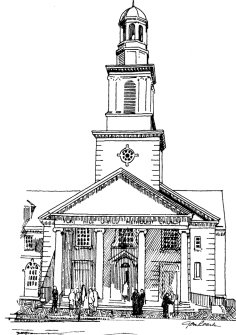


From the Hill



Fort Hill United Methodist Church
106 Oakridge Blvd.
Lynchburg, VA 24502
Phone (434) 847-1251

Corner of Memorial and Oakridge
Website: www.FortHillUMC.org
Since 1908

Volume 47, No. 2

February, 2012

The Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, February 5, 2012



More than 140 million Americans will tune in to the Super Bowl football game see the New York Giants and the New England Patriots face off. There will be parties with abundant food, friendship and fellowship. At the same time, there will be people worrying about staying warm, finding shelter and a warm meal. Join the youth of our church and the movement that transforms Super Bowl weekend into one of the biggest weekends of giving and serving! Visit www.souperbowl.org for more information!

How? There are 3 ways:

1. Purchase a Souper Bowl sub! Youth will be taking orders, through February 2nd, in the Parlor and in the church office. Turkey, ham and roast beef subs are available for \$6.00 (\$8.00 for double meat). Toppings are available as well. Subs will be ready to pick up after worship on Sunday, February 5th.
2. Drop your donations in big soup pots that the youth will holding at the church doors on Feb. 5th. Large bills, small bills, coins or checks are welcome! Checks should be made to Fort Hill UMC.
3. Bring canned and other non-perishable food items to the narthex through February 5th!! Vote for your favorite Super Bowl team by placing your donations on that team's table!

All monetary and canned food donations will go to support *PARKVIEW UMC MISSION*. Thank you for supporting the youth of our church in this effort to love our neighbors! Thank you!



COMING SOON: STOP HUNGER NOW Lenten Mission Project

Stop Hunger Now is an international hunger relief agency that has been fulfilling its commitment to end hunger for more than thirteen years. Fort Hill will host a meal packaging event this spring where we will put together at least 10,000 meals! The meals are made up of rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and a flavoring mix, including 21 essential vitamins and minerals. The food stores easily and transports quickly. The meals are distributed all over the world to areas in crisis.

Stay tuned for more information about this exciting event! In the meantime, if you would like to be part of the planning team, please contact Carol Dee Robertson or Jackie Bliss. Also, start saving those pennies (and quarters and dollars!) During Lent, we will be raising money to fund the event. Each meal costs 25 cents. The more money we raise, the more food we can pack to send to those in need.

For more information on Stop Hunger Now, including the impact they are making to end hunger around the world, visit their website at www.stophungernow.org.

A Word From Our Pastor

Will 2012 Be the End of Time?

A classic exchange took place between a patient and her therapist. Concerned about the woman's persistent pattern of depression, the therapist asked, "Do you wake up grumpy in the morning?" She replied, "No, he wakes up himself."

The year 2012 is upon us. It is a year that will include another presidential election and the end of time. End of time, you ask? According to some interpretations of the Mayan calendar, the world will suffer cataclysmic changes beginning on the winter solstice on December 21, 2012 (12/21/12). Regardless of whether or not that is likely (and I think not very), I have noticed a trend that may somehow be related. More people are waking up grumpy. It's not that there's nothing to be grumpy about: an endangered planet, a degrading drug culture, crippling crime waves, broken families, bio-engineering run wild, deteriorating immune systems, widening gap between the rich and the poor, etc.

Whether the year is 1000, 2000, or 2012, when milestones such as this arise, we get a little obsessive. It's easy to understand. How many of you routinely trade in a car every couple of years, in order to get the best possible deal? Or how many of you keep your cars till they're on their last axle? You trade-in types are missing out. We drive-it-into-the-ground types get one of the greatest cheap thrills life has to offer.

