



# The Grapevine

Clarksbury United Methodist Church  
15924 General Puller Highway, Hardyville, Virginia  
[www.clarksburyumc.com](http://www.clarksburyumc.com)

November 2016

Our Mission:

To receive and share God's love through worship, education, service and outreach.

## Pastor Ken's Corner

*Colossians 1:11-20 (NRSV)*

*<sup>11</sup> May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup> He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. <sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; <sup>16</sup> for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.*

**WOW – Wonder of Wonders!!!**

The Fall Food Bank was awesome!

The Stop Hunger Now project was great FUN!!!!...ask Warren or me how many servings were packed!!!

The Men's BBQ was stupendous...what a smoker!!! The ladies' baked goods were delicious.

☺ ☺☺ as always ☺ ☺☺

The UMM's Bible study of scriptures with Adam Hamilton was well received. We've started our Advent study with Adam Hamilton again – *Not a Silent Night*. There is still time to join us; we can always get more books and/or share until we get one for you...if you missed the early sign-up.

The feel of fall in the air, the changing of the leaves, a little raking required here and there...yet, all in all, nothing to complain about. NOW...what does this season signify for you? Are you taking stock of all your blessings? Are you looking at all the wonderful gifts God has provided this year?

*<sup>11</sup> May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to **endure everything with patience, while joyfully** <sup>12</sup> **giving thanks to the Father**, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.*

Where do your thoughts go when you consider all with which you have been blessed? The above scripture does not guarantee that there won't be trials, that there won't be tribulation, but that God above gives us the strength to endure and persevere. We should be giving thanks ALL YEAR round **not just on one Thursday of the 11<sup>th</sup> month of our year!!!** Not a grudgingly somber thanksgiving either, rather a thanksgiving **JOYFULLY** offered. ☺ ☺

Charge Conference is complete. We had the first of what will become an annual business meeting, and oh, by the way, there was great food that day as well.

The first Saturday in November is coming soon. That means the Cryer Center Mobile Food Pantry will be here. Anyone who hasn't yet seen this operation needs to come see this. Zoar Baptist is scheduled for primary workers, but we can always use assistance. There is plenty of work to go around.

We remember our Veterans who served our country so that we and future generations can enjoy the freedoms we have today. We will have these freedoms only so long as men and women of each generation are willing to make these sacrifices. **THANK YOU** to all those who **SERVE** and **HAVE SERVED!!!**

Show your appreciation for their sacrifice and **VOTE!** November 8 is the day we all are equal to each other as citizens of this blessed country with an obligation to participate in the process of selecting our leaders. **EVERY** vote counts. You must vote for it to count though.

As we prepare for the approaching Advent season which begins on November 27 (Advent means "Coming") we think about His birth and His second coming. Where are you in your preparations? What are you prepared for this season?

*<sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.*

Just in case we lose sight of whom it is we are getting ready for...it is JESUS...in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell. We need to seriously pause, reflect, meditate, and search our hearts to find the strength to **surrender** our whole selves, completely...TO HIM. God has reconciled us to Himself THROUGH JESUS. Give THANKS for that LOVE, GRACE and SACRIFICE. Today and ALWAYS! AMEN!

I believe it is our FAITH in Jesus that we put into ACTIONS.

Keep our Soup Ministry, those who serve and are served, in your prayers. Think about how you can partner in and support this worthy ministry.

I will urge and commend all of you over the next few weeks to PRAY, to MEDITATE on GOD'S WORD and to look to what you CAN DO for our community and OUR CHURCH.

We together have pledged OUR prayers, OUR presence, OUR gifts, OUR service and OUR witness for Christ and His Church.

Peace & Grace  
Pastor Ken

Annual Budget for 2016 (Operating Funds) **\$108,223**

Total Received for Operating Funds as of August 31, 2016: **\$70,738.42**

Income Needed to Date to Meet Budget: **\$72,148.67**

### COFFEE HOUR FOR November

November 6

November 13

November 20

November 27

Cacky Guill

Delores Decker

Gayle Gilliland

Betty Tate



*If you would like to be a part of this ministry,  
please contact Polly Van Benschoten, 776-0569*

If you can't be thankful for what you receive,  
Be thankful for what you escape.

