



The Messenger

South Hill United Methodist Church

May 2018



The Pastor's Pen...

Perfection

Therefore, just as your heavenly Father is complete in showing love to everyone, so also you must be complete.

Matthew 5:48

I just spent some time away at Pastor's Convocation. This year's focus was on John Wesley's somewhat confusing and paradoxical doctrine of Christian Perfection. It seems that over time this doctrine has been misinterpreted and almost abandoned. Yet, every candidate for Ordination as a Pastor in the United Methodist Church has to answer no less than four questions regarding this concept. It may be helpful to think of it more as maturity rather than perfection.

Perfection has a connotation of something we do, where maturity is more something God does. But unlike physical maturity that happens no matter what, Christian Perfection does require some participation on our part. The Spiritual Disciplines of prayer, reading Scripture, study, worship, sacrament, and accountability all come into play in our developing the spiritual side of our selves. You could say that full Christian Perfection (or maturity) is when we allow ourselves to be completely filled with God's love in such a way that it informs and influences all that we do.

Let us actively seek God so that God can fill us. I challenge us all to work on our spiritual maturity, together. As Bishop Cho used to encourage us to pray, "Less of me, more of you." There is no greater goal in life than to constantly and consistently become more who God wants us each to be. This is a journey worth traveling. If we want to change the world, the best place to start is within ourselves.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Brian



He Has Risen

By Lisa E. Clary © April 2017

He is alive as the stone is rolled away
Giving us new life on this Holy Easter day.

He suffered through the beatings yet he was not afraid:
It was his choice to give his life for others the trade

He was crucified and buried but rose from the dead.
The tomb is now empty, no long his cold, dark bed.

He took the blame to save us all from sin as he hung from the cross;
He offered everyone forgiveness so all would not be loss.

We must have faith and believe he guides us on the right road.
He takes our burdens and cares and lightens our heavy load.

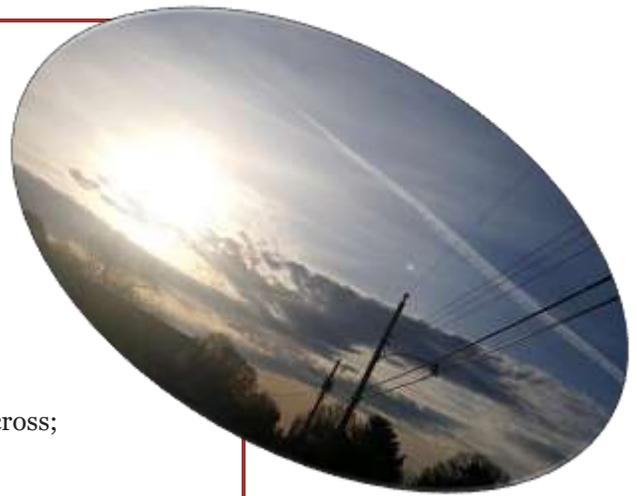
He walks beside us, holds our hands and we feel his presence even without touch.
It is when we pray that he shows his love and we can feel how much.

Through his grace and mercy we are able to know there is a new life:
Where there is no pain, anger, hurt, despair or strife.

He has risen and the robes are tattered and torn where he lay.
He has shown he is almighty as the stone was rolled away.

He rose to the heavens to see his father's face:
He sits next to the holy one and takes his rightful place

A place of no harm, grief, tragedy or uncertainty
A place that offers us new life, a place in God's home for eternity.



Youth DNOW 2018...



During DNOW 2018, the youth studied 2 Timothy while realizing that we are made for more than the things of this world. Our church sponsored a middle school home and two high school homes. Thank you to each and every one of you, who prayed, donated, cooked, or contributed in any way to the DNOW weekend. Your generosity blessed us more than you know!



Everyone is invited to our annual youth-led worship service on Sunday, May 6th at 11:00 am in the sanctuary. We are excited about this opportunity to worship with our young people. Our graduates will be recognized during the service, as well. Please come and bring your family and friends.

Kits for Annual Conference 2018 - As we begin preparation for collecting items for kits, there is currently an appeal from UMCOR for Hygiene, School, and Cleaning Kits only. Visit www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies for the complete list of items and instructions. Collection times at Annual Conference will be from Thursday, June 14 from noon to 8 p.m. and on Friday, June 15 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. For questions, contact the Kit Collection Coordinator, the Rev. David Magruder at Zion UMC in Seaford (York River District) at (757) 898-7417 or davidmagruder@vaumc.org. Money for the kits should be sent to Conference Treasurer, Virginia Conference UMC, PO Box 5605, Glen Allen, VA 23058. Checks should be made payable to Virginia Conference UMC.