It's that moment when your clunker's odometer finally clicks from 99,999 to 100,000. It doesn't matter if the turn-over comes while crawling through a snaggle of road construction, inching through the bank's drive-up window, or cruising down the interstate enjoying the sights.

It's always a ridiculously momentous occasion. I've known otherwise relatively sane individuals who make the "big click" by pulling over and jumping out only to race around their car. All those times we've cursed and kicked the aging beast are forgotten and forgiven as we celebrate its great achievement.

If we get this excited about little click-overs (999, 1999, 9,999 fascinate us), it's no wonder that society can be swept up into a wave of apocalyptic excitement. The racing approach of 12/21/12 is the clicking over of a kind of cosmic odometer. We are the chosen ones. When the world changed from the year 999 to 1000, there were only 400 million spectators. Come 12/21/12 there will be 6.99 billion humans watching, 313 million in the U.S. With it comes, for some, a feeling of awe, of dread, of wonder, of fear, of anticipation.

All this wonder and worry about the future is expressed in two ways. First is nonchalance. The second way our apocalyptic anxieties are manifesting themselves is in an ever-ready crop of endist literature detailing and datelining doomsday or our obsession with the end of time.

Our mounting apocalyptic fever and obsession with end times (most recently evidenced by Rev. Camping's reoccurring errors with arithmetic), isn't necessarily a sign of a culture about to grow more God-attuned. In fact, historical precedence indicates that religious faith will take an increasingly negative turn. It was during the 990's to 1030's that full-blown heresy and anti-Semitism emerged in the West with rancor, hatred, and violence.

In the midst of the chatter of doomsayers, we have been called. Isn't this what Jesus called his church to be: a community of hope? Not a Pollyanna hope where "everything will turn out right." After all, at Christmas we are celebrating the birth of a child doomed to die under torture. We are called to offer a Gospel of hope that proclaims that whatever turns the future takes, the power of the cross can take us around every corner, with confidence and victory.

Are you presenting yourself to the world as a sacrament and sign of this kind of hope? As the year 2012 advances, may that be our goal!

Peace, Philip

Music Ministry

Worship Participation for 10:30 a.m. Worship Service Announced

- Feb. 5** Sanctuary Choir & Celebration Ringers
- Feb. 12** Sanctuary Choir
- Feb. 19** Sanctuary Choir & Instrumental Ensemble
- Feb. 26** Sanctuary Choir & Instruments of Praise



Bell Ringers To Attend Bell Festival

Ten Fort Hill Celebration Ringers will attend a festival of handbell ringers at Eagle Eyrie Conference Center on February 3 & 4. The event will be directed by David Harris, director of the popular Raleigh Ringers.

The Celebration Ringers will also participate in the second annual Handbell Happening on Saturday, March 17 at Heritage UMC Disciple Center on Leesville Road. Handbell ringers from Lynchburg and surrounding areas will combine time and talents as they rehearse, learn and network with one another. The event concludes with a concert at 4:30 p.m. that is open to the public.

Miscellaneous



February Connection Dinner Menus

(Subject to the reopening of the kitchen)

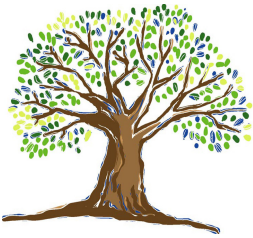
Suggested donations: \$5.00 per person, age 10 & up; \$2.00 children ages 6-9; under age 5 Free; Families - no more than \$15.00

- February 1** Kielbasa or turkey sausage with sauerkraut, roasted potatoes, mixed grilled vegetables, sliced tomatoes, hard rolls and rice pudding
- February 8** Swiss steak, Brussels sprouts, boiled potatoes, fruit salad, hot bread, pie & ice cream
- February 15** Creamed chicken breast casserole, roasted carrots, buttered broccoli, congealed salad, hot biscuits, bread pudding with hot sauce
- February 22 Shrove (Fat) Tuesday (Celebrated on Wednesday at FHUMC!)** Pancake dinner with apple sauce and bacon, donuts for dessert Come and pig out! (If you would rather have a vegetable salad, let Fred know in advance)
- February 29** Baked ham, potato salad, green beans, vegetable salad, hot bread, fruit cocktail cake

NOTE: A children's menu will be available, if requested in advance.

