

DAYTON UNITED METHODIST

Mission Statement:

"We invite everyone to become disciples of Christ by loving and serving God and actively living out their faith."

215 Ashby Street, Dayton, VA 22821
540-879-2102

www.daytonumc.net
daytonumc@comcast.net



DECEMBER 2017

Advent Worship Schedule

Dec. 3 - First Sunday in Advent at 9:00 a.m.

New Testament Reading: I John 4:7-12

Message: "Love Came Down at Christmas"

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated.

Music by the Choir

The Chrismon Tree, the Advent Wreath and other symbols of the season will adorn the sanctuary.



Dec. 10 - Second Sunday in Advent at 9:00 a.m.

New Testament Reading: I Peter 1:3-4

Message: "Love Promised"

Music by the Children's Choir and the Handbell Choir.

December 10th - Family Christmas Program at 5:30 p.m.



Have you ever wondered why we put trees with lights and ornaments in our houses at Christmas or why we put a wreath on the door? Come enjoy ***"The True Meaning of Christmas,"*** a play performed by our children and youth. This will be followed by a beautiful "shadow telling" of the Christmas Story, the original reason for the season. It all begins in the sanctuary at 5:30. Everyone is invited to our traditional "finger-food" meal after the program in the Fellowship Hall. If you are able, please share your favorite food that can be eaten without silverware!

Dec. 17 - Third Sunday in Advent at 9:00 a.m.

The Choir will be joined by the Joyful Noise Praise Band and a few friends of director Jess Rodriguez from JMU to present the ***cantata "Bethlehem Morning"*** by Mark Hamby. You'll hear traditional carols and newer Christmas melodies to enrich your Advent season.



Dec. 24 - Fourth Sunday in Advent at 9:00 a.m.

New Testament Reading: John 1:1-14

Message: "Unwrapping Christmas"

Noisy Can Day! Bring coins to give children in Haiti hot meals!



December 24th - Christmas Eve at 5:00

Candlelight Communion Service - Invite family, friends and neighbors to join you at our single service at 5:00 p.m. Celebrate Christ's birth through carols, communion and candlelighting.

CHRISMONS - They Point to Jesus

It appears every Advent to enhance our worship experience: ***the Chrismon Tree*** helps us celebrate our Christian faith. Each Sunday during the Advent Season there will be a bulletin insert on various Chrismons. You are invited to examine the Chrismon Tree in the sanctuary to see what symbols or themes you can identify. We ask that you do not touch the Chrismons for they are very fragile. Many of our ornaments are decades old! Did you know that Chrismons began in Danville, Virginia in 1957? What started small has become a tradition in churches of all denominations everywhere!



Sunday Morning Volunteers



Nursery Workers

3 Mary Helen Witt
10 Kim Guyer
17 Holly Harold
24 Tracey Simmers
31 Kelly Bowman

Coffee Social Providers

3 UMMen
10 On the Move
17 volunteer(s) needed
24 no social this day
31 volunteer(s) needed

Greeters

3 Kim & Rodney Guyer
10 Doris Bowman & Susan Ingram
17 Mary Helen & Graham Witt
24 Ann & Paige Will
31 Volunteer Needed

Acolytes

3 Chloe Nieder
10 Caden Alley
17 Evan Lilly
24 Carter Alley
31 Ellianna Appleton

Pew Stewards

3 Mary Nieswander
10 Connie Gilmer
17 Stacie Jackson
24 Linda Covington
31 Margaret Thornton

Flowers

The 2018 calendar will be posted soon.

Open/Close: Paige Will

Usher(s): Kevin & Gail Mitchell

Times to Share, Care & Be There!

Love Light Tree

This is the 17th year for our **Love Light Tree**. Each light on the tree reminds us of a person that touches, or has touched, our lives in some way. All of the lights together show how selfless caring and sharing brightens our world. If you would like to remember someone special, please fill out the Love Light Tree form in the bulletin in the coming weeks. This year donations will go the United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR) for recent hurricane relief/recovery.

