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Main Street United Methodist Church  
601 West Main Street  
Waynesboro, Virginia 22980

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# THE LIGHTED SPIRE

*A monthly publication of  
Main Street United Methodist Church  
942-1179  
Volume 54, No. 1*

*Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.  
Loving God—Growing in Faith—Serving Christ*

## JANUARY



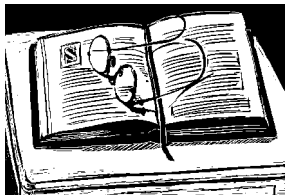
## 2012

Main Street Ministry Staff

Rev. Neil Hough, Lead Pastor	Don Coffey, Choir Director
Rev. Bill Mayton, Pastor Emeritus	Tracy Straight, Children's Choir Director
Harold Baldwin, Lay Pastor	Leola Burks, Youth Choir Director
Kathy Snyder, Administrative Asst.	Donald Dollins, Handbell Director
Lisa Meehan, Administrative Asst.	Julie Conner, Nursery Director
Tim Fridley, Youth Director	Karen Jackson, Nursery Assistant
Mandy Williams, Children's Director	Stacy Lawhorne, Preschool Director
Orville Bame, Organist	

Email: [mymsumc@ntelos.net](mailto:mymsumc@ntelos.net)

Church Website: [mainstreetumchurchwaynesboro.com](http://mainstreetumchurchwaynesboro.com)



## Pastor Neil's Study Talk

January has always been a month for dreams. I'm not sure exactly when I started seeing January that way, but for many years, I've felt a sense of excitement at the start of a new year. I think it's because the transition from December to January is a natural time to do some personal reflection and think about what's possible in the new year. A new year is a chance for a fresh start and whether or not we make any official resolutions, many of us do think about what we want out of the new year. We may set goals or allow ourselves to dream dreams. I know I do.

Our January dreams may be large or small. In my case, I dream about everything from eating more healthfully, getting in shape, and cleaning up the stack of papers on my desk, to big dreams like places I want to visit and projects I want to tackle. I dream about skills I want to learn and personal qualities I want to develop. I dream about the way I want to live my life, the kind of person and pastor I want to be.

Unfortunately I usually start with the best of intentions, but my excitement and motivation fades when the busyness and business of daily life kick into high gear. Five years in a row, I've started reading *Moby Dick* by Herman Melville. (2012 is going to be the year I make it past the first chapter!)

Not only do I hope to read more classic literature in 2012, I have other goals and hopes and dreams. There are things I want to see and do. There is much I want to accomplish and a lot I want to learn. However, I know myself well enough to know that I won't accomplish any of them through willpower alone. I've tried. And failed. Many times. Not only do I need help. I need grace. You see, what usually happens is that, when I hit the first speed bump, I give up (far too easily.) I become too much of a perfectionist and get so discouraged with my many imperfections that I give up. I justify my decision to postpone my dream or set aside my goal . . . until a more opportune time. I always tell myself that next year will be different.

What I've learned—the hard way—is that I need grace. Specifically, I need God's grace. Trusting in God's grace means my imperfections and life's speed bumps do not have to be the last word, because God forgives my failures. God's grace has the power to pick me up and get me started over and over and over and over again.

So what I'm saying is that I'm beginning 2012 with a prayer. Not a prayer for great accomplishments (although I wouldn't turn them down if they came my way), but a prayer for grace, God's grace. By grace, through faith, we not only dream the dream of salvation (see Ephesians 2:8), we dream the dream of abundant life. After all, didn't Jesus say, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10)?

By God's grace, 2012 is going to be the year. (A guy can dream can't he?)

*Pastor Neil*

### New Sermon Series: *Who Is This Man?*

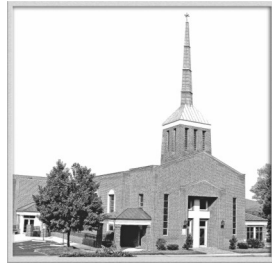
Two billion people claim to follow him and more than 70,000 books have been written about him, yet many people still wonder: ***Who is this man?*** Starting January 8, a new sermon series by Pastor Neil Hough will survey the first book written about Jesus, *The Gospel According to Mark* in order to answer 2 questions: Who is this man Jesus? What does his life mean for our lives today? These sermons are for anyone who would like to know more about Jesus Christ.

