

Deep Water Weekend (April 20-22)



My name is Margaret Kutz and I am United Methodist clergy in the Virginia Conference and have the honor of serving as the life-coach of your lead pastor, Rev. Alan Combs. He has shared so many wonderful reports about First UMC Salem. That is why I am so excited to be with you the weekend of April 20-22. I will serve as the lead on a team of three including Rev. Kathleen Overby-Webster, your

District Superintendent, and Rev. Dr. Peter Moon, District Superintendent of the Richmond District. The weekend is modeled after processes that proven very successful in other parts of our church including Missouri and Ohio. In Virginia we have churches in Northern Virginia, Richmond area and Tidewater area putting their toes in this deep water. First UMC Salem is the first church on the Roanoke District to participate and Rev. Webster is excited.

This process is one of listening – listening to you, your history, your prayers, your walk with Christ, your community, your finances and attendance, your leaders, staff, and youth, your new members and long-standing members. We come with no prescribed plan but through listening to you and to God we will recommend some initiatives. You will be surprised by how much these initiatives reflect what you have shared.

Friday the team of three will interview members and staff of the church. Saturday we will gather with the church to talk, plan, listen, learn, have fun together. Then Sunday morning I will preach at a combined service and Rev. Moon will share the recommended initiatives.

Following that a series of town hall meetings will be held for you to further consider these initiatives. Then Rev. Webster will convene a Church Conference so you can vote on them in the whole.

I am praying for all of us and hope you will join me in that prayer effort. Please pray for Deep Water regularly by names, dates, and even rooms. Jesus said, “Put out into the deep water.” May God guide us as we too venture into deep water.

Rev. Dr. Margaret T. Kutz

CHILDREN’S MINISTRIES

Tricia Givens, Director

EASTER - NEW LIFE (The story of the caterpillar!)

Last month we talked about seeing the miracles around us, God’s handiwork. This month starts out with the greatest miracle ever, the celebration of Christ’s resurrection and the opportunity of the new life and life forever that he brought to each of us. I have to share with you the wonderful example of new life in the caterpillar. Each year we enjoy watching the change of the caterpillar into a beautiful butterfly. However, there are always some who say they have never heard this analogy before. So I am going to write out the symbolism for you, so you can share this with your children again and anyone else you want to share the message of new life with.

First, we see the caterpillar as a little egg that becomes a tiny looking worm. A worm that is rather tiny and boring in its dark bland color. We watch it eat and eat (stuffing itself with all that it wants- food!) As the little tiny looking worm eats it becomes fat and little legs become apparent along its expanding side. A head seems to appear and little eyes can be seen. It continues to get larger till one day we see it begin to see it turn its tail up and it makes a perfect J. It attaches to a leaf as a little J. Within hours of becoming a J, one can see a web like substance forming around it and soon it has spun a shell (a

cocoon or Chrysalis). The shell then becomes a golden color. The golden color is a sign that it is getting ready to make a tremendous change. Soon one can see a head push through the top of the cocoon (Chrysalis enclosure) soon the whole body of a new little creature emerges and one drop of blood is dropped from the top of this new creature. The drop of blood moistens the creature's wings which are still wrapped tightly. As the blood saturates the wings, the little new creature is able to spread its new wings without tearing them (like paper). Amazing there are bright colors on the little newly created butterfly. It looks nothing like the little wormy creature it was. It spreads its wings, and flies and if it is a Monarch butterfly it will fly for 5,000 miles to a place in Mexico to bring life to vegetation along the way.

What an example of CHRIST and the new life he gives us.

We are small in God's eyes and of no greatness in the grand scheme of things- like the little wormy creature. We tend to be self- absorbed in what we want – like the little worm who eats and eats all day. However, if we allow Christ into our life, we can see a change in who we are from the inside and out. As the little caterpillar forms the J , we accept Christ and form a faith around Jesus. With that faith and belief our lives take on the purity of Christ- like the Chrysalis that becomes Godden with a glow. We begin to glow with an inner light of Christ in us. If we continue in our faith and belief in Christ we begin a new life- just as the butterfly who spread its new wings. We begin to live as a Christian who shares our love for Christ wherever we are and bring the message of new life to others. Use this sweet analogy to share the message of New life to your children. Again, God's handiwork is all around us and giving us ways to see the scriptures come to life.

First United Methodist Church SERVICE DAY APRIL 28th

Please mark APRIL 28th on your calendar, as we embark on our annual church service day. Last year was wonderful because so many in our church participated in projects all around our community. We are asking every group of our church such as circles, men's bible study, Methodist men, Methodist women, boy scouts, girl scouts, bible studies, Sunday school classes, Wesley kids, choirs, bells and the youth to be involved. Your group may pick the service you choose that befits your group the best. You may pick the time you want to do your project, as long as it on April 28th. The children will be making candy kiss bags again with a note to leave wherever your group may serve.

