine Lilliston

Christianity is SPREADING...and I am SO EXCITED! Amid challenging comments about the decline in some denominational statistics, I've been overwhelmed with the stories you are sharing and I am experiencing about the influence of faith in the workplace, as well as the actual witnessing taking place in secular settings. Each of the Broadway performers sharing between longer presentations at a recent Golden Corral Convention in New York openly shared "gratitude to God" and their faith within their introductory remarks prior to sharing a musical number. For example, a long-time (ten year run so far) Lion King star shared, "Now that I'm doing business with God; God is doing business with me." His life has changed and he was eager to share the impact. While I thought the choice of speakers and performers might have been unusual and simply a reflection of the leadership and caring culture in GC, in recent days I've been hearing many stories from church members amazed and filled with awe with the witnessing taking place in their work places. It seems many persons are reflecting Sunday morning values throughout the week. . .which is AWESOME! For example, lunchtime Bible studies have been expanding; un-churched friends have been drawn into faith communities by kind invitations; and successful companies are discovering that common sense, compassion and care-giving are becoming key ingredients in retaining productive employees. I celebrate we are returning to Christ-centered life styles beyond the walls of the church! AND, in large part...it is because of YOU... as living breathing witnesses of your faith in action! Christ is alive in the world!

As United Methodists, we affirm the priesthood of ALL believers. By our Baptism, we are Called into ministry in the world. As St. Francis reminded, "Preach and if necessary use words." Our passionate worship and spiritually formative studies are being carried out into the world each and every week and it is making a difference. Christine Carmichael has a WONDERFUL story to share as she recounts a recent corporate America guest speaker. "Scotty" F-V UMC fans were the ones to alert me to his prime time TV witnessing as an "American Idol". Sandra Bass was featured on a TV news segment with a true story of a returned State Fair money bag on the opening day of the State Fair. Prayer groups are popping up in neighborhoods, workplaces and even school carpool lines. Church folks are spreading the message that there is hope beyond ourselves and that hope is in the Lord. These are exciting times and I just feel so privileged to be able to hear and experience these witnesses. YOU are making a difference!

YOU are making a difference when you allow others to exchange places with you in a grocery line. You are making a difference when you send a card or note of encouragement; when meals are shared; when you take time on a MSK route to talk with others in the community; when you spend the night

at church with WIHN; and, when you encourage your children to participate with you in outreach adventures serving others. You are making a difference when you mentor/teach/guide children and youth; try to understand another person's viewpoint before sharing yours; and, pray...pray...pray with or without words. You are making a difference when you feed the hungry; provide clothing to our community; and, open your hearts to new relationships. You are making a difference when you treat your body as God's house; make healthy choices; and, grow in wise stewardship. You are making a difference when you strive to be a living breathing reflection of Christ alive and present...in our homes, workplaces, sports fields, schools and wherever God may be directing us 24-7. You are making a difference because you are you and you are a Christian witness in the world today!

Celebrating the journey of discipleship 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 in this way, call Linda Bridgers at 567-8908.



November 6

Glenn & Joann Myers(8:15)
Susan Matney (9:30)
Mary Rose (10:50)

November 13

Glenn & Joann Myers(8:15)
Available (9:30)
Jim Casper (10:50)

November 20

Glenn & Joann Myers(8:15)
Linda Bridgers (9:30)
Susan Smith (10:50)

November 27

Linda Bridgers (8:15)
Jean Fox (9:30)
Stacey Beard (10:50)

Spiritual Formation



Advent Bible Study

Wednesdays 10:30-11:20 am Room 117
(begins November 30th)

Pastor Albert Shuler leads the study, *CALL HIM GOD'S SON*. This study offers an opportunity to explore the Revised Common Lectionary Bible readings for Advent and Christmas. These readings will inspire you to deepen your commitment to Jesus Christ as you reflect upon his birth and his coming again.

Advent Worship Service

Wednesdays 11:30 am to 12:00 pm The Centrum
(begins November 30th)

F-V UMC Mission Outreach to Peru

F-VUMC is honored to introduce *Rev. Dr. Mark Wethington* as this year's Advent Guest speaker leading each week's meditations.