Her children arise and call her blessed;
her husband also, and he praises her:
Many women do noble things,
but you surpass them all.

Proverbs 31: 28 – 29 (NIV)

Annual Conference, June 15-17, at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton, VA. Bishop Lewis announced that the theme for Annual Conference 2018 will be “Servant Leadership - Making a Difference.”



The corresponding Bible verse is 1 Peter 4:10, “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

HEALTH AND WELLNESS:

Surviving Seasonal Allergies

Spring is in the air along with tiny tree, weed and grass particles. If you suffer from pollen allergies or hay fever, that means sniffing, sneezing and watery, itchy eyes. If you've had cold like symptoms for more than a week, the reason might be spring allergies. Limit your exposure to allergens by staying inside during the morning and during the days when the pollen counts are highest. Close the windows and use an air conditioner during high pollen times. Trouble begins when pollen and other allergens are mistaken for harmful foreign invaders and the body gears up to fight, just as it would in response to a virus or bacteria. The immune system releases compounds, including histamine from cells to indicate that you're under attack. Fortunately, relief doesn't have to come from a pill. Emerging research suggests that certain fruits and vegetables may help ease seasonal symptoms.



Asparagus and onions are rich in flavonoids which may help block the release of histamine. Rosemary and sage contain rosmarinic acid which can provide relief for itchy eyes. Oatmeal is a surprising source of allergy-soothing compounds which have been found to be as potent an antioxidant as Vitamin C. Kale's antiallergic powers come from its high levels of an antioxidant that prevents immune cells from releasing histamine. Grapes are another source which may help ease your sneezing.

Trade in your coffee for green tea; it's loaded with the chemical compound EGCG, which may block cells from producing histamine. Your sinuses will thank you for a bowl of soup which can help ease congestion. When eating cheese, use Jack instead of Cheddar. Long aged cheeses tend to be rich in dairy histamine, which may trigger a reaction and leave you feeling worse.

If you mix and match some of the options listed above, you may eat your way to a sneeze free spring.

- Shirley Wetherbee



Miss a service, or want a friend or neighbor to know what it's like? Go to our website (www.southhillumc.org) and click on "recordings".

UMC Bishops to act on three major issues at the Chicago meeting

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Bishops of The United Methodist Church will meet in Chicago from April 29-May 4 to celebrate leadership through the passing of the gavel, certify constitutional amendments and finalize their recommendations to the 2019 Special Session of the General Conference.

The April/May meeting of the Council of Bishops will also hear leadership reports regarding immigration, ecumenical relations, racism, disaster relief and other mission and ministry work around the global denomination.

“As leaders of the church who are given the mandate to provide oversight to the global denomination, we take our responsibilities seriously and we are diligently working to provide leadership at this critical time in the life of The United Methodist Church,” outgoing COB President Bishop Bruce R. Ough said.

New COB officers

Bishop Ough of the Dakotas-Minnesota Area, who has led the Council of Bishops (COB) since the 2016 General Conference, will be handing over the gavel at the end of this meeting to Bishop Ken Carter of the Florida Area.

Bishop Carter, who has served as one of the moderators of the Commission on a Way Forward, was elected president at the November meeting of the bishops. Other new COB officers are Bishop Cynthia Harvey of Louisiana who will be the president-designate; Bishop Mande Muyombo of North Katanga who will be the secretary. These three bishops together with COB Executive Secretary Bishop Marcus Matthews, COB Ecumenical Officer Bishop Michael B. Watson and Bishop Ough, as the immediate past president, will be the executive officers for 2018-2020.

Constitutional Amendments

At the Chicago meeting, the bishops will also certify the votes of annual conferences on the five constitutional amendments approved by the 2016 General Conference. During the 2016 General Conference, delegates approved five proposed amendments to the Constitution of The United Methodist Church as contained in The Book of Discipline (BOD). Any proposed constitutional amendments require ratification by annual conferences. The results are canvassed, certified and announced by the Council of Bishops.

The five proposed constitutional amendments are as follows:

I. The first proposed amendment proposes a new paragraph between current ¶ 5 and ¶ 6. This new paragraph focuses on gender justice. If ratified, this would become the new ¶6, and the current ¶¶ 6-61 would be renumbered as ¶¶ 7-62.

II. The second proposed constitutional amendment changes the wording in ¶ 4 in The Book of Discipline. This paragraph concerns itself with membership in our churches and protects different groups of people from exclusion. If ratified, the proposed amendment would add ‘gender’, ‘ability’, ‘age’ and ‘marital status’ to the protected membership groups.’

