



The Messenger

The newsletter of
Leesburg United
Methodist Church

Volume 29, Issue 6

July 2016
(published 7/14/16)

Message from Pastor Jim: Lord, teach us (again) to pray...

What is the most uncomfortable moment for some in a church meeting? It is when the leader asks, "Who would like to begin/close our time together with prayer?"

Why is it that many of us are hesitant to pray aloud in a group? Most followers of Jesus respond when asked this question, "I'm not sure what to say." Or, something similar.

My guess is that Jesus' first followers could identify! The Gospel of Luke tells us that once, when the disciples observed how Jesus prayed, they asked him to teach them how to pray. Jesus responded with words that have become one of the most widely known prayers in all the world, "The Lord's Prayer", or in the Roman Catholic tradition, "The Our Father".

Many of you reading know this prayer by rote. I wonder, though, do we know it by heart – or rather, do we know it so well that it's meaning and message is planted firmly in our hearts, embedded in our thoughts and attitude, and embraced in the way we live? Personally, I must confess, "Not as much as I would like, or need, so I can live faithfully and consistently." All too often I find myself repeating the words while my mind wanders to other things. While I might try to excuse this because of my ADD, that doesn't help me move and grow closer to where I want to be and need to be as a follower of Jesus.

So, this summer I am asking, "Lord, teach me again how to pray." I invite you to join me in learning again, or for the first time, the depth and breadth of this simple prayer that we begin by saying, "Our Father..."

During July and on the first Sunday of August, I will be focusing line by line and sharing insight I am learning both from study and practice. We'll turn to Wesley and other spiritual guides of the past and present to expand our understanding, enrich our appreciation, and enliven our practice of prayer. The weekly "Trail Guide" will have scripture and prayers for reflection, along with a weekly prayer exercise taken from the ancient practice of "The Daily Examen".

"Who would like to begin/close our time together by praying?"

See you Sunday!

Pastor Jim

June 29, 2016

Inside this issue:

Worship: July	2
Worship: Discipleship Proposal	3
Serve: Stephen Ministry	5
Children's: Mini SPY, Summer Sunday School	6
Children's: Great Beginnings Preschool	7
Youth: Calendar, Summer Gallery	8
Looking Back: Scholarships Awarded	9
Looking Back: VBS	10
Looking Back: Kits for Conference, Thank You	11
Office Notes	Back page



Worshipping

July Worship:

8:30 & 11:00 Worship to feature favorite hymns each Sunday!

7/3 “Lord, Teach Us to Pray – Here We Begin” (Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:1-4)
Holy Communion, Receiving New Members (11:00),
West Point Alumni Glee Club (11:00)

7/10 “Lord, Teach Us to Pray – Captain of my Soul”
Welcoming Rev. Heather Wray

7/17 “Lord, Teach Us to Pray – A Life-line
Each Day”
Baptism and New Members (9:45)

7/24 “Lord, Teach Us to Pray – Foundation
for Friendship”
Baptism and New Members (9:45)

7/31 “Lord, Teach Us to Pray – Two-Way
Street”
Hawaiian/Colorful Shirt Sunday

8/7 “Lord, Teach Us to Pray – Help From
On High”
Holy Communion



Communion Servers Needed

Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity in the church, but have limited time? We need additional people to assist with Communion, especially at the 8:30 and 11:00 services. Communion is served the first Sunday of each month, with additional services for Easter and Christmas. Since no one is available every month, the more people we have the better so we can rotate. Please consider joining us in serving the Lord's Supper. If you are interested or have questions, please email Leslee Rochford at lrchford@live.com

“Saying ‘Hello!’ to a New Pastor”

Go to worship that first Sunday - Show your support.

If giving a gift, try - giving a gift card to your favorite restaurant, or home improvement store, etc.

Give space - Allow the pastor to get settled early on. Plan a later visit than the first week or so.

Take the initiative - Attend a “meet-and-greet”; even better, consider hosting one!

Extend grace - expect the best and get to know her/him; find out ways you can help with their new ministry.

