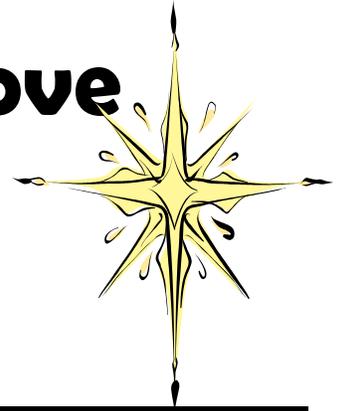




The Beech Grove STAR



4251 Driver Lane, Suffolk, Virginia 23435
(757) 538-8353 phone
office@beechgroveumc.org

October - November, 2012

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, Oct. 2
5 Talent Academy (\$) Aldersgate UMC

Saturday, Oct. 6
Operation Inasmuch

Sunday, Oct. 7
World Community Sunday

October 20-21
Driver Days
10 am "Open Door" Sunday service

Sunday, Nov. 4
Daylight Savings Time ends --fall back 1 hour

Tuesday, Nov. 6
Election Day

Sunday, Nov. 11
Veterans Day

Thursday, Nov. 22
Happy Thanksgiving!

More News Inside:

- Birthdays
- Calendar of Events
- 5-Talent Academy
- Scouting News
- Beech Grove Veterans
- Christmas Stockings

Pastor's Fold... "Five Practices to Ponder"

Greetings in the name of our wonderful Lord! Beech Grove is completing a 5-week worship emphasis on the Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations.

Our church is beginning a 3-year commitment to examine and review our current ministries and be intentional about how God leads us to be more effective in the future.

It is my prayer that we experience a deep shift in personal

attitudes, values, and behaviors among leaders, members, volunteers, class members and pastors as people are shaped by a renewed understanding of the mission of the church and their place within it, and as they are molded by the Spirit of God.

For instance, people become more invitational toward others in the community, more keenly aware of the significance of

(continues on page 6)

Making A Connection at Camp Rainbow

Paul Smith has shared with some of us his story of volunteering at Camp Rainbow this summer. His moving and emotional account of that experience will be highlighted again at an upcoming church-wide luncheon.

Celebrating God's love since 1985, Camp Rainbow Connection is a week-long respite camp held once in July and once in August for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

More than anything, Camp Rainbow

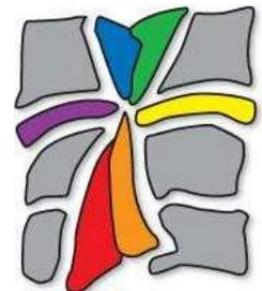
Connection strives to be a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people as witnessed through the example of Jesus Christ.

During the week, campers participate in a variety of activities that offer opportunities for fun, fellowship and personal growth.

Grouped together with others of complementary age level and ability, each camper also is paired with a staff "buddy." Paul's experience as a

buddy changed his life and is a vibrant example of Extravagant Generosity (one of the Five Talents).

Prayerfully consider the opportunity to give of yourself and receive more in return as a Camp Rainbow volunteer staffer.





Happy Birthday!

OCTOBER

- 1 Todd Zirkle
- 4 Irene Smelser
- 6 Dorothy Jenkins
- 11 Gloria Linderose
- 14 Katelyn Yandle
- 16 Earlene Brooks
- 18 Betty Stevenson
- 22 Mac Clarke
- 23 Lindsey Kiessling
- 27 Allana Lumbard
- 29 Richard Derring
- 30 Sheena O'Keefe

NOVEMBER

- 5 Liz Addison
- 7 Cole Dykes
- 7 Samuel Linyear
- 8 Patrick Stevenson
- 9 Cheryl Lumbard
- 10 Sharon Davis
- 13 Weston Lumbard
- 13 Helen Freiler
- 16 Justin Willis
- 16 Jill Spencer
- 18 Marty Rintamaki
- 20 Buzz Bender
- 21 Minta Wood
- 23 Robin Magrisi
- 25 Alexis Peay
- 26 Margie Stalls
- 26 David Willis
- 26 Tyler Jump
- 30 Penny Reynolds

***please let us know if we've missed your special day*



Nov. 4th -- Turn Your Clocks Back One Hour

Don't forget to "Fall Back in Time" when you go to bed on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. It's the official end of Daylight Savings Time, so set your clocks back one hour to ensure you're not late for church on Sunday!

