Did We Make A Difference?

Star Trek fans will remember a scene from the movie "Star Trek Generations" in which James T. Kirk, former captain of the Starship Enterprise, is asked by Jean-Luc Picard, the starship’s newest captain, to leave a life of comfort and tranquility to risk his life to help rescue a civilization that’s in danger of being annihilated. Kirk agrees—but the daring adventure will cost him his life.

At movie’s end, Kirk, trapped at the bottom of a gorge, crushed by the weight of metal girders and aware that he is dying, looks up into the face of Picard and asks, "Did we do it? Did we…make a difference?"

For all of the scene’s melodrama, many of us see ourselves mirrored in that moment. We too want the assurance that we have made a difference.

It’s not a question that should embarrass us.

I am convinced that you and I were created for lives of meaning and purpose. That’s our vocation. That’s our calling.

This fall, in a number of different ways, we will have the chance to wrestle with the question, “What am I supposed to do with my life?” Far from an abstract or theoretical question, it is one of the most human of all questions. It would be nice if all we had to do was reach for a book on the shelf, look in the index, and find a simple, universally applicable answer that is good for all times and all places. But the truth, as we all know, is that it is a question that each of us has to be answer in very practical terms in the midst of the very real stresses and strains of our everyday lives.

Please join us this fall as we draw on the wisdom of the Bible to discover what it is that we are supposed to do with our lives. And maybe, if we answer the question well and wisely, when we look up, at life’s end, and ask, “Did we do it? Did we…make a difference?” we too will receive the same answer that Kirk heard: “Oh, yes. We made a difference. Thank you.”
Welcome Back! Here’s some coming events!

God and Family Class
This class is open to all boys and girls in grades 3 through 6. Class meets Wednesdays, Sep 16-Oct 21. Students must register with Melanie by Sep 9, and should plan to attend all classes.

WELCOME BACK!
No one wants to go to school on Sunday! Join us for the new, exciting Sunday morning KIDS CLUB. It all starts Sep 13 at 10:10 am.

Our other great programs resume that week too! Gloria Bells (grades 3-6), Joyful Noise choir (age 3-grade 2), One Accord choir (grades 2-6) and Hands Up for God (grades 3 and up) kick off during the week of Sep 7. Check the schedule to the left for specific times.

New members always welcome!

UPWARD Basketball registration opens online on Oct 1 at upward.org.

UPWARD is open to kids grade K-6. Keep an eye on upward.org and be sure to register EARLY!

The Christmas Pageant Information Meeting will be held on Oct 4 @ 4:30-5 pm. If you have a kid who enjoys acting, singing or both. Find out about auditions, practice schedules, and get the practice CD.

Auditions for speaking parts will be held Oct 18.
The pageant will be on Dec 9.

HELP WANTED!
KIDS are needed to serve in worship for Children’s Sabbath, on Sunday, Oct 18 @ 9 and 11 am. 3rd Grade kids also get their bibles from UMW. If you want to help by being an usher, greeter, or reader, please contact Melanie.

And, keep an eye out for news about the mission project.

Melanie Ayers, HUMC KIDS Director, 703-707-6271 x103. melanie@herndonumc.org.
Sunday Morning Small Groups
10:10 am Sunday
Middle School
Room 103/104
High School
Room 101/102

Youth Group
7th - 12th Grade
Sunday
5:00 pm - Open Gym
5:30 pm - Program

Out of the Darkness
Puppets
Sunday
7:00 pm

New Generation Ringers
Monday
6:00 pm

Voices of Truth
Youth Choir
Wednesday
5:15 pm

News & Coming Events

After a summer of multiple week long events we are getting ready to get back to our regular schedule of activities. Many of the youth of HUMC volunteered with the week long programs of Vacation Bible School and the Upward Camp. And 15 youth went on the mission trip to Roanoke in July. In addition to the church activities the youth participated in many of the youth also attended camps and other summer enrichment programs, some had jobs, and just about everyone got a way for a week or two of vacation. Our youth definitely lead very busy lives.

