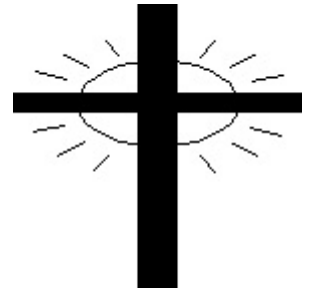
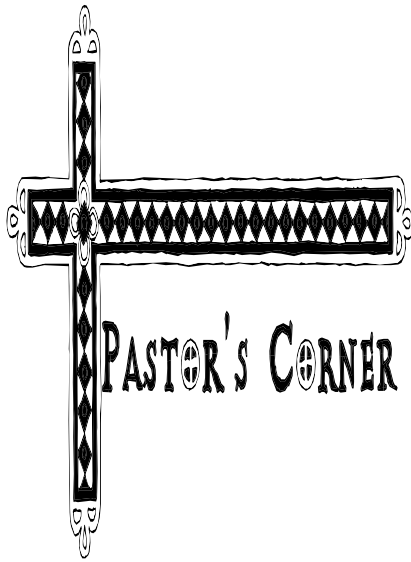


Good News at  
Gum Spring United Methodist  
Church



## November 2009



Sunday, November 1 is All Saints' Day. During our worship service, we will remember the lives of the saints who have passed on to glory in the last year. Even though we will miss them, we know that they are resting in God's heavenly peace. The purpose of the

worship service is not to mourn them, but to remember their impact on us today.

Certainly some of the saints in our lives are still living. As I reflect, I remember many saints in my life: My first-grade teacher, Mrs. Allen, and her care for me. She was also a neighbor and let me feed the class rabbit over the summer. I remember Susie Frucci (yes, it rhymes), who taught us so much about the stories in the Bible. I remember several youth leaders, a couple of whom have since gone into full-time Christian ministry. One was an orthodontist, one an airline pilot, another was in charge of the Honor Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Plus the numerous adults from church that taught me so much about living the Christian Life.

Some of them taught me in classroom settings, others taught me by their example. Both are important – for we have to understand as well as live our faith. In the

same way, celebrating All Saints' Day is more than just remembering the saints in our lives. We remember best by living the faith of the saints in our lives today. If not, then their lives were simply passing entertainment – here today, forgotten tomorrow. If we truly remember, then we will pass our faith on to those who follow us, for we, too are saints in God's eyes.

How do you remember the saints in your life? Come to our All Saints Service and tell us how their lives have made a difference to you. Let us see their lives in your living as we celebrate God's grace in all of our lives.

See Ya Sunday!

Jeff

If you have a loved one who was not a church member that you would like us to remember in the worship service, please let us know their name and date of death so we can add them to the list.

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### *Worship in the Coming Months*

Our regular Sunday morning services are at 8:45 and 11 am. We celebrate Holy Communion at both services on the first Sunday of each month.

We have a nursery during Sunday School and both morning services. If you need nursery care during other church activities, please let us know. We also invite all children from ages 3 to 6 to children's church, right after the children's sermon during the 11:00 service.

Come and worship God with us.



**All Saints Sunday  
November 1, 2009**

**Brunswick Stew**

**Saturday,**

**November 14, 2009**

**10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**



**Community**

**Thanksgiving Service**

**Wednesday,**

**November 25, 2009**

**7:30 p.m.**

**At Dover Baptist Church**



**Thanksgiving Meal**

**Thursday, November 26, 2009**

**12:00-3:00 p.m.**

**At GSUMC**



*Christmas Season Schedule*

★ **Family Night Dinner** ★

**Sunday, December 6, 2009-6:00 p.m.**

★ **Adult Choir Cantata** ★

**Sunday, December 13, 2009-11:00 a.m.**

**Sunday, December 20, 2009-8:45 a.m.**

★ **Hand Bell Choir Cantata** ★

**Sunday, December 20, 2009-11:00 a.m.**

★ **Children's Christmas Play** ★

**Sunday, December 20, 2009-7:00 p.m.**

★ **Christmas Caroling** ★

**Date & Time to Be Determined**



**NOVEMBER MEETINGS:**

- ☉ **UMW Meeting**, Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m.
- ☉ **Men's Group Meeting**, Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m.
- ☉ **Charge Conference**, Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.
- ☉ **Youth Council Meeting**, Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.
- ☉ **Administrative Council Meeting**, Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.
- ☉ **Prayer Shawl Ministry**, Tuesdays, November 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.
- ☉ **Finance Committee Meeting**, Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.
- ☉ **Seniors meet at GSUMC**, Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.
- ☉ **Staff Parish Committee Meeting**, Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

**ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY:**

All Saints Sunday is November 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have lost a loved one in the past year and would like to remember them during this service, please contact the church office with this information by Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>.

