



# Light From The Hill

**APRIL, 2017...The Pastor's Corner...Rev. Norman L. Ramsey, III**

Dear Laurel Hill:

"Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him. He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach and to have authority to drive out demons." (Mark 3: 13 - 15)

This is the most concise summation of the two calls God makes upon us. The first is the call to come to Jesus and be with him. The second call is to be sent by him to share the word and power of the gospel. One calls us to be aligned with Jesus. The second calls us to act as an ambassador under the authority of Jesus. One call commands us to be saved by grace through faith. The second call commands us to serve by faith to share the grace of Jesus with others.

Romans 8: 28 - 30 describes these two calls: one has God orchestrating everything together for our good; the second has God organizing and ordering our steps together by His Spirit for the good of others.

The first call commands us to repent and believe in Jesus. The second calls us to represent and to bless others. The first call is heralded out to all as a mandate from God, because "now (God) commands all men everywhere to repent." (Acts 17: 30) The second call is delivered more discreetly and directly to our heart as we are given our personal assignment to forgive, to help, to demonstrate compassion, and to extend the comfort and mercy of the Lord.

As we close the season of Lent and open ourselves to the season of Resurrection that follows, I pray we will continue to recognize the areas of our lives where we can refine and align our choices to better represent our love of the Lord and the love of our neighbor.

We will experience our first taste of **Waffle Church** Outreach, Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> starting at 8:15 AM, followed by our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** at 10:00 AM. I certainly hope you are planning to spend Easter Sunday morning in worship. Our **Sunrise Service** will start at 6:30 AM and the men will have breakfast for us at 7:15 AM. Early Service will begin at 8:45 AM, Sunday School at 9:45 AM, and worship again at 11:00 AM.

Consider getting involved as a team member in missions and join the group headed to Marion, VA with **Project Crossroads** the weekend of April 21<sup>st</sup>. Contact Peggy and Doug Singlemann or Norman if you would join the team. For more information see: (<http://holston.org/ministries/missions/church-and-community-workers/project-crossroads/>) **Deadline for letting us know is Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.**

*Love you very much,*

*Norman Ramsey*

**BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL:** Mirian Pendleton, Doug Gottwald, Evelyn Steele, Billie Brockman, Sheree Gostel, Brenda Jennette, Georg Bergemann, Lela Hall

# Giving Witness of the Resurrection



**8:45am – Praise & Worship**  
**9:45am – Sunday School**  
**11:00am – Traditional Worship**

**April 2, 2017:** Promise and Reminder: Holy Communion (Luke 22: 14 – 30)  
(Begin collection of books, DVD's, and stuffed animals for the Pediatric Emergency Room)

**April 9, 2017:** For Which Resurrection Are You Preparing? (John 5: 1 – 29)

**April 14, 2017:** Good Friday Service @ 7:00 P.M.

**April 15, 2017:** Children's Easter Celebration-Eggs and Waffles @ 8:15 A.M.

**April 16, 2017:** Are You Looking for Jesus? (Mark 16: 6)  
(*Sunrise Service- 6:30 AM, Breakfast- 7:15 AM, Praise Service- 8:45 AM, Sunday School- 9:45 AM, Traditional Service- 11:00 AM*)