Our Kick - Off for the Fall will be September 13th. Once again we will have Sunday morning small groups for both High School and Middle School. This year the High School will be doing a number of different studies, tying into the sermon series as much as possible. We will start the year off with a study of Spiritual Gifts. The Middle School will be doing a study called “re:form”. It is a study of different theological concepts. Topics include: Bible, Creeds, Discipleship, Jesus, and other tough questions.

Youth Group will also Kick-Off on the 13th. We will have a night of games and other activities. Anyone in the 7th - 12th grade is welcome to join us for Youth Group. Parents, be watching for a parents’ meeting to come in a few weeks.

Mark your calendars now, our first GIFT Dinner is October 14th.
This is our first fundraiser for the Summer Mission Trip.

Possible Youth Activities

- Retreat
- Game Night
- Mission Projects
- Oktoberfest
- Worship
- Bible Studies
- Parties
- Thanksgiving
- Harvest

Chad Hrbek, Director of Program Ministries
703-707-6271 ext 102. chad@herndonumc.org
**Adult Spiritual Formation News**

This Fall we will be offering a number of Small Group opportunities for Adults on different days and at different times of day. Some of the offerings will be continuations of what we have done in the past but some will be brand new. No matter if it looks like something we have done before, you are encouraged to try it out because it may not be what you expected. Here is a brief summary of our fall offerings.

**Sunday Morning:**

Good News - This is a traditional Bible Based Class. The class follows the International Lesson Series that has been around for many years. Mark Lemmons is the lead teacher.

Adventures in Bible Study - This is a Bible Based Class that encourages conversation and real life applications. There isn’t a set teacher, class members rotate leading the discussion.

Real Life - The Real Life Class takes the sermon for the day and applies it to everyday life. Some who attend have already heard the sermon while others will be attending worship after, no matter when you hear the sermon, your mind will be opened in a new way.

Couples Class - This class uses various study by popular authors. Most of the time the study will complete if not follow the sermon series. The name of the class may be “Couples” but you don’t have to be a couple to attend. Class leadership rotates among the members and other individuals.

**Sunday Evenings:**

Sunday Evening - This Small Group is an opportunity to discuss a topic and share different thoughts and experiences. Primary Leader is Dick Takamatsu.

Sunday Seasonal - This Small Group will study different books by popular Christian authors, It will follow the season of the Church year and Sermon Series when appropriate. Primary Leader is Chad Hrbek.
Adult Spiritual Formation News (Continued)

**Weekday Evenings:**

Young Adult - The Young Adult Group is made up of post college, 20’s and 30 somethings, and meet at the home of Harry and Sally Black for dinner and discussion. The discussions are generally jumpstarted by a short video. Primary Leader is Carrie Delisio.

Tuesday Men’s Bible Study - This is a traditional Bible Study using the Engaging God’s Word Series. All men of the church are invited to attend. Primary Leader is Carl Morgan.

Tuesday Women’s Bible Study - This is a traditional Bible study for women of the church and community. The study focuses on a text from the Bible and encourages reflection and understanding. Primary Leader is Alexis Rothrock.

Wednesday Night Reflection - This group comes with the idea that God is continually speaking to us, we may just not understand what God is saying. The members of the group help you decipher what it is that God is saying to you. Primary Leader is Kathy Hogan.

Discipleship Study - This is a group that meets on Thursday evenings to reflect on where God is working in the lives of those in attendance and how they can grow to be better disciples of Christ. For more information please see Rexie Bickel or Linda Dearing.

**Weekday Mornings:**

Monday Morning Men - The Men get together to share in a time of discussing scripture, what is going on in their lives, and what is going on in the world. Once a month they go off-site for breakfast.

Tuesday Morning Women - This group of women meet weekly to share reflections on their reading assignment for the week or to watch a short video followed by a discussion. This group is made of many mom’s, but don’t let that stop any women from joining, so the school and holiday schedule impacts some of their meetings.

