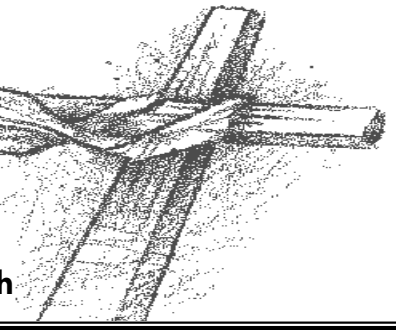




THE TOWER



Monthly Newsletter of
Verona United Methodist Church



**March
2018**

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Robert J. Weeks
Senior Pastor

Rev. Jeff Allen
Visitation Pastor

Kevin McMullen
*Associate Pastor for
Aisle 7 Fellowship*

Shawna Hiner
Office Administrator

Sheila Fair
Treasurer

Joy Tinsley
Music Director

Ethan Eldred
Worship Leader—A7F

Linda Toler
Organist

Rhonda Reeser
Pianist

Amanda Hall
Director Children's Min.

Bill & Carolyn Harlow
Directors Youth Ministries

Phyllis Mauzy
Nursery Director

Ken & Donna Cason
Custodial Staff

From the Senior Pastor

John Wesley once challenged a fellow clergyman to come and see the fruits of the Methodist movement throughout England: "What the Scripture promises, I enjoy. Come and see what Christianity has done here; and acknowledge it is of God." (Letter to Rev. Dr. Middleton, January 4, 1749).

Our church is not perfect.

We struggle and fall down and take it easy when we should be working and work when we should be resting. Being human can be frustrating (just read the Apostle Paul try to explain his struggles with sin in Romans 7) but it can also be exhilarating when we're operating on all our Spirit-empowered, faith-driven cylinders.

I've taken some time during this Lenten season to look around VUMC to see where the Spirit is at work among us. I've especially taken note of three ministries which put into practical, daily practice the teachings of Jesus (*This, by the way, is the part that always gets me into trouble as I fail to mention some groups in the church while singling out others.... I beg your forgiveness in advance.*)

Our food pantry gives out tons of food each year to hundreds of area families. The dozens of volunteers who spend many hours each week purchasing, collecting, stocking, keeping records, welcoming food pantry guests, and distributing the food are a vital part of our church's identity in Christ and a reflection of our desire to love others as Christ has first loved us!

Our Aisle 7 Fellowship campus across the road has taken on the challenge of making improvements to our house trailer in Meade's Trailer Park in order to develop a transitional housing program for persons unable to secure funds needed to rent a home or apartment. The ministry will work closely with families to strengthen their spiritual and financial situations as they move toward housing independence.

The Verona Community Center was an investment of thousands of volunteer hours and a large portion of our church's cash reserves back in 2015 (many of you continue to volunteer there as hosts and board members). In addition to providing a home for our Aisle 7 Fellowship and dozens of other community groups, it provides a place for the poor and wealthy, the young and old, the stranger and the neighbor to come and share a free snack and cup of coffee; to use a laptop and the internet for free; or to bring their laundry when they cannot afford a laundry service (showers will soon be added!).

We have a mission team of 15 men and women serving this week in a hurricane-damaged community in Florida and in a few months two teams of youth and adults will be serving in Mexico and Delaware. None of these teams serve without the prayers, financial support, and sacrifice of many in our congregation.

May we always be a church of prayer and action. May we always be a church where the promises of God in Scripture are reality; a church where we not only talk about our faith, but where people can see what God is doing in and through us.
Amen!

Bob

Our Mission

WE GLORIFY CHRIST AS WE:
REACH PEOPLE AS THEY ARE
RELATE THEM TO GOD
EQUIP THEM TO SERVE WITH
US, AND
GO FORTH TO MAKE A HOLY
DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD

**Newsletter
Deadline is
March 19**

Please submit items to
Shawna Hiner by date
above for the April
Newsletter. By phone,
248-7777 or email,
shiner@veronaumc.com

If you would a copy of
Church Council Minutes
please contact Shawna in
the church office:
248-7777 or
shiner@veronaumc.com
*All meetings except
Staff Parish Relations
Committee (SPRC) are
open to the congregation.*

Miss A Sunday?

Pastor Bob's
sermons are online.



Go to
www.veronaumc.net
and check it out!
You can also receive
weekly announce-
ments by email.
Call 248-7777
to sign up.

