



A Note from the Pastor . . .

"So the son got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him."

Luke 15:20 (NIV)

Jesus tells a wonderful story of a son who had been away from home for some time. When he returned, he was pleasantly surprised to find that not only did his father welcome him, but also planned an extravagant welcome-home party to celebrate the event.

Homecoming events are always very special times whether in the lives of our personal families or in the life of our church family. October 9th will be just such an occasion when we will gather to celebrate our HOMECOMING here at Marshall UMC where we will share good memories and good food and probably more than a few hugs all around.

I truly enjoy hearing the stories and seeing the photos of times past and I'm looking forward to the celebration. I hope you will plan on joining us for this wonderful day in the life of the church. It will surely be a blessing to us all.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Edna

Pastor:

Rev. Edna F. Moore

Co-Lay Leaders:

Laurie Bersack
Jim Simpson

Admin. Assistant:

Tonja Agey

Director of Music:

Ruth Nelson

Preschool Director:

Donna Thomas

Newsletter Editor:

Tonja Agey

MUMC Backpack Buddies Updates

So far, we have delivered thirty lunches to the Marshall Middle School and still have lunch supplies on hand to do many more. We have learned that there are over 100 children attending MMS that take part in the Federal School Lunch Program. We are assisting these children with a small healthy lunch for one day over the weekend when the schools are not able to provide a lunch. We are greatly encouraged by the generous outpouring of individual lunch items being dropped off each week and we pray it continues throughout the coming school year and for years to come! Our long range goal is to create groups within our community to assist all of our school children with a lunch over the weekend.

Each lunch will contain at least one of the following types of foods:



- Protein/meat (Chef Boyardee lunch buckets, Vienna sausage, tuna salad packs)

- Fruit (applesauce, fruit cups, dried fruit)



- Snack crackers (peanut butter or cheese crackers)

- Healthy snacks (cereal, nuts, raisins, granola bars)



- Juice (capri sun, juicy juice boxes or powder mix to add to water-i.e. Crystal Light)

(We are trying to avoid the chips and cookies and anything that might melt!)

Right now we are only supplying less than ten percent of the children in need. I hope to have that reach fifty percent by Spring.

Most items are under \$1.00 and we will continue to collect until the school year is over. If you know of other groups that might want to help, please contact the church (540-364-2506) for more information. We are also looking for volunteers to drop the box of packed lunches off at the school each Friday morning. If this is something you could do once or twice a month, please contact the church now!! It only takes a minute to leave the lunches with Ms. Moschetti, MMS Principal. The school handles all the distribution to the children. Help us grow this ministry today!

Spreading God's love, one child at a time!



We would like to extend a Happy Birthday to all Church Family Members who were born in October! If your birthday is not displayed and you would like it to be, please call 540-364-2506 or email the church office at Admin@marshallumc.org. We would be delighted to add you!

1 - Terri Hill
 5 - George Murphy
 5 - Brian Murphy
 7 - Bill Moore
 8 - Peaches Simpson

8 - Tamsen Eickhoff
 13 - Kevin Smith
 15 - Jimmy Dooly
 19 - Nancy Powles
 20 - Joanne Rubins

26 - MacKenzie Barr
 31 - Andrew Glascock
 31 - Cathy Grymes

MID-WEEK DINNER AND WORSHIP SERVICE

Thursday, October 6th
 6:15pm Enjoy a pizza dinner
 6:45pm Worship
 Ending at 7:30pm

God is good all the time, and all the time God is good! What a joy it is to praise Him! Let's raise the roof! Ever feel the Sanctuary shake? It's awesome.

This new service will continue to be held on the first Thursday of each month. Bring your family, invite your friends.

It will be a lively service with some new songs of praise and some familiar hymns as well. We will also celebrate Holy Communion each service.

If anyone wants to join in, please come and bring your singing voice, and/or any instrument you can play. Be a greeter, a supporter by your presence, help with the sound, graphics, lead us in prayer, be a five-minute speaker, or support this ministry with your prayers. We want to offer something for everyone.

Come on! Let's raise the roof praising God! Need more information? Contact Pastor Edna (540-364-2506), Terri Hill (540-253-7070), or Clay Emery (540-364-2157).

Pruning Your Programs to Grow

Submitted by Wendy Emery

Written By Eric Seiberling, Church Strategy and Marketing Blogger at www.flockology.com.

Maybe there's a lesson or two to be learned from one of television's most popular reality shows, "Hoarders." Think about discarding a few of the things that aren't working anymore. Not only will you create space to try new things, but you'll also give God more room to work.

The A&E show "Hoarders" examines the lives of people whose inability to part with their belongings is so out of control that they are in crisis. The show uses a therapist, an organizer, and an army of people and dumpsters to address the thought patterns that caused the problems. Some recover. Others do not.

Some of us may know folks who tend to stockpile possessions or hold on to them far past their prime. Churches aren't immune from the "compulsion to cling" either. Too often, our churches accumulate a mass of unused, unneeded and outdated "treasures" in storage spaces.

