



Wow, it is hard to believe that Halloween is already here. It feels like summer just ended but it is already November. I love the fall of the year. It means many things I enjoy: cooler weather, football on TV, colors in the trees, and the approach of Halloween and Thanksgiving. However it also means that it's Charge Conference time. Charge Conference is a meeting that is held annually for every United Methodist Church. In the Virginia Conference they are held in the fall. It is a gathering with our District Superintendent where items such as clergy compensation and Lay leadership for the local church are approved for the follow year. It is also a time for those in attendance to hear from the District leaders. This year we are a part of a new District, same DS (District Superintendent) but a new District.

Jay Carey is our DS and our new District is "Living Waters District." Districts are geographical areas that group churches together under the leadership of a DS. It is a very historical part of the way

Methodist have organized themselves. We are the eastern most church on the Living Waters District. Our District is comprised of the geographical area from Suffolk in the east to Appomattox County in the west and the NC line in the south to the James River in the north, minus parts of Isle of Wright County and North Suffolk. There are 7 other Districts that make up the Virginia Conference. This is all background to share with you parts of the sermon/ devotion that Jay shared with us on Tuesday, October 25 at Charge Conference. The sermon was related to our District name, Living Waters District. life?"

The name is more than a geographical name, although there are many streams holiday and the Season of Advent lets and rivers in our District, the name comes from the encounter that Jesus has with the woman at the well found in study and I hope you will join us for the chapter 4 of John's Gospel . You may know the story but if not, I will share it with you. When Jesus was on his way back to Galilee he went through Samaria. He stopped at a well where he Messenger. I look forward to the met a Samaritan woman. It was noon time and she was there to draw water from the well. Jesus asked her for a drink and it started a conversation. In this conversation it is made clear by Jesus that he knows this woman's plight and that the water she offers well not quench the thirst of the soul. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked

him, and he would have given you living water." As the story continues the woman, in her excitement, leaves to go back and tell the people about her encounter with the Messiah. What is interesting is that we are told "the woman left her water jar." The point of Jay's message is that she became the water jar filled with the *Living Water* and all who say yes to Jesus are "jars" that should be filled with the Living Water. His question to us then was, "How full are you? Are you as a "water jar" filled with the living water? Will we be "a spring of water gushing to eternal

As we approach the Thanksgiving open our hearts to the Living Water of Jesus. I'm excited about our Advent series and the Bible study, "The Heart That Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story of The Grinch." The details of the study can be found on page 2 of the warmth of Thanksgiving and the Advent season with the people of God at Main Street UMC. May our hearts be filled with the Living Water of Jesus.

Grace and peace,

Rich

# STEWARDSHIP - November Theme - Gifts of Gratitude

# Coming in November:

# NOVEMBER WORSHIP THEMES November 6

All Saints Sunday - Remembering with gratitude the Main Street saints who have died since last All Saints Sunday by speaking their names and lighting candles in their memory. We will also remember loved ones who are dear to us by writing their names on a cross and placing it on the altar.

**Noisy Offering -** The children will collect the coins you have saved over the last few weeks.

#### **November 13**

Appreciation Fellowship - The Staff and Stewardship Committee would like to show how much they appreciate you by offering some homemade goodies from 9:30 - 10:45. This is our gift of gratitude to you!

**Veteran Recognition** - Remembering with gratitude and honoring our Veterans.

November 20 – Christ the King Sunday November 24 - Thanksgiving Day

November 27 - First Sunday in Advent

We will begin the season with an Advent Faire following the 11:00 am worship service. See below for details.





## ADVENT BEGINS NOVEMBER 27

In The Heart That Grew Three Sizes, author and pastor Matt Rawle takes a look at Dr. Seuss's beloved children's story, How the Grinch Stole Christmas! in a new way—through the lens of faith. Rawle uses this beloved Christmas classic to help us understand the redemption and salvation offered to us in Christ, and how the birth of God's son brings peace, hope, love, and joy.

Whether we identify with the Grinch, sympathize with him, or feel aversion to his character, we can learn from his journey as he comes to understand that Christmas is more than what he thought.

We are excited to offer this unique Advent study and sermon series for 2022. We will journey through Advent and experience many opportunities to rejoice in and prepare for the coming of the birth of Christ.

#### **ADVENT BIBLE STUDY**

The Heart That Grew Three Sizes

#### FINDING FAITH IN The Story of the grinch

#### November 29, December 6,13,20

Pastor Rich and Holly will lead us in this study on Tuesday nights at 7:00 In four sessions, the study looks at the following themes:

- When Everything Is Wrong
- ♦ When Christmas Isn't Christmas
- ♦ When Light Shines
- ♦ When Joy Is Our Song

Sign up in the Atrium or call the church office at 757-539-8751.