### Sermons and GPS Available Online

Don't miss another message, even when you are out-of-town. Thanks to the efforts of Judy Neff, Main Street's webmaster, Pastor Neil's sermons are now available

## As Years Go By!

Researched by Ron Hiserman



Do you remember Watch Night Services? In the 30's to the early 60's and probably before, Main Street had Watch Night Services to welcome the New Year. Everyone would congregate here at Main Street and sing old hymns, play games and have refreshments. At the stroke of midnight, they were led in prayer by the pastor and someone would ring the tower bell. Other churches also celebrated and bells were rung all over town. I thought it would be interesting to find out more about this old custom.

This custom grew out of the Black communities in the United States where they gathered the faithful to church on New Years Eve. The service would begin about 7 pm and last to midnight. It can be traced back to gatherings on December 31, 1862, also know as "Freedom's Eve". On that night, all the black communities would come together waiting for the news that the Emancipation Proclamation had become law. When the news was received, there were prayers, shouts of joy as people fell to their knees and thanked God. Ever since, black folks have gathered in churches, praising God for bringing them safely through another year.

In many other churches, this was a time to reflect back on the departing year and pray for the future, a spiritual way to celebrate. Many churches embraced this as an alternative to the rowdy partying and drinking often associated with New Year's Eve.

Watch Night Services really originated in 1733 by the Moravians in what is now the Czech Republic. John Wesley, our founder, picked it up from the Moravians, incorporating the service into the practices of Methodism. Actually, they were held once a month and on the full moons, with the first service taking place here in America in 1770 in Philadelphia. These services survive to the present in our worship manuals as "Covenant Renewal Services."



**We wish birthday happiness to those who have birthdays in January and early February.**

If you haven't already informed the office of your birthday and wish to be included in future listings of birthdays, please call the office at 942 -1179 and inform us of your special day.

Thanks.

Bertha Johnson	1/2	David Sheldon	1/22
Mandy Williams	1/3	Ruth Pannell	1/23
David Witt	1/6	Coy Kiser	1/23
Frances Mooney	1/8	Donald Dollins	1/24
Kay Mayton	1/10	Jo Wilkinson	1/24
Heather Bame	1/12	Alice Chambers	1/25
John Guthrie	1/12	Betty Arehart	1/27
Irma Blakemore	1/14	Anne Hough	1/27
Fred Simpkins	1/14	John Worsley	1/29
Elizabeth Kennedy	1/15	Don Morris	1/29
Christopher Bowles	1/15	Sandee Dixon	1/29
Ted Owens	1/16	Beat4ice Smith	1/31
Judy Smith	1/16	Adeline Worsley	1/31
Stewart Hall	1/17	Peter Lafferty	2/1
Jason Harlow	1/17	Lucy Stultz	2/1
Hugh Hall	1/19	Susan White	2/2
Staci Richardson	1/19	Evelyn Farris	2/2
Jay Sachaefer	1/20	Earl McGuffin	2/3