Walk around your own church. Look in the closets. You're likely to see old hymnals or devotionals on the shelves, mounds of craft supplies from 20 years ago and "valuable" 50-year-old AV equipment that could possibly be discarded.

The physical hoarding can be easily conquered in a few church cleanup days, but there is something much more problematic to a church and that is "program hoarding."

Think about the events your church holds every year. Maybe it is the annual rummage sale. Maybe it is the "cookie walk" at Christmas time. We hold these every year, but fewer and fewer people show up. People don't want to volunteer. Despite this, no one would dare cancel it.

What was once a community outreach event has turned into an internal tradition that we hold on to because of the memories attached to it. We strongly desire for things to stay the same because it gives us a sense of home, belonging, or security. Could it be we're hoarding our programs long after they've outlived their usefulness?

Maybe it's time to prune our programs.

The concept of pruning is clear in John 15:1-17. God calls us to prune that which does not bear fruit. We need to understand the effectiveness of our programs both in hard numbers and spiritual impact and then be willing to prune thoughtfully so we can focus our resources on what matters most to God.



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October 2011

Sunday School @ 8:45am * Worship Services Sunday @ 10am and first Thursday @ 6:30pm
JOIN US!

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>2</p> <p>8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service 11:30 am 4 pm Ashby Family Reunion (FH/K) 5 pm Middle School Youth (FH)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed</p> <p>7 pm Scout Pack 177 Comm. Mtg (MH)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>11 am MUMPS Chapel (S) 6 pm Men's Group (L) 6 pm Scout Den Mtg (FH) 6 pm Webelos Mtg (MH) 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7 pm Trustees Mtg (FH)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>12 noon Seniors Luncheon (FH/K) 6:30 pm Mid-Week Dinner & Service (FH/K/S)</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8 am UMM Mtg (MH) 8 am—1pm Women's Emmaus (FH/K/S)</p>
<p>9</p> <p>HOMECOMING 8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service 11:30 am Covered Dish Lunch (FH/K)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed</p> <p>6 pm Men's Group (L) 6 pm Webelos Mtg (MH) 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6 pm Men's Group (L) 6 pm Webelos Mtg (MH) 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:30 pm UMW (FH)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7 pm Iglesia Cristiana Nuevo Renacer Svc (FH)</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8 am—1pm Women's Emmaus (FH/K/S)</p>
<p>16</p> <p>8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service 5 pm Middle School Youth (FH)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed</p> <p>11 am MUMPS Chapel (S) 6 pm Men's Group (L) 6 pm Scout Den Mtg (FH) 6 pm Webelos Mtg (MH) 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>11 am MUMPS Chapel (S) 6 pm Men's Group (L) 6 pm Scout Den Mtg (FH) 6 pm Webelos Mtg (MH) 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p> <p>7 pm Iglesia Cristiana Nuevo Renacer Svc (FH)</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8 am—1pm Women's Emmaus (FH/K/S) 7:30 am—1 pm Men's Emmaus (MH)</p>
<p>23</p> <p>8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed</p> <p>11 am MUMPS Chapel (S) 6 pm Men's Group (L) 6 pm Scout Pack Mtg (FH) 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>11 am MUMPS Chapel (S) 6 pm Men's Group (L) 6 pm Scout Pack Mtg (FH) 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:30 pm Finance Mtg (FH) 7:30 pm Council Mtg (FH)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8am—1pm MUMPS Harvest Party (FH/K) 7 pm Iglesia Cristiana Nuevo Renacer Svc (FH)</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8 am—1pm Women's Emmaus (FH/K/S) 8:30 am SOGI To Frederick, MD</p>
<p>30</p> <p>8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed</p>					

November 2011

Sunday School @ 8:45am * Worship Services Sunday @ 10am and first Thursday @ 6:30pm
JOIN US!

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 11 am MUMPS Chapel (S) 6 pm Men' Group (L) 6 pm Scout Den Mtg (FH) 6 pm Webelos Mtg (MH) 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	2 7 pm Trustees Mtg (FH)	3 12 noon Seniors Luncheon (FH/K) 6:30 pm Mid-Week Dinner & Service (FH/K/S)	4	5 8 am—1 pm Women's Emmaus (FH/K/S)
6 8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service 5 pm Middle School Youth (FH)	7 Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed 7 pm Scout Pack 177 Comm. Mtg (MH)	8 6 pm Men' Group (L) 6 pm Scout Den Mtg (FH) 6 pm Webelos Mtg (MH) 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	9 7:30 pm UMW (FH)	10 7 pm Iglesia Cristiana Nuevo Renacer Svc (FH)	11	12 8 am UMM Mtg (FH/K)
13 8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service	14 Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed	15 11 am MUMPS Chapel (S) 6 pm Men's Group (L) 6 pm Boy Scout Pack Mtg (FH) 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	16	17 7 pm Iglesia Cristiana Nuevo Renacer Svc (FH)	18 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	19 6:30 am—1:30 pm Boy Scout Yard Sale (both parking lots)
20 8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service 5 pm Middle School Youth (FH)	21 Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed	22 9 am—1 pm MUMPS Thanksgiving Feast (FH/K) 11 am MUMPS Chapel (S) 6 pm Men's Group (L) 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	23 6:30 pm Finance Mtg (FH) 7:30 pm Council Mtg (FH)	24 Church Office Closed 7 pm Iglesia Cristiana Nuevo Renacer Svc (FH)	25 Church Office Closed	26 12 n—3 pm Xmas Tea Setup (FH/K) 3 pm—5 pm Xmas Tea (FH/K)
27 8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Service	28 Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed	29 6 pm Men's Group (L) 6 pm Scout Pack Mtg (FH) 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	30			