Here is a complete list of upcoming events for December.

- **♦ November 27 Advent Faire**
- **♦ December 4 Movie Night**
- **December 11 Christmas Cantata,**
- ♦ The Gift
- December 18, 4:00 pm Christmas
   Caroling followed by Chili dinner.
- ♦ December 24 Christmas Eve services and communion - 5:00 and 11:00 pm
- Sunday, December 25 Christmas

  Day

**ONE SERVICE AT 10:30 AM** 

# **NOVEMBER 2022**

### In Everything Give Thanks

#### 1 Thessalonians 5:18

[BIRTHDAYS]		
11/1	Chris Porter	
11/1	Richard Meiser	
11/2	Jimmy Holland	
11/2	Charles Shotton	
11/2	Aaron Mizelle	
11/4	Laura Holshouser	
11/4	Brenda Swann	
11/4	Ron Williams	
11/5	Midge Callis	
11/5	Elaine Davis	
11/6	Carl Hardee	
11/6	Tracey Medeiros	
11/7	Bo Browne	
11/8	George Birdsong	
11/8	Michele Pettway	
11/8	Sara Harp	
11/9	Kristi Hicks	
11/9	Wes Hill	
11/10	Grace Van Orden	
11/11	Jonah Jordan	

11/12	Meredith Webb
11/13	Karen Savage
11/14	Nicole Duke
11/15	Troy Barnes
11/15	Lexie Redd
11/15	Darrell Hurst
11/15	Lu Bowman
11/17	Bob Funkhouser
11/17	Kelly Drewnowski
11/18	Steve Huber
11/18	John Wagner
11/19	August Astorga
11/19	Toppy Palmer
11/20	Cole Russell
11/24	Kelly Franklin
11/24	Kristi Kilborn
11/25	Steve Webb
11/25	Cheri Anthony
11/26	Cross Birdsong
11/26	Calvin Caron
11/26	Iker Vega

11/26	Michele Bossick
11/28	Jackson Ray
11/28	Janice Harper
11/29	Trey Parker
11/29	Riane Smith
11/29	Anne Higinbotham
11/29	Karen Scott
11/29	Kellen Cary
11/29	Robbie Barnhill
11/30	Betty Michael
11/30	Thomas Beale
11/30	Michaelle Smith
11/30	Russ Greatwood



11/2	Ryan & Mary Beth
	Johnson
11/3	Steve & Karen Gunter
11/3	Carey & Meredith
	Michael
11/4	Bo & Jodi Browne
11/4	Edward & Martha
	Trapani
11/10	Michael & Robin Casey
11/12	Tom & Jackie Williams
11/13	Danny & Pamela
	Andrews
11/16	Andrew & Maggie
	McCauley
11/21	Mark & Cindy Garner
11/22	Daniel & Elizabeth Totten
11/23	Steven & Brenda Beck
11/29	William & Nancy O'Berry

11/30 Scott & Karen Graham

[ANNIVERSARIES]

#### PRAYER LIST UPDATE

PRAYER LIST: 10/26/22: James Butler, Denise Jackson, Nicholas Medeiros, Ken Taylor, Nury Janania (Honduras), Anne Jones, Tracy Nelson, Hurricane Ian victims, Jeff Lawson, Riley Cerabona, June Johnson, Heather Foxwell, Carol Lynne Shotton, Diane Shannon Rivera, Juel Carr, Nancy Spring Horst

ONGOING: Steve Clark, Heather Lawrence, Bob & Leila Tompert, Erin & Michael McPherson and Family, Carolyn Davis, Bob Callis, Herman Terrell, Harold Wald, Louise Elliott, Stan Waterfield, Martha Callis, Randy Hicks, Jim Dowaliby, Rod Rodrigues, Cathleene Norville, Ricky Nelson, Brooke & Susan Pruden, Patti Meese

**SYMPATHY:** Family of Nancy Thornton (wife of former pastor, Harold Thornton); Family of Eleanor Keating (Aunt of Pastor Rich)

