



METHODIST MOMENT

The Hermitage

The Hermitage in Northern Virginia is a non-profit continuing care retirement community (CCRC) owned and operated by Virginia United Methodist Homes, Inc. In 2012, the Hermitage celebrated 50 years of service. Since its founding in 1962, the mission has been to provide services, programs and amenities that

enhance the quality of life for older persons of all faiths.

The Hermitage is a welcoming community where senior citizens can enjoy an enriching lifestyle with many choices. Residents live in spacious apartments, with a generous service package that frees them from the demands of home maintenance and supports continued personal independence.

A BCUMC Connection - Two BCUMC members (Wilma Croft and Mithila Elanko) recently received an award for their volunteer service to the thrift store at the Hermitage.



FALL CHECKLIST FOR BRUEN CHAPEL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

- *Join friends at the next Lunch Bunch (9/28);
- *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!!

“Like” Us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/pages/Bruen-Chapel-United-Methodist-Church/196143053764440

“Follow” Us on Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/BruenChapelUMC>

Mark Your Calendars
Laity Sunday is October 19th

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



*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

First Saturday of Month

9:30 am - Life with Cancer Support Group

Second Saturday of the Month

9:30 am - Brigade Meeting at Local Restaurant

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**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.

Join us for our evangelism event featuring Dr. Maria Dixon Hall, Associate Professor-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 and costs \$25/person with lunch provided. Register by September 19, 2014.

If you have the desire to be more fruitful in your ministry, the Five Talent Academy can help.



Come on and lace up those shoes!

Join in on the Halloween

“Hustle for Hope” and Trick or Trot!

The 5K Hustle is for ages 12 and up and the Trick or Trot walk/run is for ages under 12. Cost includes a t-shirt, food, and goodie bag for our young trick or trotters. All proceeds benefit Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church. The 5K is \$20/person, and the Trick or Trot is \$10 per child. There’s a family cap of \$50.

For more info and for online or mail-in registration, and questions, contact Herb Brynildsen 703 820 7200.



Youth OktoberFest 10/5 @ Herndon UMC

Come and explore how God is calling you to a unique life of faith. Enjoy a variety of activities, worship, great food, and of course, our keg root beer!

Join us for our annual youth program kick-off event, featuring the Shenandoah University Spiritual Life Dean Rev. Dr. Justin Allen and the Spiritual Life Ministry team.

Cost: \$20 per person (includes food, etc., and Imagine No Malaria t-shirt) if registered by Sept. 19th. Mail in registration is available. On-site, day of registration is \$25 per person. For questions contact Herb Brynildsen. Open to all youth in Alexandria and Arlington Districts (group registrations only, please).

Sunday School Movie Day

The Adult Sunday school class will be watching the movie, “The Parent Trap” in conjunction with what they have been studying recently. This showing will be on Saturday, September 20th at 10am. This movie is a 1998 remake of the 1961 film which starred Hayley Mills and Brian Keith. This edition stars a young Lindsay Lohan, Dennis Quaid and the late Natasha Richardson.

**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*



PASTOR'S CORNER

*"But when the goodness and loving kindness of
God our Savior appeared, he saved us - - -
through the water of rebirth and baptism of the Holy Spirit
This spirit he poured out on us richly . . . so that . . .
we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life."
(Titus 3:3-8a NRSV)*

Summer has ended and September is here! In the church, we welcome some people back home from their vacation travels. Most local congregations are already planning for special Thanksgiving or Christmas programs.

United Methodists hold charge conferences in the fall. A Charge Conference is an annual meeting during which a local church reports on its ministries and its affairs during the previous year and highlights ventures in mission and ministry for the coming year. A budget, including the pastor's salary, is adopted and leaders for the coming year are elected.

Bruen Chapel UMC's 2014 Charge conference is Sunday, November 9th at 4pm. Our District Superintendent has asked that our theme be, "Lord, Renew Us With Your Spirit". This was the theme of the 2014 Annual Conference held in Hampton. The central scripture passage for our conference will be Titus 3:3-8a. (See passage above) .

Our District Superintendent has asked us to reflect on several questions as we prepare for our conference and she is particularly interested in the answers of laity. That being the case, I would like to hear from you this year about whether you've been aware of God working in your life this past year, in the lives of persons you know, and in the church as a whole, or through its ministries.

Do you have a testimony to share?

Would you be willing to share your thoughts at charge conference or write something that we might incorporate in our conference report?

Questions our District Superintendent has posed:

- How do you see God at work in your own life and in the life of another person in this church? (Personal Transformation)

NOTE: If you are part of our younger set, you might like to interview one of our older members and find out how much their faith has meant to them over the years.

- How do you see God at work in the life of this community of faith (community transformation)?
- How do you see God at work in the communities our ministries have touched? (world transformation)

As your pastor, I am aware that our congregation as a whole, and a number of us as individuals have been challenged, by some tough, even faith-threatening situations in the past year. So to the above questions, I add these:

Do we need God's help now?

