



AUMC WITNESS

Our Mission: Love God, Love Neighbor, Serve the World

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Vol. 13 No.3



We are a Stephen Ministry Church

March 15, 2016

Informational Meeting on Annandale UMC and Just Neighbors Initiative

Sunday, March 20, 12:30 pm, Sanctuary

The congregation is invited to an informational meeting on Sunday, March 20, 12:30 pm, in the sanctuary, to learn about an exciting new initiative at AUMC's Heritage Campus. To further AUMC's mission of "Love God, Love Neighbor, and Serve the World", Annandale United Methodist Church is developing plans to partner with Just Neighbors, a nonprofit organization and mission of the United Methodist Church dedicated to serving and supporting the immigrant community of northern Virginia.

Just Neighbors' work helps to unite families that have been separated, to allow victims of domestic violence and other violent crimes to live in the U.S. safely and securely, and to obtain employment

authorization for eligible immigrants so they can support themselves and their loved ones. *(Continued on page 2)*

Easter and Holy Week at AUMC

Palm Sunday, March 20

Worship will be held at 8:30 and 11 a.m., including a Palm Processional and the Palming of the Cross.

Children's Holy Week Walk will be at 9:45 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, March 24

Worship will be held at 7:30 p.m., and will include Communion and foot washing, celebrating the Last Supper.

Good Friday, March 25

The Sanctuary and Little White Church will be open for prayers from noon – 3 p.m.

The Seven Last Words worship service will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This moving Tenebrae service remembers the death of Jesus and recalls his seven last words on the cross. Lights are gradually extinguished accompanied by prayers, music, and scripture readings.

Easter Sunday, March 27

A sunrise worship service will be held at 6:30 a.m. in the Atrium. Rev. Carrillo will preach.

Celebration worship services will be held at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Rev. Dr. Brown will preach.

Sing Hallelujah on Easter! As is our tradition at AUMC, anyone interested is invited to join the adult choir in singing the "Hallelujah Chorus" during Easter Sunday worship services at 8:30 and 11 a.m. So, if you have ever sung the "Hallelujah Chorus" before, we invite you to come up during our final hymn and we will "raise our voices" in singing this timeless classic together as one great, massed choir in honor of our risen Savior!



Academy of Discipleship
Annandale United Methodist Church

presents

"The Mystery of the Empty Tomb"
Sherlock Holmes & Dr. Watson Tackle the Mystery of Easter

Easter Adult Sunday School led by Rev. Jerry Bruce on Easter Sunday, March 27, in the sanctuary; 9:45 a.m.

All adult classes are invited to attend this special Easter Sunday School presentation in the Sanctuary. Reading material for this presentation will be available for pick up in your Sunday class or in the church office. Rev.

Jerry Bruce is a member and small group leader at AUMC. He worked for 13 years as a teacher, preacher, overseeing social services for the London New River Circuit and Harrow-Hillingdon Circuit of the British Methodist Church.

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Get Building!

You are light

You are the light of the world....A person does not light a lamp then cover it with a bucket.They place it on a lamp stand, where it can provide light to all in that house.

Matthew 5: 14

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine... Most likely as you read the previous sentence, you hummed or maybe even sang it. Such simple words yet so profound. As we review these words from Jesus, I urge you to think of its context in time. We have had lightbulbs since 1879 (thank you, Mr. Edison), which make our lives easier. As soon as we enter a room at night we just hit the switch and voila! - there's light. But during Jesus' life, when he spoke to the people and called them the light of the world and furthermore explained that no one would cover that light with a bucket, he was giving them a tremendous lesson. Jesus not only told the disciples, "you are light, thus you are alright." No, Jesus said "you are light, and therefore you must light someone's world!" We give light so that others may see God and experience his kingdom. Light improves our visibility; I imagine the light of Christ is not only useful to me but to others - don't you think so? We, as followers of Jesus, should strive to fulfill our roles as disciples by illuminating the world with our actions and words.



