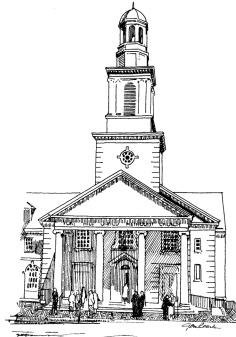


From the Hill

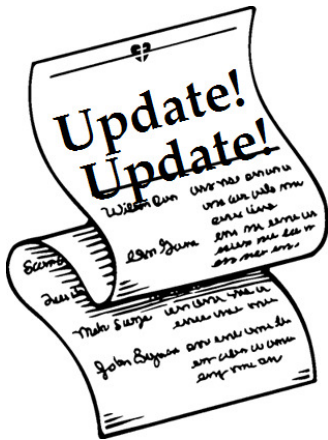


Fort Hill United Methodist Church
106 Oakridge Blvd.
Lynchburg, VA 24502
Phone (434) 847-1251

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

Volume 46, No. 9

September, 2011



During the summer months, both the 8:30 a.m. worship service, and the Wednesday Evening Supper, have been suspended. As we approach the kick-off of the Fall season, both will be receiving a fresh evaluation.

Throughout recent years, the 8:30 a.m. service has sought its own identity and desired to grow, both in numbers and in participation. Numerous styles of worship have been offered and suggestions have been solicited from attendees and others. The Church Council has been invited into this discussion, as well as members of the Worship work group. It is hoped that, in the coming weeks, the status of the 8:30 a.m. worship service will be resolved. Please stay alert for coming updates.

A task force met in August to discuss how the Wednesday Evening Suppers could be developed to its fullest potential as a support for other church programs, mission purpose, and fellowship possibilities. A number of persons representing ministry areas, with interest in the future of the suppers, gathered to evaluate, dream and plan. The suppers will resume on Wednesday, October 5, at 6:00 p.m.

ADULT & CHILD FIRST AID/CPR CLASS TO BE OFFERED

Saturday, September 17, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Oxford Hall

Led by George Armes

This class is being offered specifically for all those who work with children and teens and those who have other needs for training, but it is open to ALL who want to learn the up-to-date methods for first aid, CPR, and choking remedies. The class will be taught using the American Red Cross guidelines, and at the end of the day, you will be officially certified. You just might save a life with what you learn that day. All you need to bring is a fun spirit, a willingness to learn and a lunch! Snacks and drinks will be provided. This is being offered as a gift from George Armes to the church family. No fee is involved. Sign up by contacting the church office (847-1251) by September 14.



First Aid Class

A Word From Our Pastor

God has such a weird sense of humor. For the past few years I've contemplated the quote flip-pantly offered by the late Peter Drucker, an influential management consultant, that the future belongs to three different kinds of people: those who are crazy, crooked, and quick change artists. These past few months God has decided that it was time for me to give that quote my personal due-regarding, dues-paying acknowledgment.

"Into everyone's life some rain must fall." How many sermons have I preached on what it means to live rain-lashed lives? How many times have I taught in painstaking and (I confess) pain-inducing detail that every one of us will not get out of this life without experiences of suffering, failure, disability, and death? How often have I argued that every one of us needs personal "disasters" to make us, and to make us the person God wants us to be? As the late Martin Luther King once said, *"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."*

My favorite illustration of this has been the Chevy Chase remake of the classic movie The Invisible Man. Chase becomes invisible after an industrial accident. Henceforth he could only be seen when outlined by rain, powdered concrete, or something else that fell on him. It's the same way in life. You don't really know the values or value of a person until the rain falls, or a bag of powdered concrete falls on one's head.

But the song says that "some rain must fall" in everyone's life. "Some rain" is different from tornadoes of quick change, hailstorms of crookedness and hurricanes of craziness, in that order. As a country, over the recent years we have experienced that rain at the World Trade Center, among home foreclosures, and in the midst of corporate financial meltdowns.