**CHARGE CONFERENCE:**

The 2009 Charge Conference will be held on Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. at GSUMC.

**BRUNSWICK STEW:**

The Yates Class and the Wright Class will sponsor the annual Brunswick Stew on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. (Take Out Only) \$6.50 per quart. Someone will be available in the Narthex following the worship services to accept donations.

## Stewardship Report As of September 30, 2009

	Last Year	This Year	Difference	Percent
Budget ( <b>Revised</b> )	\$ 246,809	<b>\$ 237,416</b>	\$ -9,393	-4%
Number of Weeks for this Report	38	<b>39</b>		
<b>Operating Funds Giving</b>	\$ 180,531	<b>\$ 161,092</b>	\$ -19,439	-11%
Versus Budget to Date	\$ 180,360	<b>\$ 178,062</b>	\$ -2,298	-1%
Difference from Budget	\$ 171	<b>\$ -16,970</b>		
Percent	0%	<b>-10%</b>		
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	\$ 157,581	<b>\$ 165,432</b>	\$ 7,852	5%
Remaining Budget	\$ 89,228	<b>\$ 71,983</b>		
Percent of Budget Remaining	36%	<b>30%</b>		
<b>Building Fund Giving, This Year</b>		<b>\$ 113,056</b>		
Contribution to New Construction through July		<b>\$1,191,328</b>		
Average Worship Attendance (Combined)	190	<b>176</b>	-14	-7%
Average Sunday School Attendance		<b>91</b>		



Andrew Sherman (Iraq), Lisa Milan (Iraq), Louis Parrish, Dennis Gammon, Louise Bird, Mary Johnson, Harry White, Chic Larsen, Brenda Hill, Karla Best, Lois Royster, Eduardo Maia, Cristina, Brenda Dunn, Edith & Marvin Jones, The Family of Peter Claser, Kathy Lajoie, Gwyn Taylor, Kelly Thompson, Page Rudolph & Family, Rev. Rhonda Baker,

### Change of Address

Please contact the church office for details.

- \*Hazel Johnson
- \*Linda Rowe
- \*Jason & Jessica Slusher

## THANKSGIVING MEAL:



The Hand Bell Choir openly invites all to God's house for a traditional meal on Thanksgiving Day, November 26<sup>th</sup> at GSUMC between 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Come and enjoy food and fellowship. Invite your friends and family. If you know of anyone in the community who may be home-bound, or unable to spend Thanksgiving with family and friends, please give their name to Elaine Hoke, 804-517-0402 or the church office, 556-3494.

We ask only that you let us know who and how many will be attending, so that we can provide for all in attendance. A sign up sheet will be located in the Narthex. Come. Let us serve you.

## UMW:



### Christmas Craft-Gift and Bake Sale:

The United Methodist Women will hold a Christmas Gift and Bake Sale on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

**The congregation is invited to participate in this event in the following ways:**

1. Spaces will be available for members of the congregation and the community to sell their own items, at a cost of \$25.
2. Donations of baked goods and gift/craft type items to sell.
3. This event will provide an opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts and baked goods for your Christmas activities.



### CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS:

Fill a Salvation Army Christmas Stocking! The UMW is again providing these stockings to fill. The filled stockings are distributed to needy children in the Richmond area. Pick up your stocking from the Fellowship Hall, sign your name and the number of stockings you will fill, follow the instructions provided and return to the church by Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.

## EDUCATION:

Middle School Class: (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Graders)

We have twelve eager learners on our roll at this time.

Our lives are busy with school activities and family activities, but we know that God is the center in our lives. We try to come regularly to our class.

The first minutes of our class are spent listing our joys and concerns, and praying. Now we are studying from a program called *Tweens in Transition: Building a Heart of Faith*. Our lessons center on a Bible verse and Faith Point. We have a poster to remind us of these. Our Bible verses are placed on 3 X 5 cards and put on a ring. We will be reviewing them and memorizing them. We also are developing our spiritual lives by learning some important disciplines: praying, time alone with God, tithing, etc. We often have arts and crafts activities to help us focus on the things we are learning. Since many of us have spent the early years of our lives together in Sunday School, we have developed close friendships and enjoy learning together.

### Church Humor:

A pastor announced to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to build the new church. The bad news is, it's still in your pockets."

### Things God Won't Ask:

- \* God won't ask the square footage of your house. He'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.
- \* God won't ask what your job title was. He'll ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.
- \* God won't ask how many friends you had. He'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.
- \* God won't ask in what neighborhood you lived. He'll ask how you treated your neighbors.