



AUMC WITNESS

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

Annandale United Methodist Church
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Vol. 9 No. 14

 We are a Stephen Ministry Church

July 17, 2012

We are **FAMILY!**



Sunday, July 1, 2012 is a day that won't be forgotten soon by anyone who worshiped at Annandale United Methodist Church. All of us had experienced the recent storm whose violent winds had done great damage to the local electrical grid, and leaving several without power. Moreover, the mercury hovered around the 100 degree mark during those days, leaving those without air conditioning extremely uncomfortable. Surely, one might think, there would be no worship in the midst of such adverse conditions...or could there?

First, the staff, themselves with varying degrees of communicability, wrestled during the hours of Saturday, but at the end felt that this particular Sunday, the first of the new, merged community, was a very important opportunity that would not be repeatable. Second, due to the lack of ability to communicate widely, we were sure that someone would indeed show up and that we were obligated to be present as well. Third, it is this preacher's experience that these days - days of adverse conditions, bring out the best in us and allow us to focus on what is really important. So, in casual clothing, with windows wide open, we shared together our service of merger. It proved to be a God inspired decision.

A nearly full house arrived, much to everyone's surprise (except God, of course!). Rev. Young Choi played an inspired prelude. The choir, composed of singers from both communities, struck up a rousing processional hymn. The congregation, bereft of visuals, opened their hymnals and sang with gusto. The order of worship was led by the casually garbed clergy. Ice water was consumed liberally - IN THE SANCTUARY! Prayers were lifted. The anthem was beautifully rendered under the direction of Lynn Jennings. The

offering was given. The Gospel was shared. The bread of life was broken and shared, served by AUMC members paired with IUMC members, a portent of our shared mission to share Christ with each other and with others. There was truly a spirit of unity in the place.

The meaningful closing was brought to fore as members of both communities gathered before God's altar in prayer, concluded by Bill Sinclair ceremonially draping the clergy with a stole that had been given to IUMC clergy over the years, a sign of our acceptance of a shared commitment to bear the yoke of Christ, which as scripture points to, is easy, and it's burdens light.

And, despite the heat and discomfort of the environ, the new community walked with lightness of step and joy of heart as we together began the journey of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with the Annandale community at large. May God continue to order our steps as we venture forth.





Being rooted and grounded in love.

Ephesians 3:14-21



- Oogway:** My friend, the panda will never fulfill his destiny, nor you yours until you let go of the illusion of control.
- Shifu:** Illusion?
- Oogway:** Yes. [points at peach tree]
- Oogway:** Look at this tree, Shifu: I cannot make it blossom when it suits me nor make it bear fruit before its time.
- Shifu:** But there are things we *can* control: I can control when the fruit will fall, I can control where to plant the seed: that is no illusion, Master!
- Oogway:** Ah, yes. But no matter what you do, that seed will grow to be a peach tree. You may wish for an apple or an orange, but you will get a peach.
- Shifu:** But a peach cannot defeat Tai Lung!
- Oogway:** Maybe it can, if you are willing to guide, to nurture it, to believe in it.
- Shifu:** But how? How? I need your help, master.
- Oogway:** No, you just need to believe. Promise me, Shifu, promise me you will believe.

Kung Fu Panda 2008

I have a confession to make, I really enjoy movies. I'm, however, not able to tell you who the director is or producer of a specific movie, nor am I able to give you the full cast of the movie. But one thing I'm really good at is remembering some really insightful and teachable moments. Kung Fu Panda is an animated

movie whose main character, Po, wants to learn kung fu. This character has no previous training on martial arts at all. But he is chosen by master Oogway to be the legendary dragon warrior. Shifu, who has been training kung fu for years, is not so convinced that Po can become the legendary dragon warrior as he is untrained, a little over weight, and a panda. Oogway tries to illustrate how Po can become the legendary dragon warrior. There is a line that mirrors Ephesians 3:17-19 in this dialogue: if you are willing to guide it, to nurture it, to believe in it. Paul is addressing the church at Ephesus and telling them to believe, to claim the power to comprehend the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. Now, if we are willing to guide, nurture and believe plus we are convinced that we are rooted and grounded in love, imagine the things we can do.

