

Looking for upcoming events? Want more information on our ministries? Need to register for a class or event? Go online to our website: [www.stlukesyorktown.org](http://www.stlukesyorktown.org)

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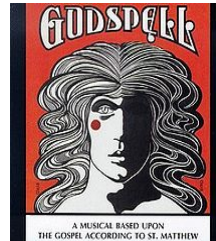
Looking  
Ahead to  
Summer 8

Sunday Worship -  
8:30, 9:45 & 11:00 AM  
Young Adult Sunday School -  
9:00 & 11:00 AM  
Sunday School, All ages -  
9:45 AM  
Youth Fellowship - 5:00 &  
6:00 PM

## Godspell

The actors have been cast and now we are looking for volunteers to work behind the scenes. We will have a Production Meeting in the Fellowship Hall on January 8, 2011 from Noon to 1:00 PM. If you would like to work on the set, help secure the props, assist with the costuming or makeup, or

work the sound or lighting systems, you are invited to come to this meeting to see what all is needed. If you can't make the meeting, please contact Clara at



[assoc@stlukesyorktown.org](mailto:assoc@stlukesyorktown.org) and let her know you want to help. Also, the rehearsals for the play will begin that same day at 1:00 PM. The performances will be March 11 and 12, 2011, so save those dates!!

## Wednesday Night Suppers

Join us every Wednesday, 5:30-7:00 PM. Reservation cards are in the pew racks and on the kiosk. **Please turn them in by Sunday at noon** either in the offering plate or turn them in at the church office. Cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children under

10, and \$20 for families. Please pay at the door. Menus for January:

- Jan 5 - Sausage Minestrone Soup, Corn bread, Brownies & Ice cream
- Jan 12 - Spaghetti Bake, Salad, Garlic Bread,

- Sherbet & cookies
- Jan 19 - Chicken with Wild Rice, Cranberry Jell-O salad,
- Vegetable, Spice cake
- Jan 26 - Beef Stroganoff, Vegetable, Roll, Pudding

## Christian Yoga Returns to St. Luke's

Beginning March 1 and continuing for 8 weeks we will once again be offering a Christian Yoga group. Christian Yoga takes the best elements out of hatha yoga and brings them into the church environment. The classes include instruction in postures to increase flexibility and strength, and conscious breathing and relaxation.

This physically and mentally relaxing exercise form increases flexibility and strength

and decreases stress. Over time, and with practice, yoga systematically stretches and strengthens muscles throughout the body, increases circulation to internal organs and glands, quiets the nervous system, and improves concentration. It conditions and tones your body, and helps maintain and build bone density. The practice of relaxation calms and helps quiet your mind.

Our sessions will be facilitated by Liz Rowe,

registered trainer with YogaFit. Classes will be held at St. Luke's. Class size is limited to the first 25 who register. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required! You will need to bring a yoga mat, a beach towel or large bath towel, and bottled water to class. If you would like to register or obtain more information, please contact Liz Rowe at 757-870-0981 or email, [liz@yorklighting.com](mailto:liz@yorklighting.com).

# St. Luke's Preschool



Our year ended with a Christmas Pageant and reception in the Fellowship Hall that was hard to beat. The children sang beautifully and Ed Fullhart did a great job as "the elf, himself. Special thanks go to "Santa" and to all the parents for the delicious goodies. The holidays passed so quickly. It is hard to believe the school year is just about half over. That means it is time to think about registration for next year's classes!

Church members and families currently enrolled in St. Luke's Preschool will be given an opportunity to register early for our 2011-2012

school year (2012, *really? Yikes!*). This early registration will begin Monday, January 24 at 9:00. Registration for the general public will begin Tuesday, February 1. We offer classes for children between the ages of 2 ½ and 4. Our classes fill up quickly and class sizes are limited. Please don't wait too long to register. The staff of St. Luke's Preschool would love an opportunity to help you develop a strong Christian base for your preschooler while preparing him academically for kindergarten.

