



*First United Methodist Church Fox Hill*  
*The Anchor*  
*January & February 2012*

**REGULAR COLUMNS**

50+ News and Events	pg 15
Birthdays/Anniversaries	pg 18
Financial Fundamentals	pg 14
Linda's Notes (music)	pg 6
Pastor's Page	pg 3
Prayer list	pg 2
Stewardship Corner	
Thank You Notes	pg 2
United Methodist Men	
United Methodist Women	pg 8
UM Young Adults	pg 11
UM Youth	pg 12
Worship Assistants	pg 16



**Confirmation is Coming!**

Confirmation is an experience for youth (we usually start in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, but it is open to all ages/grades from 6<sup>th</sup> to high school) to explore their faith in a nurturing environment so that they can choose to be part of the church and God's mission on their own. Confirmation has also become a rite of passage, somewhere between adolescence and adulthood, because it serves as a public sign that this person is no longer a child, but is on the way to adulthood. Confirmation for 2012 will include the following elements – class time, discussion time with adult mentors, a field trip, one or two service projects, and participation in worship on Palm Sunday. Parents and confirmands will receive a detailed schedule, but everyone should have this basic outline so they can be aware and can pray for our confirmands:

January 8 (Sunday school hour) – Confirmation Information for Parents, Youth and anyone else

January 22-April 1 – Confirmation sessions (during Sunday school, with one or two breaks)

April 1 – 11:00 a.m. service – Confirmation Sunday (part of Palm Sunday)

If you would like more information, please contact Pastor Brian

# Thank You Notes



### **Ongoing needs:**

Helen Nelson  
Roland Stanworth  
Ralph Quinn  
Caleigh Bauer  
Makenzieanne Wygans  
Dawn Davis  
Rebekah Sanderson  
Margaret Heath  
Russell McGhee  
Gregory Creekmore  
Betty Triplett  
Phil & Zane Brooker  
Evelyn Verry  
Jim Miskelly  
Aileen Haight  
Selena Landon  
Sandra Palko

### **Immediate needs:**

#### **Peg Hopewell**

Back surgery

#### **Don Bartlett**

Recovering from fall

#### **Merv Shearer**

Pneumonia

### **Sympathies to:**

**Family of Chuck Whitley**

**Family of Peggy Hearn**

**Patrick & Pat Parker**

on the death of his mother

Our family would like to extend a very heartfelt thank you to Martha's Ministry of FUMC. This generous and caring group of women gave this time to provide a fantastic meal for our large group of friends and family after the passing of our beloved mother, Sarah Peake. It was so nice and a tremendous relief to have their support during our time of need. Also a huge thank you to Pastor Brian and Pastor Tommy for their visits and the lovely graveside service for mother. We will always remember the calls, the food brought to our home and the beautiful cards. Al and I are so proud to call FUMC Fox Hill our church family, In Christian Love

JoAnn and Al Markel and family

I am so blessed to belong to a wonderful church family filled with compassion, concern and love for everyone, especially me. I have received cards, flowers, and warm chats with so many of you. God has blessed this church. The food has been wonderful, I could use with some new recipes (please remove the calories). The recovery was tough, but your prayers were the greatest gift I could have received. Everything that I received was greatly appreciated. I praise God for this wonderful loving church family. You will never know how much you truly mean to me because I can't put it into words; how special you are to me. May God bless each and every one of you and may God continue to enrich First UMC Fox Hill during 2012. I love you all! Your faithful servant,

Peg Hopewell

I would like to thank all of you who have helped me out during the past month. I have been overwhelmed by the caring and support from my family at First Fox Hill. Thank you. You have made this holiday season a lot less stressful for me.

Phil Stout

I want to thank everyone for all the cards, phone calls and support after my neck surgery. It is great to be part of such a loving church family. Thanks again!

Ronnie Steele

Thank you to all our friends who sent cards and prayers on the passing of my father, Pete, and also during his long illness. He loved First Fox Hill and always felt welcomed and loved here. In God's love,

Karen Mackessy Carr

We want to care for and pray for all our members. If you have a need or know of someone with a concern or wish to be removed from our list please contact one of the pastors or Laura Harris in the church office.



### ***“Renewal, or a new same-old?”***

Some of us love the idea of a new year, because it brings the promise of a second-chance, a new start, and we dig the idea of New Years’ resolutions. Others of us are tired of the idea of the new chance, because it seems we messed up all the old chances. Some of us stop making new resolutions until we finish with the old, and still others are too busy to get our heads above water to think about it much at all.

People individually tend to fall into patterns. Whether we call them habits, faults, or wonderful aspects of their personalities just depends on whether the patterns are helpful or hurtful. A big cheesy smile that is appreciated by some people is tolerated by others. Groups also tend to fall into patterns. For instance, how many families have “black sheep?” How many groups contain people who get on each other’s’ nerves, and as a result, on everyone else’s? Why is it that when several people are discussing something, there are almost always people who take sides, or who play “good cop/bad cop?” Some of these things, such as taking sides or being excluded from the family, are harmful. Some, such as playing good cop/bad cop can be very useful. But they are all very basic parts of life – they happen in our families, among our friends, at work, at school, and yes, at church too. This is why making New Year’s resolutions so frequently does not fix things, because patterns have a way of resisting change. Yes, we start something new, but it so often just becomes part of the old.