In addition to these weekly gatherings there are monthly meetings of the United Methodist Women Circles, the United Methodist Men, and Women at the Well (book club).

The theme for this year’s Annual Conference and for our Charge Conference is Moving from Members to Disciples. With this in mind we hope that everyone will find a way to worship, a way to study, and a way to serve during the coming year.

If there is something that you feel is missing from our Small Group offerings please see Chad or Kathy Hogan. Be watching throughout the year for any changes and additions as well as notice of what the different groups are studying.

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Chad Hrbek, Director of Program Ministries  
703-707-6271 ext 102. chad@herndonumc.org
The Closet

Saturday, September 19, will be the conclusion of the SPRING/SUMMER Season at The Closet.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION SALE AND RECEPTION - Sunday, September 20, from 1-4 p.m. Closet volunteers are invited to enjoy some relaxed shopping time, yummy refreshments and great deals!

Aaron, The Closet Manager, will be looking for volunteers from 8-4 on Monday-Friday, September 21-15.

The Grand Re-opening for FALL/WINTER 2015 will be Saturday, September 26, 9-3. The Grand Re-opening will continue for two weeks. Extra help is needed to keep the store fully stocked September 28-October 10. Please call RUBY WHEELER/703-437-3083 or LOUISE ROONEY/703-435-3523, if you have any questions regarding The Closet or Volunteering at The Closet.

Book Group

Our book group, Women At The Well, meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at the church. New members who like to read are welcome at any time. On Tuesday, September 22, 2015 we will discussing The Physician by Noah Gordon.

For further information please contact Mary Lou Blevins, 703-435-2766 or maryloublevins@comcast.net.

Sign Up. Decorate a Table. Hand Out Treats…
Have a GREAT Time!

It’s time again to begin planning for HUMC’s Annual Trunk or Treat! If your family or your group of friends want to have a great time decorating your vehicle and handing out treats to kids with a very short term commitment, you don’t want to miss our Trunk or Treat! Contact Melanie at melanie@herndonumc.org to sign up and get involved.

Trunk or Treat will be held
on Saturday, Oct 31 from 3-5 pm.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

HUMC will once again be participating in the North County Hypothermia Prevention (NCHP) Program which is operated by Cornerstones in Reston. It is one of four hypothermia prevention sites in Fairfax County that serves a hot meal and offers a warm shelter every night for 30 men or women from December 1 through March 31, regardless of the temperature, preventing weather-induced illness and loss of life among unsheltered homeless men and women in our community.

HUMC will prepare dinners twice a month beginning on Sunday, December 6 and ending in March.
Welcome Back CHOIRS!

September 13 is kickoff Sunday, and all vocal and handbell choirs will start back up that week.

Checkout the schedule below and get connected to a choir this fall!

**HUMC VOCAL CHOIRS**

**Joyful Noise Choir**
(Pre-K through 2nd grade)

- Wednesdays-5:30-6pm
- September 16

**One Accord Choir**
(3rd-6th grade)

- Wednesdays-6:30-7:15pm
- September 16

**Voices of Truth Youth Choir**
(7th-12th grade)

- Wednesdays- 5:00-5:45pm
- September 16

**Special Pizza & Preview Rehearsal- Sunday, Sept. 13- noon-2pm**

**Wesley Choir**
(adult)

- Wednesdays- 7-8:30pm
- August 26

**HUMC HANDBELL CHOIRS**

**Gloria Bells**
(3rd – 6th grade)

- Sundays- 5:00-5:45pm
- September 13

**New Generation Ringers**
(7th grade-adult/ beginning-intermediate)

- Mondays- 6:00-7:00pm
- September 14

**Chancel Ringers**
(advanced)

- Mondays- 7:15-8:30pm
- September 14
This Fall, HUMC is continuing our efforts to make sure that we have the best contact information for EVERYONE who participates in worship, programs, or ministries. If you receive a Connection Project form with your giving statement, please verify the information and return it to the office. If you do not receive a form, the blank ones will be available online and in the Welcome Center.