The most important words I want you to remember are "You are". *You are* the salt of the earth—*You are* the light of the world. We do not read, "you will be, you can be, you might achieve" but rather, "You are". And the light you can offer is the light of hope, love, grace, mercy, forgiveness, and sensitivity. God's kingdom is not complete my friends,

while there are children hungry, while there are people hurt and marginalized. God's intention in this world is not finished. What we have seen in the light that is God cannot be unseen, and our responsibility as forgiven children of God deepens and calls us to action. We are then encouraged to not only *be* better but also to go out and *do* better, to stand with those whose livelihood is at stake and be the light of God that is needed. As Lent comes to its culmination, be the light in the world through our Lenten Mission Projects, around the corner and around the world, or in our Stop Hunger Now event coming soon.

The beauty of light is that it comes in different shapes and forms, be in prayer and discernment to where God is guiding your light. Hide under a bush? No! Let it shine, let it shine!


Rev. Eduardo Carrillo

Lenten Missions Projects: Responding to needs here and around the world!

During this Lenten season, renew your commitment to serve others through the AUMC Mission Program. Join our Christian outreach by making a generous Lenten Mission Projects offering. (Use special envelopes or give online www.annandale-umc.org.)

The Missions Committee set a target to raise \$100,000 to fund **five local projects...**

- Meals Ministry at Poe Middle School
- Stop Hunger Now
- Camp Highroad
- Annandale Christian Community for Action
- 100,000 Homes
- Kairos Prison Ministry

... and **three international projects:**

- Rebuilding Haiti Mission Project
- Brazil Mission Project
- Mozambique Mission Project.

The Children's Ministry's Lenten Mission Project will be the Fantastic Food Race, a food drive for Annandale Terrace Elementary School. For a complete description of the Mission Projects, visit www.annandale-umc.org or pick up a 2016 Lenten Mission Project flyer in the Atrium or church office.

(Informational Meeting, continued from Page 1)

Just Neighbors provides accurate, reliable information and services to immigrants, who are often exploited by unscrupulous legal practitioners. Since its founding, the organization has delivered much-needed legal services to more than 7,000 low-income immigrants from more than 115 countries. In 2013, Just Neighbors handled 1,162 cases, most of them residents of northern Virginia who immigrated from more than 65 countries.

In January, the AUMC Church Council approved a working group to begin formulating a covenant agreement with Just Neighbors for the renovation and use of the sanctuary space for its offices at the Heritage Campus of AUMC, 7901 Heritage Dr. Current AUMC mission activities would continue at the Heritage Campus, including the Thursday food distribution program, the Wednesday tutoring program, and the children's clothes closet, and the Fellowship Hall would continue to be available as a gathering space for AUMC groups and programs. Partnering with Just Neighbors is a great opportunity to advance our missional goal of providing mission outreach to our Hispanic and immigrant neighbors at the Heritage Campus.

Members and friends of AUMC are asked to keep this missional opportunity in your prayers and are encouraged to attend the informational meeting.

NEWS IN BRIEF



Kairos cookies and prayers:

The Kairos Prison Ministry Team is preparing to share God's love again for the men at Greenville Correctional Center. The Annandale UMC team is responsible for providing 850

dozen cookies! Cookies are a tangible and meaningful expression of our love for the inmates. A cookie sign-up sheet, prison-approved cookie recipes, and instructions are on the table in the Atrium. Sugar-free and gluten-free cookies are especially needed. If you cannot bake cookies but want to make a donation for baking supplies, make your check payable to AUMC, designated for Kairos Cookies, by Sunday, April 3. Place cookies, one dozen per quart freezer bag, in the AUMC kitchen freezer by Sunday, April 10, and label them "Kairos Cookies." This ministry is powered by prayer. If you are willing to pray for the team and participants throughout the weekend and include your name on a Prayer Chain shared with the participants, add your name to the sign-up sheet in the atrium. Contact Ed Jones at 703-300-0113 if you have questions. Thank you for supporting Kairos!

Open House for the AUMC Weekday Preschool and Early Learning Program will be held for prospective families on Wednesday, March 30 at 10 a.m. Interested parents should come to the program office, room 122.

