



### “The World” Is Learning English at BCUMC

Our ESL program is humming along. We have three levels and a handful of dedicated teachers. Once again, our students represent countries from all over the world from Ethiopia to Vietnam, and Pakistan to Japan as well as some in this hemisphere. Our students enjoy time for refreshments and free conversation and we even have some children enjoying themselves in the playroom. It has been another successful term of study for all and we look forward to more of the same in the coming months..



### Ever Wonder Where Your Offerings Go?

Well, United Methodists support schools and scholarships with these monies. Portions of monthly payments to Annual Conference go to support operating costs and scholarships for several historically African American college and universities, the Meharry Medical College, Africa University (Zimbabwe), our seminaries and other church-related colleges. This year, our goal is to pay all of our apportionments, including those that are education-related.

Our World Communion Sunday Offering on October 5th will go to provide scholarships for national and international students, including many ethnic minority students in our seminaries where ministers and other church leaders are trained.

### FALL CHECKLIST FOR BRUEN CHAPEL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

- \*Join friends at the next Lunch Bunch (10/26);
- \*Volunteer to help out with the ESL Program;
- \*Sign up to sponsor flowers (\$20);
- \*Consider joining the “singing” or “ringing” choir;
- \*Sign up to bring in snacks for Café;
- \*Volunteer to help out at the Merrifield Fall Festival (10/18)
- \*Continue bringing in non-perishable food for Food for Others
- \*Get out and enjoy God’s creation and all the beautiful fall colors!!



### NOTES OF INTEREST:

- \*We will have a meeting after worship Sunday, October 12th to plan our booth at Merrifield Fall Festival.
  - \*It’s that time again!! Please start thinking now about how many poinsettias you would like to order this Christmas season. We will have order forms soon!!
  - \*There is no Brigade meeting this month.
  - \*The Cancer Support Group will meet on October 11th at 9:30am NOT on October 4th.
- On Sundays following worship, we will have meetings about our upcoming Charge Conference.

### “Like” Us on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/pages/Bruen-Chapel-United-Methodist-Church/196143053764440](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bruen-Chapel-United-Methodist-Church/196143053764440)

### “Follow” Us on Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/BruenChapelUMC>

# “BRUEN’S BREWIN’S” Bruen Chapel UMC Newsletter - September, 2014



## Mark Your Calendars - Laity Sunday is October 19th

*Offering Sanctuary, Friendship, Spiritual Growth  
and Outreach for Fairfax County and beyond*

Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m.

12:00 pm Cafe - *Coffee & Conversation*

Lunch Bunch - Fourth Sunday of the month  
(Handbell/Choir Rehearsals also occur on Sundays)

Monday Church Office Closed

7:30 pm ESL Class

Tuesday 10:30 am Chair Dancing

Wednesday - 10:00 am Diabetes Management  
(in conjunction w/ Shepherd Center of Oakton-Vienna)

Thursday 10:30 am Chair Dancing

7:30 pm ESL Class

Friday Church Office Closed

Saturday, October 11th

9:30 am - Life with Cancer Support Group

Office: 703-560-1665 / Pastor: 703-939-5695

Email: Office - [bruenchapelsecretary@yahoo.com](mailto:bruenchapelsecretary@yahoo.com)

Pastor - [pastorbruenchapel@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbruenchapel@gmail.com)

Website: [www.bruenchapel.org](http://www.bruenchapel.org)

## BIRTHDAYS FOR OCTOBER

2 Lincoln Zabel-Pierce      7 Richard Wayman  
6 Lance Gilbert            15 Carol Ischinger  
18 Ella Stickles



### Five Talent Academy Evangelism, Communication, & Church Growth

Saturday, October 4, 2014 8:30am - 3:00pm\*

\*Please arrive by 8:30am to register;  
event begins promptly at 9.