There are two things to help – first, setting up newer and more helpful patterns. Even if we tend to take sides, we can add a new pattern that says, “Hold it! Be careful!” Even if we tend to isolate ourselves, we can add a pattern that we as a church offer new small groups. Even if our families have created outsiders and insiders, we don’t have to keep that pattern going. But ... there are some things which require a deeper work, a deeper change.

Many patterns keep happening because we haven’t been able to close the door on the past and step into the present. This is what often dooms second and third marriages – the individuals in the relationship tend to treat their new spouse as if they were the old spouse. How do we close one door and move into a new door? In a word – forgiveness. Forgiveness of ourselves, of the other, of the pattern which locks us in, of the people who seem unable to let us be who God created us to be.

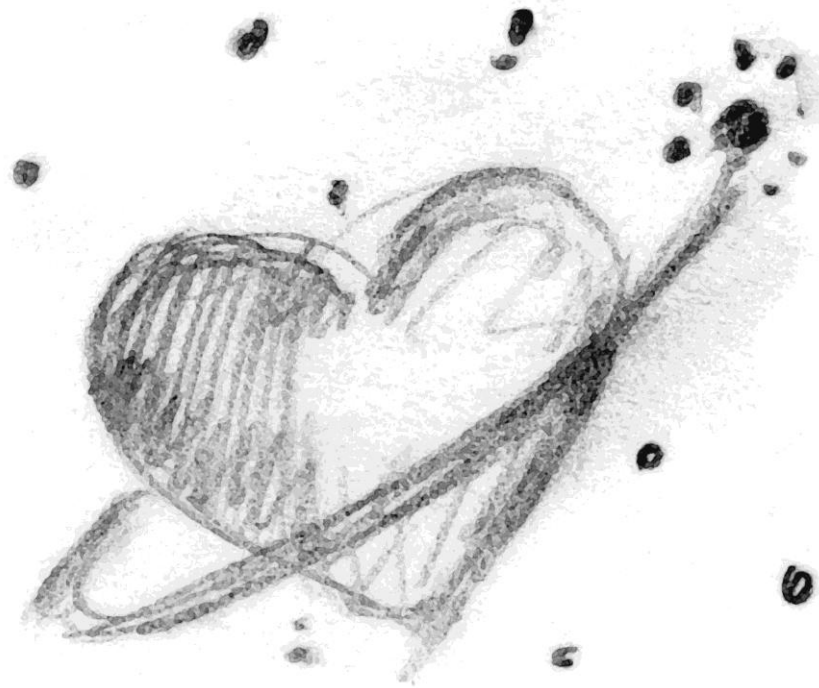
Forgiveness happens instantly and over a long period of time. For God, forgiveness is immediate. For us, it takes longer. Forgiveness means seeing what damage has been done, naming that damage, and releasing the party or parties from whatever part of the damage is related to us. Forgiveness is actually a set of practices which take time for us to set into place. We have to stop being afraid and start to understand. Understanding must give way to compassion, and compassion leads to acts or words of mercy. Forgiveness does not mean we make ourselves targets for those who abuse or destroy, but it does mean releasing

those people from the guilt they carry on our behalf. For instance, if abuse has occurred, forgiveness probably should mean pursuing legal remedy, but not pursuing a vendetta against the individual. Forgiveness will always mean relying on God to help us and to make any final judgment.

So, as we consider what New Years' should bring into our lives, may we resolve to learn and practice forgiveness. Forgiveness will lay the foundation for any worthwhile resolution to survive and thrive. Without forgiveness, after all, we ourselves would not have the hope of heaven in the life to come and joy in our present.

Your fellow servant in Christ Jesus,

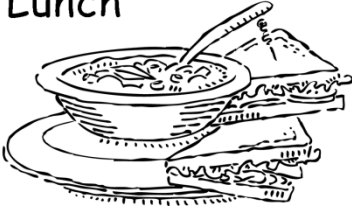
Pastor Brian



**“Forgive your  
brother or sister  
from your heart.”**

**MATTHEW 18:35, NRSV**

## Soup and Sandwich Lunch



## Family Ministries Soup and Sandwich Spectacular!

Join us on Sunday, January 22 at noon (after the 11:00 church service) for a delicious lunch of homemade soup and sandwiches sponsored by the Family Ministries team. This is our first event of the New Year and we look forward to a great time of fun and fellowship and delicious food.

Let us know if you will be joining us. Send an e-mail to [patwleary@cox.net](mailto:patwleary@cox.net) or complete the reservation form in the Sunday Bulletin and place it in the offering plate. Reservations will be accepted through January 17, 2012.

January is a great time for warm soup, great sandwiches and spending time together. Family Ministries will provide the meal. Plan to be there and enjoy the fellowship!