A mother once shared with her children this sentiment: "Boys, God never wastes an experience." It may still be too early to tell what the experiences of the past ten years will ultimately lead to. Perhaps they will lead us back to the basics, to the meaning of an ensouled life, to the rediscovery of the sheer joy of living, and to engage in the spiritual exercise of assembling a personal list of "These Are a Few of My Favorite Things."

The Russian poet Joseph Brodsky, who was a Nobel laureate in his 40s, ended his poem on his 40th birthday like this;

"Yet until brown clay has been crammed down my larynx, only gratitude will be gushing from it."

The 21st century-- with all its craziness, crookedness, and change-or-be-changedness-- is already here. The new world is not for faint hearts, weak stomachs, or stodgy minds. But whatever the future brings, "only gratitude will be gushing" from this soul. Remember always, "God never wastes an experience."

Peace, Philip

Spiritual Formation



September Prayer Focus is Laity Empowerment

Our congregational prayer focus for September is Laity Empowerment.

Laity – everyone who is not clergy. Empowerment – the act of enabling. The church depends upon the gifts and graces of the lay persons to do the work God calls her to do. Let us join our hearts and minds in prayer that the Holy Spirit will inspire, fill, and strengthen each lay person to grow toward being the person God made each one to be. "Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me." No. 393, *UM Hymnal*

SF Team Looking for New Members

The Spiritual Formation Team welcomes those who feel an interest in the tasks which we perform. The team meets every other month, under the leadership of chairperson Dodie Fauber. Some of our responsibilities are encouraging family and individual devotions, overseeing the prayer chain, designating the monthly prayer focus, and sponsoring the National Day of Prayer observance. We assist persons to grow in their relationship with God and in becoming more like Christ.

If you are interested in being a part of the Spiritual Formation Team, please contact Dodie, 384-5637, catandjog@aol.com

Music Ministry

Vocal chords out of shape...off key...flat?

Join choir for an exercise in aerobic singing. Guaranteed to sharpen sound, trim tone & reduce oxygen requirements! No prior experience necessary. No special equipment needed!

♪ Sanctuary Choir (Teens through.....) rehearse Thursdays at 7 p.m. EXCEPT first rehearsal will be September 1 at 7:30 p.m.

♪ Celebration Ringers Handbell Choir (College age through...) rehearse Wednesdays at 7 p.m. beginning September 14.

♪ Instrumental Ensemble (All ages and stages) - Play and rehearse (8:45 a.m.) the third Sunday of each month.

♪ Seasonal children's musical activities will be planned depending upon availability of volunteer leadership.

NOTE: Aerobic singing & ringing are not hazardous to your health when conducted by a qualified instructor!!

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

Sept. 4	Sanctuary Choir
Sept. 11	Sanctuary Choir
Sept. 18	Sanctuary Choir & Instrumental Ensemble
Sept. 25	Sanctuary Choir

Musical Coming to Fort Hill in December

TWO FROM GALILEE, a dramatic musical based on the book by Marjorie Holmes, will be presented by Fort Hill members and friends on Saturday, December 10th.



This musical is the love story of Mary and Joseph. But Two From Galilee is not just about love, tradition, angels, shepherds or kings. It is not about finding true love, but about discovering God's will. The Christmas story is the story of the God who intervened in the course of history and came to reveal God's

purpose and accomplish His will – the birth of our Savior, Jesus.

All aspiring actors & actresses, singers, set designers, seamstresses, musicians We need YOU! The cast includes ten principal characters, multiple minor roles and the chorus. Auditions for these roles will be held in the choir room Tuesday, August 30 & Thursday, September 1 beginning at 6:30 p.m. each night. Contact Janet or Philip for more information or to sign up. A good time will be had by all!!!

A Word of Thanks to

those who participated in the Men's & Women's Choral Ensembles in August. We are blessed to have so many willing and talented musicians! Special thanks go to Daryl Knott for sharing her expertise working with women's voices. We are already looking forward to next summer!

CALLING ALL INSTRUMENTALISTS...

The Fort Hill Instrumental Ensemble will participate in the 10:30 a.m. worship service Sunday, September 18. Participants will meet in the sanctuary at 8:45 a.m. to rehearse.



