January
2018

What’s all the excitement about Epiphany?

Did you know that Epiphany is actually a more ancient celebration than even Christmas? Long ago, the celebration of the nativity, coming of the wise men, and the baptism of Jesus were all wrapped up in the celebration of Epiphany. Some believers continue to emphasize Epiphany celebrations, such as Eastern Orthodox believers. Though that isn’t our norm, I think there is reason to admire that practice. In merging those events together into a more unified celebration, it causes believers to reflect on the true meaning behind those historical events – they all were about the revealing of who Jesus was and is for the world. We need the reminder about how each and every story and event described in Scripture about Jesus is about the impact that Jesus made upon our world and the ways that he is encouraging us to approach our lives. There is a line from one my favorite Christmas carols that says, ‘The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.’

In Jesus, all things are held together. Yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Epiphany is about the revealing light of Jesus that has at once shared with us God’s good news of salvation and new life, and at the same time through the Holy Spirit continues to pull back the veil and share more and more. What will God unveil in 2018? What will our response be to God’s enlightenment?

On the last day of 2017, we met for worship. Having church on New Year’s Eve causes a special stirring of anticipation. In that worship service, I invited folks to respond to three questions on a notecard. Then we placed them on the altar rail in a response to God’s grace as we sang ‘Joy to the World’. It is our joy to respond to God’s invitation and enter into a new year with thanksgiving and godly intentions. I share again these three questions, and invite you to respond if you were not present in worship:

What is one hope you have for your life this year?
What is one hope you have for your church family this year?
What is one thing you are going to do to bring one of these hopes into reality?

Those that shared those cards will have someone praying for them and for the fulfillment of these hopes, and the cards will be returned mid-year. You see, hoping is a good thing, even a godly thing! I mentioned Sunday that while resolutions may be good, they sometimes leave little room for us to think about God’s involvement in our lives. As believers, we are called to hope, and hope involves God. God’s involvement and activity in our hearts, lives, and church must be acknowledged and embraced if we are to be the people God desires us to be. So, let’s continue the journey of Christmas into Epiphany, and find joy in the warmth of God’s revealing light. I’ll see you Sunday!

Grace & Peace,

Erich
JANUARY AT A GLANCE:
1/2 DNA Study, 7pm, Parsonage
1/3 Children’s Choir, 6pm
1/4 Noon Bible Study resumes, Image Class
1/4 Noon Community Worship, Luray Church of the Brethren
1/4 Praise band resumes, 7pm, Sanctuary
1/4 Ruritan’s, FH*
1/4 Girl Scouts, 6:30pm, Image Class*
1/7 Mission Committee, during Fellowship time, FH
1/7 Private Party, FH, 130-4:30pm*
1/7 Volunteer 1 Hour at Page One, 3pm, meet there
1/8 Trustee Committee, 7pm, Image Class
1/8 SPRC Committee, 7pm, Class next to Stairwell, 4th floor
1/12 Hands Across Luray Pot Luck & Silent Auction, 5-7pm
1/13 Un-decorate the Church, 9am
1/14 Church Council, after late worship
1/17 Children’s Choir, 6pm
1/18 Women’s Book club resumes, Bev Wood’s home
1/19 Girl Scouts Lock In, FH, 7pm *
1/25 Faith on Tap, 6:30pm, Hawksbill Brewery
1/30 Gideon’s, Image Class*

*Not a/our Church Event

HAPPENINGS EVERY WEEK:
Tuesday-Thursday, 7:45-11:30am, 4yr olds Preschool
Tuesday-Thursday, 8:30-11:30am, 3yr olds Preschool
Tuesday Bible Study, (On Hold)
Tuesday I Can Club, 3-5pm - Tutoring
Tuesday ASAP, 5-7pm, Auditorium* Private class
Tuesday DNA, Disciple Nurture Action, 7pm, Parsonage
Sunday, 3:30pm Ritter’s, Disciple Bible Study, FH (On Hold)
Wednesday (1st & 3rd) Children’s Choir, 6pm Underground
Wednesday Handbell Choir, 630-7:30pm, Auditorium
Wednesday Chancel Choir, 7:30-8:45pm, Underground
Thursday Men’s Bible Breakfast, 7:15am, FH
Thursday Noon Service - Luray Church of the Brethren
Thursday Noon Bible Study w/Rev. Ricketts, Image Class
Thursday I Can Club, 3-5pm - Tutoring
Thursday Praise Band practice, 7pm, Sanctuary
Thursday Girl Scouts, 6:30-7:30pm, Image Class*

Happy Birthday!
1/3 Frances Smith
1/7 Bill Ricketts
1/9 Jeremiah Bennett
1/10 Ellen Martin
1/11 Carolyn Vickers
1/12 Clay Gaunt
1/17 Conner Grieve
1/18 Travis Osborne
1/19 Judy Bell
1/19 Deanna Jenkins
1/21 Mary Ann Suddith
1/25 Gerald Dovel
1/27 Ron Vickers

If your birthday is this month and you do not see your name, please contact the church office to update our records.

