

A Message from Pastor Alan:

Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity

One of Jesus' great teaching parables involves a sower who cast seed along the ground. The sower hoped the seeds would sprout, grow, and bear good fruit. Some seeds did just that, producing a great harvest. But others, Jesus said, fell among thorns and, though they began to grow, these good plants were quickly choked out. Jesus said the thorns were "the cares of the world and the lure of wealth" (Matthew 13:22).

In a culture where having "enough" seems to have become a never-ending pursuit, Jesus' parable remains incredibly relevant. Many of us are chasing the American dream in ways that lead to stress, anxiety, and fear—thorns that can rob us of the ability to enjoy the abundant lives of purpose that God intended for us.

All of us have struggled with these issues at one time or another. They are important issues that we cannot ignore. This is why, during October, we will be having a churchwide study and worship emphasis called *Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity*. During this time we will explore what the Bible teaches us about financial management through corporate worship and small group study. (Visit fumcsalemva.org/enough for details about small group study opportunities.) We'll hear expert advice and stories about what others have learned by working through financial challenges. Each week we will provide you with some practical tools you can use to assess your financial situation and develop a financial plan with a biblical foundation.

At the conclusion of the emphasis, we will have the opportunity to make personal commitments of our offerings to God through our church in the coming year. We will consecrate these commitments in the worship service on October 28th.

I hope you will join us in the coming weeks as we look at how we can manage our financial resources and truly experience simplicity, generosity, and joy.

Peace,

Pastor Alan

Stewardship Schedule of Events

Sunday, October 7 th	"When Dreams Become Nightmares"
Sunday, October 14 th	"Wisdom and Finance"
Sunday, October 21 st	"Cultivating Contentment"
Sunday, October 28 th	"Defined by Generosity" & Consecration Sunday

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Tricia Givens, Director

"Let the children come to me; do not hinder them..."

This Fall the children's curriculum in Sunday School is Deep Blue and there is an emphasis within the curriculum called, "At Home With God." With each lesson there is a lesson focus to share with your family at home. This is a chance for the child to have a real interaction with their family about what they have learned in Sunday school. I hope you will take this opportunity to go over these lessons with your child each week. Ask for the lessons they have missed, when they miss Sunday School. Your child is getting a faith foundation in Sunday School. They are learning to pray, they are learning about their Bible and the many Bible character, stories, and lessons. They are learning about God and his son Jesus Christ. They are learning about Christ's life and the very important lessons he taught. If parents become a part of their child's faith nurturing by sharing and reviewing at home what they are learning in Sunday School, then your child's faith will gain a stronger foundation. You will also find your faith will become stronger too, as you learn with them and search to answer their questions. You can help their seeds of faith to grow and take off. You can help them have a real relationship with Christ and feel closeness to God. I always remind parents that the most important legacy you can leave your child is not money or things. The greatest Legacy you can leave your child is a strong Faith in God and Jesus Christ. If you leave your child a legacy of faith, you will leave them the promise of life eternal and the knowing that they are never alone. God is always with them. God never changes.

Take time to become involved in your child's faith journey. Use the resources we provide and begin nurturing your child's faith at home. We will talk about this more in our Parent Class which began on September 30th. We are here to help you in any way we can. We want to help you to Grow in Faith and to help your child Grow in Faith also. Parenting is such an important job. All children are precious gifts from our loving Father. We want to help you make sure they know Him, love Him and lean on Him. Remember the best lessons are taught by example. God bless each of you, as you nurture your sweet children.

But Jesus called to them saying, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for such belongs to the kingdom of God." Luke 18:16

In His Service,
Tricia Givens

Sunday, October 7th - World Communion Sunday

Children's Worship in the chapel at 10:10 am. Pastor Alan will lead us in communion, during this time.

Sunday, October 7th - "Blessing of the Animals" 6:00pm / Family Picnic

Please bring your pet to be blessed on Sunday October 7th at 6:00 pm. Our Pastors will preside over the Blessing of the Animals Service on the church lawn under the trees next to Main Street. After the service, we will enjoy a picnic on the lawn with our furry friends. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket and plan to picnic on the grounds. Dinner will be provided. Dinner will be subs, chips and cookies. We may possibly have some dog trainers on hand to give each of us a little animal training lesson. Please have your animal on a leash. We will provide some animal treats for all participants.

Sunday, October 7th - Wesley Kids and Tweens

We will meet in the chapel and plan to visit Snyder Nursing home. They love it when we come and we try to go at least twice a year. Feel free to bring a stuffed animal to give to residents there.

