

Greenwood UMC



THE TWIG BENDER

January
2013

Renewing our Commitment

On the first Sunday of January we will ring in the New Year with the Wesley Covenant Renewal Service.

Each year, Methodism founder John Wesley (not his brother Charles) would begin the New Year with a "Covenant Service." The heart of the service, focused in the Covenant Prayer, requires a renewed commitment to God. (See sidebar on page 13 for text of the prayer)

The purpose of a covenant renewal service is to remind us of

OUR MINISTRY OF PRAYER

*Please pray for these brothers
and sisters in Christ*

Elsie Allen, Ashley Draper, Roger Eckwright, Pat Moran, Virginia Moran, Pamela Mortenson, Betty and Harvey Roach, Benjamin Shannon, Roy Sheets, Tommy Sheets, Lavelle Sheffield, Steve Sheffield, Teresa and Bobby Skloss, William Smith, Carolyn Stone, Johnny Taylor, Ike Wagner, Catherine Wallace, Kim Winfrey, Harold Yeary, Jennifer Yeary

the personal relationship we have with God and why we are gathering together. The service is a way of starting the New Year off in the right way, reminding ourselves of what God has done for us and acknowledging that a relationship is a two way street. We sometimes neglect our side of the relationship. This service helps us to renew that relationship.

The Covenant Renewal Service had its recorded beginnings

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From the Pastor

Moving from 2012 into 2013

As we move from 2012 into 2013, some of us will spend time remembering the years past and others will be dreaming about the year to come. This is a time for both reflection and anticipation. Whether we are talking about our personal lives or our church life, both reflection and anticipation are important for us. Reflection helps us know where we have been, what works well, and how to grow from our mistakes. Anticipation, dreaming, and planning are all aspects of looking ahead. They help provide us with direction and goals.

Sometimes we talk about this reflection and planning as making resolutions – what I will do in the New Year different from what I have done in the past.

Are you making new resolutions?

January, with the busy fall and holiday seasons behind us, Lent not yet upon us, and the weather encouraging time indoors, is perfect for reflection and planning.

As I begin the year, I am reevaluating my spiritual practices – prayer time, what devotional materials I read, scripture reading, lis-

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Greenwood Planning Day

... Saturday, January 19 at the United Methodist Building, 9 a.m. — noon. All Church officers and others interested in planning the church year and goal setting are encouraged to attend.

Greenwood's 2013 Budget

Here is the church's 2013 budget as approved by the Charge Conference. In 2013 we're projecting \$137,433, down 1.4% from 2012's \$139,442.

Nurture and Ministries – \$2,250 – Includes Worship/Bulletins, Music, Sunday School, Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry, Altar Flowers and Vacation Bible School.

Outreach Ministry – \$180 – Includes: CARITAS, Scouting.

Witness Ministry – \$400 – Includes: Advertising, Glen Allen Day.

Trustees/Buildings and Grounds – \$40,750 – Includes: Utilities, Janitorial Service, Maintenance, Building Supplies, Parsonage Maintenance, Insurance, AC/Heat Maintenance; Copier Service, Kitchen Supplies, Computers, Van Maintenance, Moving Fund.

Stewardship/Finance – \$500 – Includes: Stewardship, Offering Envelopes.

Staff Support and Salaries – \$68,067 – Includes: Pastor's Salary, Pastor's Reimbursable, Pastor's Housing Allowance, Pension Plan, Music Director, Nursery Attendant, Minister of Christian Education, Social Security and Medicare, Guest Clergy, Substitute Organist, Delegates to Annual Conference.

Office Expense – \$1,400 – Includes: Office supplies, Postage.

Annual Conference Apportionments – \$21,813 – Includes: Conference and District Benevolence, Conf. Mission and Ministries, Con-

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January Communion Offering

Pastor's
Discretionary Fund





Creating Christian Community (C³)

The Virginia United Methodist **Richmond District Conference and Leadership Training Event** is set for Sunday, January 13, 1:30-5:30 p.m. at Randolph Macon College and Duncan UMC in Ashland.

Conference Keynote Speaker will be the Virginia Conference's new Bishop, Young Jin Cho who will speak on "Congregational Vitality."