Parent Coffee: Francine Ronis, LPC, LLC will speak on "Emotional Intelligence – What is Your Child's EQ?" on Thursday, April 7 at 7 p.m. in room 300. This program is sponsored by the AUMC Weekday Children's Programs. All interested parents of young children are invited to attend.

The ACCA food pantry needs to be restocked. Sunday, April 3, is collection Sunday for ACCA. The Heritage campus food distribution collection Sunday will be March 20. Bring boxes, bags and cans of non-perishable food to the Atrium on those Sundays.

AUMC's furniture ministry for ACCA needs volunteers! This team delivers donated furniture to needy families in the Annandale area one morning a month. AUMC's next date to assist is Saturday, April 2, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. For details, and to volunteer, contact Brad Roethermel, 703-338-6970 or bigbadbrad63@hotmail.com.

Help distribute food to neighbors in need every Thursday, 5-7 p.m., at the Heritage campus, 7901 Heritage Dr. Both stand up and sit down tasks available.

Clean plastic grocery bags are needed at the Heritage food distribution site. Please bring to the Heritage campus office or to the main AUMC campus and place in the Heritage Campus box under the coat rack.

Tutors, readers, snack providers and administrative volunteers are needed for AUMC's Tutoring Program on Wednesdays from 3:45 – 5:45 p.m. at the Heritage Campus. Contact Jerry Beyer, 703-399-1395 to serve in the tutoring program or for more information.

You can share your faith beyond your lifetime by including Annandale UMC in your estate plan. You will have the joy of knowing that your gift will help continue the vital ministries of AUMC after your death. Contact Bill Iwig, president of the Annandale UMC Foundation, at 301-365-7532 to find out how your legacy gift can benefit future generations.

Celebrate early literacy and shop for young children at the Weekday Children's Programs Book Fair March 15 – 17. The Book Fair will be held in room 105 (Youth Room) from 9 – 10 a.m., 12 – 1:30, and 2 – 3:30 p.m. each day and 4:30 – 6 p.m. on Tuesday, 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, and 3:30 – 5 p.m. Thursday. There will also be a silent auction of goods and services.

Summer fun opportunity: volunteers, center leaders, and shepherds are needed for AUMC's Vacation Bible School "Gather at the Table" July 11-15, 9 a.m. to noon. Contact Becki Stewart, 703-256-8330 or bstewart@annandale-umc.org.

CIRCLE NEWS

DEBORAH: Mon., April 11, 7 p.m., AUMC Rm 210.

LYDIA: Thurs., April 14, 10 a.m., AUMC Rm 209. Prog.: Carol Irons will present a book review from the UMW 2015 Reading list: *The Well Women: Crossing the Boundaries*. Hostesses: Shirley Bailey & Jennifer Stokes. Dev.: Shirley Bailey.

MARTHA: Mon., April 25, 1 p.m., Heritage Dr. Campus Fellowship Hall. Prog.: Fellowship and service project. Light refreshments served and devotions given.

M&M's: Sat., April 16, 8 a.m. at the home of Pat Sherfey. Hostess: Pam Thomas. Dev.: Cyndi Jones.

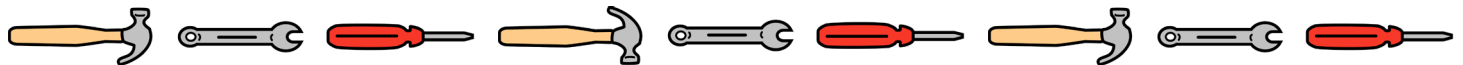
SARAH ELIZABETH: Sun., April 10, 1 p.m. AUMC Rm 209.

Visitors and guests are welcome at all circles!

Get Building!

