



THE MESSENGER

Newsletter of

Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church

February 2012

"So let your light shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your father in heaven."
Matthew 5:16

UPCOMING DATES

February 5

Team Spirit Souper Bowl!
Both services

Scout Sunday
11:00 service

First Sunday FEAST!
Noon

Youth Group Souper
Bowl Party!
5:00-7:00pm

February 11

Valentine's Dinner
Sponsored by the Scouts
5:00-7:00pm

February 12

Youth Group
3:00pm

Feed the Homeless
3:30pm – Pack meals
6:00pm – Deliver meals

February 16

Church Council Meeting
7:30pm

February 26

Confirmation Class
1:00pm

Youth Group
4:00pm

(Wed. thru Easter)

The Greatest Story: Jesus
Bible Study
1:00-2:30pm &
6:00-7:30pm

Every Wednesday
Choir Practice

From the Pastor...

Grace & Peace!

Almost every day I receive an email or Facebook post that requires I "copy & paste" or "forward" the message to prove I am not ashamed of Jesus. I don't. Am I ashamed of Jesus? Is Jesus really involved in this stuff? Is salvation dependent on a moment or a lifetime or grace or all of the above?

In Mark 8:38 Jesus says, "If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels." Now that's a verse completely removed from its context. It has a very different meaning when you read the rest of the passage...

The disciples have testified that Jesus is the Christ. He begins to teach them about his suffering and death, Peter objects and Jesus tells him to get behind him, Satan. Wow! In one breath Peter gets it, Jesus is the Christ, and in the next breath he shows his complete misunderstanding of everything. This launches Jesus into a little rant about what it means to follow him. Deny yourself. Pick up a cross. Lose your life for Jesus. Then he says if you are ashamed of him here he'll not know you in glory.

It's a little clearer now. Jesus wasn't talking about simple little bumper stickers, forwards, copy/paste, t-shirts, mottos, etc. He wasn't talking about anything in our modern "buy this if you love Jesus" corrupted world. Jesus was talking about the way you live every day. He was talking about putting following him before your own comforts, desires and greed. He was talking about true discipleship; the modeling of one's every move after the one being followed.

Jesus was homeless, spent time with outcasts, loved the poor, healed the sick, stood up for the rejects of his world. He was there for the adulterer, prostitute, tax collector, blind, lame, beggars, children and women. Jesus came in power and strength but not the way anyone expected...not the way we like to expect today. Following Jesus isn't about passing along a vague threat; it is about passing along mercy, charity and justice. Following Jesus isn't about showy prayers and ostentatious acts of pretentious faith. It isn't about judging, excluding and looking down at others. It is about prayers lifted from the heart in silence and darkness. It is about sharing the load with the downtrodden. It is about being there for the ones who can offer nothing in return.

Read the Bible. Read the Gospels. Get to know the real Jesus. Decide for yourself what it means to be ashamed of Jesus and what it means to proclaim his love to the nations.

Sharing the LIGHT!
Pastor ReNe'e

Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church		
1732 Brooke Road	540-659-2461	
Stafford VA 22554	804-357-4435	

What's Happening at Our Church?

Youth Retreat Time!

MARCH 2-4

The Fredericksburg District Youth Retreat will be March 2-4 at Blackstone Conference Center. We will leave Andrew Chapel Friday after school and return Sunday after church. Exact times TBA. Check out the brochure for all the details and invite your friends!

Register NOW! Deadline to register is Feb. 5.

Pick up a brochure in the fellowship hall, complete the forms and bring a check for \$120 payable to Fredericksburg District.

SUPERHERO!



WHY?

Youth Group Suppers!

Our youth group is growing in size and activity. One of the things that the youth really enjoy is eating. If you would be willing to bring a youth styled meal on a Sunday evening, we need you. Please email andrewchapelumc@yahoo.com or leave a message at 540-659-2461. We'll work out dates and menus after we have some volunteers.

January, 2012

I would like to thank each of you at Andrew Chapel for the Christmas gift I received. Your kindness is always appreciated. May 2012 be a year of blessings for our church and its people.

*Love,
Catherine Wheeler*

Operation Overboard

Vacation Bible School

July 23-27, 2012

Dare to Go Deep with God!

Watch for more information!



Encouragement through Prayer

Joys!... Great participation in Bible study, volunteers for the newsletter and VBS!

Concerns... Shawn Sanders on the death of his brother, The Maguigad family as they move to San Francisco, Steve Kasey family, Joey Emond, Jacquie Emond, Mary Hoioos, Patty Phillips, Rick Brennieson, Susie Terry, Pam Hiller, Frances Miller.

Health Concerns... Jackie Payne, Rochelle Routh, Bernard & Evelyn Musante, Jon & Marie Elliott, James, Joshus, Joyce, Mae.

