

A Message from Pastor Alan:

After a summer full of good work, I am pleased to share some updates with you about our Deep Water teams. Our Aligning Vision Deep Water team turned in their recommendation to Church Council early, which gives support and focus to our Expanding Contemporary Worship, Communications, Discipleship, and Outreach and Diversity Teams.

Our Aligning Vision team met frequently throughout the summer, and brought forth their recommendation for the First United Methodist Church Vision Statement. This Statement was approved at the August meeting of our Church Council meeting. The new vision of First United Methodist Church is:

SEEK Relationship with God
GROW in Faith
SERVE God Through Care for Others

The vision is designed to be simple enough that members of all ages and stages can remember and relate to the language. It is also designed to get us to think in terms of movement, growing as followers of Jesus Christ. We may begin in coming to worship on Sunday morning, in which we seek relationship with God in Jesus Christ, and then connect with a Sunday School or Bible Study in order to grow in our relationship with God and with one another. As we experience that growth, we hope to create more opportunities to move from that growth to serving out into the world.

Folks may come to the church through service, and then move towards a bible study before they come to worship. Or perhaps the Bible study becomes the first step, following by service and then attending worship. In any of the different pathways, we want to focus our ministry and programs around these different aspects of our lives as followers of Jesus, and evaluate them based on how they live out this vision.

While I can only summarize our vision in this article, we will have the opportunity to dive more deeply into the vision during our **November sermon series**. This series, entitled "**The Vision of First United Methodist Church**," will happen during the last three Sundays in November. Each week will focus on a different phrase of the vision statement, and it will give me the opportunity to interpret and deepen our thinking about the vision, as well as to be able to share some of the thinking behind the Aligning Vision Team that created the statement. In order to make sure I have the opportunity to share this interpretation equally, I will preach in every service, similar to what I did during my first month at First UMC.

The **First Sunday of November is All Saints Sunday**, where we consider our connection to each other and to those who have died as the Communion of Saints. During that service we will have the opportunity to remember those from our church family who have died during the past year. For that Sunday, we have decided to have a **combined service at 10:30 AM (Sunday school will be at 9:30 AM)** in the Sanctuary with leadership and music from all of our different services. After all, what better day to gather as one whole church than the day we consider our connection to all those who have come before us in the faith?

If we remember back in April, we thought and prayed together about what it might mean for us to follow Christ's call into deeper waters. We have embraced that challenge and call enthusiastically. Deep Waters present risks, fears, and anxieties. But we also serve a savior who walks on the waters, and calls us to get out of the boat and join him!

Peace,

Pastor Alan

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Tricia Givens, Director

The Parent Corner "Vintage Values"

As we have met a few times with our parents in the parent class, "Modern Parents- Vintage Values," I thought about a vintage value that seems to be fading. It is the practice of good manners. My parents used to drill into me the importance of good manners. Mom would remind me to write thank you notes for everything. I hated it sometimes, but she made us do it. She said "when people do something nice for you, you need to show gratitude." She said when you don't it seems that you just expect people to do for you and you do not see it as act of kindness toward you. My parents emphasized three words: "Please, and Thank You." Mom used to say if I could not say thank you, than I did not deserve whatever was being given to me. She said those values are a sign of humbleness. Jesus was humble even though he was so superior to all of us. He was empathetic, compassionate, grateful and gracious. When children just take things and don't say thank you and parents do not teach these little acts of good manners, children grow up feeling entitled. They begin to feel they deserve everyone to wait on them, given to them, do for them and make everything revolve around them. They never learn the feeling of being humble and grateful. Humble to think someone would go to the trouble and out of their way to do something kind just for you. Instead of thinking that everyone should give to you and do for you and make adjustments just for you. I think where good manners have faded, entitlement and selfishness and self-centeredness has grown. Many times children do not say thank you, instead they say I don't like that- do you have something else. (this shows they feel that even when given something it should be exactly what they want- they are entitled .) Vintage Values in today's world could truly make a difference. People would be more grateful. Children in college should not expect parents to do for them, as if they were not able to do for themselves even as an eighteen year old. Children would go far in their careers, as people who show gratitude and good manners. Often, they will find that with good manners there will be people wanting to help them out and do for them and work for them. They will find their workers being very loyal because they feel appreciated.