Pray for your new pastor daily - and for her/his family members by name.

(Adapted from “To Be United Methodist”, U. M. Interpreter, May/June, 2016)

A Bold Proposal for Discipleship Renewal

In 2015, Bishop Young Jin Cho chose as our Virginia Annual Conference Theme – “*From Members to Disciples.*” In explaining the theme, Bishop Cho wrote: “The mission of The United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. But ***I wonder if we fully understand the meaning of following Jesus Christ as His disciples.*** And another question is ***whether our churches have road maps to making disciples of Jesus Christ.*** I pray that during our Annual Conference session we will think about these questions seriously and recommit ourselves to the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

During the Annual Conference meeting in Roanoke, June, in his Episcopal Address, Bishop Cho again addressed this theme, “From members to disciples”. “Growing from members to disciples is ***the most important change we need today,***” said Bishop Cho. “In the next several months,” he said, “the church [and churches] will need to think about and define the meaning of disciples.” And one of the questions that will need to be asked is, “**How do we make disciples of Jesus Christ?**”

In response to Bishop Cho’s initiative, we re-formed our Adult Discipleship Team in 2015, making sure to have persons from different age groups (30s, 40s, 50s, 60s, 80s) and from each of our three worship services: Kim Kadesch, Bryan Talbot, Donna Shomo, Angela Becek, Rebekah Daugherty, Wayne Reynolds, Dwight Stonerook, Rev. Jim Wishmyer, and Polly Downey, who agreed to lead this team. Our task as we began meeting in late September, 2015: to develop a comprehensive plan for adult discipleship, that would also dovetail with our discipleship efforts with children and with youth.

We chose as a resource and guidebook, [Charting a Course of Discipleship](#), written by United Methodists for United Methodists and began to meet monthly. In addition, we looked at:

- LUMC Mission – “To make disciples of Jesus Christ who live transformed lives, influencing this generation and the next with God’s love!”
- LUMC Core Values – Biblical Foundation, Discipleship, Healthy Growing Church Community, Servanthood, Worship
- LUMC Vision – Becoming “Followers of Jesus-One with God and each other-Ministers to all the world
- Past and current discipleship efforts at LUMC
- Discipleship efforts of other UM churches and local non-UM churches
- Our United Methodist heritage and history born out of the 18th Century Wesleyan Revival
- Current studies and insights into congregational vitality, especially the Towers & Watson study, UMC Call to Action, 2010
- Decline in worship attendance and children’s ministries (parents bring children)

(Continued on page 4)



Worshipping

(Continued from page 3)

We asked:

- What is a disciple?
- What does it mean to “make disciples”, and how is this accomplished?
- What steps do we need to take in order to fulfill our mission, live out our values, and live into our vision?

With prayerful discernment, the Adult Discipleship Team has proposed to our Church Council the following for LUMC:

1. With the leadership of our pastors, staff, and Church Council, we as a congregation make a deliberate shift from being members who come to church, to becoming, and helping others become, “disciples of Jesus Christ who live transformed lives influencing this generation and the next with God’s love”; and who are the church, for one another and for our community; and,
2. As a first step in this shift of focus, that LUMC reorder the priority of our Sunday morning core activities from our current schedule to the following –
 - a. 9:00 AM Worship (Contemporary)
 - b. 10:00 AM Disciple Groups for all ages
 - c. 11:00 AM Worship (Traditional)

Answers to many questions that have been asked about this proposal can be found in the following two documents that are accessible at our church website, at our FaceBook “members only” page, via email, and paper copies at the Just Ask desk or church office. If you would like a copy mailed/emailed to you, please feel free to contact the church office to request this.

–[LUMC Adult Discipleship Plan – Part 1, FAQs](#)

–[Adult Discipleship Team – Listening Session 6/27/16](#)

Thank you for your continued prayers, your patience, and your feedback. Please feel free to contact any member of the Adult Discipleship Team, or send us an email at -

SundayShift2016@gmail.com .