Reminder: Anytime the Lynchburg City Schools are closed (inclement weather or otherwise), we will not serve dinner that evening.

Bits and Pieces



What About Forrest and Susie Oglesby?

Why are their names so familiar to Fort Hill UMC?

The year was 1940 when the Oglesbys moved into our parsonage across the street from the church. They went on to serve us longer than any one we had had before, and we loved them both. He was our “hero-movie star” minister, and she was our “cute, feisty, little” pianist/organist.

Our church had struggled during the depression just to stay alive. My future father-in-law, Jack L. Thompson, along with other members of the Board, would often pay the preacher, out of their own pockets, when the budget wasn't met. They could ill-afford it. So, this was the climate here when Forrest Bedford Oglesby came to Fort Hill Methodist Church.

Immediately after their arrival, things began to improve. They brought joy and inspired us to live, love and serve God. New members were attracted, coming in droves, despite limits to our physical plant. The sanctuary was in the basement. We had no organ, but we had good musicians in our congregation, and we were energized to do better. We still had little money, but, somehow, we were able to buy a new organ.

The Oglesbys loved youth and leading us was paramount to them. In the tiny kitchen near Oxford Hall, the older teens prepared Sunday evening tea each week before our meeting. Paper plates stretched in rows on the counter tops and were filled with sandwiches and chips. Young people came from all over Lynchburg. We became a “dating mecca” for our part of the city.

(This story will be continued in the March edition of From the Hill. Watch for it!)

*-Jo Griffin, Historian
Janie Jessee History Room*

February Communion Offering to Benefit The Gateway

The Gateway is a program of New Land Samaritan Inns, Inc., a private, nonprofit organization that depends on private and public gifts to provide shelter and rehabilitative service to these homeless men in recovery from substance and alcohol abuse. Your gift to the communion offering on February 5 can help make a difference in someone's life.



Half of the communion offering will go to The Gateway and the other half will go to Interfaith Outreach Association to help those who need assistance with rent, utilities, food, etc. Thank you for your generous gifts!

Congratulations to

Megan Boniface, daughter of Les and Patty Marsh, and granddaughter of Farrar and Nancy Marsh, who graduated on December 17, 2011, from James Madison University with a Master of Physician Assistant Studies. She will be taking her boards the end of January and all prayers are welcome. She and her husband, Kevin, are now living in Denver.

Year-End Treasurer's Reports Due

All Sunday School class treasurers, as well as treasurers of various church groups, need to submit a report of all their financial activity for 2011 to the church office by February 28. **Please have someone audit your report and sign it along with your signature.**

If you have any questions about this, or need assistance in how to write your report, please contact Jeanette at 847-1251, ext. 10.

Lunch Out Group to Meet in February

Come join the Lunch Out Group in February! They will meet at LaVilla Restaurant, 8109 Timberlake Road, immediately after the 10:30 a.m. worship service on February 26. Reservations are not required - just come to the restaurant! “Dutch treat”, of course.

More Bits and Pieces Page 5



UMW Circle Meeting Dates

Lunch Bunch - Tuesday, February 7, 12:00 Noon at LaVilla Restaurant on Timberlake Road

Diantha Hodges - Tuesday, February 7, 1:00 p.m. in the church Library

Genesis - Tuesday, February 7, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Dee Booth, 206 Dean Street

Pat Light - Thursday, February 16, 6:30 p.m. at LaCarreta Restaurant on Langhorne Road

Shepherd's Gathering Planned

The next Shepherd's meeting will be held on April 15 at LaVilla Restaurant, 8109 Timberlake Road, immediately after the 10:30 a.m. worship service that day. Cathy Armes will present an informative program on aging issues. Shepherd's, please mark your calendars now! You will not want to miss this gathering.



