



FARMVILLE UNITED METHODISTCHURCH



"OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE GOD"

December 2015



What's Happening at FUMC!!

Page 1~

Message from Pastor Bill

Page 2 ~

Advent Offering - No Malaria
Farmville Cancer Care Ministry
The Away Day
Prayer Walk

Page 3 ~

UMMen's News
UMWomen's News
Children's Ministry
Youth News
Christmas for Back Pack Pals
Warming of the Greens
Church-Wide Christmas Caroling
Birthday Party for Baby Jesus

Page 4 ~

Help Needed - Soup Kitchen
Fellowship Refreshments
Community Men's Group
Note from Finance Committee
Stewardship Campaign Update
Online Giving
Spiritual Gifts Workshpp
The Art of Marriage

Back Page ~

Birthdays this Month
Clothes For Children
Prayer Request
Birthday Celebration

Inserts ~

Our Service and Calendar
Kid's Page

Advent and Christmas Greetings...and may God's grace and peace be with you!

With all that is going on around our world....we have said it in our worship services...we have said it in our times of fellowship dinners...we have said it in our committee and ministry meetings...and probably have even said it within our homes---
we really do have a lot to be thankful for! Amen?

As we prepare for the coming of Christmas, we are reminded that the Western Church's (those in the United States, England, Western Hemisphere, etc.) generally celebrate Christmas on December 25th. However, the Eastern Church's (those in Eastern Europe, Asia Minor, Middle East, etc.) still celebrate Christmas on January 6th, when the Magi are said to have visited Jesus. The point is...the celebration of the birth of Jesus takes place at different times and in different places!

For some people, Christmas begins with the shopping season, which seems to get earlier and earlier every year! For others, it is the beginning of the season of Advent, putting up the Christmas tree or decorating the lawn. Yet, when should Christmas really begin for us... and be celebrated?

For me, I don't think of Christmas as really being at any of those times or places. Rather, Christmas is always present, regardless of where I am...though it comes more vividly when I am reminded that God became flesh and was born and laid in a manger! When God in Jesus also became a refugee and escaped to Egypt, by way of Joseph and Mary, as King Herod sent his soldiers to slaughter the innocent children. Yet Christmas also becomes that stunning reminder when I ponder that God pitched the tent of his earthly life and actually became flesh and dwelt among us...all out of love for each one of us! For in doing so, God became humanly vulnerable and was able to be hurt by 'sticks and stones' and nails...was able to weep at the loss of his good friend Lazarus, along with Mary and the others...and was able to feel human compassion for those in need of healing and restoration to life!

See, God so loved the world...that God became like us...so we could see and learn, how to be more like God!

It is through our acts of kindness, generosity, hospitality, mercy, forgiveness and most importantly our faith in Jesus and love for God and neighbor...that Christmas becomes and remains alive within each of us, every single day of our life!

So, as we prepare for the coming of Christmas...may we be reminded daily of the amazing journey that God took for us...that God would send His Son Jesus into the world that whoever believes in Him may not perish but have eternal life!

What a Christmas gift! Not to be celebrated just one time a year...but to be remembered, received and celebrated...each and every day of life!

To God be the glory...as we grow in our Christmas faith! Take Care....peace....

Pastor Bill



"IMAGINE NO MALARIA" – SOUND DISTRICT SPECIAL OFFERING

Season of Advent, began last Sunday, November 29 continues through Sunday, December 20. We will be taking up special offerings for "Imagine No Malaria" to purchase mosquito nets for the needy in African countries. Every \$10 buys a mosquito net. We are all God's people and are affected by the loss of life. "So any child who does not reach maturity, this generation may have lost a poet, a farmer or a physicist! Losses are not recovered." says Carol Goeheing of UMC. **Please give generously so others may not enjoy... just Christmas...but a good life!**

All monies raised will go to this mission. **At any time during Advent you can contribute by using one of the coin folders available on the credenzas in the hallways, using one of the offering envelopes on the back of the pew or by personal check; just indicated on the envelope/check "Advent Offering – Malaria" and drop it in the offering plate.**



FARMVILLE CANCER CARE MINISTRY – 3RD GATHERING

On November 3 at 6:30 the Farmville Cancer Care Ministry held its monthly "Gathering" in the fellowship hall of the Farmville United Methodist Church. Several patients spoke about their journey with cancer. We rang our bell in celebration for their accomplishments and had a drawing for a *Blanket of Hope* which was won by Tina Clift who so graciously gave it to Peggy Harrell.