## Souper Bowl of Caring 2012

Everyone can do something to help people in need on Super Bowl weekend. That is the big idea behind Souper Bowl of Caring. Again in 2011, more than 260,000 young people across America from the small town of New Enterprise, Pennsylvania to the busy city of Houston, Texas – demonstrated the truth of that idea and the spirit of true community. They held soup pots to collect money, gathered donations of food in their school classrooms or churches and volunteered at local hunger relief charities on Super Bowl weekend. Their energy and commitment united the nation, as others were inspired by their example to give and serve for people in need in their communities. 9.5 million was collected in dollars and food. And, we here at First United Methodist Church were a part of that! Thank you to all those who participated in 2011 through giving money and cans or boxes of food. Our contributions went directly to HELP, the local group we support that helps to provide food and other services for the local community. We again have the opportunity to be a part of this effort. **Starting on January 16, 2012, the youth will be promoting the Souper Bowl of Caring and asking our congregation to bring in canned foods. We will collect those up until February 5. On February 5, 2012, we will collect money for HELP.** Please keep these dates in mind, as we do our part to help feed the hungry in our local community. Jesus says in Matthew 25:35, "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink... We have been blessed to be a part of doing just that, feeding the hungry, through our TNL meals, A Night's Welcome, and the Souper Bowl of Caring. We look forward to what God will do this year through our giving.

## Open Door Series 2011

As we begin a new year I would like to thank our many patrons – those members of the congregation who financially supported the four concerts we sponsored in 2011: The Rhythm Project All Stars, The Singing Men of Ohio, The Virginia Handbell Consort and our Sanctuary Choir singing a program for the tenth anniversary of Sept. 11.

Our patrons included: *Brian & Julie Allen, Jesse & Jane Barbour, Ken & Jean Bernstrom, Dan & Kathy Brookman, Bill & Anne Bryan, Bob Doggett, Jr., Bill & Ann Drummond, Ed & Joyce Fly, Fred & Kay Foster, Hunter & Donna Francis, Dick & Aileen Haight, Mike & Mary Ellen Hassell, Tom & Lisa Hite, Mary & Howard Hogge Jr., Joanne Holley, Ken & Shirley Holmes, Peggy Horsley, Don & Bonnie Hulton, Amy Johnson, Jeff & Mary Johnson Jr., Ralph & Betty Knaub, Al & JoAnn Markel, Chuck & Karen McNeil, Sybil Morgan, Rick & Karen Nolin, Patricia Parker, Dick & Linda Poinsett, Wayne & Peggy Porter, Candy Powers, Ralph & Marcia Quinn, Bob & LaRose Richardson, Dick & Kay Royster, Merv Shearer, Richard Shearer, Bill & Pauline Snider, Jean Sprouse, Ray & Joan Spunzo, Ronnie & Doris Steele, Bob & Alice Sturk, Sarah Sudduth, Stan & Evelyn Verry, Mary Wade, L.M. & Linda West, Christine & William Woods, Joyce Winston, Anne Ziglar.*

## New Year –New Series

The Open Door Committee is excited about the three concerts we will be hosting in 2012. The selection of artists was based on responses to an October congregational survey. Each performer has been recommended by someone in our church family who has seen that artist perform.

**In February we will welcome Mr. Timothy Seaman,** a solo instrumentalist who specializes in early American instruments. Mr. Seaman plays a variety of flutes and the hammered dulcimer; and often calls upon his audience to participate with him.

**Late in April the sanctuary will be filled with the sound of the Hunt Family Fiddlers and Irish Dancers.** This family of seven children and two adults spends much of their year traveling throughout the United States performing in very large venues for very large audiences. Because they make their home in Chesapeake, VA, they are able to come to Hampton and perform for us.

**In September we will host the Code Blue Bluegrass Band from Poquoson, VA.**

This band has a great reputation among persons who enjoy bluegrass music and always puts together a fine evening of entertainment.

We have the dates on the church calendar, the artists are committed to perform, the committee members are ready to work, but **we still need the financial support of our congregation to make the 2012 Series a reality. This year our budget** – which includes artists' fees, publicity costs, reception expenses and child care for each concert – **will be approximately \$5200.00.**

Please consider making a contribution toward the 2012 Open Door Series, an outreach ministry that our community looks forward to each year. **A contribution in ANY amount is needed and welcomed. If you are making a contribution, be sure to write ODS 2012 in the memo section of your check, as well as on the envelope.**

We are hopeful that our patron list will increase this year as more members become involved in the Open Door Series.

## Worship Overview

As the New Year begins, so also do new plans begin. Here's a brief outline of what is coming up in Sunday worship:

- In January – reaffirming our baptism (the 8<sup>th</sup>), installing our officers (15<sup>th</sup>), finding common ground
- February – Scout Sunday (Feb 12), New Member Sunday (Feb 19), and the beginning of Lent (Ash Wednesday service is Wednesday, Feb 22, 7pm)
- March – season of Lent (we are going to try an ancient ritual for the season) and Homecoming service (invite your friends and neighbors on March 25)
- Praise band – as we continue along, look to see the praise band involved in worship at least once a month

As the New Year unfolds, so do new opportunities – we thank Joann Smith for her faithful leadership of Vibrant Worship and look forward to what Nathan and Julie Williams will bring us. Continue to pray for the Holy Spirit to guide our plans.



With a huge THANK YOU, the UMW appreciates all the ladies who worked and baked, and all the buyers of baked goods at the Church Bazaar. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) sent out a plea for Health Kits due to the many weather related disasters around the world. And your UMW answered the call by sending their portion of the money from the bazaar (\$975.00) to the UMCOR for Health Kits. Thanks again!