2012 Flower Chart Available

If you are looking for a way to honor or remember someone, you might want to consider placing flowers on the altar some Sunday. To do so, you can check the new Flower Chart that is in the office hallway beside the water fountain. Just sign your name beside the date that you want, place your check for \$60 in one of the special envelopes provided at the chart, along with the wording that you wish to be in the bulletin, and place the envelope in the collection plate or bring to the church office.



If you wish a certain color or particular type of flower, just let the church office know.

WEDNESDAY Evening VESPERS

Evening VESPERS (6:45-7:00) in the Chapel immediately following the Wednesday Connection Supper, March 7th. All are invited to attend.

Spiritual Formation

It is not too late to join the Acts 29 small group study on Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. (Jan. 24 through March 27)
Contact Janet Hawkins or Dodie Fauber for more information.

Love is our congregational prayer focus for February. Let us unite our thoughts and hopes by praying daily for Love. Of course, Valentine's Day reminds us of love and those in our family, church, and community whom we love and appreciate. The Bible tells us that God is love, so as we pray we make connection with God's extravagant and eternal love for us and for others. Let us pray for a growing ability to love God and neighbor as we love ourselves.



Season of Lent Begins in February

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 22. Devotional resources will be available, for use during the Lenten season, to assist us with examining our spiritual life, in preparation for Easter. Be sure to pick up a copy for yourself and also for a shut-in, friend, or relative. Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you.



What Do You Know About Our Designated Prayer Area?

Our Prayer Area, located in the Conference Room, is a peaceful, lovely spot for meditation and prayer. The space is available whenever the church is open, unless a group is meeting there. Comfortable chairs and meaningful spiritual resources are there to assist you in connecting with God. Come! God is waiting there for you.

Children and Youth



KIDS' NIGHT OUT!

**Saturday,
February 18, 2012
6:00 - 9:00 pm**

(Enter at the Wilson St. entrance)

IT'S FUN & GAMES NIGHT!

Wear something comfortable and your tennis shoes! We'll be playing some fun games and making healthy snacks! Ms. Sally Sullivan is going to remind us how to take care of ourselves in a fun way! All children are invited! Age-appropriate activities will be provided for preschoolers and elementary-age children. Childcare will also be provided for infants. **IN-VITE YOUR FRIENDS!**

FEBRUARY MENU: Chicken nuggets, french fries, grapes, cherry tomatoes, ice cream sandwiches, lemonade & milk. If your child has allergies or cannot eat these foods, please let us know and plan to bring a snack supper or treat for your child.

Please help us plan better by registering your children and their friends in the office by Thursday, February 16th at 847-1251 or kendra@forthillumc.org.



VBS 2012 IS COMING...

**And we are seeking a
VBS Director! Could
it be YOU?**

After 12 consecutive years as Director of Vacation Bible School at Fort Hill UMC, Carol Dee Robertson has decided to "pass the baton" to another amazing volunteer in the church! She has given countless hours of planning, decorating, shopping, training, leading and organizing so that 12 FANTASTIC Vacation Bible School programs could take place and helped hundreds of children experience the love of Christ. Please join us in thanking Carol Dee for her selfless dedication to the children of this church and community and to God. She has been the heart beat of VBS for many years!

THE GOOD NEWS is that Carol Dee is not leaving us and WILL continue to help with VBS, only in a different capacity. She is also happy to help advise the new Director. If you would like to be our VBS Director, please contact Kendra right away! A curriculum has been chosen and we are ready to select dates and to start planning for 2012 VBS fun!