Monday, October 8th - Wesley TWEENS (3rd-5th graders)

Meet at Frank's Pizza at 6:15 pm Bring your Bibles!!! WE will discuss what mission projects we will take on. WE will discuss our next meeting and what our mission statement is. (Grow in Love for God, Grow in a relationship with Christ, Grow in the love of sharing Christ, while serving and caring for Others) WE will enjoy Pizza! Yum and a GET TO KNOW YOU GAME!!!

Saturday, October 27th - FALL FESTIVAL 5:30-6:30

Come and join the FUN!! WE will have trunk or treats and outside games, inside crafts, face painting, train rides, candy and more candy. We ask our church family to come and decorate your car trunk and give out candy to our little ones. You will enjoy seeing all the costumes and meeting families in our church.

CANDY DONATIONS – Please remember to donate candy in the boxes at the Welcome Center, outside the church office and upstairs at the music room. Thank you. We always need a great deal of candy for Fall Festival. Please **NO NUTS or PEANUT BUTTER!**

Sunday, November 4th- 5:00 PM

Reminder that Wesley Kids and Tweens will be handing out bags in the neighborhoods for our November Food Pantry food collection. We will be meeting at 5:00 pm in the chapel and then heading to near- by neighborhoods.

Kids in the Spotlight

This month First Church recognizes Abigail Alexander. Abigail is the daughter of Gretchen and Adam Alexander. She is so sweet to her younger brother Beckett. Abigail sings in the children’s choir. She loves to sing and help out. She comes to Sunday school regularly and attended VBS! She comes to many of our church events and loves to participate. She has enjoyed Wesley Kids this year. Abigail loves to smiles and brings joy to all who are around her. Thank you Abigail for making a difference at First Church.

Children’s Ministry Volunteer of the Month

This month First Church recognizes Tara Mitchell. Tara has helped with our Sunday school for several years. She is always patient and supportive. She loves the children and enjoys making a difference. Tara has led a parent class on children and anxiety. Tara has helped with Wesley Kids when needed. We thank you Tara for being a help to our Children’s Ministry. The DVD, “**One Hour Bible Fun For Kids,**” was given to the Children’s Ministry library in her honor.

WESLEYAN PRESCHOOL

Jane Butto, Director

Our Preschool year is off to an amazing start! The hallways are busy with 92 children! Our teachers work hard to keep these children happy, healthy and learning every day. Special thanks goes out to those people on our support team – The Wesleyan Preschool Board. The Board is comprised of the following members - Shelia Barber (chair), Mark Moore, Tricia Givens, Sharon Sheppard, Anne Roseberry, Niki Justice, Hilda Paxton, Alisa Burns (parent rep), Susan Carter (teacher rep) and Jeff Dorsey. We still have openings for two year olds on Tuesday/Thursday, one year olds on any days, and 3 year olds on Tuesday/Thursday. Please spread the word! Enjoy the Fall weather, I know the children will!

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Jessica Gehman, Director

Hire a Youth FUNDRAISER

The youth will be going to Indianapolis, IN for our Mission Trip in 2019. We are doing a Fundraising effort on Saturday, October 20th called “Hire a Youth”! Do you have leaves that need to be raked? Sidewalks swept? Windows or cars washed? Poop scoop the yard? Please e-mail Jessica at jessicak@fumcsalemvva.org by **October 14th** with your name, phone number, what you would like done, and time between 9am to 5pm on **October 20th** that would be good for you! We will then call you the week prior to confirm the time, location and task! Cost is donations per hour per youth! Please remember that the youth are not professionals. We will try to have an adult with youth who are helping. However, please know they are trying the best they can, but may have never done the task you are asking of them!

Youth Activities

Scaremare October 12th: This is a Haunted House at Liberty University. We will be meeting at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall to put the chairs up for the Genesis Service. Then we will head on our way to Scaremare. Cost is \$10/person, please bring with you the night of. Please sign up by September 30th to reserve your spot.

Big Church Night Out October 27th: The Youth will be meeting at 4:00pm to go see Crowder and Jordan Feliz at the Salem Civic Center. We only have 20 tickets! Tickets are \$20 and on a first sign up, first receive tickets. Adults are welcome to come!

Youth Fall Retreat: The youth will be attending the most amazing awesome glorious fun retreat at Eagle Erie outside of Lynchburg, VA. This retreat last year was a life changing event for all the youth who attending. Middle School Retreat is November 9th-11th and High School Retreat is November 30th-December 2nd. Cost is \$135. Please sign up by **October 14th** to reserve your spot!

12th Grade Only Sunday School Class!