### January Circle Meetings

**Wesley Circle** will meet on January 10 at 10:00AM at the church.

**Wednesday Morning Circle** will meet on January 11 at 10:00 AM at the home of Alice Sturk – 1740 Lafayette Drive.

**Thursday Evening Circle** will meet on January 12 at 7:00 PM at the home of Mary Smith – 25 Bonneville Drive

### February Circle Meetings

**Wesley Circle** will meet on February 14 at 10:00 AM at the church.

**Wednesday Morning Circle** will meet on February 8 at 10:00 AM at the home of Amy Johnson – 47 Beach Road.

**Thursday Evening Circle** will meet on February 9 at 7:00 PM at the home of Joyce Winston – 2411 E. Pembroke Avenue.

### Life Line Screening

Do you have high cholesterol or high blood pressure? Have you ever been a smoker? Do you have numbness in your toes or cold feet? These all increase your risk of having a stroke. Stroke is the leading cause of death and 80% of strokes can be prevented.

There are ultrasound screenings available to assess for:

1. Blocked carotid arteries, a leading cause of stroke
2. Peripheral artery disease, a strong predictor of coronary artery disease
3. Abdominal aortic aneurysm, which can lead to a ruptured aorta
4. Atrial fibrillation, measures irregular heart beat
5. Bone density to assess the risk of osteoporosis

**We are hosting Life Line Screening on February 6, 2012 here at our church.** These screenings are noninvasive and painless. You may sign up for the testing any time prior to the date by calling 1-800-690-6313. The cost of the screenings is not covered by insurance. Please see the insert for the cost of each test.

### Thursday Night Life Schedule

Date	Planned Study	Cooking Team
Jan. 5, 2012	Men's Study – Open Women's Study – Will begin Jan 12	One
Jan. 12	Men's Study – Open Women's Study – Tanya Ammons	Two
Jan. 20	Men's Study – Open Women's Study – Tanya Ammons	Three
Jan. 27	Men's Study – Open Women's Study – Tanya Ammons	Four
Feb. 2	Men's Study – Open Women's Study – Tanya Ammons	Five
Feb. 9	Men's Study – Open Women's Study – Tanya Ammons	Six
Feb. 16	No TNL Night's Welcome	
Feb. 23	Lenten Study	One
Mar. 1	Lenten Study	Two
Mar. 8	Lenten Study	Three
Mar. 15	Lenten Study	Four
Mar. 22	Lenten Study	Five
Mar. 29	Lenten Study	Six
April 5	No TNL Maundy Thursday	
April 12	Wild About You Study – Jim Bly	One
April 19	Wild About You Study – Jim Bly	Two
April 26	Wild About You Study – Jim Bly	Three
May 3	Wild About You Study – Jim Bly	Four
May 10	Wild About You Study – Jim Bly	Five
May 17	Wild About You Study – Jim Bly	Six
<b>TEAM 1</b> <b>POC Phil Stout 927-5901</b> <b>baked ziti, salad, rolls, cake</b>		<b>TEAM 2</b> <b>POC: Dave Rogers 851-6593</b> <b>barbecue, baked beans</b>
<b>TEAM 3</b> <b>POC Phil Stout 927-5901</b> <b>FaithLink class and others</b> <b>fried chicken, fries, mixed veggies, salad</b>		<b>TEAM 4</b> <b>POC : Brian Allen 851-5490</b> <b>Searcher's class</b> <b>shepherd's pie, salad</b>
<b>TEAM 5</b> <b>POC Phil Stout 927-5901</b> <b>meatloaf, potatoes, green beans</b>		<b>TEAM 6?</b> <b>Pickup Team – soup and salad?</b>

#### District Training Day – February 4, 2012

While we offer occasional in-house training for liturgists, ushers, greeters, leaders, and various committees, we are connected with the York River District, which brings a lot of training under one roof. Almost every ministry under our roof will have a form of training on Saturday, February 4, beginning at 9am. All registration is online this year. Simply point your browser to [www.yorkriverdistrict.org](http://www.yorkriverdistrict.org), click on "District Training Day," select the event(s) you want, "update" your cart if you are registering more than one person, and then "check-out." All training is free, by the way.

### Small Groups have a large impact!

Almost everything we do that is of value involves a small group – whether it be Sunday School class, choir, band, committees, ministry teams, or simple friendships. If you think to a time when things were good in your life, there is almost always a good group of friends and relationships that made it good. When things weren't good, those same friends and connections helped get you through it. It makes sense, because Israel had 12 tribes, Jesus had 12 disciples, Moses had his close leadership team, David had his close friendships (he got into trouble when he left them). Even God is not alone, for God is Three-in-One! One of the chief things Jesus wanted the church to do was to form new groups as he had done so that we could love one another, and expand his love through those groups.

