



MtJacksonUMC.org

Mt. Jackson United Methodist Church

January 2023

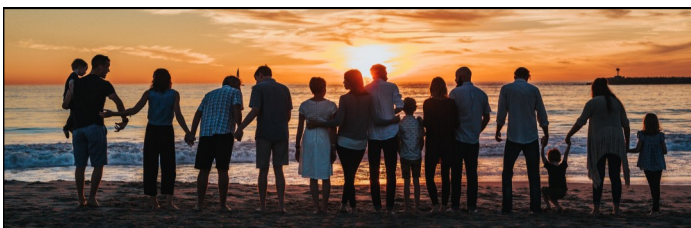
Church Christmas Party Enjoyed Good Times

The United Methodist Men sponsored a church Christmas party catered by *Rutz's BBQ & Catering* in Edinburg. After the meal, people moved into the sanctuary for a concert by the *Good Times Gospel Quartet*. It was an enjoyable evening and a great way to celebrate the Advent season together.



A Koontz Family Baptism

Last month, Jonathan and Chrissy Koontz presented their son, Eli for baptism. As the parents renewed their membership vows, they added a commitment to raise Eli in the life of the church to experience the love of a church family and grow in understanding of the love, grace, and wisdom of God. We all have the gifts and graces God uses to nurture one another. Continue to bless Eli as he matures into a young man.



Church Directories Available by Bobby Clark

Thank you to everyone for helping out with the directory. As our church family grows, an updated directory will help new members connect with us. God's light shines out of all the beautiful faces in these pictures. Paper copies of the Directory are available at both churches. Anyone that wants an electronic copy (PDF version) can e-mail Bobby Clark at raclark@vt.edu or text at 540-333-3227.





Women's Christmas Party



From the Pastor...

As we begin a new year, I want to remind each member of our *mission* and *vision* of the church.

Our Mission: to make disciples of Jesus. It is the central reason we exist as a church. We seek to make *new* disciples and *better* disciples. We have defined our disciple-making process in four parts:

Love—to demonstrate & communicate God's love to our community and invite them to follow Jesus.

Belong—to create & strengthen our church family relationships.

Grow—to equip the church family for maturity in Christ-like character.

Serve—to empower members to serve others.

Our Vision: over a two-year period, our focus is to engage in hospitality and community outreach to grow the church. This vision began this past year and will continue through 2023. Last year we have strengthened our outreach to the community. Our hope for 2023 is to strengthen our hospitality for guests and members in our worship gatherings.

It is important for all members to know where we are heading so we can engage in our mission and vision together. As we journey into the new year, let's make our hopes become our reality.

The Valley Voice is a monthly newsletter of Mt. Jackson United Methodist Church. All articles or photos for the next issue should be submitted to Pastor Lee by the 20th of each month. Email it to leecrosby@vaumc.org. Use the same address to be put on our email list.

UMW Gift Boxes



Christmas Concert at Cafe

Cindy Crosby gave a Christmas Concert at the local *Curtain Call Coffeehouse*. Members of the church and the community gathered for fresh coffee and sweet melodies to jumpstart the Christmas season.



Mission Work in 2002

We found many ways to serve God's people near and far and it all was made possible because you, as a congregation gave generously in a spirit of love and grace. Here is a short list of our efforts.

- § \$500 from N.O.W. to UMCOR for tornado relief.
- § \$250 from N.O.W. to *Response*, the Shenandoah Co. based shelter for victims of domestic abuse.
- § \$500 to Mt. Jackson Rescue & Fire from N.O.W.
- § We gave \$1,541.25 for World Central Kitchen's relief efforts in Ukraine, including \$150 from UMM.
- § We sent 154 hygiene kits to Annual Conference. The kits were valued at \$1,848, all from individual donations. The Dorcas Group put the kits together.
- § UMM gave \$200 to Society for St. Andrews to provide food to those in need.
- § We continued monthly food collections and cash donations at Open Door Food Pantry. Several church members also volunteer at the food pantry.
- § We held a lunch for Shenandoah County First Responders. (N.O.W. spent \$442 for the food).
- § Individual donations of \$1,063.91 to World Central Kitchen for Kentucky flood relief.
- § We created 30 cleaning kits (flood buckets) for UMCOR. N.O.W. spent \$2,042.53 for the supplies; United Methodist Men assembled the buckets.
- § N.O.W. held a baked potato bar that collected \$575 in individual donations for the World Central Kitchen to support hurricane relief in Florida.
- § N.O.W. paid \$350 to Curtain Call to support the Pastor Lee's series of Spiritual Conversations.
- § United Methodist Women sponsored a community ice cream social that drew a large crowd.
- § United Methodist Men organized a Community Trunk or Treat, with over 200 people in attendance.
- § UMW organized collection of 25 Angel Tree gifts for children of incarcerated persons.
- § We participated in the town's National Night Out with an information table and water distribution.
- § Our Christmas Eve collection was donated to S.E.A.R.C.H.

Praise God for giving us the resources and the heart to express our love to His people.

--Wendell Cochran, N.O.W. chair

January Birthdays

Jan. 1—Rick Koontz
 Jan. 04—Brenda Driver
 Jan. 10 -- Nancy Dinges
 Jan. 10 -- Lawrence Frye
 Jan. 10 -- Margaret Harris
 Jan. 13 -- Cindy Crosby
 Jan. 15 -- Sharon Benson
 Jan. 15 -- Jeff Coffelt
 Jan. 16 -- James Clark
 Jan. 16 -- Rick Hassler
 Jan. 16 -- Marcia Joseph
 Jan. 16 -- Margaret Oden
 Jan. 22 -- Dickie Hawkins
 Jan. 23 -- Brayden Dove



Financial Report by Faye Cochran

November 2022

General Fund Income	\$8,514.00
Expenses	\$6,348.72
Difference	\$2,165.28

Designated Giving	
Health & Welfare	\$48.00
Building Fund	\$80.00
Food Pantry	\$10.00



New VA. Conference Bishop



Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson was assigned to the Virginia Conference at the 2022 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference on November 4th. She has been serving over the North Georgia Conference. Bishop Hauptert-Johnson will take

office as our Bishop on January 1, 2023.