We will be going through the Senior Year starting in October and ending in May. Your Senior Year is exciting, scary, sad and a billion other emotions. Plus going out into the “real” world can give you shock. *We have two sets of AMAZING leaders:* Heather Ferguson & Christine Poarch and Judith Painter & Taylor Petty!

Small Group Info

Group	Day	Time	Location
6th-8th Grade	Mondays	7:30-8:30pm	Starbucks
9th-10th Grade	Wednesday	6:30-7:30pm	Starbucks
11th-12th Grade	Wednesday	7:30-8:30pm	Starbucks

6th Grade Parent Meeting October 14th 10:15am in Chapel

The 6th Grade Parents will be having a meeting to discuss Confirmation. What that will look like and how to encourage your 6th grade to begin to look and ask for a mentor! This is also time for parents to ask questions about the youth group and activities that will be going on. Thank you for working Tricia and I as we make this transition with 6th grade in the youth! We are so excited to have the 6th graders a part of the youth group!

Youth Room Revamp Update

The youth wing of the church has received a makeover and is coming together thanks to the hard work of Jessica! Two of the youth members, Zoe Prosser and Erin Wade have made it a part of their Girl Scout project to assist with the efforts. A mural (designed by Julie Hamilton) has been added, new furnishings such as lamps, rugs and a smaller ping pong table round out the fresh new look. The girls would also like to add a foosball table as well. If there is one amongst the church family that could be donated, they would be happy to send their dads to pick it up. Thanks to Jessica for pulling it all together! - Kim Prosser

Youth Contact Information

E-mail: jessicak@fumcsalemva.org

NEW Facebook Group: FUMC Impact Youth Ministry

Remind App: Text 81010 with message: @2015impact

NEW Youth Website: youth.fumcsalemva.org

MUSIC NOTES

Heather Mitchell

Invitation to join the Sanctuary Choir - NEW CHOIR MEMBER WELCOME!

Please consider joining our Sanctuary Choir! This group is comprised of volunteer congregation members who practice weekly to achieve their beautiful sound. Most of the group members do not have a musical background other than what they have experienced in the Sanctuary choir itself. So, do not be afraid that you don't have any experience or can't read music! All you need is a singing voice and the desire to join our group. If you are worried about the lengthy commitment, than why not join and commit through the Christmas season? After all, the Christmas music is the BEST! I am happy to work with you! We meet on Thursday nights from 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the downstairs choir room. Please enter through door #4 and come down the stairs. We hope to see you there! For more information: (540) 312-8333 or hnmitchell5@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS!

FUMC extends its congratulations to our own Heather Mitchell, who was recruited to serve as one of five faculty members for the Area 3 Directors' Seminar held at The Hotel Roanoke on August 17th & 18th. The organization's Area 3 includes Washington D.C. and the states of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina. The seminar was sponsored by Handbell Musicians of America and featured as guest clinician David Harris, director of the internationally-recognized Raleigh Ringers handbell ensemble. Heather instructed two sessions to fellow directors on techniques for teaching Children's Bells and Chimes.

ADULT MINISTRIES & OUTREACH

Rev. Bobby J. Pickle, Director

Our SKY (Seniors Keeping Young) Ministry provides activities for fellowship, as well as spiritual and educational growth opportunities through monthly luncheons and trips. SKY luncheons are held the **Third Thursday** of each month. Meetings begin at 11:30am with a devotion, a brief business session, followed by a “**Potluck Luncheon**” at 12:00 noon. Program begins at 12:45pm. **We invite you to come and join us! We’ll save a seat just for you!**

Schedule for Upcoming Programs:

- * Oct 18th Tom Bowers, Protocol of Military, Dignitary, Funerals
- * Nov 15th Trula Byington, Salem Clothes Closet
- * Dec 13th Jim Robinson Shares Story, Christmas Music with Dulcimer

UNITED METHODIST MEN

UMM Fall BBQ

The UMM Fall BBQ will be held on Saturday, October 20th from 5-7PM in the Fellowship Hall. The menu will be: BBQ, Cole Slaw, and Baked Beans with a Roll. Desserts will be available for purchase. Drinks are included with the meal. Tickets will be available from the UMM or the church office for \$9.00 each.

ADULT SMALL GROUP

Hope for Humanity

Beginning on October 8th join us for a six-week study of “Serving God, Saving the Planet: Hope for Humanity”. In this study (a continuation of Hope for Creation) we will explore how we can live out Christ’s love by focusing on actions. As members of the “body of Christ” we act as the hands and feet of God’s will on the planet. God loves the world and we should too! The study will run from October 8th–November 13th and will include a Monday 7PM class and a Tuesday 10AM class. The study will be led by Margaret Riggs. Please sign up in the church office or by email to church@fumcsalemva.org and indicate which time you would prefer. Materials will be furnished. *NOTE: You did not have to attend the study in the spring to attend.

