

# THE DOVE

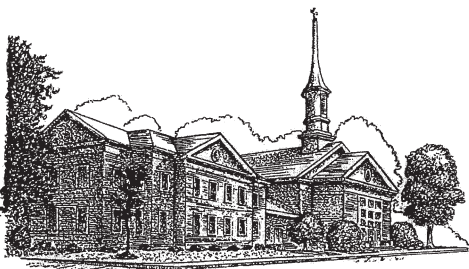
Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church

December 2011/January 2012

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*Peace  
on Earth*



Serving the community of Ashland since 1853 and Randolph-Macon College since 1868.



A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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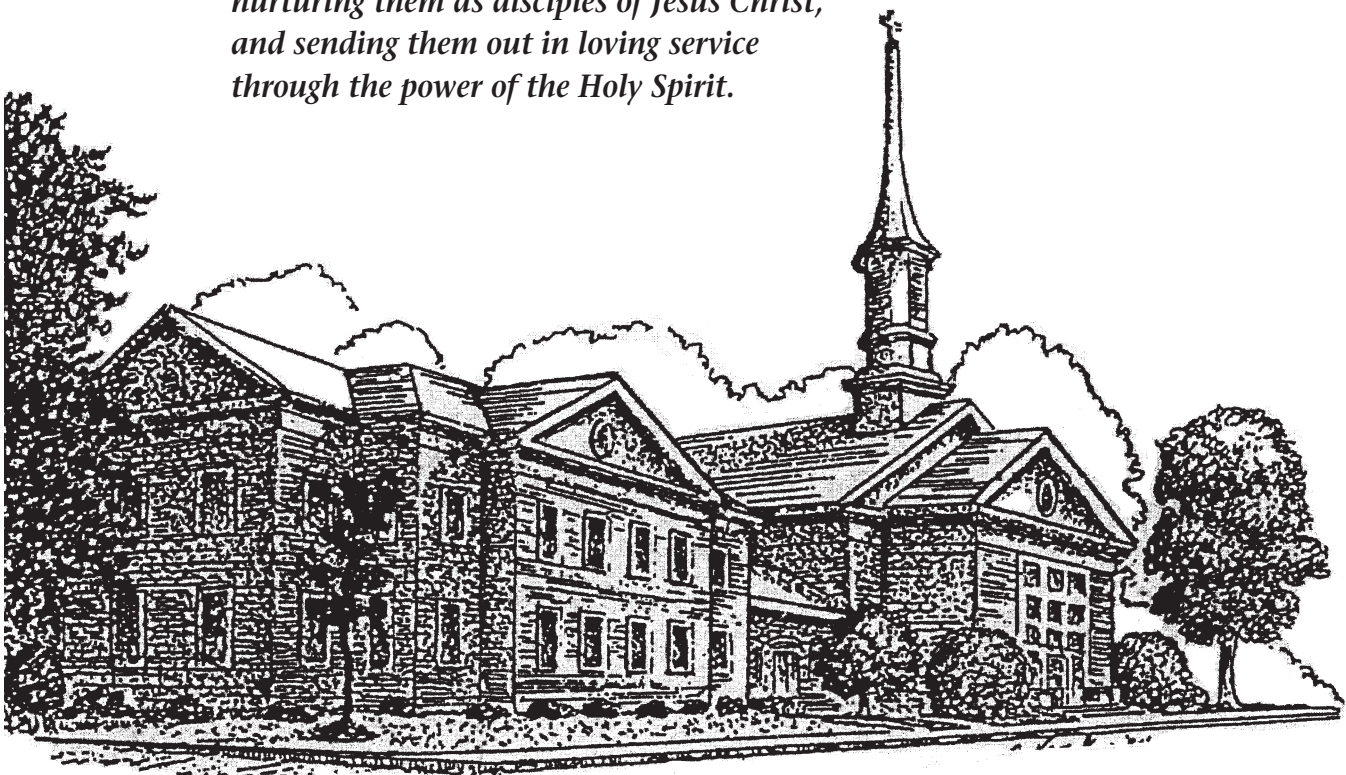
## Sunday Schedule

- **8:00 a.m.** *Casual traditional service with weekly celebration of Holy Communion, 35-40 minutes in length*
- **8:50 a.m.** *J.O.L.T contemporary worship service with celebration of Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month and other special occasions, 45 minutes in length*
- **9:40 a.m.** *Sunday school for all ages*
- **11:00 a.m.** *Traditional worship service with celebration of Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month and other special occasions, 60 minutes in length*

### *A Special Invitation to All: Open House at the Parsonage*

*David, Teri and Grace Hindman cordially invite our Duncan Memorial faith family to an open house Sunday, December 11, 2:00-5:00 p.m. All are welcome to visit the parsonage, 322 Duncan Street, for some light refreshments and conversation with one another as we anticipate the Christmas season. Of course children are welcome! Hope you will come!*

*Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church  
is a community church on the campus  
of Randolph-Macon College,  
joyfully welcoming everyone into the family of God,  
nurturing them as disciples of Jesus Christ,  
and sending them out in loving service  
through the power of the Holy Spirit.*



# Note from the Pastor

Mark Twain supposedly said, “God must love small churches – He sure made a lot of them!” That may be true, but we are not one of those little churches.

On the former Ashland District, Duncan Memorial was the fourth largest congregation. With our average attendance of around 200 each week, we are larger than nearly 90 percent of all United Methodist congregations in the U.S.

We are a mid-size church, defined as any congregation averaging between 150 and 350 weekly worshippers. What does that mean? Certainly it means that many of the kinds of things we might associate with a smaller congregation, especially if we grew up in such a church, are not part of our life together. Being a mid-size church has its benefits, but there are also costs that can be painful if we have a special place in our heart for smaller churches.

Here is a simple comparison between small and mid-size churches.

## *Small congregations*

- Single cell – everyone does everything together
- Minister centered – focus is on the pastor
- Focus on managing volunteers to do jobs
- Hope to grow to mid-size
- Scarce and limited resources
- “Shoot from the hip” ministry and administration
- Leadership concentrated in few hands to fill roles
- Focus on survival
- Resistant to change
- Volunteer driven more than by staff
- Close knit community: “Everyone knows my name”

## *Mid-size congregations*

- Multiple cells, with many entry points into the church, multiple activities and all constituents rarely interact together
- Ministry centered – focus on activities, ministries offered and mission opportunities
- Focus on discipleship and putting faith into action
- Hope to grow to large size (350+ in worship)
- More abundant resources of talent and treasure
- Intentional planning and policies
- Shared leadership with focus on talents and gifts for ministry
- Focus on thriving and growth
- Less resistant, more open to change
- More staff driven who call forth members’ gifts and equip them for ministry
- Confederation of many communities within the community, intimacy and community happen through small groups

I write about this not to argue that small congregations are better than mid-size, or vice versa. They are simply *different*. Where congregations struggle sometimes, or have times of conflict, is when they want to mingle characteristics of one type of congregation with another.

Years ago I was the pastor of a church that was moving from being a small congregation to a mid-size church. A older saint in the church bemoaned the fact that she was no longer able to be involved in everything happening at the church – there simply was too much happening. She wanted her church to grow and reach out with the Good News of Christ to more people, but she still mourned the cost associated with that vision.

Duncan Memorial is a mid-size church. Let’s celebrate what that means for us, claim the opportunities for ministry, mission and growth that are ours, and continue to grow not only numerically, but in faith, hope, love and discipleship. May 2012 be a year of blessing and spiritual growth for us all!