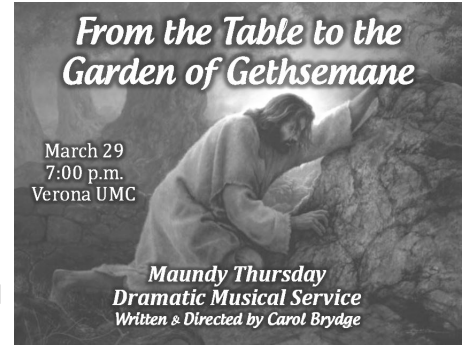
News...

**Maundy Thursday
Musical Drama**

**"From the Table to the Garden of
Gethsemane"**

(written & directed by Carol Brydge)

On Maundy Thursday, March 29, 7 p.m., through a
musical drama, you will learn of the Passover Meal
and subsequently share the cup and bread along
with Jesus and his disciples. As Jesus journeys to
the Garden of Gethsemane, you will observe, and perhaps feel, the agony he experi-
enced and about which he prayed to his Father. You won't want to miss this soul-stirring
evening enriched by the scriptures, narrations, drama and acoustical music.



**Good Friday
Worship Service**

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

Led by VUMC's Combined Chancel Choirs

On Good Friday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m. A service
of inspiring music by our choirs reminding us of
the day Christ died on the cross for the salvation
of the world.



Easter Sunday Schedule ~ April 1

- 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service –
light breakfast follows
- 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. VUMC
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School –VUMC
- 10:45 a.m. Aisle 7 Fellowship



Annual Release of the Butterflies after 8:30 & 11:00 Services



**Easter Egg Hunt
and Activities**

Saturday, March 24

10:00 a.m. VUMC

Free Hot Dog Lunch Provided



The Nurture Work Area

Between Services Coffee Time

The following groups/teams/classes are scheduled to host Coffee and Fellowship time on Sundays in March-April. Information and instructions posted on back of first cabinet door in the kitchen. Questions/concerns? Please contact Church Office.



- ♦ Mar. 4 Witness Team
- ♦ Mar. 11 Youth
- ♦ Mar. 18 Rebecca Circle
- ♦ Mar. 25 Open Door
- ♦ Apr. 1 Worship *Easter*
- ♦ Apr. 8 Petal Pushers
- ♦ Apr. 15 Esther Circle
- ♦ Apr. 22 Seekers
- ♦ Apr. 29 Home Builders

Coffee Time! We are looking for additional new groups/teams/classes/families/couples to add to the Coffee Time list – If you are willing to do this about 4 times a year (**or even once a year**) please contact the Church Office at 248-7777.

Wanted: Sunday School Teachers

Adults needed to work with Sunday School at all age levels – Contact Children’s Director Amanda Hall.

Altar Flower Donations Sign up to donate flowers on any Sunday. Donate in honor or memory of a loved one and help beautify the sanctuary. Call church office at 248-7777 for further information.

Snacks for Community Center Cafe

We are always in need of snacks for the Verona Community Center Café. Little Debbie’s products, small bags of chips, small packages of cookies, energy bars, peanut butter crackers, etc. are always popular. Just bring by the café Monday through Friday or drop in the container in our church’s Donation Center.



Food Pantry Donations

URGENT: Assist local families in need!

On the First Sunday of each month we have a special collection for items for our church food pantry. Collection boxes are located at the Donation Center in the main church entrance and lower entryway. You can leave items at any time during the month. **We do NOT need plastic bags at this time. Thank you.**

WE CAN ESPECIALLY USE:

Canned Fruit Cocktail, Beets, Mixed Vegetables

Salt & Peppers News Corner

For anyone with a little “salt and pepper” in their hair!

Thurs., March 15 / 11:30 a.m. The Purple Foot - Waynesboro

We plan to go to The Purple Foot in Waynesboro on Thursday, Mar. 15 at 11:30 am for lunch. Please give us your reservation by Sun. Mar. 11 and let us know if you need a ride to the restaurant.

Please give ALL payments to committee members or Shawna Hiner. DO NOT put payments in offering plate.

For more info. on upcoming events, contact:

Sandy McAllister –255-6488,
Gayle Meeks -248-1325, Faye Wills –476-5555

Mexican Luncheon Sunday, March 4

Please support our Youth Group by joining them for lunch on **Sunday, Mar. 4 from 10:45am to 1pm**, in the Fellowship Hall.

- **Menu:** Tacos: Beef or chicken, soft & hard shell, home-made salsa, chips, all the toppings, dessert, baked potatoes and drinks.
- **Free Will Offering**
- **Dine-in or take-out available**
- **All proceeds benefit Mexico Mission Team.** Team will build a house and offer Bible lessons for children.