Weekly Meditation Themes

November 30: *Love Excelling*

The focus will be on the Love God sends down at Christmas, the nature of that Love, and how we prepare to receive that gift of Love.

December 7: *Little Lent*

This meditation will center on a primary act of preparation during Advent and that is confession of sin, the sin which Love comes down to expose, forgive and redeem.

December 14: *Given and Giving*

The focus on giving thanks for God's indescribable gift of Love in Christ and our response of giving in return.

Bio: Dr. Mark W. Wethington, American University BA; Duke University M.Div., Ph.D., served four different appointments, for twenty-three years, as a United Methodist local pastor in the NC Conference of the UMC. During parts of this time he also served as adjunct faculty with the Duke Divinity School teaching in the area of Wesley studies and Biblical studies. He has led seminars in Wesleyan theology among Methodists in Latin America, and was instrumental in establishing a covenant church relationship between the NC Conference and the Iglesia Metodista del Peru. With a lifetime of commitment to the Wesleyan tradition, during his pastoral ministry Dr. Wethington had a strong history in the establishing of community projects to serve the poor and underserved, including the establishing of an ecumenical program for homeless families and a free medical clinic. Upon the retirement of his father as President of the WHF in 2005, Dr. Mark Wethington became the second President of the Foundation.

Advent Resources

Advent-A Calendar of Devotions

November 27-December 25, 2011

Robert V. Dodd is the author of this devotion booklet. The daily readings will encourage you to study the writings of the prophets who anticipated the coming of Israel's Messiah and also reflect upon the events immediately surrounding Jesus' birth. Scripture selections from both the Old and New Testament will enable you to gain a greater appreciation for the many ways in which Jesus gave the fullest possible meaning to those ancient writings. Great resource to incorporate in a small group discussion.

The UPPER ROOM daily devotional

November 1-December 31

This is a resource that can be part of your daily devotions. There is also a section in this devotion for how to use this in a small group. Sunday mornings @ 9:30 am in room 119, Craig Judd leads this study. All are welcome to come and join in the discussion. There is a limited supply of booklets

Advent 2011 CALL HIM GOD'S SON

This study offers an opportunity to explore the Revised Common Lectionary Bible readings for Advent and Christmas. These readings will inspire you to deepen your commitment to Jesus Christ as you reflect upon his birth and his coming again. Author Alex Joyner says, "In this study we explore what it means that Jesus is God's Son. We explore the creative tension of living in a world caught between what is and what is promised to be. We look at the healing capacity of hope to sustain us in times of trouble. We try on incarnation in its divine and human forms, and we look to Mary as a figure who shows us how to make space for God." Books cost \$6.00 and can be preordered for your group.

The JOURNEY: Walking the Road to Bethlehem

Take your group on a journey with Adam Hamilton as he travels on video from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. The 5 session DVD was filmed on location in the Holy Land. Each segment is 10-15 min. in length. Books are on sale for \$12.00 in the Church office during the week and in the lobby on Sundays.

Members of the F-V UMC Education Committee will be available to help you with your selections at the Advent Resources display in the church lobby between Worship Services on October 23, 30, and November 6 and 13.

Contact *Debbi DeMaris*, Director of Adult Ministries, regarding registration, questions, and additional information @ 552-4331 ext 106 or DDemaris@fvumc.org

Global Missions

*In every thing give thanks:
for this is the will of God in
Christ Jesus concerning you.*

~1 Thessalonians 5:8 (KJV)



As we approach Thanksgiving we have much to be thankful for as individuals, families, and a church family. Even in times that challenge us we are called to respond with thankful hearts. show our thanks:

- Nov 5th is our quarterly Clothing Closet. We need volunteers to setup and sort clothes on Thursday and Friday as well as volunteers to greet our guest on Saturday morning.
- Nov 14-20th is Operation Christmas Child
- Nov 19th is the 3rd Saturday so Main Street Kitchen will be cooking, boxing, and delivering meals to the hungry within community.
- Nov 20th our WIHN (Wake interfaith Hospitality Network) guest will arrive for the week. There are numerous ways to help, look for the sign up sheets in the lobby.

