



The Grapevine

Clarksbury United Methodist Church

15924 General Puller Highway, Hardyville, Virginia November 2021

www.clarksburyumc.com

Our Mission:

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

Pastor Ken's Corner

Revelation 1:4-8 (NRSV)

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,

⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood,

⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Praise the Lord!!! We have progressed quickly through this year. Can you believe that we have only two months left in 2021 and that Thanksgiving will soon be here? From our house to your house, we wish you a **Happy Thanksgiving**. In all things, we give thanks.

Clarksbury will have our 2021 Charge Conference in the social hall on November 14 at 4 p.m. via Zoom. You can attend remotely via Zoom or attend in person at church. The presiding Elder will be Rev. Ken Wadlo, and we will take roll count and have copies of the charge conference reports as we have always done. We will need to register all who attend either in person or remotely on our attendance roll. Betty Tate will be our recording secretary.

It has been a very interesting year and Clarksbury has maintained many of our ministries, though somewhat modified because of Covid. We have learned a couple of new tricks on how to present our worship services and have gone through a few growth pains on learning how best to record and then distribute the services.

I want to share a couple of goals for the coming year with you. I think we managed to continue to stay connected and involved with our community; it was challenging at times but you persevered. Our **Goal Number One** is to maintain our connection with our community regardless of how difficult it might become with COVID restrictions.

We have found a number of ways to innovate and use new technologies to worship, and you keep finding new ways to stay involved, from music at the Maritime Museum outdoors to music at the Rescue Squad when it got colder. We have had small groups meet on patios and around fire pits at other homes. **Goal Number Two** is to continue be flexible and innovative when it comes to finding ways, locations, methods and opportunities to be worshipful and to remain connected as we progress out of the COVID restrictions, and yet maintain safety.

This congregation has been so resilient throughout the pandemic and we have still worshipped together and we have continued to lift our voices in praise together and served our community together. Terry and I are happy to be part of YOUR ministries at Clarksbury.

We will have our Cryer Center Mobile Food Pantry on Saturday, November 6, from 9 to 11 a.m. We always have room for more help.

COVID restrictions and protocols are relaxed but many still remain, and we must keep in mind that the threat is not eliminated, **and in some cases is elevated again**. For some, the risks of COVID are very real and very present. We continue to lift up in our prayers those who are at risk and still under many restrictions.

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood,⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Grace and peace is given to us from Jesus, *who is and is to come*. The book of Revelation gives us much imagery of who Jesus is and the role He is yet to play in God's plan for us. He is faithful and bears witness of God's love for you and me. He has freed us from the penalty of our sin by HIS blood. We come into His kingdom to serve God the Father and praise Him forever.

We have had a roller coaster of events in our last year. There have been many changes that we could never have imagined, and yet God is still with us, Jesus is with us and the Holy Spirit is with us. We are not alone and Jesus promises to never leave us, even when our world seems to be off kilter and spinning in some unforeseen direction. We can have faith in the trinity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit no matter what goes on in our world. We lay ourselves before the mercy of God and with faith count on the sacrifice of His Son for all our SIN.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

He is coming and he will take us home which is the Father's plan. Mercy and grace flow from Jesus and the sin which would condemn us is washed away by Jesus's blood and sacrifice. He is the Almighty.

We will soon be starting our Advent Bible Study "*Light of the World*" by Amy-Jill Levine. We will dig deep into the history of the birth of Christ.

In Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the story of the birth of Jesus. Join her as she traces the Christmas narrative through the stories of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, and the visit from the Magi. These stories open conversations around connections of the Gospel stories to the Old Testament, the role of women in first-century Jewish culture, the importance of Mary's visitation and the revolutionary implications of Mary's Magnificat, the census and the stable, and the star of Bethlehem and the flight to Egypt.

Our first of four sessions will be on Wednesday, November 17, at 2 p.m. in the social hall. The cost of the book is \$10. I've ordered 10 books for now; let me know in advance if you plan to attend to I'll have time to order more books if needed. Warren and I will be rotating teaching sessions and I'm looking forward to it.

We continue to acknowledge the generosity and efforts of our **Soup Ministry/Prayer Warriors/Prayer Partners** each month. They provide meals, soup, gifts, cards, letters and phone calls to many of our members as well as those at Fishing Bay Estates and other locations.

Keep the small groups and gatherings in your prayers as we look to new ways to restart these meaningful and joyful worship and sharing opportunities.

Let us continue to pray for the people who may encounter COVID-19 and be exposed to or suffer from the illness.

Peace & Grace,
Pastor Ken



A Note from your Lay Leader
5 Kernels of Corn
Warren Wright



The Pilgrim Fathers who landed at Plymouth Rock over 300 years ago knew nothing of the affluent times which you and I enjoy today in this great country of ours. The next time you and I are tempted to complain about inflation and the state of our economy, remember the following: During that first long winter at Plymouth Colony, seven times as many graves were made for the dead as homes for the living. The ship which was to bring food and relief brought 35 more mouths to feed, but not an ounce of provisions. Touching indeed is the picture of William Brewster, rising from a scanty Plymouth dinner, consisting of a plate of clams and a glass of cold water, to thank God “for the abundance of the sea and the treasures hid in the sand.” The Pilgrims didn’t have much, but they possessed a great gratitude and it was upon this very thing that America was built. These stalwart people, strong, devout and sincere were the timbers upon which our nation was founded. They had a custom of putting 5 kernels of corn upon each empty plate before a dinner of “thanksgiving” was served. Each member of the family would pick up a kernel and tell what they were thankful for. It was to remind them that the first Pilgrims were in such dire straits that their allowance was only 5 kernels of corn per person each day. We have many reasons to be thankful. Let’s take 5 grains of corn, and think of 5 things to praise God for. In Psalm 103, David calls upon his body, mind, soul, and spirit to join in one grand symphony of praise for the benefits God has so graciously bestowed upon him. Can you see the 5?

