

UMW NEWS:

COMING EVENTS:

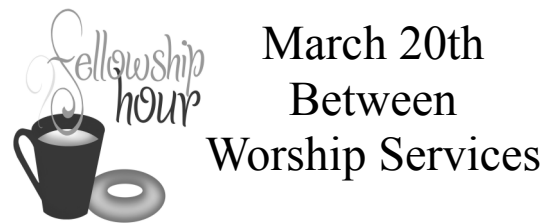


The **UMW General meetings** will be held the third Sunday each month in the Fellowship Hall with a light luncheon at 1:00 PM followed by a program and meeting. The first was February 21st. Next will be the **April 17th** with the Sarahs as hostesses and Dicey Beverage presenting the program on Membership. See the bulletin for further information.

Deborah's Prayer Lenten Prayer Breakfast March 19th in the Fellowship Hall. The speaker will be the Rev. Dee Pendley. For further information call Joyce Wimmer,(635-8530).

UMW Executive Meeting March 22 7PM in the LFK room at 7 PM. All Executive Officers and Circle Leaders are to attend. If you can't come, ask a substitute and call Jean Brown(631-9185).

District Spring Event -April 23 at Refuge UMC 9:30 AM-12N. The theme will be on Child Hunger. We will car-pool from the church. Call Jean Brown (631-9185) if going, if need a ride, and/or can provide a car.



March 20th
Between
Worship Services

(brought to you by the Education Leg)

Bishop Young Jin Cho to speak at Braddock Street UMC in Winchester

March 12th

10:00 am—noon

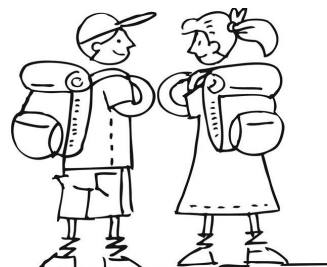
“A Day of Prayer”.

Stewardship Reflections...

In the Christian tradition, Ash Wednesday, which was observed a few weeks ago, is the first day of the 40 day period of Lent. At that time, we usually receive ashes that symbolize our mortality and penitence. “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return” is the advice that reminds us of our mortality and, at such times of self-examination, we should repent for “our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts.”

Lent is thus a time to emphasize that God is asking us to observe the highest form of discipleship and the most challenging aspects of giving. Lent calls us, as true stewards of our Lord, to be more generous as we strive to take our Christian responsibilities to the next level.

Please Support Our



**BACKPACK
Ministry**

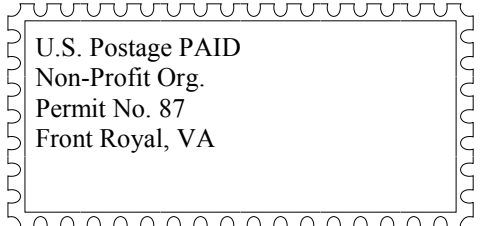


We are very excited to begin transitioning our Tower Notes to an electronic format. This will help us to be better stewards of God's gifts to us by saving trees as well as money. The Tower Notes are always available on our website <http://www.frumc.org> or can be emailed to you where you would be able to read them and/or print them off yourself. On our website, you can also sign up for our weekly e-note that has a word from Pastor Alan as well as reminders and updates for the coming weeks. We will continue to print some copies that will be available for pick-up in the annex, and we will continue to mail out the newsletter to our homebound members and to anyone who does not have computer access. Please notify the church office if you still need to have the newsletter mailed to you.



Front Royal United Methodist Church

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Return Service Requested

Alan Combs, Pastor
Rhonda Thompsen, Office Manager
Melissa Chavez, PhD, Minister of Music and Worship Arts
Joan Chadwell, Interim Director EBS/CDC
Barbara Robinson, Facilities Manager
Donna Quarton, Business Manager
Patti Henson, Housekeeper

Office Hours: 9:00 am—4:00 pm
Monday through Friday

**Methodist Men
Motivated**

There are 22 chartered Methodist Men's units in the Winchester District – and our Chapter ranks in the top bracket in terms of membership and activity. For example, last year we contributed \$1,500 to the Kernstown Heart Havens Home, which our members helped found.

So on **February 8**, Sarah Wilkinson, Director of Volunteers at Heart Havens Headquarters in Richmond, journeyed to our regular second Monday night dinner meeting to thank us. She brought us up to date on what's happening at the other 11 Heart Havens Homes in the State and projected plans for the future.

At our **March 14** meeting, we'll hear from one of our own members who took a six and a half month "My Walk in the Woods". John Huttar hiked the entire 2,170 miles of the Appalachian Trail, experienced some unique adventures and took lots of photos which he'll share with us. He and Hugh Martin have been creatively paring down the over 100 pix so we'll see the cream of the crop.

Free Spirits Prevail

Who says you can't fool Mother Nature!? Although she snowed out our Bingo Bonanza in two of the past three Januarys, we simply moved the event to **February 24**.

Twenty seniors from Hidden Springs and the Southerlands joined our usual participants for a festive southern fried chicken fiesta. They even walked away with lots of loot from Bingo – so an exhilarating event was enjoyed by all.

