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Fairfax United Methodist Church  
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The Newsletter of Fairfax United Methodist Church  
**FALL 2018**



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## A Special Service on Sunday, September 16



Bishop Sharma Lewis, Bishop of the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church, is well known for her spirited and enthusiastic preaching! She is with us at FUMC on Sunday, September 16 for a dynamic worship experience at 10:00am. (Only one worship service that Sunday.) New Life International Church joins together with us during this special worship opportunity!

Come, and invite friends and neighbors to this exciting day! Lunch is provided after worship and a "hands on" mission experience for all ages.

As part of the plan for September 16, ***Sunday School is not meeting*** that day so the entire church family can participate in the 10:00 am service and work together in mission. Childcare is provided in Room 107 for children 4 years and younger.

## Bible Presentation Sunday

October 14 at the 9:30 service

Our 3rd graders are attending the 9:30 worship service with their teachers to receive The Deep Blue Bible, a children's study Bible. If you have a third grader and have not contacted Natalie Gray about attending this service, please reach out soon to Natalie at [ngray@fairfaxumc.org](mailto:ngray@fairfaxumc.org) to ensure all third graders receive a Bible in worship.

## Coming Soon!

Leadership and staff have some exciting plans for the future of our programs and ministries in 2019! Stay tuned for more information. Mark November 18 on your calendar for a very special event.

## September 9th is Promotion Sunday at FUMC.

Students seeking Bible enrichment at the 9:30 hour have age specific classes available starting September 9. Children's classes are using the Buzz curriculum published by Group. Students build relationships, enjoy music, games, Bible reading and more to better understand the Bible. Classes are available for children from 3 year-olds to 12th grade.

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES		
<b>8:30 am</b>	Sunrisers	Multi-Purpose Room 116
<b>9:30 am</b>	Childcare for under 3 years	Room 107
	Ages 3-5	Room 105
	Grades 1-3	Room 306-308
	Grades 4-6	Room 304
	Grades 7-12	Room 316
	Gift (adults with special needs)	Room 315
<b>10:40 am</b>	Crusaders	Room 113
<b>11:00 am</b>	Childcare under 4 years	Room 107
	Bible Explorers	Room 313
<b>11:15 am</b>	Gathering 139* (Children age 4-4th grade.)	Room 303

## Fall Sunday School

Sunday morning adult groups are available throughout the morning, and all welcome new members and visitors.

► **8:30am SUNRISERS** meets weekly in the Multi-Purpose Room with a variety of lessons provided through leaders and guest speakers and occasionally a DVD curriculum. Refreshments, prayer time, a lesson and great fellowship are a part of each week. Coordinator: Steve Sherman, [stev Sherman@verizon.net](mailto:stev Sherman@verizon.net).

► **10:40am THE CRUSADERS** meets weekly in Room 113. Singing, prayer and Bible study represent the core nature of the Crusaders Class. The group is a loving and caring class that offers Christ to all. Our door is always open to new and mature Christians who want to know more about the Bible. The Crusaders Class uses the International Bible Series and offers open discussion and emphasizes the sharing of our thoughts and experiences. Crusaders welcomes visitors and reaches out to care about each other and about you! Coordinator: Jim Conklin, [james.conklin6@verizon.net](mailto:james.conklin6@verizon.net).

► **11:00am BIBLE EXPLORERS** meets in Room 313 each week to share our needs, concerns and our passion to be more like Christ in everything we do. Leadership of class activities is shared, including vigorous discussions of scriptural teachings in our efforts to live what we learn, along with ongoing support of various mission projects. All are welcome to our diverse group of learners as we deepen our relationship with Christ within the Body of Christ. Coordinator: Eloisa Steiner, [dreloisteiner@gmail.com](mailto:dreloisteiner@gmail.com).



## Welcome to the new program year

### Music Ministry at Fairfax Church

Music Ministry is devoted to celebrating the Word and witnessing to the workings of Jesus Christ in our lives. Our different musical groups are starting rehearsals and participating in worship offerings in September. This is the best time to begin a new spiritual act of devotion and discipline, developing new musical skills to praise our Creator and being a part of the loving fellowship of our spirit-filled community. If you have any questions about our music ministry opportunities, please contact Jon Giblin, [jgiblin@fairfaxumc.org](mailto:jgiblin@fairfaxumc.org) or Rachel Ackerman, [rackerman@fairfaxumc.org](mailto:rackerman@fairfaxumc.org). A list of our regular ensembles is below.