Grace and peace,

*Pastor David*

# ***From the Director of Christian Education***

## ***Christmas Morning***

What a glorious day of the week to celebrate the birth of Jesus – *Sunday!* Worshiping God in community is the highlight of our celebration of Jesus' birth, and this year we are given the opportunity to have that occur on this special day! Realizing that there will be people traveling to be with family – here and elsewhere, we will **not** have organized Sunday School classes on December 25. However, we will gather for singing our Christmas carols, hearing the Christmas Story and other stories, sharing traditions and fellowship around a light brunch. You are encouraged to bring a breakfast casserole, fruit, bagels, etc. to share during this time. While it is early in the day, there may still be a birthday cake for Jesus! Plan to join us for either the 8:50 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. worship services as well as Sunday School fellowship at 9:40 a.m.

## ***Beth Moore's Study of Daniel***

Ladies, please join the new Beth Moore Bible Study starting Tuesday, January 3, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and completing by Easter! The study is entitled ***Daniel: Lives of Integrity, Words of Prophecy.***

The book of Daniel is found in the Old Testament and is a very short book – only 12 chapters. This study falls in two parts. The first portion, from Daniel 1-6, deals with Daniel's life as he faced the kind of pressures and temptations Christians encounter today. Daniel models how to develop enduring integrity in an enticing world. The second portion, chapters 7-12, explores thrilling prophecies from the time of Daniel through the second coming of Christ. Each week covers principal questions, personal discussion, and a video to introduce the week's home study. **You** are invited! **You** can do it! **You** can be part of this small group. **You** can witness the sharing of God's love and learn from others of all ages! It is truly amazing!

- May God supply *you* with an eagerness to learn God's Word!
- May God supply *you* with wide open eyes, poised to avoid the allure of today's world.
- May God supply *you* with the desire to develop integrity for your life.
- May God supply *you* with ears set for listening, poised to explore real life prophecies.
- May God supply *you* a humble heart, poised to accept God's abundant and overwhelming love.
- May God reshape *you* into a "Daniel" in your home, work, and community as you refuse to "blend in."

The workbook is \$15. Make your checks payable to DMUMC and send to Sue Ann Lewis, P.O. Box 1536, Ashland, VA 23005 by December 10.

## ***Way of the Child***

Special thanks to **Cameron Glasco** and **Jackie Strickland** for assisting with this special ministry for children developed by the Upper Room. Just like adults, the children participating in this series had to learn how to quiet and center themselves, but God's presence was truly felt.

Thanks also to the Boice class for sharing their meeting space for six weeks and for helping to prepare the space by removing their chairs every week following Sunday morning class.

## ***M'n'M (Mission & Music)***

M'n'M children, with the extra hands of Corinne Luck, Liz Sims, Nancy Williamson and Jennifer Zavitz, completed making teddy bears that were donated to area first responders to give to children in crisis settings.

*Coming in the New Year:* monthly units of music, Bible study and mission projects! The M'n'M participants will focus on hunger, raising funds for Stop Hunger Now and then join the packing event on February 11.

*Ephesians 1:16-17 says:*

*"Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him."*

# Christian Education Opportunities for All Ages

## **Preschool and Younger Elementary Children Sunday School**

In the coming winter quarter, the children will learn about Jesus – his birth, his life and his experiences with friends and disciples. As they learn about Jesus in these stories, the children will learn how important Jesus' life and ministry are in shaping the way we live as Christians.

## **Elementary Children – Fourth and Fifth Grade – Sunday School**

During Advent, the fourth and fifth grade Sunday school class will be using the *Walking the Road to Bethlehem* curriculum, based on Adam Hamilton's *The Journey*. The children will explore the story of Jesus' birth with fresh eyes and ears. During this time the Woomey family will be leading classes. The fourth and fifth graders have chosen Stop Huger Now (SHN) as the mission they will support this year. They set a classroom goal to raise \$25 between now and the SHN food packing event on February 11. The children would like to extend an invitation to other Sunday school classes to make a special offering to support this wonderful mission and to join them at the packing event.

## **Two New Adult Opportunities**

Growing in our faith can occur only in small degree when undertaken on our own. Too often we let it slide in favor of other pursuits, or more importantly, without the support and accountability that comes from participating in a small group we miss the stretching and crystallizing of beliefs that comes from "holy conversation" with others on the journey. If you are currently missing out on a small group, check out the two new opportunities for your intentional faith development on Sunday mornings. You may be new to the Duncan Memorial faith community, you may have participated in other small groups or just never found a place to call home in a discipleship group on Sunday or other times.

*Your two options are:*

**Bill Kitchens** has volunteered to lead a small group of adults which has begun with an Advent study, *The Journey – the Road to Bethlehem* by Adam Hamilton. Families are encouraged to connect here while your youth or older elementary student is engaged in the same study for their age. What a wonderful opportunity to extend your family faith conversations beyond Sunday morning. This group will meet in room 11.

A second group, *J.O.L.T. Plus*, has begun earlier with Nooma DVD's and an Adam Hamilton study, *Enough, Discovering Joy through Simplicity and Generosity*. With the first Sunday of December, this class will begin a study entitled, *Christianity and World Religions*. This group meets in room 12.

## **Joy and Fellowship Class**

With December begins a new quarter with the International Bible Series with its focus on *God Establishing a Faithful People*. In December and January the study will concentrate reading in Genesis and Exodus recalling God's Covenant and God's Protection. During February the class will consider Luke's and Galatians' emphasis on God's redemption. Jean Williams is the contact person for this class which meets in the parlor on the first floor.

## **Boice Class**

The Boice Sunday school class is about mid-way through a discussion of the Marcus Borg book, *Speaking Christian: Why Christian Words Have Lost Their Meaning and Power – and How They Can Be Restored*. The class meets in room 10.

## **DISCIPLE 3 Class**

The second half of DISCIPLE 3, the Pauline literature in the New Testament, will begin on January 31. The class is led by Ira Andrews and meets on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Sessions will continue through May 15. Newcomers are welcome. Let us know if you wish to join the group so we can order a study manual.

***See page 4 for an additional adult class offering and information on Winter Camp for youth at Westview.***

# Evening Class

## **Immersion Bible Study – The Gospel of Mark**

As a new liturgical year begins with Advent, the Gospel of Mark becomes the central focus of Sunday morning worship. Supplement that with a Bible study on the Gospel of Mark on Sunday evenings. Immerse yourself in the life-shaping Word by reading and reflecting on the Scripture. This study focuses on three areas – (1) *Claim Your Story* (through stories and questions, think about your life, with its struggles and joys), (2) *Enter the Bible Story* (through exploration of scripture and consideration of what God is saying to you), and (3) *Live the Story* (through reflection on what you have discovered, and put it into practice in your life).

Beginning on Sunday, January 8, 6:30 p.m., Pastor David will lead this eight-week study. Texts for the class can be purchased for \$6 by contacting the church office by January 2.

# Celebrate Advent at Westview

*Westview on the James:  
Winter Camp, December 9-11,  
Ages: 7-15*

Winter Camp offers children and youth a great way to celebrate the Advent season with worship services and activities.

Brochures and registration are online at [westviewonthejames.org](http://westviewonthejames.org).

# Youth Announcements

**December 4** – Youth Council 4:00-5:00 p.m.; Movie Night and heavy snacks upstairs in the youth area.

**December 10** – Feeding the Homeless at Monroe Park (9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.) *Needed this month:*

- Cans of beef and/or vegetable soups (not chicken noodle style)
- Side items (chips, fresh fruit, dried fruit such as raisins or apricots, granola bars)
- Drink mix (for making several gallons of lemonade/punch)
- Desserts
- Toilet Paper • Baby powder • Lotion • Soap

**December 11** – Mall scavenger hunt and Christmas shopping for your family (Details TBA)

**December 18** – Youth Christmas Bash and Grinchy Gift Grab at the Franklin's home, 323 Duncan Street, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

## **Youth Christmas Auction**

It's not too late to participate in the Youth Christmas Auction to earn money for your mission/activity account. Decide what item or service you want to auction off and send that along with your starting bid amount to Kendra or Devon. We'll place your bid sheet on the table with everyone else's. The auction will run on Sunday mornings December 4-18.