III. The third proposed amendment deals with the election of delegates to the general conference as contained in ¶ 34. If ratified, the amendment would add this sentence: “Such elections shall include open nominations from the floor by the annual conference, and delegates shall be elected by a minimum of a simple majority of the ballots cast.”

IV. The fourth proposed amendment clarifies the time of election of bishops in Central Conferences as contained in ¶ 46. If ratified, the amendment would add the following words to ¶ 46: “provided that episcopal elections in central conferences shall be held at a regular, not an extra, session of the central conference, except in the case where an unexpected vacancy must be filled.”

V. The fifth proposed amendment adds language to ¶50 regarding how the Council of Bishops holds its individual members accountable for their work. This legislation follows the Judicial Council Decision 1275 requirement of a legislative resolution from General Conference so that the Council of Bishops may provide oversight of its members. If ratified, the amendment would add the following sentence to the end of ¶ 50: “These provisions shall not preclude that adoption by the General Conference of provisions for the Council of Bishops to hold its individual members accountable for their work, both as general superintendents and as presidents and residents in episcopal areas.”

If the bishops certify that the amendments have been ratified by the votes of the annual conferences, the amendments would become effective immediately.

Recommendations for the 2019 Special Session

The bishops are also working on making their final recommendations for the 2019 Special Session of General Conference which has been set for Feb. 23-26 in St. Louis, Missouri. During their meeting next week, the bishops will hear the final recommendations from the Commission on a Way Forward.

The Commission on a Way Forward held its penultimate meeting in Los Angeles last month to prepare the final report of recommendations to the bishops on proposed ways forward for the global denomination regarding the impasse over human sexuality.

At their meeting, members of the Commission expressed gratitude at the opportunity to be part of the Commission and they signaled hope for The United Methodist Church.

The 32-member Commission has been meeting since January 2017 in various places throughout the global denomination to assist the bishops in their charge from the 2016 General Conference to lead the church forward amid the present impasse related to LGBTQ inclusion and resulting questions about the unity of the church.

“The moderators have attempted to serve the Commission and the Council of Bishops in this collaborative work. We have listened to leaders from across our world who love this denomination and we have also felt their prayers and support. We continue to seek a way forward for our church, and we trust in the faithfulness of God as our foundation,” said Bishop Carter.

Contrary to some voices in the church that assume closure and that the work is already completed, the Commission indicated that there was still robust conversation taking place through the denomination. Members of the Commission noted that the UMC will continue to discuss the public and private mission of the church and the value of convicted humility.

The Council of Bishops plans to announce the summary of recommendations immediately after the COB meeting. Actual wording and full details of the recommendations will be released after the specific petitions have been drafted.



Sunday, May 20th

Opportunities for Growth and Service...

Mentors Needed for All God's Children Camp - All God's Children Camp is just around the corner and they are in need of mentors this summer. Ninety total mentors will be needed, 30 for each camp, both male and female. Please consider giving a week of your time and mentor a camper whose mother or father is incarcerated. For more information, please contact Lori Smith at lttlelori@gmail.com or 571-245-9591. Camp dates and locations are:

June 17-22: Camp Chanco on the James (Richmond area)

June 24-29: Camp Overlook (Shenandoah Valley area)

July 29-August 3: Occohannock on the Bay (Eastern Shore)



Convergence: Where Faith and Science Meet - is a nine-day program (June 23-July 1, 2018) that allows rising 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students to come to the Randolph-Macon College campus in Ashland and learn about the intersection of science and Christian faith. They will dive deeper into their religious beliefs, deeper into the study of science and will meet other high school students and college leaders with those same interests. There will be time in the classroom and outdoor experiences throughout the region. The cost to participate is only \$100. Upon high school graduation, if a Convergence participant chooses to attend Randolph-Macon, they will receive a \$1,000 annual scholarship for each year they participated in Convergence. Application deadline is May 1, 2018. Nominations are welcome! Please contact Laura Ruxton (convergence@rmc.edu) with any questions about the program.

Camp Rainbow Connection (CRC) is seeking loving volunteers to serve their group of adult campers for a week or two this summer. CRC is a week-long respite camp for adults with intellectual disabilities. The dates are set. So mark your calendars and join in for an amazing, fun-filled summer with the most incredible people you will ever meet. Training date is May 5 at the conference center in Glen Allen. The camp dates are June 23-29 and July 21-27 at Richard Bland College in Petersburg, Va.