**Give Thanks in a Basket!
Donations Requested by Nov. 11th**

The Outreach/Missions Team again will be collecting donations this fall to fill Thanksgiving Baskets for area needy families.

Choose a card with a specific grocery item or give a monetary donation to purchase the fresh turkeys. All checks should be made out to Beech Grove UMC and noted for "Thanksgiving Baskets."

The Girl Scouts were a tremendous help last year and will participate again in hopes of matching last year's number of eight baskets. All donations of groceries or funds must be returned to the church by Sunday, Nov. 11th. Thank you for your support!



Looking Ahead: The holidays will be upon us before we know it, so mark your calendar to submit items for the edition of our Beech Grove newsletter (December and January) by **Monday, Nov. 12th.**

Help Replenish the Food Pantry

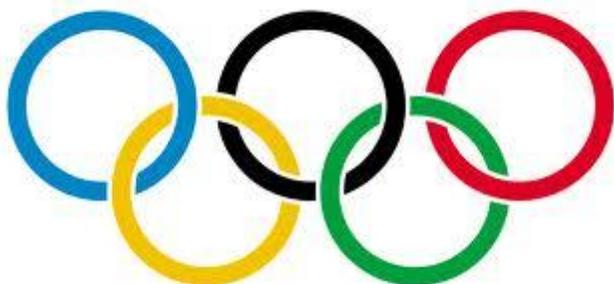
Our cupboards aren't bare, but could use a little restocking. Please consider adding a few items to your grocery basket to share with those in need (*no glass jars, please*). Some suggestions include instant oatmeal, pop tarts, canned soups, spaghetti sauce, tuna and canned veggies. We're all stocked up on peanut butter and jelly.





Scouting at Beech Grove

Girl Scout Troop 5292: Troop 5292 tried to host outdoor Olympics recently, but rained forced the games inside. After each girl participated in a torch relay, girls paired up into four rotating groups that learned relaxation techniques athletes use to calm down; learned about track and field discus, shot put, and chariot racing; threw "discuses" to each other; had an English tea; learned about women in sports and broadcasting; had a boot-throwing competition; and took part in Paralympics competitions. All Driver GS earned their Gold Medal Olympic Patch --way to go!



In October, our troop will be sponsoring a Juliette Low Birthday Celebration at Sleepy Hole Park. Ms. Low was the founder of GS. On October 16th, girls from North Suffolk will bring homemade cupcakes as part of "Cupcake Wars" contest which baked goods will be judged by our own cookie mom Diane and employees of O'DoodleDoos Donuts in Eclipse.

Also, a CANstruction competition will occur among troops to see who can come up with the most creative design. During September we will be collecting cans towards this endeavor. Other games, food, and drinks will be available at the birthday party.

Other ideas are floating around to participate in this year but we are still in the beginning phases of the new Scouting year. Most definitely, the girls will be making and racing pine wood derby cars.

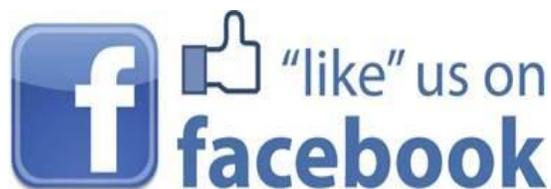
Currently, we are selling nuts and candies for our fall fundraising activity. Let us know if you are interested in purchasing an item or magazine. We look forward to another great year working with the Beech Grove UMC congregation!



Ministry

**Beech Grove UMC's
Plan for Ministry**

**We are called to be a compassionate,
nurturing congregation who serves God
through prayer, worship, fellowship, study
and missions as we**
**"Honor the past, serve the present
and build the future."**



Keep up with Beech Grove news online at <http://www.facebook.com/Beech.Grove.UMC>.