FORT HILL UMC YOUTH FEBRUARY SCHEDULE



- Feb. 4 Meet to make Super Bowl subs—Time TBD
- Feb. 5 Youth Super Bowl Party at the Robertson's House, 2907 Sedgewick Drive, Lynchburg, 6:00pm
- Feb. 12 Youth Group at church, 5:30-7:30pm
- Feb. 17-19 Lynchburg & Danville Districts' Youth Retreat
- Feb. 19 No Youth Group—GET SOME REST!
- Feb. 25 TOP Ministry in Miller Park, 3-5pm – Prepare @ 1:00 at church, Clean up 5:00 p.m. until finished.

facebook

YOUTH & PARENTS— Check the Fort Hill UMC Youth Facebook page regularly for updates & info!

"BE TRANSFORMED: Romans 12:2-5"



LYNCHBURG AND DANVILLE BI-DISTRICT YOUTH RETREAT February 17-19, 2012

at the 4-H Center at Smith Mtn. Lake

\$50 for FHUMC youth and \$95 for guests
Additional scholarships available upon request.
Register with Kendra by February 1st.
(includes 2 nights stay, 4 meals, program and mission project)

The speaker for the retreat is Mark Oestreicher, better known as MarkO, who is a nationally known youth speaker, former president of Youth Specialties, now a partner in The Youth Cartel and a volunteer youth leader at his church. Worship will be led by the band Exit Eden and everyone will participate in packaging 10,000 meals through STOP HUNGER NOW.

All youth in 6th-12th grades are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Miscellaneous

THE BOX SCORE

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" Psalm 122:1

Average worship attendance in 2011 — 179

Average worship attendance as of
January 22, 2012— 164

"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse . . . And put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing." Malachi 3:10

SUMMARY BRIEF OPERATING FUND REPORT

Your first line of giving — mission and ministry!

Budget for 2011 as approved by the Church Council is:
\$482,474.00

We need an average of \$9,103.29 per week to meet
this budget.

As of 4 weeks, our weekly receipts
have averaged \$6,173.15

**Thank you for your support of the mission
and ministry of your church!**

From the Hill

is a publication of Fort Hill United Methodist Church,
106 Oakridge Boulevard, Lynchburg, VA 24502-1308

Phone: 434-847-1251

Fax: 434-847-2536

Web: www.FortHillUMC.org

Times of Worship

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Staffed nursery provided from 9:15 a.m.- 12:00 Noon

Susan Zenz, Nursery Attendant

Rev. Philip M. Waltz, Pastor

Philip@forthillumc.org

Rev. Janet Hawkins, Minister of Music &

Congregational Care

Janet@FortHillUMC.org

Kendra Toney, Dir. of Youth & Children's Ministries

Kendra@FortHillUMC.org

Jeanette Seale, Administrative Assistant

secretary@FortHillUMC.org

Fort Hill is located on the Lynchburg District

Rev. Larry E. Davies, District Superintendent

Phone: 434-832-0401

Fort Hill is one of 1,299 congregations of the Virginia
Conference of the United Methodist Church

337,641 Virginia United Methodists engaged in
ministry to others on behalf of Christ

Rev. Charlene Kammerer, Bishop

Richmond, VA

Phone: 1-800-768-6040

"Fort Hill United Methodist Church
reaches out and welcomes ALL people
by sharing God's LOVE."

-Fort Hill UMC Vision Statement

Do We Have Yours?

Have you responded to the 2012 Operating Budget stewardship campaign? If not, sending in your Estimate of Giving card will help us wrap up the campaign and also help the church know what funds will be available for expenses in 2012. To date, we have received a total of 116 cards totaling \$335,240 in pledges. Thank you to those who have already returned their cards.

Information Note: For those who pledged a weekly amount, there are 53 Sundays in 2012 instead of the usual 52. Your pledge will be adjusted unless you call the church office and inform us otherwise.