Yard Sale Tables Available Sat., March 10, 7-Noon at Verona Community Center

Tables are \$12 or two for \$10 each. Donations will be accepted or you may sell your own items and keep proceeds. Set up will be Fri. Mar. 9, 6pm-unitl. For more information contact Fred Wills at 430-0612.

All proceeds benefit the Verona Community Center.

Sponsored by Verona Ruritans.



Volunteer Opportunity at the Verona Community Center

Do you have just 1-1/2 hours once a month on a Thursday evening? The community center hosts two groups on Thursday evenings--an ESL class and a chorus. The volunteer shift is from 5:30 - 7:00pm. The cafe is closed to visitors during this time. The plus? Listening to a beautiful choir warming up!

Aisle 7 & VUMC Partner In New Transitional Housing Ministry

The trailer in Meade's Trailer Park, purchased with donations from VUMC members in 2012, will now be used in a trial transitional housing ministry headed up by members of our Aisle 7 Campus. For five years Barbara and Earl Morris, VUMC members, lived in the trailer rent free while paying the lot fee and utilities. After Earl's death and Barbara's move to live with her son in Goshen, the trailer became available again. The VUMC Church Council recently approved Aisle 7's proposal for use of the program to aid people seeking a short-term housing solution while working toward permanent housing. For more information, contact Doug May, VUMC Council Chairperson.

Help Process Offerings

We currently have a total of six counters (three teams) on Sunday mornings and would love to have at least one more team, two more teams would be great! If you are interested in hearing more about this great volunteer opportunity please contact Donna May at donnawm@outlook.com or 540-448-4220.

Online Giving Available

It's easy, safe and secure. Go to (veronaumc.com) and click on the online giving banner OR drop by the church office during the week and Shawna can assist you in setting up your online giving.

Join a Prayer Group

Prayer is the foundation of everything we do as a church. In the Bible we are called on to pray without ceasing—come join your voice!

Pastor's Prayer Group

Mondays at 9 a.m., Verona Community Center

Wednesday Evening Prayer Group

Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., next to Library

Numbers that Matter as of February 25, 2018

Sunday School (VUMC) Avg. Attendance	91
Worship Avg. 2018—VUMC/A7F	202/40
GENERAL FUND OFFERINGS (VUMC only)*	
General Fund Weekly Need	8091
General Fund Weekly Avg. 2018	7633
General Fund thru Feb. 18 only**	22507

*Does not include designated gifts including the Community Center, Aisle 7 Fellowship, Food Pantry, Building and Memorial Funds, Youth Missions, etc.

**Because of deadline for printing newsletter, last week of February is not included.

Introducing the Wesleyan Covenant Association

with the Reverend Keith Boyette

Saturday, April 28 / 10:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Verona United Methodist Church

Register at shiner@veronaumc.com

We believe change is coming to The United Methodist Church, and as we live into what comes next, the Wesleyan Covenant Association will connect, encourage, and resources clergy, laity, congregations, and regional chapters by:

- **Committing to the primary authority of Scripture and the Lordship of Jesus Christ**
- **Creating a unified response to the Bishops' Commission recommendation that would maintain traditional, orthodox Methodist beliefs**
- **Developing a plan for a positive, faithful future.**

The Wesleyan Covenant Association (WCA) connects Spirit-filled, orthodox churches, clergy, and laity who hold to Wesleyan theology. It is an association and network of individuals and congregations who share a common understanding of our Wesleyan doctrine and desire to become a vibrant, faithful, growing 21st-century church.

The presentation will include a time for Q&A and Reverend. Boyette, President of the WCA, will be available after 12:30 for further conversation. No lunch is planned but there are several restaurants nearby, or you may bring a bag lunch. Absolutely everyone is welcome. Come and learn.

Reverend Boyette, President of the WCA, will also preach at our 8:30 & 11:00 services on April 29



Youth Group is for 6th - 12th grades. BRING A FRIEND!

Our Youth Coordinators are Bill & Carolyn Harlow. Reach them at 578-5575 with any questions.

MARCH YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

- **Sunday, March 4, 10:45-1pm –Mexican Luncheon:** Tacos - Beef or chicken, soft & hard shell, homemade salsa, chips, all the toppings, dessert, baked potatoes and drinks. Proceeds benefit Mexico mission team. Our team will build a house and offer bible lessons for children each day.
- **Sunday, March 4, 4pm** -Easter drama practice
- **Sunday, March 11, 4pm** -Easter drama practice; **5:30-7pm** youth devotions & dinner
- **Sunday, March 18, 4pm** -Easter drama practice; **5:30-7pm** youth devotions & dinner
- **Sunday, March 25, 8:30&11am**— “Shadow of the Cross” performed by youth; **4pm-Mexico team meeting; 5:30-7pm** youth devotions & dinner
- **Saturday, March 31, 6:30pm**– Practice for Easter Sunrise Service on April 1, 6:30am

The youth will have a silent auction on April 21st with a meal. We are accepting donations of items for the silent auction. Please let Bill or Carolyn know if you would like to donate an item. Proceeds of the auction will benefit Mexico and Delaware mission teams. The youth will be making a some items to auction.