Last year, during the “Wesley Code,” Pastor Brian mentioned the idea of forming small groups this year, and a number of you responded with interest. Here's the plan:

1. These groups will take place on Thursday Nights in Lent, following Thursday Night Life dinners, beginning February 23 and running through the end of March (groups can continue after that if they wish)
2. Leaders will have three training opportunities
  - a. District Training Day – February 4 – take “The Method of the Methodists” by Greg West
  - b. Two separate Tuesdays – January 24 and February 7, at 7pm.
3. Outline of evenings – all participants will gather in the sanctuary or choir room for a short teaching time following dinner, then they will break into small groups afterwards
4. Each small group will have two tasks – to love each other by getting to know each other and praying for each other, and secondly, to take on a short-term local mission project of their choosing and design. These projects can involve building projects, teaching, outreach, evangelism – almost anything under the sun.
5. There will be a Celebration Sunday on May 20, where groups can bring their stories, videos, and tell about their projects and their progress towards loving their neighbors as themselves.

Sign-ups for these groups will begin in February. Sign-ups for leaders begin now. Pastor Brian has the list of those who expressed interest in leading, and they will receive a detailed calendar, along with anyone else who wishes to lead. These groups are intended for adults, but if youth life groups or children's groups want to be involved, we can work something out.

### Medical Lending Closet

We have a few items in our lending closet that are available for use by our members. Storage space is limited, so **please don't bring anything in without checking with Betty Knaub at 850-4013**. If you need to borrow any of the following items, let me know so I can keep a record of where things are. The available items are:

7 walkers

1 foam elevated leg rest

1 pair of crutches

3 canes

2 wheelchairs

1 commode seat

1 light brown wig



**Dave Powell, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries,**  
[foxhillfirstumcyoungadults@yahoo.com](mailto:foxhillfirstumcyoungadults@yahoo.com)

As we begin another year, let's consider the prayers of Moses in Exodus 33:13 and Exodus 33:15. Exodus Chapter 33 starts off with God telling Moses to take the Israelites into the promised land, but God told Moses He would not go with them because they had been disobedient to Him despite all He did for them. God delivered the Israelites out of Egypt, parted the red sea, provided manna and quail, and made water come from a rock. God had been faithful to provide for the Israelites, but they had not been so faithful to follow Him and do what was pleasing to Him.

So, we see the following passage starting in Exodus 33:12 and continuing through 33:17, "Moses said to the Lord, 'You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favor with me.' If I have found favor in your eyes, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people.' The Lord replied, ' My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.' Then Moses said to him, 'If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?' And the Lord said to Moses, I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.'"

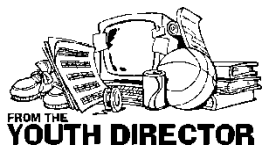
Moses prays two things. First, in Exodus 33:13, Moses says to God, "teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you." How important it is that we seek to know what God wants us to do and to better understand Him from His Word, in prayer, and through His people. Second, Moses prays in 33:15, "If Your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here." Moses did not want to go anywhere without God personally in the lead. So, it should be for us, no matter what we are doing, what plans and decisions we have to make, we need to ask God to direct us, to be personally involved in the steps we take. I pray that this year, we may seek to know God better and depend upon Him for all that we set out to do. Below are upcoming events for the Young Adults. We hope you can join us, as God allows.

January 10, 17, 24, & 31, 6:30-8pm, Young Adult Life Group, Choir Room

January 22, 12:30-2:30pm, Young Adult Lunch @ Powells' House

February 14, 21, & 28, 6:30-8pm, Young Adult Life group, Choir Room

February 19, 12:30-2:30pm, Young Adult Lunch @ Powells' House



**Dave Powell, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries,**

[foxhillfirstumcyouth@yahoo.com](mailto:foxhillfirstumcyouth@yahoo.com);

<http://1stumcfoxhillyouth.shutterfly.com/>

**Face Book:** [www.Facebook.com/FirstUMCFoxHillyouth](http://www.Facebook.com/FirstUMCFoxHillyouth)

In November & December several youth were able to go to the Eagle Eyrie Middle School and High School Fall Retreats. The guest speaker, Amanda Garber from Rise UMC, a new faith community in Harrisonburg Virginia focusing on reaching young adults and in doing various mission projects in the local community, spoke on the kingdom of God. She stressed that not only is the kingdom of God something we have to look forward to when our time comes to leave this earth, but it is also something that we can tangibly be a part of and see others participate in now. Three ways we can see the kingdom of God evident on earth is through our justice (seeing needs of others around us and meeting them with mercy), our faith (living in the in between, being hope when there is despair, being love when there is hatred), and our evangelism. Below are some testimonies from both the Middle School and High School youth that went to Eagle Eyrie. Thanks for all who helped to make this trip possible. We were also able to contribute toward Rise UMC's Rise and Shine ministry, in which they distribute personal hygiene kits to people in the local community. The youth brought items of soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and floss and helped put them together and write a note to the recipients of the bag of personal hygiene items.

