



The Beacon

November 2020

*The Newsletter of Duncan Memorial
United Methodist Church*

Our Mission: To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ and Share His Love

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe'." (John 20:24-25, NRSV)

I believe Jesus had tremendous empathy for people, especially those who doubt. He understood that Resurrection, his Resurrection would be hard to believe. This is why Jesus said very clearly, "...blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." (John 20:29, NIV)

It is now the month of November. We are moving toward a path of honoring those saints of God who claimed resurrection, and those present saints who will cast a ballot for a political idea, and those who decide to gather or not to gather for the traditional American Thanksgiving due to the effects of the coronavirus. How can we be thankful when we are faced with so many challenges that cause our souls to look inward at our values and our visions with hope and an unknown at the same time?

If anything, this passage is about the Good News of Christ and we each have reasons to be thankful! The Lord is seen by the disciples.

Christ gave his life to demonstrate his path of love for all.

Christ came in the midst of brokenness to declare his power and might to overcome any obstacle.

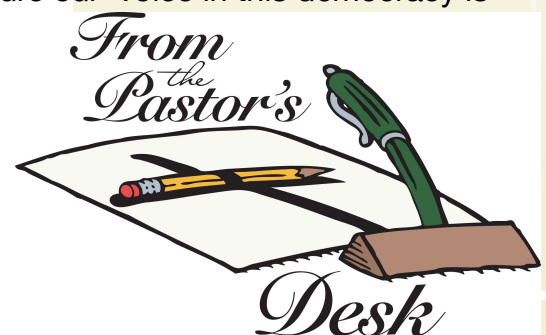
Christ appears to the disciples to encourage belief.

Christ let us know that even death is not a defeat.

Christ let us know his own giving is a prelude to victory.

Christ has come because the evil in the world has not won!

This month of November is a time to stand in the face of evil and death and to stand with our powerful resurrected Christ. November is a time to cast our ballots to insure our voice in this democracy is spoken and our quest for the call of the founders is upheld. November, this year, is a time that despite the virus and its limitations in our lives, we possess life. We are alive to enjoy others and to be the gift we continue to be- no matter the platform of Zoom, or Twitter, or even by the telephone. It is a time to be thankful for who we are, where we are, and how we may live!



(Continued on next page)

The great message of forgiveness, redemption, and hope eternal is known despite our trials. Christ is alive!

May this time in November be filled for you and your families with thankfulness- no matter its unusual appearance.

Peace to All,

Jim, Psalm 23:1

(Continued from page one)

Scripture and Sermon Titles for November

November 1st-Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

St. Matthew 23:1-12

Faith in Patience

November 8th -Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

St. Matthew 25: 1-13

Living the Life

November 15th- Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

St. Matthew 25: 14-30

Christians Have Talent

November 22nd -Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost /Christ the King

St. Matthew 23: 31-46

Difficult to Wrap Our Minds Around?

November 29th- The First Sunday in Advent

St. Matthew 13: 24-37

The End or the Beginning?



All Saints' Sunday is November 1st. On that day we will remember the saints who have gone before us and who now intercede for us in heaven. To enhance our worship on November 1st, you are invited to bring to the office a framed picture or a picture on a small stand of your loved one who has claimed the reward of heaven. On the picture include the name of your loved one so we can know who each is and also include your name so we can be sure the picture is returned to you. The pictures will be placed on tables in front of the Communion Table for the worship services. Thank you for helping us to honor the saints who from their labors rest.



Oyster Sales

The United Methodist Men will be selling oysters only at Christmas this year. They are estimated to be sold at \$29 a quart and will be sold on a pre-paid basis only. More information will be in the December newsletter.

**REMEMBER TO SET YOUR
CLOCKS BACK SATURDAY
NIGHT, October 31st, SO YOU
WON'T BE EARLY FOR
CHURCH!!!!**



Choir Christmas Card Collection Canceled

Due to COVID-19 and the restrictions we have been instructed to follow, the Chancel Choir will not be doing it's annual Christmas Card delivery.



4. Brittany Keesling Dodson
6. Marguerite Rutherford
7. John Hudson
9. Robert Sell
11. Patty Duvall
13. Morgan LaMaster
15. Peggy Fultz
16. Bre Bogert
19. Camryn Shendow
20. Romine Overbey
21. Karen Keesling
22. Cindy Perry
23. Rick Sponseller
24. Margret Kennedy
25. Len Lawson
26. Tyler Anderson
27. Bryce Bogert, Matt Hoff, Fiona McGeough
29. Julie Massanopoli
30. Lauren Keesling



**Veteran's Day Sunday is
November 8th**

You can honor your veteran by placing a picture of him or her in the church. Please bring a picture of them, labeled with name, rank and where they served by Nov. 6th. You can take them home with you after the service on the 8th.

?? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ??

After Jesus healed 10 men at one time, how many returned to thank him? What had been their ailment?

- A. five; blindness
- B. all 10; deafness
- C. one; possession by demons
- D. one; leprosy

Answer D (See Luke 17:11-19)



November News!

November is full of things to be thankful for! Check out what some of our students said they are thankful for:

"I am thankful for my mom and her chicken."

-Violet, age 3

"I am thankful for all the candy in my jar and my teachers. I have feet, two of them."

-Reid, age 4

"I am thankful for my family and my dog but not always my brother."

-Lillian, age 4

"I am thankful for my eyes because I can see tractors, yeah."

-Vance, age 2

"I am thankful for my house. I sing and dance in it and sometimes I cry but that's ok because I give huggies after it."

-Lucy, age 4

"I am thankful for turkey and not having homework!"

-Marley, age 9

Outreach: As a center, we are always looking for ways to teach our students about the importance of kindness and generosity. During the month of October, students and staff filled 14 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes! These boxes will be mailed around the world to children in need!

During the month of November, the center is collecting quarters and laundry soap to support a local outreach ministry that provides free laundry services at the laundry mat for homeless families. Congregational support is welcomed!



DMUMC United Methodist Women

At its October meeting, members determined that the current situation was too unpredictable to continue holding checks and cash that had been intended for the soup sales in March 2020.

Consequently, Joy Fiddler has contacted most of those who had prepaid to return those funds. If you have not heard from Joy, please contact her at 540.955.9991 or joybob42@icloud.com. Unfortunately, the same situation precludes the unit from hosting its Holiday Bazaar in 2020.

The members voted to table all future planning until January 2021 with the hope that better information might assist the new officers and membership to make plans for the future.

The membership does intend to make its visits to our members in assisted living and other facilities in December with cookies, cards, and other gifts. So, if you feel a need to bake Christmas cookies or donate a poinsettia, please contact Joy, Barbara (540.664.3982) or Janet McDonald (540.955.2308).

At this time, the nominations committee is seeking ladies to serve in leadership of the Duncan unit. Virginia Owens will be stepping down as president, after two years of service. Under her leadership, the unit had great success through its rummage and soup sales and holiday bazaars. Our January 2021 meeting will focus on the coming mission and role of the unit in the coming years. We ask and encourage women of the church to join us on January 13, 2021 meeting at 10 am in the library to discuss the future of the DMUMC unit of the UMW.

As the unit concludes 2020, we are proud to announce that our reserve funds have allowed us to meet all mission and donation commitments that were approved in the 2020 budget. We would like to express our gratitude to the congregation for its support of the unit's work in 2019 which was sufficient to see us through these unpredictable days of 2020. Thank you for your continued support of the UMW missions!

Our Angel Will Be Calling You



The holidays are fast approaching and although COVID has limited us in our mission work, we are still going to honor the unfortunate this year. Marggie Legard will be calling on you to supply food and gifts this year. More information will be coming out shortly. If you already know you want to help, call the church office (955-1264) and leave your name.

For the month of November, the Backpack Buddies needs individual oatmeal packets.

Please save your egg cartons and put them in the bin the narthex. These are used for Blue Ridge Food Bank.



My family and I want to thank our wonderful church family for all the kind thoughts, prayers, meals, cards, birthday cake and parade. I celebrated my 73 birthday because of everyone's prayers and the LORD's healing power. PRAYER WORKS! God bless to all our church family.

*Love,
Edie Drosselmeyer and family*

Thank you for all the wonderful cards. So very thoughtful of you.

Myrtle Mahowald

Please convey how very much we were humbled by the picture in the paper- first time for us in Minster Appreciation. We were humbled by the card and gift from the membership. It is a humble blessing to serve the good people of DMUMC. Our souls are touched daily by the generosity of grace the congregation is to us and the community.