Thank you for those who came to the soup luncheon—we raised \$800 towards the youth mission trips! The Delaware and Mexico youth mission teams are very grateful for the donation from the Apple Dumpling Gang... and to the Homebuilders class for their donation to the mission teams. Our youth could not attend these trips without the continued prayer and financial support from all of the members of Verona UMC. Thank you.

**Children's
News**

WEEKLY BLAST
Sundays | 5-6:30 p.m.
Social Hall | Dinner Provided



- **Easter Event-** Volunteers needed to hide eggs, run craft/ game stations, help serve lunch, and clean up. Please contact Amanda Hall if you can help.
- **NO BLAST- Easter Sunday (April 1)**
- **Children's Church-** due to the children's high interest in learning about creation and Noah's Ark, we extended our unit on those topics into February.
March- What is Easter?
April- The Lord's Prayer
- **Easter Sunday, April 1-** children will be singing at the 8:30 and 11am services. Practices are occurring during Sunday night BLASTS.
- **VBS 2018- "Follow the Leader"** Monday-Friday, June 4-8, 6 to 8:30pm. Please contact Amanda at 540-280-1455, or amandavumc@gmail.com if you would like to help in any capacity. Sunday school classes/groups are needed to prepare and serve dinner nightly.



Easter Egg Hunt and Activities
Saturday, March 24
10:00 a.m. VUMC
Hot dog lunch provided

Summer Camp at Overlook Retreat & Camp Ministries

Summer Camp programs (day camp and overnight) for children & youth designed to:
Create a Christian environment in an out-of-doors setting that will be conducive to personal and group experiences with God and learning His will for our lives.

Visit the website for more information: <http://overlookretreatandcampministries.weebly.com/>
or call the camp office to register today: 540-269-2267

BROCHURES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE
Once you have attended your week at camp you can submit your receipt to the VUMC office for reimbursement of half the cost!



AUDIT for Church Account Holders Attention all groups (classes, women's groups, ministries) with accounts in our church's name. Please begin to prepare for the audit which will be done in April. Please make sure you give your audit form and all of your bank statements to Sandy Rankin or leave in the church office. Thank you.

The Finance Committee will meet Tuesday, April 17, 7 p.m. in Room 146. Please mark your calendars. We will audit accounts of church groups at this meeting.

Sandy Rankin, Finance Chair

A Sermon Series Through the Psalms for Lent at Verona UMC

Lord, I'm Coming Home

- | | |
|------|------------------------|
| 2/18 | Instruct Me O Lord |
| 2/25 | He Has Done It |
| 3/4 | Reviving the Soul |
| 3/11 | They Cried to the Lord |
| 3/18 | Inward Truth |





Daylight Savings Time Sunday March 11



Blood Drive

**Virginia Blood
Services at VUMC
Thurs., Mar. 15
12- 5 p.m.**

Walk-ins welcome! Give Blood! Save a Life!

The 5th Annual Staunton Choral Society

Hymn Festival

**Sunday April 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
Verona United Methodist Church**

Featuring

The Staunton Choral Society

directed by Raymond Hebert
with Congregational Singing

The Combined Choirs of Verona United Methodist Church have been invited by the Staunton Choral Society to participate in this Hymn Festival

An offering will be collected to benefit the Staunton Choral Society, a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization

www.stauntonchoralsociety.org
www.facebook.com/StauntonChoralSociety

Helping Hands Ministry

There are a number of small building and repair projects in our community (in neighbors' homes and around our church building) that can be taken care of in a short amount of time with one or two people doing the work. A list of these projects is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex between the Sanctuary and Social Hall. Please review the list weekly to see if there is a project you are capable of doing. If the project will take a few more people, gather up a group and take care of it. Questions? Call Doug May at 241-5605.

Ways to Serve at VUMC

It may be assisting as an usher, greeter, Scripture Reader or AV operator during worship... or working with our landscape beautification team, The Petal Pushers... or teaching children's Sunday School... or in a dozen other ways. Call the Church Office today for more information on how to get involved—248-7777.



