

Charity United Methodist Church

DECEMBER



12th Annual
Pungo Village

Christmas Tree Lighting

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2018
4PM-6PM

Rain Date: Sunday, December 2, 2018 from 4pm-6pm.

Music, Singing, Hot Chocolate & Goodies
SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY SANTA!
Bring your blankets & Chairs



Donation Box Available. Please Bring Toys!

Downtown Pungo, corner of Princess Anne & Indian River Roads | Connect with Us! 

Contact Us

4080 Charity Neck Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23457
757-426-7296
charityumc@gmail.com
charitychurchvb.com
Rev. David Ryu
Office Hours By Appointment

Church Office

Nancy Clark
Church Administrator
Monday through Friday
9 am to 1 pm

Charity Preschool

Heather Harris
Preschool Director
Monday through Friday
9 am to 12 pm
757-426-5264
charitypreschool@gmail.com

Join Us

First Sunday Breakfast
8-10 am • Fellowship Hall

On the first Sunday of each month, everyone is invited to join us for a free breakfast sponsored by our United Methodist Men.

Wonderful Wednesday Dinner
5:30 pm • Fellowship Hall

Don't Forget...

- 12/03 Red Cross Blood Drive
- 12/04 Church Council Mtg
- 12/08 Senior Luncheon
- 12/09 Poinsettia Order Deadline
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Worship
- 12/25 Church/Preschool Closed
- 12/26 Church/Preschool Closed





Pastor David's Column

The Spirit and the Son

In the month of November we journeyed together in discovering our Spiritual Gifts. Some of you were quite surprised to see your online survey results compared to the November Newsletter survey. Needless to say, this is not an exact science but a window to the possibilities of understanding God's purpose in giving everyone spiritual gifts.

This month we approach the Advent season with the theme of "Christmas Lights". It is my hope and desire to share with you the following sermon series that looks at Jesus as:



- The light of life
- The arrival of light
- The light of the world
- The light has shone
- The light of eternity

It would not be complete in looking at the "Christmas Lights" without the connection between the Holy Spirit and the Son. For us to do this I want you to consider transporting yourself back in time to meet a long-ago person or witness an earth-shaking event; where and with whom would you wind up? We can all think of people we wish we could have met or momentous occasions where we wish we had been present. Where do you find yourself as you answer this question?

← BACK TO THE PAST

Now I want to ask you how Jesus fits into these imaginings. Is he simply another famous person from history, someone we'd have been thrilled to see or talk to? Scripture, our own experience and the experience of Christians through the ages tell us that Jesus is more than a figure from the Gospels or religious paintings. In his Spirit he lives with us here and now!



What do you see? hear? smell? taste? feel? One of the ways you and I can transport ourselves back in time is to ask the Holy Spirit to testify for us.

In John 15:26-27 it says: *"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me. 27 And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning."*

It is important to realize that everything the Spirit does in this passage - testify, convict, guide into truth and bring glory - all focus on Jesus Christ. Just as the Spirit testifies about Jesus and glorifies him, we must follow the Spirit's example. It is the combined testimony of the Spirit of Jesus and the disciples of Jesus that God uses to reach the world. If we assume that evangelism is the Holy Spirit's task and not ours, we avoid our responsibility. Likewise, if we assume we are sufficient by ourselves to reach others, we will lack the Holy Spirit's power.

Jesus said to the disciples, *"You also must testify,"* following the Spirit's example (15:27). If we are to do this effectively during this Advent season, we need to consider how the unchanging truths of the Bible can best be communicated in an environment similar to the one Paul encountered in Athens. It takes at least a three-part strategy: reliance on the Holy Spirit, studying God's word to understand current ideas without bending to them, and asking God to give us the Spiritual gifts to best communicate with nonbelievers.



Jesus tells us that the Holy Spirit comes not to call attention to himself but to glorify the Savior in our minds and hearts. The Spirit glorifies Jesus by displaying to the world who Jesus is and what he does. In doing so, he summons our praise and worship not for himself but for Jesus. He prompts our praise by convincing us of our present spiritual need and of Christ's ability and readiness to meet it, leading us to trust and love the Savior. So this Christmas, I invite all of you to shine your light of Jesus Christ and let the whole world see that unto us a savior has been born.