Clothing Closet Saturday November 5th



Donations

Drop-off in the sheds in gravel parking lot.

***Winter clothes are desperately needed as the cold season begins!
Brrrr! Coats, hats, gloves, sweaters, pants and more!

Volunteers

11/3 Thursday at 6pm & 11/4 Friday at 8:30am

Give-a-way

November 5th: 8–11:00 am

Bakers

Donate muffins for the Hospitality Table

SAVE OUR SHOES!

Thank you for all of your donations in the past months! Several box loads have been distributed! Future shoe donations can be made to the Clothing Closet!

Prayers for our Mission Teams!

Haiti: Please be in prayer for those that will be serving the people of Haiti who were devastated by the earthquake. This team will leave November 2nd and return the 11th.

Tomas deLeon, Rob Pavone, Lorie Durham, Joel Black, Michelle Bostic, Stuart Vogt.

Costa Rica: Please be in prayer for our Costa Rica team who will be serving adolescent mothers and their children. The team leaves November 12th and returns the 20th and 21st.

Ann Ledford, Grace Ledford, Karen Page, Leila Hartman, Rhonda Bethea, Lyn Matthews, and Cameron Lewis.

Operation Christmas Child

National Collection Week: **November 14-21**

Help us demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to needy children around the world! For information, contact Jayne Chambers at 345-4318 or Jaynechambers@hotmail.com



F-V Food Pantry Food:

Stuffing & Cranberry Sauce

Put items in the blue container in the church lobby!

Main Street Kitchen: Nov 19th

This is an wonderful opportunity to give back to our local community, a chance to be the hands and feet of Christ, feeding the hungry. We welcome all to be a part of this mission, no commitment required. Please feel free to contact Paula Cade at 919-557-4347 with any questions.

Peru 2012 and Beyond

Join us as we discover the plans God has for us as we build lasting relationships with our Peruvian brothers and sisters.

A meeting will be held on November 20, 2011 immediately following the 10:50 service in room 117/119 to answer questions concerning a mission trip to Peru planned for July 6-14 2012. If you are interested in going with us or if you just want to learn more about the trip please come.

**Operation Share:
Bringing Christmas
to Local Children**



Operation Share began when a group of FVUMC youth wanted to make a difference in the community during Christmas. There are many families who struggle each month to pay the bills and cannot afford to get Christmas gifts for their children. The families are often identified as those who struggle but do not qualify for any other type of assistance. Through Operation Share, our church adopts elementary age children, and their younger siblings.

Rooms are set up like a store and parents are able to get 1 to 3 items per child. The parents also have an opportunity to wrap presents too!

Please donate any NEW toy and bring it to the church lobby between Nov 21st and Dec 9th.

If you have any questions or would like to help in this special endeavor, please contact Kevin Johnson at 552-4331, ext 103 or kjohnson@fvumc.org

WIHN Arrives!

Our Wake Interfaith Hospitality Network (WIHN) guests will arrive **November 20th** and make our adult wing their home for the week. As the season of Thanksgiving approaches please ponder all you are thankful for and share your blessings with the families we will be welcoming. You will be blessed in return.



Please see the sign up board in the lobby for ways you, your family or your small group can help extend radical hospitality to our guests. Remember Thanksgiving day we will need hosts (in shifts) throughout the day!

Another way to help: Items are needed for Welcome Bags that are given to our guests! Please help us supply toiletries and more! Keep it small as the families are in transition each week. *Essentials:* soap, deodorant, shampoo, and toothpaste, toothbrushes. *Nice extras:* hand lotion, disposable razors, tooth brush holder, dental floss, soap holder, comb, baby powder, shower cap, band-aids, feminine products, travel baby wipes, travel sewing kit, pencil/pen/notepad. And small toys for children. Items are being collected in the lobby!