Ideas:

Visit home bound members with cards or goodies.

Visit nursing homes or the veterans' hospital

Work at the rescue mission or feeding America.

Take clothes to the clothes closet and offer help

Take goodies to our community workers such as policemen, EMT workers , firemen etc.

Pick up trash along at parks or walkways.

Work at our church by weeding the flower bed or planting flowers.

Build something for someone who needs assistant with a ramp or railing.

Work in a yard of someone who is elderly or disabled.

Visit the hospital and leave cards for nurses and doctors.

We would love to meet in our church chapel at 9:00 am for a very brief blessing and prayer, as we prepare to go out in our community and show our love for neighbors. You can pick up your candy kiss bags at that time too.

Vacation Bible school Teachers June 3rd Meeting 7:00 pm in Key 73 room

I will have you a packet with a leaders guide and some vbs information for you. I will also leave them in the church office and you can come by and pick them up. I will also try to catch you at church . We will have a meeting Sunday evening JUNE 3rd to go over any questions you may have and to give you a teacher's lists and phone numbers with your schedules etc. at that time.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 16th – 20th, 9:00 – 12:30

Pre k 4- 5th grader

Please register early. Forms are at the welcome center, the office and also in Genesis. Fill out the forms and leave in the designated file folder.

Wesley Kids

Please note that on May 6th we will be planting geraniums alongside the fellowship hall. They always do well there and add beauty to our church. Meet in the chapel at 5:00 pm.

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY May 6th "YOU'VE GOT TALENT"

May 6th will be our church wide TALENT SHOW. This has proved to be a great event to see how talented many of our members are. Please come share your talent with your church family. The choirs may be singing and maybe the bells will play also. Hope the praise band will share a new song with us. Dinner at 6:00 (subs, chips, ice cream); Talent Show at 6:30pm.

APRIL 29th CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

The children will lead the worship service in Genesis on April 29th. Parents please mark your calendar so you can be sure your child will be here to participate. They learn so much through Sunday School and children's worship . We want the children to share with you some of what they have learned about worshipping. We will go over and practice for this service, **during Sunday school** on April 15th and the 22nd. The children's choirs will be singing. Please set this date and make an effort to have your child here. We will also recognize our 6th graders and present them with their youth study bibles, as they cross over to the youth ministry at this service.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

Thank you again to all the youth and adults who helped with the Spring Festival. It is always such a great family and community event. It is a joy watching the children finding eggs and enjoying the activities. Thanks again for bringing in eggs and candy! All your help is greatly appreciated.

Kids' in the SPOTLIGHT

This month First Church recognizes Olivia Arthur. Olivia is in the children's choir and Heavenly Bells. She attends many of our church events. You will see her in Sunday school each Sunday and VBS in the summer. Olivia has been a joy to watch grow up here at First Church. She has added to many a children's message, when she was younger. She is a great help with Family Promises, when she come to help her mom, Jane Arthur. Thank you Olivia for making a difference at First Church.

Children's Ministry Volunteer of the month

This month children's ministry recognizes Bobby Pickle. Bobby has helped me on so many occasions with various events. He is there to help set up or take down. He is there to help pick up and set out. He always offers a helping hand. He is a staff remember, true, but he helps me with children events by just offering his help. Thank you Bobby, for helping to make a difference with children's ministry. The DVD , "THE FIRST EASTER," has been added to the children's ministry library in your honor.

WESLEYAN PRESCHOOL

Jane Butto, Director

Easter Break

Our Preschool will be closed for our Easter Break from March 30 through April 6.

Looking Ahead

We still have a few openings for our Fall 2018 preschool classes. Call Jane at 389-5144 to get more information and to arrange a tour.

Summer Camp

Once again this year we will be offering two weeks of summer camp fun for 4 and 5 year old children.

June 4-8 " Christmas in June"- Break out the Christmas music, wrapping paper & tinsel and join us for a Jolly good time.

August 6-10 " Playing on God's Team"- One Team, One Goal, One God. Let us experience being part of a team together.

Summer Camp hours are 9am to 1pm. Each week includes a field trip. Camp Fees are \$75 for the week. Stop by the Preschool office and pick up a registration form today!

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Jessica Kauffman, Director

Coffee Shop Small Group!

During the month of April and May we will be focusing on two different studies during our Coffee Shop Small Groups.

The 7-8th Grade will be focusing on a 7 week study called Truth Matters this study talks about being confident in our faith in a confusing world.

The 9th and 10-12th Grade Study will be focused on an 8 week study called Facing Your Fears! This study is all about allowing the Lord to reveal where fear has taken a hold of your life and putting an end to those strongholds.