Adult Discipleship Team members: Polly Downey (Chair), Kim Kadesch (Lay Leader), Angela Becek (Director of Discipleship Ministries), Wayne Reynolds (Certified Lay Minister), Rebekah Daugherty, Donna Shomo, Dwight Stonerook, Bryan Talbot, Rev. Jim Wishmyer

A report on [Virginia Annual Conference 2016](#) by our lay delegate, Jill Ryan, is available to pick up at the Just Ask desk, or you can find it on our website posted with the monthly newsletters at leesburgumc.org/newsletters.

Jill has put a lot of effort into her report and it is well worth the time to read it!

Serving: Others & One Another

What Is Stephen Ministry?

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. (Galatians 6:2, NRSV).

Stephen Ministry is the one-to-one lay caring ministry that takes place in congregations that use the Stephen Series system. Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting.

How Stephen Ministry Works

The best way to understand how Stephen Ministry works is to learn about three groups of people involved in this ministry: Stephen Leaders, Stephen Ministers, and care receivers.

Stephen Leaders: Direct the overall ministry in the congregation.

Stephen Leaders establish and direct Stephen Ministry in a congregation. They build awareness of Stephen Ministry within the congregation and community, recruit and train Stephen Ministers, meet with potential care receivers to assess their needs, match care receivers with Stephen Ministers, and provide Stephen Ministers with ongoing supervision and continuing education.

People learn to serve as Stephen Leaders by attending a Leader's Training Course—a one-week conference that introduces the resources used to lead Stephen Ministry, develops key skills, and gets people excited about this caring ministry. Most congregations begin with two to four Stephen Leaders, typically including a pastor, possibly another church staff person, and one or more lay leaders.

Stephen Ministers: Lay caregivers trained in the congregation by Stephen Leaders.

Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained by Stephen Leaders to offer high-quality, one-to-one Christian care to people

going through tough times. A Stephen Minister usually provides care to one person at a time, meeting with that person once a week for about an hour. Twice a month, Stephen Ministers gather with their Stephen Leaders for supervision and continuing education.

Care Receivers: People going through tough times who are being cared for by Stephen Ministers

Care receivers are people—congregation members and others in the community—who receive care from a Stephen Minister. These are people struggling through a difficult time in life—experiencing grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or some other life crisis.

Some important guidelines for this caring relationship protect both the care receiver and the Stephen Minister:

- The relationship between a care receiver and a Stephen Minister is confidential.
- Men are matched with men; women with women.
- When a care receiver's needs exceed what a Stephen Minister can provide, the Stephen Ministry team makes a referral to an appropriate mental health professional or other community resource.

LUMC will be offering a Stephen Minister class in January 2017. **You need not become a Stephen Minister** but will find the training can be used in everyday life. Next month we will explain what is covered in the training. For more information contact Wayne Reynolds, Lou Legard, or Pete Ross. Information is available at the Just Ask Desk.



Children's Ministry

Mini SPY—August 19 - 21

At Leesburg UMC, our hope is that our kids will grow into the people that God is calling them to become. We strive to give our kids experiences that will help them understand what it means to follow Jesus and carry the light of God's love into the world.

Mini SPY is a weekend retreat through which rising 4th – 6th graders are given the opportunity to practice what it means to be disciples in community as they share God's love with people right here in Leesburg through service and relationship. Kids will learn that all people are broken and in need of healing through the love of Christ.

Mini SPY will be Friday, August 19 - Sunday, August 21 (kids will spend two nights in the church). During this time, our kids will get to practice a bit of what our youth experience when they go to Christiansburg every year for a full week of mission:

- Worship (designed especially for late elementary kids to learn and participate in)
- Hands-on Service Projects
- Have a lot of fun growing in community with each other
- Teaching on what it means to follow Jesus and serve as His hands and feet in the world around them

The cost is \$75 (scholarships are available) which includes: meals & snacks, supplies for service projects, materials for community building activities and admission to the AV Symington water park to have some fun, cool off, and clean-up.

