



GOOD NEWSLETTER

Clarendon United Methodist Church ————— January 2017

A New Year brings new challenges, new hopes and dreams, and a new promise of “Living Love” through it all. As spoken in Colossians 3:12-15:

Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Together as a family of faith, we will be exploring this theme throughout 2017, envisioning what it means to Live Love in the world of today—a world filled with harsh words and deep divisions. How do we Live Love through the words we speak, through the deeds we perform, through the faith we show, and through the grace and compassion we give? Our relationships with one another are to be grounded in the deep love of Christ, and our outreach to the world is an outgrowth of that same love. We begin the new year rejoicing that Clarendon United Methodist Church is a family of faith seriously engaged in Living Love as the people of God.

New Leadership Chosen for 2017

The Nominations Committee has presented a slate of officers for service in 2017 on the Church Council. These officers were accepted by those at the annual Charge Conference on December 5. A few of the changes from the previous year are noted below:

Laura Watson, a member of CUMC for over 20 years has accepted the responsibility of chairing the Council. Laura is married to Rick and has two teenagers, Chuck and Emma, who are active in the Youth Group. Laura is an outdoor enthusiast and has served as a Sunday school teacher and a member of the Trustees.

Amber Vincent has taken on a newly formed position on the Council as Chair of the Education Team. This group will work with Diane Smith, Director of Children and Youth, and the Adult Sunday School Class leaders to develop a comprehensive Spiritual Development program for all in the church. Amber is currently leading the Home Builders Class, for parents of young families. She is married to Adam and has three young children, Opal, Micah and Caleb.

Catie Christiaanse will step in to continue in the work of Outreach for the church. Catie and her husband, James McCarthy, have two small boys, Michael and Aiden, and have been members of our church family for several years.

Events at CUMC

STOP HUNGER NOW

Saturday, January 14, 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Corry Hall

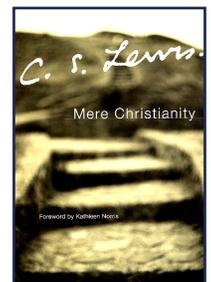
CUMC & Stop Hunger Now (SHN) team up on January 14, to package 20,000 meals to be shipped to where they are most needed on the planet. (Previously, SHN sent our meals to Haiti and East Africa.) SHN arrives with the truck, boxes, equipment, rice, vegetables, vitamins, bags, hair nets, and gong. CUMC will provide the space in Corry Hall and the volunteers. We need people to set up, package, weigh, seal, and box the finished meals. There are two shifts (10:00 am-12 noon & 12 noon-2:00 pm) plus a set up crew and break down team. If you cannot participate, you can sign up to provide a soup, salad, or baked goods for the volunteers. We also welcome any and all donations to help defray the costs. Sign up at www.signupgenius.com/go/10c054eaba72eab9-stop



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Mondays, 10:00 am-12:00 noon

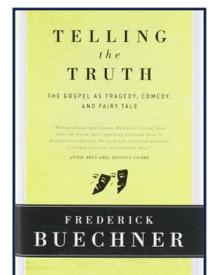
The Monday Morning Bible Study will begin a study of C.S. Lewis' classic book on the Christian faith, *Mere Christianity*. This 8-week, DVD-led study will begin on January 9 and run through March 6. C.S. Lewis is considered one of the greatest Christian writers including penning the classic *The Chronicles of Narnia* inspired by the Christian faith. The participant book is \$11.00. For more information, contact Jane Dixon (jdixon580jd@gmail.com).



BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, February 7, 7:30 pm, Library

The CUMC Book Group will read a short book by theologian Frederick Buechner. His work encompasses different genres, including fiction, autobiography, essays and sermons, and his career has spanned six decades. *Telling the Truth: The Gospel as Tragedy, Comedy, and Fairy Tale*, is a fresh, creative look at the underlying meaning of the Gospels that stresses the many dimensions of God's relationship to humanity. In addition, people can also read *The Gospel According to Peanuts* by Robert L. Short. Thinking about the Gospel message and its call and claim on us is a great way to start the New Year in 2017. For more information contact Laura Bishop (ljbishop1@gmail.com).