If you are interested in registering your child or want to know more

about our program, feel free to stop by the church any time Monday through Friday between 9:00 and 1:00. I'd love to answer any questions you might have and give you a tour of our school. If this isn't convenient, just give me a call. You can also find lots of information about our program on the church website. Just look for "Preschool" under "Just For You" on the right side of the home page. If you would prefer, I'd be glad to mail or fax you an informative brochure.

As always, thank you for your continued support and prayers for this valuable ministry.

~Diana Donnelly, Director



## Let's Get Together as St. Luke's United Methodist Women

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY, 2011

- Mon., Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>, will be the UMW Board meeting at 5:30 p.m. at the church.
- Mon. Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>, the Sisters in Christ Circle will meet at the church at 7:30 p.m. Their new study book will be Having a Mary Spirit. Allowing God to Change Us From the Inside Out, by Joanna Weaver.
- Tues., Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>, the Gertrude Carmines Circle will meet at the church at 10:00 a.m. They would like to thank Joan Reese for being their circle chair person the past two years. Margaret Mason will be the new chair and Loretta Sutton will be co-chair/program chair. They look forward to a new and exciting year and all ladies of the

church are welcome to come join them. They love to go to lunch.

- Tues., Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. the Sarah Sudduth Circle will have their regular meeting at the church, followed by going out for lunch together.
- Thurs., Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. the LIFT Circle will meet at the church. They will continue their study of Charles Stanley's book The Blessings of Brokenness, Chapter 4.
- The Book Club will not meet in January. The Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> meeting will be on The True Cost of Low Prices – The Violence of Globalization, by Vincent Gallagher.

### READING PROGRAM REMINDER

All ladies are reminded that we now have lots of new books in our UMW Reading Program for

you to choose from. You only have to read four books – one book from one of the five plans – between now and the end of August. If you have any questions about the Reading Program please call Margaret Mason at 369-1169.

### UNITED METHODIST DAY AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Thursday, February 3, 2011, will be United Methodist Day at the General Assembly in Richmond. This annual event is sponsored by the Board of Church and Society and The United Methodist Women of the Virginia Conference. Events of the day include gathering at Bon Air UMC at 7:00 a.m. for registration and breakfast, meeting with legislators, attending a joint session of the House and Senate, and lunch. Registration forms with more information are on the UMW bulletin board.

## January Studies - There are still openings!

**Hope for Creation and Hope for Humanity**, green initiative study facilitated by Joe Posey and John Dunning. Class begins Tues., Jan. 18th at either 10:00 AM or 7:00 PM. Please sign-up online.

Pastor Clara will be leading a group through the fun book called **Being Methodist in the Bible Belt**. Classes begin Wed., Jan. 12th at 10:00 AM or 6:30 PM. Sign-ups will be available online.

**Financial Peace University** - We are about to launch the class again because we want every person here to know what it's like to experience true financial peace. Classes will be offered Tues., Jan. 5th at 6:30 PM and Sun., Jan. 9th at 4:00 PM. If you want more information now, contact Ron Dorenbusch at rdorenbusch@aol.com or (H) 872-4666 or (C) 817-0196. Sign-up online, on the bulletin board across from the DDM office or using the forms at the Hospitality Center.

**First Place 4 Health**, a Christ-centered total-wellness program, will be offered here at St. Luke's. To find out how to achieve emotional, physical, mental and spiritual wellness, come to the First Place 4 Health. Groups will begin meeting Thursday, January 6th from 6:30-8:00 PM. Questions? Contact Megan Collins at 898-3017 or [c\\_c@stlukesyorktown.org](mailto:c_c@stlukesyorktown.org).

## News from Nate (aka Youth Activities)

Hello Everyone,

The new year is upon us and with it comes the arrival of two much-awaited events! The Middle school Lock-In will be held at St. Luke's from 9:00pm on January 14th to 8:00am on the 15th. Be sure to bring a sleeping bag and pillow, \$10 to help cover expenses, and some warm gear for outdoors as we may be playing some games outside. Please sign up online by Wednesday, Jan. 12th.