CANCER: Pam Askew, Linda Argust, Ray Holland, Al Bremer, Linda Harper, Faye Askew, Rod Rodrigues, Melaine Medeiros, Carol Coleman, Mary Lou Hedgepeth, Julie Nance, John Nodeen, Richard J. Peko, Parker, Anita McLemore, Gary Graham, Glen schools; safety and well being of our college Harrell, Ralph Knapp, Judy Gales, Eli Dowaliby, Lynn Foster, Brian Clark, Marea Bishop, Jay Robbins, Filmore Brinkley, Kenny Hirsch, Kevin Driscoll, Jennifer Skipper, Lorrie Staples, Tuffy Braithwhite, Donald Blount, Bev Rooker, Michael Ross, Anne Branch, Brenda Bradshaw, Bill Leary

**ASSISTED LIVING:** Ray Shamburger, Frances Kelly

**OUR NATION AND WORLD:** Military Troops & Families: Chris Smith, Anthony Hickler, Adam Waddell, Kent Brooks, Bryanna Grant, James Russell III, Kristi Kilborn, Wesley

Linder, Duncan Bevan, TJ Argust; First Responders; CAPS (Coalition Against Poverty in Suffolk); Our Schools; Main Street Day Care & Preschool; Workplaces & Homes; social justice, unity and peace; students, parents, teachers and administrators in local students and professors; our President and national leaders; the people of Ukraine: the people of the United Methodist Church



# connect.grow.serve.



#### NURSERY STAFF ADDITION

Please welcome our new Nursery worker, Amaya Wills. Born in San Diego, CA, she was raised here in Suffolk. She has been working at Main Street Daycare since 2019, and has held many positions, working her way up to her current position as Lead Teacher of middle two's. Amaya holds an Associate's Degree in Science from Tidewater Community College, and is on track to graduate from Old Dominion University in 2024, with a Bachelor's Degree in Theatre Performance. She is a wonderful addition to our Sunday morning team, and is "excited to be a part of the team and can't wait to meet new faces"!





### Children's Church Begins November 6

Beginning November 6<sup>th</sup>, a worship service for children, ages 4 years through 4th Grade, will happen the first and third Sunday of each month at the 11:00 a.m. worship time. This service will be led by our 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth in Fellowship Hall. Children will begin in church with their parents and leave after the Children's Moment. Children will continue worshiping through age appropriate stories, lessons, prayer and song. Adult volunteers are needed to sit-in for this service. Safe Santuaries Training will be necessary. To volunteer contact Holly Richardson.



### Children's Sunday School 9:45-10:45

# BEHIND THE SCENES: A 4-WEEK SERIES FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT ON ESTHER

SERIES OVERVIEW: The most important part of any play is what happens "behind the scenes." There's lighting, wardrobe, casting, playwriting — so much has to happen perfectly to bring the production together! In the story of Esther, there is a whole lot going on behind the scenes, too. In this four-week series, kids will discover the most important character in Esther's story isn't always center-stage, but can often be found behind the scenes working, helping, giving support and giving peace. (Spoiler alert: It's God!)

#### **MORE MISSION OPPORTUNITIES**

Please prayerfully consider your continued support of the following mission opportunities:

- <u>Suffolk Christian Fellowship Center</u>: Needs donations to food baskets on table in atrium, and financial support. See complete story on the back page of this Messenger.
- We will provide a <u>Thanksgiving meal</u> through the Salvation army on Tuesday, November 22nd, for 70 residents.
- <u>Angel Tree</u> will provide an opportunity to provide gifts for children of incarcerated parents, and church members needing a little extra help. Look for the Christmas tree On November 27th
- <u>Salvation Army Bell Ringers</u> look for the sign up sheet in the atrium. A fun and rewarding experience for the entire family! We will "ring the bells' from December 12-16th.
- <u>CAPS</u> Nightstay program to provide food and shelter for our homeless population, will begin January 4th, 2023. As in the past, we will provide 21 meals during the week that we serve, which will be either the week beginning Jan. 4th, or the following week. Volunteer to prepare a meal with a friend!



# NOVEMBER, 2022

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 1

#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

10:00 am Happy Hands 10:00 pm Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00 pm AA

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

6:30 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

8:00 AM Boy Scout - Flags 8:00 pm AA **Daylight Savings Time Ends** 

#### **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6**

#### All Saints Sunday Noisy Offering Day

8:30 am In-Person Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am In-Person & Virtual 1:00 pm Macedonia AME Worship 4:00 pm Youth Group

#### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7**

6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Safety Team Meeting

#### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8**

7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop

#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

10:00 am Needlework Guild 10:00 pm Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00 pm AA