Following the gathering there was a time to attend a patient or caregiver support group or an encouragement, prayer time. This is open to anyone that would like to attend. Our next gathering will be **December 1 at 6:30pm** (registration at 6:00). We will again celebrate all accomplishments and memories and have a drawing for a *Blanket of Hope*. **Yoga, Nutrition & Mind/Body Relaxation Classes are cancelled for December.** For more information please call 252-753-4803 or email us at fcm27828@gmail.com, or catch on us Facebook, Farmville Cancer Care Ministry.



THE AWAY DAY GROUP ~ Wed. Dec. 2 ~ 10AM

The "Away Day" Group met on Wednesday, Nov. 4th at 10:00 in the FUMC Fellowship Hall. Ashlie Boberg led us in a few minutes of yoga and Jean Price told us about a new Prayer Walk Ministry and some joined her on the prayer walk. We signed cards to send to some that were unable to attend due to illness. Refreshments and great fellowship was enjoyed by all. **Our next**

meeting will be Dec. 2 at 10:00am. We hope to view one or two of our children's past cantatas. We have had a great year and a lot to be thankful for. Bring your favorite snack and share the recipe. Join us for a fun filled couple of hours. There is always room for one more, bring a friend!!



FARMVILLE UNITED METHODIST PRAYER WALK

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." Col 4:2

The **Farmville United Methodist Prayer Walk** is a spiritual time to lift up the body of Christ and our mission of bringing others to Christ. During your time of prayer you are encouraged to take a cross from the basket in the Prayer Room and visit each room of the church (a route is given), and pray for the ministries that occur in each room and the individuals that will enter that room, receiving the ministry that is offered. Our church is called to be a beacon to this community, offering what the Lord is desiring it to be. As believers, we are called to pray. Prayer is a valuable gift that we can offer up to our Lord; let us all gather to pray, as often as we can. Our church is easily accessible to all who attend here; we all have "the code" to get into the side door. We ask that as you go into each room, if it is not lit, please do so, but turn off the lights as you leave. Many activities are held each night, but feel free to come and pray!! Come during the day as well, but pray as the Lord leads. Our church **WILL** be blessed by your prayers!!!!



UMMen Dinner meeting Monday, **December 14 at 7:00pm.** Come join us good food and great fellowship.



Thanks to everyone who contributed time and food for Holiday Helpers. Because of your generous support, we made over **\$1,600 to be donated to Back Pack Pals and the Farmville Cancer Care Ministry.** Aunt Ruby's Peanuts will arrive and be available **Tuesday, December 8. The UMW Christmas meeting will also be December 8 at Plank Road at 6:00.** We have 28 ladies who plan to attend. The UMW will have a guest speaker for their meeting on Jan 18. Her name is Judith Robertson.



There will be **no Wednesday Night Children's ministries** activity between **December 20th and January 10th** with Melody. This means meetings on **December 23, 30 and January 6th will be cancelled!** Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



It is hard to believe the New Year is upon us. The Jr./Sr. MYF have a lot planned for the upcoming months. **We will be hosting the fellowship meal Dec. 2nd.** We hope everyone can come out and attend. Our next regular MYF meeting will be **Dec. 13th at 6.** For all **parents of Jr./Sr. High youth, there will be a parents meeting that day at 4:15,** to discuss upcoming events for the winter and spring. **Wednesday, Dec. 16th, we will have our annual church-wide caroling hay ride.** All are welcome. **Be at the church by 6, we will venture out around 6:30.** Bring a snack for all to share when we return. If you have someone in particular that you would like for us to go see, please let Hunter know. The youth have a very exciting adventure coming up in January. We will be **going skiing in Winter Green, Va. Jan. 16-19th.** For most, it will be their maiden voyage on a trip like this. **So we ask for your prayers for safety and travel mercies.** **Jan. 10th, we will be doing a soup and sandwich fundraiser to help supplement the cost of our trip.** We hope all will be able to attend. **I hope everyone will have a pleasant and joyous Christmas and New Year!**
Hunter



Christmas For Back Pack Pals Christmas is upon us so it's time for Christmas for backpacks. **We need 16 cloth grocery type bags, not the smallest but those with a rectangular bottom.** We will be placing a small box of cereal, a small jar peanut butter, a small box of poptarts, several protein items that are light weight (mac & cheese, noodle bowls, etc.) snack items that are notorious. We will need to **pack by December 15.** Thanks for anything you choose to do. May leave all items in food room on backpack side.