We are all busy. We forget to thank God for so much each day. We are always adding to the "I Want List." God must feel unappreciated. Parents may feel unappreciated. Teachers may feel unappreciated. Grandparents may feel unappreciated. So, work on good manners with your child. You will be teaching them values that truly are Christ like. I believe with all my heart Jesus was extremely gracious and through his quiet and charismatic strength, he still showed humility. You will even find you are happier, as a family, if your children are more appreciative of what you do for them. Just giving and giving and allowing a child to think that is the norm and being thankful is not important, is only setting a child up for a world that they will not be able to navigate well in the future. For the world will stop waiting on them and treating them special. The world is filled with self-absorbed people too. They will soon find out they are not the only ones who think they are special and should be given to or catered to all the time.

Work on good manners by example. You as a parent should be the model : thanking people , writing thank you notes, being gracious, being kind and sincerely concerned. Be the parent who looks people in the eye and speaks to them, as my dad used to say., "When you don't, it makes that person feel you are not interested." Be the one who asks people how they are and truly care. Be appreciative for anything someone does for you and exemplify that to your children. Find ways to be a giver and not just a receiver. Make sure your children witness you doing for others and going out of your way to help carry something, or open a door for someone. You will find a feeling of change come over you, as you become more humble and someone who is a giver and not the one who expects to be the receiver of good things. Our children have to be taught these values and often teaching is best done by example. Leave a legacy of good manners, loving service, and graciousness. Christ exemplified these values so well in his humble and loving demeanor.

In His Service,

Tricia Givens

Fellowship Sunday, November 4th - MISSION NIGHT

Please bring non-perishable food to the dinner. We will be delivering food to the food pantry all month. Chris Russ will share about his mission trips the last two years. He went to Spain , Alaska and then to St. Croix this year. He has helped build homes and work with children. While Chris is sharing about his trip, the children will leave and go to watch a movie and there will be a nursery for children under two. 6:00 pm Dinner (lasagna, salad, cookies) and 6:30 program.

Sunday, November 4th - WESLEY KIDS AND TWEENS "FOOD DRIVE"

5:00pm meet in the chapel. We will begin our food drive again in nearby neighborhoods. We will take bags to leave at homes and have the youth pick them up a week later. We will deliver these bags to the food pantry.

Monday, November 5th - Wesley Tweens (3rd-5th graders)

We will meet in the chapel at 6:15 pm. Come to the door where you come for choir at the back of the church where the buzzer is. We will go to a classroom for fellowship, drama, faith building, and to work on a mission project. Bring your bibles! Oh yes there will be snacks!!! Yes there will be some fun! Please bring healthy snacks for us to pack in zip lock bags to deliver to East Salem to be used in the weekend bags for kids in need.

Sunday, November 11th - PARENT FORUM

Please join us at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall for a presentation by Nancy Hans, the Executive Director of the Prevention Council of Roanoke County and her team. This will enlighten parents and grandparents on the internet, smart phones, cell phones, video games, even vaping and drugs. Parents of children and youth need to hear what threatens our children and their well-being. Get informed and help other parents get informed. You can read more about the mission of this important organization at roanokeprevention.org.

Sunday, November 18th - Bible Presentation

Second Graders will receive their Bibles. Please have your child in Sunday school on November 11th so we can review the presentation of their Bibles scheduled for November 18th. We will present the Bible in the worship service of your choice; however, we need to know so we can plan. Be on the lookout for a letter with further instructions!

Sunday, November 18th - Children's Choirs

Children's Choirs will be singing at the 11:00 am worship service for the first time this year. Please have your child in the choir room at 10:10 am. I will gather the children who are in Sunday school.

Kids in the Spotlight

This month First Church recognizes Caroline Elliott. Caroline sings in the children's choirs and also plays bells. She attends VBS, Wesley Tweens, Sunday School and our many church events. She is a very good singer. She also crochets and makes things for others. She is a sweet big sister to her siblings Zippy and Walter. Caroline is the daughter of Blaine and Riley Elliott. She makes a difference with her sweet and giving nature. Thank you Caroline for making a difference at our church.

Children's Ministry Volunteers of the Month

This month Children's Ministry recognizes Stacy and Dan Brock. Stacy and Dan are such valuable volunteers in children's ministry. Stacy and Dan teach the Second graders. Dan is working closely with the second graders on their Bible skills, as they learn how to use their Bible daily. Stacy helps with the weekly worship packets for the children. Stacy and Dan help with other needs in children's ministry and always with a smile and dedication. They add so much to this ministry by their interest and support. Thank you Stacy and Dan for making a difference in Children's Ministry. The DVD, "The BIBLE IN ONE HOUR" has been placed in the library in your honor.