Group	Day	Time	Location
7-8th Grade	Mondays	7:30-8:30pm	Mill Mountain
9th Grade	Wednesday	6:30-7:30pm	Starbucks Main Street
10-12th Grade	Wednesday	7:30-8:30pm	Starbucks Main Street

Movies on the Lawn Fundraiser April 6th

On Friday April 6th we will have Movies on the Lawn Fundraiser! All are encouraged to come up and support our local Youth Mission Team and watch the family friendly movie "Wonder". The movie will start at dusk (around 8:00pm). Bring blankets, chairs, and snacks. Rain location will be inside the Fellowship Hall.

Clean Valley Day April 14th

Our youth will be meeting at Longwood Park in Salem to be a part of the valley wide Clean Valley Day. We will be cleaning up and helping our area by picking up litter and trash in our parks. Parents, Mentors, and Youth are welcome! Hope to see you there.

ADULT MINISTRIES & OUTREACH

Rev. Bobby J. Pickle, Director

Financial Peace University Class

Eight adults graduated from the Financial Peace University Class on March 13th. The FPU class is a 9 week course that teaches financial responsibility, getting out of debt, and provides a step by step approach to gaining personal financial freedom and peace! We would like to thank our teachers/leaders of the FPU course, Mr. Mark Snead, and Mr. Tom Bowers for all of their hard work and dedication in teaching this course.

SKY Luncheon April 19th

SKY will meet at 11:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. The Program will be **The Forensics Team from Salem High School**. This team is the current Virginia High School Group 4A State Champions and has held this title for 12 years! They are coached by Mr. Mark Ingerson and several of our very own youth here at FUMC are on this team. Come and join us for some good food, warm fellowship, and enjoy some very talented students!

SALEM FORENSIC TEAM

As originally published in the Roanoke Times, March 6, 2018



Salem's state championship forensic team from the 2016-2017 school year. Salem has won the state forensics title 12 years in a row. Our editorial at left looks at how a background in debate and theatre made the students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida the stage presence to speak so articulately after the school shooting there, yet not all Virginia schools have similar programs. Salem, though, is one that does. **Back row:** Ashby Garst, Jordan Barker, Alex Perdue, Adalynn Eller, Emma Painter, Abbie Coleman, Charlie Wallace, Katie Conklin. **Middle row:** Skyler Allen, Rachel Massey, Rachel Chaos, Moss Stratton, Phoebe Stevens, Meredith Hicks, Mark Ingerson (coach). **Front row:** AnnElese Galleo, Alayna Johnson, Emma Studtmann, Kyle Fauber, Sydney Pettit, Sam Kennedy, Sami Hoyer.

SMALL GROUPS

Hilda Paxton, Coordinator

Love Does (April 15 - May 6)

Join us in room #208 for a four week study called, "Love Does" by Bob Goff. Taught by Pastor Bobby Pickle and Tricia Givens, Bob Goff has an exciting and thought provoking spin on how Christians should love. The study includes a DVD with books. This study is about God's love. God's love is not to be all about rules that we all have to agree with when we love. God's love is amazing and different. His love changes things. God's love is active, it takes risks, it does and God's love is reactive. God's love brings hope, joy, comfort and change. You will laugh at his stories and cry at Bob Goff's examples of simple acts of love. Learn to recognize those God moments to share His amazing love. TO help us know how many books to order, sign up for the class at the office, via email to church@fumcsalemva.org, or at the sign up bulletin board in Genesis.

Hope For Creation (April 18 - May 23)

Beginning Wednesday, April 18th, join us for a 6-week study of "Serving God, Saving the Planet: Hope for Creation" using scripture and scientific findings to help us look at God's Word, God's world, and our response. Because God believes in the value of the world, we should too. Everything God created is worthy of being cared for and protected. This study will explore how we can show our love for God and for our neighbors by caring for His creation. The study will be led by Margaret Riggs and Judy Burton and will include an 11am & 7pm class. Please sign up in the church office or via email to church@fumcsalemva.org and indicate which session time you would like to attend.

Oberammergau

Explore Austria, Germany, and Switzerland (September 4-16, 2020). Oberammergau was suffering from the Bubonic Plague. The surviving villagers appealed for Divine intervention and vowed that if God were to spare them, they would perform a Passion Play every ten years. They say not a single person fell victim to the plague after that. Keeping their promise, the people of Oberammergau have performed the play since 1634. If you are interested in organizing or attending this trip, please contact the church office at church@fumcsalemva.org.

