



I am grateful to announce that our Confirmation class began meeting on Sunday nights a couple of weeks ago. I can't believe that this is my second time already to lead Confirmation class.



This year, we have three wonderful, bright students. It gives me so much joy when I see our students growing in Christ's love.

So far we have talked about what it means to be a Methodist, and we learned about our tradition and John Wesley. I explained about John Wesley's Aldersgate experience in our last class, and I shared my

desire and prayer with the students that God may touch each one of us and give us vision, compassion, and direction. I am thankful that they are learning about the Christian faith and what it means to be a Methodist.

As you know, Confirmation is a time of owning for oneself the responsibility of surrendering one's life to God. I ask for your prayer and support for our Confirmation class. We will celebrate their Rite of Confirmation on Easter Sunday, April 17. May God's blessings and grace be upon our wonderful students.

Jae W. Cho



Mount Vernon volunteers recently completed a big project for Habitat for Humanity, installing all the sheetrock in a new home located at 108 Austin Circle. The house has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, and a combination kitchen-dining-living room. Over four work days, we had a total of 10 volunteers, and we finished the work on January 27.



Many thanks to the volunteers: Beth Bauman, Gary Benefield, Butch Dalton, Jim Daniel, Coleman Hylton, Howard Lester, John Ranson, Chuck Sampson, Tom Underwood, and Darrell Williamson, and to Margaret and Robert Wooding, who provided lunch on Saturday.





Property Committee Workday: February 18

Members of the Property Committee plan to resume monthly workdays at the church, starting on Friday, February 18, pending the status of Covid cases in our area at that time.

The Boomers Class Zooms On

We are now reading and discussing *The Science of God: The Convergence of Scientific and Biblical Wisdom*, by Gerald Schroeder, a physicist and biblical scholar.

We read about one chapter a week and discuss it when we meet on Sunday. The group selects the books we read. Authors have included Adam Hamilton, C.S. Lewis, and Barbara Brown Taylor. Discussions are lively, and over time, members really get to know each other.

The class began meeting online (Zoom) at the beginning of the pandemic, and we will return to in-person meetings when the pandemic subsides.

Most of us are in the baby boomers age group, but anyone is welcome to join us. Our current members are Fran Ashby, Briggs and Beth Bauman, Gary and Lin Benefield, Leah Cooter, Raymond Hawkins, Ann and J.G. Hurt, Sandra Morales, John and Beth Ranson, Chuck and Linda Sampson, Margaret Scott, Jan Sutherland, Tom and Joyce Underwood, Tammy and Dan Waters, and Margaret and Robert Wooding.

We meet for an hour every Sunday, starting at 1 p.m. If you are interested, contact me at lgbenefield@comcast.net or 434.489.9530, and I will send you an invitation to our next Zoom class.

– Gary Benefield

• • • • • Appalachia Service Project • • • • •

MISSION TRIP

July 24–30, 2022



The 2021 Advent Offering

The total raised was \$3,635.00. This will be split between the Habitat for Humanity Village Project and swimming lessons at the YMCA for children from Boys and Girls Clubs of Danville.

Thank you to everyone who donated.

Celebrating the the Work of Our Knitting Group



The Mount

Vernon knitting group, which includes church members and friends, meets in the fellowship hall two or three times a month year-round to enjoy each others' company as they knit.

And each year, for what is known as the “knitting tree” project, they make many scarves and hats, and donate them to the Henry Fork Service Center and to a Cherokee church in North Carolina. Here is their record of what they made for the knitting tree and donated in 2021:

To Henry Fork: 38 sets of matching hats and scarves, 3 hats, 9 scarves. *To Cherokees:* 37 matching hats and scarves, 3 hats, 7 scarves.

That's a total of 81 hats and 91 scarves!

In addition, the Mount Vernon congregation contributed the following: *Henry Fork:* 2 sets of hats and gloves, 29 pairs of gloves, 5 hats, 4 pairs of socks; *Cherokees:* 3 sets of hats and gloves, 29 pairs of gloves, 2 scarves, 4 pairs of socks, and 6 hats.

Deadline for Mount Vernon UMC Foundation 2022/2023 Scholarship Applications

A limited amount of scholarship funds for students in the Danville–Pittsylvania County–Caswell County area who are pursuing undergraduate degrees will be awarded.



Awards will be made based on a combination of financial need, academic merit, and community involvement.

The deadline for submitting completed applications is Monday, February 28, 2022. Download applications from the church website at mtvernonumc.org or pick up in the church office during regular hours (Monday–Thursday, 9 a.m.– 1 p.m.)



**Stratford
House
Communion
Services:
Working
Together
for Good**



Mount Vernon has been doing a wonderful ministry for years by visiting Stratford House once a month and leading a Communion service for the residents there. It is my privilege to serve this ministry alongside Ann Williamson and Suzanne Fisher. Ever since Stratford House changed the service time to morning, we have seen more residents participating.

I must say that I appreciate the teamwork in this ministry. Ann and Suzanne help with preparing the Communion elements, and they greet the residents before and after the service. One resident volunteers to play the piano.