Mitten and Glove Tree

During the season of Advent, there will be a Christmas tree in the Narthex where you can donate NEW mittens and gloves for adults and children. They will be sent to the **West Rockingham Food Pantry** to be distributed to families served at the monthly food distribution this winter. Let's cover the tree and help keep hands warm this winter.

Pence Backpack Program

We are in the final weeks of supplying **backpacks of food** to students that have been identified as food insecure on weekends. Donations are still being accepted. Look for the list of needed items and the collection box in the Coffee Social Room. Thank you for your generous support of this vital ministry to our community.

Opening Our Doors to "Open Doors" - TWICE!

We are housing Open Doors Nov. 27 to Dec. 4 with the Seventh Day Adventists serving as hosts. We do, however, **NEED VOLUNTEERS on Monday, Dec. 4th from 7:00 to 10:00 AM** to clean the Fellowship Hall after the Open Door guests depart. Contact Graham Witt at 383-8420, for more info. Give as much time as you can as many hands are needed. Our week to house & host is late March.

Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army

Another "sound of the season" is everywhere! DUMC is **staffing the kettle** inside the entrance to the Dayton Market on Dec. 1, 2 and 16. All slots are filled! THANK YOU!!

Apple Tree Project

Thank You! We appreciate everyone's generosity in purchasing Christmas gifts for the Apple Tree Project. We fulfilled the wishes of **50 children** supported by King's Way Ministries that serves families affected by incarceration.

Children's Choir

ATTENTION KIDS AND PARENTS: We will be singing **during the 9:00 service on Dec. 10th** (since the 4th Sunday is Christmas Eve). We welcome all children to sing **every Sunday** downstairs in the children's choir room after the 9:00 service. It is a great way to begin the Sunday School hour and there are snacks!



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Birthdays

1 Bridget Appleton
1 Sue Dinsmore
2 Carl Estes
3 Ethan Eberly
3 Betty Lou Huffman
4 Connie Gilmer
4 Charles Harold
4 Daniel Heatwole
5 Evelyn Thomas
7 Stacie Bowers
8 Tom Hyde
10 Linda Jacobs
11 Doug Helmick
11 Steve Hill
13 James Snyder
17 Robin Simmons
18 Sidney Hamann
18 Mike Hill
19 JB Showalter
19 Codi Jo Wheelbarger
19 Lauren Mitchell
21 Nancy Showalter
22 Ruth Culver
22 Ken May
23 Mason Guyer
24 Jackie Lohr
24 Davin Tatro
25 Nancy Harold
26 Tom Austin
26 Becky Eberly
28 Mary Jane McCoy
29 Betty Robinson
29 Bob Dinsmore
30 Holly Harold
30 Thomas Lohr
30 Mel May

Anniversaries

9 Carl Rasnack & Debbie Crist ('06)
9 Keith & Jill Wright ('78)
10 Lee & Bonnie Dellinger ('66)
23 Vince & Connie Gilmer ('67)
27 Don & Wanda Gault ('47)

* We Express Sympathy to: *
* Jill Cunningham & Jan Lambert *
* and their families on the death of *
* their mother, Leslie Dodrill. *

Notes of Appreciation

Many thanks for the prayers, cards and phone calls since my double knee replacement surgery. The surgery went well and the rehab has begun. We are so blessed to be a part of such a caring and supportive church family.

-Doug Wine

Many thanks to all my church family for your prayers, cards, calls, food and visits while recovering from knee surgery. I am truly blessed.

-Norma Snyder

I thank everyone for the many cards and prayers I received during my hospital stay and Sunnyside recovery.

-Libby Lambert

Can You Meet a Need?

☞ **Phyllis Ward** wants to attend church but cannot drive. She is seeking a ride to worship. If you can help contact her at (540) 434-6806. She now lives at 343-D Rockingham Drive, Harrisonburg (near West Side Baptist).