A weekend for fun, fellowship and service,

with activities and work projects for all ages and abilities, is scheduled for AUMC at Camp Highroad Friday - Sunday, May 13 -15. Join other AUMC families, friends, groups, and individuals at the beautiful United Methodist Church camp near Middleburg, just 40 miles from Annandale. You will have your choice of lodging in the comfortable Oak Lodge or bring your own tent to put up on the lawn. Meals will be provided. Service activities will include cleaning up the grounds, painting, moving mulch, and making light repairs (hammering nails) to the buildings. Kitchen helpers are also needed. Recreational activities will also be available. Camp Highroad has lowered the cost, so this year's price is only \$15 per night/per person, whether you sleep in the lodge or camp out in your own tent. Registration deadline is May 1. Contact Mark Bradley at Bradleyfam@aol.com. For more information talk to Mark, Becki Stewart, Eduardo Carrillo or Trish Bradley.



Ushers needed! Women, men, or youth are needed to serve as ushers for the 8:30 worship service once a month (or less frequently if more volunteer). If interested or need more information, contact Randy Gordon, rgordon@ngfa.org or call the church office 703-256-8330.

MINISTRY MEETINGS

Tues., Mar. 15	Church Council	7:15 p.m.	Room 302
Tues., Mar. 22	SPRC	7 p.m.	Room 210
Tues., Apr. 5	Trustees	7:30 p.m.	Room 303
Wed., Apr. 6	Stephen Ministry	7:30 p.m.	Room 303
Tues., Apr. 12	Finance Committee	7 p.m.	Room 210
Tues., Apr. 12	Missions Committee	7 p.m.	Room 302
Tues., Apr. 19	Church Council	7:15 p.m.	Room 302

Christmas in April (Rebuilding Together) will be Saturday, April 30. Volunteers are needed for half a day/entire day. This is AUMC's 15th straight year for participating in Christmas in April. We will again team up with ACCA/St Barnabas Episcopal on a local "house repair project" to a deserving family or Fairfax County "group home". AUMC youth (age 14 and over), AUMC young and older adults will join forces for fun and work making homes a better and safer place to live. This project is sponsored by AUMC's Missions Committee and ACCA and is a great opportunity for anyone who needs Community Service Hours. If you are interested in participating or fixing a treat for the workers, call John Clarke, 703 642-3836 or 703 606-6464 (cell) or email clarkejhl@gmail.com.

WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS

Palm Sunday, March 20

Door greeters: 8:10 a.m. J. Vance, W. Lord;
9:30 a.m. B. Otto; 10:30 a.m. W. Ward
Fellowship Hours: Staff Parish Relations Committee
Ushers: 8:30 a.m. J. Haymaker, S. Naugle, K. Sabo,
S. Fleming (c)
11 a.m. W. Annan, P. Straub, J. Thomas, P. Snitzer (c)

Easter Sunday, March 27

Door greeters: 8:10 S. Fleming, J. Beyer
9:30 M. Pearson; 10:30 D. Johnson
Fellowship Hours: Easter Ladies
Ushers: 8:30 a.m. J. Clarke, S. Kenski, R. Patton, G. Sherfey,
P. Sherfey (c)
11 a.m. R. Gallagher, C. Perdue, P. Adams, R. Gordon,
R. Witkowski (c)

Sunday, April 3

Fellowship Hours: Kairos Prison Ministry
Ushers: 8:30 a.m. J. Clarke, J. Haymaker, G. Sherfey,
P. Sherfey (c)
11 a.m. C. Jones, C. Jones, J. Thomas, P. Adams (c)

Sunday, April 10

Fellowship Hours: United Methodist Men
Ushers: 8:30 a.m. S. Kenski, S. Naugle, K. Sabo,
E. McKenney (c)
11 a.m. W. Annan, S. Fleming, G. Rothman, P.
Shockley (c)

Sunday, April 17

Fellowship Hours: Bible Fellowship/Lydia Circle
Ushers: 8:30 a.m. A. Cogswell, R. Patton, G. Sherfey,
P. Sherfey (c)
11 a.m. R. Gallagher, P. Straub, R. Witkowski,
P. Snitzer (c)

NEXT DEADLINE:

Friday, April 8 is the deadline for the April 19 Witness which covers April 24 and May 1, 8, 15, and 22.