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR LAY LEADER "A Proper Perspective On Thanksgiving"



By Warren Wright

The following proclamation was made by Governor Bradford in 1623, 3 years after the Pilgrims settled at Plymouth;

*To all ye Pilgrims,*

*Inasmuch as the great father has given us this year an abundant harvest of Indian corn, wheat, peas, squashes and garden vegetables, and has made the forests to abound with game and the sea with fish and clams, and inasmuch as he has protected us from the raids of the savages, has spared us from pestilence and disease, has granted us freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience; now I, your magistrate, do proclaim that all ye Pilgrims, with your wives and ye little ones, do gather at ye meeting house, on ye hill, between the hours of 9 and 12 in the day time, on Thursday November ye 29th of the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and twenty three, and the third year since ye Pilgrims landed on ye Plymouth rock, there to listen to ye pastor and render thanksgiving to ye Almighty God for all His blessings. So, can you see the parallels in today's world?*

Thursday November 24<sup>th</sup> is Thanksgiving Day. One day in which we like those early Pilgrims set aside time in our busy schedules to give thanks to God. Now, there is nothing wrong with that but the word of God tells us that this should be a continual, daily, attitude.

You say thank you to God when you;

- 1) Spend time with Him (not just 1 hr a week)
- 2) When you forgive others
- 3) When you serve in His church
- 4) When you share His Plan of salvation
- 5) When you reach out to hurting people
- 6) When you give God the best of yourself
- 7) When you praise Him enthusiastically from the heart

**Eph. 5:19-20** tells Christians to "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, ALWAYS giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

**I Thes. 5:16-18** says, "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

## UMM NEWS

By Warren Wright, UMM President



The United Methodist Men will meet on Monday November 28th at 7 PM, for our regular monthly meeting. At this time we will be making plans for 2017. Remember that there are no membership or dues requirements to be a part of the United Methodist Men of Clarksbury, just a willingness to serve Jesus Christ within your church and community.

**Mission-To Help Men Grow In Christ, So Others May Know Christ.**

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

By David Dobson, Chairperson



## Heal our Land

Plans are being made for the church to be open on Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> to allow time for reflection and prayer before our election on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>.

“if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14 NIV

We are also in the midst of planning a special event early in 2017. Be ready! All of our parishioners are welcome to offer suggestions and comments on worship to any committee member.

## Food Pantry Committee

By Fran Miller, Chairperson



## *Fall Food Pantry A Success!*

We would like to thank all the people who made the Fall Food Pantry such a success – from the volunteers who gave up many hours to the people who donated food and/ or money. We distributed 495 empty grocery bags to homes in our community and 204 households filled the bags (approximately 41% of the bags) with nonperishable and canned goods. That is a great return! With monetary contributions from some church members we were able to supplement these donations and fill our grocery bags to overflowing! On our distribution day, we were able to help 64 families and distributed 167 bags of groceries, 64 bags of toiletries and 57 quarts of soup. We think all the families felt the caring and welcoming attitudes of our volunteers that day. We, as a group, felt that we were doing what God meant us to do – reach out and help our neighbor. We truly felt the Spirit! We will have another distribution day in the winter and will be asking for your help again. Keep a lookout for the next article to appear in an upcoming newsletter about how you can help. Again, thank you for all you have done.

## SOUP MINISTRY

By Kathy Wright, Chairperson



Clarksbury United Methodist Church's soup ministry again participated in the Fall food pantry distribution which was held Saturday, October 22, 2016. We were able to provide **fifty-seven families** with a quart of homemade soup and a sleeve of crackers to carry home with their groceries. With your help, the soup ministry will continue to grow. If you would like to participate in the soup ministry or know of someone who would benefit from it, **please** contact one of the soup ministry committee members: Diane Faulkner, Lucy Blevins, Helen White, or Kathy Wright, chairman, at 757-373-9166 or email [kdwright@va.metrocast.net](mailto:kdwright@va.metrocast.net). God Bless.