Our church... Stacy Elliott and the leaders of VBS 2012!, all leaders and teachers, that hearts will be touched with the Light of Christ.

Personal Contact Information Needed

We are working on updating the information kept in Andrew Chapel's database. This information is only used by Andrew Chapel to contact you about upcoming events or to assist you in a time of need. You should have received a letter and information sheet in the mail recently. Please complete and return your family's information sheet. If you didn't receive one, it means we do not have a mailing address for you. Email andrewchapelumc@yahoo.com and we can send you one as an attachment. Thank you for helping with this truly important effort.

CONTACT US:

1732 Brooke Road **540-659-2461**
Stafford VA 22554 **804-357-4435**

Website: www.andrewchapelumc-staffordva.com

Boy Scout Information: www.t516.org

Facebook Page: Andrew Chapel UMC - StaffordVA

Calendar: available on the website with all future dates and descriptions

Email: andrewchapelumc@yahoo.com



St. Valentine's Story

Let me introduce myself. My name is Valentine. I lived in Rome during the third century. That was long, long ago! At that time, Rome was ruled by an emperor named Claudius. I didn't like Emperor Claudius, and I wasn't the only one! A lot of people shared my feelings.

Claudius wanted to have a big army. He expected men to volunteer to join. Many men just did not want to fight in wars. They did not want to leave their wives and families. As you might have guessed, not many men signed up. This made Claudius furious. So what happened? He had a crazy idea. He thought that if men were not married, they would not mind joining the army. So Claudius decided not to allow any more marriages. Young people thought his new law was cruel. I thought it was preposterous! I certainly wasn't going to support that law!

Did I mention that I was a priest? One of my favorite activities was to marry couples. Even after Emperor Claudius passed his law, I kept on performing marriage ceremonies -- secretly, of course. It was really quite exciting. Imagine a small candlelit room with only the bride and groom and myself. We would whisper the words of the ceremony, listening all the while for the steps of soldiers.

One night, we did hear footsteps. It was scary! Thank goodness the couple I was marrying escaped in time. I was caught. (Not quite as light on my feet as I used to be, I guess.) I was thrown in jail and told that my punishment was death.

I tried to stay cheerful. And do you know what? Wonderful things happened. Many young people came to the jail to visit me. They threw flowers and notes up to my window. They wanted me to know that they, too, believed in love.

One of these young people was the daughter of the prison guard. Her father allowed her to visit me in the cell. Sometimes we would sit and talk for hours. She helped me to keep my spirits up. She agreed that I did the right thing by ignoring the Emperor and going ahead with the secret marriages. On the day I was to die, I left my friend a little note thanking her for her friendship and loyalty. I signed it, "Love from your Valentine."

I believe that note started the custom of exchanging love messages on Valentine's Day. It was written on the day I died, February 14, 269 A.D. Now, every year on this day, people remember. But most importantly, they think about love and friendship. And when they think of Emperor Claudius, they remember how he tried to stand in the way of love, and they laugh - - because they know that love can't be beaten!

***And now these three remain:
faith, hope and love.
But the greatest of these is
love.***

I Corinthians 13:13



Scouting News

BOY SCOUT TROOP 516



December saw the Scouts finishing delivery of Scout Popcorn, which is one of two fundraisers the Troop undertakes. (The other fundraiser is mulch sales, with delivery the end of March.) Thanks to everyone that purchased popcorn or gave a donation, as Scout Popcorn helps to fund camping for the boys, helps in the purchase of camping equipment for the Troop, and supports scouting in the National Capital Area. (For those that purchased popcorn from Nate Sanders, those funds help his Cub Scout Pack to provide a great Cub Program, supports scouting in the National Capital Area, and started a scholarship fund for Nate that will continue to grow every year he remains a scout and sells a little, or a lot, of popcorn.)

The second weekend in December had the Scouts camping at St. Clair Brooks Park in Falmouth, and practicing some winter camping skills, as the temperature at night dipped below the freezing mark. For the last meeting of the year, the Troop held the annual Christmas gathering. The Scouts had some snacks, had some fun, and capped off a great year of Scouting with a gift exchange game.

Back for a new year, January saw the Scouts earning some Merit Badges at a Merit Badge Day held at the church. While mid-January has the Troop hosting the Webelos from Pack 213 at the Fredericksburg Field House for some fun-and-games (flag football, dodge ball, and host of others games) and pizza.

With February just around the corner, the beginning of the month has the Troop conducting Scout Sunday Service at the 11 o'clock service. Just a couple days later, the Scouts will hold a Court-of-Honor to distribute all the patches, badges, and rank awards the Scouts have earned. While the end of the month sees the Troop planning for a ski and snowboarding trip.