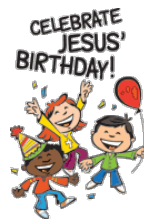
CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Dec. 13 – Warming of the Greens for Adult Gifts and United Methodist Home for Children Goods

Working again with the Methodist Home for Children and the Pitt Co. Dept. of Social Services, we will have a **Christmas Giving Tree** set up outside the Fellowship Hall that will contain **the names of children and adults in foster care in Pitt Co,** along with gift suggestions. The gifts are **due by Dec 13.** For any questions or to make a monetary donation see **Cindy Parks.**



CHURCH-WIDE CHRISTMAS CAROLING – . DED. 16
Church-wide Christmas Caroling, Wed., Dec. 16. We'll meet at the church at **6:00pm. and plan on leaving around 6:30pm.** If there is a home you would like us to stop by, please call the church office. After caroling, we will come back to the church to enjoy some hot chocolate and treats. If you are planning to participate, **please also bring a treat to be shared.**



BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR BABY JESUS – SUN. DEC. 20
Sunday-December 20 -(during regular Sunday school time) the children's Sunday school classes will celebrate the birth of the Baby Jesus with a birthday party. Children are asked to **bring a wrapped food item as a gift.** There will be a birthday cake and lots of fun and praise! We are in need of someone to play the piano for singing-just let the church office or Margo know. **Parents are welcome! And bring a friend!**



HELP NEED FOR THE SOUP KITCHEN

We need church members to sign up for our Soup Kitchen for all next year.

FUMC is responsible for the 3rd Monday of each month. The Soup Kitchen serves 25-40 people a month. Food may be cooked at FUMC and taken over. There is a sign-up sheet on the information desk. For more information, contact Jenny Lewis.



Just a reminder to those who participate in the Fellowship time between the Early Service and Sunday School: please sign up to provide refreshments for December and beyond. We definitely want to have refreshments each Sunday in December as we usually have more visitors during the Christmas season. The calendar is located by the coffee pot in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to those who have already done this several times this year.



The Men's Study group continues their weekly meetings on Tuesday nights at 7:00pm. All men are welcome to come and learn more about how this group of men is encouraging one another as they grow in their faith.

NOTE FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
All contributions for 2015 should be in the church office on or before December 31 to go on this year's statement



We have successfully ended our stewardship campaign. We hope that you found it easy to respond with your pledge and learned how to live each day seeking wisdom to joyfully and boldly live and give. We encourage everyone who has not already done so, to complete their pledge and return it to the church as soon as possible. To date we have only approximately 41 commitments returned.

Stewardship Campaign Committee



STEWARDSHIP AND THANKSGIVING

In this season of thanksgiving, a sincere 'thank you' is in order to everyone who supports our congregation throughout the year with their attendance, service and regular financial contributions. For those of you who are interested, the church offers electronic giving options for making donations on a scheduled, automated basis. It's convenient for you and provides much-needed financial consistency for the church. To donate, visit the church website at www.farmvilleumc.com and locate the link to the giving page or call the church office for information.



SPIRITUAL GIFTS WORKSHOP

Begin the journey....Discover your gifts and learn how you can use them to serve God, your neighbor, and the world. **Join us at**

Farmville United Methodist Church for a two-part spiritual workshop facilitated by Sammy Hudson of the Refuge on the evening of Friday, January 22 and the morning of Saturday, January 23, 2016 (6pm to 9pm on Friday night and 9am to 12pm on Saturday, but those are tentative at this point). This is a community-wide at no cost so please spread the word.