Paul understands that we have been rooted and grounded in love. He understands that no matter what people try to do or how situations in life might affect us, we should not forget that we are loved. Therefore we must comprehend and share that love with others. How? Not just through words but through actions. Oogway knows that the seed of the peach tree needs to be cared for. Shifu on the other hand wants to control how and when. I believe that, sometimes, we want to control how and when we guide, nurture and believe when love will make a difference. We need to comprehend that the steadfast love of God is casting a wide net on the world. Not just for those who will accept it, but for everyone.

Therefore, let us not be like Shifu that believes in the illusion of control but let us believe that God's love can be nurtured and grown to dimensions that surpass knowledge. We just need to believe. Will you promise me that you will believe?

Eduardo Carrillo

Transportation Ministry

Opportunity: Drivers Needed!

If you are willing to obtain a CDL (Commercial Drivers License) or if you already have a CDL, you are encouraged to volunteer to drive the AUMC bus. A volunteer driver with a CDL is needed periodically for church activities. If you are interested, or for more information, contact Garry Bell, gbell@annandale-umc.org or call 703-256-8330.

Volunteers Needed for Food Distribution - Volunteers are also needed to assist with the food distribution program at the IUMC campus Thursday evenings from 5 to 7 p.m. IUMC is designated by the County as a food distribution site and receives perishables from Food for Others about 5 p.m. which must be received, set out and organized for distribution. Following the distribution, volunteers assist with cleaning up the IUMC Fellowship Hall. You do not need to sign up to volunteer. For more information about the food distribution or sandwich making programs call Betsy Clevenger 703-425-6424.



OUR CHURCH *family*

Our Sympathy To

Jacque Segal and family on the death of her aunt, TG Maddox.

Family and friends of Russell Reber.

Jeanne Guidi, Joan Oliver and Betty Guilietti and families on the death of their brother, Ron.

Thank You

A heartfelt thank you to the pastors, staff and our many friends there at AUMC for their calls, cards and help during Ron's illness, his subsequent death and funeral. Thank you, too, to the ladies, lead by Alice Snitzer, who prepared their usual lovely reception after the funeral. Your love and kindness made this difficult time easier.

With love,

Janice Franer

Thank You

To the Staff and Congregation,

I want to express my sincerest appreciation for your kind words of condolence on the passing of my two brothers, Frank (90) and Glenn (82), of Marion, S.C. I also thank you very much for the prayers you have offered during my recent period of disability and absence.

God bless all,

Wayne Roberts

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Annandale United Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for being there for me during my hip surgery.

The cards, visits and flowers meant so much to me, but the love and prayers you sent will help me heal.

Thank you.

Lovingly,

Lenora Spelman



Men's Retreat

I Kings Men's Bible Study Retreat at Richmond Hill, Sept. 28 – 30. The I Kings Men's Bible Study small group is planning a retreat at the Richmond Hill Retreat Center in Richmond, VA for the weekend of Sept. 28 – 30.

There is still room for a few more men to join us for this time away from the hustle and bustle of Northern Virginia. John Dodge, who leads our Earth and Spirit group at Annandale UMC, will lead a "Creation Care" program which is based on six video sessions and includes a workbook to guide the discussion of each video. The schedule also includes attending the regular morning, noon, and evening prayer services in the Richmond Hill chapel and some free time as well. You are cordially invited to join us. The retreat starts Friday evening, Sept. 28, with dinner and concludes after lunch on Sunday, Sept. 30. The cost is \$110. Please contact Bob Herbst (703-941-5930) or Bill Iwig (301-365-7532) if you are interested in attending.

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VIM Trip to West Virginia Oct. 21-27 2012



AUMC is sponsoring a 21-member mission trip to Brenton, West Virginia (Wyoming County) with the Appalachian Service Project (ASP). Brenton is only 340 miles from Annandale.

AUMC sent summer youth teams to ASP for over 10 years and, for the first time, we will participate in an adult mission. Our mission work will include: relational ministry and home repairs—typical ASP projects include roofing, drywall and insulation, wheelchair ramps, plumbing, electrical, building process, foundation repair, painting, stairs and floor repairs.