Bits and Pieces



Old Newsletters Reveal "Two Events"

Inspiration for writing the history column comes from many different sources and, frequently, it comes as I organize old newsletters and bulletins from Fort Hill's past. Recently, catching my eye was a newsletter dated September, 1992. It has the title "Two Events," and was written by our minister, Rev. Emmitt Eccard.

The first event has to do with Labor Day, and he tells the story of an elderly lady who cleans for a famous pianist, Mrs. Boulanger. Mary was so pleased with the beautiful, shiny floors she had done, she hesitantly knocked on her employer's door and asked her to come and see them. The pianist was so impressed, knowing how Mary had labored to have them look so beautiful. She wrote her friend, Igor Stravinsky, saying, "You and Mary will appear before the Lord for doing great work." Stravinsky replied, "You flatter me. Mary's efforts are far greater and with little gain."

The second event concerns our teacher's and children's return to school. We hope they will all do well and, like Mary and Stravinsky, strive to do their very best.

-Jo Griffin, Historian
Janie Jessee History Room

Sisters in Christ Bible Study To Resume in September

Beginning on Wednesday, September 7, and going until Wednesday, November 16, the Sisters in Christ Bible study group, led by Catherine Drinkard, will begin again. This quarter, they will resume their study of the book of Matthew, starting with Chapter 13. All ladies in the church, and their friends, are welcome to join in this study, which will meet at 1:00 p.m. in the church Library each Wednesday. Questions? Call Catherine Drinkard at 993-2819

Fall Train Excursions Being Planned

All aboard! Your choice of two different round trips, one on November 5 and the other on November 6, to Bristol, VA and Bluefield, WV, respectively. For more information, you can pick up a brochure in the church office or call Rev. John Siegle at 384-6951.



September Communion Offering to Benefit Hunters for the Hungry

One half of the September Communion offering will go to Hunters for the Hungry and the other half will go to Interfaith Outreach Association to assist those who need help with rent, utilities, food, etc.



Hunters for the Hungry operates by solicitation of successful hunters to donate venison. The deer are accepted by professional meat cutters who process (cut, wrap, and freeze) the venison. The meat is provided at no cost and is distributed by food banks and other 501 (C) (3) nonprofit organizations feeding Virginia's needy. They are not supported by any state funds nor receive any support from any United Way Agency. Funds are raised to cover the cost of processing, distribution, and the overhead expenses of operation (less than 20% of total expenses). Financial support is currently the limiting factor.

Your generous donation on Communion Sunday will help these hunters feed the hungry as well as help those who go to Interfaith Outreach looking for assistance.

UMW Unit Meeting Set



The next UMW Unit Meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 12, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. A representative from Interfaith Outreach will be present to give an update on the organization.

The menu for the evening is a cold plate consisting of chicken salad, potato salad, a fruit and spinach salad, cottage cheese, a croissant, homemade dessert, and coffee and iced tea. Please make your reservation by giving Kim Beuerle \$6.00 in cash (or check made payable to Fort Hill UMW) **no later than Sunday, September 4.**