(Editor's Note: I will be attending this mini-conference and hoping to learn things that can help us grow and thrive.) Join us for our evangelism event featuring Dr. Maria Dixon Hall, Associate

Prof.-Organizational Communication, Div. of Communication Studies; So. Meth. Univ.. Reach more people by understanding the relationship between communication and evangelism. Learn how this relationship is an essential component of church growth. This event is ideal for those involved in planning worship, those who welcome new persons to your congregation, those involved in areas of outreach and evangelism, and all interested in church growth and renewal.

This event will be at Floris UMC in Herndon.

### Helping New Americans Citizenship Classes To Be Offered at BCUMC

OK, ready?

What are some rights included in the First Amendment?

Who is the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court?

Name a war the U.S. fought in the 19th century.

Who was president during World War I?

If you had to answer questions like these and know the answers to 90+ more, how would you do?

These are examples of questions on the test to become a U.S. citizen. The types of topics and questions that future citizens have to know is amazing. The test covers U.S. government and history. To prepare for this test, someone wanting to become a citizen has to learn and know the answers to 100 such questions (if you are over 50, you only have to retain half that knowledge). However, in the test, you will only answer 10 randomly selected ones questions – but you do not know which 10! We would love to have help from volunteers and not just for the refreshment portion of the program.

We will be meeting soon to discuss details and to plan specifics for our program which will start in the spring. Stay tuned for more info about this.

### Get all the UMC News That Fits

The Advocate is the official monthly magazine of the VA UMC Conference. It contains a lot of interesting timely articles about things happening on a state, national and international level within the UMC. To subscribe to The VA Advocate in print or digital form or both, call 804-521-1110 or 1-800-768-6040, ext. 110; e-mail [Advocate@vaumc.org](mailto:Advocate@vaumc.org); or go to [www.vaumc.org/advocate](http://www.vaumc.org/advocate).



### Sign Up to Feed Your Fellow Friendly Folks

You can help feed your fellow parishioners after worship services. Just bring in snacks, (cheese and crackers, veggies and dip, “finger” sandwiches, cookies, etc.) and/or beverages (lemonade/juices) for this *always enjoyable* post-service fellowship time. Also, in the middle of the month, we celebrate that month's birthdays and anniversaries with some cake.



The coffee is usually made but if you come early enough, you can learn to do that too. There is a sign up sheet on the wall outside the “Café”. Where there is food, there are some dishes to wash, so volunteering to help clean up afterwards is always welcome.

Note: there is no Café on the Sundays when we have “Lunch Bunch”, usually the fourth Sunday of the month. If many do a little, few have to do much.

Thanks in advance for your efforts and assistance.



### Bruen Chapel at Merrifield Day

Do you like Bruen Chapel? Why do you like Bruen Chapel? Are there certain things you'd like to share about this church with other people? Then you will get your chance to do just that, very soon.

We have signed up to participate in the Merrifield Fall Festival on Saturday, 10/18/14 (11 am - 6 pm) at the Mosaic

Center on Route 29/Lee Highway in Merrifield. We will be sharing our church with the larger community and are looking for ideas on specific, do-able ways to do just that. We hope to (at least) have balloons, informational brochures, and a handbell demonstration. (*Stay tuned for a planning meeting for this event coming soon*).

We also are in need of people to ‘man’ our booth during that time. We are looking at possibly having 60 – to 90 – minute timeslots so as to avoid overworking our ‘volunteers’.

This is a great opportunity to get out into the community and let people who we are, what we do, and why. Eventually, we want to get beyond the, “Oh, there's a church there” reaction people have when driving by on Cedar Lane and this is one way to do just that.

Join us and help reach, and reach out to, Merrifield with and for your ‘little church in the woods’.

### An Invitation

Would you be interested in reading the scripture passages and directing your fellow congregants on when to stand, or sit or sing during worship services? The role of *liturgist* is an important one in worship, but it can also be fun and not just because you get to tell people what to do. If you would like to *try this out*, let Lucy know.



## PASTOR'S CORNER

Last month, I wrote about our upcoming Charge Conference, which is scheduled for November 9th at 4 pm. As October comes, I am amazed by the changing season and the beauty of the fall colors. I also am proud to have a lovely new daughter-in-law in my life and am glad that the wedding of my first child was both beautiful and memorable.