Hurricane Relief Fund
NC Conference
PO Box 60053
Charlotte, NC 28260
Designate for Advance #S-00176

Become a Member

*A community of love and togetherness,
The garden family welcomes you!*

For more information, contact Joy Brown at 557-5954 or admin@covenantcommunitygarden.org



Providing Thanksgiving Dinners

Each year our church reaches out to the community to provide Thanksgiving meals for those who would otherwise not have a hot meal on Thanksgiving. Contact Tres and Denise Prince at 387-4512 or denise@the-princes.com.

If you can help in any way, please use the sign up form here. Specify a number of helpers or quantity of donations, tear off this form, and place it in the OFFERING PLATE or turn it into the CHURCH OFFICE.

THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving Dinner Volunteer Sign-Up:

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Helpers	Donations
Set Up _____	Cash _____
Cook/Prepare _____	Green Beans (Lg. cans) _____
Serve/Load _____	Sweet Potatoes (Lg. cans) _____
Deliver Meals _____	Cooked Turkeys _____
Tear Down/Clean Up _____	Desserts _____

Children's Ministries

Sunday Mornings are awesome!

All God's Children Sunday School Class @10:50: A nurse has been hired and she has paved the way for a multitude of caring and responsive adults to help share their faith with our amazing children with unique needs. Children reach out to our church family and share their gifts by creating a recent "Living Water" painting for the Centrum and "HOPE Balls" to share with persons in need.

Sunday School is an exciting place to learn about God at 9:30 & 10:50!
We have over 60 faith formers eagerly serving with our children... and, each hour is DIFFERENT!

At 9:30, all children's classes utilize United Methodist dated curriculum on a three year cycle helping to ensure our children are formed and informed by the Bible, our UM heritage and with plenty of insights on applying the Word of God to real life situations. During November, children are exploring the "Joseph Narrative" (Genesis 37-48).

Judy Casper is our overall Sunday School coordinator and is assisted by our amazing Sunday School Superintendents including: Don/Lisa Gantt, Mike/Laurie Moore, Heather Layman and Marianne Carroll.

At 10:50 our elementary children are exploring the life of Abraham and Sarah (Genesis 12-21) through the "rotation curriculum". Functioning much like our popular summertime VBS (Vacation Bible School), age level groupings of children have "shepherds" to introduce weekly themes and to provide mentoring consistency throughout the year. Shepherds guide their "flock" to special stations each week. The station leaders engage children in the Abraham and Sarah narrative through games, music, science, cooking, storytelling and arts/crafts. From a practical standpoint, these "station leaders" serve three weeks at a time. Thus, children interact with and are able to meet A LOT of uniquely gifted and sharing adults from our faith family. Marissa Highsmith (862-6710) is the overall coordinator of these special station leaders and will be GLAD to help adults find a unique 3-week niche! Jennifer Akins is the ultimate resource person helping to guide and supply station leaders along the way.

9:30 Children's Church: Younger elementary- aged children (K-2nd) are encouraged to worship with their families and may attend "Children's Church" (with dismissal just prior to the sermon) which is coordinated by Ann Ledford. Children continue their worship in interactive ways as prayer concerns and celebrations are shared and biblical stories are encountered in age-level friendly ways.

Nursery: Newborns through active toddlers are divided into three developmentally appropriate age-level rooms. Security stickers and a "nursery monitor" with a number pad in the Centrum ensure parents may be quickly reached if a need arises. Paid staff members provide weekly consistency while volunteers offer extra helping hands. Tony Drapkin is our Nursery/Childcare Director.

A Note from Preschool!

October

Orange pumpkins, colorful leaves and a taste of cool breezes to come.

Children with the most amazing expressions as they saw and then ran through our pumpkin patch.

Games & trunks filled with candy as we celebrated fall together.

November

Families conversing on food laden tables, football and naps.

Extreme thankfulness for all 'HE' has given us.

Remember

Be thankful every day, each month, every year.

It's a constant!



Blessings to All,
Ms. Lynne

Play & Pray

Do you have young children at home? Would you like to be a part of a Play and Pray Group for mothers at FVUMC?