**"THAT'S A NICE THOUGHT, SISTER IDA,
BUT I'M NOT SURE IT'S BIBLICAL TO INCLUDE A
COUPON 'GOOD FOR \$5.00 OFF YOUR NEXT TITHE'
IN OUR NEWSLETTER"**



Fort Hill United Methodist Church
106 Oakridge Blvd.
Lynchburg, VA 24502

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Rev. Philip M. Waltz
Pastor

Rev. Janet D. Hawkins
Minister of Music & Congregational Care

Worship Times:
10:30 a.m. Traditional Service in the
Sanctuary

Sunday School for All Ages: 9:15 a.m.

**Staffed nursery provided for
worship service and Sunday School**

**SPOT-
LIGHT
ON...**



Ash Wednesday Service **Wednesday, February 22** **7:00 p.m.**

You will not want to miss this moving service, which marks the beginning of the Lenten season. Come hear special music and a special message by Reverend Waltz. At 6:00 p.m., there will be a "ShroveTuesday" meal served. Then stay for the service at 7:00 p.m.

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p>SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary</p> </div>			<p><i>1</i></p> <p>7:00a Men's Group 6:00 Wed. Connection meal 7:00 Celebration Ringers</p>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p>7:00 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p><i>3</i></p> <p>9:30 <i>Unveiling Mary Magdalene Study</i></p>	<p><i>4</i></p>		
<p><i>5</i></p> <p>Holy Communion</p> <p>4:30 Explorer Bible Study</p>	<p><i>6</i></p> <p>6:30 Finance Committee</p>	<p><i>7</i></p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Lunch Bunch Circle 1:00 D. Hodges Circle 1:30 <i>Acts 29 Study</i> 7:00 Genesis Circle 7:00 Dist. Common Table</p>	<p><i>8</i></p> <p>7:00a Men's Group 12:00 Office Vol. Appreciation Lunch 6:00 Wed. Connection meal 7:00 Celebration Ringers 7:00 Children's Council Mtg</p>	<p><i>9</i></p> <p>1:00 Witness Team 7:00 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p><i>10</i></p> <p>9:30 <i>Unveiling Mary Magdalene Study</i></p>	<p><i>11</i></p>		
<p><i>12</i> Children's Church 11:45 Stop Hunger Now M 12:00 MissionInsite Group meets-Bring lunch. 4:30 Explorer Bible Study</p>	<p><i>13</i></p> <p>6:30 Church Council</p>	<p><i>14</i></p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 1:30 <i>Acts 29 Study</i> 7:30 Church Council</p>	<p><i>15</i></p> <p>7:00a Men's Group 6:00 Wed. Connection meal 7:00 Celebration Ringers</p>	<p><i>16</i></p> <p>6:30 P. Light Circle @ LaCaretta on Langhorne Road 7:00 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p><i>17</i></p> <p>9:30 <i>Unveiling Mary Magdalene Study</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p>District Youth Retreat</p> </div>	<p><i>18</i></p> <p>6-9 Kid's Night Out</p>		
<p><i>19</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p>District Youth Retreat</p> </div> <p>4:30 Explorer Bible Study</p>	<p><i>20</i></p> <p>5:00 FH Neighborhood Watch</p>	<p><i>21</i></p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 1:30 <i>Acts 29 Study</i> 7:00 Celebration Ringers</p>	<p><i>22</i></p> <p>7:00a Men's Group 6:00 Wed. Connection meal 7:00 Ash Wed. Service 8:00 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p><i>23</i></p>	<p><i>24</i></p> <p>9:30 <i>Unveiling Mary Magdalene Study</i></p>	<p><i>25</i></p>		
<p><i>26</i></p> <p>Children's Church 12:00 Lunch Out Group at LaVilla on Timberlake Road 4:30 Explorer Bible Study</p>	<p><i>27</i></p>	<p><i>28</i></p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 1:30 <i>Acts 29 Study</i></p>	<p><i>29</i></p> <p>7:00a Men's Group FHUMC serves at PARKVIEW MISSION 6:00 Wed. Connection meal 7:00 Celebration Ringers</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p>YOUTH ACTIVITIES</p> <p>5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. each Sunday except the 4th Sunday of the month when we go to the park for TOP Ministry</p> </div>				