I thank God for allowing me to witness the beauty of teamwork through this ministry. Paul said in Romans 8:28,

“We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.”

God does work through us when we show kindness and generosity to others. I hope and pray that we can continue to do our wonderful ministry and share our love with others for years to come.

Jae W. Cho

*The family of Fred Duncan, Jr.,
wishes to express their
heartfelt gratitude for the many
kindnesses shown to them
during their time of sorrow.*

*A gift in memory of **Ginny Gentry**
has been received from
Jan Sutherland.*

*Gifts in memory of **Fred Duncan**
have been received from
Joe & Julia Hatcher Brown,
Jan C. Lester, Jesse Mayhew,
Dr. & Mrs. Max Glass,
and Frances McMillan.*

*Gifts in memory of **Landon R. Wyatt, Jr.**
have been received from
Catherine Bendall
and Jan Sutherland.*

*Gifts in memory of **Richard Turner**
have been received from
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Spencer
and Peggy Wright.*

*A gift in memory of **Kenneth Miller**
has been received from
Peggy Wright.*

*A gift in memory of **Phil Kirkland**
has been received from
Margaret Harden.*

*A gift in memory of **Linwood Wright**
has been received from
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Spencer.*

*Our thoughts
and prayers
are with you.*



*At home:
Dorothy Stephens
Bill Hardy
Joyce Johnson*

*Our deepest sympathy to
Beth Payne and her family
in the death of her sister, Ginny Gentry,
on January 1, 2022.*



*The family of Evangeline (Van) Keck,
who died on January 11, 2022.*



*Robert Wooding and his family
in the recent death of his brother,
William Wooding.*

*Frank Cuthrell and his family
in the death of Eleanor Cuthrell
on February 2, 2022.*



Evangeline "Van" Elliott Keck of Yanceyville, N.C., passed away on January 11, 2022. Born on November 8, 1931, she was the daughter of Reverend Tommie Payne and Flossie Stowe Elliott.

Van was a Registered Nurse for over 40 years, graduating from The Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in 1952 and receiving the Julius Kaufman Award for Excellence in Nursing. She was Associate Professor of Practical Nursing at Danville Community College for 30 years until her retirement in 1993.

For many years she served on the board and executive committee of Roman Eagle Rehabilitation and Health Care Center in Danville. She was a member of Mount Vernon United Methodist Church.

She is survived by sons Berkeley M. Keck Jr. "Marty" and wife, Stephanie, of Richmond, Va., and Harold Thomas Keck "Tom" and wife, Wendy, of Yanceyville; sister-in-law, Susan Turner of Richmond, Va.; grandsons Phillip, Christopher, and Eric; great-grandchildren Simone and Milo; and nephew Randall Elliott. She was preceded in death by her husband, Berkeley M. Keck Sr.; brother, Henry Lea Elliott; and grandson, Jonathan Elliott Keck.



Mount Vernon's Youth Group resumed meeting in person, indoors, in January!
Sundays at 5 p.m.

Birthdays



February:

- 3 Matt Charles
Kaleigh Longersbeam
- 6 Courtney Bailey
- 7 Jean Gauldin
Elizabeth Hylton
Pierce Turbiville
Susan Turner
- 8 Barbara Brande
- 9 Cayla Barker
Jay Barker
Amanda Foster
Steve Huff
Jane McMillan
Nik Tiver Belanger
Lewis Williamson
- 11 Beth Eller
- 12 Wright Garrett
- 14 Anna Cho
Martha Sule
- 15 Nancy Rudder
Frank Sule
- 17 Will Anglea
Bob Sutter
- 18 Chris Eller
Jenny Sessoms
- 19 Barbara Caldwell
- 20 Pat Maurakis
Louis Dibrell, III
- 23 Mary Lou Dunn

- 25 Gary Benefield
Sally Fuller
Sonny Morton
Mac Newell
Jordan Sater
Elizabeth Scott Turner
- 26 Chris Colbert
Steve Jones
- 27 Lynn Eller
Budge Kent, Jr.
Kirk Milam
- 28 Phil Blackmon
Suzanne Harris

March:

- 1 Parson Jacob Lutz
- 2 Anne Hatton Mitchell
Sam Newell
Lauren Tatum Harless
- 3 B.G. Lewis, III
- 4 Fran Darkis
- 5 Caroline Brande
Frankie Jean Thomas
Anne Wayne Patterson
- 6 Sandy Burch
Shirley Duncan
Margaret Harden
- 7 Lauren Miller
Robert Wooding
- 8 Jan Lester

Scan with your cell phone
to make an online donation to
Mount Vernon Church at any time.



Empty Bowls is a grassroots effort by God's Storehouse to fight hunger. Attendees may select a hand-crafted bowl created by a local artist and receive a food voucher from a participating restaurant for a bowl of soup, a salad, or an item of the restaurant's choosing.

Bowls serve as a reminder of the empty bowls in our community and around the world.