The mission team had a very successful week of mission work. Ed Sievers, Amanda Herman and Alan Peterson left Sunday for Beaufort, NC to do hurricane recovery work. They were assigned the repair the roof of an elderly woman. They stripped the roof between rain showers and were grateful for the addition of Pastor David, Nikki Natalzia, Troy Harris, Tiffany Bright, Jim Beltz and Craig Dudley. They worked for the rest of the week on finishing that roof and joined another team to repair another roof before departing for Plymouth, NC on Friday afternoon to do some justice ministry work with Pastor Jay Clark

and CROSS. In Plymouth they were joined by Kim Peterson, Nancy Sievers, Emma Straseskie, Jess Norton, John Norton, Pam Fromann, Brian Tucker and Sage Henley. The assignment in Plymouth was to work on Centro Cristiano De Fe a church started by a retired civil servant who felt the call to serve the Hispanic migrant worker population in the Roper area of North Carolina. She leads a congregation of up to 150 people during the "season" and the rest of the year has a core group of 24-30 members. They needed roof repairs, a shed vinyl sided, electrical work and a couple of rooms drywalled after removing the water damaged walls. Part of the group did some painting at Plymouth UMC.

Special thanks to Wilda Smith, Nicole Hamilton, Rob and Angie Bishop and Rebecca Straseskie for helping with the cooking by preparing food for the team to take. It was great to be able to have all hands on the projects and get more accomplished.

We will be headed back to Plymouth over the President's day weekend in February. Put it on your calendar now so you are free to join us. It is so rewarding to be the hands and feet of Christ in service.

Kim Peterson



The month of November was a busy and fruitful time. The week before Veteran's Day found folks from Charity working with others from 7 different states in Beaufort, NC. Teams repaired and replaced the roofs on 2 homes damaged by Florence. On Veteran's Day Weekend our team went to Plymouth, NC where work was done on the roof and inside of a converted grocery store that serves as a worship center for the migrant workers. On November 15th, 50 shoeboxes were delivered to a drop-off location where they will be processed for delivery to children all over the world!



Finally, on November 17th a group of 14 went to the Eastern Shore to drop off 22 laundry baskets full of food. In addition, blankets and winter coats were also taken. These items were given to migrant workers.



We at Charity have been richly blessed and we are expected to pass those blessings on to others - and just not during the Holidays but all year long.

Nancy Sievers



Each year, our middle and high school students attend the Virginia Annual Conference Youth Retreat up in Lynchburg, VA where hundreds of students from all across Virginia converge together from their respective United Methodist Churches. This year, Charity sent 17 middle school students along with three adult chaperones where Rev. Joe Varner was the guest speaker from Thalia UMC. Our high school students are at Eagle Eyrie right now being blessed this weekend.



HOPE

for the holidays

For many individuals and families in our community, the holidays are filled with worry as a special Christmas meal is only a dream. Would you help JCOC collect enough food to fill Christmas Food Baskets for 200 households?

As you shop for your family's Christmas meal, please pick up a few extra items and drop them off at our Dining Hall. We are collecting the following...Please drop off donations by December 14th (1053 Virginia Beach Blvd., Virginia Beach). Office hours are Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. For more information, please call 491-2846 or email jcoc@jcoc.org.

Turkeys & Hams

Mashed/Scalloped Potatoes, boxed

Stuffing Mix, bag or boxed

Gravy, dry mix or canned

Green Beans, canned

Cream of Mushroom Soup

Crispy Fried Onions

Sweet Potatoes/Yams, canned

Marshmallows, mini

Cranberry Sauce

Rolls, Brown & Serve/Frozen

Pie Crust, non-perishable

Pie Fillings

Evaporated Milk

WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

L.O.L. (Ladies of the Lord) is a support group that meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at the home of Janice Beatty. This group invites all women, not just Charity members, who would like to share time in a caring and compassionate environment. Janice lives at 2814 Rose Garden Way in West Neck. Call Janice at 630-3248 for more information.

**THERE IS NO MEETING IN DECEMBER!
SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!!!**

CHARITY FOOD PANTRY

Open Every Tuesday - 10am to 12pm

Our Food Pantry is open each week for anyone in need of food. We also collect items for Virginia Beach's "Beach Bags" program that sends food home to student in need. As always, our Food Pantry volunteers appreciate the support that allows us assist those in our community that struggle to have the food they need on a daily basis. For more information, please contact Donna Brehm at 757-377-0313.

If you would like to contribute to either of these programs, please place your donations in the Food Pantry Wheelbarrow in the hallway leading to the Fellowship Hall.

Beach Bags Items: individual sized cereal bowls/boxes, 8 oz. shelf-stable milk, individual sized meals (ravioli, spaghetti, mac & cheese, etc.), fruit cups, 100% juice boxes, snack items (granola bars, pretzels, raisins, etc..)