Happy Anniversary!
1/3 Tommy & Colleen Page

Congratulations!

If your birthday or anniversary is this month and you do not see your names, please contact the church office so we can update our records.

Please Pray for our church members in Senior Centers & Nursing Homes:
Betsy Campbell: Olive Branch, 110 Luther Rd. Dickson, TN 37055
Hawksbill Assisted Living: Don Phillips
122 N. Hawksbill St. Luray, VA 22835
Whispering Pines: Anne Stilwell, Norma Good
200 Leakesville Rd. Luray, VA 22835
Hidden Springs: Nell Strong
973 Buck Mountain Rd., Bentonville, VA 22601

Please keep our members in your daily prayers:
Lou Sizer, Leif Carlson, Walt Gordon, June & Bruce Clark,
Norma Good, Anne Stilwell, Ann Moody, George Nosek,
Mary Jane Ricketts, Barbara Shenk
LUMP Update
Luray United Methodist Preschool is Always Lively!
God continues to demonstrate His truth in the statement, “Where God guides, He provides.”
Please come and visit us sometime. We welcome visits. If you are interested in volunteering on a regular or irregular basis come and talk to us. Kids love to have someone on one time with an adult while they listen to stories, play with board games, playdough etc.
We covet your prayers. God is good!

Thank You

On behalf of the entire Church Staff we would like to thank each and every one of you for the generous staff Christmas gifts this year! We all appreciate it very much. We enjoy working for and with all of you.
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
We are Blessed!

Sermon Recordings: If you have ever missed a sermon or want to listen to one a second time, recordings of the sermons are available on our website for several months. Check them out at: http://lurayumc.org/Sermons.html They may not appear immediately on our website but stay tuned a week or two for them to appear.

Fellowship Plans 2018
Anyone who would like to join the Fellowship Committee, contact Carol Angier or Ron Vickers.
The Fellowship Plan will be coming soon!

New Groups!
"HOLY GROUNDS" meeting the first Friday of each month for warm beverages, dessert and some type of readings/entertainment. No Meeting in January

DNA - Discipleship, Nurture, Action: Meeting each Tuesday evening at the Parsonage at 7pm.

Faith On Tap - Meets the last Thursday of each month at 6:30pm at the Hawksbill Brewery to fellowship and discuss religion. Topics vary. Everyone is welcome!

Resuming - Women’s Book Club
This group will meet the 3rd Thursday of each month beginning January 18th at Beverly Wood’s home. More details to come in the bulletin and keeping in touch.

Corrections & Updates to the LUMC Pictorial Directory:
Jim & Joy Richardson P.O. Box 126 Luray
(540)235-6899 email: jimjoy321@gmail.com
Nancy Brubaker: 405 Hamburg Road Luray
Daniel Deavers: Daniel.Deavers@vadoc.virginia.gov
Daniel & Susan Brubaker: 405 Hamburg Road, Luray
Cary & Bev Wood Address: 20 Meadow Lane, Luray
Bill & Joan Cook: 10 Meadow Lane, Luray
743-3663 Email: wc54136203@gmail.com
Carol Gaunt email: cpgdrjml@gmail.com
Garrett Brockman: Garrett.Brockman@vafb.com
Jim & Bonnie Sullivan phone: 540-421-3970
Judy Suddith email: jshounddogs@gmail.com

Pictorial Section: correction to name: Grieve, Christina
Please note: Beth Flickenger, Frances Holsinger,
Keith Emerson, Dorothy Weber - Deceased
The Turkey Trot Soup Supper was a Huge Success!

The Soups, Breads & Desserts were So Delicious! Some have asked for the Recipes. If you are willing to share your recipe, please email it to the church and we will publish it in the Next Newsletter. Here is one to get you started.