Next, sign-ups filled quickly for the Youth Ski Trip, January 27th – 29th. We will meet at the church at 1:30pm on Thursday, January 27th (this is an early dismissal day for schools). We will Ski all day Friday (8 hours) (Schools are closed). We will go tubing Saturday morning (9am-11am) and return to St. Luke's at approximately 3:30pm. The cost for this trip is \$140 per person + approximately \$20 spending cash for 2 lunches out (one

on the mountain, one on the drive back). Lessons are available for skiers all levels for only \$16.00. I strongly recommend all first time skiers sign-up for lessons. It's only \$16 and 2 hours and will make the rest of your time much more enjoyable and safe.

Sign ups for all youth events and any additional information can be found at: <http://stlukesyouth.wikispaces.com/> ~Nate DeHart, Youth Director

## Calling 21 Internship Opportunities for College Students

The Virginia United Methodist Conference Young Adult Local Church Summer Internship Program is looking for college students who are interested in an internship. You'll get free room

and board and a \$2,500 stipend.

You'll get to work with truly awesome people and grow in your faith in God. It is really a transformative experience. It runs from mid-June

through mid-August 2011. To learn more and/or apply go to [www.calling21.org](http://www.calling21.org) by February 1, 2011. St. Luke's has hosted three Calling 21 Interns and it has been a blessing for us and them.

## UMW Book Club

UMW Book Club meets the 2nd Monday of the Month.

- January - No Book Club Meeting
- Feb 14 - The True Cost of Low Prices - The Violence of Globalization, by Vincent Gallagher (Social Action)
- Mar 14 - nuChristian - Finding Faith in a New Generation, by Russell E. D. Rathbun (Leadership Development)

- Apr 11 - Gap Creek - The Story of Marriage, by Robert Morgan (fiction)
- May 9 - The Pact, by Jodi Piccolt (teenage suicide, fiction)
- Jun 13 - The Faith Club - A Muslim, a Christian, a Jew - Three Women Search for Understanding, by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, and Priscilla Warner
- July and August No Book Club

- Sep 12 - Disfigured - A Saudi Woman's Story of Triumph, by Rania Al-Baz (Education for Mission)
- Oct 10 - Same Kind of Different As Me, by Ron Hall and Denver Moore (Nurturing for Community)
- Nov 14 - Being A Christian in the Wesleyan Tradition, by John O. Gooch (Spiritual Growth)
- Dec 12 - The Lacuna by Barbara Kingsolver (fiction)