## New Ministry! "Warming Tree"

By Kathy Wright, Chairperson



What exactly is "the warming tree"? It is a new mission opportunity for Clarksbury United Methodist Church to serve the people of the Deltaville and Hardyville area. When the church is decorated for the Advent and Christmas season, "the warming tree" will be set up in the fellowship hall. There will be "small cards" on the tree (similar to the "angel tree" in malls) that will indicate a child or adult "warming item" to keep them warm during the winter months. (1) You pick a card from the tree, which indicates what you are willing to purchase or it can be handmade, (2) take an ornament from the "ornament basket" and place the ornament on the warming tree where your "card" was hanging, (3) after purchasing or making your item, return it in a small bag (or we will provide one), and place it under the warming tree.

The "warming items" will be distributed to our "shut-ins" or those who come to our once-a-month food pantry (Cryer Center mobile truck). Pastor Ken will also be able to give a "warming item" to someone who comes to the church needing assistance. If you have any questions, please contact "The Soup Ministry" ladies, Lucy Blevins, Diane Faulkner, Helen White, or Kathy Wright, Chairman, 757-373-9166, email [kdwright@va.metrocast.net](mailto:kdwright@va.metrocast.net). THANK YOU for participating in yet another important mission opportunity at YOUR church...Clarksbury United Methodist. God Bless!

## Clarksbury Christmas

By Lucy Blevins



The time is here when we continue the tradition of placing poinsettias in our beautiful Clarksbury sanctuary to the glory of God and the celebration of the birth of His son, our Savior. Please consider who you would like to honor or memorialize with the purchase of a poinsettia. The price remains \$10.00 per plant thanks to the fine folks at Tatterson Greenhouses. See Lucy Blevins for your order form. They will need to be returned by November 20, 2016 along with a check made payable to Clarksbury UMC. Thank you for your participation.

## Clarksbury HYMNOLOGY 101

November 2016

By Polly Van Benschoten

“They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love”



John 13:34-35 – I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

Ephesians: 4:4-6 – There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

Refrain - And they'll know we are Christians,  
by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
And together we'll spread the news, that God is in our land:

We will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
we will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
and we'll save each man's dignity, and guard each man's pride:

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son,  
and all praise to the Spirit, that makes us one:

This hymn, which appears on page 2223 of *The Faith We Sing* (we sang it on Laity Sunday), was written by Peter R. Scholtes (1938-2009) in 1968. He was born in Evanston, Illinois and grew up in Oak Park. He attended Ascension School and Fenwick High School before studying at Quigley and St. Mary of the Lake-Mundelein seminaries. He earned his Master's Degree in Adult Education and Organization Development at Boston University.

Peter wrote the hymn in a single night while he was a parish priest at St. Brendan's on the south side of Chicago in the 1960s. He was looking for an appropriate song for a series of ecumenical, interracial events. At the time he was working with a youth choir out of the church basement. His experiences at St. Brendan's and in the Chicago Civil Rights movement influenced him for the rest of his life. He went on to become a well-known, successful business consultant.

## NURTURE AND CARE COMMITTEE

By Jerry Dant, Chair

There are times we need to remember our members and their families with a card to cheer them up or support them in their time of need. It is very difficult to know the needs of all our members and friends, so I am asking that if you know someone in our church family or other church family that could be cheered up or supported with a card and a message, please let me know by either a phone call or via email. I personally know how good it feels to receive cards from our local community. We are all children of God so let's remember each other with cards.