WESLEYAN PRESCHOOL

Jane Butto, Director

The weather has cooled off and the children are loving playing outside on the playground! This month, our Pre-K classes will be traveling to Snyder Nursing Home to sing for the residents. The children will bring artwork to share that they have made to brighten the days of the Grandmas and Grandpas that live there. What a wonderful opportunity this is for us to teach the children about thinking of others and sharing God's love! Every year the Pre-K classes celebrate Thanksgiving with a "Stone Soup" snack. Each child invites one special guest to share snacks. The children hear the folk tale "Stone Soup" and then make the soup for their guests. Of course, the snack would not be complete without entertainment. The children will dress in Native American costumes and sing a few songs they have learned this year. This is always a fun event! Check out our preschool Facebook page at FUMC Wesleyan Preschool!

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Jessica Gehman, Director

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. If you missed the sign up there is still time to register but the early bird price is gone, and the cost is now \$145. Please sign up no later than October 26th.

Youth Operation Christmas Child with The Wesley

The youth will be going to The Wesley on November 4th. We will be providing dinner to the students at Virginia Tech and then shopping for the Operation Christmas Child boxes! It's a great time every year! Please look for e-mails to sign up to bring food items.

Small Group Information

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

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

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:

- * Nov 15th Trula Byington, Salem Clothes Closet
- * Dec 13th Jim Robinson Shares Story, Christmas Music with Dulcimer

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Days for Girls Mission Project

We continue with Northview UMC providing fabrics and working with them to make kits. Some are sent out of the country while some are sent to places here at home. Recently, 40 went to Guatemala through Roanoke Valley Medical Missions and 85 to Malawi through Covenant Presbyterian Church. We also learned that some are sent to new mothers in need. On the work day in October, FUMC had 5 volunteers to help. A big thank you goes to all that have helped with this wonderful mission project. For information, please call Becky Frazier at (540) 389-9698.

CHURCH NEWS

Charge Conference

Annual Charge Conference will be held Tuesday, November 6th at Cave Spring UMC. This will be a Joint Charge Conference and therefore we will approve our Charge Conference items at the Church Council meeting on Tuesday, October 23rd. The charge conference is the basic governing body of each United Methodist local church and is composed of all members of the church council. All members of the charge conference must be members of the local church. The charge conference must meet at least once per year. The charge conference directs the work of the church and gives general oversight to the church council, reviews and evaluates the mission and ministry of the church, sets salaries for the pastor and staff, elects the members of the church council, and recommends candidates for ordained ministry.

Contemporary Worship News

We would like to take the opportunity to tell you about the exciting work of the Expanding Contemporary Worship Deep Water Team. To formulate the recommendation, the team researched expanding worship and new services, gathered demographic data, visited contemporary services at other churches, and even interviewed a focus group of local friends and co-workers who were not regular church attenders. Given the overcrowding of the Fellowship Hall named in the Deep Water report, the data gathered, and the feedback from the focus group, the team recommended that we begin a New Genesis service, which will be called, "Genesis II".

This service will be held at 10:00am on Sunday mornings, a time where we do not already have a worship service. Many factors led to this time being selected. The feedback the team received corroborated national data that ten o' clock am is the preferred time for new worship services in America. Further, in visiting other congregations the team observed that it is common for growing churches to have a worship service every hour Sunday morning. Finally, the team wanted to avoid a worship service at the same time as our 11:00 am Traditional Service.

Ultimately, the goal of the team's recommendation was that they hope a 10:00 am service will help relieve the overcrowding of the 8:45 am Genesis service, creating a service that not only serves the needs of those already in our church, but also the unchurched, under-churched, and re-churched. In the language of our vision, it creates new opportunity for people to "seek Relationship with God". While a 10:00 am service might detract from current ministries such as Sunday School hour, it could also create new opportunities for folks to "Grow in Faith" or "Serve God Through Care for Others". After a vibrant discussion that lifted up many of their concerns, the Church Council approved the recommendation, and **Genesis II is expected to begin on December 2nd, the First Sunday in Advent.**

What Church Council approved is **an experiment**. The team will evaluate Genesis II after six weeks to see the ways in which it affects the larger life of the congregation, and Church Council also plans to have it on its agenda in six months to evaluate how the service is going and to make any necessary adjustments.