Next on the agenda is a trip to Fredericksburg's Riverside Theater **March 30**. We'll enjoy a full-course brunch-dinner, and then spend the afternoon with Eliza Doolittle and Henry Higgins as they romp through "My Fair Lady" warbling many of Lerner and Loewe's most sparkling songs.

Topping off the spring agenda is an **April 27** return trip to the Marine Corps Museum in Quantico. The Museum will just have reopened after completing a brand new additional wing recording the most recent conflicts including Desert Storm and Afghanistan.

A **May 25** trek to Gunston Hall South of D.C. then leads us into our **June 22** Annual Picnic. If you're not participating in these enjoyable events – then you're really missing out. Sign up in the church office.

FROM THE PASTOR... Whenever there is a major disaster or humanitarian crisis, after the initial shock, one of the first questions people often ask is, "How Can I Help?"

To me, one of the most amazing things about being United Methodist is that we have one of the quickest answers to that question. As a connectional church we have an agency called The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), dedicated to emergency relief. UMCOR is ready to be present in the midst of extremely difficult situations, whether it is in the midst of crisis or chronic need.

One of the other concerns that often comes up is being sure that our gifts are used in the right way. Another outstanding thing about UMCOR is that we can be certain that 100% of what we donate goes directly to help with the need to which we are donating.

Now, you might ask how it is possible for UMCOR to do this, since certainly they have some kind of operating costs.

The answer to that question comes in the first Sunday of March, in the form of One Great Hour of Sharing.

Every year in March, United Methodists from all around the world give a special offering, in addition to their regular offering in their local church, to One Great Hour of Sharing.

This offering goes to cover the operating costs of UMCOR, so that when folks go to donate towards a particular cause, 100% of the gift can go towards the cause, rather than the cost of the agency.

To me, this is one of the most powerful things about being part of a connectional church. Joining together on days like One Great Hour of Sharing makes it possible for us to have a real impact in the lives of those who are suffering, and it makes it possible for us to give to and refer other folks to an agency that is trustworthy in the midst of chaotic situations.

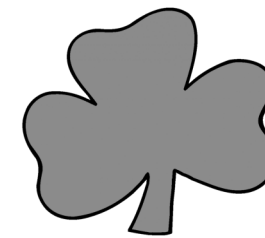
I hope that you'll consider being a part of One Great Hour of Sharing!

Peace,
Alan

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Lolanda Cooper
- 2 Dillon Lewallen
- 3 Ben Schoonover
- 4 Rosa Burnette
- 5 E\$mogene Martin
- 6 James Poe
- 7 Mary Leeker
- 8 Grady Cramer
- 9 Beatrice Oakes
- 10 Aaron Jenkins
- 11 Gabrielle Bessette
- 12 Sarah Athey
- 13 Courtney Baker
- 14 Pat Wimer
- 15 David McDaniel
- 16 Lincoln Day
- 17 Courtney Bukva
- 18 Ann Crim
- 19 Donna Rettberg
- 20 Matthew Whited
- 21 Landon Pond
- 22 Robert Tharpe
- 23 Bob Cullers
- 24 Stephen Braddock
- 25 Jake Maddox
- 26 Tom Dickinson
- 27 Peggy Shideler
- 28 Kellie Slaughter
- 29 Clemence Bruce

- 22 John Medved
- 23 Cheyenne Kingery
- 24 Jacob Nash
- 25 Kathy Newcomer\
- 26 Karen Herbaugh
- 27 Reece Crump
- 28 Linda Smolins
- 29 Kinley Detweiler
- 30 Jeffrey Scott
- 31 Trinka Walker
- Annah Barrett
- Paul Shannon
- Susan Bowman
- Katelyn Thompson
- Tim Cochran
- Kaitlin Cramer
- Amanda Finstad
- Jason Norton



THANK YOU...

for supporting the Cash for Causes program. To date the profits from the gift cards has been used to purchase new mattresses for the Duck room!!! If you would like to place an order, buy cards or have questions please see Ruth Pearson.

VBS is coming, anyone interested in helping plan and/or staff this years VBS, please let Ruth Pearson know.

Thanks,
Ruth



Deborahs Lenten Breakfast

The Deborahs will be serving a Lenten Breakfast on March 19th at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. The Reverend Dee Pendley will be the keynote speaker. Breakfast will consist of egg/sausage casserole, muffins, fruit, juice, coffee and tea. A sign up sheet is located in the church office.



We are updating our files! If you **drive or want to drive** the church bus, you must contact Rhonda in the church office to fill out the proper paperwork to do so. **No one will be allowed to drive the church bus, if their file is not updated.**

FRUMC is a "Safe Sanctuary" church. If you work with the children or youth in any way, there are background checks and other paperwork that need to be submitted. **Please contact Rhonda in the church office to be certain that your information is current, as it does have an expiration date.**



LEARN
PRAY
PLAY
LOVE

Mission Box for March

EBS/CDC

Elizabeth B. Sherman
Child Development Center



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PRAY
PLAY
LOVE

Elizabeth B. Sherman
Child Development Center