**No youth meeting on December 25 or January 1**

**January** – look for:

- A youth group lesson led by Max Cook
- Q&A about homelessness
- A youth group led by our R-MC college intern
- Another green lesson from Lisa Deaton
- A visit to Monroe Park
- ... and more!

## **Contact Information for Youth Co-Directors**

**Devon Maust** – Phone: 837-9850  
Email: [devon@duncanmemorialumc.org](mailto:devon@duncanmemorialumc.org)

**Kendra Swager** – Phone: 363-3340  
Email: [kendra@duncanmemorialumc.org](mailto:kendra@duncanmemorialumc.org)

**Church Office** – Phone 798-7224

# As You Pray...

by Pastor David Hindman

Each month our faith family are invited to pray for the mission and ministry of Duncan Memorial. In the coming weeks we are asked to pray for the following:

- R-MC and our own students as they prepare for exams and travel home to family
- Our new and returning church leadership to listen for God's Spirit as we seek to be in mission and ministry
- The Long-Range Planning Team and consultant Ed Showalter
- Our Staff-Parish Relations Team as they begin interviews for our new Director of Discipleship and Youth Ministries staff person
- Rev. Sandra Stanley as she discerns the next chapter in her ministry
- Our youth as they rehearse for *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and performances
- Devon Maust and Kendra Swager and they continue to bless our youth with leadership in this transition time
- Generous members and friends to contribute \$2,500 to match \$2,500 in our budget to provide 20,000 meals through Stop Hunger Now on February 11
- David and Shannan Goran, our missionaries in Ukraine, as they anticipate the birth of their second child and spend time in the USA
- R-MC and Duncan Memorial members discerning whether to participate in mission trips in January to Greenville Correctional

# New Format for R-MC Exam Breaks

by Pastor David Hindman

Each year we express radical hospitality to Yellow Jackets by opening our doors each night before an exam day for space to study and strengthening foods! This semester students will be gathering in our church fellowship hall the evenings of December 11-15, 9:00-11:00 p.m., but we're sharing this ministry with other R-MC campus ministries to spread the opportunities to serve students. Wednesday night is the night Duncan Memorial, the Bailey Scholars, and UM Student Fellowship will be hosting students as we serve homemade chili (both meat and vegetarian options) and cornbread. If you'd like to contribute food or funds to provide for Wednesday night, please contact me at 798-7224 or david.hindman@duncanmemorialumc.org.

This year Duncan Memorial will also partner with the R-MC library staff to sponsor the Tuesday night study break at 11:00 p.m. at Hines-Page Library. *What will we serve?* Dunkin' Donuts®, of course, six dozen to be exact! Celebrate the strong connection between our faith family and the Yellow Jacket family and keep those students (and faculty) in your prayers during that testing time of year!

## Welcome Two R-MC Interns

*Caitlin Proctor '12 and Ashley Roth '13 to Shadow Pastor David*

by Pastor David Hindman

What a blessing we experienced last year when Devon Maust '12, a Bailey Scholar at R-MC, served as an intern with me during the month of January (her exceptional service made her an easy choice to help in the transition time with our youth ministry!). It was such a positive experience for Devon, me, and our faith family, that we are thrilled to know that this January we will welcome two Bailey Scholars to participate in a similar learning experience. Caitlin Proctor is a senior from Fredericksburg and Ashley Roth is a junior from Yorktown. Both women are Bailey Scholars at R-MC and regularly worship at Duncan Memorial. Please extend the usual warm and hearty welcome to them during their internship and keep them in your prayers, that this will be a fruitful and blessed learning experience for all of us!

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Center, in March to Alabama (for hurricane recovery), or next summer to Ukraine

- R-MC Bailey Scholars Caitlin Proctor '12 and Ashley Roth '13 in their internships

# Music Ministry Notes

by Teena Chinn, Director of Music

The Music Ministry calendar for December and January is full of opportunities for our various ensembles to present special music and also to reach out in mission opportunities.

**December 4** is the Second Sunday in Advent, and the Chancel Choir will present a lovely Offertory Anthem called *Advent Prayer*.

**December 6** is the Ashland Women's Club's annual Christmas Party, and our Duncan Memorial Ringers Handbell Ensemble will give a concert at the event.

**December 10** is the first of the two Saturday morning children's Christmas pageant rehearsals. All children who want to be in this year's pageant will practice in the sanctuary from 10:00-11:00 a.m.

**December 11** is the Third Sunday in Advent, and the 11:00 a.m. service will be blessed to have both the Duncan Memorial Ringers and Sarah's Sisters present special Advent music. The Duncan Ringers are playing an especially lovely arrangement of *HYFERDOL*, and Sarah's Sisters will sing a beautiful advent anthem that features Daphne Wood-Lasser on viola.

**December 17** is the second Saturday morning children's Christmas pageant rehearsal from 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

**December 18**, the Fourth Sunday in Advent, is a busy day for our music ministry. The Instruments of Praise will play a special arrangement of *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* and *How Shall I Meet My Savior?* at the 11:00 a.m. service. In addition, the Chancel Choir will sing *There Is No Rose*.

**December 22** is Sarah's Sisters Christmas Party. The morning will begin at 10:00 a.m. with our sisters singing Christmas carols with the residents of Hanover Manor and will continue at the church with a brief rehearsal during the party. Husbands are welcome to attend.

**December 24**, Christmas Eve will be an evening filled with beautiful music. The Instruments

of Praise, Chancel Choir and Sarah's Sisters will combine their gifts for this service.

**January 8** is Baptism of the Lord Sunday, and the Chancel Choir will sing *Down to the River Pray* at the 11:00 a.m. service.

**January 15** is the Sunday on which Sarah's Sisters will sing *We Will Praise You* by Praetorius at the 11:00 a.m. service.

**January 22** will be a Sunday with lovely music at the 11:00 a.m. service. The Chancel Choir will sing a medley of *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* and *We Will Follow*.

**January 29** the Instruments of Praise will play *The Spacious Firmament on High* by Haydn.



**Something new this year:** Instead of Christmas Eve, the children's Christmas pageant will be presented at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 18. A potluck supper will follow the service. The M'n'M group will present a musical play called *iHope Christmas* which features four adults from our congregation along with the children. Besides the musical, various groups of children from the church will present special music and the Manna Band will be leading the congregational hymns.

# When the Holidays Are Difficult

**Blue Christmas Worship, Wednesday, December 21, 6:00 p.m.**

*by Pastor David Hindman*

The holidays are not always the best time of the year. These days can be a joyless “blue” time for anyone who finds the season difficult because of the reminders they carry of what they have lost or never had. The loss of loved ones or friends, financial insecurity, broken relationships, ill health, the loss of a beloved pet and other factors can leave us feeling blue in this season of celebration and cheer.

Our second annual Blue Christmas worship service, which happens on the longest night of the year, acknowledges losses that sometimes darken our holidays and helps us to move from feeling blue to experiencing the wonder and hope of Christmas. Please feel free to invite friends, family, and neighbors who would appreciate and benefit from this worship opportunity. Our Stephen Ministers will also be available to offer a listening, caring presence.