If you are interested in joining a Mom's Group to meet during the week, email Amy Hatfield at amyhatfield@gmail.com.

It is a great way to make new friends and become more connected with your church family!

Save the Date: Dec. 3rd

"Arrest These Merry Gentlemen"

Kidz NPraise Christmas Musical at 4:00 pm

Church-Wide Pancake Supper* at 5:00 pm

Birthday Party for Jesus at 5:30 pm



*Buy your tickets for the Pancake Supper in Advance:

**\$4.00/person \$7.00/couple
\$12/family**

Tickets available in the Church Lobby on Wednesday afternoons and Sunday mornings!

Lifeline Youth Ministries

Life Groups

*AS IRON SHARPENS
IRON, SO ONE PERSON
SHARPENS ANOTHER.*

-PROVERBS 27:17



This verse has guided us as Lifeline Youth Ministries since the beginning of this school year.

In September, we kicked off *Life Groups* for the first time ever. During these *Life Groups* students share with their peers in a time of Bible Study and prayer and accountability. It is incredible to see how the youth are sharing life with one another and growing in Christ together. We are realizing that we are not meant to walk with Christ alone, but we grow by sharpening one another.

If you are a 7th-12th grader, or you know one, contact Kevin about our Life Groups. Over 60 youth are currently participating in these midweek groups, and they meet as middle school guys, middle school girls, high school guys, and high school girls. Each group is led by an incredible adult mentor who loves and gets to know their students.

Praying for our Youth

Please keep our youth in your prayers. All adults are welcome to a time to pray for our youth from 6:30-8:00 on Wednesday November 2. We will stand in the gap on behalf of our youth and bring them before God's throne. Any questions, contact Kevin at kjohnson@fvumc.org.

We have some incredible students who are growing in their walks with Christ. What an honor to work together with them and to learn from them!

Grace and peace,
Kevin Johnson

every day
is **thanks** giving

Confirmation 2012 Highlights

November 6th : "for all the Saints"
understanding All Saints Sunday

November 13th : ThanksGIVING for Spiritual Life

November 20th : ADVENTure

November 27th : no evening meeting



Confirmands and middle school-aged youth eager to explore their faith may join us from 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the Lobby/Centrum area for fast-paced sessions with incredible mentors and friends!!!

Contact Elaine Lilliston at elilliston@fvumc.org for more information!

Lifeline at a Glance:



Sundays

Confirmation (grade 6)

Centrum

4:30-6:00pm

No Confirmation on November 27th

Lifeline (grades 7-12)

Centrum

6:15-8:00pm

No Lifeline on November 27th

Wednesdays

Youth Bells (grades 6-12)

Centrum

5-5:45pm

Life Groups (grades 7-12)

6:30-8:00pm

No Life Groups on November 23rd

Looking Ahead

Pilgrimage: November 11-13
Operation Share: December 9-10
District Mission Fair: January 8
Discovery Weekend: January 27-29

EcoJustice Ministries

Our United Methodist Church Social Creed

We believe in God, Creator of the world; and in Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of creation. We believe in the Holy Spirit, through whom we acknowledge God's gifts, and we repent of our sin in misusing these gifts to idolatrous ends.

We affirm the natural world as God's handiwork and dedicate ourselves to its preservation, enhancement, and faithful use by humankind.

We joyfully receive for ourselves and others the blessings of community, sexuality, marriage, and the family.

We commit ourselves to the rights of men, women, children, youth, young adults, the aging, and people with disabilities; to improvement of the quality of life; and to the rights and dignity of all persons.

We believe in the right and duty of persons to work for the glory of God and the good of themselves and others and in the protection of their welfare in so doing; in the rights to property as a trust from God, collective bargaining, and re-

sponsible consumption; and in the elimination of economic and social distress.

We dedicate ourselves to peace throughout the world, to the rule of justice and law among nations, and to individual freedom for all people of the world.

We believe in the present and final triumph of God's Word in human affairs and gladly accept our commission to manifest the life of the gospel in the world. Amen.

