

The Connection

Volume 1 Issue 5

January 2014

"Being the Church" in the Snow Hill Community

A Word from the Pastor

Happy New Year SHUMC!

First, I want to thank the UMM and UMW for the beautiful hand-crafted quilt. It will be a treasured possession as a symbol of this loving church and its ministries.

I love the idea of the year 2015 as a blank slate. So far, nothing but opportunities to love, to serve, to worship and to grow spiritually. So far, no mistakes, no missed opportunities, no regrets.

Wouldn't it be an amazing blessing if we could say that next December 31st? I know that is unrealistic, but the more we strive and are intentional about our discipleship, the closer we will come to being the people God created us to be.

We are blessed with a number of means to support us, including prayer, Bible Study, worship, and Christian fellowship.

"God knows the plans he has for us." Join me in praying that individually and as a church family we might discern those plans and be in all ways acceptable to our Lord.

Would it help to talk about how to move forward in your walk with Christ? Are there challenges in your life that are weighing heavily on your heart? I am always ready and willing to talk with you and to provide support in any way possible.

Together, with God, let's make this a great year!

Peace and Joy,

Pastor Pat



New Spiritual Formation Group Begins

Wednesday, January 7 at 6:15 in the fellowship hall, we will begin a small group study of some of Jesus parables. We will look at the parables from the view of the 21st century. In combination with the scriptural text, we will be seeking God's messages to us about the way we can live more positively, more fruitfully, and more in keeping with our calling.

In addition to gaining support for living our lives, the small group provides a great time to interact with others. Invite a friend to come with you – or come on your own. No book purchase is necessary for this study.

Computers—Oh Yes You Can!!

Do you think you can't learn to use a computer? Think that Facebook is of no value to you? Do you wonder what people get out of going on "websites?" Well, it's time you gave it a try!

You do not have to be a technology wizard to use a computer. Sunday, January 11 at 10:40 Chuck Spicer will walk us through the basic steps to access the church website and also the church's Facebook page. The website is good for obtaining basic information about the church, activities, dates, etc. The Facebook page is great for letting you see pictures and information about events that have occurred with the church.

Reaching Out to the Community

We encourage each member of SHUMC to invite others to attend worship and other events at the church. But, folks are often reluctant to do so, or not in the best situation to do so. You can help out by simply identifying persons who you believe would benefit from a call/visit from the pastor and who may be in need of a church home. Please think about neighbors, friends, or work colleagues who live in the community, and send Pastor Pat their names and a phone number and/or address.

Worshiping at Pioneer

SHUMC has been blessed by the opportunity to bring worship to the long term patients at Pioneer Hospital (known better as Danbury Hospital). The first Sunday of each month a group from the church joins with these neighbors to worship through music, a brief homily, scripture and prayer. The first Sunday of each quarter (Jan, Apr, July, Oct) we will celebrate communion with them.

Anyone who would like to go with the group is encouraged to attend. We gather in the lobby of the hospital by 12:55 and move to the day room on the second floor. You do not have to be a choir member or talented singer – simply one who will be blessed by participating in this outreach to others. Questions? See Pastor Pat or give her a call.

Did You Know?

Epiphany does not refer to the Wise Men. It is a word that comes from the Greek epiphaneia and is translated as a revealing or manifestation. The Church uses the word to signify the manifestation or revelation of Christ to the outside world. This came about as a result of the gentiles from the east (Magi) traveling to find the baby king.



A Beautiful Advent and Christmas at Snow Hill

Members Unable to Worship With Us

Please keep the following SHUMC members and neighbors in your prayers. If you have the opportunity to visit or send a card it would be most appreciated.

- Ila Mae Overby
- Jacqueline Priddy
- Billy Shelton
- Elsie Sisk
- Mary Tilley

Due to privacy concerns we will not publish addresses—please contact the church office for this information

Winter Book Read

During January and February there will be more opportunities to curl up with a good book. There are hundreds of excellent books by Christian writers and theologians that can contribute to spiritual growth as well as to provide rich reading experiences. You may want to consider *What's So Amazing About Grace?* by Philip Yancey. This is a personal and engaging book about God's grace. Yancey sets grace in the midst of life's stark images, and tests its mettle against horrific "ungrace." He reminds us that "there is nothing we can do to make God love us more. There is nothing we can do to make God love us less."

Worship Through Service

Snow Hill UMC members have a number of ways to worship through service. There is always room for you.

- Backpacks for students at Piney Gove Middle School
- Support the Northern Stokes Food Pantry
- Help in our Ramp Ministry
- Support the Southeastern Stokes Outreach Ministry
- Visit a member unable to attend services (we can give you a DVD of any Sunday Service to take with you)
- Get involved with our United Methodist Women or United Methodist Men
- Help with maintenance work at the church and/or SHAPE
- Make a donation to S.H.A.R.E—Snow Hill Area Relief Effort—which will enable the church to help those individuals and families in the Snow Hill Area in need.

and more—Worship isn't just for Sundays at Snow Hill!

January Birthdays

(The Following church members birthdays are on record. If you are aware that one is missing, please call the church office and leave that information.)

Jan. 1	Alexa Moorefield
Jan. 2	Glen Robertson
Jan. 2	Billy Shelton
Jan. 4	Laura Wilson
Jan. 6	Luke Hardin
Jan. 11	Lee Charleville
Jan. 14	Kim Lawson
Jan. 16	Karen Ring
Jan. 21	Jordan Amos
Jan. 21	Tanner Ring
Jan. 23	Nicole Lawson
Jan. 27	Jackie Mabe
Jan. 29	Samantha Hardin

Facebook

Do you want to keep up to date with what is happening at SHUMC? One way to do that is to "like" us on Facebook. You can see pictures of the church and events, receive updates on upcoming events, and more. You can find the church's Facebook page by going to www.snowhillumc.org and clicking on the Facebook link in the bottom left corner of the home page. At this point 92 people have "liked" the SHUMC Facebook page—can we make it to 100 before the end of the month?

January Calendar

Jan. 4	9:45 Sunday School	10:50 Epiphany Sunday Worship	12:55 First Sunday at Pioneer
Jan. 7	6:00 a.m. Prayer Group	6:15 – Spiritual Formation Group	7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Jan. 11	9:45 Sunday School	10:50 Baptism of the Lord Sunday	
Jan. 12	7:00 UMW Meeting – Fellowship Hall		
Jan. 14	6:00 a.m. Prayer Group	6:15 Spiritual Formation Group	7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Jan. 18	8:00 UMM Breakfast	9:45 Sunday School	10:50 3 rd Sunday Worship Service
Jan. 21	6:00 a.m. Prayer Group	7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	
Jan. 22	6:15 Church Council Meeting		
Jan. 25	9:45 Sunday School	10:50 Worship Service	
Jan. 28	6:00 a.m. Prayer Group	6:15 Spiritual Formation Group	7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

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