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| Budget for 2018: | \$231,797 |
| GF Offering received thru April 22, 2018: | \$54,567.01 |
| YTD Percent Budget Received 2018: | 24% |
| YTD Percent Budget Received 2017: | 26% |
| YTD Avg Attendance Combined Worship 2018: | 110 |
| YTD Avg Sunday School Attendance 2018: | 55 |



May Special Offering
Annual Conference

This offering is collected at Annual Conference each year to support projects designated by the bishop.



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| May 1 | Alex Graham |
| May 2 | Bill Hudson |
| May 2 | Darryl Morris |
| May 3 | Lindsey Lucy |
| May 3 | Bobbie Ringo |
| May 4 | Kimberly Carroll |
| May 4 | Collin Clary |
| May 4 | Eric Hudson |
| May 5 | Mary Dugger |
| May 5 | Adeline Stewart |
| May 6 | Cynthia Davis |
| May 6 | Donna Worley |
| May 7 | Ken Sims |
| May 7 | Erica Tucker |
| May 9 | Evelyn Lambert |
| May 12 | Mary Johnson |
| May 12 | Beverly Walker |
| May 14 | Tamara Gwaltney |
| May 14 | Linda Thomas |
| May 16 | Chancellor Barbour |
| May 16 | Sandra Griffith |

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|--------|-------------------|
| May 16 | Joseph Taylor |
| May 17 | Devin Chinault |
| May 17 | Kaitlin Reese |
| May 18 | Rob Black |
| May 18 | Meredith Graham |
| May 18 | Shaun Hardee |
| May 18 | Landon Hayes |
| May 19 | Kiersten Davis |
| May 21 | Taylor Jackson |
| May 21 | Angela Poythress |
| May 22 | Bob Edwards |
| May 22 | Sherri Howerton |
| May 23 | Stacy Archer |
| May 25 | Nancy Hunt |
| May 25 | Eddie Kemp |
| May 25 | Joe Ware |
| May 26 | Johnathan Burruss |
| May 26 | Sterling Crowder |
| May 30 | Kevin Faulconer |
| May 31 | Lisa Clary |

If your birthday is missing, please notify the church office so we may update our records.

The Messenger

South Hill United Methodist Church
105 Franklin Street
South Hill, Virginia 23970
434-447-4761
office@southhillumc.org
www.southhillumc.org



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Worship Services: Sundays 8:45 a.m. (in the chapel) and 11:00 a.m. (in the sanctuary)
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Upcoming Events

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| Tuesday, 5/1 | Bible Study Begins 10:00 am |
| Wednesday, 5/2 | Bible Study Begins 6:30 pm |
| Sunday, 5/6 | Youth Service 11:00 am |
| | Pineview Communion Service 3 pm |
| Wednesday, 5/9 | Pineview Chapel Service 10 am |
| Sunday, 5/13 | Mother's Day |
| Monday, 5/14 | UMW Meeting 10 am |
| Tuesday, 5/15 | Finance Meeting 5:30 pm |
| Sunday, 5/20 | Pentecost |
| | UM Men's Breakfast 8 am |
| | Church Council 7 pm |
| Monday, 5/21 | June Newsletter Articles Deadline |
| Saturday, 5/26 | Community Outreach 2 pm |
| Sunday, 5/27 | Trinity Sunday |
| Monday, 5/28 | Memorial Day – Office Closed |
| | Memorial Day Service 11 am at Veterans Memorial Park, South Hill |
| | Pineview Communion Service 3 pm |
| June 3 rd | Bible Study Ends |
| June 5 th | Bible Study Ends |
| June 6 th | Bible Study Ends |
| June 15 th – 17 th | Annual Conference |
| June 17 th | Father's Day |
| June 18 th | July/Aug Newsletter Articles Deadline |

Recurring Weekly Events:

Sundays: Regular Worship Services
Youth Meeting 6:00 pm

Tuesdays: 10:00 am Bible Study
7:00 pm Seekers in Prayer
7:30 pm Synago

Wednesdays:
6:30 pm Bible Study
6:30 pm Narcotics Anon.
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
8:00 pm AA

Thursdays
10:45 am Hundley Service

Fridays: 7:00 pm Sobriety Group

Saturdays: 8-3 Community Service
Sale at Upper Room
(1st, 2nd, & 3rd Saturday)

2nd and 4th Tuesdays: 6:30 pm Prayer
Shawl Meeting



Church Staff

Pastor
Rev. Brian Siegle
Music Director/Organist
Jimmie Crowder, Jr.
Administrative Assistant
Patsy Tucker
Sexton
Cindy Parrish