Psalms 103:1-5-Thanksgiving for God’s Goodness

“Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name. ² Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits- ³ who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,⁴ who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,⁵ who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.

Annual Budget for 2021 Operating Funds:	\$115,711.00
Total Received for Operating Funds as of August 8:	105,040.77
Total Needed by October 31:	-8,614.94

*When I started counting my blessings, my whole life turned around.
---Willie Nelson*



*It is not
happy
people who are
thankful
it is
thankful
people who are
happy*

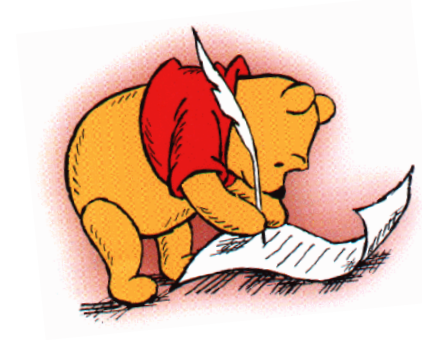
Nurture and Outreach
Jerry Dant

We have had a year of not seeing each other as often as we would like because of the pandemic. However, it seems we have been remembering our church friends with cards, calls and drive by visits throughout this time. Now, we are coming up on the holiday season and keep the cards, calls and visits going to let all know how much we miss them and look forward to all being together again.

Our church will be surprising the residents at Fishing Bay Estates and some in the community with a Christmas Goodie Bag. If you have any ideas for the bags or items to be placed in the bags, please let us know. I promise you the receiver will be BLESSED and you will be BLESSED in return.

Mail a card of happiness to our home bound members!

If you have time to send a card today our homebound members would get a lot of joy just hearing from you! Take some time to say hello and we miss you! It really does feel good to get mail and it feels even better when we can make someone's day just a little happier and bring a smile to their face. It brightens everyone's spirit.



<p>Myrtle Clark 10/2 P.O. Box 302 Deltaville, VA 23043</p>	<p>Marion Miller 08/06 c/o Commonwealth Senior Living @ Gloucester House 7657 Meredith Drive Gloucester, VA 23061</p>	<p>Lewis Musick 6023 Dixon Lane Gloucester, Va., 23061</p>
<p>Tinker Purcell 12/20 P.O. Box 502 Deltaville, VA 23043</p>	<p>Pastor Jim Salmon 5/24 26306 Mattaponi Trail Milford, VA 22514</p>	

October POP

Thank You, God, For Everything

Thank you, God, for everything,
The big things and the small.
For "every good gift comes from God"...
The giver of them all.
And all too often we accept, without any thanks or praise,
The gifts God sends as blessings, each day in many ways.
And so at this Thanksgiving Time, we offer up a prayer...
To thank you, God, for giving us a lot more than our share.

First, thank you for the little things
That often come our way,
The things we take for granted
But don't mention when we pray,
The unexpected courtesy, the thoughtful, kindly deed,
A hand reached out to help us in the time of sudden need.
Oh, make us more aware, dear God, of little daily graces
That come to us with "sweet surprise"
From never-dreamed-of places.

Then, thank you for the "Miracles"
We are much too blind to see,
And give us new awareness of our many gifts from Thee,
And help us to remember that the Key of Life and Living
Is to make each prayer a Prayer of Thanks
And every day Thanksgiving

~ Author : Helen Steiner Rice ~

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Nubia_group/

Give
Thanks!



*Let our Lives Be Full of Both
Thanks
and
Giving*





Clarksbury
UMC

Grapevine

November 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 Fran Miller Noon Prayer	5 David Moore Phil Smith Noon Prayer	6 Carol Jones Mobile Food Pantry Clarksbury Noon Prayer
7 Noon Prayer	8 Noon Prayer	9 Noon Prayer	10 Noon Prayer	11 Noon Prayer	12 Noon Prayer	13 Noon Prayer
14 Charge Conf 4pm @ Clarksbury Noon Prayer	15 Noon Prayer	16 Church Council Mtg 7pm Noon Prayer	17 Don Bartz Bible Study 2pm Noon Prayer	18 Ken Cleveland Noon Prayer	19 Noon Prayer	20 Noon Prayer
21 Noon Prayer	22 UMM Mtg 7pm Noon Prayer	23 Noon Prayer	24 Dawn Wilt Noon Prayer	25 Noon Prayer	26 Adrielle West Noon Prayer	27 Jay Moore Noon Prayer
28 Noon Prayer	29 Noon Prayer	30 Matthew Duke Noon Prayer	31			

The deadline for the **December 2021** Grapevine will be Monday, December 27

Send email to pwalian2@gmail.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.)

Ushers for the month of **November** Linda Bartz and Linda Dobbins

Scripture Reader for **November** is Kathy Wright

Counters for **November** are Kathy Wright and Delores Decker