VUMC Chancel Choir News

- The Combined Choirs will present a Good Friday Service on **March 30th at 7:30pm**. "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" A musical service reflecting the scenes of Calvary.
- Combined Choir Rehearsals for the month of March, 6:30-8:30pm.
- **WEATHER POLICY**-in case of bad weather the Adult Choirs follow the Augusta County School Schedule. If School is closed or has an early release, there will be no choir rehearsal.

We encourage prospective members to come and experience the fun and inspiration of a VUMC choir practice—there are no tryouts, all are welcome. The 11:00 choir practices from 6:30 to 7:30pm. The 8:30 choir practices from 7:15 to 8:15pm (there is a fifteen minute "overlap" when the choirs practice together).



VERONA UMW



Remember your Prayer Partner

United Methodist Women News

The Verona UMW is collecting supplies for UMCOR Kits for Conference. This year, only Hygiene kits, School kits, and Flood buckets will be accepted. We will solicit specific supplies for the hygiene and school kits by putting “ornaments” on the “UMCOR Kits for Conference” tree in the Narthex. Please take one or more ornaments, purchase the requested supplies, and put them under the tree, or in the designated donation bin at the front entranceway. We plan to have the tree up by mid-March.

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming UMW events listed below:

- **March 8, 7:00 pm** – Verona UMW hosts the Harrisonburg District UMW Executive meeting – volunteers for light refreshments will be needed
- **March 17, 9:00 am** – Harrisonburg District Spiritual Life Retreat at Manor Memorial UMC in New Market. Car-pooling will be available
- **March 24, 10:00 am** – Executive Officer meeting
- **April 12, 7:00 pm** – Harrisonburg District Evening Together at Mt. Tabor UMC, Lacey Spring. Car-pooling will be available

If you have any questions about the UMW, or are thinking of joining, please feel free to contact me at 569-2702, or reach out to one of the other officers:

Gayle Meeks – VP

Millie Davis – Treasurer

Lydia Weeks – Reading Program

Linda Garber - Secretary

Grace Dick – Spiritual Growth Coord.

Joy Tinsley – Nominating

VUMC UMW Circle Meetings

Esther Circle – meets 3rd Monday, 2:00pm at the church – Linda Garber & Linda Wiseman, Co-Chairs

Rebecca Circle – meets 2nd Saturday, 10am at the church – Gayle Meeks, Chair

**Not a
Member
of the
United
Methodist
Women?**

Talk with me and let
me tell you about how
Great it is to be a United
Methodist Woman
Joy Utberg,
Verona UMW Pres.

Mentors Needed for All God's Children Camp

All God's Children Camp is just around the corner and they are in need of mentors this summer. Ninety total mentors will be needed, 30 for each camp, both male and female. Please consider giving a week of your time and mentor a camper whose mother or father is incarcerated. For more information, please contact Lori Smith at lttlelori@gmail.com or 571-245-9591. Camp dates and locations are:

June 17-29: Camp Chanco on the James (Richmond area)

June 24-29: Camp Overlook (Shenandoah Valley area)

July 29-August 3: Occohannock on the Bay (Eastern Shore)

Greetings from Aisle 7

We are concluding our sermon series on the book of Romans and we draw our attention to the Lenten season, anticipating the celebration of Christ's resurrection – Easter.

Although we tend to think of Lent as a brief period during the Church calendar where we challenge our bodies and minds to give up something as a memorial of Jesus' temptation in the desert, we truly are living out the Lenten season each day. Christians live in a desert where our faith is tested each day, and each day we have to decide whether to lean on our faith or bow to the temptations of our culture.

Being a disciple of Jesus requires us to adopt a daily pattern of sacrifice and self-denial. "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me" Luke 9:23. Only on the final day when we are resurrected to be with God forever will there be no need for self-denial, because none of our desires will be sinful or foolish. Until then, however, we continue to fight our sinful and foolish desires daily during Lent.

So, what is going on across the street with Aisle 7? For those of you that don't know, we have been working to rehab the VUMC trailer over at Meade's Trailer Park and make it live-in ready. What a blessing it is that, together, we have the means to provide a safe home to a family in need of temporary housing! Our first work day was February 10 as we installed new flooring and baseboard heaters. And the next work day is March 10th; please come join us!

Aisle 7 has also been actively working in the Meade's Trailer Park these past few months trying to make ourselves known in the community. For example, on Valentine's Day we walked up to each home and handed out a Valentine's treat with an invitation to join us at Church. And we have already seen fruit from our visits!

The Aisle 7 Ladies continue their crafting events, which are open to all women in the community. During the last get-together the ladies decorated pillar candles and offered our congregation to take one for their home, or to give as a gift. We always enjoy looking for ways to give back or an easy excuse to visit our next door neighbor and say "we love you".