# Christmas Eve, Christmas Day Worship at DMUMC

*by Pastor David Hindman*

Christmas is the 12-day season when Christians celebrate the unique mystery of the Incarnation, the radical claim of our faith that in Jesus of Nazareth, God dwelt uniquely and fully in a human life. No other religious tradition dares make such a bold claim, and this faith is the core of Christmas – even more than the sweet sentimentality sometimes surrounding the birth of a baby in Bethlehem.

In the church year there are two peak times of celebration: Holy Week/Easter celebrating the mystery of atonement and resurrection, and Christmas-Epiphany (December 25-January 6) as the Word becomes flesh and God’s presence in human form is revealed to the world.

This year Christmas Day (the first day of Christmas) happens on a Sunday. After much discussion among staff and members of the Worship Team, this year we will have the following worship schedule for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day:

- |                              |                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday, December 24</b> | 7:00 p.m. – <i>Congregational carol singing</i><br>7:30 p.m. – <i>Candlelight Worship and Holy Communion</i>                                                                                 |
| <b>Sunday, December 25</b>   | 8:50 a.m. – <i>J.O.L.T. Contemporary Worship and Holy Communion</i><br>9:40 a.m. – <i>Christmas Day combined Sunday School</i><br>11:00 a.m. – <i>Traditional Worship and Holy Communion</i> |

In the midst of family gatherings and consumerist purchases, the countercultural and counterintuitive thing to do is to keep the focus on the mystery of the Incarnation and the true reason for the season. What better way to walk the weird Way of Christ than to honor him in worship and praise with other sisters and brothers in Christ. Hope you’ll make it a priority to gather with the saints!

# Seasonal Support

**Support Group for Those Who Struggle with the Holidays –**

**Wednesdays in December, 7:00 p.m.**

*by Pastor David Hindman*

In addition to our Blue Christmas worship service, we will offer a seasonal support group in December for folks to gather, pray, talk together and encourage one another. One of the blessings of being part of the Body of Christ is that we never have to walk through life alone, so if your days can be blessed by the companionship of others, please join us!

# Advent, Christmas, Epiphany – Services and Activities

|                                                                                                                     |           |                         |                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Angel Tree program begins                                                                                           | Everyday  | November 27-December 18 |                        |
| First Sunday of Advent Worship Services                                                                             | Sunday    | November 27             | 8:00, 8:50, 11:00 a.m. |
| R-MC Chorale Concert                                                                                                | Saturday  | December 3              | 7:00 p.m.              |
| Second Sunday of Advent Worship Services                                                                            | Sunday    | December 4              | 8:00, 8:50, 11:00 a.m. |
| A.C.E.S. Tree program begins                                                                                        | Everyday  | December 4-18           |                        |
| Youth Silent Auction in Fellowship Hall                                                                             | Everyday  | December 4-18           |                        |
| Central Virginia Masterworks Chorale:<br><i>Prophets, Dreams &amp; Dancing: Festive Music for Brass &amp; Choir</i> | Sunday    | December 4              | 3:00 p.m.              |
| Duncan Memorial Ringers Concert<br>for Ashland Women’s Club Christmas Party                                         | Tuesday   | December 6              | 4:30 p.m.              |
| Third Sunday of Advent Worship Services                                                                             | Sunday    | December 11             | 8:00, 8:50, 11:15 a.m. |
| Christmas Mission Mart                                                                                              | Sunday    | December 11             | 8:30-11:00 a.m.        |
| Parsonage Open House (322 Duncan Street)                                                                            | Sunday    | December 11             | 2:00-5:00 p.m.         |
| Christmas Bingo @ Ashland Nursing & Rehab                                                                           | Tuesday   | December 13             | 6:30 p.m.              |
| PrimeTimers Christmas Social                                                                                        | Wednesday | December 14             | Noon                   |
| Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship Services                                                                            | Sunday    | December 18             | 8:00, 8:50, 11:00 a.m. |
| Christmas Mission Mart                                                                                              | Sunday    | December 18             | 8:30-11:00 a.m.        |
| Christmas Pageant: <i>iHope</i> followed by pot-luck supper                                                         | Sunday    | December 18             | 4:30 p.m.              |
| Youth Christmas Party @ the Franklins (323 Duncan St.)                                                              | Sunday    | December 18             | 6:00 p.m.              |
| Blue Christmas Service                                                                                              | Wednesday | December 21             | 6:00 p.m.              |
| Choral Prelude with Carol Singing                                                                                   | Saturday  | December 24             | 7:00 p.m.              |
| Christmas Eve Service and Communion                                                                                 | Thursday  | December 24             | 7:30 p.m.              |
| Christmas Day Services                                                                                              | Sunday    | December 25             | 8:50, 11:00 a.m.       |
| The Epiphany Day Worship Services                                                                                   | Sunday    | January 1               | 8:00, 8:50, 11:00 a.m. |
| Baptism of the Lord Sunday/Baptism Renewal Service                                                                  | Sunday    | January 8               | 8:00, 8:50, 11:00 a.m. |

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S i l e n t N i g h t , H o l y N i g h t

# Scripture Readings for December and January

by Pastor David Hindman

In the relatively brief time span of December and January, the church year marks the seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, as well as the holy days of Christmas, Epiphany Day and the Baptism of the Lord.

Advent, the four weeks leading up to the joy of Christmas, began November 27 and continues until Christmas Eve. It is a time of reflection, prayer, repentance and preparation for the advent (coming) of the Lord, not only to Bethlehem long ago, but more importantly at the end of history and to us in our everyday lives.

Christmas season is 12 days in length and is the celebration not only of the birth long ago, but more importantly of the mystery of the Incarnation, that the God of all creation has come to us in human form to live in our midst.

Epiphany season begins January 6 with the visitation of the Magi, the three wise men, and concludes on the eve of Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent, and so the number of Sundays in the season varies from four to nine depending on the date of Easter. The word "Epiphany" derives from Greek words meaning manifestation or appearance, and celebrates the revealing of Christ as Savior and Lord to the whole world. We will celebrate Epiphany Day on New Year's Day, January 1, at Duncan Memorial and Baptism of the Lord (when Jesus is revealed as Son of God to many) on January 8. You are invited to read the lessons for each

week as a spiritual discipline in preparation for what God may say to you when we gather as a faith family.

**December 4 (Second Sunday in Advent):** Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

**December 11 (Third Sunday in Advent):** Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

**December 18 (Fourth Sunday in Advent):** 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 26; Luke 1:46b-55; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

**Christmas Eve:** Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20

**Christmas Day:** Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-4, 5-12; John 1:1-14

**January 1 (Epiphany Day):** Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

**January 8 (Baptism of the Lord):** Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

**January 15 (Second Sunday after the Epiphany/Human Relations Day):** 1 Samuel 3:1-20; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

**January 22 (Third Sunday after the Epiphany):** Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

**January 29 (Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany):** Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

## District Conference and Leadership Training Event

### *Creating Christian Community*

Sunday, January 8, 1:30-5:30 p.m.  
Trinity UMC, 903 Forest Ave,  
Richmond

**Keynote Speaker** – Rev. Dr. David McAllister-Wilson – *Funding Ministry in Tough Financial Times*

If you wish to attend, contact our church office for information and registration materials.