Spiritual Formation Team will be meeting again on September 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p align="center">SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary</p> </div>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p align="center">YOUTH ACTIVITIES</p> <p align="center">5:00 - 7:30 p.m. each Sunday</p> </div>		<p align="center"><i>1</i></p> <p>6:30 Dist. Youth Council 6:30 Auditions for <i>2 from Galilee</i> 7:30 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p align="center"><i>2</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>3</i></p>
<p align="center"><i>4</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>5</i></p> <p>Church Office Closed</p> <p align="center"><i>Have a Safe Labor Day Weekend</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>6</i></p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 J. Matheny Circle 1:00 D. Hodges Circle 7:00 Genesis Circle</p>	<p align="center"><i>7</i></p> <p>7:00 Men's Group 1:00 Sisters in Christ</p>	<p align="center"><i>8</i></p> <p>11:00 Nurture Team 7:00 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p align="center"><i>9</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>10</i></p>
<p align="center"><i>11</i></p> <p>12:00 Lunch Out Group to Charley's</p> <p>Youth Family Picnic</p>	<p align="center"><i>12</i></p> <p>6:00 UMW Meeting</p>	<p align="center"><i>13</i></p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 1:00 Witness 7:00 Church Council</p>	<p align="center"><i>14</i></p> <p>7:00 Men's Group 1:00 Sisters in Christ 7:00 Celebration Ringers</p>	<p align="center"><i>15</i></p> <p>Newsletter Deadline 7:00 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p align="center"><i>16</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>17</i></p> <p>8-4:30 CPR/ First Aid Class</p> <p>6:00 F. Oglesby Class picnic</p>
<p align="center"><i>18</i></p> <p>3-5 Youth TOP Ministry at Miller Park</p>	<p align="center"><i>19</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>20</i></p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 P. Light Circle 7:00 Spiritual Formation</p>	<p align="center"><i>21</i></p> <p>7:00 Men's Group 1:00 Sisters in Christ 7:00 Celebration Ringers</p>	<p align="center"><i>22</i></p> <p>7:00 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p align="center"><i>23</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>24</i></p>
<p align="center"><i>25</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>26</i></p>	<p align="center"><i>27</i></p> <p>10:00 Staff Meeting</p>	<p align="center"><i>28</i></p> <p>7:00 Men's Group 1:00 Sisters in Christ 7:00 Celebration Ringers</p>	<p align="center"><i>29</i></p> <p>7:00 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p align="center"><i>30</i></p>	



September Birthdays

9/1 Marsha Glass	9/8 Jennifer Marsh	9/16 Pat Staton	9/21 Jesse Hamilton
9/2 Terry Minnick	9/8 George Flanik	9/18 Joe Thornhill	9/22 Margaret Gregory
9/2 Whitney Robertson	9/8 Carrie McCane	9/18 Barry Bell	9/22 Travis Simmons
9/3 Brooke Kendrick	9/8 Griffin Spencer	9/18 Jonathan Napier	9/24 Nancy Ware
9/4 Mark Howard	9/10 Carol Hall	9/18 J. D. Lovell	9/27 John Thornhill
9/4 Hannah Waltz	9/11 Havion Ferguson	9/19 W. D. Perdieu	9/27 Marge LaReau
9/4 Sarah Saville	9/13 Marilyn Chilton	9/19 Norma Almond	9/26 Mary Ann Carter
9/4 William Saville, Jr.	9/13 Jackie Gay	9/19 Ryan Trimyer	9/29 Mike Allen
9/6 Pearl Ramsey	9/14 Carolyn Coleman	9/20 Ann Buchanan	9/29 Deborah Gibson
	9/14 Vickie Ferguson	9/20 Phyllis Hicks	9/30 Sara Foutz
	9/15 Jon Roark	9/20 Dalton Huskin	9/30 Michael Manning
	9/15 Rhonda Ford	9/21 Lexey Bourguignon	9/30 Brent Mays

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.

September Wedding Anniversaries



9/5 Tom & Marilyn Chilton	52 years	9/12 Terry & Ann Stinson	41 years
9/7 Jack & Barbara Blackburn	65 years	9/16 Jimmy & JoAnn Mays	50 years
9/7 Don & Sue Gay	49 years	9/19 Robert & Barbara Mayne	22 years
9/10 Sonny, III & Laura Sale	11 years	9/19 Mark & Amanda Anthony	2 years
	9/30 Ken & Delores Layne	50 years	



Dear Friends at Fort Hill, thank you for your cards, prayers and love generously given to us upon the recent death of my aunt, Doris Arthur. It is great appreciated.

In Christian love, Dee & Ray Booth

Thank you to our Fort Hill family for your love and support following Wendy's death on July 23rd.