# January Calendar

## Saturday, Jan. 1st

Flood Relief Mission Trip

## Sunday, Jan. 2nd

Flood Relief Mission Trip

8:30 AM Worship

9:45 AM Sunday School

9:45 AM Worship

11:00 AM Worship

5:00 PM Middle School Youth Group

6:30 PM High School Youth Group

## Monday, Jan. 3rd

## Tuesday, Jan. 4th

9:30 AM Crazy Quilts

11:00 AM Staff Meeting

3:00 PM Dinner Prep for Wed

6:30 PM Trustees meeting

7:00 PM Lay Leader Council

## Wednesday, Jan. 5th

5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner

6:15 PM Hand bell Choir

6:15 PM Discovery Kids

6:30 PM The Faithful Chorus rehearsal

6:30 PM Middle School Bible Study

6:30 PM Building Committee meeting

6:30 PM Financial Peace University

7:15 PM Chancel Choir

## Thursday, Jan. 6th

6:30 PM First Place 4 Health

6:30 PM Homebound committee meeting

7:00 PM Worship Ministry

## Friday, Jan. 7th

1:00 PM Real People SS Class set-up for Christmas Party

## Saturday, Jan. 8th

7:00 AM God & Grits Men's Bible Study

12:00 PM GODSPELL/Production team

1:00 PM GODSPELL rehearsal

5:30 PM Real People SS Class Party

## Sunday, Jan. 9th

8:30 AM Worship

9:00 AM Simply Christian Adult SS Class

9:45 AM Sunday School

9:45 AM Worship

11:00 AM Worship

1:00 PM GODSPELL rehearsal

4:00 PM Confirmation Classes

5:00 PM Financial Peace University Class

5:00 PM Middle School Youth Group

6:30 PM High School Youth Group

## Monday, Jan. 10th

4:00 PM Outreach Ministry

5:30 PM UM Women Board meeting

7:00 PM Sisters In Christ Circle

## Tuesday, Jan. 11th

9:30 AM Crazy Quilts

10:00 AM Gertrude Carmines Circle

10:00 AM Sarah Sudduth Circle

11:00 AM Staff Meeting

3:00 PM Dinner Prep for Wed

6:30 PM Finance Committee/

7:30 PM Church Council Calendaring Session

## Wednesday, Jan. 12th

10:00 AM Study/Being Methodist in the Bible Belt

5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner

6:00 PM Boy Scout Eagle Board

6:15 PM Hand bell Choir

6:15 PM Discovery Kids

6:30 PM The Faithful Chorus rehearsal

6:30 PM Middle School Bible Study

6:30 PM Being Methodist in the Bible Belt

6:30 PM Financial Peace University

7:15 PM Chancel Choir

## Thursday, Jan. 13th

9:00 AM District Clergy Meetings

10:00 AM L.I.F.T. Circle

10:00 AM Peninsula District Board on Ordained Ministry

6:30 PM First Place 4 Health

6:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry

## Friday, Jan. 14th

9:00 PM Middle School Lock-in begins

## Saturday, Jan. 15th

8:00 AM Middle School Lock-in ends

7:00 AM God & Grits Men's Bible Study

1:00 PM GODSPELL rehearsal

## Sunday, Jan. 16th

7:00 AM United Methodist Men's

Fellowship Breakfast

8:30 AM Worship

9:00 AM Simply Christian Adult SS Class

9:45 AM Sunday School

9:45 AM Worship

11:00 AM Worship

1:00 PM GODSPELL rehearsal

4:00 PM Confirmation Classes

5:00 PM Financial Peace University Class

5:00 PM Middle School Youth Group

5:00 PM New Comer Seminar

6:30 PM High School Youth Group

## Monday, Jan. 17th

10:30 AM York Convalescent Worship Service

7:00 PM Nurture Ministry

## Tuesday, Jan. 18th

9:30 AM Crazy Quilts

10:00 AM Hope for Creation and

Humanity

11:00 AM Staff Meeting

3:00 PM Dinner Prep for Wed

7:00 PM Hope for Creation and Humanity

## Wednesday, Jan. 19th

9:30 AM Preschool Chapel Time

9:30 AM Preschool Classes

10:00 AM Study/Being Methodist in the Bible Belt

12:30 PM Preschool Stay-N-Play

5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner

6:15 PM Hand bell Choir

6:15 PM Discovery Kids

6:30 PM The Faithful Chorus rehearsal

6:30 PM Middle School Bible Study

6:30 PM Being Methodist in the Bible Belt

6:30 PM Financial Peace University

7:15 PM Chancel Choir

## Thursday, Jan. 20th

6:30 PM First Place 4 Health

## Friday, Jan. 21st

## Saturday, Jan. 22nd

7:00 AM God & Grits Men's Bible Study

1:00 PM GODSPELL rehearsal

## Sunday, Jan. 23rd

8:30 AM Worship

9:00 AM Simply Christian Adult SS Class

9:45 AM Sunday School

9:45 AM Worship

11:00 AM Worship

1:00 PM GODSPELL rehearsal

4:00 PM Confirmation Classes