☞ **Anne Hill** as a unique skill and ministry and needs a recipient. She enjoys reading aloud. If you know someone that is unable to read for themselves and would like to experience Anne's talent contact her at (540) 421-0362.

Secret Prayer Partners 2018

Prayer Partners is a fun and informal DUMC fellowship activity. We surprise a church friend with small holiday, anniversary and birthday gifts while keeping this person in our prayers throughout the year.



All adults (men and women of all ages) are encouraged to be a Secret Prayer Partner in 2018!

Sign up on the sheet in the narthex through December 10th. On December 17th and 24th, I will be passing around a basket of names so you can draw your new prayer partner's name. Then, please, tell Mary Beth, our DUMC administrative assistant, what name you drew by calling the church office at (540) 879-2102.

Spread joy throughout the year by remembering your partner on special days, or on any day, and hold them up in your prayers. Surprise them again at the end of 2018 by revealing your name in your 2018 Christmas gift.

All are welcome to participate!

Stephanie Gardner, incoming Secret Prayer Partner Coordinator
stephaniegardnermsls@yahoo



The
UMM
will
meet

Sunday, Dec. 10th at
7:30 a.m. in the
Fellowship Hall for
breakfast. (note change!)



The
UMW
will
meet

Saturday, Dec. 2nd at
9:00 a.m. in the
Coffee Social Area.



Women Bible Study will meet in the home of Anne Hill (275 West View Street, Dayton) on Tuesday, Dec. 12th at 7:00 p.m. The study is Mark Batterson's "The Grave Robber" and this month's emphasis will be on the third sign or miracle in John's Gospel, chapters 10, 11, and 12.



Grades K-5

WHAT: YFF Christmas Party!
WHEN: Saturday, Dec. 2nd from 2:00 to 4:00
WHERE: DUMC Coffee Social area

followed by.....

WHAT: Dayton Christmas Parade!
WHEN: Saturday Dec. 2nd from 4:00 – 6:00
WITH: the Junior/Senior High Youth.
The YFF's will be leading Christmas carols at the Town Pavilion at the conclusion of the parade.

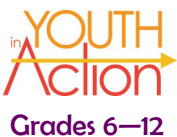
And we are also doing....

WHAT: Salvation Army Bell Ringing!
WHEN: Saturday, Dec. 16th from 1:00 to 3:00
WHERE: Dayton Market



Above: Paint Night with Ginny Deeds (we had a fun time being creative!)

Left: A recent activity centered around giving thanks to God. (we like playing with our food!)



The Youth have a busy month filled with giving to the community:

- ◆ Friday, Dec. 1st (7:00 - 9:30PM)
Loads of Love at DUMC -
doing laundry for Open Doors homeless guests
- ◆ Saturday, Dec. 2nd (3:30 - 7:00 PM)
Town of Dayton Christmas Parade
and Tree Lighting. We are serving hot cocoa.
- ◆ Sunday, Dec. 3rd (6:00 - 9:00 PM)
Angel Tree Christmas Shopping
for needy families in the Dayton area
- ◆ Tuesday, Dec. 19th (6:00 - 9:00 PM)
Youth ChristFest -
caroling, gift wrapping & games.

Save The Dates

We have dates for this summer's youth mission trips! If anyone is interested in taking part as an adult chaperone please give Graham a call (383-8420)...it will change your life!



JUNIOR HIGH MISSION
Virginia Beach July 8-14

SENIOR HIGH MISSION
Atlanta, GA July 29-Aug 4

A Season of Giving...FIRST

“For God so loved the world that He gave....” This is the heart of Christmas, and our faith: love. We give because we love. We love because God first loved us, even when we were very unlovely and at times continues to be so! What is continuously on my heart is do I love God first? There are some many wonderful things and persons in my life that I love that God has blessed me with, and for which I am grateful. But do they occupy a greater affection in my heart than my love for God who freely bestows His very life of love, joy, peace, forgiveness, grace, hope as well as all these wonderful persons and things?