This event includes many breakout sessions for new and incumbent church officers, including:

Pastor/Staff-Parish Relations 101; Financial Vision for the Local Church; Understanding the Present; Planning for the Future; Financial Foundations of the Local Church; A Guide to a Solid Financial Ministry; Trustees; Staffing Issues for Multiple Staff Churches; Crisis Communications; Who is My Neighbor and 6 Ways to Reach Them; Transformational Approaches to Ministry with Children and Youth; and Worship Planning.



Bishop Cho

Schedule for the Day

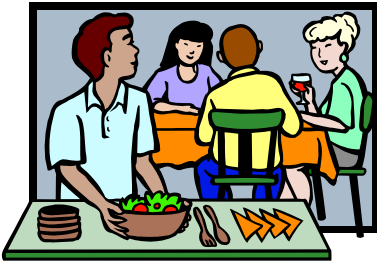
1:30 p.m.	Registration at Blackwell Auditorium
1:45 p.m.	District Conference—Rev. Dr. Steven R. Jones
2:15 p.m.	Keynote—Bishop Young Jin Cho
3:00 p.m.	Refreshments and move to Workshops
3:30 p.m.	Workshops and Breakout Sessions
5:00 p.m.	Dismissal

Sessions at Randolph-Macon will be held in Blackwell Auditorium; Duncan Memorial UMC is located at 201 Henry Street, Ashland VA 23005. For additional information and directions, see the flyer posted in the narthex or visit the District web site at

<http://gbgmchurches.gbgm-umc.org/RichmondDistVA/>

Eating Opportunities

Fellowship Dinner – Wednesday, January 9 at 6:30 p.m. Menu: chicken 'n dumplings, tossed salad, Jello and chocolate cake. In order for us to plan properly for the Fellowship Dinner, we must know ahead of time how much food to prepare. Therefore, please have your reservations in by Sunday January 6.



We will regrettably be unable to take reservations after this date. Sign up on the insert in the church bulletin, call the church office at (804) 266-5341 or e-mail admin@gumcva.org.

FunRaiser's Bag Lunch – after worship services on Sunday, January 27. For only \$7.00 you get a cup of vegetable soup, ham and cheese sandwich and chocolate pie. Sign up on the list in the church narthex, call the church office at (804) 266-5341 or e-mail admin@gumcva.org.



Drive Through Prayers

Every Monday – 6 to 8 a.m.

One church member said: "Those are some special ladies out there, freezing but doing their best for Greenwood."

**DRIVE-THRU
Prayer**

OPEN →

If you would like to volunteer to be a Monday Morning Prayer Warrior, see or call Charlene Hawkins (262-4489).

School Supplies Drive — Part 2

We're going to kick off the New Year with part two of our school supplies mission project.

We're motivated to do this because school leaders have expressed concern that the school supplies donated at the beginning of school do not last the whole year.

School Supplies

Donation List

Highlighters
Pocket folders
Crayons
Plastic pencil boxes
1 and 3 subject notebooks
Black and white composition books
Lined index cards
Washable markers
Book bags/backpacks
#2 pencils
Glue sticks
Notebook paper (wide-ruled)

Times are tough for us all, but many Longdale Elementary students and their parents could really use the helping hand. At left is the list of the needed supplies. This list will also be posted in the narthex and on the church's website.

We'll conclude the collection on Sunday February 10, and deliver the supplies around Valentine's Day.



... from the Greenwood staff for the generous Christmas gifts!

2013 Church Officers

Lay LeaderLewis Daniel
 Administrative Council Chair Charley Banks
 Administrative Council Secretary Glenda Stalnaker
 Lay Member to Annual Conference TBA
 Alternate to Annual Conference Ray Smith
 District Conference Delegate Dorothy Sties
 Alternate to District Conference Linda Walker

Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee

Class 2013 Mike Workman, Alan Daniel
 Class 2014 Jean Mowatt, Harry Shuler
 Class 2015 Amanda Banks, Carolyn Smith
 Lay Leader, Lay Member to Annual Conference

Finance Committee

Chair..... Ray Smith
 Treasurer:..... Gay Stapleton
 Financial Secretary..... Nancy Lloyd
 Lay Leader, SPPR Representative, Delegate to Annual Conference,
 Maurice Hawkins, Charlotte Hodges, Adamarye Patterson, Bob Stapleton