Cost for the trip; \$525 which includes transportation, lodging, meals and all construction materials. Volunteers who cannot go for the full 7 days (5 work days and 2 travel days) are welcome.

Interested persons should contact John Clarke by phone, text or email (703 606-6464 (Cell or text), 703 642-3836 (home) or clarkejh1@gmail.com). **Commitments needed by July 24 with a nonrefundable deposit of \$250.**

MINISTRY MEETINGS

Wed, July 18	Stephen Ministries	7:30 p.m.	Room 303
Tues, July 24	Education Committee	7:30 p.m.	Room 302

LECTIONARY TEXTS

July 22, Eighth Sunday after Pentecost: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a, Psalm 89:20-37 (UMH 807), Ephesians 2:11-22, Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 29, Ninth Sunday after Pentecost: 2 Samuel 11:1-15, Psalm 14 (UMH 746), Ephesians 3:14-21, John 6:1-21

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WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS

Children and youth are needed to serve as acolytes and crucifers during the 8:30 and 11 a.m. worship services. If interested in this ministry opportunity, call 703-256-8330 or email office@annandale-umc.org.

Sunday, July 22

Outreach greeters: 8:30 a.m. R. Hampton 9:30 a.m. B. Brown 10:30 a.m. D. Johnson

Greeters: SPRC

Fellowship Hour Hosts: Trustee Committee

Ushers: 8:30 a.m. A. Cogswell, S. Fleming, R. Roberts, B. Brown (C)
11 a.m. E. Ramsey, G. Rothman, B. Summerson, P. Snitzer (C)

Sunday, July 15

Outreach greeters: 8:30 a.m. S. Fleming 9:30 a.m. D. Ruhter 10:30 a.m. W. Ward

Greeters: UMM

Fellowship Hour Hosts: Witness/ Missions

Ushers: 8:30 a.m. S. Chase, B. Pethal, P. Pethal, E. McKenney (C)
11 a.m. C. Perdue, R. Witkowski, R. Gordon, P. Adams (C)

NEXT DEADLINE

Fri. July 20 is the deadline for the July 31 Witness which covers Aug. 5 and 12

DINNER & MUSIC

Join the **AUMC mission team** for an evening of Dinner and Music with Justin Dean in support of our Mozambique Mission Team. The dinner will be held on Saturday, July 21, 2012 at 6 pm with the concert at 7pm. Please purchase your dinner tickets following each service in the atrium. The cost is \$10.00 per person (maximum \$25.00 per family). A love offering will be taken at the concert. If you cannot attend but would like to donate, please make the check payable to AUMC with Mozambique scholarships in the memo section. We hope you will join us for good food, great fellowship, and fantastic music.

Registration Underway for Kids in Mission Program



Are you or your elementary-aged child looking for a rewarding, fun summer activity? KIM – KIDS IN MISSION - is a 4-day fun, summer program that gives kids an opportunity to “give back” to the community. KIM is scheduled for Monday, July 23 – Thursday, July 26, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. for 2nd – 6th graders. Join us for hands-on projects that focus on mission and service – loving neighbor and serving others. To obtain a registration form visit www.annandale-umc.org, contact the church office at 703-256-8330 or by emailing jkizmiller@annandale-umc.org or pick one up in the atrium and the Parent Resource Area.

News You Can Use

Stay Informed! News about AUMC is as close as your “in box” or a click of your mouse! Have you visited the AUMC Facebook page? Go to the web site www.annandale-umc.org and click on the “f” in the bottom right hand corner. Would you like to be notified of funerals at AUMC? Send an email to drogerson@annandale-umc.org and ask to be notified when funeral services are scheduled here. Did you know you can receive the Witness newsletter via email? (save paper and postage) Ask to be included on the email distribution by sending an email to drogerson@annandale-umc.org.

Volunteers are sought to provide office assistance for our campus at Immanuel United Methodist. If you can provide assistance from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. weekdays, please contact Garry Bell, gbell@annandale-umc.org or 703-256-8330.