**April 23, 2017:** With Great Power, They Continued to Testify (Acts 4: 33)

**April 30, 2017:** Born Again with Great Expectation (1 Peter 1: 3)

# LAY MINISTERS FOR APRIL, 2017

**Praise & Worship: 8:45 A.M.-Sunday School: 9:45 A.M.-Worship: 11:00 A.M.**

<b><u>OUR USHERS</u></b>	
April 2	Kirby Miller, Joe Corley, Randy Welch
April 9	Stuart Walton, Raymond Stevenson, Buddy Whitlow
April 16	Bill Robinson, Gene Russell, George Kaloski
April 23	Craig Pollard, Phil Deane, Ray Alexander
April 30	Peggy and Doug Singlemann, Raymond Stevenson and Agnes Knowles
<b><u>CHILDREN'S CHURCH</u></b>	
April 2	Sheree Gostel
April 9 & 16	Stuart and Tricia Walton
April 23 & 30	Jeremy and Stephanie Rowan
<b><u>CHILDREN'S MESSAGE</u></b>	
April	Muriel Jenness
<b><u>OUR ACOLYTES</u></b>	
April 2	Eliana Horne & Nick Cox
April 9	Nick Cox
April 16	Eliana Horne
April 23	Nick Cox
April 30	Eliana Horne
<b><u>COMMUNION</u></b>	
April	Kathie and Buddy Whitlow
<b><u>OUR GREETERS</u></b>	
April 2	Raymond Stevenson & Agnes Knowles
April 9	Elaine Ogburn & Karen Ramsey (Palm Sunday)
April 14	Dot Gay and Gail Dagenhart (Good Friday)
April 16	Phyllis Nelson & Susan Nowell (Easter Sunday)
April 23	Doug & Betsy Gottwald
April 30	Marsha Williams & Patrice Moore
<b><u>SOUND TECHNICIANS</u></b>	
April 2 & 9	David Duke
April 16 & 23	Doug Singlemann
April 30	Bill Robinson
<b><u>TELLERS</u></b>	
April 2	Jeremy Rowan and Peggy Singlemann
April 9	Pam Wilson and Lois Miller (Palm Sunday)
April 14	Jenny Nelson and Judy & Billy Walker (Good Friday)
April 16	Randy Welch and Phil Deane (Easter Sunday)
April 23	Linda Kinsey and Chris Ragland
April 30	Jeremy Rowan and Peggy Singlemann

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

**LHUMC DIGITAL AUDIO AND VISUAL SYSTEM UPGRADE PROJECT** - As a part of the LHUMC 2020 Strategic Vision that was presented last fall, one of our strategic goals was defined to "install a digital audio and visual system throughout the church and become a platform for live streaming events". A project was initiated at the January Administrative Board meeting, and I am in the process of studying our current environment, our requirements, and have also been visiting other local churches who have already implemented new A/V systems. At the January Board meeting, it was communicated that Angela and Chris Ragland, who were approved for a hire to boost membership and children's programs, have requested that their proposed salary be used for audio/visual needs. The Finance Committee subsequently approved setting up a line in the budget for this, and a motion was approved at the January Board meeting to commit \$12,000 to the A/V project.

You will hear more about this project in the next couple of months and I will be updating the Board and other committees, as well as the congregation, regarding the project progress. In the meantime, please feel free to provide me with any ideas and feedback you may have about this effort. I know there are many different points of view regarding this effort and I am interested in hearing what you have to say. You may contact me at home at 804-795-1723 or via Email at [pmdeane@comcast.net](mailto:pmdeane@comcast.net).  
Thanks! Phil Deane



**THE ANNUAL MISSIONS DINNER/AUCTION/CRAFT SALE AND SILENT AUCTION** was a grand success! Everyone brought their friends, families and their Green as we ShamRock-ed for Missions and Ministries.

The final tally has yet to be calculated but that evening just under \$6,000 was raised! The auction could not have been better and Auctioneer Stokes McCune had us rolling through the items while sharing stories along the way. Thanks, Stokes, for giving of your time for Missions and Ministries. The committee thanks everyone who participated in any manner, large or small. This is truly a church wide effort and LHUMC rose to the occasion once again.

There is no auction without items and the community stepped up with many different items supporting LHUMC's missions and ministries outreach. While you are out and about please consider using the following vendors and thank them while you are there...

Marsha's Hair Affair, Red Lobster, Maymont Carriage Dept., Richmond Flying Squirrels Baseball, Longhorn Steakhouse, Lotsey and Hardy Tire Co., Ronnie's BBQ, Pedego RVA Electric Bikes, Segway of Richmond, Inc, Richmond International Raceway/NASCAR, Butt Wild BBQ, Firestone Complete Auto Care, Crowder's Service Center, The Blue Willow Tea Room, Roberto Italian Restaurant, Country Style Donuts, Puritan Cleaners, Bowl America, Inc., T.B.S. Grounds Maintenance, Atlantic Growers, El Nopal, Big Cat Tours, Sam's Club, Lowe's, Randy Welch- grass cutting, and Carini's Restaurant

**MISSION KITS** ARE BEING ASSEMBLED NOW TO TAKE TO THE Virginia Annual Conference in June. Most needed are onesies size 3-6 mos. and 6-9 mos., cloth diapers and fabric to make baby blankets and school bags. Articles that go in each bag are available in the Mission Box in the hallway opposite the stairs. The kits need to be assembled early in order for a check to be sent in advance for transportation and toothpaste. Thank you for all your support!