Lastly, the joint VUMC/Aisle 7 mission trip to Florida is underway as you read this newsletter! Four Aisle 7 folks, including Noah Bussard, Scott Morlino, Mark Wright, and Pastor Kevin, are hoping to make a difference in an area right outside of Daytona that was hit hard by one of last year's hurricanes. Your continued prayers for our safety and the energy to complete the projects are appreciated.

Thank you again to everyone who continues to take time to help be a part of what God is doing through Aisle 7 every week – we can't do this without you. In the meantime, my door is always open if anything is weighing on your heart.

In His grace,- Pastor Kevin McMullen

I Love You First... and Always!

Every night a father tucked his daughter into bed and they would repeat their familiar routine. The little girl would say, "I love you" and her dad would say, "I love you first." One night, the little girl interjected a change. After hearing her father say, "I love you first," she proclaimed, "I love you always!" And that became their new routine. The little girl has grown and is now a young wife and mother, but daughter and father continue to share these words. The exchange continues to affirm their love and connection. One will say, "I love you first" and then wait to hear the response, "I love you always."

The love between a parent and child is a wonderful gift. How much greater and more perfect is the love between God the Creator and those claimed as God's children? This is the image of the God we have come to worship today. A God whose love reaches back into all our yesterdays and stretches into all our tomorrows. A God who always loves and forgives, who is always there to guide us when we are lost, to strengthen us when we are tired, and who overwhelms our hearts with love and grace—loving us first and loving us always.

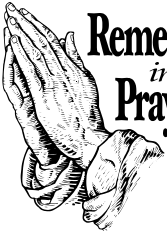
Years ago a widow gave her last two coins as an offering to God. Many still wonder what motivated such a sacrificial gift. Surely she did not expect to have her name engraved on a wall or have the street in front of the Temple named in her honor. She clearly did not anticipate her gift would be lifted up as an example for others to follow centuries later. So what motivated her gift? Maybe she was motivated by a heart-felt desire to declare her life had been blessed by a God who had always met her needs. Blessed by a God who loved her first and always. The widow's offering was the very best way she knew to express that she loved God first and would love God always.

Today, many see the offering as a way for the church to collect money to pay bills and fund ministries. Yet at its very core, the offering is so much more. The offering is the time we are invited to proclaim, through faith, that we love God first. We love Him more than our jobs, our assets, our possessions, our hobbies, and even our families.

It is in giving we stay connected to what is really important in life and not allow materialism to define who we are; and it is in giving that we gain a deeper understanding of the depth of sacrificial love God has for us. It is in giving that we grow in our own personal journey as a follower of Jesus. It is in giving we say to God and to the world those simple, yet life-defining words: "I love you first, and I will love you always."

The offering is not a time to pay bills. It is the act of giving—and act that is at the core of what it means to be a follower of Christ.

- adapted from Horizon Stewardship

**Remember
in
Prayer**

Thelma Smith, Dot Hess, Patsy Dastoli, Ruth Weaver, Willie Lockridge, Ronald Smith, Margaret Helmick, Jean May, Inez Fultz, Charles Cook, Howard Rexrode, Elijah Smith, Don & Caroline

McFaden, Glen Sutton, Roger Moats, Frances Johnson, Ray Smith, Harle Jackson, Jeff Spiggle, Joy Tinsley, Kitty Wine, Bill & Nancy Welliver, Farris Gwin, Wilma Shuey, Arlene Simpson, Corkie Collie, Scott Arbogast, Ellen Gray, Parker Staples

Congratulations to

Brian and Anzie Linger on the birth of their daughter, Madelyn Alice, born February 19, 2018!

***Our Christian Love
and Sympathy
are Extended To***

- Samantha Breeden in the loss of her aunt, Sherry Harrison.
- Louise Lockridge in the loss of her sister, Johnnie Elizabeth Rexrode.
- Bob Anson in the loss of his brother, Richard Anson.
- Betty Jackson in the loss of her mother, Millie Potter.
- Kathy Hitt in the loss of her sister, Barbara Eye.
- Gary Breeden in the loss of his brother, Franklin Shull.
- Russ Coiner in the loss of his brother, John.
- Donna May in the loss of her niece, Melanie Wade.
- The family of Gloria Leach Ward, who passed away January 22.
- The family of Peggy Tutwiler, who passed away February 6.
- The family of Nancy Campbell, who passed away February 12.

***Notes of Sincere
Appreciation***

Dear Church Family,

I want to say a heartfelt thanks to my VUMC family. You have encouraged, loved, supported and fed me. Not only have you fed my physical body but more importantly you have fed my soul.