### *Breakout Sessions and Workshops*

- Pastor/Staff-Parish Relations 101
- Financial Vision for the Local Church
- Financial Foundations of the Local Church
- Communication Technology
- Staffing Issues for Multiple Staff Churches
- Transformation through Calling
- Worship Media/Creative Communications
- Virginia Disaster Response
- More than Leading a Meeting: Orientation for New Council Chairs
- Equipping Youth Leaders
- Stewardship
- Trustees
- Being a Missional Church

# Calendar - December 2011/Early January 2012

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |           |                                                                                                                   |           |                                                                                                                                                          |           |                                                                                                                                                                             |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |           |                                              |           |                                                                                                           |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>27</b> | 8:00 AM Casual Worship (FH)<br>8:50 AM J.O.L.T. Worship<br>9:40 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Traditional Worship                                                                                                                                              | <b>28</b> | 8:00 AM R-MC Music (10)<br>10:00 AM Organ Lesson<br>6:30 PM Kivans Board (10)<br>7:00 PM Choral (S/FH)            | <b>29</b> | 8:00 AM R-MC Music (10)<br>9:30 AM DISCIPLE 3 (FH)<br>6:00 PM Handbells (CR)<br>7:00 PM SPR (11)                                                         | <b>30</b> | R-MC Chorale riser set up<br>12:00 PM R-MC Music (10)<br>3:45 PM Children's M'n'M<br>6:00 PM Worship Service (FH)<br>6:45 PM Chancel Choir (CR)<br>7:00 PM R-MC Chorale (S) | <b>1</b>  | 11:30 AM Prayer Shawl (P)<br>12:00 PM Food Co-op (FH)<br>2:30 PM Centering Prayer (MR)<br>5:00 PM Hot Topics<br>6:00 PM Prayer Shawl (P)<br>7:00 PM Charge Conference (FH)<br>7:00 PM Manna Band Practice (S)                 | <b>2</b>  | 11:30 AM R-MC Class (FH)                     | <b>3</b>  | 10:00 AM Masterworks Chorale practice (S)<br>7:00 PM R-MC Chorale Concert (S)                             |
| <b>4</b>  | 8:00 AM Casual Worship (FH)<br>8:50 AM J.O.L.T. Worship<br>9:40 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Traditional Worship<br>3:00 PM Choral (S)<br>4:00 PM Youth Council (11)<br>5:00 PM Youth Choir (CR)<br>6:00 PM UM Youth (FH/5/8)                                 | <b>5</b>  | 8:00 AM R-MC Music (10)<br>10:00 AM Organ Lesson<br>11:15 AM Cawley (L)<br>7:00 PM Choral (S/FH)                  | <b>6</b>  | 8:00 AM R-MC Music (10)<br>9:30 AM DISCIPLE 3 (FH)<br>4:00 PM Women's Club (FH)<br>6:00 PM Handbells (CR)                                                | <b>7</b>  | 12:00 PM R-MC Music (10)<br>3:45 PM Children's M'n'M<br>6:00 PM Worship Service (FH)<br>6:30 PM Troop 700 Council (13)<br>6:45 PM Chancel Choir (CR)                        | <b>8</b>  | 10:00 AM Hanover Parks (FH/K)<br>11:00 AM Sarah's Sisters (CR)<br>12:00 PM Food Co-op (FH)<br>1:30 PM Book Discussion (P)<br>2:30 PM Centering Prayer (MR)<br>7:00 PM Manna Band Practice (S)<br>7:00 PM Stephen Ministry (P) | <b>9</b>  | 9:00 AM Altar Guild                          | <b>10</b> | 8:00 AM UM Men<br>9:00 AM Youth TOPS Trip (1)<br>10:00 AM Children's practice (S)<br>4:00 PM Birch (S)    |
| <b>11</b> | 8:00 AM Casual Worship (FH)<br>8:50 AM J.O.L.T. Worship<br>9:40 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Traditional Worship<br>12:30 PM Flanagan (S)<br>2:00 PM Parsonage Open House<br>2:00 PM UM Youth (FH/5/8)<br>3:00 PM Daisy Troop (1)<br>5:00 PM Youth Choir (CR) | <b>12</b> | Newsletter Deadline<br>8:00 AM R-MC Music (10)<br>10:00 AM Organ Lesson<br>7:00 PM Choral (S/FH)                  | <b>13</b> | 8:00 AM R-MC Music (10)<br>9:30 AM DISCIPLE 3 (FH)<br>6:00 PM Handbells (CR)<br>6:30 PM Bingo @ Ashland Convalescent Center<br>7:00 PM Finance Team (11) | <b>14</b> | 12:00 PM PrimeTimes Luncheon<br>12:00 PM R-MC Music (10)<br>3:45 PM Children's M'n'M<br>6:00 PM Worship Service (FH)<br>6:45 PM Chancel Choir (CR)                          | <b>15</b> | 11:30 AM Prayer Shawl (P)<br>12:00 PM Food Co-op (FH)<br>2:30 PM Centering Prayer (MR)<br>6:00 PM Prayer Shawl (P)<br>7:00 PM Church Council (FH)<br>7:00 PM Manna Band Practice (S)                                          | <b>16</b> | 9:00 AM Altar Guild<br>5:00 PM Rehearsal (S) | <b>17</b> | 10:00 AM Children's practice (S)<br>1:30 PM Chancel Choir @ Pamunkey Regional Jail<br>4:00 PM Wedding (S) |
| <b>18</b> | 8:00 AM Casual Worship (FH)<br>8:50 AM J.O.L.T. Worship<br>9:40 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Traditional Worship<br>4:30 PM Christmas Program (S)                                                                                                             | <b>19</b> | 8:00 AM R-MC Music (10)<br>10:00 AM Organ Lesson<br>7:00 PM Choral (S/FH)<br>7:00 PM Girl Scout Service Unit (10) | <b>20</b> | 9:30 AM DISCIPLE 3 (FH)<br>6:00 PM Handbells (CR)                                                                                                        | <b>21</b> | 12:00 PM R-MC Music (10)<br>6:00 PM Blue Christmas Service (FH)<br>6:45 PM Chancel Choir (CR)                                                                               | <b>22</b> | 11:00 AM Sarah's Sisters (CR)<br>12:00 PM Food Co-op (FH)<br>2:30 PM Centering Prayer (MR)<br>7:00 PM Stephen Ministry (P)                                                                                                    | <b>23</b> |                                              | <b>24</b> | 7:30 PM Candlelight Service (S)                                                                           |
| <b>25</b> | 8:50 AM J.O.L.T. Worship<br>9:40 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Traditional Worship                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>26</b> | Office Closed                                                                                                     | <b>27</b> | 9:30 AM DISCIPLE 3 (FH)<br>6:00 PM Handbells (CR)<br>7:00 PM SPR (11)                                                                                    | <b>28</b> | 12:00 PM R-MC Music (10)<br>6:00 PM Worship Service (FH)<br>6:45 PM Chancel Choir (CR)                                                                                      | <b>29</b> | 12:00 PM Food Co-op (FH)<br>2:30 PM Centering Prayer (MR)<br>7:00 PM Manna Band Practice (S)                                                                                                                                  | <b>30</b> |                                              | <b>31</b> |                                                                                                           |
| <b>1</b>  | 8:00 AM Casual Worship (FH)<br>8:50 AM J.O.L.T. Worship<br>9:40 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Traditional Worship                                                                                                                                              | <b>2</b>  | Office Closed                                                                                                     | <b>3</b>  | 6:00 PM Handbells (CR)<br>6:30 PM Beth Moore study                                                                                                       | <b>4</b>  | 12:00 PM R-MC Music (10)<br>3:45 PM Children's M'n'M<br>6:00 PM Worship Service (FH)<br>6:45 PM Chancel Choir (CR)                                                          | <b>5</b>  | 11:30 AM Prayer Shawl (P)<br>12:00 PM Food Co-op (FH)<br>2:30 PM Centering Prayer (MR)<br>5:00 PM Hot Topics<br>6:00 PM Prayer Shawl (P)                                                                                      | <b>6</b>  |                                              | <b>7</b>  |                                                                                                           |
| <b>8</b>  | 8:00 AM Casual Worship (FH)<br>8:50 AM J.O.L.T. Worship<br>9:40 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Traditional Worship<br>5:00 PM Youth Choir (CR)<br>6:00 PM UM Youth (FH/5/8)                                                                                     | <b>9</b>  | Newsletter Deadline<br>7:00 PM Choral (S/FH)                                                                      | <b>10</b> | 6:00 PM Handbells (CR)<br>6:45 PM Beth Moore study                                                                                                       | <b>11</b> | 12:00 PM R-MC Music (10)<br>3:45 PM Children's M'n'M<br>6:00 PM Worship Service (FH)<br>6:45 PM Chancel Choir (CR)                                                          | <b>12</b> | 10:00 AM Hanover Parks (FH/K)<br>11:00 AM Sarah's Sisters (CR)<br>12:00 PM Food Co-op (FH)<br>2:30 PM Centering Prayer (MR)                                                                                                   | <b>13</b> | Troop 700                                    | <b>14</b> | Troop 700<br>8:00 AM UM Men                                                                               |

Check the church Web site [www.duncanmemorialumc.org](http://www.duncanmemorialumc.org) for calendar updates.