5:00 PM Financial Peace University Class

5:00 PM Middle School Youth Group

6:30 PM High School Youth Group

## Monday, Jan. 24th

10:00 AM Warwick Gardens

Convalescent Worship Service

PORT Homeless Shelter Support

## Tuesday, Jan. 25th

PORT Homeless Shelter Support

9:30 AM Crazy Quilts

10:00 AM Hope for Creation and Humanity

11:00 AM Staff Meeting

3:00 PM Dinner Prep for Wed

7:00 PM Hope for Creation and Humanity

## Wednesday, Jan. 26th

10:00 AM Being Methodist in the Bible Belt

5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner

6:15 PM Hand bell Choir

6:15 PM Discovery Kids

6:30 PM The Faithful Chorus rehearsal

6:30 PM Middle School Bible Study

6:30 PM Being Methodist in the Bible Belt

# St. Luke's Celebrations & Concerns

6:30 PM Financial Peace University  
7:15 PM Chancel Choir

### Thursday, Jan. 27th

1:30 PM Youth Ski Trip  
6:30 PM First Place 4 Health  
6:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry

### Friday, Jan. 28th

12:00 AM Youth Ski Trip

### Saturday, Jan. 29th

12:00 AM Youth Ski Trip  
7:00 AM God & Grits Men's Bible Study  
1:00 PM GODSPELL rehearsal

### Sunday, Jan. 30th

8:30 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Simply Christian Adult SS Class  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
9:45 AM Worship  
11:00 AM Worship  
1:00 PM GODSPELL rehearsal  
4:00 PM Confirmation Classes  
5:00 PM Financial Peace University Class  
5:00 PM Middle School Youth Group  
6:30 PM High School Youth Group

### Monday, Jan. 31st

6:00 PM GODSPELL rehearsal

For an up to the minute calendar (we are a very active church and there are always changes) check our website [www.stlukesyorktown.org](http://www.stlukesyorktown.org).

## Look Who's New at St. Luke's

Alan and Pat Wilhite  
608 Kanawah Run  
YT (93) Ph: 223-9364

Jill Zahn  
4600 Justice Lane, Apt H  
YT (92) Ph: 369-8317

Craig and Amy Brice  
103 S. Fern Cove Court  
YT (93) Ph: 240-4933  
Children: Carson and Anna Brice

Geoffrey and Meagan Early  
4205 Old Lock Road  
Williamsburg, VA 23188  
Ph: 869-9463  
Daughter: Emersyn Early

## Prayers & Sympathy to

Harry Merritt and family on the death of his wife, Sue Merritt, November 29, 2010.  
Sarah Telstad on the death of her brother-in-law, Harold Telstad, December 3, 2010.  
Jim Mitcham and James and Lauren Mitcham on the death of his wife and their mother respectively, Julie Mitcham, December 6, 2010.  
Joe Haggerty on the death of his son, Keith Haggerty, December 11, 2010.  
Martha Brewer on the death of her husband, Tom Brewer, December 17, 2010.

## Congratulations to

Wade and Sarah Wooley on the birth of a son, Benjamin Wade Wooley, November 20, 2010. Beth Cerri is the proud grandmother.  
Bobby and Ginny Futrell on the birth of a daughter, Lola Rose Futrell, November 7, 2010. Terry and Carolyn Futrell are the proud grandparents.  
Geoffrey and Meagan Early on the birth of a daughter, Emersyn Rose Early, December 2, 2010. Verda Early is the proud grandmother. Mark Early is the proud grandfather.

## Memoriam

Donations were made to the York Co. Church Women United Food Closet in memory of Ann Fink by Martha Brewer.  
A donation was made to the York Co. Church Women United Food Closet in memory of Mildred Erickson by Paulette Clement.  
A donation was made to the Prayer Shawl Ministry in memory of Ann Fink by Ron and Donna Dorenbusch.  
A donation was made to the St. Luke's Building Fund in memory of Ann Fink by: David and Diane Lienard  
Department E64, Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding  
Mrs. Thominice Hargett  
Donations were made to the Good Samaritan Fund in memory of Ann Fink by: Marjorie Smith & Joan Comeaux  
Donations were made to the York Co. Church Women United Food Closet in memory of Sue Merritt by:  
Cindy and Paul Roche  
Trudy Hill  
Betty and Jim Baumgardner  
Margie and Roger Smith  
Jim and Judy Cross  
Dennis and Kil Cha Kennedy

## Honoraria

A donation was made to the York Co. Church Women United Food Closet in honor of Joe Posey by Ann Spivey.