Charity Food Pantry items: Canned/Jarred Spaghetti Sauce, Boxed Cereal (low sugar varieties), Peanut Butter, Jelly, Jam, Canned Chicken or Tuna, Mayonnaise, Pancake Syrup, and Complete Pancake Mix. (No "club-sized" items please - Most of our families are small and most large/club-sized items are difficult to divide and distribute properly).

FINANCIAL GIVING TO CHARITY IS NOW AVAILABLE VIA

DIRECT DEPOSIT

Information & authorization forms are available in the Narthex, or contact the church office.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP

The Intercessory Prayer Ministry meets each Wednesdays at 6 am in the Sanctuary and again at 10:30 am in the Chapel. Anyone interested in praying for the needs of our congregation, community and nation are asked to join us in the Chapel. For more information, please contact Judy Williams at judy@pungoliving.com or 373-5675.



Live, Love, Learn

By Beth Swanner

I am having a season of disappointments and changes in my life as I am getting older.

I try to exercise and rest, but for some reason I don't understand, it's very hard to keep a good attitude over things that are happening in this time.

Between mass shootings, dreadful weather, news of unbelievable actions, I have been angry at people that are so evil. It makes me feel sick!

All these things are beyond my control, I know. I need to focus on the good - whatever is lovely in my life, friends who are kind and caring. I choose to be thankful for so many things, realizing that I am merely responsible for my actions.

In this way stand firm in the Lord...whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things. Philippians 4:1.8 (NASB)

FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION ABOUT ALL OF OUR MINISTRIES AND EVENTS, VISIT US AT

www.charitychurchvb.com
www.charitypreschoolvb.weebly.com
www.facebook.com/charityumc



Charity Preschool is having a great year, with its enrollment the highest in its history. Everyone is working hard to make sure that our preschool offers a wonderful experience for all of the children who attend. Lately, our playground equipment is getting tired and worn from years of loving use. Since safety is one of our primary concerns, Heather and the preschool board feel that it is time to get some new and up-to-date equipment. Heather has done a great deal of research with other childcare facilities and companies that can give us ideas of the best way to utilize the space we have. Of course, the new equipment will be quite an expense, so we

are planning fundraisers to help us accomplish our goals. There will be a dinner on Wednesday, January 30th and all proceeds will go toward a renovated playground. Also, there are ideas to create a Go Fund Me page or something similar. If you would like to help or have some great ideas for us to consider, please contact Heather Harris or any of the preschool board members. And mark your calendar for September 30th to help make the new playground equipment a reality!

Giving in 2019

We thank you in advance for supporting the ministries of Charity Church. We wanted to give you some quick facts so that you can be ready for the New Year.

- ⇒ If you would like a giving statement for tax purposes, we need to be able to identify your gift. For example, just putting cash in the offering plate without an envelope with your name on it, is an anonymous gift and we can't track it. Using an assigned Giving Account number, will ensure proper posting of your gift. You can write it on the envelope or on the check. If you don't know your number, the church office can tell you.
- ⇒ All undesignated funds go into the General Fund which is the main operating account for the church. Everything from paying the bills to payroll to supporting all the ministries of the church comes from this fund. Please consider putting your gift to this fund and we'll determine it's best use.
- ⇒ Direct Deposit giving is available. That's where you authorize a direct payment from your bank to our bank on a regular basis. You won't have to worry about missing your tithe.
- ⇒ Your bank probably offers a bill pay service as well where they will mail us the check directly on a one-time or regular basis.
- ⇒ If you would like or need a new box of giving envelopes, let the office know and we'll get that to you. Use your Worship Attendance slip!



A Note from Nancy

About the Church Directory...

Sometime this month, I'll be emailing out a first draft of a directory. Our database, Church Windows, has almost 3000 people entered! I'm trying to discern who is active and who is not so that I can get a good end product. So on this first draft, I'll need your help. You can tell me who's missing or who needs to be removed. Maybe someone has moved that the church office is not aware of. I need your connections to help me get it right. After that I can print some hard copies for those what want them! And then...May 15-18, 2019 we will do a NEW Photo Directory! I can't wait to see all the pretty faces!!! If I can help, Call me...if you want to get the email, make sure I have a current address!