FAITH FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

January 12, 12:00 noon-1:45 pm—America's LIFE in Pictures

After a viewing of a brief documentary on LIFE Magazine, which celebrated its 80th anniversary last year, we will page through some of the original magazines and discuss.



January 26, 12:00 noon-1:45 pm—Robotics for the Elderly

Anthony Nunez, CEO of INFO Robotics in Fairfax, VA, creates specialized robots to bring tele-health, companionship and safety capabilities to the elderly, disabled and wounded warriors at home, in their places of residence.

Milestones



Pictures (L to R): Iris Somberg and James Miller; Alicia Gutierrez; Sarah, Brian, and baby James Edward Lantz; Christmas Eve service.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS Iris Somberg and James Miller, who joined our church family on November 27. James is from Harrisburg, PA and went to college at Shippensburg University and met Iris at a previous job. Iris grew up in Lake Forest, IL (a suburb of Chicago). She went to college at GWU. They are interested in getting involved in Outreach activities. A very early ‘congratulations’ is in order, as they will be marrying at CUMC in May.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER Alicia Gutierrez, who joined our church on November 27 at the 8:30 service. She is a born and bred Methodist (her great grandfather was a minister in the Southwest US). Alicia is originally a California native, but went to high-school in McLean, Virginia, and resided here ever since. She works as a lawyer for a private firm. She has already gotten involved in helping with various fundraisers and is a member of the Supper Club here at CUMC.

WELCOME BABY JAMES EDWARD! Congratulations to Sarah and Brian Lantz on the birth of their son October 24, 2016. James is Sarah and Brian’s first child, and already he is a handful in the life of this busy couple, but is an absolute joy in their life.

CHRISTMAS 2016 was a truly blessed weekend! There were 367 joyful attendees at the 5:00 pm Christmas Eve service. Brooke Campbell played the part of baby Jesus, and Olivia Stevenson (who was the baby Jesus 17 years ago) carried her. As if that weren’t poignant enough, Alicia Bell Wimmer, who played Mary and held Olivia in her arms that same year, came to sing with the Youth Alumni holding her baby. Three generations of baby Jesus! The Chancel Ringers and Celebration Singers joined the Chancel Choir for the first time at the 10:00 pm service and added a beautiful dimension to the worship.

Christmas morning, we all joined in a combined 10:00 am worship service with a hymn-sing led by Paul Edson, who closed his time with us at CUMC by singing the beautiful solo, “Sweet Little Jesus Boy.” We are so grateful to Paul for his years as bass section leader, and for his exceptional leadership during this extraordinary time period following Reilly’s death. We also thank Jim Davidson and Cherie Williams for the delicious reception following the service!



Patrick Lee	1
Josh Meyer	1
Suzanna Spitaleri-Prisley	5
Amanda Tarpley	8
Jasper Dennis	11
Diana Gray	11
Jean Hedges	11
William Michalowski ..	11
Brian Hunt	12
Lillian Alexander	15
Cynthia Galea	17
Evan London	17
Marney Michalowski ..	17
Mae Miller	17
Riley Dennis	18
Emma Edelbrock	18
Barbara Demetron ...	19
Russell Smith	21
Holly Beglinger	23
Bob Stamps	24
Samuel Brown	25
Sandra First	26
Craig Cook	27
Seth Whitmore	28
Jeff Blanton	29
Bill Hunt	31

GET IN THE KNOW!

Make sure to sign up for both our CUMC listserv and the church communication email distribution list. This will keep you informed about all that is going on in the church. To be added to the lists, send an email to:

office@clarendonumc.org



CONGRATULATIONS OUTREACH TEAM!

They were able to raise over \$7,000 in Christmas Tree and Peanut Sales during the month of December. All of the proceeds from these two fundraising efforts will go to support Stop Hunger Now (happening January 14), Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) and Arlington Street People's Assistance Network (A-SPAN).

A huge thank-you to all the people who volunteered their time; a lot of hard work, cold nights, and planning went into making our first Christmas tree sale so successful.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:

8:30 am Informal Service

11:00 am Formal Service



Clarendon UMC

Pastor Tracy McNeil Wines
606 N. Irving Street
Arlington, VA 22201