FVUMC's EcoJustice Ministry is dedicated to raising awareness and broadening the perspective of stewardship as it relates to spirituality, sustainability and social justice issues. By continuously reviewing the UMC Social Principles, our prayer is that all will consider the implications of our witness in the world as it relates to the areas covered in the social principles:

- the natural world,*
- the nurturing community,*
- the social community,*
- the economic community,*
- the political community,*
- and the world community.*



EcoJustice

Women's Ministries



Circle of Faith
November 1st
10:00am Room 127

To ALL ladies of F-V UMC!
Please join the Circle of Faith (UMW).
Come learn about how we accomplish the Purpose of United Methodist Women.
Questions, call Fran Sykes, 552-9220.

Women's Breakfast

2nd Saturday
November 12th
8:00 - 9:30 am
In room 117 / 119.



A light breakfast will be served. We will have a guest speaker. Flyers with more information will be posted soon. Everyone is 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 <http://groups.google.com/group/fvumc-um>

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
In the Centrum



Music Ministries

Celebrate the Reason for the Season at FVUMC!



Saturday, December 3:

"Arrest These Merry Gentlemen"

Kidz NPraise Christmas Musical at 4:00 pm

Church-Wide Pancake Supper* at 5:00 pm

Birthday Party for Jesus at 5:30 pm

*Buy your tickets for the Pancake Supper in Advance:

\$4.00/person \$7.00/couple \$12/family

Tickets available in the Church Lobby on

Wednesday afternoons and Sunday mornings!

Sunday, December 11:

"We Have Our Savior"

Annual Christmas Cantata presented by
the FVUMC Choirs, Orchestra & Praise Team

9:30 & 10:50 am services

Sunday, December 18:

The Annual Moravian Love Feast

featuring music from JuBELLation and

FANFARE Handbell Choirs

7:00 pm

Saturday, December 24:

Christmas Eve Worship

3:30 pm—Children's Service with Communion
and music from Kidz NPraise

5:30 pm—Lessons and Carols Candlelight Worship
with Communion and music from reJoySing

6:30-7:30pm—Enjoy Souly Brass by the Fountain

7:30 pm—Traditional Candlelight Worship with Communion
and music from the FVUMC Choirs & Orchestra

11:00 pm—Traditional Candlelight Worship with Communion
and music from 8@8



Sunday, December 25:

Christmas Morning Worship

at 11:00 am only!

Our Life In Community

Community Thanksgiving Service

*****New Date*****

A long-standing community tradition has a new date!
For the first time in decades, the Community Thanksgiving
Service will move from Thanksgiving Eve to one day earlier.

On **Tuesday, November 22nd at 7:00pm**

the long-standing tradition of community praise and worship continues at
Fuquay-Varina Baptist Church at 301 N. Woodrow Street.

Multiple pastors from various faith traditions, as well as church choir members from
across the area, will rejoice in a powerful worship service, along with
hundreds from the community. Proceeds from this event go to Southern Wake Faith
Community in Action (SWFCA) to help the non-profit deliver emergency
financial assistance to families in our community.

The main pastoral address will be delivered by the Reverend Reginald Lowery of First
Baptist Church in Fuquay-Varina. The pastor from the host church,
Fuquay-Varina Baptist, is Reverend Leo Guerrero. The program will include music,
liturgy, words of encouragement, and stories about those in need in this community.

For information of for directions to the church, call: 919-552-4644.

Learn more about SWFCA online at www.helpsouthwake.org.



The family of Alla Leagan,
Willie Carter, Annette Ragan,
Chuck Cramer, Kitty Blackburn
Bill Colagiovanni, Tom Myatt
Fran Applegarth, Lynn Mills,
Alice Schmelzer, Shirley Baker,
André Carson, Venie Weather,
Dub Hornsby, Shirley Hicks,
Maxine Senter, Vickie Cardin,
Kevin & Debbi Braswell,
Diane Rubin, Henry Hanmann,
Carole Nanzetta, Phil McCray,
John & Beth Silveira,
Dorothy Herring, PJ Ramsey,
Clay King, Ellen Tinsley

Lessons from a 7 Year Old

The Thanksgiving holiday is almost upon us and this time of year always reminds me of the lesson learned from my daughter. We were about to give thanks and pray for our Thanksgiving dinner when she told me that we should read Psalm 100 because that was about giving thanks to God.