Kids will be mentored and guided by adults from LUMC and some older youth. Parents are invited to serve as mentors for the weekend, please let me know if you're interested. Kids are welcome to invite friends to enjoy this experience with them!



**Mini-SPY:
A Mission
Experience
for rising
4th, 5th
and 6th
graders**

Summer Sunday School: Surf Shack! Sundays at 9:45, July 3—August 21

Are you ready to get swept away in God's amazing love?

Summer Sunday School is set-up similarly to VBS, so sign-up to serve through one of the stations the kids will rotate through: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949aea62ea75-summer>

This is a great opportunity to get connected with the kids and their parents this summer!



Great Beginnings Preschool

Happy Summer from GBP! Our first round of Summer Camp at Great Beginnings was a huge success! Camp was offered for the two weeks immediately following the regular school year. Week One's activities were based on Eric Carle's books and Week Two was inspired by Dr. Seuss books. We learned about Jesus, our Shepherd, every day in Music/Chapel class by concentrating on Psalm 23. We baked Seussical cookies and made s'mores in solar ovens on the playground. Each day, our Campers visited Math, Science, Early Literacy and Art stations based on our book of the day. We concluded camp with a Field Day-type Grand Finale at Ida Lee Park.

Even though our Sunbeams are on summer vacation, there is still a lot of activity at GBP. I attended a seminar on Building Better Learning Experiences and have another seminar lined up in August. These continuing education courses provide me with the skills and knowledge to improve our preschool and refine our curriculum in accordance with Virginia Quality Standards for Early Childhood Education.

We have two openings in our 4s/Pre-K class for the Fall. I am available to give tours over the summer. Contact me at greatbeginningsleesburg@gmail.com to schedule a tour or discuss our program.

Please check out our Facebook Group for GBP's 1st Annual Recess Run/Fun Run on September 18th at Bolen Park: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1327883813905148/> or search "Great Beginnings Preschool" on Potomac River Running's website to register. To make a donation to our Playground Fund or become a Recess Run Sponsor, email me at greatbeginningsleesburg@gmail.com.

Sunday, July 16th is Playground Demolition Day! All able bodied members of the LUMC/GBP Family are invited to take part in the removal of our old playground equipment. We'll need wheelbarrows, sledgehammers, and lots of volunteers. Nursery will be available for children under 5. Stop by any time after 8AM to lend a hand. Our new playground will be installed early to mid-August.

Please keep GBP, our staff and students in your prayers over the summer. Summer is a chance to rest and recharge but also to prepare for the Fall and another wonderful year of fun and learning.

Have a joyful month!

Warmly,

Heather Gonzalez
Great Beginnings Preschool, Director
Greatbeginningsleesburg@gmail.com
703-777-9859





June Youth Calendar

- July 3 Summer Gallery
11:30 Car Wash at Roy Rogers
on Market Street
- July 5 Rafting
- July 9 SPY—meet at Leesburg
Community Church at 12:30;
return around 3:30 on Friday,
July 15
- July 17 Summer Gallery
Bonfire at Angela's at 7:30
- July 19 High School DC Trip
- July 24 Summer Gallery
Bonfire
- July 30 High Ropes Course
- July 31 Summer Gallery
Bonfire
- Aug. 7 Summer Gallery
Bonfire



Summer Gallery Series

Beginning on July 17, Summer Gallery will focus on Adam Hamilton's Half Truths series.

They are simple phrases. They sound Christian—like something you might find in the Bible. We've all heard these words. Maybe we've said them. They capture some element of truth, yet they miss the point in important ways.

Join us as we search for the whole truth by comparing common Christian clichés to the message and ministry of Jesus. The clichés include:

- Everything happens for a reason. (June 12)*
- God helps those who help themselves. (July 17)*
- God won't give you more than you can handle. (July 24)*
- God said it, I believe it, that settles it. (July 31)*
- Love the sinner, hate the sin. (August 7)*

Please gather in the Sanctuary at 9:45 and come to the AG during the offering; for those rising 6th grade and up.