Do we or those close to us need transformation?

What changes in ourselves and our lives, our church or our world are we hoping for, . . . praying for?

*Spirit of the Living God, pour afresh on us.
Visit us in power according to our need
and your vision for our lives.
Make us, mold us, and fill us
so that we might be most useful to you
as your beloved children and devoted servants,
following Jesus whom we call Lord and Savior. Amen.*

Rev. Ruth Burgess, Pastor

Christian Speaker at GMU

Brian McLaren, prominent Christian pastor, author activist, speaker and leader in the emerging church movement, will be speaking at a forum for clergy and laity on Wednesday, October 15th at 9:30pm at GMU-Fairfax in the Johnson Center. He will be addressing ideas from his book, "Why Did Jesus, Moses the Buddah and Mohammed Cross the Road?" "Not the beginning of a joke, but the start of one of the most important conversations in today's world." The event is sponsored by ARISE@GMU and the GMU Sociology and Anthropology Department.

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!

September Lunch Bunch

Date:
September 28th

Location:
Maple Avenue Restaurant
147 Maple Ave W, Vienna



Bruen's Brigade

If you have a few hours to spare once a month on a Saturday morning, then come join our Brigade! This group was formed in response to the departure of one person, Monica Flynn, who was a powerhouse and a go-getter in and for the church. When she and her husband moved to Kentucky, we had to fill that void somehow, so this group was formed to take over most if not everything she did, which was A LOT.

We meet for breakfast on the 2nd Saturday of the month to discuss what needs to be done around the church and how and when to do it. The group is mostly women, but men are welcome also. Our meeting place has been the Amphora Restaurant in Vienna. For more info, please talk to Ella Stickles.



ANNIVERSARIES

Aug. 17 ROB & ALISON WATERS

Sept 30 SUZANNE & JIM WAYMAN

BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 5 Adam Waters | 19 Kate Starr |
| 15 Lucille Brown | 20 Alice Hensley |
| 16 George Plautz | 20 Charlie Flynn |
| 17 Roland Bell | 23 Robert Eastridge |
| 26 Robbie Waters | |

SEPTEMBER

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 2 Bobby Waters | 11 Jayne Stephens Obst |
| 2 Mithila Elanko | 22 Barbara Hull |
| 6 Ashita Elanko | 23 Art Klekner |
| 27 Joyce Summers | |



English for Our Community

This fall we will be continuing our program of ESL classes here. Registration starts September 11th. Classes will be on Monday and Thursday nights at 7:30pm. Volunteers are needed and always welcome. We need help with greeting, teaching, child supervision and refreshments. If you are interested in helping out, call the church office at 703-560-1665.

Our Mission Table Needs You

If you have some items that you are looking to get rid of, we would love to receive them, (if they fit on a table) and try to sell them in our on-going mini-yard sale that takes place every week across from the main bathroom in the narthex. At the same time, feel free to peruse and purchase the items there. If you see something you like, please pay for it (honor system). In both cases, every little bit helps.

The money raised goes towards funding mission projects so in a small way, it's a B-I-G sale.



Helping New Americans

Citizenship Classes To Be Offered at BCUMC



We have moved the planned Citizenship program here at BCUMC to Spring, 2015. Surprisingly, there are not that many programs offering these classes in No. VA so we will be providing a much-needed service.

The types of topics and questions that future citizens have to know is amazing. The test covers U.S. government (ex. Who is the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court?) and history (ex. Name one war the U.S. was in during the 19th century) and there are 100 questions in all, of which a candidate has to answer 10 randomly selected ones. 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. Stay tuned for more info about this.



Mission Focus This Quarter Hunger

If this looks like the same article as in the last newsletter, it is because we are continuing our quarterly focus on Hunger.

According to the Website, *Feeding America*, in 2012, the hunger stats for Fairfax County were as follows : (percentages listed are of the poverty threshold which for a family of four was \$23,050 in 2012):

- *40% fall below threshold of 130% ; *12% fall between 130% & 185% ;
- *48% are above Other Nutrition Program threshold of 185%;
- *The average cost of a meal is \$3.36;

*6.7% of our population is food-insecure amounting to 72,970 people. Food insecurity means "lacking access to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members."

If this is the picture in one of the richest counties in the country, the local and domestic organizations that we and the larger UMC support (ex., Food for Others, Society of St. Andrew) have their work cut out for them.

Donate your spare "Change for Change" in the bucket in the narthex. Every little bit helps and the total will go to feeding our neighbors.

Let's keep up our support for Food for Others with our basket for donations in the narthex. Their efforts, and ours, are vitally important..



Back To School Leads in to Mission Focus on Education

As students turn their attention to going back to school, we will, in the last quarter of this year, turn the attention of our mission focus to students. In August, we collected school supplies for needy students in area schools. That was a good lead-in to this effort for October, November and December.

(Editor's note: A few weeks ago, I asked the school supply coordinator for Wesley Housing if the need for school supplies continued beyond the start of the academic year. She said, "Yes.")



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.