Megan Crew

Genesis Deep Water Team Chair

Charlie Dorsey

FUMC Church Council Chair

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Pew Angels

How would you like to be a blessing to our church just one day a month? We are looking for a few people to join our Pew Angel group. It involves one day a month where you would join others to straighten up the Sanctuary, Balcony and Chapel replacing pamphlets/envelopes/pens/bookmarks, and straightening Hymnals and Bibles. It usually doesn't take more than an hour, is much appreciated by our congregation, and looks nice for visitors! You can email Hilda Paxton at hpaxton54@gmail.com or call (540) 765-7364 for more information.

Carilion Hospice

Ever wondered about the work that hospice volunteers do? Carilion Clinic Hospice would treasure more volunteers to provide occasional relief support to our hospice families. Founded in 1980, Carilion Roanoke Hospice was the first hospice in Roanoke. Ever since then our trained and dedicated volunteers have offered practical and emotional support to terminally ill patients and their families. Our volunteer training provides information about the many aspects of the dying process and the various ways to assist the dying through their end of life journey. Many of our graduates find the training itself a transforming experience. There is no obligation to volunteer upon completion of the training. Call Sue Hutington (540) 224-4795 or email sg huntington@carilionclinic.org for information about our Thursday evening classes.

The Community Christmas Store

Our congregation has been asked to participate in a dignified shopping experience for eligible families in need for the holiday season. Last year, CCS served over 1,100 individuals (491 families). We are asking that groups or individuals in our church take on the project by collecting items from a list which will be available in the church office. Further instructions will be with the list. Group or individual volunteers are also needed for the store. Financial donations are always appreciated and would need to be sent in by October 31st so that volunteers can shop for items not chosen by groups. Your tax deductible gift may be made in honor or memory of a friend or loved one and should be sent to: The Community Christmas Store, PO Box 616, Salem VA 24153 with instructions of acknowledgement. The church coordinator of this project is Brenda Craig. She may be reached at (540) 389-6897 with questions.

CALENDAR INFORMATION

The following calendar contains information received by the Church Office as of October 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

NOVEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00am - Faith Journey <i>December Newsletter Deadline</i>	2 8:00pm - AA 8:00pm - AI-Anon	3
4 3:00pm - Operation Xmas Child 5:00pm - Wesley Kids/ Twins 6:00pm - Fellowship Dinner	5 6:15pm - Wesley Tweens 7:00pm - Boy Scouts 7:00pm - Hope for Humanity 7:30pm - 6-8 Small Group 8:00pm - AA	6 10:00am - Hope for Humanity 10:00am - SKY Board 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7:00pm - Charge Conference	7 6:30am - Men's Bible Study 5:30pm - Girl Scouts 6:00pm - Communications 7:30pm - 9-12 Small Group	8 10:00am - Faith Journey 6:00pm - Girl Scouts	9 10:00am - Parliamentarians 8:00pm - AA 8:00pm - AI-Anon Middle School Fall Retreat Begins	10
11 7:00pm - Hope for Humanity 7:00pm - Boy Scouts 7:30pm - 6-8 Small Group 8:00pm - AA	12 7:00pm - Hope for Humanity 7:00pm - Boy Scouts 7:30pm - 6-8 Small Group 8:00pm - AA	13 10:00am - Circle 5 10:00am - Hope for Humanity 6:30pm - Girls on the Run 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7:00pm - Cracked Pots	14 6:30am - Men's Bible Study 6:45pm - Circle 9 7:00pm - Boy Scout Committee	15 10:00am - Faith Journey 11:30am - SKY Club	16 8:00pm - AA 8:00pm - AI-Anon	17
18 3:00pm - Roanoke District Conference	19 7:00pm - Boy Scouts 8:00pm - AA	20 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7:00pm - Finance Meeting	21 6:30am - Men's Bible Study 5:30pm - Girl Scouts 7:00pm - Shawl Ministry	22 Thanksgiving Day Church Office Closed	23 Church Office Closed	24
25 7:00pm - Boy Scouts 7:30pm - 6-8 Small Group 8:00pm - AA	26 7:00pm - Boy Scouts 7:30pm - 6-8 Small Group 8:00pm - AA	27 9:00am - District Meeting 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7:00pm - Church Council 7:00pm - Cracked Pots	28 6:30am - Men's Bible Study 12:00pm - Staff Meeting 7:30pm - 9-12 Small Group	29	30 8:00pm - AA 8:00pm - AI-Anon Senior High Fall Retreat Begins	

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)
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