Dear Friends,

There are many things going on this month in the church. As you receive this newsletter, there is a mission team from our church that is serving in two areas of the Holston Conference. They will be helping with a food ministry in Marion, Virginia. Some will be working to plant fruit trees that will for years bring fresh fruit to people who do not have access to that type of food because of location or economic hardship. Some will be working in town with others who have specific housing needs or in the main food pantry.

Later in the trip, they will be working in an abandoned school building to renovate the building for use as a community mission center. I think this school was started by the Methodist church many years ago. Eventually, it was turned over to the county school system, and now it is coming back home to the church to help reach out to people of this community. It is good for us to reach out to those around us in love and mission.

Holston Annual Conference will start on Sunday, June 5th. This event is the gathering of all of the church pastors and lay members from the whole conference. As we come together to celebrate our common work, we are encouraged and sent forth again to do the work of our Lord.

Later in the month, Vacation Bible School will bring out children and adults together to learn about the love of God in a powerful and exciting way. As this event happens, we have the opportunity to teach the love of Christ to children that may not go to church anywhere. Again, we are reaching out into our neighborhood to help others.

You also know by now that there will be a pastoral transition during the month of June. I will be leaving to serve a church in Hixson, Tn. Your new pastor will be your old pastor, Dale Wyrick. This is usually when I would tell you something about your pastor and encourage you to love him and help him as he comes to a new church. Obviously, since he has served here before, these things aren’t necessary. I know that you will love serving with Dale again as the church reaches out to the community of Spring City. Please also be in prayer for my family as we go to a new church to serve God there.

In all these things, may God bless us during the month of June.

Shalom,

Pastor Tony
**SUN**  **MON**  **TUE**  **WED**  **THU**  **FRI**  **SAT**

1. **7:00 Chancel Choir**
   - The Temple return from their Mission Trip

2. **11:00 Home Prayer Group**
   - VBS Meeting

3. **8:30 MDO**
   - Trustees

4. **7:00**
   - Chancel Choir

5. **11:00**
   - VBS Program

6. **7:00 Scouts**
   - MDO

7. **8:30 MDO**

8. **5:30 Youth Chancel Choir**

9. **7:00**

10. **8:30 MDO**

11. **7:30 Chancel Choir**

**June 20 - 24, 6 - 8 p.m., Family Life Center**

**VBS (3 yrs. - 5th Grade)**

**NOTE FROM JEANNETTE:**
Let’s smile at everyone we meet!
You are loved!
FINANCIAL & ATTENDANCE REPORTS

THANK YOU FROM THE COMMUNITY MINISTRIES TEAM

We are very grateful to everyone who supported Community Ministries this past season, which ran from September to May. Full meals were served once a month, and anyone in our community was welcomed.

The success of these dinners could not have taken place without a team of great volunteers and donors. Thank you for your labor of love toward our community and the ministry.

Dan and Rita Uhler
Every church member is a host and not a guest. Making visitors feel welcome is primarily the responsibility of members, not the nebulous “church.”

The most important person for a visitor to talk to in order to feel at home in a new church is you. It is not the pastor, or the greeter, but a regular attender. One of the most impressive gestures we can extend to first time visitors is for people with no official position to take the initiative and welcome them.

Treat first time visitors as guests of God, not strangers.

Smile at everyone and offer your hand.

Look people in the eye and smile.

Take the initiative, don’t wait for visitors to initiate conversation with you.

Learn people’s names and remember them.

Use [only] appropriate and allowed Touch such as a hand shake or a gentle pat on the back.

Ask questions and learn about your guests. It is better to express interest in them than it is to try to “sell” your church.

Listening is a very effective way to show love.

Greet children at their level. Yes, families love children’s church and child care. We also love it when you allow us to decide if our children should remain with us in worship. And even more, when you love our kids as kids (crying, playing, singing!) and don’t expect them to be grown-ups.

Invite visitors to join you at something, anything! Invite them to today’s fellowship meal, next Sunday’s Christian Education hour, or to a restaurant for some one on one time.

Never let new people sit alone. “New people should never have to sit alone. Take initiative and go to them without delay.”

Help visitors find seating that suits their families’ needs.

Help first time visitors by being their tour guide and helping them find worship resources. Visiting a new church is like a cross-cultural experience, even for those of us who have visited dozens of other churches.

Invite people to fill out your church’s visitor registration card.

Tell people you’re glad they are here.

Pray for them throughout your week.

Be yourself! You are loving! You have a good thing going! You have the capacity to love more people, and to love more deeply.
The 2016 New Testament Readings that began on January 4th were completed on May 10th. The last readings were Revelation 20-21.

Pastor Tony is shown as he leads the group in their Wednesday night study.

Featured left to right: Richard Stair, Lynne Agee, Virginia Bond, Jeannette Long; back row: David Gilliam, Liz Stair, Pastor Tony; seated is Bill (Tuffy) Thurman.

The Home Prayer Group meets every other Thursday at the home of Bill (Tuffy) Thurman at 11:00 a.m. Those who attend share a time of prayer and concerns for church members, family members, friends, and those in the community.

Everyone is invited to attend the Home Prayer Group gatherings. Their schedule for June include the following Thursdays: June 2, June 16, and June 30th. Mark these dates on your calendar and plan to attend the Home Prayer Group meetings.

The group usually go out for lunch together where they enjoy food and fellowship. Come and be part of this close-knit home prayer group.

Thank you to the Multi-Media team for the good sound you provide at our worship services, for DVDs, Livestream, etc. Team members are Chris Haerr, chairperson; Silas & Linda Booker, Marty Gilliam and John Moorshead. They also provide sound for weddings, funerals, and other special events.

Left is Silas Booker in the sound booth at worship on Sunday, May 1st.

Laura & Jacob Moffett were honored with a baby shower in the Fellowship Hall, Sunday afternoon, May 15th, from 1:30 - 3 p.m. Laura is shown above with all the lovely hostesses in front of the festive, delicious table of refreshments.

The couple received many gifts for their baby girl, who is to arrive in June.

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Honoring Our Mothers

Pastor Tony is shown distributing long-stemmed daisies to the children to pass out to the mothers who were present in the congregation in celebration of Mother's Day, May 8th. A special thank you to Caren Ruffner for the lovely flowers she placed in the sanctuary.

Disciple 3 Study Soon Ends

Disciple 3 class members are shown below with their facilitator, Walt Morse, as they met in the Fellowship Hall, Wednesday, May 11th. Their final day of study is Wednesday, May 25th.

WAY TO GO UMW!

Congratulations to the United Methodist Women (UMW) on the great success of their 2016 annual Flea Market, which was held in the Family Life Center, Saturday, April 30th, from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Over $4,000.00 was garnered from the sale and will go toward the UMW's local mission projects.

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the flea market. Your generosity will have a big impact on mission projects in our community.