Chris Deibert’s Sausage Soup
48 oz. Italian sausage
6 c. chicken stock
2 c. small pasta
1 T dried basil
1 c. parmesan cheese
4 c. spinach, chopped
4 cloves garlic, chopped
1 t oregano
1 t pepper
1 c. red onion, chopped
6 c. cream
2 carrots, chopped
2 celery stalks, chopped
½ c. flour

Directions:
Brown and chop up sausage, remove and set aside leaving drippings
Saute onion, carrots, celery and garlic in drippings until translucent
Add flour and whisk until light brown
Add chicken stock and simmer for 6 minutes
Add sausage, spinach, seasonings, pasta, cheese and cream.
Simmer until pasta is cooked

If you would like to share your recipe from the Turkey Trot Soup supper, please send it to lurayumc@luray.org and we will print it in the next newsletter. Everything was amazing including Desserts!

A Letter from Kimberly Campbell
November 24, 2017

Dear Luray United Methodist Church Members:

Thank you all so much for the generous gifts and cards that we received for the going away/baby celebration. As we are preparing for the arrival of Logan, these gifts will most certainly come in handy. We truly appreciate everyone’s thoughtfulness and support.

We hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and that your Christmas will be Merry & Bright!

When Logan finally decides he is ready to make his entrance into the world, we will send some pictures.

Again, thanks to everyone for their continued support and affection through the years. LUMC always made my family feel welcomed and a part of something special. We will always remember and cherish those memories.

Best,
Kimberly, Seth, Addisyn, Rylee, (and soon to be Baby Logan)

This letter arrived in early December, so we didn’t get it into the December Corner Journal...

HANDS ACROSS LURAY FUNDRAISER FOR WEST LURAY RECREATION CENTER
POTLUCK MEAL & SILENT AUCTION
FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 5-7PM, FELLOWSHIP HALL

We will have a Potluck Dinner, LUMC will provide meat and beverages. We ask you to bring a side dish, salad or dessert for the meal to be complete.

If you have a Silent Auction item, please contact the church office: 743-6540, or lurayumc@lurayumc.org

There will be a Mission Meeting during the fellowship time, this Sunday, January 7th at a round table in the Fellowship Hall. Grab your coffee and join in... See Robert Spencer for any questions or to help.
January Church Helpers

**Communion Steward:**
Layne Vickers

**Acolytes 830/11:**
- 1/7 Olivia Grieve/Berkley Bennett
- 1/14 Cerenity Stevens/Jeremiah Bennett
- 1/21 Caden Stevens/Zach Cummings
- 1/28 Drayvin Stevens/Allison Atkins

**Audio Visual: 830 / 11am**
- 1/7 Karen Grieve/Robert Spencer
- 1/14 Larry Hakel/Bill Duke
- 1/21 Sam McNeely/Ron Vickers
- 1/28 Mindy Bogue/Bill Ricketts

**Greeters - 8:30:**
- 1/7 Robert Spencer
- 1/14 Matthew & Caden Stevens
- 1/21 Cerenity & Drayvin Stevens
- 1/28 The Chamberlain’s

**Greeters - 11:00:**
- 1/7 Helen Harman
- 1/14 Jon & Lisa Sisler
- 1/21 Walt & Nancy Gordon
- 1/28 Nancy Bell & Mary Lou Owens

**Readers - 8:30:**
- 1/7 Debi Swing
- 1/14 Alex White
- 1/21 Cathy Weaver
- 1/28 Jim Ashanky

**Readers - 11:00:**
- 1/7 Judy Suddith
- 1/14 Julia Verba
- 1/21 Layne Vickers
- 1/28 Ron Vickers

**Counters:**
- 1/7 Bill Cook & Jon Sisler
- 1/14 Bill Cook & Alice Gray
- 1/21 Gerald Judd & Alice Gray
- 1/28 Gerald Judd & Ron Vickers

**Nursery - 8:30:**
- 1/7 Robert Spencer
- 1/14 Karen Grieve
- 1/21 Betty White
- 1/28 Carla Chamberlain

**Nursery - 11:00:**
- 1/7 Faith Carlson
- 1/14 Missie Deibert
- 1/21 Candice Bennett
- 1/28 Betty White

**Flowers:**
- 1/7 Gene & Carla Bowman
- 1/14 Bill Duke
- 1/21 The Carlson’s
- 1/28 Open

**Snack:**
- 1/7 The Surratt’s
- 1/14 The Covington’s
- 1/21 The Grieve’s
- 1/28 The Sullivan’s

Regularly Scheduled Weekly Meetings & Events:

- **Preschool, 4yr olds** - Tuesday - Thursday, 7:45-11:30am
- **Preschool, 3yr olds** - Tuesday - Thursday, 8:30-11:30am
- **I Can Club** - Tuesday & Thursday, 3:30-5pm
- **Bible Study with Pastor Ellen** - On Hold!
- **ASAP** - Tuesday nights from 5-7pm in the Auditorium (non-church related)
- **DNA** - Discipleship, Nurture, Action, Tuesday evenings, 7pm, Parsonage
- **Disciple Bible Study, Rift-ers edition** - Sunday 3:30pm in the Fellowship Hall—On Hold until January
- **Children’s Choir** - 1st & 3rd Wednesday’s at 6pm in the Underground
- **Hand Bell Choir** - Wednesday’s, 6:30-7:30pm in the Auditorium
- **Chancel Choir** - Wednesday’s, 7:30-8:45pm in the Underground
- **Mens Bible Breakfast Club** - Thursday mornings from 7:15-8:15 am
- **Each Thursday - 12 Noon Community Service** - Luray Church of the Brethren
- **Each Thursday** - Noon - Bible Study in the Image Classroom
- **Praise Band Practice** - Thursday nights at 7pm, sanctuary

2018 LUMC Church Council Members:

- Dale Houff-Church Council Chair
- TBD - UMW President
- Walt Surratt-Treasurer
- Bev Wood-Communications
- Robert Spencer-Missions
- Faith Carlson-Staff/Parish
- Wanda Butler-at Large Member
- Cathy Weaver-Council Secretary
- Sharon Surratt-Board of Trustees
- Ron Vickers/Carol Angier-Fellowship
- Julia Verba-Worship
- Karen Grieve-Sunday School Super.
- Rusty McCoy-at Large Member
- Rev. Erich Bennett
- Jeff Jennings-Lay Leader
- Larry Hakel-Financial
- Tommy Page-Outreach
TOPICS FOR BIBLE STUDY & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Tuesday Mornings, 11:00am - Bible Study - On Hold
All Are Welcome to Attend in the Image Classroom

Sunday Afternoon - 3:30pm - Disciple Bible Study - On Hold until 2018
RIFTER's - Reading in Faith Together, book & Bible study - Disciple Version

Thursday Mornings, 7:15am - Men’s Bible Breakfast
Breakfast and Bible study with a lot of discussion in the Fellowship Hall. “Men Only”.

Thursday’s at Noon - Bill’s Bible Study in the Image Class

Sunday Mornings, 9:45am Children's Sunday School
School Aged Children are taught using HeartShaper curriculum by Standard Publishing
3yr Old Sunday School Class
Preschool - Age 4 until start Kindergarten
Early Elementary - K-3rd Grade
Older Elementary - Grade 4-8

Sunday Mornings, 9:45 am High School Class, In the Underground - Grade 9-12 - Bible Verses

Adult Sunday School - All Ages - CrossWalk, Image Class, 4th Floor
Adult Women’s Sunday School Bible Study Class - Parlor, Sanctuary level

2018 COMMUNITY NOON SERVICE - ROTATING SCHEDULE

JANUARY - LURAY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
FEBRUARY - LURAY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
MARCH - CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
APRIL - LUMC
MAY - MAIN ST BAPTIST
JUNE - ST. MARK LUTHERAN
JULY - LURAY SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
AUGUST - LURAY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
SEPTEMBER - LURAY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
OCTOBER - CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
NOVEMBER - LUMC
DECEMBER - MAIN ST BAPTIST

Weekly KIT Email (Keep in Touch)
This is an informative weekly email to let you know what is coming up or happening at the church each week.
Call or email the church office too be added to the list. Keep in Touch!

Chancel Choir: Bases: CR Suddith, Jim Ashanky, Larry Hakel, Dale Houff, Jim Grieve; Tenors: Erich Bennett, Dave Naser; Altos: Cathy Whittle, Alice Gray, Layne Vickers, Judy Suddith, Carol Miller; Sopranos: Julia Verba, Elly Hakel, Nancy Brubaker, Cathy Ashanky, Beverly Daugherty


TELEPHONE PRAYER CHAIN:
If you have need for prayer and would like to be placed on our prayer chain, call the church office or Peggy Turner 743-3386.
If you would like to be called when a situation comes up that needs prayer, or if you could be a caller, calling 5-6 persons once you receive the message, let the church office know.

Luray United Methodist Church
Physical Address: 1 West Main Street
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 606 Luray, VA 22835
(540)743-6540 Fax: 743-9109
Email: lurayumc@lurayumc.org
Web Page: www.lurayumc.org