# Summary of Council Meetings

*Submitted by Liz Sims*

## **September**

There were a number of upcoming activities discussed, including the visit from former Pastor Dick Soulen, and the dedication of the new dorm at the college which is named after Ira Andrews. Council was told about the Charge Conference on December 1 at our church at 7:00 p.m., and the district training to be January 8 at Trinity UMC. It was noted that we will have a retreat on Sunday afternoon, November 13.

Kelly Jones reported the Staff Parish Relations team is examining all job descriptions and were considering eliminating two part-time positions to make one full-time. That is why the youth director position has not been advertised yet. Also, the interim Youth staffing is working well.

Charlie Martin reported that we are up-to-date on all apportionments. There will be an increase in apportionment costs next year so our pledge process will be very important in the next two months.

Council had recommended the Trustees use part of the bequest from Dr. English to donate \$1,000 for the Ira Andrews Memorial. Trustees did do that and gave \$1,000 to A.C.E.S. and \$1,000 to Bobby's House (Ashland charity to fix a substandard residence). Council voted unanimous approval.

Trustees have been working on handicap access issues and several

of the changes will be finished shortly. Some of the costs will be covered by the Flippo funds and some funds donated in memory of Jim Jones, Sr.

Tyler Phaup reported that youth programs were strong and there were 30 in their last meeting. He said some people had recently left the group but he feels they may return. Devon Maust explained their planned activities.

Pastor David reported he had met with the young adults group and they have some good ideas about broadening their outreach and about service they can do.

There is a small group working on the child and vulnerable adult policy for important clarifications and revisions. Those will be brought to council for approval when they are ready.

Dr. Ed Showalter is assisting us with our communications by having his students do a project that will illuminate what we do now and how we can do a better job. He is also willing to work with us in our retreat on planning and strategy.

## **October**

Pastor Hindman reported on his myriad of activities and on the "Generosity Campaign" encouraging us to attend the luncheon at its closing. He noted there will be a number of guest preachers in the coming months and that there is a change in our worship schedule for Christmas. Christmas is on Sunday so the worship team

decided to have the children's program on the Sunday before Christmas and the Christmas Eve service will be at 7:30 p.m. not 11:00 p.m. On Christmas morning there will be a J.O.L.T. and 11:00 a.m. service with Communion.

We were reminded of the retreat November 13, the Charge Conference on December 1, and the district training in January.

Staff-Parish Relations reported that they had made a decision to combine the Christian Education and Youth jobs into one full-time position. Council discussed the reasons and unanimously voted to endorse the team's work and decision.

Charlie Martin explained the finance report distributed at the meeting and noted that we will likely meet our budget if collection trends remain as they have over previous years. He offered a recommendation from the Finance Team that there be an Investment Team responsible for the endowment investments. The church Treasurer, Finance Team Leader and Trustee Team Leader would constitute this team. Council approved unanimously.

## **Church Council Meetings**

Council meetings are open to everyone. Next meetings are:  
Thursday, December 15, 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, January 19, 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, February 16, 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, March 15, 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, April 19, 7:00 p.m.

# Update on Our 2012 Generosity Campaign

by Pastor David Hindman

As of November 18, 86 church members have pledged to pray and worship regularly, to serve the poor and our faith community as

volunteers, to share their faith with others, to be involved in some type of discipleship group and to make a financial commitment to underwrite our 2012 ministries. If you have not made your commitment

yet and would like to do so, please contact the church office. And continue to pray for God to bless and use us for good in the coming year!

## Planning Strategy Approved by Church Council

by Pastor David Hindman

Where do we envision God leading us as a church 10-15 years from now? What priorities, programs and facilities will we have and what steps do we need to take to get to where we hope to be?

At a planning retreat last month attended by nearly 20 DMUMC leaders, Ed Showalter received a very positive and enthusiastic response as he presented a rationale for long-range planning and a strategy for us to discern our future hopes and ministries. Following the planning retreat the Church

Council unanimously endorsed the idea of implementing a long-range planning strategy which will be completed by All Saints Day (November 1), 2012.

By Epiphany Day (January 6), a long-range planning team of five to seven church members will be in place and ready to begin its work with Ed Showalter serving as project consultant. In the coming months we will all have opportunities to discuss our hopes, dreams and visions as the process moves forward. In the meantime your prayers for openness to God's guidance and Spirit are requested,

not only for the team but for all who want Duncan Memorial to be faithful to Christ's ministry and mission in the coming years!



## Book Group

by Betty Perkinson

The **Duncan Memorial Sunday Book Group** will *not* meet in December. We'll next get together on **Sunday, January 15, at 5:00 p.m.** in the parlor. Since we're in the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, we're going to talk about its generals. Pick up a book about any Civil War general and join the January discussion.

Selections for next year are:

- February – *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot
  - March – *Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy* by Donald Kraybill
- Hope to see you at some of our discussions in 2012 !

## New Books on Our Library Shelf

by Bonnie Hoskin

Books recently donated or purchased for the church library include the following:

- *A Loving Approach to Dementia Care* by Laura Wayman
- *Aging Together* by Susan McFadden
- *No Act of Love is Ever Wasted* by Jane M. Thibault
- *Allow God to Wear Your Face* by Alice G. Knotts
- *The Historical Figure of Jesus* by E. P. Sanders
- *The Brethren* by Beverly Lewis
- *The Heart of Christianity* by Marcus J. Borg
- *My Favorite Bible Passages* by Norman Vincent Peale
- *Luke for Everyone* by N. T. Wright

# Mission News and Opportunities

## **Christmas Mission Mart**

Mission Mart takes place in the colonnade on December 11 and 18. Stop by from 8:30-11:00 a.m. and make a donation to a well-deserved mission in honor of the person on your Christmas list. It's the perfect gift – comes in all colors and sizes. This year the sponsored mission organizations are:

- A.C.E.S.
- All God's Children Camp
- Hanover Interfaith Free Clinics
- Heart Havens Home
- Pathways
- Society of St. Andrew
- Sovereign Global Mission
- Stop Hunger Now
- Ukraine Seminary Students.

## **A.C.E.S. Tree**

In years past we have decorated a mitten tree for A.C.E.S. with garments to keep children's hands,

ears and feet warm. Gratefully, we understand that those items are available in abundance. This year we are collecting new child- and adult-sized underwear, socks, disposable diapers and pull-ups that A.C.E.S. can give to the needy this winter. The tree will be in the fellowship hall from December 4-18.