#### **Chancel Choir | Thursday | 7:30-9:00pm | beginning September 6**

The Chancel Choir is our adult choir which regularly leads worship at the 9:30 worship hour. This all-volunteer group does not require any audition and invites persons of all abilities to sing praise to God. Several special musical offerings are planned for this season including classical masterpieces by J.S. Bach and Cesar Franck along with other cantatas and the annual Lessons and Carols worship service in December.

#### **Alleluia Choir | Sunday | 2:30-3:30pm | beginning September 9th**

Our vocal choir for children in Grades 3 through 6 sings occasionally throughout the year in our various worship opportunities. Children learn to develop their musical skills in a fun, Christian fellowship. The children participate in several larger musical events including leading the Family Christmas Eve worship service and presenting a spring musical.

#### **Hosanna Choir | Sunday | 3:30-4:15pm | beginning September 9th**

Our vocal choir for children in Kindergarten through the 2nd Grade sings occasionally throughout the year in our various worship experiences. Musical skills are introduced and learned in a supportive, friendly environment. The Hosanna Choir joins with the older Alleluia Choir to participate in special musical events.

#### **Joyful Noise Ringers | Sunday | 3:30-4:15pm | beginning September 9th**

Our handbell group is open to children in Grades 3 through 6. Children learn music reading skills along with unique and entertaining bell techniques. The supportive environment of handbell ringing challenges children in working together to create musical acts of praise.

# Effective Communication and Dealing with Difficult People

Wednesday, September 19, 2018, 7:00pm

Stephen Ministry at Fairfax Church presents *Effective Communication and Dealing with Difficult People* with Dr. Don Boileau, retired professor of Communication at George Mason University. As a member of the Mason Speakers, Dr. Boileau has designed this workshop to enhance an individual's ability to apply helpful tools to communicate effectively and handle complicated situations.

Register: The event is free and open to everyone. Please register at <https://stephenministryfumc.eventbrite.com> to allow for adequate seating.

Contact: Daryl Witherspoon, FUMC Stephen Ministry coordinator, at 678-850-6953 or [ddarmyspoon2@yahoo.com](mailto:ddarmyspoon2@yahoo.com).

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## Learning Pillar News and Updates

Looking back over the last 12 months, it has been an exciting first year for the Learning Pillar! FUMC has moved forward with new initiatives and focused on meeting the goals of our Strategic Plan. Our team of 14 members is excited to celebrate their work and looks forward to the challenge of serving the needs of a learning congregation and community in the new program year! Here are some highlights:

- **Our award-winning FUMC Preschool** will offer full-day options for children beginning this fall. As we continue registration, please spread the word as we seek to meet the ever-changing needs of our congregation and community. Contact Diana Jenkins, Executive Director, [preschool@fairfaxumc.org](mailto:preschool@fairfaxumc.org) or 703-591-3177.
- **Summer outreach and mission support** with the Mission Pillar at the Providence Elementary School community picnic included books, backpacks, birthday party kits and games for all!
- **FREE Vacation Bible School** experienced with over 100 children and a host of volunteers—great fun, and tremendous learning!
- **Youth opportunities** included weekly classes, confirmation, retreats and mission trips.
- **New and exciting curriculum** for all ages of children at 9:30am and at 11:15am. Gathering 139 included new learning groups, activities-based lessons, and opportunities for service. Want to help? Call Natalie Gray, [ngray@fairfaxumc.org](mailto:ngray@fairfaxumc.org).
- **Special Needs Conference**—The Learning Pillar team is stepping forward this fall to organize a conference for fall of 2019 focusing on the special needs of children, youth and adults in a Christian Education setting.

For additional information about Learning Pillar ministries, contact Larry Burke, [larry.burke2279@gmail.com](mailto:larry.burke2279@gmail.com).

# Mission Ministry Pillar

## Celebrations • Thank You • Future Events

Thank you for an amazing year of missions at Fairfax UMC. We have continued in our commitment to nurture relationships with our neighbors. Through your tithing, Lenten offerings, individual donations, and volunteering, we have served our local/national/international communities and shared Christ's love in some of the following ways:

### September 2017

- UMCOR—Assembled 29 flood buckets and 400 health kits
- Free the Girls—Collected 30+ bras
- The Lamb Center—Collected 30+ coats and clothing items for Lamb Center
- UMCOR—Raised \$3600+ in financial donations to meet disaster needs of 3 named hurricanes in a row!