Verses 4-5 of Psalm 100 reads:

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations. NKJV

Oh how true this is and we should give thanks to God with joyful hearts for the wonderful ways He has blessed us. Perhaps you are finding it difficult to give thanks and praise to God. Perhaps the circumstances of life have you down and you are not in a thankful mood.

There is hope and there is help. Why not talk to a Stephen Minister and share your burdened heart and let us help you rediscover hope and thanksgiving so that you can enter God's courts giving Him thanks and praise. Contact one of our Stephen Leaders for more information.

Susanne Young 552-7503
Bob Sorrels 552-0505

Polly Sheets 552-5035
Thearon Willis 552-7577

Looking for a way to Serve God?

Volunteer
Opportunities



We have many opportunities in and around the Church Office! Consider the possibility of coming in for a few hours once a week, once a month....however it would best suit your schedule. We can always use help with answering the main church

telephone, special projects for our ministry teams, simple data entry, or even committing to a particular task that needs to be done on a regular basis. Spending time in your church office is a great way to get to know your fellow members and the diversity of ministries going on in your church. It is also a local, 'easy' way for you to live into our vision statement :

FVUMC is a Christ-centered community that Loves God, Learns God, Serves God, and Shares God.

For more information, questions and suggestions please contact Jane Gue in the church office at 552-4331 or jgue@fvumc.org

Christmas by Candlelight

Friday, December 9

7:00-9:00pm

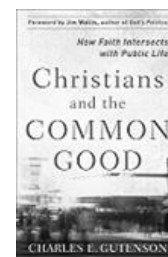
Join us for the 6th annual Women's Ministry Christmas by Candlelight on December 9 from 7-9pm. The Centrum will be filled with over 30 tables each decked out in Christmas finery, each beautifully unique and different.

Appetizers, desserts, tea and coffee will be served. Volunteers to hostess a table may sign up in the lobby beginning Sunday, October 2nd and registration to attend the event will begin Sunday, November 6th. Guests are asked to bring an unwrapped toy or children's book to donate to Operation Share, a youth-initiated ministry that allows families in need to shop here for Christmas presents. We reached capacity for last year's event early, so don't delay in making your reservation.



Book Club for November

*Christians and the Common Good:
How Faith Intersects with Public Life*
by Charles Gutenson



Christians across the spectrum have soured on religious involvement in politics, tempted either to withdraw or to secularize their public engagement. Yet the kingdom of God is clearly concerned with justice and communal well-being. How can Christians be active in public life without getting mired down in political polarization and controversy? For too long, the question of faith in public life has centered on what the Bible says about government. Charles Gutenson, a theologian respected by both evangelical and mainline Christians, argues that we should first ask how God intends for us to live together before considering the public policies and institutions that would best empower living together in that way. By concentrating on the nature of God, we can move past presuppositions regarding the role of government and engage in healthy discussions about how best to serve the common good.

To join the dinner and discussion on Friday, November 18th contact Suzanne Jones at dsjones@nc.rr.com or Matilda Storm at matildastorm@embarqmail.com.

January's Book:

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

Cluster Charge Conference November 21st



Once again our Charge Conferences in the Raleigh District will be celebrated in clusters on **November 21st at 7:00pm** at FVUMC! Joining us will be our District Superintendent, Rev. Jon Strother as he leads the assembly with fellow churches: Apex UMC, First UMC (Fuquay-Varina), Holly Springs UMC, and Sunrise UMC.

Our theme this year will be **"See How They Love"**. These joint gatherings will incorporate glimpses of each congregation's health and vitality by answering four critical questions:

- How are you (congregation) loving God?
- How are you (congregation) loving one another?
- How are you (congregation) loving your community?
- What congregational growth goal(s) and strategies for actually reaching those goal(s) are you setting for 2012 related to each of the church's critical drivers?

