

The Antioch UMC

EPISTLE

December, 2014



My daughter Annie and I were at a basketball game when one of the players crumpled to the floor. As the trainers leaped to his aid, a hush fell over the fans. No one around us was speaking.

Except my daughter. In whispered tones, she began describing what the trainers were doing and why. “See the way they’re manipulating his leg? That’s how you test for a torn anterior cruciate ligament.” A slightly different movement: “Now they’re testing the MCL. That’s the medial collateral ligament.”

Annie is an athletic-training major in college, so the details she relayed weren’t a surprise. What I noticed more was how her eyes seemed to dance as she did it. She smiled and said simply, “Dad, it’s not about just knowing the facts. I have to know how to apply what I know, so I can make a difference for someone.”

I’ve applied that same principle to my faith. It’s not enough just to know the words, but I also have to know how to apply them . . . because it can make a difference. Remembering that makes my devotional study more than just about understanding the words. Every day I’m now also asking, *How might I use these words to make this world a better place?* And when I ask that question, my eyes sparkle a bit too!

Taken from [Daily Guideposts](#) November 29, 2014 Devotional by Jeff Japinga





News on the HOME front



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Ashley Grant	December 2
Mary Ann Cundiff	December 7
Isaac Hite	December 12
Brenda Barnes	December 22
Dee Hite	December 22
Jesus	December 25
Jeffrey Bacon	December 29

Mark Your Calendar for...

- District Conference is Sunday, **December 7** from 3 to 5 pm, Journey UMC, Amelia. This is a change!
- December 13th, packaging of collected Food Items
- December 21st, Children's program at Antioch

Wayne was at Pine View on Friday, November 14 for his "monthly gig". The crowd was kind of small and subdued so it was decided that it was either too cold to leave their rooms or it was still nap time. However, those that were in attendance seemed to enjoy it.

Wayne asked Barbara Callis to come over to Pine View and sing with him which she did. They sang duets for a half hour or so before he did his solo numbers. She helped him break in a couple of new songs he is trying to learn. He's very appreciative of her giving of her time to come and sing with him. There were lots of compliments on how well they sing together.

During the monthly Wednesday service there were many in attendance and everyone seemed to enjoy the *All Saints* message from Pastor Alan. Wayne also had an extra voice to sing with him that day as well. Willie Ann Tanner from our sister church, Williams, joined Wayne in a special rendition of 'How Great Thou Art'. So much talent in our churches !!

The holidays are here, so please remember the residents of Pine View, as well as the staff, with a visit, cookies, a card or note letting them know they are not forgotten. The time you give them is so appreciated and you feel blessed by being there.

By the numbers – November

Average weekly attendance	58
Average weekly giving	\$1,445
Amount needed each week	\$1,233

UMW

Our next meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on December 16th at the home of Dawn Bacon (2075 Bacon Fork Road, Kenbridge).

Serving in December

	<u>Nursery</u>	<u>Children's Church</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>
7	Tessie Sam	Communion Sunday	Abigail Barnes
14	Trudy Shirley	Susan / Diane	Dawn Bacon
21		Children's Program	Earl Callis
28	Shirley Sara	none	Tessie Bacon

Church Notes

A BIG Thank You – from Bishop Cho !! To everyone who so generously donated to the Image No Malaria campaign last month. Our Bishop actually called Pastor Alan directly to ask him to please thank us all for saving so many lives. We were short of our goal but . . . there is still time . . . to save even more lives. Remember it only takes \$10.00 to save a life, and donations are still being accepted. So if you write a check, just make it out to the church but mark in the memo section that it is for IMAGINE NO MALARIA. Or if you want to give cash, just give it to Pastor Alan or Susan and let them know it is specifically for IMAGINE NO MALARIA. Our goal to save 500 lives by collecting \$5,000 is very BOLD. But we in the Lunenburg Charge ARE BOLD ARE WE NOT?

Christmas Poinsettias

A Christmas tradition at Antioch UMC is a sanctuary of red poinsettias – a beautiful addition to our church! This is a great way to honor a loved one. **Place your order with Wanda Chumney by Monday, December 15 (676-3438).** The flowers will be on display starting with the December 21 service.

A New, Updated – church directory will be available in January of 2015. Please fill out and return before January 10th the attached form found in this edition of the Epistle. We look forward to adding ALL of our new folks since the last edition. **Notice the box to just “check” if there are no changes.** Your help with this project is greatly appreciated.

The Birthday Calendar for 2015 is on one of the tables in the fellowship room. It is as filled in with as many names as possible from last year. Please take a minute in the next couple of weeks to be sure you and your loved ones are listed on the date of their birth.

We Are Reaching New People!

Our Lunenburg Charge task force is hard at work on how we can reach new people for Christ. Our model includes three areas of focus. First, to create a culture of invitation. This means we invite people to participate in church services, studies, mission projects, small groups – wherever their interest might be. We offer to accompany them, even pick them up and bring them to the activity. We have already sent out letters to over 50 inactive households inviting them back to church this Christmas season.

Because we know that “church” is being the body of Christ and not just a place to go on Sunday mornings, our second focus is to take church to where the people are. Those who don't attend or are unchurched are not found inside the sanctuary! Our task is to “go public,” taking our groups and activities into public places. Along this line, the third focus is to get Pastor Alan out into the community more. For each of us, this means volunteering to do things we can do, so his time is free to get out of the office. This is an exciting time on the Lunenburg Charge!



Again this year, our churches are responsible for bagging the donated food items for the **Salvation Army Food Drive**. We will meet on Saturday, Dec. 13th at 9 AM at the Kenbridge Police Station; this is the basement of the old Kenbridge School on Fifth Avenue. Mark your calendar and come share the love as we help get the food ready for distribution.

The Annual Thanksgiving Service held at our sister church Williams UMC was very special. You could just feel the spirit in the building as the special music was lifted up to the Lord. There were 25 people in attendance with a good portion of them being friends from our community. After the joyous service everyone enjoyed hot apple cider and sweet potato muffins.

Attention smartphone users! Use the barcode reader app on your phone to link to our website, AntiochMethodistChurch.org. Thanks to David Arthur for creating this QR barcode, which you will begin to see on our publications.



The Joke at THE END



The Children's Church program has gotten off to a great start with the new literature being used. The teachers seem to like how it flows and the children are learning some great lessons. A DVD player has been donated to the Childrens Church for the teachers to use during their lessons if they would like. Thank you to **Lori McDaniel** for being the Coordinator of this wonderful program.



Nursery News

Pictures of our babies are needed for the bulletin board in the nursery.

Thank you to all who volunteer during the worship hour to provide this valuable service. Sign-ups for the first half of 2015 will begin soon! Thank you very much to Sara Hite for being the coordinator.

Antioch United Methodist Church

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Lunenburg.umcs@gmail.com

www.antiochmethodistchurch.org/

Now on Facebook at AntiochUMC.Lunenburg

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

C. Alan Layman, Pastor

calayman@sbcglobal.net

434-676-2314

434-981-2727

Information for the NEW Church Directory

Name or Names _____

_____ Please Check here if ALL of your information stays the same.

Complete Address:

(Please list all numbers you want in the directory)

Phone Number(s)

Email Address:

Please check the current directory and make sure it is exactly how you want it to be.

Thanks for taking the time to do this as the directory is a great way for us to stay in touch with each other.

Due to Julie no later than January 10, 2015.