UNITED METHODIST MEN

BBQ Dinner

The United Methodist Men BBQ chicken dinner will be held on April 28th from 5-7pm. The cost will be \$9.00 and includes an entrée of 1/2 BBQ chicken, baked beans, potato salad, and a roll. The UMW Circle #5 will provide desserts for purchase. BBQ dinner tickets will be available in the church office and through your United Methodist Men.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Members of First United Methodist Church are invited to assist the circles at our church who are hosting a candle burning meeting. All donations will be ear-marked for mission programs around the world. Your honorarium or memorial gift can be placed in the Sunday offering plates or sent to the UMW Treasurer's box at the church office. A form (below) must accompany each donation. Final deadline will be April 30. Your support of this project is greatly appreciated.

**United Methodist Women
Candle Burning 2018**

The cost of being in Mission in 2018 is .60 cents per second.
The Candle Burning Program for the United Methodist Women of
FUMC will be held on May 9, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.
It is hosted by members of Circle #9 - Location: Fellowship Hall
You may give a mission donation In Honor Of or In Memory Of any person.

In Honor Of _____

In Memory Of _____

Given by _____ **Amount** _____

**Checks should be made to "United Methodist Women – Candle Burning"
All gifts need to be turned in to the UMW Treasurer by April 30, 2018 – Thank you!**

APRIL 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Easter Sunday</i>	2 <i>Office Closed</i>	3 10:00am - SKY Board 6:30pm - Cub Scouts	4 6:30am - Men's Bible Study 12:00pm - Preschool Staff 6:30pm - Youth (9th) 7:30pm - Youth (10th-12th)	5 6:00pm - Girl Scouts	6 7:45pm - Movie on the Lawn 8:00pm - AA 8:00pm - AI-Anon	7
8 4:30pm - God & Church	9 4:15pm - Scout Meeting 7:00pm - Boy Scouts 7:30pm - Youth (7th-8th) 8:00pm - AA	10 10:00am - Circle 5 6:30pm - Cub Scout 7:00pm - Cracked Pots	11 6:30am - Men's Bible Study 6:00pm - Girl Scouts 6:30pm - Youth (9th) 6:45pm - Circle 9 7:00pm - Troop 51 Meeting 7:30pm - Youth (10th-12th)	12 10:00am - Bible Babes 6:00pm - Girl Scouts	13 10:00am - Parliamentarians 8:00pm - AA 8:00pm - AI-Anon	14 <i>Clean Valley Day</i>
15 4:30pm - God & Church 6:00pm - Youth Reality Check <i>May Newsletter Deadline</i>	16 7:00pm - Boy Scouts 7:30pm - Youth (7th-8th) 8:00pm - AA	17 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7:00pm - Finance Meeting	18 6:30am - Men's Bible Study 11:00am - Earth Study 6:30pm - Youth (9th) 7:00pm - Earth Study 7:00pm - Shawl Meeting 7:30pm - Youth (10th-12th)	19 10:00am - Bible Babes 11:30am - SKY Club 6:00pm - Girl Scouts	20 <i>Deep Water Weekend</i> 8:00pm - AA 8:00pm - AI-Anon	21
22 <i>Deep Water Sunday</i> 6:00pm - Youth Reality Check	23 7:00pm - Boy Scouts 7:30pm - Youth (7th-8th) 8:00pm - AA	24 9:00am - District Meeting 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7:00pm - Church Council 7:00pm - Cracked Pots	25 6:30am - Men's Bible Study 11:00am - Earth Study 12:15pm - Staff Meeting 6:30pm - Youth (9th) 7:00pm - Earth Study 7:30pm - Youth (10th-12th)	26 10:00am - Bible Babes 6:00pm - Girl Scouts	27 8:00pm - AA 8:00pm - AI-Anon	28 <i>"Love Does" Service Day</i> 5:00pm - UJMM BBQ
29	30 7:00pm - Boy Scouts 7:30pm - Youth (7th-8th) 8:00pm - AA					

First United Methodist Church

125 West Main Street

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First United Methodist Church Staff

- ◆ Lead Pastor, **Alan Combs** (alancombs@fumcsalemva.org)
- ◆ Associate Minister, **Jeffrey Dorsey** (jeff@dorseylawfirm.com)
- ◆ Assistant Minister of Congregational Care & Senior Adults, **Bobby Pickle** (bpickle@fumcsalemva.org)
- ◆ Director of Children's Ministries & Children's Choirs, **Tricia Givens** (triciag@fumcsalemva.org)
- ◆ Youth Ministries Director, **Jessica Kauffman** (jessicak@fumcsalemva.org)
- ◆ Director of Wesleyan Preschool, **Jane Butto** (jbutto@fumcsalemva.org)
- ◆ Director of Sanctuary Choir, **William Snyder**
- ◆ Director of Youth & Handbell Choirs, **Heather Mitchell** (hnmitchell@comcast.net)
- ◆ Organist, **Judith Snyder**
- ◆ Piano Accompanist for Children & Youth, **London Reinhard**
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