### **What I got out of Eagle Eyrie...**

"The Kingdom of God is here but not here; we are faith that helps build the kingdom of God" – Hannah Smith

"Justice is not about court or killing people. It is about being kind and helping people" – Jeslyn Hughes

"That God loves me for whatever I do and the Kingdom of God you can see but you can't see it"... - Shanaya Brown

"What I mostly got out of the sermon was a better understanding" – Caedmon Sixbey

### **Thank you...**

"For making this trip possible this year. I really enjoyed it this year like I have in years past" – Erin Bunting

"For letting us be able to come another year. We had tons of fun and I hope we can go next year" – Taron Brown

"For supporting us on this trip. I greatly appreciated it. I had such a fun time and got to meet many new people and learned so much more things about the Lord. Thanks!" - Rebecca Carpenter

"For supporting us in this retreat. As usual, I was refreshed and renewed with God's love. I learned a lot, had a lot of questions answered, made new friends, and reconstructed my bond with God. Thank you." – Cassie Ardern

"For letting us come another year and teaching us more of the word of the Lord. This retreat always helps me to connect with God. Thank you." – Hayden Smith

"For helping fund our trip to Eagle Eyrie. This year was amazing. I was able to see many of my friends I met last year. And I can't wait til next year again. Thanks!" – Julie Ann Williams

"I really appreciate yalls help on funding our trip. It was my last one and it was very memorable. Thank you." – Tawny Boyd

"For supporting us on another trip to Eagle Eyrie. It was a great weekend and it brought me closer to God and it was refreshing to have a stress free weekend." – Janae Stupica & Kristina Kidroske

"For everything you have done for us. I know I do. I got closer to God even more this weekend. Thank you." – Brandi Ammons

Amanda Garber reminded us that we are a gift...from God. Each of us have unique qualities that God has asked us to use to impact others. As you start the new year, remember that you can make a difference. A kind word, a helping hand, the mention of what Jesus has done can change others and start them on a new journey... to know and follow God. Hosea 6:3 says, "Let's learn about the LORD. Let's get to know the LORD. He will come to us as sure as the morning comes. He will come to us like the autumn rains and the spring rains that water the ground." (NLT) Let's take the time to learn about God and to know Him more, and let's live such a life for God that others will see God in us and come to know God for themselves.

Below are some youth events coming up in February and December. We look forward to seeing you soon.

January: 8 & 29, 6-7:30pm, Youth Fellowship Night;  
15, 1-5pm, Teens Opposing Poverty event  
22, 6-7:30pm, Youth Outreach  
5, 12, 19, Youth Life Groups, 6:30-7:30pm, Guys & Middle School Girls, 6:30-8pm High School Girls

February: 4, District Youth STOP Hunger NOW event;  
5, Souper Bowl of Caring; 2-4pm, Holy Bowl  
12, 5-8pm, Youth help out with A Night's Welcome;  
19, 6-7:30pm, Youth Fellowship Night  
2, 9, 16, 23, Youth Life Groups, 6:30-7:30pm, Guys & Middle School Girls, 6:30-8pm, High School Girls  
26, 12:15-1:45pm, Youth Council; 6-7:30pm, Youth Outreach

*Congratulations to  
Monty & Leanne Rainey  
on the arrival of  
Tatum Marie Rainey  
November 11, 2011*

*7 lbs 4 oz  
Proud Great-grandparents are  
Beth & Bobby Hearp*

*Congratulations to  
Cindy & Doug Pereira  
on the arrival of  
Kyla Marie Pereira  
7 lbs 1 oz*

*December 18, 2011  
Big brother Kyan is so excited  
as are proud grandparents  
Fred & Kay foster!*



**Financial Fundamentals** This periodic report briefly addresses finances at FUMC Fox Hill. The latest weekly and year-to-date information is printed in the *Weekly Anchor* available at every service or in the church office.

This issue, lets start with some good, if perhaps a little dated, information. For those of you who don't already know, our **2011 Pumpkin Patch** was the most successful ever! In addition to giving us a great time to meet and greet our neighbors while working the patch with our fellow church members, the patch netted over \$7,730 for our programs and ministries. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make the patch a success!

By now you should have received **envelopes** to use when making contributions. Using them helps the counters and our Financial Secretary post the information in your records. If you did not receive yours, and would like some, please contact the church office.

**Yearend contribution statements** will be in the mail by the end of January. If you do not receive yours or you have any questions about it, please contact the church office promptly; do not wait until April 15<sup>th</sup>. ☺ Thanks!

Now, some numbers. The publishing deadline means yearend results won't be available until the next issue, but through November your **total contributions** have been better than the past several years. As noted previously, a fair amount of that giving has been directed by the givers to "off budget" items such as the sound panels in the Fellowship Hall, the Orphan Helpers mission trip to El Salvador, a future playground, and UMCOR relief to Japan. All of these are worthy causes, but don't help "paying the bills".

As I write this, we have cut our shortfall in payments on our **Conference Apportionments** to half of what it was in the last issue. But, as of the end of November, we are still \$15,631 (about a month and a half) behind.

On a positive note, through November of this year, we have paid \$56,924 on our **mortgage principle**, leaving a balance of \$883,883.

<b>Total One Fund – Through November 2011</b>		
<b>Receipts For Planned Expenses<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>\$604,849</b>
<b>Total One Fund Expenses</b> (excludes pass through <sup>2</sup> )	Planned	\$695,126
	Actual	<b>\$608,831</b>
Pass Through Income <sup>2</sup>		\$80,282
Pass Through Expense <sup>2</sup>		\$82,563
Pay-It-Forward Contributions		\$8,494
<sup>1</sup> Includes regular and memorial contributions, building use income, interest, etc. <sup>2</sup> This item represents funds contributed, but passed through to non-budget items, e.g., flowers, Advocate subscriptions, special mission programs, etc.		