VENTURING CREW 598

Mid-December saw the Crew do some shooting at the NRA range in northern Virginia, followed the next night by participating with Crew 1717 in a Court-of-Awards ceremony; while the end-of-month saw the Crew host a Game Night.

The beginning of January had the Crew venture to Mystic Mountain in Pennsylvania for a weekend of skiing, snowboarding, and hanging out with other Venturers; while the end of the month has the Crew looking to do some night skiing at Massanutten Ski Resort, and possibly doing some roller skating with the Venturing Officers Association.

February has the Crew attending Scout Sunday services at Andrew Chapel, or at their home church; as well as planning to host a Valentines Dinner and Game Night.



February 5, 2012

11:00am Service



United Methodist Women

ANDREW CHAPEL UMW
December 10, 2011

President Debbie Snyder opened meeting at 10 am.

Mary Hoioos presented the program with a game of favorite verses. Prior to the meeting each member gave Mary a favorite verse and the group was asked to match verse with person submitting the verse.

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE VERSE

Mary also read a story about meeting God's challenges. How a smile or a warm hello can be an act of kindness that helps in meeting some of God's challenges.

November minutes read and approved.

Birthdays: \$4.23

Gifts and meal certificate for the adopted family will be picked up and delivered by Terri Rivero.

Treasurer Report: Eileen reported a balance of \$4643.00 with \$2000.00 earmarked for steeple repairs.

District Treasurer Report: Lorita Reported no change. Lorita spoke of the 6 star certificate and how the UMW met criteria for the certificate. Certificate will be presented at a later date.

Card and Food Basket Report:
Mary reported 7 cards going out in November. Food Basket went out 9 times with \$40.00 in certificates.

Old Business: No January or February gmail meetings.

New Business: An idea was presented to have the December meetings in the evening to accommodate refreshment ideas.

Soup Supper in March to benefit general fund.

Reviewed the accomplishments the group had in 2011.

Debbie Snyder asked if she could sponsor Marilyn Fenton in Women's Memorial. Everyone agreed this was a very nice way to honor Marilyn and her service to our country. Debbie will proceed with the procedures.

Mary closed with prayer.

The group then enjoyed party with gift exchange, refreshments and lots of laughter and stories.

Stockings were filled for children and shut-ins. Mary Williard made cards to go with each stocking for the shut-ins.

Submitted by: Carolyn Fleming

CELEBRATE!

February Birthdays

- 2 Teresa Timmons Thorsted
Mike Kappel
Shawna Lee Pellegrino
- 6 Laura Sue Yates
Marrisa Porcelli
- 7 Josh Parish
- 8 Leigh Kearns
- 13 Elsie Brown
- 14 Bart Routh
Eli Routh
- 15 Bernard Musante
Jeff Elliott
- 18 Tony Kern
- 19 Hunter Thomas
- 20 Ashley Nichole Thorsted
- 26 Teresa Francom

February Anniversaries

- 5 Ken and Mary Williard
- 14 Charlotte and "Hoss" Parish
- 19 Pete and Jackie Payne

If you or a family member has a February birthday or anniversary and it's not on our list above, please contact Stacy Elliott to have the name(s) included in our list!

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to all celebrating this month!

A very special Happy Birthday
to **Elsie Brown**
who will turn 100 years old on
February 13th!



Newsletter Editor

Stacy Elliott
stacy.elliott11@yahoo.com
540-659-1016

Staff

Mary Hoioos
Marcia Rodgers
Karen Bowling
Carolyn Flemming
Charlotte Crismond

Valentine's Day with Jesus



Jesus does not send perfume
To linger in the air
Instead He sends salvation, sweet
To show how much He cares.

He doesn't bring me candy hearts
In boxes of delight
Instead He always lets me know
I'm precious in His sight.

He doesn't pass out pretty cards
Trimmed in shades of red
Instead He gave His life for me
His precious blood was shed.

He doesn't hand out fancy gifts
Like we would send to mother
Instead He sends a message clear
To always love each other.

He doesn't give me teddy bears
That whimper, "Please be mine"
Instead He gave His heart to me
I wear it all the time.

He doesn't give me roses, pink
For all the world to see
Instead He gave eternal life
That's good enough for me.