## Received the Sacrament of Baptism

Emersyn Rose Early, infant daughter of Geoffrey and Meagan Early, baptized December 18, 2010.

## Our Military Especially our Deployed

Calvin Anderson, Jason Collins, Stephen Crosswell, David Cluxton, Ben Liles, Jon Prindle, Mike Sherman, Traci Shoffner

# January Birthdays & Anniversaries

- |    |  |    |   |    |  |
|----|--|----|---|----|--|
| 1  | Roger Dalton<br>Yuri Frazier<br>Merf & Angie Heist(A)<br>Glenn Hostetter<br>Carole Lawrence<br>Allen Pate<br>Julie Smith<br>Warner & Vivian Smith(A) | 14 | Henry Bates<br>Tom & Terrie Conner(A)<br>Nicholas Kelly<br>Roby & Vanessa Knight(A)   |    | Linda Jennings<br>Suzie Jones<br>Raye Respress<br>Steve Robinson<br>Tony Zebrowski   |
| 2  | Brad Barnes<br>Rachel Campbell<br>Helen Dalton<br>Nate DeHart<br>Pastor Doug Gestwick<br>Rod Huskey<br>Linda Rody<br>Mallory Rusk                    | 15 | Jason Albright<br>Erick Grube<br>Jeff Holbrook<br>Beth Knox<br>Kent Leonard<br>Karin Messenger<br>Ginny Potts   | 27 | Susan Beckman<br>Mark Kincaid<br>Deborah Moore<br>Frances Sandiford<br>Bo Walkley  |
| 3  | Eric Dorenbush<br>Terry & Renee Mayo(A)<br>Olivia Sevfer   | 16 | Jon Austin<br>Gary & Heidi Derby(A)<br>Brad & Debbie Frecker(A)<br>Abigail Gregory<br>Helen MacCartney  | 28 | George & Ginger Boyles(A)<br>Jarrod Budzik<br>Kathy Dunaway<br>Pat Mosier<br>Kendall Stinson<br>Wes & Karen Wagner(A)  |
| 4  | Susan Donston  | 17 | Allison Holcomb   | 29 | Kelsey Bullock<br>Dennis & Teresa Crocker(A)<br>Roger & Lois Fuhrman(A)<br>Debbie Fullhart<br>Denise Hardwick<br>Helen Hughes<br>Tyler Jewel<br>Ken King<br>Woody Pierce       |
| 5  | James Rhoads   | 18 | Richard Connelly(missionary)<br>Preston Kiedinger<br>Tracy Mercier  |    | Alicia Sumrell   |
| 6  | Todd and Cathy Barnes(A)<br>Kelly Blackburn<br>Jillian Honig<br>Caroline Mellen<br>Brooke Rowe   | 19 | Amy Brice<br>Lynn Carson<br>Robert & Kelley Phaup(A)<br>Bradi Smith<br>Jeffrey Taylor   | 30 | Gay Andrews<br>Dan Butler<br>Kendall Denny<br>Cheryl Guardia<br>Thomas Lienard<br>Margaret Pate<br>Kim Person<br>Christopher Puffenbarger<br>George Sallwasser<br>Karen Vallow |
| 7  | Doug Comer<br>Bobby Furtrell<br>Jim Smith<br>Joe Smith<br>Teresa Van Ness  | 20 | David & Dottie Ford (A)<br>Kylee Frye<br>Dianne Robbins<br>Rob & Suzanne Smith(A)   | 31 | Jerry & Amie Ansama(A)<br>Shannon Blount<br>Erin Heath<br>Matthew Johnston<br>Robert Knight<br>Kaleb Nelson<br>James Smith<br>Mike Woltman                                     |
| 8  | Pete Clement<br>Aaron Tragle   | 21 | Berkeley Brandt<br>Eric Cooper<br>Lisa Gregory<br>Jim Morrison<br>Robyn Sumner  |    |  |
| 9  | Vivian Edwards<br>Sam Holter<br>Christine Lively<br>Judy Mitchell<br>Marilyn Morrison<br>Ken Young   | 22 | Hank Burnette<br>Rhonda Williams<br>David & Linda Hampton(A)<br>Brett Morrison  |    |  |
| 10 | Jerry Ansama<br>Larry Blanchfield<br>Jason & Megan Collins(A)<br>Michael Glass<br>Bob & Kelley Phaup(A)<br>Donny Rice                                | 24 | Wells Bates<br>Tom Brewer<br>Joshua Jones<br>Andy Robinson<br>Elton Smith   |    |  |
| 11 | Theresa Butler<br>Cole Francum   | 25 | Pete & Lois Atkinson(A)<br>Phil Comstock<br>John Dunning<br>Helen Gaddis<br>Dick Lane<br>Jenna Mercier<br>Jeanne Motley<br>Vivian Smith (Warner)<br>Laura Welch |    |  |
| 12 | Diane Doggett<br>Kelli Forrest<br>Hannah Guardia<br>Nancy Sayre  | 26 | Hank Burnette   |    |  |
| 13 | Vivian Smith(Ernie)<br>John Taylor   |    |   |    |  |