Board of Trustees

Class of 2013 Charlotte Hodges, Ray Smith, Bob Stapleton (chair)
 Class of 2014 Betty Ritchie, Maurice Hawkins, William Gibbs
 Class of 2015 Bob Smith, Dorothy Powell, Porter Schermerhorn

Lay Leadership Committee

Chair:.....Pastor
 Class of 2013 Adamarye Patteson, Riley Patteson
 Class of 2014 Charlotte Hodges, Helen Bowles
 Class of 2015 Dorothy Sties, Jordan Stapleton

Worship Team

Chair:.....Pastor
 Minister of Christian Education and Evangelism Denise Janssen

Greenwood January Calendar

Sunday, January 1	New Year's Day (Church Office Closed)
Wednesday January 2	7 p.m. Ruth Circles
Thursday January 3	6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts No Choir Practice
Saturday January 5	8 a.m. Men's Breakfast
Sunday January 6	Epiphany Wesley Covenant Renewal Service
January 7	LAMB's Basket Sunday 6 a.m. Drive Thru Prayer 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts 7 p.m. Finance Committee
Wednesday January 9	6:30 p.m. Fellowship Dinner
Thursday January 10	6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts 7 p.m. Choir Practice
Sunday January 13	1:30 p.m. District Conference/Training
Monday January 14	6 a.m. Drive Thru Prayer 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts
Thursday January 17	6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts 7 p.m. Choir Practice
Saturday January 19	9 a.m. GUMC Planning Meeting at United Methodist Building
Sunday January 20	Inauguration Day
Monday January 21	Martin Luther King Day (Church Office Open) 6 a.m. Drive Thru Prayer 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts
Tuesday January 24	6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts

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Greenwood January Calendar

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Sunday, January 27	7 p.m. Choir Practice
Monday, January 28	FunRaisers Bag Lunch Pickup
Tuesday, January 29	6 a.m. Drive Thru Prayer
Thursday, January 31	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts
	The Twig Bender Deadline
	6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts
	7 p.m. Choir Practice

Mark Your Calendar

Fellowship Dinner- – January 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall – \$5 per plate. Menu: Chicken 'N dumplings, tossed salad, Jello and chocolate cake. Please have your reservations in by Sunday, January 6.

Richmond District Conference and Leadership Training – January 13 at Randolph Macon College and Duncan Memorial UMC in Ashland.

Greenwood Planning Day – January 19 at the United Methodist Building, 9 a.m. – noon. All church officers and others interested in planning the church year and goal setting are encouraged to attend.

FunRaisers Bag Lunches – Pick up after church service January 27 – \$7 each. Menu: Cup of vegetable soup, ham and cheese sandwich, chocolate pie. Sign up in the narthex.

Be Prepared – Read the Scriptures

Here are the January lectionary readings you can review during the week in preparation for the coming Sunday's worship.

January 6	2 Kings 23:1-3, John 15:1-8, Mark 1:4-11 and Acts 19:1-7
January 13	Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29, Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
January 20	Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11
January 27	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21

Wesley Covenant Renewal

(Continued from page 1)

in the writings of Richard Alleine, a Puritan, in 1663. Wesley began using a service drawn from Alleine's book in 1755, in London, to a congregation of over 1,800.

Since then, the service has undergone many revisions. The form we will be using was revised and published for use in 1992.

Readers might wonder why we're having this Covenant Renewal Service ... well, "Why not?" We make New Year's resolutions about eating, exercising, quitting smoking, etc. Why not a covenant – not a resolution – renewing our commitment to the Lord, Jesus and the Holy Spirit?

See you at the Covenant Service.



2013 Church Officers

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Music Director	
Children’s Time Coordinator	Linda Walker
Altar Guild	Gay Stapleton
Communion Stewards	Jeanette Jackson, Charlotte Hodges
Lay Leader	Lewis Daniel
Head Usher	Roger Eckwright
Council Chair	Charley Banks
Technology	Steve Stalnaker
Secretary	Glenda Stalnaker

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Moving from 2012 into 2013

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tening time, exercise, etc. What is working? What is no longer feeding my soul? What areas do I need to try something else? I pray that each of you will be making resolutions about (reevaluating) the time you spend with God this year.