-Carolyn Maness, Eric, Gavin & McKenzie

We extend our deepest sympathy to Dee Booth upon the death of her aunt, Doris Arthur, on July 19; to Pauline Taylor and Joan Cocke upon the death of her sister-in-law/her aunt, Etta Grey Guthrie, on July 21; to Eric, Gavin and Carolyn Maness upon the death of his wife/his mother/her daughter-in-law, Wendy Maness, on July 23; to Louise Ashwell upon the death of her sister, Annie Pritchett, on August 12; to Ann Gillispie, Amy Grant, Jeff and Jason Spence upon the death of her husband/their grandfather, Carlton "Buddie" Gillispie, on August 13; to Jean Poindexter upon the death of her mother, Nannie Gilbert, on August 17; and to Annette, Jennifer, Elizabeth and Bill Moseley upon the death of her father-in-law/their grandfather, Clarence "Chuck" Moseley, on August 19.



Congratulations to Michael Wilkes and Elizabeth (Liz) Joseph upon their marriage on August 20. Michael is the son of Stacey Wilkes. The couple now resides at 102 Moss Creek Drive, Apt. 202, Forest, VA 24551.

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 2010 — 167

Average worship attendance as of
August 21, 2011— 185

"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:
\$482,225.00

We need an average of \$9,273.56 per week to meet
this budget.

As of 34 weeks, our weekly receipts
have averaged \$8,112.37

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

UMW Still Collecting for Missions

United Methodist Women are continuing to collect used postage stamps, soda can tabs, Campbell product labels and Box Tops for Education to send to the Conference to help with various mission projects. You do not have to belong to the UMW in order to save these items. Just clip, peel or cut these wanted items and place them in the box that is provided in the hallway leading into the Parlor.

Labels to collect are: Campbell soups (save the box with the UPC code and child symbol off the back of the Campbell's cans (no front labels), Vlasic Pickles (save lid), Picante (save lid), Swanson Frozen Products (save UPC symbols), Pepperidge Farm Products (save UPC symbol), Franco American Spaghetti & Prego Sauce (save front label), and Campbell's Soup and Recipe Mix (save bottom flap).

Pop top rings from cans are being collected to benefit the Ronald McDonald House in Roanoke. Funds from the sale of these rings are used for any specific needs at the home, such as food for residents or other housing needs, etc. Pop top rings should be put in a plastic bag and put in the collection box or given to Barbara Jenks.

Cancelled stamps are being collected to raise funds for UMCOR. All cancelled stamps, except bulk mail stamps, are collected, with foreign stamps being the most valuable. Please cut the stamps off the envelope, leaving a 1/4 inch border. Rows of stamps should be left in a row but with the same diameter border.

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

8:30 a.m. Traditional; in the Chapel

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 through
care, worship, education, and service."*

-Fort Hill UMC Vision Statement

theParentLink

For important parent information about Youth and Children's Ministries, please visit www.forthillumc.org. Go to the children's or youth pages and click on the ParentLink logo. You may also contact Kendra Toney at 847-1251 or 546-0576 or kendra@forthillumc.org.



Fort Hill United Methodist Church
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Address Service Requested

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Rev. Philip M. Waltz
Pastor

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

Worship Times:
8:30 a.m. Traditional Service in the Chapel
 (only September—May)
10:30 a.m. Traditional Service in the
Sanctuary

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

Staffed nursery provided for
all services and Sunday School



United Methodist Women Circles to Start Meeting Again
in September



After taking a break for the summer months, the Fort Hill UMW circles are ready to start meeting again. If you are not a member of one of these busy circles, then you might want to visit one of them to see what is happening in this unit, as well as enjoy some good fellowship. Three of the circles meet the first Tuesday of every month and one circle meets the third Tuesday of each month. The circles are:

Judy Matheny Circle (also known as the Lunch Bunch Circle) - meeting on Tuesday, September 6 at 12:00 noon at LaVilla Restaurant, 8109 Timberlake Road

Diantha Hodges Circle - meeting on Tuesday, September 6 at 1:00 at in the church Library, Mary Wootton, chairperson

Genesis Circle - meeting on Tuesday, September 6 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Mary Siegle, 1225 Krise Circle, Bonnie Kiger, chairperson

Pat Light Circle - meeting on Tuesday, September 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Stacey Lowe, 2837 Link Road, Cathy Armes & Stacey Lowe, co-chairpersons