Purchase tickets online using Eventbrite or in person at God's Storehouse or at Karen's Hallmark in Danville Mall. Ticket cost: \$20.00/person. \$25.00/person after February 20.

There will be specific times to pick up your bowl and participate in an auction. Purchase your tickets as soon as possible if you want an earlier spot, because tickets sell out fast. For more information contact info@godsstorehouse.org or 434.793.3663.



YOUR SUPPORT HELPED
GOD'S STOREHOUSE
FIGHT FOOD INSECURITY
FOR DANVILLE AND
THE SURROUNDING
AREA IN 2021.

DISTRIBUTED
640,882 LBS
OF FOOD



GAVE
294
VOLUNTEERS



22,262 HOURS
OF THEIR TIME

16,941 MILES
TRAVELED



Readings for February from the Bishop's Bible Reading Challenge

Old Testament	New Testament	Psalm	Proverbs
<input type="checkbox"/> 01 Exodus 13:17-15:18	Matthew 21:23-46	Psalm 26:1-12	Proverbs 6:16-19
<input type="checkbox"/> 02 Exodus 15:19-17:7	Matthew 22:1-33	Psalm 27:1-6	Proverbs 6:20-26
<input type="checkbox"/> 03 Exodus 17:8-19:15	Matthew 22:34-23:12	Psalm 27:7-14	Proverbs 6:27-35
<input type="checkbox"/> 04 Exodus 19:16-21:21	Matthew 23:13-39	Psalm 28:1-9	Proverbs 7:1-5
<input type="checkbox"/> 05 Exodus 21:22-23:13	Matthew 24:1-28	Psalm 29:1-11	Proverbs 7:6-23
<input type="checkbox"/> 06 Exodus 23:14-25:40	Matthew 24:29-51	Psalm 30:1-12	Proverbs 7:24-27
<input type="checkbox"/> 07 Exodus 26:1-27:21	Matthew 25:1-30	Psalm 31:1-8	Proverbs 8:1-11
<input type="checkbox"/> 08 Exodus 28:1-43	Matthew 25:31-26:13	Psalm 31:9-18	Proverbs 8:12-13
<input type="checkbox"/> 09 Exodus 29:1-30:10	Matthew 26:14-46	Psalm 31:19-24	Proverbs 8:14-26
<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Exodus 30:11-31:18	Matthew 26:47-68	Psalm 32:1-11	Proverbs 8:27-32
<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Exodus 32:1-33:23	Matthew 26:69-27:14	Psalm 33:1-11	Proverbs 8:33-36
<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Exodus 34:1-35:9	Matthew 27:15-31	Psalm 33:12-22	Proverbs 9:1-6
<input type="checkbox"/> 13 Exodus 35:10-36:38	Matthew 27:32-66	Psalm 34:1-10	Proverbs 9:7-8
<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Exodus 37:1-38:31	Matthew 28:1-20	Psalm 34:11-22	Proverbs 9:9-10
<input type="checkbox"/> 15 Exodus 39:1-40:38	Mark 1:1-28	Psalm 35:1-16	Proverbs 9:11-12
<input type="checkbox"/> 16 Leviticus 1:1-3:17	Mark 1:29-2:12	Psalm 35:17-28	Proverbs 9:13-18
<input type="checkbox"/> 17 Leviticus 4:1-5:19	Mark 2:13-3:6	Psalm 36:1-12	Proverbs 10:1-2
<input type="checkbox"/> 18 Leviticus 6:1-7:27	Mark 3:7-30	Psalm 37:1-11	Proverbs 10:3-4
<input type="checkbox"/> 19 Leviticus 7:28-9:6	Mark 3:31-4:25	Psalm 37:12-29	Proverbs 10:5
<input type="checkbox"/> 20 Leviticus 9:7-10:20	Mark 4:26-5:20	Psalm 37:30-40	Proverbs 10:6-7
<input type="checkbox"/> 21 Leviticus 11:1-12:8	Mark 5:21-43	Psalm 38:1-22	Proverbs 10:8-9
<input type="checkbox"/> 22 Leviticus 13:1-59	Mark 6:1-29	Psalm 39:1-13	Proverbs 10:10
<input type="checkbox"/> 23 Leviticus 14:1-57	Mark 6:30-56	Psalm 40:1-10	Proverbs 10:11-12
<input type="checkbox"/> 24 Leviticus 15:1-16:28	Mark 7:1-23	Psalm 40:11-17	Proverbs 10:13-14
<input type="checkbox"/> 25 Leviticus 16:29-18:30	Mark 7:24-8:10	Psalm 41:1-13	Proverbs 10:15-16
<input type="checkbox"/> 26 Leviticus 19:1-20:21	Mark 8:11-38	Psalm 42:1-11	Proverbs 10:17
<input type="checkbox"/> 27 Leviticus 20:22-22:16	Mark 9:1-29	Psalm 43:1-5	Proverbs 10:18
<input type="checkbox"/> 28 Leviticus 22:17-23:44	Mark 9:30-10:12	Psalm 44:1-8	Proverbs 10:19

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