This month, both Laurel Park and Greenwood will be having planning retreats. At these events, we will be looking back to know what events we really want to continue within our churches and what events, programs and resources will be useful to our members and community in the year to come. I hope all of you will participate in the process that we will begin this month of planning for this year. Let’s make some resolutions that we can keep and that help us lead each other and others into being faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

Happy New Year!

Barbara

Wesley Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own, but
Thine.

Put me to what Thou wilt,
Rank me with whom Thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suf-
fering.

Let me be employed for Thee or
laid aside for Thee,

Exalted for Thee or brought low
for Thee.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me
have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all
things to Thy pleasure and dis-
posal.

And now, O glorious and
blessed God, Father, Son and
Holy Spirit, Thou art mine, and I
am Thine.

So be it.

And the covenant which I have
made on earth,

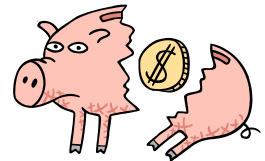
Let it be ratified in heaven.

Amen

2013 Budget

(Continued from page 3)

ference Admin-
istration Fund,
District Superin-
tendents Fund, Equitable Com-
pensation, Church Extension
and Development, Virginia Edu-
cation Fund, Active Clergy
Health, Retired Clergy Health,
Pension Liability Assessment -
Pre 1982, Episcopal Fund,
World Service, General and Ju-
risdictional Connectional Fund,
Ministerial Education, Black Col-
lege Fund, African University, In-
terdenominational Cooperation
Fund.



District Apportionments –
\$1,573 – Includes District Ad-
ministration Fund (office sup-
port), District Missions, District
Camp Westview.

**Leadership and Develop-
ment** – \$500 – Includes Training
Materials and Events, Staff
Training and Pastor's Continuing
Education.

Greenwood will need dona-
tions of \$2,643 each week in
2013 to meet budget.



Greenwood Church Family Birthdays

Yanni Sotos.....	1/5
Linda Walker.....	1/6
Dominic Lemerise	1/10
Jeremy Coleman.....	1/10
Selma Wright	1/12
Joseph Kibler.....	1/16
Patricia Davis Lawson.....	1/16
Warren Murphey	1/20
Jalayah Shuler	1/26
Jayden Shuler.....	1/26
Harold Yearly	1/30

*Don't see your birthday or wedding anniversary in The Twig Bender and would like to have us publish it? Send your dates to admin@gumcva.org or call the church office at 804-266-5341; likewise, let us know if you'd like your birthday or anniversary **removed**.*

Ruth Circle

The Ruth Circle had a wonderful 2012. We were able to help children at the UMFS, we kept in touch with our shut-ins and our college students. We did health kits and cleaning buckets for UMCOR. We helped with the After School program and VBS. We helped a family for Christmas. It is amazing to look back and see what a small group can do when we work together.

We will be meeting Wednesday, January 2 at 7 P.M. at the home of Carolyn Smith. We will be continuing with our Bible study. Anyone is welcome to come. Just give Carolyn Smith or Adamarye Patteson (266-6364) a call for directions.

December Attendance and Offerings

*“Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce”
— Proverbs 3:9*

Date	Sunday School	Worship	Giving
December 3			
December 9			
December 16			
December 23			
December 30	Not available at press time		
December Totals			
Weekly Average			
2012 Weekly Avg.			
2012 Totals			

\$2,682 offering was needed weekly in 2012 to meet Greenwood’s operating budget of \$139,442. Your generosity is appreciated

Happy New Year

The Twig Bender

is a publication of Greenwood United Methodist Church

10040 Greenwood Road — Glen Allen, VA 23060 — 804-266-5341

Sunday School	9:30 a.m.	After School Phone:	804-266-6668
Worship	11 a.m.	Office email:	admin@gumcva.org
Pastor	Rev. Barbara Lewis	Fax:	804-266-2019
434-594-6241	revbarbara@gumcva.org	The Twig Bender editor	Steve Stalnaker
Minister of Christian Ed.	Rev. Denise Janssen	webmaster@gumcva.org	
804-464-8913	revdlj@att.net	Visit our web site at	www.gumcva.org

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