If you're interested in learning more about this, please contact Angela Becek, angela@leesburgumc.org

Looking Back

Georgia W. Bange Scholarship Awarded

The Leesburg United Methodist Women proudly award six of our LUMC graduating seniors with scholarships this year. Congratulations to Kelsea Champ, Hope Kircher, Jordan Chandler, Sharon Shatananda, Rachel Andrews and Will Dotson, and best wishes for your future success!

Kelsea Champ has been accepted at the University of Virginia to pursue degree in Architecture. She has participated in LUMC youth group activities as a leader at SPY, TOP, Stop Hunger Now, Superbowl of caring, and more. She is a drummer in the youth praise band, as well as a member of the Youth Council.

Hope Kircher has been accepted at James Madison University to pursue a degree in Biology. She has participated in LUMC youth group as a leader at SPY, TOP, Stop Hunger Now, and served as the Youth Council Liaison to the LUMC Church Council. As a member of the Youth Praise Band she has been band leader, lead vocalist and lead guitarist. While at Tuscarora High she has been a worship leader of the Christian Fellowship Club.

Jordan Chandler has been accepted at the University of Mary Washington to pursue a degree in Geology or Geography. She has participated in LUMC youth group as a leader at SPY, TOP, 30 Hour Famine, helped as a leader at Vacation Bible School, and more. She has been a member of the Youth Council, and a member of the Youth Praise Band.

Sharon Shatananda has been accepted at the George Washington University to pursue a degree in International Relations. She has participated in LUMC youth group with activities including SPY, TOP, 30 Hour Famine, as well as being a group leader at Vacation Bible School.

Rachel Andrews has been accepted at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University to pursue a degree in General Biosciences. She has participated in the LUMC youth group activities including SPY, TOP, 30 Hour Famine, Super Bowl Sunday, as well as the Christmas Pageant. She also has been a member of the Youth Council and the Youth Praise Band. She has served as Lay Leader for Gallery, leading in call to worship and prayers.

Will Dotson has been accepted at George Mason University to pursue a degree in Music Education. He has participated in many LUMC youth group activities such as SPY, TOP, 30 Hour Famine, and he has been group leader for Vacation Bible School. For six years he has been a member of the Youth Praise Band and serves as sound board technician.

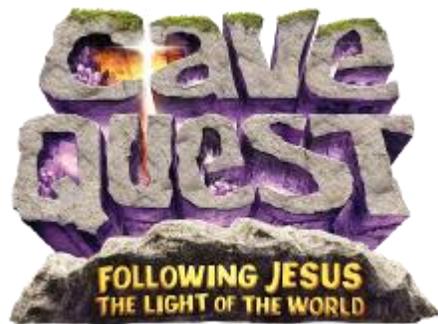
Honoring her love of children and love of education, this scholarship was created in memory of Georgia W. Bange, devoted member of Leesburg United Methodist church, past President of the Leesburg United Methodist Women, and long time active business woman in Loudoun County. Thanks to the congregation of LUMC for your generous donations that have made this scholarship possible!



Looking Back

Vacation Bible School

VBS was an amazing time of sharing God's love with this generation and the next! Thank you so much to many, many volunteers who gave of their time and their talents to live out our mission in our community and teaching over 200 kids what it means to follow Jesus! We also collected over 1,400 pounds of food for Loudoun InterFath Relief!



Looking Back

UMCOR Kits for Conference

Thank you for UMCOR health and school kits !

A huge thank you to everyone who donated and helped assembled UMCOR health kits this year. Judy Craun and Pastor Jim delivered the kits to the annual conference this June. With your generous donations we were able to send 232 health kits and 30 school kits this year.



Once again, LUMW completed the bulk of the kits for LUMC. Thank you to all of the LUMW circles for your annual support of this project!

To find out more about UMCOR, you can visit UMCOR.org.

Hugs to you all!



Assembling Kits in Asbury Hall

Thank you from Creamer's Crew!