February Birthdays

2/2 Charlie Moody	2/7 Tommy Carter	2/17 Cindy Englund	2/25 Frances Crowe
2/3 Greg Marsh	2/8 Ron Carey	2/17 Lisa Robertson	2/25 Nancy Billingsley
2/3 Dan Watson	2/9 James Rogers	2/18 Wise Moon	2/25 Sonny Sale
2/3 Brittany Roark	2/9 Sherri Tolley	2/18 Nick Vincent	2/25 Angie Kiger
2/3 Ryan Marsh	2/9 Patrick Sullivan	2/19 Helen Glass	2/26 Judy Hall
2/4 Eric Pollitt	2/10 Leigh Ruhland	2/19 Nathan Kiger	2/26 Stephen Arthur
2/5 Patricia Young	2/10 Meghan Lineberry	2/20 Phyllis Humphrey	2/26 David Glass, Jr.
2/5 Olivia Lowe	2/10 Darla Adams	2/20 Jimmy Mays	2/27 Marc Beverly
2/6 Emily Peters	2/12 Carolyn Maness	2/20 Kim Saville	2/28 Phyllis Williams
2/7 Mary Berrier	2/12 Christy Thompson	2/22 Ann Stinson	2/28 Kelli Tatum
	2/13 Louise Ashwell	2/22 Emily Ruhland	2/28 Abby Englund
	2/14 Turner Lee		

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, it may be because we do not have the date in our data base. Please call the church office at 847-1251 with your information.

February Wedding Anniversaries

2/9 Ray & Dee Booth	43 years	2/15 Jane & Shan Peters	27 years
2/12 Walter & Emma Kelly	41 years	2/16 Ronnie & Jeanette Seale	32 years



Thank you to Charlie Sumpter for delivering 22 boxes of 2012 giving envelopes to church members. In doing this, Charlie saved the church approximately \$50 in postage costs.

To our church family at Fort Hill: I would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers during my Mother's recent illness. It has been a very trying time emotionally and I'm not sure how either of us would have gotten through it without the love and support of our church family. I have always appreciated the friends that I have made at Fort Hill and I have always known that my Mother was very much loved, but I had never realized the extent of that love until December 12. From short visits just to let her know that people care, to the friends that have taken her out to give her some much needed company away from Avante and bringing her to special Church services and even the prayers we don't even know that she is getting, we are truly blessed with each part of the heart that our Fort Hill Family has shown us. As Charlie Armes said, "Fort Hill is the best church ever" and it is made of the best people ever. Thank you so much.
-Much love, Wendy Meese

We extend our deepest sympathy to Martha and Greg Blanks and families upon the death of her husband and his father, Gardner Blanks, on January 23; and to Walter Kelly and family upon the death of his mother, Margaret Kelly, on January 24.



BACKPACKS FOR KIDS! Make a Difference to a Child Today

It is shocking the number of children in the Lynchburg community who do not have access to proper nutrition every day of the week. The good news is that WE **CAN** HELP do something about the issue!

The Back Pack Program is designed to meet the needs of hungry children in our community at times when school breakfast and lunch is not available, such as weekends and holidays. We are looking for individuals, groups or families from the church to volunteer their time and energy to pack food into backpacks **on Thursday evenings, February 2, 9 and 23 at 5:00 pm** at Fairview UMC for an hour. The bags will then need to be delivered to the volunteers at Bass Elementary the same evening. The food is provided by the Food Bank.

If you can be a part of this important mission opportunity, please contact Kendra to sign up! There will also be a sign-up sheet, located on the bulletin board, in the main hallway on the 2nd floor of the church.