## As I See It

I sometimes hear that "the church is always talking about money." I tend to smile some when I hear that, because I wonder if the person saying it knows that Jesus discussed money more than any other topic in the New Testament. Jesus talked about money more than the Kingdom of God, more than heaven or hell, more than discipleship or prayers. Why did Jesus choose money as a measuring stick of a person's priorities? He could have used anything: how much a person reads their Bible or the amount of time they spend in prayer or how many people they lead to the Lord. Instead, Jesus chose money because money will always play a central role in a person's life. It is an integral part of daily existence. Earning money re-

quires a great deal of time and energy, so what people do with their money reveals where their priorities are.

In 2010 we talked a lot about money - we had to! As a church we have discerned that God is calling us to expand our facilities so we can expand our ministries. We received pledges close to two million dollars! Many of us made sacrificial pledges that were over and above our annual giving, so that God's purposes for our congregation could be fulfilled. In December we concluded an annual stewardship campaign to ensure our current ministries would continue uninterrupted, and you all responded in record numbers! And on Christmas Eve we had our second "Christmas Miracle," and you all gave

over \$32,000 to make sure the needy in York County and Poquoson could be assisted throughout the year with basic necessities.

If indeed what we do with our money reveals our priorities, then as your Senior Pastor, I have to say - "well done good and faithful servants!" I am very proud and humbled by this congregation, and how faithful you are through good times and bad. 2011 will be a time of real birth pangs for us, but I am confident that we will ALL pull together and continue to make great things happen in our corner of the Kingdom of God.

Still in One Peace,

*Doug*

## Clara's Quips

We have begun a New Year!! I love new beginnings. New beginnings give me the opportunity to begin again. I often find myself needing to begin again. It doesn't really matter what I'm doing, I often need to begin again. I usually don't have to completely start over but I must need to find a place where I can begin again - like when I knit. I may have to "un-knit" a row or two to begin following the pattern again. Or with my quilting. I may have to rip out a seam in order to re-sew the pieces together for it to lay flat. I find it true in my life also.

Sometimes I have to find that place

where I can begin again in a relationship, whether with God or another human being. I'm so thankful that God allows us to begin. John the Baptist knew we needed to renew our relationship with God. He called for us to repent of our sins and to live a life that expresses love for others. He didn't tell us that in order to have a good relationship with God, we needed more religious activity like going to church or praying or reading the Bible. As important as those things are in our lives, John points to our relationships with others as the place to begin again. When the bystanders heard John's mes-

sage (see Luke 3 :10f), they asked, "What must we do?" John answered, (my paraphrase), "Clothe and feed others. Be honest and content in life."