Following worship, each charge will meet in a separate room for their business portion of the conference as reports are read from Committee of Lay Leadership, the recommended Lay Speaker, and a designated leader from SPRC

Please plan on attending this annual church business meeting to offer hospitality to our fellow Raleigh District United Methodists and to learn more about FVUMC!

Safe Sanctuary Training—11/13

Have you been safe sanctuary trained? Where you one of the first people to be trained? If you need to be trained or were one of the first people to have training, we will have training on Sunday Nov. 13th following both the 9:30 and 10:50 services. Training will be held in the conference room on Adult wing. Please contact Denise Frie at (919)285-6192 or niesee73@aol.



Love Feast Servers Needed

This year's *Moravian Love Feast* will be held on Sunday, Dec. 18th . We are in need of servers to help with this wonderful service. If you, (as a solo or with a partner) are interested, please contact Randy or Susan Smith @ 567-1714 or smooresmith@earthlink.net



Church Council Highlights 10/4/2011

Once the meeting is called to order by the Council Chair, and members and visitors are introduced, then the Vision Statement is repeated by all:

Fuquay-Varina United Methodist Church is a Christ-centered community that loves God, learns God, serves God, and shares God.

Devotion and Prayer was shared in the previous Church Conference Meeting prior.

Ministry Moment was given by the *Lynne Sorrels* asking to spread the word in regards to Trunk 'n Treat that is to be held on October 29th.

Finance: *Eric Coates* presented the Analysis of Revenues and Expenses Summary from January to August 2011. Confident that the upcoming quarter will bring in higher revenues.

SPRC: No Report.

Trustees: All goods in Casa Blanca to be moved to storage by October 14th.

Stewardship: *Susan Smith* celebrates that over 200 are participating in the study, *Treasures of the Transformed Life* by John Ed Mathison.

Vision Team: *Rick Dupree* said the team is to developing a 3-5 year plan as well as goal setting for upcoming year.

Pastor's Report: *Pastor Al* said there will only be one worship service on December 25th at 11:00am. *Pastor Elaine* thanked the church's support for the programs held at Casa Blanca for several years.

New Business: *Craig Judd* mentioned help still needed for hurricane relief encouraged all to make donations via FVUMC. *Kent Tate* reported the 16-18 people shown interest in establishing a columbarium and that information is being gathered to present to Trustees.

Prayers of Concerns and Thanksgiving were lifted.

Council Meeting was adjourned to serve.



Next meeting:
Tuesday, 11/1 at 7:00
Room 117.

All church members are invited to attend the Church Council Meetings.

*Childcare is available.
Reservations are to be made with
Toni Drapkin 376-7143.*



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

Additional information inside this Newsletter Edition!

November

Church Council	11/1
Haiti Mission Trip	11/2-11
Prayer Vigil	11/4-5
Clothing Closet	11/5
Commitment Sunday	11/6
Youth Pilgrimage	11/11-13
Costa Rica-Women's Trip	11/12-20
Women's Breakfast	11/12
Safe Sanctuary Training	11/13
Operation Christmas Child (shoeboxes)	11/14-20
Main Street Kitchen	11/19
WIHN (Wake Interfaith Hospitality Network)	11/20-27
Cluster-Charge Conference	11/21
Community Thanksgiving Service	11/22
Thanksgiving Meal	11/24
First Day of Advent	11/27
Wednesdays of Advent Begins	11/30

December

Kidz NPraise Musical	12/3
w/ Birthday Party for Jesus	
Christmas by Candlelight	12/9
Operation Christmas Share	12/10
Christmas Cantata	12/11
Love Feast	12/18
Christmas Eve Services	12/24
Christmas Day Service	12/25

Looking Ahead:

District Mission Fair (Youth)	1/8
Discovery Weekend	1/27-29
TVR Family Weekend	3/16-18
Acts 1:8 Celebration (2012)	4/20-22

Newsletter:

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

Bulletin:

bulletin@fvumc.org
Notices are due
Tuesdays at noon