In Luke’s Gospel three times Jesus asks Simon Peter, the disciple who had previously denied Him three times, “Simon son of John, do you love Me more than these”? Peter replies, “Yes, You know that I love You.” To which Jesus says “feed My lambs...take care of My sheep.” What Jesus is asking of Peter and all who are His followers is to first provide for the needs of His family, the Church, our church. It is one thing to say I love Jesus more than these, but it is quite another to willingly give first to the ministry needs of Dayton United Methodist Church.

As Jesus has given His all to each of us holding nothing back, so we too are to give our hearts in love fully to Him holding nothing back. In so doing, we then will see God take care of every need in our personal lives and in the life of our church, and the Church! “Seek Me first and My right way of living, and I will take care of you and everything else”. (Luke 12:31) This is what we really celebrate at Christmas...God’s love made real in us.

-Pastor Bruce



SUNDAY MORNING FAITH ENRICHMENT

- ⇒ **Any Given Sunday** is open to parents who like to meet in an unstructured way. There is no specific teacher or curriculum and the room is toddler-friendly. We gather in Room #9 downstairs.
- ⇒ **Cross Talk** uses *FaithLink*, a “Christian response to trending issues” exploration platform. Discussion is led by Mel May and they meet Room #4.
- ⇒ **F.I.S.H.** (Friends In Service to Him) meets in Room 7. They are a group of friendly people studying God’s word to equip themselves to serve Him. They began “A Christmas Experience,” a six-week study on RightNow Media on Nov. 19. Come, check it out!
- ⇒ **On the Move** gathers in the conference room of the Activities Building. They are also engaged in “The Christmas Experience.”
- ⇒ **Suter’s Bible Class** continues “The Bible Project” on RightNow Media; a basic look at different Biblical topics. Presently we are studying various themes in the Bible and future discussions may include “The Covenants”, “Sacrifice and Atonement”, “The Law”, “Gospel of the Kingdom”, “Image of God”, “Day of the Lord”, and “Justice”. Intrigued? Join us in Room #6 downstairs!

Classes for Youth & Children

may be rehearsing the Family Christmas Program during SS this month. Not sure where to be? Find Stacie, Katrina or Stephanie!

Congratulations to Courtney Bocock and Kolten Windsor on the arrival of their son, ***Grady Mac***, born November 8th.

Grandparents, Lori & Tim Bocock, write, “Thank you to so many of you for your warm wishes and congratulations in this very blessed new chapter of our lives.” Welcome to the world, Grady!



May you have the Spirit of Christmas, which is Peace,
The Gladness of Christmas, which is Hope,
The Heart of Christmas, which is Love,
The Gift of Christmas, which is Christ.

—Ada Hendricks



CHURCH COUNCIL

MEETS
MONDAY
DEC. 4
7:00 PM

(read the note at bottom
of this page)

Treasurer's Report: Jan. - Oct. 2017 Budget

Contributions/Income	\$269,104.70
Expenditures	\$295,381.08
Year-to-date Budget	\$288,658.33
Designated Contributions	\$70,065.28

Mortgage Report as of Nov. 1, 2017

Loan Amount (2/1/2010)	\$1,500,000.00
Principal payments	\$357,118.92
Loan Balance	\$1,142,881.08
Extra payments on principal	\$28,288.71

Church Financial Transparency

Your Finance Committee works hard and takes very seriously the wise and faithful management of the funds given to the Lord's work in the life of our church. The Committee is comprised of individuals with financial expertise who desire is to provide our church family regular full disclosure and proper understanding of our financial condition. It has been a concern that the weekly stewardship report in the bulletin has not adequately communicated both the current needed and the actual level of congregational support. There is also the concern that with inadequate communication the assumption is being made that the "lights are on" and therefore all is well. The information below is provided by the Committee to help address these concerns.