## **Angel Tree**

Duncan Memorial is supporting the Angel Tree program which provides Christmas presents for the children of incarcerated parents at Pamunkey Regional Jail. If you are able to adopt a family, please pick up the name of a family from the Angel Tree in the colonnade. Gifts need to be delivered or mailed to the family by December 18.

*Next Missions Team meeting is Wednesday, January 18, at 6:00 p.m.*

## **Stop Hunger Now – February 11**

Mark your calendar for February 11, 9:30 a.m.–noon. Duncan Memorial will host a Stop Hunger Now meal packaging event to assemble 10,000 meals. Join us for a morning filled with purpose as well as fun and fellowship! This hands-on mission project is suitable for all ages.

Stop Hunger Now is an international hunger relief organization that coordinates the distribution of food and aid around the world. The meal packages we assemble are shipped around the world to support school-feeding programs and crisis relief. The food stores easily, transports quickly and has a shelf-life of five years.

DMUMC allocated \$2,500 to package the first 10,000 meals. All additional money we raise will be used to package extra meals. The fourth/fifth grade Sunday school class and the M'n'M children are raising funds for this project. Then they will help package the meals. In addition to one of our Mission Mart missions, you can also make a donation. Make a check payable to DMUMC and put "Stop Hunger Now" in the memo line.

## **Spring Mission Trip**

Jackie Strickland is coordinating our VIM trip to help rebuild north Alabama following the April tornados. This trip is tentatively scheduled for March 12-16. If you're interested in participating, please contact the church office.

## **Remember ...**

- **First Sundays, A.C.E.S.** – Bring a canned food item to support their ministry.
- **December Communion Offering** will support the work of *Gospel Jail Ministry*.
- **January Communion Offering** will support the work of *Stop Hunger Now*.
- **February Communion Offering** will support the work of the *Heart Havens Home*.

## **Volunteers Are Needed ...**

- Panera Bread pickup, Friday nights, contact Shearer Luck at SRehabs@aol.com to help.
- BINGO – second Tuesday, Ashland Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, contact Stephanie Nixon at prayermtg@aol.com. Small-size toiletries and snack-size crackers and chips are needed as prizes.
- We provide supper for Hanover Interfaith Free Clinic staff on several Wednesdays during the year. Contact Jean Williams at 752-2444 or glennngw@aol.com to volunteer.

## UM Women

by Sharon Morgan, UMW President

On December 14, we will join the PrimeTimers at their Christmas luncheon at noon in AshCreek clubhouse (see page 18). Regular circle meetings and our general meeting will resume on January 16.

## Ukraine Mission

by Pastor David

This summer Duncan Memorial faith family members Julie Keaney, Megan Keaney and Susan Whitt had a life-changing experience as they traveled to Ukraine with members of Grace UMC in Manassas to participate in a two-week mission adventure focusing on English language camp in the Carpathian Mountains with university students and vacation Bible school for children of L'viv.

Is God calling you to step outside your comfort zone and encounter the risen Christ in unexpected places? Grace UMC is planning a 2012 mission experience with similar experiences. They hope folks from our faith family will join the team. Pray about this and if the Spirit nudges you in any way, contact me, Sandra Stanley or Julie, Megan or Susan as soon as possible. We promise you – you'll never be the same! College students and youth are especially encouraged to consider this mission possibility, but all ages are welcome to participate and be transformed!

## Science and Religion: A Hot Topic Guaranteed to Warm Your Winter

by Pastor David Hindman

Our Hot Topics program returns this winter with the first two events focusing on religion and science. You don't want to miss either of these thought provoking presentations!

**Sunday, January 15**, Rev. Dr. John Kerr, an ordained priest in the Church of England, Episcopal chaplain at The College of William and Mary, and a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering, will preach at all three worship celebrations. During the Sunday school hour (9:40-10:30 a.m.) Dr. Kerr will speak to youth and adult classes on the topic, *The Relationships Between Science and Religion*. Following the 11:00 a.m. worship service, a light lunch will be served and Dr. Kerr will participate in a question and answer conversation. Dr. Kerr is a native of Scotland, a product of the British educational system and one of the founders of the Church of England's Order of Scientist Priests.

**Sunday, February 12** (tentative date, watch the announcements for confirmation), 3:00-5:00 p.m., a panel of R-MC faculty and Duncan Memorial members who are scientists and disciples of Christ will participate in a discussion focusing on such questions as What do you wish Christians knew about science? What do you wish scientists knew about religion? How do you integrate your faith and your life as a scientist? We'll also include a time of worship and scripture study focusing on creation.

We believe both programs will be of great interest to church members as well as the R-MC and Ashland communities and will generate a lot of discussion! Spread the word and save the dates!

## Worship at Correctional Center

by Pastor David Hindman

In November, 14 R-MC students and members of Duncan Memorial traveled to Greenville Correctional Center (GCC) to worship with our brothers in Christ. Manna Band members shared their musical gifts as did the brothers in the GCC Praise Band, and they also combined to make a joyful noise to the Lord! Those who have had this experience know the Lord surely is in that house!

If you'd like to move beyond your comfort zone and meet the risen Christ who sets us all free, we'll return to GCC on **Sunday, January 15**. We'll leave Ashland at 4:00 p.m. and return by 10:00 p.m. *Want to go?* Contact me for a release form and return it no later than December 15.

# December Birthdays

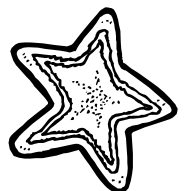
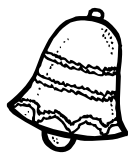
- 1 Dave Swager, Paul Burch
- 2 Susan Staudenmaier,  
Jeremy Luther
- 4 Sarah Parris, Bigley Liebert
- 5 Janet Reid, William Irvin,  
Alison Bass-Broaddus,  
Laura Liebert
- 6 Herb Jacobsen, Gregory Cole,  
Trevor Puryear, Abigail Leffler
- 7 Brad Rogers
- 8 Nancy Schloemer, Ed Blanton,  
Harrison Powell
- 9 Colby Burke
- 10 Michael Layne
- 12 Lee Sloppy
- 13 Joe Haugh, Carolyn Key,  
Paul Sikkar, Thomas Herbert
- 14 Stewart Reid
- 16 Dougee Zeno, Chris Perry,  
Jesse Deaton, Ruth Deaton,  
Henry Franklin, Carter Zavitz
- 17 David Hindman,  
Sarah Dettbarn
- 18 Joseph Herbert,  
Shelby Maceda
- 20 Charlie Van Goor,  
Lauren Boito, Lucas Swager
- 22 Jen Kilcoyne
- 23 Daphne Lasser
- 25 Harold Stuart, Wesley Baucom
- 28 Nathan Hughes, Leah Harris,  
Allie Leffler
- 29 Thelma Robertson
- 30 Bill Hamner, Lisa Davis
- 31 Hannah Hughes,  
Chloe Meadows

# January Birthdays

- 1 David Cook, Rebekah Turner
- 4 Dawn Plum, Tom Herbert
- 5 Tom Varner
- 6 Joshua Sikkar
- 7 Anna Dykshorn
- 8 Stephanie Martin
- 9 Anne Stiles
- 11 Zachary Stevens
- 13 Ira Andrews
- 14 Samantha Sloppy
- 15 Jan Ernst, Lesley Jones,  
Kate Leffler, Charles Liebert
- 16 Alice Alexander
- 17 Tom Lasser, Andrew Hodnett
- 18 Kemelee Puryear
- 19 Jack Luck, Jimmy Mills,  
Patricia Cook
- 20 Allen Gaddy
- 22 Kelly Criste-Cook
- 23 Vinson Harris, Ronald Lucas,  
Susie Phillips, Rhonda Lacoss
- 24 Darlene Bonds
- 25 Matthew Newell
- 26 Blanche Talton, Gene Smart,  
Zak Sikkar
- 27 Charlotte Mallory,  
Olin Dykshorn
- 28 Amanda Sloppy,  
Rachael Vronek,  
Carleigh Luck
- 29 Eddie Stiles
- 30 Andrea Luther
- 31 Deanna Rogowski,  
Ann Ballance,  
David Pettyjohn