## **A NEW ADVENTURE IN MISSIONS AND MINISTRIES AT LHUMC**

“...through missions, we want to build and support relationships that create change; change in you by building your relationship with Jesus and change in our ministry partners by supporting them and the work they are doing.”\* Are you ready for a Virginia mission trip? Partnering with Project Crossroads we will be assisting with a home repair the weekend of April 21<sup>st</sup>. We drive there on Friday, spend Saturday working together in mission and drive home Sunday. Project Crossroads is an outreach ministry of the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church. Based in Marion, VA, Project Crossroads serves seven surrounding counties providing habitation improvements for disadvantaged families. Lodging is provided. Prayerfully consider joining in this initial mission trip then contact Peggy and Doug Singlemann or Norman. **Deadline for letting us know if you would like to go is Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.**

\*website of Crossroads Church, MN



## **CLEAN OUT THE CLOSETS AND THE GARAGE, THE ANNUAL SPRING YARD SALE IS COMING!!!!**

The annual yard sale will be **May 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>** at Laurel Hill UMC. You can start donating items on **April 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Please place them in the back third of the fellowship hall, aka the usual place. Share this with your friends and neighbors to spread the word for a great turn out! If you need assistance transporting large items please contact Peggy Singlemann.

Thank you for the support of the Mission Outreach of LHUMC. Please help spread the word on social media by liking the church's Facebook page and sharing the postings for the auction/dinner and the yard sale on your page. Help us spread the word to the community!

**CONFIRMATION CLASS...** On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, during the Sunday School hour (9:45 A.M.) we plan to begin a Confirmation Class for anyone whose heart is stirred up to follow Jesus and learn what that means. Primarily, we think of our children for this class, but if there are others (adults) who are not members of this church, but would like to be, this can also be a helpful class for them. We will be learning what we believe and how we become a disciple of Jesus. Call the office at 795-2772 if you, or your child, would like to be part of the class.

**JOE AND JOANN CORLEY AND THEIR FAMILY** wish to thank their Laurel Hill family for the cards, calls, and especially the prayers they received in response to the passing of Joe's father. When they returned home from the funeral they found a stack of cards. It meant so much to return home to find so much love and concern. Please continue to keep them, and their family, in your prayers. Your love and support mean so much. Blessings to all!

**UMFS NEWS...** P. Buckley Moss is sponsoring a tea party on May 6<sup>th</sup> at United Methodist Family Services to raise money for the at risk children there. One of her paintings will be available as well as other things. Look for more information on the bulletin board or see Dot Gay for additional information. Reservations have to be in by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**The Annual Plant Sale will be May 10<sup>th</sup>** starting at 10 A.M. at the campus at 3900 W. Broad Street. Many unusual plants will be available. If you go you will meet some of the students there.

Dear Congregation,

There are many different ways we can benefit our church with the planning we do with money not normally designated for the church. Many of us have accounts at brokerage houses, insurance companies and banks. If we wish to leave some of that money to the church, here's a checklist of the things we should look into now:

1. If you have a Traditional IRA or a Roth IRA, you can lessen the amount of your estate by leaving some or all of this money to a non-profit (LHUMC). This will reduce the amount that may be taxable when you die. In addition, you can also direct your withdrawals from these IRAs to the non-profit (LHUMC). This money, from the Traditional IRA, that would have been taxable to you, is NOT taxable to the church. So be sure to look at the beneficiary designation that you have on these types of accounts and if it is your desire, list LHUMC as a full or partial beneficiary.
2. Accounts you might hold at a bank or brokerage house that is NOT an IRA, can also be directed to LHUMC. Check the TOD (transfer on death) form that you may have signed at set-up, to see if it is as you wanted. Sometimes time passes and you may not remember who you left the account to. Check that form and if you can't find it, request a new one from the bank or brokerage house.
3. Life insurance is another easy way for money to go to your favorite charity or non-profit. Check those beneficiary designations to make sure they are up to date. If you want to make changes in them, ask for a beneficiary change form and make the change. You can leave all of part of your life insurance to a charity or non-profit as well and it is not taxable to that entity.

These are some things to remember to check on as time passes. Many of us have the "out of sight, out of mind" way of doing things but planning is an ongoing process that should be reviewed each year or two.

Buddy Whitlow  
Financial Advisor

Financial Advisors do not provide specific tax/legal advice and this information should not be considered as such. You should always consult your tax/legal advisor regarding your own specific tax/legal situation.

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