#### THURSDAY, November 10

7:00 pm Cub Scout Pack Mtg 7:00 pm Christian Women's Book Club

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

8:00 am Boy Scout Flag Pick Up 8:00 pm AA

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

8:30 am In-Person Worship 9:30 am Appreciation Fellowship Time 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am In-Person & Virtual 1:00 pm Macedonia AME Worship

#### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14**

6:30 pm Girl Scouts

#### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15**

7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 1 7:00 pm Treasure Bible Study

#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

10:00 am Happy Hands 10:00 pm Staff Meeting 7:00 pm CAPS Night Stay Meeting 8:00 pm AA

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

7:00 pm Cub Scout Den Mtgs

#### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

8:00 pm AA

#### **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20**

8:30 am In-Person Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am In-Person & Virtual 1:00 pm Macedonia AME Worship 4:00 pm Youth Group

#### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21**

6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm SPRC

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 1

#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

11:00 am Salvation Army lunch 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00 pm AA

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Happy Thanksgiving

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

8:00 pm AA

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

#### First Sunday in Advent

8:30 am In-Person Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am In-Person & Virtual 12:00 pm Advent Faire 1:00 pm Macedonia AME Worship

#### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28**

5:15 pm Day Care Board Meeting 7:00 pm Trustees

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 1 7:00 pm *Advent Bible Study* 

#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

10:00 am Happy Hands 10:00 pm Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00 pm AA

#### NOVEMBER

#### **BIBLE READING**

- 1 John 1 2
- 2 John 3 4
- 3 John 5 − 6
- 4 John 7 8
- 5 John 9 10
- 6 John 11 12
- 7 John 13 15
  - 8 John 16 17

- 9 John 18 19
- 10 John 20 21
- □ Acts 1 3
- 12 Acts 4 5
- 13 Acts 6 7
- 14 Acts 8 9
- 15 Acts 10 11
- 16 Acts 12 13
- 17 Acts 14 15
- 18 Acts 16 17
- 19 Acts 18 19

- 20 Acts 20 21
- 21 Acts 22 23
- 22 Acts 24 26
- 23 Acts 27 28
- 24 Romans 1 3
- 25 Romans 4 7
- 26 Romans 8 10
- 27 Romans 11 14
- 28 Romans 15 16
- 29 1 Corinthians 1 4 30 1 Corinthians 5 - 9



### Church Staff & Contact Information

#### Main Street United Methodist Church

202 N. Main Street, Suffolk, VA 23434

Office: 757.539.8751 | Fax: 757.539.7566

www.mainstumc.org | mainstreet@mainstumc.org

#### **PASTOR**

Richard L. Meiser, Jr. | richmeiser@vaumc.org

Cell: 434.294.1957

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC** 

Richard Winfree | rwinfree@mainstumc.org

#### **ORGANIST**

Lawrence Carr | lcarr@mainstumc.org

**DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES** 

Holly Richardson | hrichardson@mainstumc.org

**DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE** 

Barbara McPhail | barbara@mainstumc.org

**TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR** 

Trevor Hutson | media@mainstumc.org

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** 

Mia Diggs | office@mainstumc.org

Main Street Day Care & Preschool

Office: 757.539.3431 | Fax: 757.539.7566

www.mainstreetdaycare.org

DAY CARE/PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

Heather Abbott | habbott@mainstumc.org



# SUFFOLK CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CENTER UPDATE -A MESSAGE FROM LORNA SLAUGHTER - YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

In a comparison report of our Jan-Aug 2021 numbers and the same timeframe of 2022, SCFC had an 20% increase in demand. Our goal of course is to continue to meet this increase in demand not only for those participating in our morning distribution but, for those working individuals/families also experiencing food insecurity. 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift is a new program we initiated to create access for our employed participants whose schedule conflicts with our morning hours. This program supports an evening distribution to allow for those in need to come after work and shop for food goods needed for their families.

The challenge here is procuring enough Restaurant Depot. food from our partnerships with Operation Blessing, the Foodbank of SEVA and our local retailers to match the demand. Both Operation Blessing and the FBSEVA reported a decrease in donated goods due to increases in food costs, freight, diesel fuel, & supply chain issues. Although we are able to purchase and procure goods, we remain limited in the amount of goods we can acquire. Because of these restrictions, we now have to make additional trips to acquire all we can when we receive notification from these partners. This also requires us to have to purchase additional food from retailers like Sam's, Walmart and

The additional challenge and most notable is that our current reserves are almost depleted and we must bring our stockpile back to efficient levels in order to continue to meet this high demand for food assistance.

SCFC is seeking funding to help us purchase the additional food needed to leverage our capacity to assist those