In addition to staying connected to your church family, Facebook allows you to share your faith with your online friends by "checking in" for worship service or other BG outings as well as reposting stories from our page.

Go ahead, click "like" and join us online!



**You know you love that tasty
Trail's End popcorn!
Place your order now with any
Cub Scout or call David Willis
at #539-2222.**

Every vote counts!

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 6th

Be sure to make your voice heard this fall as we head to the polls to elect our country's leadership.

Polls open early and stay open late to accommodate a variety of work and family schedules, and it's a good idea to expose your children to the process, if possible.

God bless America!

Review of "Jonah" by Penny Reynolds

In August, a group of 21 Beech Grove members and friends traveled to the Sights and Sounds Theatre in Lancaster, PA, to see the play *Jonah*.

Based on the Biblical story of Jonah, the production was a wonderful play filled with beautiful music, talented actors and wonderful special effects. The audience was captivated by the sight of Jonah falling through the "water" filled with bright jellyfish, while a large whale passed over the heads of the audience. The theatre certainly lived up to its name! After the play, we enjoyed a family-style dinner at the nearby Hershey Farm Restaurant.

The Sights and Sounds Theatre continues performances of *Jonah* through December.

A future Beech Grove trip to see another play at the theatre is being considered.



School Supply Drive Fills Both Backpacks and Art Classrooms



The Missions Outreach Committee held its annual back to school supply drive, and the response from our church's congregation was amazing! We provided Florence Bowser Elementary and Driver Elementary with crayons, notebooks, paper, glue sticks, pencils, pens, backpacks, index cards, erasers, scissors, and other items needed to support the students who may not have the basics required for their education.

This year, because of school budget cuts to the art program, we also collected art supplies. Several Beech Grove members donated the special paints, brushes and pastel chalks that the art teachers did not have the funds to purchase.

In total, we filled 12 very large boxes and a few smaller boxes that were delivered to the two schools on September 17th. Thank you to all of you who selflessly and generously donated so much for the children in our community.

Please lend a hand as the United Methodist Men spend the morning spiffing up the church yard.

**Saturday, Oct. 13
8 am**

Join us --many hands
make for light work!



Young At Heart Group Plans A Busy Fall

The Young at Heart, or YAH, has begun their monthly meetings again this fall. The "over fifty-five" group meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

In October, YAH will collect donations of clothing, personal care items and monetary donations for the Union Missions Ministries. We'll also be partnering with the UMW to collect Christmas gifts for the residents of the Genieve Shelter to wrap and deliver in November. The December meeting will be a Christmas carol sing along -you don't have to sing well, just be able to sing with a sincere heart.

Lunch is usually provided at the end of each of the YAH meetings. YAH invites everyone who is 55 or older, and those who *feel* 55 or older, to join us. You don't have to be a Beech Grove member to attend, and neighbors or friends are welcomed. Please put the meeting dates on your calendar, and come out to enjoy the Christian fellowship.



Can You Hear Me Now?

The church has purchased new sound equipment for the sanctuary which will be installed very soon!

Once the installation is complete, there will be a short instructional class for Beech Grove UMC sound technicians to learn its operation. The controls for the system will be handled manually or by iPad --cool!

In order to provide adequate space for the equipment rack, the piano closest to the windows will be relocated during the first week of October. Eventually, it will be housed in the new choir rehearsal room upstairs.

We are looking forward to this upgrade and are excited to see it come to fruition in order for all to clearly hear and enjoy the words spoken and music presented at Beech Grove UMC.

A Hearty Thank You!

Our Fellowship Hall is getting a makeover thanks to the time and dedication of Minta Wood and Janice and Randy Morris! In just four days, they repainted the room and prepped the windows for new shutters due in soon. With Joanne Derring and Betty Stevenson planning to scrub and clean the kitchen, Beech Grove will be all spiffed up in time to host Charge Conference.

Thank You for all your time and hard work!