Nominations and Leadership Committee



When you were standing at the altar reciting your

marriage vows, did you have any idea that marriage would be so complex? It probably didn't take you long to understand that your spouse is not as much like you as you thought. But figuring them out is more than just an equation. Marriage is more than a science; it's an art. And like any art form, marriage requires an investment of time, focused study and the right tools. If you need to soften some of the edges in your relationship, or want to brighten the landscape of your marriage, *The Art of Marriage* is for you whether you've been married one year or 50 years. This marriage event allows you to experience God's design for marriage from expert teachers and humorous vignettes via video. You'll leave better educated about your marriage, your spouse and yourself. **So please join us for this exciting opportunity beginning at 6pm on Friday, February 12 and continuing through Saturday, February 13, 2016. The cost is \$40 per couple which includes two workbooks as well as refreshments on Friday and Saturday.** There will be a break for lunch. This seminar is open to the community so spread the word! Please contact Dwayne Benfield at dkbenfield88@hotmail.com or 252-531-2453 to register no later than January 29, 2016.

In Christ,
Dwayne and Kristi Benfield



December 2015 & Calendar

USHERS -

Dec. 6: Bob Ginn
 Dec. 13: Tommy Hardy
 Dec. 20: Walter Jessup
 Dec. 27: Chuck Johnson
 Jan. 3: Bob McGaughey

ALTAR FLOWERS

Dec. 6 - 27: Christmas Decorations
 Jan. 3: Mike & Debbie Terrell

ACOLYTES

Dec. 6: Bailey Walters
 Dec. 13: Ushers
 Dec. 20: Molly Williams
 Dec. 27: Ushers
 Jan 3: Bailey Walters

SANCTUARY GREETERS

Dec. 6: J. C. Brock & Tommy Bullock
 Dec. 13: Brad & Tracie Durrett
 Dec. 20: Charles & Hassell Eason
 Dec. 27: Chuck & Joy Fields
 Jan. 3: Dewey & Delane Fuquay

WELCOMING GREETERS

Dec. 6: David & Marion Stowe
 Dec. 13: Mike & Paula Tugwell
 Dec. 20: C. J. Tynch & Virginia
 Dec. 27: Hunter & Melissa Walters
 Jan. 3: Buzzy & Margaret Wells

KID'S Korner

Dec. 6:-----
 Dec. 13: Jean Price
 Dec. 20: Ashlie Boberg
 Dec. 27: Ashley Matthews
 Jan. 10: Mike Wainwright

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Dec. 6: -----
 Dec. 13: Melissa Walters
 Dec. 20: Tracie Durrett
 Dec. 27: Maggie Williams
 Jan 10: Brad Durrett

NURSERY - INFANTS TO AGE 5

Dec. 6: Mary Monroe & Emily
 Dec. 13: Tracie Durrett & Virginia Tynch
 Dec. 20: Paula Tugwell & Catherine
 Dec. 27: Kirkie Williams & Molly
 Jan. 3: Mary Monroe & Emily

FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Dec. 2: Youth
 Dec. 9: Covered Dish
 Dec. 16 - Dec. 30: No Meal

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Grades-1,2,3

Dec. 6: Sara Peterson
 Dec. 13: Teresa Parent
 Dec. 20: Jesus' Birthday party
 Dec. 27: Sara Peterson

Youth

Dec. 6: Benfields
 Dec. 13: Benfields
 Dec. 20: Chuck Johnson
 Dec. 27: Benfields

BACK PACK PALS PACKING SCHEDULE

Dec. 2: The Monroes
 Dec. 9: Kay Crossan
 Dec. 16: Youth
 Dec. 23: Christmas
 Dec. 30: Christmas
 Jan. 6: The Monroes

Statistical Report for November 2015	
Ave. Sunday School Attendance -----	30
Ave. Worship Attendance -----	103
Ave. Offerings-----	\$4,859.21
Need to Date-----	\$267,015.36
Raised to Date-----	\$216,138.70



Calendar

Tuesday, December 1

6:30pm FCCM Gathering

7:00pm Community Men's Group

Wednesday, December 2

10:00am "Away Day"

6:00pm Fellowship Dinner - Youth

6:15pm Children's Activities

7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Sunday, December 6 - 2nd Sun. of Advent

Special Offering

8:30am Praise & Worship

9:30am Fellowship & Refreshment

10:00am Sunday School

11:00am Traditional Worship

No UMYF

Tuesday, December 8

7:00pm Community Men's Group

6:00pm UMWomen - Plank Road

Wednesday, December 9

6:00pm Fellowship Dinner - Covered Dish

6:15pm Children's Activities

7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Sunday, December 13 - Special Offering