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Here are a few steps to get started:

1. **Get clear on your church's unique calling.** Every church has a unique mission to serve its community. We must focus on spiritual disciplines to connect with our Creator and understand why God created us. What is our unique role in bringing Christ to our world?
2. **Clearly understand your community.** Every community is different. We must understand people outside the four walls of our church instead of focusing just on the people within them. Based on our calling, whom are we to serve? Do we really know them, what they need and how we can connect them to a loving God? United Methodist Communications provides demographic information to assist you in this research.
3. **Measure everything you currently do.** We must assess the fruit of our programs. Is it producing a tangible result we can measure? How much does it cost in terms of effort and money to produce? Is it in line with our calling? How does it compare to other opportunities?
4. **Cut the bottom twenty percent.** We must purge efforts that don't bear fruit. We must measure effectively and cut the bottom twenty percent. If it has been a long-standing tradition, have a funeral to celebrate its closure. Celebrate its life and allow people to mourn.
5. **Pilot new things to fill the void.** Vacuums must be filled. Cutting the bottom twenty percent will create a space that people naturally will want to fill. Knowledge of our calling and community can help us to try new things and measurement that can keep us on track.

We need to understand the intent of everything we do, measure it, and keep discarding what doesn't work to improve our ability to live into our call. We see many shiny objects or ideas that work in other places. Avoid the need to "hoard" and allow God to guide you to serve your community.

Are you willing to discard what is beyond its prime for the sake of the lost in your community?

Marshall United Methodist Church
8405 West Main Street
Marshall, Virginia 20115
(540) 364-2506



September 20, 2011



Dear Friends:

We would like to invite you to please join us for Homecoming at Marshall United Methodist Church on Sunday, October 9, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. In coordination with Methodist Children's Sabbath, the theme for our Homecoming will be "The Children of Marshall United Methodist Church". We hope that many of our "children" through the years at Marshall United Methodist Church as well as current children will be in attendance to help us to celebrate this special time of worship, reminiscing and fellowship. A covered dish luncheon will immediately follow the church service.

In addition, if you have any pictures of the children of MUMC through the years, please submit them to the Homecoming Committee as soon as possible.

We are very excited about this special event and hope you will mark it on your calendars!



Yours in Christ,
 The Homecoming Committee,
 Candy Glascock, Melanie Brown,
 Debbie Wyne, Nikki Wyne, Peaches
 Simpson, Mo Lawrence,
 Doris Edmonds and Tania Hill

Middle School Youth Group

Hey Middle Schoolers! Come join us on the first and third Sunday of each month for a new group just for you! The group is lead by Pastor Edna and we meet in the Fellowship Hall from 5-6:30pm. Come for a time of fellowship, learn about God, and just have some fun! Dinner is provided so bring your Bibles and maybe a friend. Hope to see you all there!



Seniors on the Go!

Submitted by Doris Edmonds

Quilting

On Saturday, October 22nd at 1pm, let's gather in the Mini-Hall and decide what needs to be done to finish this quilt for a silent auction to put money into our church fund. Please come out and support this project.



Fall Foliage

On Saturday, October 29th at 8:30am, we will be heading to Frederick, Maryland to board a train to enjoy the Fall Foliage. Seats are limited to fifteen, but cars could follow! A great adventure to be had! For more information, contact Doris Edmonds at iluvnoah1@netzero.net or 540-253-5349.



Newsletter Deadline for November 2011

The deadline is **Thursday, October 20th**. Articles for the newsletter may be emailed, mailed, or called into Tonja Agey at the church office at any time up to the deadline. You may reach her by phone at 540-364-2506 or by email at Admin@marshallumc.org. Articles that are mailed in may be mailed to the church post office box listed on this newsletter.



Please remember to inform the church office if you are planning to move or change your address. The church mailing account is charged 50¢ every time a newsletter is returned due to being undeliverable. This will also ensure that you continue to receive your monthly issue of *The Circuit Writer* in a timely manner. The *Circuit Writer* is also available by email! To receive your copy via email, write to Admin@marshallumc.org and request the change today!

**Please join us each Sunday for Sunday School (for all ages) at 8:45 am
and Worship Service at 10:00 am.**

102011



Marshall
United Methodist Church

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Mailing: P.O. Box 144, Marshall, VA 20116

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