# Main Street Calendar

## Worship: Helping People Love God

8:30 am Informal Worship

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Traditional Worship

Ministry at Augusta Rehab: 10:00 am First Sundays

Ministry at Waynesboro Manor: 9:45 am Third Sundays

Mourning to Morning Grief Support: 4:00 pm Wednesdays

Masterpeace Ringers: 4:30 pm Sundays

Genesis Bells: 5:00 pm Sundays

Youth Choir (Middle School, High School): 6:00 pm Sundays

Children's Choir: For ages 3 to 5th grade, 6:00 pm Wednesdays

Adult Choir: 7:00 pm Wednesdays

Praise Band: 8:00 pm Wednesdays

## Discipleship: Helping People Grow in Faith

Youth Group Activities: Every Sunday, 6:30 pm

Fellowship Dinners: Every Wednesday, 5:00 pm to 6:15 pm

Discipleship Classes: Wednesdays, 6:00 pm

Wonderful Wednesdays for Kids: 6:30 pm Wednesdays

Youth Group Studies: 6:00 pm Wednesdays

Women's Social Concerns Circle: 10:30 am Second Thursdays

Women's Dorcas Circle: 11:00 am Second Thursdays

Women's A.N.G.E.L. Circle: 7 pm Second Mondays

## Ministry Teams: Helping People Serve Christ

Church Council: 7:00 p.m. 3rd Monday of every month

Trustees: 6:00 pm Second Sunday of every other month

"Spire" Volunteers: 9:00 am Last Thursday

Stephen Ministers: 7:00 pm First & Third Thursday

Stephen Leaders: 5:30 pm First Thursday

Main Street Adult Singers (visiting nursing homes): 1st Sat. Each Mo.

## Special Monthly Events

January 8, 3 pm: Children's Special Event

*For more information on any upcoming events, contact Lisa or Kathy in the church office, 942-1179.*

# Children's Ministry

For questions or more information on any children's activities, contact Mandy Williams at 942-1179 or [mandym1020@gmail.com](mailto:mandym1020@gmail.com).

A special thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who helped out with Children's activities during the busy Christmas season. It was so great to see so many members of the congregation come together and share in the joy of the season with our children. We appreciate all your love and support and look forward to the coming year for our children!!!

If you are interested in getting one of the Red MSUMC T-shirts that the children and volunteers wore in the Christmas Musical, please contact Mandy or the office. We will have a sign up sheet on the upstairs bulletin board and will be placing an order at the end of Jan. A \$10 donation would be appreciated.

There will be a Combined Sunday School time for Children this Sunday Jan. 1st. We will meet in the Bunny Room and have Sunday School.

On Jan. 8th Anne Hough will host a Children's time from 3-4:30 in the fellowship hall. Parents will drop off children from 3-4:30 and have game, craft, and snack. This will be for children ages 3-3rd grade. Let Mandy or the office know if you plan to attend.

Wacky Wednesday is changing its name, it will now be Wonderful Wednesday to celebrate the Wonderful time and Wonderful fellowship our children have together on Wednesday nights. The first Wonderful Wednesday will begin on Jan. 11 at the normal meeting time.

Jan. 22nd Kids will sing at the 8:30am Worship time. Children should meet in the fellowship hall at 8:15 to prepare. Contact Tracy for more info.

We have lots of children's activities planned for 2012 if you are interested in participating or volunteering with our children please contact Mandy Williams.

## Opportunities for Mission and Ministry

### Items Needed in the Main Street Pantry

Canned Spaghetti Sauce, Spaghetti



The Main Street Food Pantry operates from Monday through Thursday, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., to assist people in our community in need of food. Financial or food donations are accepted. Contact Doug Edwards (942-3787) or Joe Duncan (942-6259) for more information.

### Pastor Neil at Stephen Leader Training, Jan. 8-14

Pastor Neil will be attending the Leadership Training Course for Stephen Leaders on **January 8-14** with approximately 500 other ministers and laypeople of all denominations. Please take a minute to drop him a card or letter letting him know how much we love and appreciate all he is doing for MSUMC. His address:

**Rev. Neil Hough**  
**c/o Stephen Ministry Conference**  
**Doubletree Hotel Universal Orlando**  
**5780 Major Blvd.**  
**Orlando, FL 32819**

### New Address

Dottie Weeks has now moved to be near her family. Her mailing address is: 2 Kathleen Dr., Apt. 311, Jackson, NJ 08527

### Baby Shower

There will be a baby shower for Mandy Williams at 10:30 am on January 14 in the Fellowship Hall. RSVP to Tracy Straight at 2411-4670 or the church office.