**Let us all do as we are lead to share God's abundant gifts, even in the midst of financial stress. Let us return a portion of those gifts for His work.**

If you have any concerns or questions about FUMC FH finances, please contact our financial staff through the church office or Bill Bryan, Finance Chair, at 851-0748 or by e-mail to [billb-1111@cox.net](mailto:billb-1111@cox.net).



For reservations and/or questions on any Fifty Plus outing, contact Anne or Bill Bryan at 851-0748 or by email to [abandbb1@cox.net](mailto:abandbb1@cox.net).

If paying by check, please **do not** combine payments in one check. We keep the funds for each activity separate to ensure proper accounting. Thanks for your understanding.

We will have our **Annual Planning Breakfast** at the **Golden Corral** at **8:30 am, Saturday, January 7**. The buffet, beverage, and tax totals about \$9.25 and is payable at the door. Reservations are not mandatory, but **please sign-up so we will be able to give an estimated attendance to the restaurant**.

On **Sunday afternoon, Feb 12** we will head to the **Little Theatre of Norfolk** to see **A Flea in Her Ear**. This wacky play is full of twists and turns. It involves a jealous wife, who conspires with her girlfriend to checkup on her husband. There is a fake letter; the girlfriend's jealous husband; a shady hotel; a bellboy who looks just like the husband; a speech impaired cousin; and general confusion. By Act Three the story spins even faster until everything is sorted out as the couple recognize their mutual confusions and are reunited. [If you want to read all the details, please go to <http://www.ltnonline.org/2011---2012-season> and scroll down to *A Flea in Her Ear*.] **The price for this wild afternoon of craziness is \$15 plus your meal afterward. [Note: This is a date change.]**

**March is museum month.** On **Friday, March 16**, we will travel to **Williamsburg** and the **Public Hospital of 1773**. The hospital houses a fascinating three-part exhibit on mental illness and treatment methods during colonial days. We will then descend below the hospital for a guided tour and time on our own at the **DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum** and the **Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Museum**. Opened in 1985, the **DeWitt Wallace Museum** is home to an extensive collection of American and British antiques. See furniture, metals, ceramics, glass, paintings, prints, firearms, and textiles from the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries. The **Folk Art Museum** offers changing exhibitions of American folk art with novel and effective use of the materials at hand. Bold colors, simplified shapes, and imaginative surface patterns can be seen in the variety of paintings, carvings, toys, and needlework displayed. After our museum tour, **enjoy lunch at Food for Thought Restaurant. Cost for this trip is \$13 plus your meal.**

**Pittsburgh and Lancaster, PA are our destinations April 23 – 26.** Check the rack in the Narthex and pick up all the details on our annual multi-day trip. **We will open reservations to other local churches in mid-January.** Don't miss this fun, entertaining, and educational trip as we enjoy **History & Heroes; Museums, Madcap, Music, & More! Remember, bus seating is based on deposit payment date.**

## Worship Assistants for January

### 8:30 AM

#### Liturgists (Dan Brookman)

John Maninga

#### Greeters (Joann Smith)

#### Ushers (Ronnie Steele)

Jack Clough

Dick Royster

Mike Gullla

Ken Holmes

John Pickin

Lydia Simpson

#### Acolytes (Beth Hughes)

01/01

Erin Malinowski

01/08

Caedmon Sixbey

01/15

Hayden Smith

01/22

Catriona Sixbey

01/29

Usher

#### Sound & Lights, Media (Tom Ardern, Laura Harris)

##### Sound/Lights/Media

01/01

/Mary Parker

01/08

/Mary Parker

01/15

/Mary Parker

01/22

/Mary Parker

01/29

/Mary Parker

#### Children's Church (Lynne Bunting)

01/01

No Children's Church

01/08

01/15

01/22

01/29

### 11:00 AM

#### (Sandy Williams)

Jean Bernstrom

#### (Jane Barbour)

Susan Ardern

Ray Ammons

Brian Eubank

A.G. Womble

\*

Ian Osborne

Oakley Roach

Daniel Bunting

Mitchell Woods

Usher

##### Sound/Lights/Media

#### Night Watchmen (David Rogers)

John Maninga

David Rogers

Dallas Jenkins

Rick Kessler

Dave Hopewell

#### Flowers (Becky Thompson/Bev Stanworth)

01/01

Christine Woods

01/08

Lisa Haight

01/15

01/22

Tammy & Jeff Smith; Tommy & Becky Thompson

01/29

## Worship Assistants for February

### 8:30 AM

#### Liturgists (Dan Brookman)

Dan Brookman

#### Greeters (Joann Smith)

#### Ushers (Ronnie Steele)

Richard Shearer

Bill Bryan

Beth Davis

Dave Sharp

Ronald Steele

#### Acolytes (Beth Hughes)

02/05

Hayden Smith

02/12

Caedmon Sixbey

02/19

Erin Malinowski

02/26

Grace Hughes

### 11:00 AM

#### (Sandy Williams)

Seth Seaman

#### (Jane Barbour)

Hunter Francis

L.M. West

John Maninga

Leah Graybeal

\*

Erin Bunting

Jeslyn Hughes

Mitchell Woods

Oakley Roach

#### Sound & Lights, Media (Tom Ardern, Laura Harris)

#### Sound/Lights/Media

02/05

/Mary Parker

02/12

/Mary Parker

02/19

/Mary Parker

02/26

/Mary Parker

#### Sound/Lights/Media

#### Children's Church (Lynne Bunting)

02/05

02/12

02/19

02/26

#### Night Watchmen (David Rogers)

Jimmy Roberson

Night's Welcome

Hunter Francis

Rick Nolin

#### Flowers (Becky Thompson/Bev Stanworth)

02/05

02/12

02/19

02/26

**JAN 1****JAN 2****JAN 3**

Claudia Caricofe

**JAN 4**

William S. Freeman, Jr.