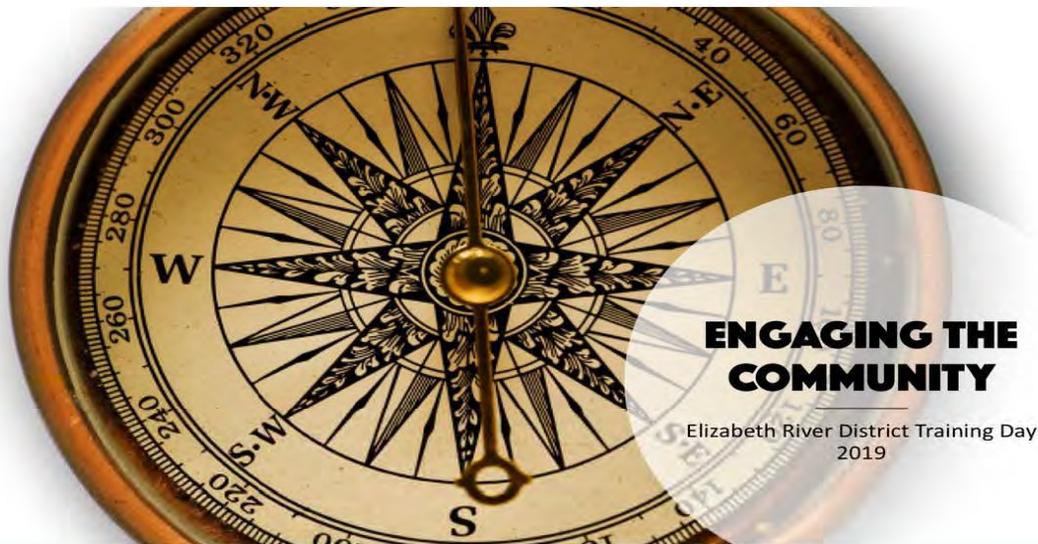


Upcoming Flights

Chrysalis Girls & Boys
January 19-21, 2019

Chrysalis flights (for 9th through 12th graders) provide an opportunity for kids to learn more about faith, to experience Christian love and support, and to make new faith commitments. The point is to inspire, challenge and equip kids for a closer friendship with Christ and for Christian action at home, church, school, and community.

**For more information or to
sponsor a youth, visit www.tidewaterchrysalis.org**



Saturday, January 19, 2019
Community United Methodist
1072 Old Kempsville Road
Virginia Beach VA 23464

Learn more at <http://elizabethriverdistrict.weebly.com/training-day.html>

Hard copies of the registration form are available in the Narthex or we can email it to you. All registration forms that are submitted to the church office will be paid with one check and mailed. Please have your completed form to the office before Christmas. If you miss this deadline, you can still register and pay online. See the link above.



december

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 7:45am Chrysalis Teaming 9:00am Hanging of the Greens 4:00pm Pungo Tree Lighting
2 8:00am Pancake Breakfast 8:30am Worship, Contemporary 9:30am Charity Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship, Traditional	3 9:00am Preschool 3:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive	4 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Food Pantry 7:00pm Church Council	5 6:00am Intercessory Prayer 9:00am Preschool 10:30am Intercessory Prayer 5:30pm WW Dinner 6:30pm Youth Group 6:30pm Fun n Faith 7:00pm Choir Practice	6 9:00am Preschool 6:00pm Wond Wed Staff Christmas Party 6:30pm Boy Scouts Christmas Party 7:00pm GRACE! Practice	7 9:00am Preschool	8 12:00pm Senior Luncheon
9 8:30am Worship, Contemporary 9:30am Charity Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship, Traditional	10 9:00am Preschool	11 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Food Pantry	12 6:00am Intercessory Prayer 9:00am Preschool 10:30am Intercessory Prayer 5:30pm WW Dinner 6:00pm Youth Group 7:00pm Choir Practice	13 9:00am Preschool 7:00pm GRACE! Practice 7:00pm Boy Scouts	14 9:00am Preschool	15 7:45am Chrysalis Teaming 5:30pm Cantata-Oak Grove Baptist
16 8:30am Worship, Contemporary 9:30am Charity Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship, Traditional	17 9:00am Preschool	18 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Food Pantry	19 9:00am Preschool 9:00am PK Christmas 5:30pm WW Dinner 6:30pm Youth Group 6:30pm Fun & Faith	20 9:00am PK Christmas 9:00am Preschool 7:00pm GRACE! Practice	21 9:00am Preschool	22
23 8:30am Worship, Contemporary 9:30am Charity Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship, Traditional	24 5:30pm Christmas Eve Worship 7:30pm Christmas Eve Worship	25 Christmas Day-Church Closed	26	27 7:00pm GRACE! Practice	28	29
30 8:30am Worship, Contemporary 9:30am Charity Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship, Traditional	31					