<i>Financial Summary</i>	JAN - OCT 2017	JAN - OCT 2016	CHANGE \$ amount	CHANGE % amount
INCOME	\$269,104.70	\$286,132.19	(\$17,027.49)	-6.0%
EXPENSES	(\$295,381.08)	(\$311,051.22)	(\$15,670.14)	-5.0%
NET LOSS	(\$ 26,276.38)	(\$ 24,919.03)		

We historically have received much larger contributions in the year-end months of November and December. However, every year the Finance Committee still has had to withdraw from the limited assets in the Reserve Fund to make up the significant shortfalls. Your Committee and pastor have taken steps to encourage stronger and more consistent congregational stewardship, and are now studying ways to reduce the mortgage.

We ask that you pray for our church's leaders to discern God's direction, our congregation's commitment to our shared ministry and future together, and our own individual response to how we have so richly prospered by God's amazing grace.

-prepared by Betsy Hedrick & Pastor Bruce



From the DUMC Trustees:

Most of you are aware of the water damage we discovered in September to our hand bells in a storage closet behind the sanctuary. Our insurance company paid us \$10,000 for this damage. The total cost to refurbish the bells and other cost involved in the repair was \$11,500. The estimate for the damage was made by the bell company was based on pictures and discussions with them.

A generous member has made a contribution of \$1500 to complete the total cost involved in the estimate to refurbish the bells.

After shipping the bells to PA and upon visual inspection, they found that 7 of the big bells could not be refurbished due to rusting. The cost to replace these 7 bells is \$4,100. It would show a great appreciation and thanks to our hand bell choir if we could come up with the \$4,100 to completely cover the cost.

Thank you.

Hopefully, everyone has prayed about and cast your ballot for the 2018 worship service time. Your Council will meet on Monday, Dec. 4 for the purpose of determining the worship time, based on your votes. If you have not voted, please place your ballot in the basket located in the narthex or email the church office by Friday, December 1.

As United Methodists, we are connected to a large extended church family. You are encouraged to attend or support these events and opportunities around our Harrisonburg District & Virginia General Conference

United Methodist Family Services Special Offering - Dec. 17

United Methodist Family Services began as an orphanage in 1900. Today it provides a comprehensive network of services to high-risk children and families across Virginia by specializing in treatment foster care and adoption, intensive residential treatment and crisis intervention services for adolescents, and specialized education services for students struggling with emotional, behavioral, or developmental challenges, and autism or other neurological differences.

It is only because of generous and caring individuals and United Methodist congregations that UMFS can create a world where caring, opportunity and generosity is passed on from generation to generation – empowering all children to contribute to society as engaged citizens. In fact, they impact over 4,000 individuals each year through our services across Virginia.

A special offering to support UMFS will be received on December 17th.



Walk to the Manger At Camp Overlook

Saturday, Dec. 16, 6:00 to 8:00

Let us bring the story of Christmas to life for you and your family! As you arrive at camp, the Roman soldiers will direct you to the census-takers in Bethlehem. You'll be recruited by a shepherd to help find some missing sheep, but your mission might get side-tracked when angels appear to tell you the Good News. The crisp night air will be filled with the sounds of the stable animals as you search out the holy family and find the precious Savior. Continue your journey past three kings and help point them toward the treasure they seek. Adventures begin continuously between 6 and 8 PM and last roughly 35 to 40 minutes. Participants should wear sturdy shoes and all children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. This experience is FREE and is our Christmas gift to our community!

Support for Mission Central

We are continuing to items for Mission Central Clothes Closet, a vital local United Methodist ministry located at Cedar Grove UMC on the north edge of Harrisonburg. Check the list below and consider sharing. Place your donations in or near the crib in the gathering area (narthex). We will take them to the Clothes Closet. Thank you!

- Diapers
- Baby wipes
- Shoes
- Clothing for all sizes newborn through teen.
New is best for socks & underwear.
Other items can be new or very gently-used.
Presently there is a great need for clothing for teen & pre-teen girls.

YOU'RE ALMOST DONE!