### Community Worship Service January 22

The Waynesboro LARCUM Churches—Grace Lutheran, St. John Episcopal, St John Roman Catholic, and Main Street United Methodist—will be having a service celebrating the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on Sunday January 22 at 4:00pm at Grace Lutheran Church (500 S. Wayne Avenue). Everyone is invited to come and worship.

## Budget as of November 30, 2011

<u>Item</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u> <u>YTD**</u>
<b>Revenue:</b>			
Est. of Giving	412,338	420,949	-8,611
Other Budget Revenue	11,705	7,443	4,261
Total Revenue	424,043	428,392	4,350
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Church Operations	105,229	116,793	-11,564
Ministries	30,669	38,907	-8,238
Staff Parish	206,607	208,063	1,456
District Funds	15,188	15,188	0
Prior Claims	39,069	39,069	0
Other Apportionments	28,236	28,236	0
Total Expenses	424,999	446,256	-21,257
Revenue Minus Expenses	-956	17,864	16,908

\*\*For REVENUE: If the difference is negative, then the income received is less than projected in the budget. If the number is positive, then the income is greater than projected.

\*For EXPENSES: If the difference is negative, then the expenses are under budget. If the difference is positive, then the expenses are over budget.

Additional information is available to members and can be obtained in person from the Church office. Up to date giving totals are in the bulletin on Sunday.



### Inclement Weather Policy

As the winter months approach, the possibility for winter weather increases. Please remember to check WHSV and NBC29 if inclement weather affects our Sunday morning schedule. During the week, the church office follows the Waynesboro City Schools.



### **Volunteers Needed to Help with W.A.R.M.**

As you know, Main Street is helping to support WARM (Waynesboro Area Refuge Mission), a rotating homeless shelter, during the winter months. We have been assigned the week of January 16-22. We will be assisting another church that will provide a warm shelter to the homeless in the Waynesboro Community. In that effort, we need volunteers to provide food and onsite assistance overnight each night. Those providing onsite assistance, would stay at the shelter overnight and rotate with others to be awake in shifts. If you would like to volunteer for this very important ministry, please contact Tom or Millie Steele at 434.325.1092 or [millsteele@aol.com](mailto:millsteele@aol.com).

### **Food Pantry Client Christmas Dinner**

The staff of the Main Street Food Pantry wish to thank the BASIC Sunday School class and the many volunteers who helped prepare, serve, and support the recent Christmas dinner for pantry clients. Even though client participation was low, the remaining food was distributed to many local agencies.

### **Parking at Main Street**

Even though Main Street Church's parking lot has limited spaces, most of us are aware that we can park along the street and in other lots near the church. However, visitors and newcomers to the church may not be aware of the additional parking; and many of our own members need to park close to the building because they are not able to walk long distances—especially in cold or inclement weather. Please consider using auxiliary parking areas and leave spaces closest to the church for those who need them. Thank you for sharing in the ministry of Christian hospitality.

Superstitions also said that all debts must be paid by the beginning of the new year. All accounts were to be settled. The first day of the year was a time for paying social calls to one's neighbors. Nothing business-related would be mentioned and no business transactions would be tolerated.

What was being "watched over" in those early services was one's covenant with God. These gatherings were a time for members to meditate on their state of grace—were they spiritually ready to meet their God if the call were suddenly to come? As in Mark 13, the faithful need to be ever vigilant, because the hour of the Lord's coming is not known. (Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh.)

How will you celebrate New Year's Eve? This old custom wouldn't hurt any of us in the way we end 2011 and begin 2012.

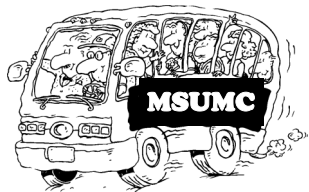




## THOSE SERVING OUR CHURCH THIS MONTH

Unlocking our doors each Sunday morning is . . .

Richard Ammons



Our bus teams are . . .