### POWER OF PRAYER



Saying what I'm thankful for seems like an easy task. We say, "Oh I can do that, I know tons of things!" but when it actually comes down to we have so many things to be grateful for we are actually overwhelmed by the question. We make up for this by saying little things like "Umm, I'm thankful for education, good health, and, uh family. Yeah I'm thankful for family." While in reality we are grateful for so much more. We're indebted to God our Heavenly Father for breathing life into our tiny world, the death of his only son for us to be with him, and many more things that words cannot express. Really he gave us everything we need to be thankful for. So on Thanksgiving, be with your family, say those cheesy bits of thankfulness around the table, but remember to give thanks to God. So whatever it may be:

- Good Health
- Family and Friends
- Being able to have the things you do have

***Just make sure He knows it with all your heart.***

-Sierra Funk

There are many things that I am thankful for. From good health to breathing fresh air and everything in between; people in many places around the world do not have these basic necessities. There are also many extravagances that I am very grateful for that those less fortunate are not able to enjoy as I do. Along with good health and fresh air I am thankful for my freedom of speech. Even though I am a minor, I am very thankful to be able to express my thoughts and feelings freely. I am also thankful for the stars and moon that encourage me to dream. Another thing I am thankful for is music. Music brings out emotions in you and around you. ***Above all***, I am thankful for my freedom of religion, knowing Jesus is my Savior, my friends and my family.

Sydney Funk

*Let us rejoice in our Faith and Church Family everywhere!*

**Our Vision:**

To be a spirit-filled and nurturing church family that reaches out and embraces the entire community.



# The Grapevine November 2016



| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday          | Thursday                                   | Friday                 | Saturday  |
|--|---|--|--------------------|--|------------------------|---|
|  |   | 1<br>7 p.m.<br>Trustees  | 2<br>Pat Taylor    | 3<br>7 p.m.<br>Chancel Choir               | 4<br>Fran Miller       | 5<br>David Moore<br>5-5:45 p.m.<br>Contemporary<br>Worship          |
| 6<br>Carol Jones<br>10-10:40 a.m.<br>Sunday School<br>11 a.m.<br>Worship<br>Communion              | 7<br>11 a.m.<br>Soup<br>Ministry                      | 8<br>7p.m. EY circle   | 9                  | 10<br>7 p.m.<br>Chancel Choir              | 11                     | 12<br>5-5:45 p.m.<br>Contemporary<br>Worship                        |
| 13<br>Louise Miller<br>10-10:40 a.m.<br>Sunday School<br>11 a.m.<br>Worship                        | 14  | 15<br>Fred Crittenden<br>Finance &<br>Church Council<br>7 p.m. | 16                 | 17<br>Don Bartz<br>7p.m.<br>Chancel Choir  | 18<br>Ken<br>Cleveland | 19<br>Christian<br>Foster<br>5-5:45 p.m.<br>Contemporary<br>Worship |
| 20<br>Deadline for<br>poinsettia<br>orders<br>10-10:40 a.m.<br>Sunday School<br>11 a.m.<br>Worship | 21<br>11 a.m.<br>Soup<br>Ministry                     | 22   | 23                 | 24<br>Dawn Wilt<br>7 p.m.<br>Chancel Choir | 25<br>Melvin<br>Hawley | 26<br>5-5:45 p.m.<br>Contemporary<br>Worship                        |
| 27<br>Jay Moore<br>10-10:40 a.m.<br>Sunday School<br>11 a.m.<br>Worship                            | 28<br>Martha<br>Crittenden<br>7p.m.<br>UMM<br>Meeting | 29   | 30<br>Matthew Duke |  |                        |   |

The deadline for the December 2016 Grapevine will be Saturday, November 26. Send items to [pwalian@yahoo.com](mailto:pwalian@yahoo.com).  
**November Birthdays** (If you know of any additions, deletions or corrections that should be made to the birthday calendar, please let the newsletter editor know.)

Counters for November are Kathy Wright and Carl Tate  
 Bob and Betty Ann Tabler will serve as ushers.  
 The reader is Kathy Wright