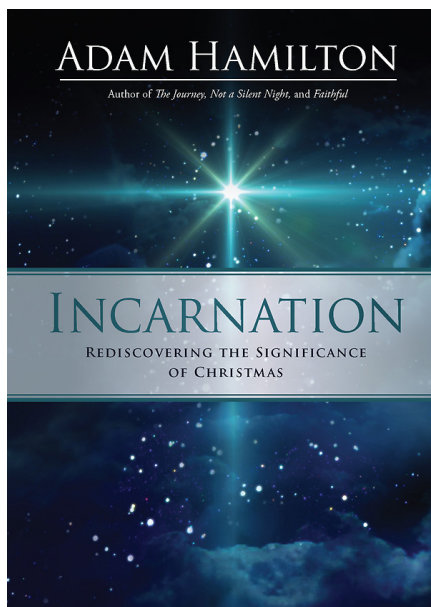
Pastor Jim

Dear Members of DMUMC

Thank you for the wonderful card, gifts and prayers! They have truly helped me in my transition into graduate school and life in Farmville. I look forward to the next service here in the near future.

Thank you.

Camryn Shendow



Advent Study begins Wednesday, December 2nd at 10:00 a.m. in the library.

Learn the meaning behind the names of Christ and the difference He makes in our lives this Christmas. His parents gave him the name Jesus. But the prophets, the shepherds, the wise men, and the angels addressed him by other names. They called him Lord, Messiah, Savior, Emmanuel, Light of the World, and Word Made Flesh. In *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*, best-selling author Adam Hamilton examines the names of Christ used by the gospel writers, and exploring the historical and personal significance of his birth. This Advent season church families will come together to remember what's important. In the face of uncertainty and conflict, Christians reclaim the Christ child

who brings us together, heals our hearts, and calls us to bring light into the darkness. Now more than ever, we invite you to reflect upon the significance of the child for our lives and world today!



In the Military	Our Members	Family & Friends
Lucy Fiddler	Theresa Baker	Marcy Anderson
Richard Harris	Sadie & Walter Blanchfield	Gabriel Atkinson
T. Patrick O'Connor	Edie Drosselmeyer	Cathy Dillow
John Pepper	Cheyenne Fowler	Eric Dillow
Jared Tinsman	Dr. Rev. Dan Garrett	Bob Ferrebee
Tyler Tinsman	Trip Hardesty	Jennifer Green
Jessica Young	Sarah Hendricks	Caleb Hughes
	Audrey Hudson	Carrie Johnson
	Myrtle Mahowald	Kevin Lambert
Shut-ins	Donna McDonald	Betry Luttrell
*Loretta Cochran	Patrick McGrath	David Smallwood
*Dot Collis	Robyn McGrath	Easton Tavenner
*Jane Gant	Cindy Morin	
*Freda Kines	Rev. Kathleen Work	Families Grieving
*Marguerite Rutherford	Jane Wortman	Family of Tony Campbell
Hilda Sealock		Family of W. T. Levi
*Charlotte Stickles		
*Nursing home or Assisted-living home	Out of the Country Jody Orndorff	

Please be in prayer for our church, our employees, our community, our state, our nation and one another. Pray that we are all back together again soon. In times of peril, God's people have spent time in prayer and fasting to seek divine favor for healing.

Our Website:
www.dmumc.org

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US Postage Paid
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Berryville, VA 22611

Address Service Requested

Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church
210 E. Main Street, Berryville, VA 22611

Our Leadership and Staff

Pastor-Rev. Jim Smith

Administrative Assistant
Janet Moore

Directors of Programs for
Children/Youth
Frank & Stephanie Moore

Director of Music
Mildred B. Keating

Contemporary Service Music
Theresa Needy

Sexton-Fiona McGeough
Nursery Attendant
Lee Campbell

Administrative Council
Chairperson-Glen Hetzel
Lay Leader-Chris Shipe

Nurture
Sheryl Reid
Cindy Morin

Outreach & Missions
Margaret Legard

Worship
Mildred Keating
Nancy Thompson

Congregational Care Team
Cheyanne Fowler-Leader
Mary E. Duncan-Leader

Jerry Beydler
Trudy Gheen
Peggy Wenner
Ellen Wilcox

Wee Angels Daycare
Administrator
Lauren Hawkins



Thankfulness. studies show, has multiple physical, mental and emotional benefits. Psychologist Robert Emmons calls gratitude “fertilizer for the mind” because of its powerful effects.

He admits gratitude isn’t always easy — especially when life throws us curveballs (see the year 2020) — but says it can be most helpful during and after difficulties. Emmons suggests reframing challenges using thankfulness-based language. Ask, for example: Though I wasn’t grateful for the experience at the time, how can I be now? What lessons did I learn, and how did I grow as a person?

Throughout his letters, the apostle Paul reframes his extensive sufferings and urges us to do the same. “Give thanks in all circumstances,” he writes, “for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18, NIV)