- Jan. 1 Rodger and Brenda Daniels
- Jan. 8 Tom and Millie Steele
- Jan. 15 Dave and Terri Sheldon
- Jan. 22 Bruce Allen and Doug Norcross
- Jan. 29 Gene and Frances Mooney

And our Lay Readers at 11 am for the month are . . .

- Jan. 1 Cathy Parrigan
- Jan. 8 Suzanne Scheetz
- Jan. 15 Edith Schleicher
- Jan. 22 Chris Grandle
- Jan. 29 Rosalie Bailey



Our Children's Worship helpers are...

- |         | <u>8:30 am</u>     | <u>11:00 am</u>        |
|---------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Jan. 1  | No Service         | E. Duncan, J. McGuffin |
| Jan. 8  | Anne, K. Robertson | L. Lafferty, P. Tancus |
| Jan. 15 | Anne, S. Schaefer  | S. and K. Lawhorne     |
| Jan. 22 | Anne, S. Scheetz   | T. and C. Straight     |
| Jan. 29 | Anne, L. Meehan    | B. Puckett, B. Grandle |

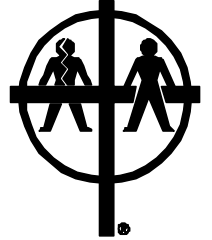
Those delivering CD's to shut-ins are...

- Jan. 1 Evelyn Cotton
- Jan. 8 Judy Kiser
- Jan. 15 Lynn Pruett
- Jan. 22 Jo Wilkinson
- Jan. 29 Helen Ammons



Any articles or information for the February "Lighted Spire" should be sent to the office no later than January 19. Thank you!

# Stephen Ministry Notes



## Excited about 2012

I stand in amazement as I witness God's hand at work in the ministries of our church.

I have been blessed to be part of one of these ministries -Stephen Ministry. I have watched it grow and evolve over the years. It is a ministry that takes people God has called and gives them training and supervision to provide confidential "one on one" care to their assigned care receivers.

We are blessed to have 13 dedicated Stephen Ministers, some of which have more than one care receiver. This past year they spend a total of 738 hours making 798 "one on one" caring contacts with members of our congregation. This time is in addition to the twice monthly group meetings they attend to receive continuing education and peer supervision. Ask anyone of them and they will tell you they get more than they give as they watch God at work in their care receivers lives. We will plan to have a dedication service to honor them as all have committed to continue to serve this year.

Stephen Ministry is led by trained Stephen Leaders who attend a one week "off-site" Leadership Training Course and I am excited to announce two new Stephen Leaders. They are Pastor Neil Hough and Millie Steele. With their addition we plan to seek a new class of Stephen Minister this year, which will start their "on-site" training in January 2013.

Harold Baldwin  
Stephen Leader

## Main Street Preschool Happenings....

“Love one another as  
I have loved you.”

John 15:12



*Wanda Pittman-Kornicke*  
MSP Chair

*Stacy Lawhorne*  
Director

### **Happy New Year from Main Street Preschool!**

Happy New Year and we hope everyone had a great holiday! To keep away the post-holiday blahs (and the icy-day blahs) MSP has lots of fun things planned for January! You'll be sure to feel like you've hit a warm and fuzzy snowstorm with all the snowmen and ladies that are decorating our rooms and halls. Then if you walk through the preschool and happen to see a bunch of football jerseys and painted faces you'll know you've stumbled upon Spirit Week! Also be sure to check out the art board in the lobby to see what the youngest "MSP'ers" have been up to: art this month is courtesy of the 2-year old Butterfly class.

Thank you for all your support with our December projects. Our Campbells Labels drive couldn't have gone better; our food drive was phenomenal, and we were glad to see so many faces at the Christmas Show! Things will be a bit quieter for a month or two, but you never know what we'll have up our sleeves next.

We will also be opening Registration for our 2012-2013 school year on January 26<sup>th</sup>. If you know anyone who is interested please have them get in touch with me ASAP. Some of our classes have only a few spots available and they can go very quickly!

With all this to keep us busy it will be February before you know it. So bundle up and bring on the hot chocolate; we are ready for Winter!

*Stacy*