**JAN 5**\*Dick & Aileen Haight  
Lori Ward**JAN 6**

Rick Kessler

**JAN 7****JAN 8**\*Thomas & Sandra  
Gulbranson  
Caroline Powers  
Les Ware**JAN 9****JAN 10**

Billie Jean Neil

**JAN 11**Steve Howell  
Brian Sixbey**JAN 12**

\*Steve &amp; Barbara Arbogast

**JAN 13****JAN 14**Sandra Gulbranson  
Dawn Miller**JAN 15**Mottie Anderson  
Allison Poinsett Peretin**JAN 16**

\*Patrick &amp; Pat Parker

**JAN 17**Gregory Creekmore, Jr.  
Kim Fly**JAN 18**Jennifer Day  
Theresa Embler  
J.D. Triplett**JAN 19**

Sam Hoyt

**JAN 20**

Robert Leavell

**JAN 21**

Hannah Smith

**JAN 22**Ron Kravitz  
Dennis Lee**JAN 23**John Kravitz  
Erin Malinouski  
Charley Winston**JAN 24**Matt Allen  
Joan Moriarty  
Jean Pickin**JAN 25**Bill Allen  
Tanya Ammons  
Charl Granish**JAN 26**

Bobby Smith

**JAN 27**Deb Ware  
Louellen Weaver**JAN 28**

Mitchell Woods

**JAN 29**Catarina Brown  
Cindy Gibbons**JAN 30**Zane Brooker  
Anna-Kate Hulick**JAN 31**\*Ken & Lori Ward  
George Woodley

\*Anniversary

The pastors and staff pray  
that God will bless each of  
you as you celebrate your  
special day this month.

***Please notify the church  
office if your birthday or  
anniversary is not listed  
or is listed incorrectly!***

**FEB 1**

Katie Brookman Thurston

**FEB 2**\*Mike & Kathy Monteith  
Edwin Stanley**FEB 3**

Charles Embler

**FEB 4**\*Larry & Judy Taylor  
Beth Davis  
Joyce Wilson**FEB 5**Elsie Horn  
Luke Messick**FEB 6**

Alice Sturk

**FEB 7**Brandon Gulla  
Michael Pavusa  
Lydia Simpson  
Linda West**FEB 8**

Ray Spunzo

**FEB 9**River Eanes  
Kay Foster  
Juliana Hodges  
Rick Holden**FEB 10**Glenn Boone  
Thomas Gulbranson  
Kaleb Hodges**FEB 11**Ray Ammons  
Cathy Powell**FEB 12****FEB 13**

Jeff Winston

**FEB 14**

Jean Sprouse

**FEB 15**Jim Branstetter  
Cody Winston**FEB 16**\*Scott & Linda Williams  
Ed Fly**FEB 17****FEB 18**\*Rachel & Keith Melanson  
\*L.M. & Linda West  
Shan Sixbey**FEB 19**Tom Flaherty  
Randy Holmes**FEB 20**Daniel Feury  
Ian Osborne**FEB 21**

Ruth D. Morris

**FEB 22**Teague Carper  
Gregory Cato**FEB 23**

Kenneth Gulbranson

**FEB 24**Phil Stout  
Michael Westphal**FEB 25**Janet Clough  
Laura Soulé Delk  
Emma Westphal**FEB 26**

Phil Brooker

**FEB 27**Julio Aviles  
Pat Leary  
Emily Stuart  
Warren Wood**FEB 28**

LaRose Richardson

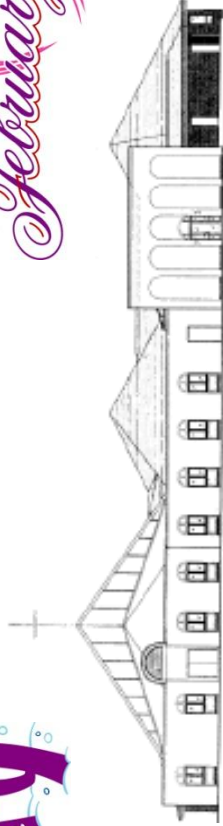
\*Anniversary

**We Invite You to Worship with Us**  
**Brian Sixbey – Pastor**  
**Tommy Markham – Assistant Pastor**

**Opportunities to Worship:**  
Sundays 8:30 & 11:00 AM-Worship Services  
9:45 AM – Sunday School

**January**

**February**



First United Methodist Church, Fox Hill  
One Salt Pond Road  
Hampton, VA 23664

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*Place Label Here*