Beech Grove Salutes Its Veterans

As a church anchored in a military community, Beech Grove is especially proud of its members who have given themselves in service to our country. Please remember the sacrifices they and their families have made to preserve our freedoms, and continue to pray for our country and its leaders.

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Jason Bartholomew</i> | <i>Hinton Hurff</i> |
| <i>Steve Bell</i> | <i>Joe Johann</i> |
| <i>Bill Blackwelder</i> | <i>Arthur Jones</i> |
| <i>Mike Boslego</i> | <i>Michael Jump</i> |
| <i>Pamela Brookings</i> | <i>Bobbi Lassiter</i> |
| <i>Phillip Brookings</i> | <i>Jim MacCord</i> |
| <i>Lee Clark</i> | <i>Jim Mackey</i> |
| <i>Mac Clarke</i> | <i>Eric Magrisi</i> |
| <i>Thomas Craig</i> | <i>Fanita Morris</i> |
| <i>Ed Crowson</i> | <i>Butch Reynolds</i> |
| <i>Barbara Daigneault</i> | <i>Chuck Rintamaki</i> |
| <i>Les Devers</i> | <i>Russell Sanchez</i> |
| <i>Amanda Evans</i> | <i>Linwood Stalls</i> |
| <i>Bill Evans</i> | <i>Ryan Thompson</i> |
| <i>Bob Freiler</i> | <i>Rod Vernon</i> |
| <i>Carl Hawkins</i> | <i>Todd Zirkle</i> |



Veterans Day is November 11th



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

It's fall already, and we began our meetings last month. During the summer break, five ladies made a trip to the Genieve Shelter to deliver many household items, and we hosted a farewell lunch for Brenda Thole and Brenda and Karl Hawkins. We appreciated the food donations and help setting up and taking down tables and chairs. Brenda Thole has moved in with her son and family in Arizona. Brenda and Karl Hawkins have retired and will pursue their next adventures in Farmville, VA. where they will be building a home. Best wishes and many blessings to them both!

The UMW will take part in Driver Days with our usual bake sale plus some canned items and goodies from the Outreach committee. The UMW also is partnering with the YAH group to enhance our support of the Genieve Shelter. This fall, we will collect family gift items to wrap and deliver in time for the holidays. Please consider donating to this effort with books and puzzles for all age levels; board games such as Chutes & Ladders and Scrabble; and card games such as Crazy Eights, Old Maid, Uno or a regular deck of cards. Everyone can join in and supply a gift!

All ladies are welcome to join us for our meetings and activities. If you have any questions about our group, please contact President Jean Devers.

5 Practices to Ponder *(continued from cover)*

prayerful preparation for worship, and more willing to offer themselves readily to help with mission projects that stretch them beyond their comfort zones.

They become willing to learn, more committed to the mission of Christ through the church, and more aware of the importance of ministries of the congregation and how they interweave to form Christian disciples. Personal practices of discipleship change, mature, and deepen.

These changes in personal discipleship are extremely important. If the leaders of the church or the members of an adult class shift by just two degrees in the direction and trajectory of their faith journeys toward greater fruitfulness for Christ, the results long-term become monumental.

This is foundational change that can shift the culture of our congregation. Don't underestimate it. It eventually leads to organizational and strategic change.

The Five Practices are:

- ❖ **Radical Hospitality** (includes but not limited to a constant desire to bring people into the life of Christ)
- ❖ **Risk-Taking Mission and Service** (more than financial but risk being in relationship with needy persons even if it is uncomfortable or unpopular)
- ❖ **Intentional Faith Development** (we must be intentional about making spiritual growth happen)
- ❖ **Extravagant Generosity** (preaching, teaching and showing generosity with our time, talent and treasure)
- ❖ **Passionate Worship** (making worship a top priority while creating God experiences that transform lives)

Thoughts worth pondering,

Pastor Keith

Calling All Elves to Fill 100 Christmas Stockings

It happens every year, Christmas arrives before we know it! But the Outreach/Missions Team is gearing up for the holiday shopping season and needs your support. The goal is to **fill 100 stockings** for area needy children who may not receive anything else this Christmas. Red stockings are available in the sanctuary and should be returned by Thursday, Dec. 6th.

