

# The Antioch UMC

## EPISTLE

January, 2014

### The Preachers' Part

#### **New Year's Resolution**

It's that time of year. It's the beginning of a new year. The time when 40% of Americans resolve to live a better life in the year to come, than in the one just ended.

Among the most popular resolutions are those having to do with our health: to lose weight, eat healthier, exercise more, quit smoking and drink less alcohol. Then there are those having to do with our money: manage debt, save more, and spend less, along with get a better job and more education.

To accomplish these life improvements and get rid of the bad habits, many will read self-help books, take out gym memberships, watch online videos, and consult a "professional." Lots of time will be invested and money spent. Yet, when all is said and done, only 8% of those who resolved to "do better" will have accomplished their goal when the next New Year arrives.

What if we could identify five universal habits that will offer you a happier, healthier life? What if by attending church each week from January 5 to February 2, you could improve your life and have a better quality of life?

For the next five weeks, we are going to take this on. We will explore how being a disciple of Jesus is not about following a bunch of rules. In fact, even the rules aren't really rules. Being a disciple is about a way of living, a

healthier, more productive lifestyle. Kind of like slimming down, or bulking up.

We will use scripture, Jesus' own lifestyle, and our personal experiences to come to some understandings about the practical application of following Jesus in today's world. The idea for this series of sermons comes from the Rev. Adam Hamilton, Sr. Pastor at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas.

Here's the schedule:

January 5, 2014	The Gold Standard
January 12, 2014	The Requirements of the Lord
January 19, 2014	Six Words to Set You Free
January 26, 2014	The Secret to True Wealth
February 2, 2014	The Most Important Commandment of All

This is a resolution we are all capable of keeping: five weeks to a healthier you. I hope to see you each week.



**Children’s Corner**

Please watch for the **Child & Infant CPR class** that will be offered in February. This is a fantastic opportunity for all nursery workers and any others who may be interested.

**Nursery services** are now being offered during the worship hour. Nursery workers are needed! Please contact Sara Hite at 676-9782.

**Our little angels** out-did themselves the Sunday before Christmas when they “grew” their wings and sang Christmas carols for everyone. We were all doubly blessed as we had Camille as our accompanist on the piano !

We also saw many excited faces as Santa visited and talked with each of the children!



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:**

- Walt Moseley 1-1
- Bobby Overby 1-4
- Frank Barnes 1-5
- Julie Layman 1-9
- Sam Bacon 1-11
- Jennifer Hite 1-16
- D.C. Keeter 1-28
- Henry Lee Cundiff 1-29
- Justin McDaniel 1-31
- Ann Thompson 1-31

**Children’s Church schedule for Jan-Feb**

Date	Leaders & Helpers	Lesson
Jan 5	Susan & Diane	The Wise Men
Jan 12	Shirley & Sara	Jesus at the Temple
Jan 19	Brenda & Abby	Jesus’ Baptism
Jan 26	Barbara & Earl	Jesus in the Synagogue
Feb 2	Julie & Gayle	Jesus Calls Fishermen
Feb 9	Dawn & Wanda	Jesus Heals Peter’s Mother-in-Law
Feb 16	Susan & Diane	Jesus Teaches the Beatitudes
Feb 23	Shirley & Dee	Jesus Calms the Storm

**Children’s Church Leaders and Helpers will meet** to review the program on Tuesday, February 4 at 7 pm.

**THANK YOU!**

To the 51 people (more or less) who participated in worship services during Advent as greeters and readers and children’s teachers; musicians and singers, baby holders and candle lighters.

Thanks to Abby Barnes for serving as worship leader on December 29.



### **News on the HOME front**

Wayne entertained the residents of Pine View on Friday, December 13. He played his guitar and sang Christmas carols for them and took requests for some of their favorite Christmas music.

Margaret Smith and Margaret Gregory were in attendance to enjoy the music and visit with the residents.

At the end of his session, Wayne gave each resident in attendance a small Christmas memento. He does not have a date set for January, but plans to entertain at some point in the month. He misses his "partner in crime", Margaret Martin, so we continue to ask for prayers for Margaret that she may find the peace and strength to deal with her current health issues.

Frances Hawthorne was in the hospital before Christmas but has returned to Pine View. As always, please keep Frances and all the residents and caregivers at Pine View in your prayers.

**1<sup>st</sup> WEDNESDAY** – The first Wednesday of each month Alan conducts a service for the Pine View family. The service starts at 10 AM and everyone is invited to attend.

### **Church Notes**

Congratulations to two of our church members who decided to "Pop the Question" over the holiday. Jacob Bacon got a "YES" from Cara Maxwell, and Brandon Moseley got a "YES" from Sydney Frances. God is Good !!

\* We are all anticipating the arrival of our newest member! Kim and William, we continue to hold our breath 😊 for the joyous news.

Please take time to review the **Birthdays Calendar** in the Fellowship room and make sure you are on there. If not, please add your name to the date square.

### **Missionary Charis Storms To Visit**

For the last several years, the churches of the Lunenburg Charge have prayerfully and financially supported missionary Charis Storms in her ministry in Mongolia. Charis has returned "home" to the States as she awaits God's calling upon her life. On Tuesday, January 28th, Charis will visit with us, sharing what God has been doing in Asia and answering your questions about her work. We will gather at 6 pm for a covered dish dinner. Please plan to attend.

### **Pastor-Parish Relations Committee Meeting**

The Lunenburg Charge PPRC will meet Thursday, January 9, at 7 pm at Antioch. PPRC members in 2014 are: Abby, Ronnie, Jimmy, Barbara, Tessie, David, and Walt (Antioch), and Betty, Sam, Jack, Sammy and Nancy (Williams)

**December by the Numbers:**

Average Weekly Attendance = 54

Average Weekly Giving = \$1,257

Needed each week = \$1,278

**UMW**

This year instead of the UMW members drawing names for a Christmas gift exchange, the members decided to replenish some much needed supplies and did a Kitchen Shower for the church. Some of the items gifted were, paper plates, dish detergent, dish towels, trash bags, plastic wrap, paper towels, Reynolds wrap and baggies. Thank you ladies, what a great way to remember the church.

The UMW meets *once a month*, on the Tuesday after the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday.

**The Joke at THE END**



A kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they drew. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's artwork. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."  
The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the little girl replied, "They will in a minute."

\* \* \*

**Antioch United Methodist Church**

3489 South Hill Road Kenbridge, VA 23944

[Lunenburg.umcs@gmail.com](mailto:Lunenburg.umcs@gmail.com)

[www.antiochmethodistchurch.org/](http://www.antiochmethodistchurch.org/)

*As a community of faith,  
our mission is to be the Presence of Christ.*

C. Alan Layman, Pastor

[calayman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:calayman@sbcglobal.net)

434-676-2314

434-981-2727