Thanks to all of our LUMC congregation that prayed for us, and donated to support the American Cancer Society by contributing to our Relay For Life team. Thanks to your generosity we raised over \$6,500 this year in the fight against cancer! The Loudoun County Relay event in total raised \$214,866. Mark your June 2017 calendars to join us next year!



VBS Thank You: VBS 2016—Cave Quest is now just a memory, but it is a great memory thanks to the help of the following people. Thank you, everyone!

Alex Camacho	CJ Camacho	Jacob Hardman	Kearney Dudley	Margrit Snyder	Sam Hartmann
Amy Virostek	Clare Tallamy	Janice Webb	Keffen Frazee	Marilyn Solomon	Sammie Boyer
Andrew Titus	Colin Miller	Jeannie Boyer	Kelli Rice	Megan Hardman	Sara Conner
Anna Frescholtz	Darlene Curtis	Jenna Lierni	Kendall Stimart	Melissa Barnes	Sharon Reith
Anne Flam	Debbie Dotson	Jennifer Jackson	Kira Frazee	Melissa Neach	Summer Champ
Becky Weber	Duan Lingling	Jennifer Reith	Kristie Grinnell	Michelle Champ	Sydney Johnston
Bella Jackson	Ellie Mazer	Jennifer Swain	Kristin Sawyer	Natalie Sutter	Taylor Gryder
Betsy Creamer	Emma Grinnell	Jessica Solis	Kyle Miller	Nate Ginman	Ty Grinnell
Brennan Stimart	Emmie Johnston	Jordan Chandler	Laina Matz-	Nicole Margolis	Valerie Chandler
Cameron Robin-	Eve Kaufman	Justin Murray	Camacho	Nicole Shea	Will Dotson
son	Faye Jackson	Kaley Carlat	Laura van Leliveld	Paige Harrison	Pastor Jim Wish-
Caroline Reinecke	Hayden Burn	Kate Bentley	Lauren Judd	Rebekah Daugh-	myer
Charlie Flam	Heather Gonzalez	Katherine Dotson	Lauren Shea	erty	Angela Becek
Chloe Mazer	Jack Dobscha	Katie Akin	Linda Humphries	Renee Skillman	Linda Stouten-
Chrissy Dugger	Jack Hartmann	Katie Taylor	Lisa Wyngarden	Ryan Flam	burgh
Christine Murray	Jackson Tallamy	Katy Macklin	Maddie Dobscha	Ryan Titus	Linda Flood

Leesburg United Methodist Church

107 West Market Street
Leesburg, VA 21076

703-777-2056
www.leesburgumc.org

Notes from the Office

Welcome Our New Members!

Professing Members:

Lauren Volpe (5/29)—7 Burke Circle, Hamilton, VA 20158, 540-338-8044;

Jennifer Reith (5/29)—16629 Swanbourne Dr., Hamilton, VA 20158, 757-354-5849

Walter and Daisy Tennyson (6/12)—39772 Charles Henry Place, Waterford, 20197, 410-804-2684

Walter and Sally Ann Tennyson (6/12)—39772 Charles Henry Place, Waterford, 20197, 410-259-7853

Chuck Edwards and Kelli Smith (7/3)—12178 Catoctin Farm Lane, Lovettsville, 20180, 240-274-415 (C), 812-320-8893 (K)

Stephen and Julia Chapin, Ramsey, Archer, and Joe (7/3)—209 Cornwall St. NW, Leesburg, 20176, 703-777-4282



Congratulations

... to Brian and Candy Baracat-Donovan, on the birth of their daughter, Ada Ann, on June 10.

Condolences

...to the family and friends of LUMC member Frank Good, who passed away on July 7.

...to Manny Weber and his family on the recent passing of his Aunt Julia.

...to Sheree O'Neil and her family on the recent passing of her mother, Lois Simmons.

...to Carl Snyder and his family on the passing of his mother, Marie, on May 30.

...to the family and friends of LUMC member Eva Newton who passed away on May 27.



July Birthdays

The July birthday list is available at the Just Ask desk.