I can't seem to find the right words to adequately describe how much I love each of you and how much each of you mean to me. My parents gave me a solid foundation and Verona UMC has reinforced that foundation so it will never crumble. I thank you for believing in me and my call to Pastoral Ministry. I thank you for the many prayers that you have prayed for me not just in this last year but my whole life.

I also want to say thank you to Pastor Bob and all he has taught me since he came here. I'm most thankful for his belief in me, his encouragement and the opportunities he has given me to preach, lead a Sunday School class and help with the Children's Time on Sunday mornings, I've learned so much!

My interview went well this past Thursday, how could it not with an entire congregation lifting me up in prayer! I will attend Licensing School this May in Norfolk and be licensed by the Bishop at Annual Conference this June.

I do have one final request - please continue to keep me in prayer and I will keep each of you in mine!

In Christ's Love, Shawna Hiner

Dear Verona Church Family,

Thank you to everyone who sang happy birthday, sent cards and Facebook messages and helped make my 63rd birthday a blessed one. This is a great and caring church!

- Pastor Bob Weeks

Quotes for March

“We are told to let our light shine, and if it does, we won't need to tell anybody it does. Lighthouses don't fire cannons to call attention to their shining...” — Dwight L. Moody

“We may ignore, but we can nowhere evade the presence of God.

The world is crowded with Him. He walks everywhere incognito.” — C.S. Lewis

“If I find in myself desires which nothing in this world can satisfy, the only logical explanation is that I was made for another world.” — C.S. Lewis

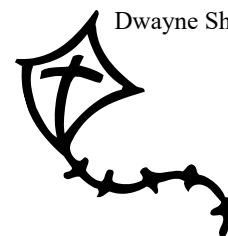
Verona UMC Calendar of Events - March 2018

- | | | | |
|------|---|------|---|
| 3/4 | 9:45am Confirmation Class-Pastor's office
10:45am Mexican Luncheon, BRMH benefits Youth
4:00pm Youth Drama Practice, BRMH
5:00pm BLAST, BRMH
8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 | 3/20 | 7:00pm Church Council Meeting, RM 146 |
| 3/5 | 9:00am Pastor's Prayer Meeting, Community Center | 3/21 | 6:00pm TOPS, RM 143AB
6:00pm Evening Prayer Meeting, Golden Deeds
6:30pm Combined Choir Rehearsal
8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 |
| 3/7 | 6:00pm TOPS, RM 143AB
6:00pm Evening Prayer Meeting, Golden Deeds
6:30pm Combined Choir Rehearsal
8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 | 3/24 | 10:00am Easter Egg Hunt & Activities, BRMH |
| 3/8 | 7:00pm UMW District Exec. Mtg, RM 146 | 3/25 | 4:00pm Mexico Mission Team Meeting, BRMH
5:00pm BLAST, BRMH
5:30pm Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH
8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 |
| 3/10 | 7:00am Yard Sale-Community Center until Noon
9:00am Work Day on Trailer at Meade's
10:00am Rebecca Circle, RM 146 | 3/26 | 9:00am Pastor's Prayer Meeting, Community Center
6:30pm Drama Rehearsal, Sanctuary |
| 3/11 | 1:00pm Staff Visioning Meeting-Community Center
4:00pm Youth Drama Practice, BRMH
5:00pm BLAST, BRMH
5:30pm Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH
8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 | 3/27 | 6:30pm Drama Rehearsal, Sanctuary –IF NEEDED |
| 3/12 | 9:00am Pastor's Prayer Meeting, Community Center
6:30pm Maundy Thursday Drama Practice, Sanctuary
7:00pm Daycare Board Meeting | 3/28 | 6:00pm TOPS, RM 143AB
6:00pm Evening Prayer Meeting, Golden Deeds
6:30pm Combined Choir Rehearsal
8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 |
| 3/14 | 6:00pm TOPS, RM 143AB
6:00pm Evening Prayer Meeting, Golden Deeds
6:30pm Combined Choir Rehearsal
8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 | 3/29 | 7:00pm <i>"From the Table to the Garden of Gethsemane"</i>
Maundy Thursday Dramatic Musical Service |
| 3/15 | 11:30sm Salt & Peppers Lunch-Purple Foot in W-boro
12-5pm Blood Drive, BRMH
7:00pm Verona Ruritans, BRMH (Youth Serve Dinner) | 3/30 | 7:30pm <i>"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"</i>
Musical Service presented by VUMC Choir |
| 3/18 | 4:00pm Youth Drama practice, BRMH
5:00pm BLAST, BRMH
5:30pm Youth Devotions & Dinner, BRMH
8:00pm AA , RM 302 & AL-ANON, RM 141 | 3/31 | 6:30pm Youth Practice for Easter Sunrise Service, BRMH |
| 3/19 | 9:00am Pastor's Prayer Meeting, Community Center
2:00pm Esther Circle, RM 144
7:00pm SPRC Meeting, RM 146 | | |

