



GOOD NEWSLETTER

Clarendon United Methodist Church ————— September 2017

Living Love Launch!

This month, CUMC is officially launching the church-wide focus that developed over the past year through prayer and discernment—Living Love. It began as a few staff members hearing a call from God, and has now led to the involvement of the whole congregation. On Easter Sunday, worshipers shared ways in which we could take our love of others to the next level. The 181 responses that were collected helped spark several new initiatives, which you will find inside this newsletter. It is a very exciting time here at CUMC! Please keep the church in your prayers, and consider where God might be leading you as we embark on the Living Love journey.



LIVING LOVE LIFT-OFF

Sunday, September 10, 2017

Join us for a celebration as we launch exciting plans at CUMC! It begins with uplifting worship services, including a new sermon series (8:30 am and 11:00 am), and introductions of the Sunday School teachers at 9:45 am in Corry Hall. At 12:15 pm, we will have lunch on the lawn (taco bar!) and activities including:

- **Living Love “Graffiti Wall”**
How are you living love? How will you take it to the next level? Share it!
- **Hands-on outreach project**
Help package trail mix for Martha’s Table, supporting children and families
- **“Hug-Raiser”**
Grab a friend, give a hug, and each one will release \$1 in support of Arlington THRIVE, providing emergency funds for neighbors in need. Look for the booth and help us reach our goal of \$500!
- **Face painting**
- Plus information on classes and activities coming up in the fall

In Remembrance

Ten days after we celebrated Martha Ann Miller’s 106th Birthday, she left this world to go to her heavenly home. She died peacefully and quickly, as if she had an appointment to keep. We are truly blessed to have shared this amazing woman’s life and legacy, and we remembered her great love of God, her family, and our church and its mission at her funeral service here at CUMC on August 25.



What's New?

You've Got This!—Pastor Tracy's Sermon Series, begins September 10, 2017: We turn to scripture in challenging times to find words of encouragement and hope. Let's celebrate God's empowering grace at work in our lives and in our community in this three part sermon series.

A Culture of Welcome: Every CUMC member is challenged to go the extra mile this fall in welcoming newcomers to the worship services or other activities. Everyone is part of the Worship Welcome Team and can reach out a hand to new people. Further information will be shared soon.

Social Justice Book Club on Tuesday, September 26, 7:30 pm: *Nickel and Dimed* by Barbara Ehrenreich chronicles the author's year of traveling the US, working in minimum wage jobs and trying to survive. Although written in 1998, the uncomfortable truth is that not much has changed. All are welcome to join us in exploring this important societal issue. Contact Laura Bishop (ljbishop1@gmail.com) for more information.

Loving with Vision and Strength—A Bible Study of 1 John, begins October 1, 2017: Come and discover the wisdom of God's word as we seek to understand how to love God, love ourselves, and love our neighbors with fresh vision and strength in this four week series. Contact Silvia Wang (sswang_2002@yahoo.com) for more information.

Mission Focus Sunday, October 1, 2017: Former CUMC pastor Glen Evans will speak at both worship services about the exciting things going on at the Honduras Independence Bilingual School and how we can take our support to the next level.

Churchwide Book Challenge: During the month of October, we are challenging the church community join local Methodist clergy in reading *The Anatomy of Peace: Resolving the Heart of Conflict* by The Arbinger Institute. This amazing book instills hope and inspires reconciliation. Learn from once-bitter enemies the way to transform personal, professional, and global conflicts. Books available to purchase at CUMC for \$9.83 on September 10, or visit Amazon.com.

Hands-On Mission Day, Saturday, November 4, 2017: Join us at Bridges to Independence, where we will be painting, cleaning, and working with the children at this Arlington shelter that leads individuals and families out of homelessness and into stable, independent futures.