*Author/Written By:
Marilyn Ferguson
<http://www.marilynspetry.com>*

CONFERENCE and WORLD NEWS

ReFirement: A Creative Spark

“ReFirement: A Creative Spark,” a retreat sponsored by the Older Adult Council will be held on April 20-21, 2012, at Blackstone: The Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center. The retreat will focus on fostering the spark of creativity in order to enrich the lives of older adults and enhance the ministries of the church. A variety of workshop sessions including watercolor and acrylic painting, music, liturgical movement, and knitting/crocheting for making prayer shawls as well as fellowship opportunities will be available. Why attend a retreat focused on the arts? A resolution to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging stated: “Research suggests that active participation in the arts and learning promotes physical health, enhances a sense of well-being among older Americans, improves quality of life for those who are ill, and reduces the risk factors that lead to the need for long-term care....” Plan to join us for the overnight retreat and see where new creative fires may develop that will fill your heart and soul. Contact: Office of Leadership and Inclusivity, 804-521-1153 or 800-768-6040 ext. 153
e-mail: marthastokes@vaumc.org

Bishop Kammerer, Virginia Conference recognized for gifts to Global AIDS Fund

Fifty-five United Methodist bishops, including Bishop Charlene Kammerer, endorsed the *20/20: Visioning an AIDS-Free World* initiative by lending their personal and financial support. The initiative effort by the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund Committee seeks to mobilize the denomination to raise \$5 million for HIV and AIDS education, prevention, care and treatment around the world. The bishops not only lent their names to the fund-raising project, but also shared their own financial resources. Gifts ranged from \$20 donations to \$20 a month until 2020. Some joined the “2020” club pledging \$2,020. The Virginia Conference was among the top 11 giving conferences recognized by The United Methodist Global AIDS Fund Committee. To date, more than \$3 million has been raised and distributed to over 200 programs in 38 countries. Contributions are designated for UMCOR Advance No. 982345 and may be given either through the local church or sent to UMCOR’s office at P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY 10087. When gifts are given through the local church, the annual conference may reserve 25% to use in AIDS ministry sponsored by the conference. The other 75% is administered by the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund Committee. For more information and to see the complete list of giving bishops and conferences, go to www.2020AIDSFreeWorld.org or e-mail 2020AIDSFreeWorld@gmail.com.

Biblical Couples Wordsearch

Couples II by Bill Brinkworth
<http://openthoumineeyes.com>

Names to

find...



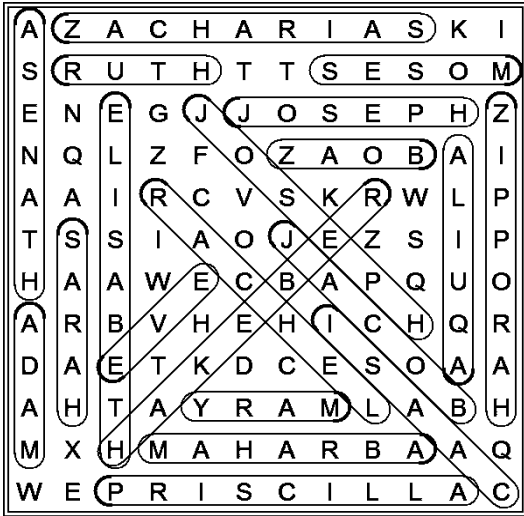
- Adam -
- Abraham -
- Isaac -
- Jacob -
- Joseph -
- Moses -
- Boaz -
- Zacharias -
- Joseph -
- Aquila -

A	Z	A	C	H	A	R	I	A	S	K
S	R	U	T	H	T	T	S	E	S	O
E	N	E	G	J	J	O	S	E	P	H
N	Q	L	Z	F	O	Z	A	O	B	A
A	A	I	R	C	V	S	K	R	W	L
T	S	S	I	A	O	J	E	Z	S	I
H	A	A	W	E	C	B	A	P	Q	U
A	R	B	V	H	E	H	I	C	H	Q
D	A	E	T	K	D	C	E	S	O	A
A	H	T	A	Y	R	A	M	L	A	B
M	X	H	M	A	H	A	R	B	A	A
W	E	P	R	I	S	C	I	L	L	A



- Eve
- Sarah
- Rebekah
- Rachel
- Asenath
- Zipporah
- Ruth
- Elisabeth
- Mary
- Pricilla

Wordsearch Answers:



Always Say A Prayer (A.S.A.P.)

There's work to do, deadlines to meet,
 you've got no time to spare.
 But as you hurry and scurry,
 always say a prayer.

In the midst of family chaos,
 "quality time" is rare.
 Do your best; let God do the rest.
 Always say a prayer.

It may seem like your worries are
 more than you can bear.
 Slow down and take a breather -
 always say a prayer.

God knows how stressful life is;
 He wants to ease our cares,
 and He'll respond ASAP -
 Always say a prayer!

~author unknown

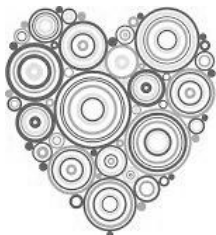
The Messenger

Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church
 1732 Brooke Road
 Stafford VA 22554

Proclaiming the Truth That Sets the World Free

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS



*Keep on loving one another as
 brothers and sisters.*

~Hebrews 13:1