I still offer last month's challenge to the members of Bruen Chapel to reflect on how their lives, the lives of someone close to them, the church or the world have been scenes of good transformation over the past year.

Our district Superintendent would like to hear or read your personal testimonies at Charge Conference.

To this challenge, I add an invitation to take some time to reflect on what you are thankful for. My list begins with:

“The beauty of the earth  
The glory of the skies”  
“The Love which from our birth  
(God's love made known especially in Jesus)  
That “over and around us lies”

You perhaps recognize some of these phrases from the familiar hymn. To these things, of course, I would add my life, my children, my husband, and the rest of my family, my church home at present, and all my friends from church homes past..

What is on your Thanks-giving list? If you start listing all those things you are grateful for, you may find that practicing a good attitude helps transform you on the inside. Maybe that's how you can see “renewal and revitalization” in yourself or others. Oh, and don't forget to **pray** your thanks!

“Now thank we all our God  
With heart and hands and voices”

Rev. Ruth Burgess, Pastor



### October Advocate reports on 'Imagine No Malaria'

“The October issue of the VA UM Advocate reports on “Imagine No Malaria.” The 2014 VA Annual Conference voted to participate in the denomination's campaign to eradicate the deadly disease of malaria, and local churches are enthusiastically finding creative ways to support the effort. The initiative is like “Nothing But

Nets on steroids,” writes Advocate Editor Neill Caldwell. “

With Ebola recently ravaging West Africa, malaria is unfortunately being ignored and as a result is gaining ground of its own. This makes this initiative all the more timely and important. Go to <http://nothingbutnets.net/> for more info on how to support this timely and worthwhile cause.



### A Minute for Missions

As October begins, so too begins a new quarterly Missions focus. For the next three months, we will be concentrating on students and education. Stay tuned for more info and thank you for your support.



## Food for Neighbors

Through the years, the members of Bruen Chapel have been dependable donors to our local food bank, Food for Others (FFO). As the school year ramps up once again, FFO finds itself in need of the following items:

- |                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Canned meats      | Canned chili          |
| Canned fruit      | Canned pastas         |
| Macaroni & cheese | Reusable grocery bags |

Please put your donations in the basket in the narthex to be delivered to this very grateful organization.

### A “Flowery” Invitation

Have you noticed that every Sunday, without fail, there are always beautiful flowers on the table to the right of the altar? These lovely bouquets are the handiwork of our own Barbara Burrier who creates lovely combinations of flowers, often from her own garden.

You can have one of these for your very own if you choose to sponsor a bouquet to honor or remember someone special in your life. All it takes to do this is to sign up on the flower calendar in the narthex and put a check for \$20 in the offering plate. Sign up soon!



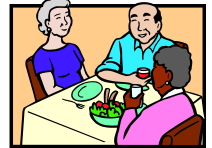
### LUNCH BUNCH

We plan to get together to talk and enjoy a meal on the fourth Sunday of the month. We started this group to a) get to know each other a little better and b) not simply say, “have a good week” after service and café on Sunday. We can discover “new” restaurants together as well. Join us!

#### October Lunch Bunch

**Date:**  
October 26th

**Location:**  
**Pho Tanh Long**  
3071 Nutley St. Fairfax



### Charge Conference, 4pm, Saturday November 9th

Why do we say “Charge”? Choose all that apply:

- A) We are a **Charge** and we have our own annual conference;
- B) We get set to **charge** into the coming year armed with new plans and energy to see them through;
- C) We want to be in **charge** of our future;

Which did you choose? Well, if you said all of the above, you are right!! OK, yes the UMC says it the only A) is technically correct, but the rest seem appropriate as well, especially since this conference both reviews the past year AND looks forward to the coming year.

We welcome all BCUMC members to attend our annual conference. We encourage all to come so we can show our interest in the future of OUR church and the plans we have for it. In this way, we hope to demonstrate to both the District and our DS that we are moving forward.

Come join us. We'll have a seat ready for **you!**