So as I look at this new beginning in the New Year, I will strive to take John's message to heart and renew my relationship with God by loving my neighbor with honesty, contentment, and practical acts of kindness. What a great way to begin a New Year. Happy New Year to you!! Blessings,

*Clara*

## Doodles from the DDM:



Happy New Year! It really does not seem possible that it is a new year already. Someone told me this happens as you get older, but I really did not believe them, until now. Time is just flying by it seems!

I hope you have already made plans to be a part of one of the many classes that we are offering this winter season. It is not too late to get in on any of them. The following is a brief description and contact information for each. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call or email me for an answer. Sign ups for all our classes can be found on the church's web site ([www.stlukesyorktown.org](http://www.stlukesyorktown.org))

**Hope for Creation and Hope for Humanity**, a study challenging God's peo-

ple to think critically and biblically about the issue of creation care will be facilitated by Joe Posey and John Dunning. The in-class version of the study begins Tues., Jan. 18th at either 10:00 AM or 7:00PM. The on-line version of the class will begin the week of January 16th.

Pastor Clara will be leading a group through the fun book called **Being Methodist in the Bible Belt**. Classes begin Wed., Jan. 12th at 10:00 AM or 6:30 PM.

**First Place 4 Health**, a Christ-centered total-wellness program, will be offered here at St. Luke's. It is a Bible Study that focuses on weight loss and four sided wellness. It will begin meeting Thursday, January 6th from 6:30-8:00 PM. If you want to come or have questions? Contact Megan Collins at 898-

3017 or [c\\_c@stlukesyorktown.org](mailto:c_c@stlukesyorktown.org).

**Financial Peace University** - We're having a free class preview **today** at 4:00 PM. Classes will be offered Tues., Jan. 5th at 6:30 PM and Sun., Jan. 9th at 4:00 PM. Need more information? Contact Ron Dorenbush at [rdorenbush@aol.com](mailto:rdorenbush@aol.com) or (H) 872-4666 or (C) 817-0196.

Can't attend a class at church? Wrong time, night, etc? Try out our newest addition into the world of online classes. This time, Hope for Creation and Hope for Humanity will be offered completely online, register for the class online and mark that you are interested in the online offering for that class.

*- James*



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**Growing to Serve**

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ORGANIZATION  
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YORKTOWN, VA  
23692

**Office Hours**  
**Monday-Thursday**  
9-6  
**Friday**  
9-3

Time Sensitive Material



## Looking Ahead to Summer!!

### Looking ahead to Summer

June 15-19, 2011 -  
Annual Conference, Roanoke  
June 18-25, 2011 -  
Appalachia Service Project  
July 3-8, 2011 -  
Camp Overlook w/ Pastor Clara  
July 11-15, 2011 -  
Vacation Bible School  
July 17-22, 2011 -  
Camp Overlook w/ Nate DeHart  
July 27-28, 2011 -  
Mission, Mayhem and Me  
August 2-14, 2011 -  
Czech Republic Foreign  
Mission Trip

### Camp Overlook:

It's time to begin planning for our summer camping experiences. Pastor Clara will go to Camp Overlook July 3-8, 2011 and youth director Nate DeHart will

go July 17-22, 2011. Any child/youth that has completed third grade is invited to attend. Registration forms will be in Clara's office as soon as she receives them from the camp. Our church will provide transportation these two weeks to and from the camp. Registration forms need to be filled out by the



family for each camper attending. They should be returned to Clara by March 1, 2011 so she can send them to camp. Registration is

done this way so that discounts will be given by the camp. Also, St. Luke's gives each camper a scholarship to attend camp. If you have any questions about camp, you can either go directly to their website [www.gbgm-umc.org/campoverlook](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/campoverlook) or contact Pastor Clara at [assoc@stlukesyorktown.org](mailto:assoc@stlukesyorktown.org). If you have campers younger than third grade and would like to make a family camping week on one of these dates, ask Clara about Day Camp and the family campground. Happy camping!!