# February Birthdays

- 1 Teena Chinn, Wendy Minton
- 2 Ed Turner, Stewart Hargrove
- 3 Frank Hargrove
- 4 Charlie Martin,  
Susen Dunmire
- 5 Gladys Ayers, Charles Baskin,  
David Hoyt
- 8 Kay Small
- 9 Ruth Avery, Dana Harris,  
Ryan Pettyjohn
- 10 Dale Sayers
- 12 Glenn Easter, Leah Moss
- 13 Paige Flexon, Jack Johnson
- 15 Ranny Robertson,  
Anne Midyette,  
Wendi Hughes, Chip Bass
- 16 Tom Wieber, Lynn Hargrove,  
Matt Moore
- 17 Kevin Parris, Travis Williams
- 18 Lyn Hodnett
- 20 Pat Powell
- 21 Mary Maxey
- 22 Marian Bomberger
- 23 Bettie Mills
- 24 Robert Powell
- 25 Jackson Proffitt, Brooke Flexon
- 26 Valerie Moore
- 27 Glenn Sherrod
- 28 Doug Buerlein, Cheryl Harris,  
Michael Bradley
- 29 Doris Crozier



# Duncan Memorial Staff

|                                 |                   |                                       |          |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Pastor                          | David Hindman     | david.hindman@duncanmemorialumc.org   |          |
| Director of Christian Education | Sandra Stanley    | sandra.stanley@duncanmemorialumc.org  |          |
| Director of Music               | Teena Chinn       | teena.chinn@duncanmemorialumc.org     |          |
| Youth Co-Directors              | Devon Maust       | devon@duncanmemorialumc.org           | 837-9850 |
|                                 | Kendra Swager     | kendra@duncanmemorialumc.org          | 363-3340 |
| Organist                        | Jim Doering       | jdoering@rmc.edu                      |          |
| Office Administrator            | Gordon McDaniel   | gordon.mcdaniel@duncanmemorialumc.org |          |
| Nursery Workers                 | Christy Ewing     | office@duncanmemorialumc.org          | 798-7224 |
|                                 | Pauline Lynch     |                                       |          |
| Janitorial Service              | Absolute Services |                                       | 814-4706 |

## 2012 Lay Leader

|            |               |                          |          |
|------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Lay Leader | Dave Stoakley | davestoakley@comcast.net | 798-3283 |
|------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------|

## Other 2012 Lay Leadership

|                            |                  |                                       |          |
|----------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Church Council Coordinator | Bill Hamner      | cavahoo@comcast.net                   | 798-8874 |
| Finance Team Coordinator   | Charlie Martin   | usmartin@verizon.net                  | 752-6477 |
| Financial Secretary        | Robbin Stiles    | estiles@aol.com                       | 798-3719 |
| Scouting Representative    | Ross Luck        | thelucks1@verizon.net                 | 752-2308 |
| Staff-Parish Relations     | TBA              |                                       |          |
| Stephen Ministry Leader    | Rhonda Toussaint | rltousaint@comcast.net                | 798-6039 |
|                            | Jacque Hoskin    | jphoskin@embarqmail.com               | 883-7281 |
| Treasurer                  | TBA              |                                       |          |
| Trustees Coordinator       | Carlene Bass     | cartom54@comcast.net                  | 798-7454 |
| Webmaster                  | Gordon McDaniel  | gordon.mcdaniel@duncanmemorialumc.org |          |

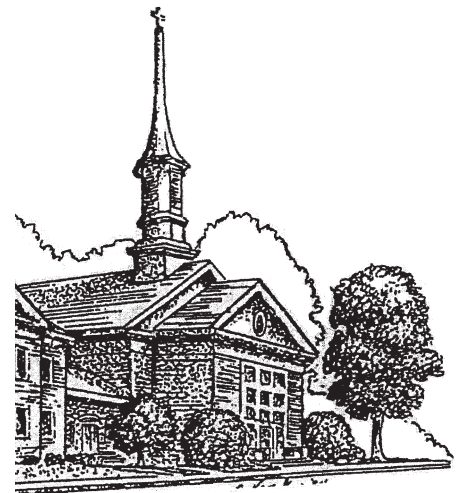
*Copies of the complete 2012 lay leadership list are available in the church office.*

# Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church

201 Henry Street, Ashland, Virginia 23005  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 247, Ashland, Virginia 23005  
Phone: 804-798-7224; Fax: 804-798-4387  
Web site: [www.duncanmemorialumc.org](http://www.duncanmemorialumc.org)  
Church E-mail: [office@duncanmemorialumc.org](mailto:office@duncanmemorialumc.org)

## The Dove Dates and Deadlines

*The Dove* is published monthly February-June and August-December. Deadline for materials is the second Monday of the month prior to publication. Articles for the February issue need to be submitted by **Monday, January 9**. E-mail articles to [newsletter@duncanmemorialumc.org](mailto:newsletter@duncanmemorialumc.org).



## Duncan Memorial United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 247

Ashland, VA 23005

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NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
ASHLAND, VA  
23005  
PERMIT #36

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Change Service Requested

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## PrimeTimers Christmas Luncheon

The PrimeTimers Christmas Lunch will be on Wednesday, December 14, at noon, at the AshCreek clubhouse, Linderwood Drive. Plan to eat, socialize, sing, and get that Christmas feeling! Sign up on the bulletin board across from the church library. For more details, contact Tom or Carlene Bass at 798-7454. All are invited bring their favorite food dish.

## Seasonal Music Around Us

- Central Virginia Masterworks Chorale presents *Prophets, Dreams and Dancing: Festive Music for Brass & Choir* on Sunday, December 4, at 3:00 p.m., in the Duncan Memorial sanctuary. The chorale repeats the concert in Richmond on December 9 and 11. Ticket information and complete details at [www.cvamc.org](http://www.cvamc.org).
- Chancel and Handbell Choirs of Shady Grove UMC (Mechanicsville) and Reveille UMC accompanied by an orchestra present Vivaldi's *Magnificat* at Shady Grove UMC on Friday, December 16, 7:30 p.m. and at Reveille UMC on Sunday, December 18, 5:30 p.m. The concerts are free. Information is available at [www.reveilleumc.org](http://www.reveilleumc.org).

## Christmas Trees at Forest Grove

Forest Grove UMC UMMen's 23rd annual Christmas tree lot is now open. DMUMC members have been terrific in supporting this mission fund raiser and they look forward to serving us again this year. Forest Grove UMC is located at 13384 Ashland Road. Proceeds benefit many local ministries including A.C.E.S. and Pathways. They are also collecting non-perishable foods for A.C.E.S. Hours for the Christmas tree lot are:  
Saturdays – 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.,  
Sundays – 1:00-5:00 p.m., and  
Weekdays – 4:00-7:00 p.m.

### Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center/Blackstone Conference and Retreat Center Evening at Blackstone tradition featuring ...

*Star of Wonder* – A theatrical production by the youth from Crenshaw United Methodist Church and  
*Dean Shostak's Crystal Concert* – Featuring the glass instruments from Ben Franklin's Glass 1761 Armonica  
Sunday, December 11, 2011 • 707 Fourth Street • Blackstone, Virginia  
For complete information, reservations and tickets, call 434-292-5308.