### October 2017

- FOODRaiser 2017—15 youth and adults delivered food donations to Fairfax High School

### November 2017

- Adopt-a-Family—Sponsored 15 families from Providence Elementary School for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals

### December 2017

- Holiday Market—Provided toys, books, and stuffed animals to 93 children in our community (18 babies, 62 elementary children, 13 middle school and high school students) and gift cards to their families

### January/February 2018

- ESL—Collected snacks donations
- Hypothermia Sheltering—collected clothing/food/transportation donations for the homeless in Fairfax City

### March 2018

- Hosted Hypothermia Week—served over 350 guests for 7 nights with 100 FUMC volunteers serving 750 meals/provided fellowship, and nearly \$1000 in donations (clothing/transportation/gift cards)

### April 2018

- Rebuilding Together—16 volunteers repaired a group home in the Reston area

### June 2018

- Collected back packs, cleaning supplies and shoes for Providence Elementary School community and in the Philippines
- Junior High Youth Mission Trip to the Eastern Shore of Virginia to support preschool students

### July 2018

- Senior High Youth Mission Trip to the Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota
- Hosted a community picnic at Kutner Park for 85 people from Providence Elementary School community and FUMC to share fellowship and distribute backpacks, birthday boxes, 100+ children's books, and cleaning supplies to 19 different families
- Honduran Mission Trip for 11 team members to the HIBS school with medicine, books, musical instruments, and school supplies

What a breathtaking year of service and mission! And as we start a new program year, we are excited to continue building relationships with our neighbors by planning WITH them instead of FOR them!



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MULTI-SITE NEWS

Rev. Minoo Kim

*A* month ago, I was appointed to Fairfax UMC. I am sent here to help start a new faith community outside of the influence of our church space. Our mission is to be with the dechurched and the unchurched people while faithfully engaging with the Fairfax Circle community. While I am still in the season of listening and visioning, I personally seek to be part of a community that embodies the term “with”—a community with the Triune God, with one another, and with the stranger; a community that is not bound by the dichotomies of our culture; but rather, a community that stands unapologetically with the truth rather than with lies; a community that journeys together with beloveds; a community that experiences, embodies, and shares the good news of God-with-us with anyone and everyone, with a pattern of life that is visible, truthful, creative, and revolutionary.

In the past month, I participated in a week-long personal retreat at Holy Cross Abbey, for prayer, reading, and listening in preparation for this new journey. I attended various meetings and seminars, where I was trained and equipped for this new challenge. I engaged in many one-on-one conversations, with those who work in Fairfax, with those who have also been visioning, with those who I grow up with together in Northern Virginia, and those who we call the dechurched. The common image that kept popping into my mind was the prodigal son. It felt like there was a crowd of people wanting to go back to their father’s arms. Can this new community be like the father’s arms? And how can we become one?

In this coming month, I plan to transition from a season of personal listening and visioning to a season of corporate listening and visioning. I ask for your prayers as I gather those who will join me in this season.

## We Welcome Our New Confirmands:

**Charlotte Elizabeth Cute**

**Piper Ryleigh Rodgers**

**Phillip Luke Schonour**

**Samantha Elizabeth Barlow**

**Caitlyn Delaney Intermill**

**Nicholas Dustin Bouchard**

**Sheryn Rebecca Livingstone**

**Emma Louise Carter**

## The Sacrament of Baptism . . .

Administered on May 20, 2018 to **Samantha Elizabeth Barlow**, daughter of Kristina and Adam Barlow, born on May 5, 2005.

Administered on May 20, 2018 to **Caitlyn Delaney Intermill**, daughter of Kirk and Elizabeth Intermill, born on March 20, 2005.

Administered on June 3, 2018 to **Hunter Lee Anderson**, son of Hunter and Zoe Anderson, born on September 1, 2017.

Administered on May 6, 2018 to **Josiah Earle Layman**, son of Jason and Melissa Layman, born on July 24, 2017.

Administered on May 6, 2018 to **Grant David Kennedy**, son of Daniel & Leigh Kennedy, born on October 3, 2017.

Administered on June 24, 2018 to **Katelyn Dias Martin**, daughter of Victor Martin-Santos & Flavia Dias born on January 4, 2018.