BISHOP SHARMA LEWIS'



DECEMBER

- 1 1 Corinthians 9-11
- 2 1 Corinthians 12-14
- 3 1 Corinthians 15-16
- 4 2 Corinthians 1-4
- 5 2 Corinthians 5-9
- 6 2 Corinthians 10-13
- 7 Galatians 1-3
- 8 Galatians 4-6
- 9 Ephesians 1-3
- 10 Ephesians 4-6
- 11 Philippians 1-4
- 12 Colossians 1-4
- 13 1 Thessalonians 1-5
- 14 2 Thessalonians 1-3
- 15 1 Timothy 1-6
- 16 2 Timothy 1-4
- 17 Titus-Philemon
- 18 Hebrews 1-6
- 19 Hebrews 7-10
- 20 Hebrews 11-13
- 21 James 1-5
- 22 1 Peter 1-5
- 23 2 Peter 1-3
- 24 1 John 1-5
- 25 2 John-Jude
- 26 Revelation 1-3
- 27 Revelation 4-8
- 28 Revelation 9-12
- 29 Revelation 13-16
- 30 Revelation 17-19
- 31 Revelation 20-22

YOU DID IT!



Let our New Year's resolution be this: We will be there for one another as fellow members of humanity, in the finest sense of the word.

—Goran Persson

Parades & Parties

► Dayton Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting
Saturday, Dec 2nd at 4:30. Following their participation in the parade, our Young First Followers are leading carols and our Youth are serving hot chocolate at the pavilion.



► Dayton Town Christmas Party at DUMC Activities Building
Wednesday, Dec. 6th at 6:30. All Town residents are invited.

Concerts for Charities

► Come support the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank and prepare for the holiday season! Local musicians will spread holiday cheer at the 21st annual **Christmas at Augusta Stone Church** in Fort Defiance Monday, Dec. 4th at 7:00. A freewill offering will go directly to the Food Bank. \$1=4 meals. facebook.com/FoodBankChristmasConcert

► You are invited to hear the **Rockingham-Harrisonburg Concert Band** perform on Tuesday, December 19th at 6:30 p.m. at Pence Middle School in support of Central Valley Habitat for Humanity's efforts to place 6 families in homes. There is no admission fee. A free will offering will be taken during the concert.

THE GIVER:



Many Christian families struggle with what role — if any — Santa Claus should play in their Christmas celebrations. No matter what you decide, it's fascinating to know the history of the real-life St. Nicholas.

Born about 270 A.D., Nicholas was a bishop in Myra, or modern-day Turkey. In the year 325, he was part of the Council of Nicaea, which produced the Nicene Creed.

Nicholas, known for his generosity, often gave away his money anonymously. According to tradition, he secretly provided dowries for the three daughters of a bankrupt merchant. Nicholas threw two bags of gold through open windows and placed the third in a stocking hanging by the fireplace to dry. Thus began the Christmas tradition of placing gifts in stockings.

St. Nicholas is quoted as saying, "The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic God's giving, by grace, through faith, and this is not of ourselves."

-The Newsletter Newsletter Dec. 2017

THE PERFECT GIFT

Do you stress about finding just the right gift for everyone on your Christmas list? Does it make the season more a hassle than a joy? Pastor Mike Slaughter reminds us that Christmas isn't about perfect presents for people, as if it were their birthday — or ours. Christmas is about the perfect presence of Immanuel, God with us, through the birth of Jesus; it's his birthday, after all!

In *Christmas Is Not Your Birthday* (Abingdon), Slaughter writes, "How funny that it can be so hard to find gifts that will please certain family members or friends — the people who seem to have everything — and yet it is so clear what the Lord of lords and King of kings wants for his birthday. God wants you — your time, your talent and your treasure — used in service to others."

-The Newsletter Newsletter Dec. 2017



Direct questions and
submissions for this
publication to:
Sally Smith, Editor
DUMCNews@comcast.net
I have a box in the
Coffee Social Room, too!
Next Deadline:
Sunday, Dec. 24

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