CALENDAR INFORMATION

The following calendar contains information received by the Church Office as of September 1, 2018. Please contact your group leader if you have questions about a specific event. Any updates or changes will be communicated by your group leader.

Please note the following weekly calendar items are not represented due to space constraints:

Weekly Choir & Bell Schedule

Sunday

Heavenly Bells	3:00pm
Cherub Choir	3:30pm
Chorister Choir	4:00pm
JuBELLation	4:00pm
Youth Choir	5:00pm

Tuesday

GENESIS Praise Band	7:00pm
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Thursday

Resounding Joy	6:15pm
Sanctuary Choir	7:30pm

OCTOBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00pm - Boy Scouts 7:30pm - Middle School Small Group 8:00pm - AA November Newsletter Deadline	2 6:30pm - Cub Scouts	3 6:30am - Men's Bible Study 8:00pm - Small Group Mtg 5:30pm - Girl Scouts 6:00pm - Communications 6:30pm - 9-10 Small Group 7:30pm - 11-12 Small Group	4 10:00am - Bible Babes	5 8:00pm - AA 8:00pm - AI-Anon	6
7 5:00pm - Wesley Kids/Tweens 6:00pm - Blessing of the Animals/Dinner	8 6:00pm - Preschool Night 6:15pm - Wesley Tweens 7:00pm - Boy Scouts 7:00pm - Hope for Humanity 7:30pm - 6-8 Small Group 8:00pm - AA	9 10:00am - Hope for Humanity 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7:00pm - Cracked Pots	10 6:30am - Men's Bible Study 6:30pm - 9-10 Small Group 7:30pm - 11-12 Small Group 6:45pm - Circle 9	11 10:00am - Bible Babes 6:00pm - Girl Scouts	12 10:00am - Parliamentarians 5:30pm - Scaremare 8:00pm - AA 8:00pm - AI-Anon	13
14 10:15am - 6th Grade Parent Meeting	15 7:00pm - Hope for Humanity 7:30pm - 6-8 Small Group 8:00pm - AA	16 9:30am - DCOM 10:00am - Hope for Humanity 7:00pm - Finance Meeting	17 6:30am - Men's Bible Study 6:30pm - 9-10 Small Group 7:00pm - Shawl Ministry 7:30pm - 11-12 Small Group	18 10:00am - Bible Babes 11:30am - SKY Club	19 8:00pm - AA 8:00pm - AI-Anon	20 Hire A Youth Fundraiser 5:00pm - UMM BBQ
Family Promise						
21 6:00pm - Reality Check	22 7:00pm - Boy Scouts 7:00pm - Hope for Humanity 7:30pm - 6-8 Small Group 8:00pm - AA	23 10:00am - Hope for Humanity 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7:00pm - Church Council 7:00pm - Cracked Pots	24 6:30am - Men's Bible Study 12:15pm - Staff Meeting 5:30pm - Girl Scouts 6:30pm - 9-10 Small Group 7:30pm - 11-12 Small Group	25 10:00am - Bible Babes 6:00pm - Girl Scouts	26 8:00pm - AA 8:00pm - AI-Anon	27 4:00pm - Big Church Night Out 5:30pm - Fall Festival
28 Consecration Sunday	29 7:00pm - Boy Scouts 7:00pm - Hope for Humanity 7:30pm - 6-8 Small Group 8:00pm - AA	30 10:00am - Hope for Humanity 6:30pm - Cub Scouts	31 Halloween 6:30am - Men's Bible Study			

First United Methodist Church

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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 Gehman** (jessicak@fumcsalemva.org)
- ◆ Director of Wesleyan Preschool, **Jane Butto** (jbutto@fumcsalemva.org)
- ◆ Interim Director of Sanctuary Choir, **Heather Mitchell** (hnmitchell@comcast.net)
- ◆ Director of Youth & Handbell Choirs, **Heather Mitchell** (hnmitchell@comcast.net)
- ◆ Organist, **Judith Snyder** (jsnyder@hollins.edu)
- ◆ Piano Accompanist for Children & Youth, **London Reinhard**
- ◆ Contemporary Worship Music Co-Director, **Allan Davidson** (davidsonallan4@gmail.com)
- ◆ Contemporary Worship Music Co-Director, **Joey Poarch** (joseph.poarch@gmail.com)
- ◆ Office & Communications Manager, **Margaret Woolwine** (margaretw@fumcsalemva.org)
- ◆ Sextons, **Butch & Genia Johnson** (winhoos1@hotmail.com)

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