## New Members

Jason E. Layman of 6299 15th Road, North Arlington

Miles Woolever of 4105 Locust Lane, Fairfax

## Our Sympathy is Extended to the Family and Friends of:

**Marie Parker.** Marie died on August 5, 2018 in Fairfax, VA.

**Ruth Fadely.** Ruth died on May 27, 2018 in Fairfax, VA.

**Doug & Libby Barricks.** David Barricks, Doug's brother, died on May 28, 2018 in Haymarket, VA.

**James P. Ellington.** James died on May 27, 2018 in Midland, VA.

**Dave Tervonen.** Lillian Tervonen, Dave's Grandmother, died on May 10, 2018 in Hurley, WI.

**Tom Ray** (former member) died April 29, 2018.

**Dot & Ray Birch.** Ellen Birch, Dot & Ray's daughter-in-law, died on May 4, 2018 in Ashland, VA.

**Flo Limburg.** Michael Limburg, Flo's son, died on June 20, 2018 in Germany.

**Lara Hughes.** Ernest Neer, Laura's father, died on May 30, 2018 in Richmond, VA.

**Leo Pflugshaupt.** Leo died on June 8, 2018 in Fairfax, VA.

## Weddings

**Gregory Trieber** and **Christina Lehman** were married on August 17, 2018.

## Biblical Hospitality

What comes to mind when you think of hospitality? A warm cup of coffee and a friendly welcome? Those are great starts, but God's hospitality is much more!



The earthly way of hospitality is usually based on a transaction. Often this transaction is financial—I pay for a meal and a chef prepares it, a waiter serves it, and others clean it up. At other times, an approval-based transaction is tacitly required. I welcome you to my church or my club and I am rewarded by your approval and desire to join with me in membership.

God's hospitality is not based on a transaction. Professor Amy Oden explains that the primary pattern of God's hospitality is indicated in Jesus Christ. God took on a body and in doing so welcomed all humanity into the abundant, triune life.

Think about how God has welcomed you into new life with God. In my own experience, like that of many, was the beginning of a life of healing and restoration, letting go and receiving new life, grace and forgiveness. That is the hospitality that God offers to everyone, and we are called to offer others in the name of Jesus Christ. We can't create God's hospitality, but we can receive it and pass it along.

FUMC begins putting a great emphasis on extending God's hospitality in love this year. Here's how it starts:

- **September Sermon Series:** Rev. Bonney and I will deliver a 4-part sermon series introducing the topic of God's hospitality, and how offering it requires readiness, risk, repentance, and recognition on our part. (September 2, 9, 23, 30)
- **Greeters Return!** Many of you remember the times when FUMC had greeters stationed at most entrances. That wonderful practice is returning. Beginning in September, greeters welcome everyone—visitors and long-time members by stationing greeters at the West entrance off the parking lot and in the Narthex.
- **Hospitality Room:** Many of our guests enter the building through the West entrance, but aren't sure where to go from there. Room 101, across from the preschool office, is being transformed into a welcoming space for greeters to receive visitors, offer a cup of coffee or water, and new persons can learn more about the church in a comfortable, receiving environment.

These are just a few of the ways that FUMC is transforming to extend God's hospitality to all. If you would like to learn more about God's hospitality or help share it with others, let me know.

Pastor Amy Grant

## Staff Transitions



**Kyle Johnson**, our new **Director of Youth/Outreach Ministry**, is joining the FUMC staff full-time on September 15. He is moving to Northern Virginia from Columbus, GA. Kyle grew up in a rich culture of Methodism as the the grandson of a United Methodist pastor, and his current pastor described him as having a heart and passion for Christ.

Kyle is a graduate of Young Harris College in Georgia where he earned a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies with concentrations in Interpersonal Communication, Psychology and History, along with a minor in Philosophy. Kyle gained significant youth and mission experience during his tenure with Youthworks where he served in Milwaukee WI, New Orleans, LA, Denver, CO and Leech Lake Reservation, MN.

In addition to leading our youth program, Kyle will serve as a part of the Mission and Learning Pillar Ministry Teams. Please enthusiastically welcome Kyle to FUMC.

**Natalie Gray** is stepping down from the position of Director of Children's Ministry on September 15. We sincerely appreciate the hard work and dedication that Natalie has exhibited during the past year and a half supporting the teachers and nurturing our children. Through the remainder of 2018, Jane Ciorba is serving as interim Director of Children's Ministry. Jane is currently a Head Start teacher with FCPS. She holds a BS in Early Childhood Education and a MEd in Special Education. Please join us in thanking Natalie and welcoming Jane to our FUMC staff.



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