We will also issue an addendum to our photo directory. So, in September (starting on the 12th), photographers will be at HUMC around worship times to take pictures of individuals, families, and groups. No appointment (or purchase) necessary. You can even send it your own picture if you prefer. Come as you are.

Get in! It's easy. Submit or verify your information and ensure that we have a picture.

Thanks for helping to better connect our HUMC family!

**Council Highlights for August**

**Recognition.** Mary Lou Blevins presented a UMW Pin to Sheridan Kramer for his contributions to HUMC. In 2015 three other pins had been presented to Julie Albanus, Melanie Ayers and Ruby Wheeler.

**SHIFT:** The SHIFT team attended their quarterly SHIFT meeting in early August. The focus was Membership to Discipleship, which was also the theme of VA Annual Conference and will be the theme of upcoming Charge Conferences. The focus was on “doing, not just attending” services and classes and addressed the phases of discipleship (searching, exploring, beginning, growing, and maturing). As related goals for HUMC are development, more information will be distributed to the HUMC family.

**Ministry Initiatives for the coming year.** As the Council continues to address the needs of the community and focused outreach, several initiatives are being pursued by ministries and committees. They include:

- A session of Financial Peace University to better serve younger families.
- A community partnership with the Kingstream Community for Trunk or Treat.
- A big welcome for Upward families during evaluations in November.
- A variety of classes to the Upward families during the 8 week season in January and February.
- Establish mission trip dates earlier in the year with more pre-planning.
- Greater variety and flexibility of class offerings in terms of days/times and content.
- Plans to involved men currently not connected to UMM by planning new and different opportunities.
- Improve the welcome center.
- Ensure staff and lay leader responsibilities are aligned with current HUMC vision and needs.
- HUMC welcome during September 8 Preschool parents' orientation.

**New Sermon Series.** Pastor Gary is planning a sermon series on finding *Meaning and Purpose.*

**Finances.** HUMC operating funds showed a deficit at the end of July of $4,000 compared to $16,000 at this time last year.

**Key Dates.** The following events are among the many planned for the fall; if you are interested in more information, please contact the HUMC office:

- August 30 – Connecting with Your Neighbor workshop
- September 13, 20, and 27 – Update information and have pictures taken for church directory October 22 - 2015 Charge Conference
- October 31 – Trunk or Treat
- November 7 – Fall Harvest
- November 13/14 – Upward basketball evaluations
- November TBD – Herndon Mayor’s Convocation on School-Church partnerships
- Council Meetings – September 29th, October 27, November 24, and December 15th

**Special Prayer Concerns.** Doug and Emily Stover – death of Doug’s father, Jim and Marcia Henderson – death of Jim’s mother, Mike & Janis Rielley – death of Mike’s father.
HarvestFest 2015 Planning is Underway!

Are you crafty or enjoy the thrill of a yard sale, have a unique item to donate for the Silent Auction or enjoy the fellowship of cooking Brunswick Stew? If so put the date of Saturday November 7 on your calendar before you get booked up! Join us in planning and participation.

The HUMC HarvestFest is a gathering of groups and mission teams from within the church that provides specialized events, food, crafts, and information for all those who visit the festival. The proceeds from any sales go back to the church and our community. If you are a member of an HUMC group that would like to have a booth or activity to share please speak up. The more the merrier!

HarvestFest 2015 will be held on Saturday November 7th, 9am – 1pm. Lots more info will be coming. Stay tuned! For more information or new ideas for the event contact Melissa Billman at melissa.billman@verizon.net

Hope to see you there!!
Ezra Ministry

HUMC’s Ezra Ministry was hard at work on August 22nd. We had close to 20 members and friends help out a Herndon townhouse. We started with a prayer at 8:00 and then got started on the list of roughly 15 projects to be tackled. Like many of the homes that we work on, this home had a number of items that the Homeowners Association had cited. The team worked to freshen up the front and side gardens by pulling weeds, planting new plants, and putting down mulch. The gate leading to the backyard also got some needed repairs. Those who weren’t afraid of heights climbed the ladder to do some painting and do some patchwork on the roof. Inside work was done to replace three bedroom doors, tighten handrails, fix an electrical socket, and replace some caulking around a window and bathtub.