**Worship Services held each Sunday at
8:30 and 11 a.m. with Sunday School
at 10 a.m. Our second campus,
Aisle 7 Fellowship, meets at
the Verona Community Center
at 10:45 a.m.**

March Birthdays

3/2	Linda Toler Carolyn Hamrick John Carper	3/10	Barbara Collie Brian Linger Darlene Propst Viel	3/17	Linda Wiseman Greg Bean Elizabeth Vallee	3/27	Frances Johnson David Roadcap Billy Weeks
3/3	Mark Hisey Morgan Smith	3/12	Anne Thompson David Wagoner	3/19	Christina Cason		Melinda Wills
3/4	Zack Woods	3/13	Travis Wills	3/20	Don Swanson Luke Wiseman	3/30	Ashley Smith Melissa Sumner
3/5	Janette Gordon Wanda Broce	3/14	Doug May Kim Cash Madi Reeser	3/21	Chuck Wright Rob Carper Roger Moats Daniel Cash	3/31	Daniel Wright Brandon Reeser Dwight Shuler Dwayne Shuler
3/6	Benny Custer Virginia Pullin	3/15	Earl Shifflett Connie Rohrer	3/23	Carol Brydger		
3/7	Benny Craun Michael Cook		Danny Link Larry James	3/24	Sean Weeks		
3/9	Terry Smith	3/16	Mary Cain	3/25	Bill Lambert		
				3/26	Judith Cariker Nick Minor Tommy Upton		





Verona United Methodist Church
 P.O. Box 47 - 406 Lee Highway
 Verona, VA 24482-0047

Non-profit Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Staunton, Virginia
 Permit No. 444

Return Service Requested

Staying in touch:

Church Phone #'s: 540/248-7777 Fax 540/248-2243
Church Website: www.veronaumc.net

Senior Pastor: Rev. Bob Weeks
 Pastor's Study: 540/248-7778
 Email: bobweeks@veronaumc.com

Sunday Schedule:
 Worship 8:30 a.m.
 Fellowship Time 9:30-10 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
 A7F Worship 10:45 a.m.
 Worship 11:00 a.m.

Marvelous March

A	D	E	E	B	A	L	M	G	N	G	Y	L	X	W	M	O	W	T	L	G	A
C	K	R	A	I	N	A	T	B	L	O	O	M	I	N	G	I	R	J	I	R	R
L	L	I	N	R	N	W	Y	E	L	L	I	Z	R	B	O	R	L	D	O	E	Y
O	I	L	L	D	I	A	M	G	O	D	O	A	I	L	F	W	W	E	A	E	N
V	D	R	C	R	Y	M	A	O	D	U	B	S	P	R	I	N	G	R	N	D	
E	E	S	H	O	W	E	R	S	R	M	T	E	H	M	A	N	A	U	W	E	L
R	E	H	E	E	K	A	C	E	H	A	S	T	H	D	L	S	Y	T	S	I	E
E	L	A	E	M	E	N	T	A	S	N	I	G	O	O	A	V	L	Y	U	T	P
V	O	M	L	A	R	E	M	S	E	I	D	W	A	R	M	E	R	G	N	E	R
X	O	R	E	E	T	C	A	O	S	K	E	H	A	W	B	A	A	N	S	A	E
F	L	O	W	E	R	S	U	N	E	I	B	A	T	S	E	I	I	H	H	B	C
N	E	C	E	R	D	B	D	I	N	T	B	A	U	L	L	I	N	G	I	K	H
P	A	K	W	S	I	T	O	E	M	E	R	A	L	D	T	E	B	A	N	L	A
R	I	C	A	N	S	D	R	A	K	L	A	L	I	A	S	X	O	B	E	O	U
D	A	F	F	O	D	I	L	D	Z	D	N	K	P	R	A	N	W	L	I	O	N
A	M	E	H	G	D	J	W	I	N	D	Y	A	O	S	R	E	G	I	N	J	G

SHAMROCK	BLOOMING	IRISH	LION
FLOWERS	SPRING	WINDY	WARMER
SHOWERS	LAMB	SEASON	CLOVER
EMERALD	BIRD	LEPRECHAUN	DAFFODIL
KITE	GREEN	SUNSHINE	TULIP
RAINBOW	RAIN	GOLD	OUTSIDE