No One Left Behind: CUMC is helping to support an Afghan family who relocated to Alexandria through No One Left Behind. They arrived 4 months ago on a special immigrant visa (SIV), as the father had worked to support our troops in Afghanistan. Member Attila Lantos has been working closely with the family, which includes three young children. The Outreach Committee will share information soon on how you can help.

Dinner and Dialogue, Sunday, November 12, 6:30 pm, Floris UMC: Rev. Tom Berlin hosts How to have the Conversation: Boldly Engage in Dialogue around the Way Forward. Registration will open soon and carpools will be arranged.



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Happenings & Milestones

CHOIR SEASON BEGINS

Week of September 10

Rehearsals for the 12 music ensembles at CUMC will commence soon! There is something for everyone at every age—newcomers are warmly welcomed and encouraged to participate. Spiritual formation, service, fellowship, creative arts...all of it is included! Detailed information will be in your worship bulletin and online. Contact Lisa Gibbs-Smith, Director of Worship Arts (directorworshiparts@gmail.com) for more information.

YOUNG ADULT STUDY—ANIMATE: BIBLE

Begins Sunday, September 24, 9:45 am, Parlor

Led by Pastor Tracy, this video series (which requires no advanced reading!) will promote conversation about faith, beliefs, and much more and is perfect for you busy young professionals. Contact Tanya in the church office with any questions (office@ClarendonUMC.org).

CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

During September, we remember our precious 12-year-old Chris Lantos, who died of cancer in 2013, and all children who have battled this devastating disease. Please remember Attila and Ilona Lantos, Chris’ parents, and pray for them as they continue to honor their son’s memory through the work of the Chris Lantos Foundation. Look for more info from the Outreach Committee on how we plan to support children and families who are suffering from cancer and are in need of our love and assistance.

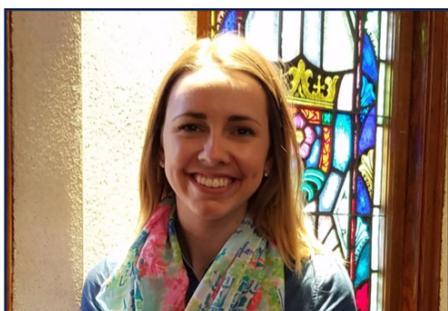
WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

Begins Monday, September 11, 10:00 am-12:00 pm, Youth Room

We will study *Making Sense of the Bible: Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today* by Adam Hamilton. This DVD-led discussion of “taboo issues” from our society helps us to discover God’s truth. Books are \$8.00. Contact Jane Dixon (jdixon580jd@gmail.com) for more information and to join.

WELCOME NEW CUMC MEMBER

Martha Davis joined our church family on August 6. Martha is from Minnesota where she went to college in Duluth. She is currently working as a staffer with the Department of Education in Washington, DC. She loves hockey and is active in the DAR in Washington. We are so pleased to welcome her.



FAITH, FOOD, AND FELLOWSHIP

September 14—John Liebertz

John Liebertz, Arlington County Associate Planner, will open our FFF with an engaging program on the history and heritage of African American communities in Arlington County. He will discuss the neighborhoods and contributions made for over 200 years.

Please note: FFF will switch to once per month this fall. We will meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month with a brief meditation and music, followed by a delicious lunch and a program.

GET IN THE KNOW!

Keep informed about all that is going on at CUMC—sign up for the church communications email distribution list. To be added to the list, send an email to: office@clarendonumc.org



CUMC IS A SAFE PLACE

As troubling events occur in our city, state, and nation, we have committed to offering a safe place for people to come together in prayer, conversation, and holy discernment of where God is leading us to act as Christians. Tanya, our administrative assistant, will be sending out notices to let you know when and where we will be gathering as these events unfold.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:

8:30 am Informal Service

11:00 am Formal Service



LOOK INSIDE FOR:

- our living love lift off
- a sneak peak at Pastor Tracy's sermon series
- upcoming events at CUMC
- ways to get involved
- and more!



Clarendon UMC

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