The family was very appreciative of the work that was done on their home and said that they no longer recognized their home! The wife was even moved to tears when she saw the garden. With a little bit of time from some willing hands great things can be accomplished and bring more happiness to people then you could ever imagine.

Our last Ezra work day will be in late September or October. We work with Rebuilding Together so coordinating their projects with our schedules and making sure we know what is required with the HOA sometimes makes scheduling difficult. For more information about the work of Ezra in our local community, please contact Dave Bonasso.

Neighbors in Need

The neighbors in Need Team collected items and monetary donations for the Dranesville Elementary Back Pack Program as its Fifth Sunday Collection in August. The food that was collected will be packed into zip-lock bags for the children that typically receive free or reduced lunch at school so they will have food over the weekend when they are home. In each back food is provided for 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners and snacks. Each weekend around 100 children from Dranesville receive these bags. Last year we packed enough for 6 weekends or about 600 bags. We hope to do the same, if not more this school year. We will be packing these bags on the first day of school, September 8th at 1:00 in room 112/113.

There are 4 Fifth Sundays during the year and during each quarter we will have a different collection. The next collection will be to benefit the LINK Christmas Toy Drive. In the spring we will collect house cleaning and other house warming items for Cornerstones. During the winter months we will once again be providing meals for the Temporary Hypothermia Shelter in association with Fairfax County and Cornerstones. The meals will start in December and continue through March of 2016.

We will be sponsoring the first GIFT Dinner of the 2015 – 2016 season on September 16th. It will be the annual German Fest. Proceeds from the dinner will primarily support the Hypothermia Meal program. All donations of time, food, and money is appreciated.

If you would like more information about how to help with the different Neighbors in Need projects, please contact Beth Czerwinski.
EZRA Project
Stuff the Backpack
Election Officers Needed!

The Office of Elections is currently recruiting voters to serve as Election Officers a few days a year, including the upcoming General Election on **Tuesday, November 3, 2015**. Election Officers are needed at each of the 240 precincts in Fairfax County to run the polls and assist the voters.

View the “Become an Election Officer in Fairfax County” Video

In order to be an Election Officer, you must:
- Be fluent in English
- Be a registered voter in the Commonwealth of Virginia
- Be able to fulfill the Federal I-9 employment eligibility requirements
- Attend a 3-hour training class
- Arrive at the polling place at 5:00 am and remain until all work has been completed after the polls close at 7pm
- Have basic computer skills

The Election Officer’s main priority is to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the election process. A typical Election Day consists of:
- arriving one hour before polls open to set up voting equipment
- converting pertinent signage
- preparing the polling room for voting
- processing voters throughout the day
- assisting with operating voting equipment
- securing voting equipment and closing down the polling place at the end of the day

Election Officers are offered a stipend of $175 for serving a full day. *We especially encourage bilingual citizens to serve as we need language assistance in many precincts.* Residency in Fairfax County is not required.

It is a wonderful opportunity for those interested in the election process or public service, and we need civic-minded individuals to help make Election Day a success!

To apply, call the office at (703) 324-4735. You can also send an email to elect@fairfaxcounty.gov or visit the Office of Elections website for more information.
Worship Services

Sundays
9:00 a.m.  “Sanctuary” - Traditional Worship Service and Children’s Church
11:00 a.m. “Connection” - Contemporary Worship Service
(Nursery Care available for infants through age 3 from 8:30 am—noon)
“Kids Own Worship (KOW)” - Available at both 9:00 am & 11:00 am services

Saturdays
5:30 p.m.  “Relax and Renew” - Casual Worship at HUMC

CHURCH STAFF

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<td>Nursery Workers</td>
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<td>Victoria &amp; Audelio Ayala</td>
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