Warming of the Green Adult Gifts Due

8:30am Praise & Worship

9:30am Fellowship & Refreshments

10:00am Sunday School

11:00am Traditional Worship

4:15pm Jr./Sr. Youth Parents Meeting

6:00pm Jr./Sr. Combined Meeting

Monday, December 14

7:00pm UMMen Supper Meeting

Tuesday, December 15

7:00pm Community Men's Group

Wednesday, December 16

6:00pm NO Fellowship Meal

6:15pm Children Activities

7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal

6:45pm Board of Trustees

6:00pm Church-wide Christmas Caroling

Thursday, December 17

6:00pm Finance Committee

Sunday, December 20

8:30am Praise & Worship

9:30am Fellowship & Refreshments

10:00am Sunday School

11:00am Traditional Worship

6:30pm Administrative Council

Monday, December 21

7:00pm UMWomen - Parlor

Tuesday, December 22

7:00pm Community Men's Group

Wednesday, December 23

NO Fellowship Meal

Thursday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

6:30pm Christmas Eve Worship

Friday, December 25 - Christmas Day

Happy Birthday Jesus!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS





Dec. 3: Jamie Cleveland
 Dec. 4: Garland Mozingo
 Dec. 8: Delane Fuquay
 Dec. 13: Ann Rogers
 Dec. 14: Bert Warren, Sr.
 Dec. 15: Walter Jessup
 Dec. 15: Cindy Parks
 Dec. 21: Mary Allen
 Dec. 24: Edna Hobgood
 Dec. 25: Happy Birthday, Baby Jesus
 Prayer Eason



Clothes For Our Children At FUMC part of our Mission projects is to take care of the clothes closet at HB Sugg and Sam Bundy. This closet supplies everything from underwear to coats! We are in desperate need of underwear all sizes from 4 to 16, both girls and boys and long sleeve uniform shirts as well. There is also a need for long uniform pants (please get with Jean on sizes). Monetary donations are needed as well and we can shop for you. Please help clothe our children!



Please Be In Prayer For... Rufus Cochran (health), Tracey Smith (health), Minnie Lee Winborn (health), Nellie Lang (health), Billy & Gray Baker (health), Lynnette Williams (health), John Sherman (healing), Roxie Smith (health), Bill Monk (healing), Leona Kilpatrick (healing), Mary Lib Moore (healing), Lamm Family, Vickie Herring (health), Mary Allen (peace), Al & Amy Hunt (healing,) Konni Potts (healing) Helen Kelly (healing) Peggy Harrell (healing) Maria Chemin (healing), Jim Duyck (healing, friend of Paula Tugwell), Jean Padgett (Alicia's Grandmother), Kern Sanford, (Sally Davis' Dad) Dan Webb (Debra Evans' father), Sue Hardy, (recovery), Arthur Stevenson (healing), family of John Jablonski (grief) .

(If you wish for your name, or the name of your love one put back on the prayer list, please call the church office.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Mrs. Nellie Lang celebrated her 97th birthday on Sunday, Nov. 29, with friends and

family. We hope you had a great day, and wish you many more. Mrs. Lang resides at the Brookdale on West Arlington, 2015 W. Arlington, Apt. 104, Greenville, NC 27834.



Merry Christmas from the Staff

**Blessings!
From Your FUMC Staff
A Sincere Thank You
To The Congregation of FUMC
For your Love and Support in 2015**

**Farmville United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 153, Farmville, NC 27828-0153
Phone 252-753-4803
E-Mail – church@farmvilleumc.com
Webpage: www.FarmvilleUMC.com**

Return Service Requested

**Pastor: Rev. Bill Price – pastor@farmvilleumc.com
Admin. Assist.: Nan Walston – chuch@farmvilleumc.com
Organist/Music Director: Drucilla Lamm – choir@farmvilleumc.com
Youth Director: Hunter Walters - youth@farmvilleumc.com
Children's Ministry – Melody Ballard – children@farmvilleumc.com
Praise Team Leader: Aubrey Digh – praiseteam@farmvilleumc.com**