Be sure to label your stocking for a boy or girl and indicate an appropriate age range (infant, toddler, 5-8 years, 9-12 years or teen). Please note, NO chocolate, peanuts, glass containers or other dangerous items are permitted.



Please fill and return as many as are practical for you to help us meet our goal of 100. Thanks so much for helping us play Santa again this year! If you need some suggestions on items to help stuff a stocking, consider any of the following:

<u>School supplies:</u>	<u>Toys:</u>	<u>Personal care:</u>	<u>Miscellaneous:</u>
Pencils	Dolls, cars	Toothbrush	Hats and gloves
Pens	Stuffed animals	Small toothpaste	Socks
Crayons	Jump rope	Comb/brush	Sunglasses
Markers	Card games	Lip balm/gloss	Hair accessories
Solar calculator	Small books	Hand/body lotion	Jewelry/watch
Small writing pads	Yo-yo, jacks	Bubble bath/beads	Hard candy/Pez
Sudoku/word search	Coloring books	Pocket mirror	Candy canes
Stickers/stamps	Electronic games		



Treasurer's Report

	<u>July-August '12</u>	<u>Year-to-date</u>
<i>Income</i>		
Plate offering	\$ 36,627.61	\$ 130,739.22
Sunday School offering	0.00	0.00
Building fund	200.00	601.00
Designated/Memorial Offerings	220.00	968.50
Missions	100.00	650.00
Easter Egg Project	0.00	107,638.45
Other	<u>\$ 4,439.32</u>	<u>\$ 22,135.54</u>
TOTAL	\$ 41,586.93	\$ 262,732.71
<i>Disbursements</i>		
Operating/program expenses	\$ 11,546.51	\$ 44,666.69
Virginia UM Pension	1,673.46	6,693.84
Portsmouth District UMC	0.00	1,378.75
Virginia Annual Conference	600.00	22,286.00
Pastor/Staff compensation	17,449.07	71,995.17
Other	<u>\$ 3,609.15</u>	<u>\$ 41,842.93</u>
TOTAL	\$ 34,278.19	\$188,863.38



Driver Days Festivities
"Crossroads in Time"
Saturday, Oct. 20th and
Sunday, Oct. 21st

The village of Driver celebrates its history and invites residents and visitors to step back to a simpler time during the 19th Annual Driver Days. The free, outdoor festival includes a parade, car show, craft artisans, food vendors, live music, poker run, motorcycle show and neighborhood business exhibits. For a complete schedule, visit www.driverevents.com.

Beech Grove also plays an active role during the weekend festivities with a series of special events open to the public:

Hosted by the United Methodist Men, a delectable **Pancake Breakfast** is offered from 7:30 to 10:00 am on Saturday. Tickets are \$6 at the door to benefit UMM scholarships.

A special, **"Open Door" combined service** is held at 10:00 am on Sunday to reinforce the church's role in the community and celebrate God's beauty. Sunday School classes are not held that day.

The United Methodist Women get in the game with a **Baked Goods & Canned Drink Sale** on Saturday. Donations are appreciated.



**"LET'S MEET AT MY HOUSE ON SUNDAY
 BEFORE THE BIG GAME."**

~God



While performing his duties as an acolyte one Sunday, Morgan was sitting in the front pew. Occupying my usual spot in the second row, I observed him searching through the stack of books at the beginning of the scripture readings.

Obviously not finding what he was looking for, he turned to me and whispered "Which one is the Pew Bible?" I pointed silently at the Bible in his hand.

But he shook his head and responded, "No, Mom, that's the *Holy Bible*, and she's reading from the *Pew Bible*!"

I stifled my giggles and quietly explained that she was referring to the Holy Bible available for reading in his pew.

~Robin Magrisi

Beech Grove UMC
Mission Statement

Our Beech Grove family seeks
 our Lord's will and shares
 Christ's love with all.

