Dedication of Operation Christmas Child
Shoeboxes
Sunday, November 17

Sunday, November 17 is the last day to drop off your Operation Christmas Child gift-filled shoeboxes. The Operation Christmas Child table is in the breezeway. You can pick empty shoeboxes along with a list of gift ideas for boys and girls 2-4, 5-9, and 10-14. We are changing children’s lives all over the world with a simple shoebox transformed into GIFTS OF HOPE!

We packed 210 gift-filled shoeboxes at our packing party in October. We hope to collect another 215 shoebox gifts to grow the Kingdom of God worldwide even in places where the Gospel has never been heard. We will pray over the shoeboxes before they leave our church on their journey into the hands of children in need. Thank you Windsor Hills Church Family!

We are hosting...
Community Thanksgiving Service
Sunday, November 24
7:00 pm

Have you ever been to this service? It is a lovely expression of our thanks to God for many blessings, shared between our neighbors. Featuring lovely music from combined chancel choirs and WHUMC Bells. Please plan to attend. A reception follows the service, and is a great time to greet our friends from other churches.
The Pastor Writes...

The year 2019 has been a watershed year for the United Methodist Church, as we completed the Special Session of the General Conference in late February. The results of that session have brought a great deal of consternation among many of our folks, while some were pleased, but fewer celebrated, because of the realization of what may come next. What lay ahead in 2020 is anyone’s guess. Prior to the General Conference, we held an information session for all who wished to be informed of the issues before the GC. During the summer, we had an information and sharing session to respond to what has transpired and to seek to understand what lay ahead.

Our mantra, however, is that we continue to be in mission and ministry, to share God’s love both inside and outside the church, and to simply be God’s people at Windsor Hills. In many ways, we have carried on, despite the upset at the general church level. The first highlight of the year was the study of the book *Dopesick*, by Beth Macy, which included 60-80 persons per night over a 9-week period. It was an eye-opening study, which was helpful to many persons both inside and outside the church. We concluded it with a worship-service dedicated to the hope that we have in Christ Jesus, even in the face of a crisis as dire as the Opioid Crisis. Heather Case provided much of the organization and energy behind this phenomenal study and twenty or more Windsor Hills people were in leadership in small groups during those sessions. We have offered this model and resources to other churches so that the church at-large can have a greater influence in the midst of this national crisis.

A second highlight was the invitation for our Sanctuary Choir, under the direction of Karen Harwood, to sing at Carnegie Hall. This event included a mass choir performing the music of Mary McDonald, who has been to Windsor Hills twice for a Composer Weekend. For those members who were able to go, it provided a life-long memory and great joy. They shared that joy when they returned with a local concert just after Memorial Day. At that time, we showed our appreciation for our Veterans, both inside and outside the church. Next year, well-known composer Joel Raney will be our composer in residence two Sundays after Easter, April 26.

Both the study and the concert are a direct result of our Reaching New People team, which encourages us to be open and welcoming to our community...and to get out into our community as well. Both were attended by many guests, who are convinced that God is up to something here at Windsor Hills UMC.

We initiated an experiment with a Fifth-Sunday Unified Service, beginning in June, so that our people can see that we are much more than just what they see in their service or their small group. In September, our Children’s Sabbath Service brought great joy to our worship together, as they led the entire service, including the preaching and music of the day. What a great joy! We are so proud of our young people and so grateful for their parents who play such a critical role in our ministry with young people.
There are many other things that could come to mind as highlights for the year. Our “Celebrating Windsor Hills!” day featured a wonderful video of the Ten Best Things about Windsor Hills, which will also be available on-line and on CD to share with guests who are interested in learning more about us. Examples include:

* Our Senior Adult ministry continues to flourish, with Michael Copeland leading the way. It provides fellowship, inspiration, and assistance with issues facing our senior adults for not only members of Windsor Hills, but many others in our community. This, too, is a portal into the larger life of our congregation. It is not uncommon to have 100+ reservations for our monthly meals!

* Our Youth ministry, led by Megan Rodman, now regularly reaches double-figures in attendance for even routine events and the members of the group are bonding with one another, strengthening friendships in Christ during these critical teen years. These youth have taken the lead in a number of settings, including during our first-ever Car Show, which we held in September.

* Our Small Groups continue to thrive, both on Sunday mornings and at other times, as well. Some are for education, some are for mission, and all help build great Christian friendships. In these settings, many of the signs and wonders of God’s Spirit at work become visible, even if we don’t tout them publicly, due to a respect for confidentiality.

What I am driving at, is that most of what we are about is at the ground level of loving one another and loving our neighbors, which comes from our love for God. This love will be our primary emphasis for 2020, as we seek through love to be strengthened for whatever may come through General Conference 2020. We will simply keep doing those things that make Windsor Hills special.

Peace,

Doug

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**Coming in April 2020: Adult ASP Weekend**

We are beginning our plans for an adult ASP weekend. The trip would require all team members to arrive in Jonesville, VA on Thursday, work on Friday and Saturday, and leave to come home on Saturday night or Sunday morning. If you would like to be a part of this ministry team, please contact the church office. Our deposit and the number of members in our team are both due by January 1, 2020.
**Prayer Concerns:** Teenie Abernathy; Kris Stutsman; Marianne Bird; Anna-Marie Nolen (Veldsman’s granddaughter); Jeannine Burks; Helen Flora Saul (Barbara Wiseley’s mother); Lori Morris (Jeanne Hoel’s daughter); John Black; Bobby Ayers; Don & Gerry Grubb; Gladys Peterson; Phyllis Crowgey; Rosemary Ellis; Barbara Gleixner; Elyse Thaler.

**Continued Prayers:** Phyllis Prado; Phyllis Trent; Rita Weikel; Ruth Kreienbaum; Mac Brackenrich (Rene Wolfe’s nephew); Nan Johnson; Shirley Brown; Butch Pence (Perry Pence’s father); Becky Day; Ruth Hartsel; Jean Pearson; Cindy Girman (Nan Johnson’s daughter); Bernita Latimore (Nan Johnson’s sister-in-law).

**Our Love and Sympathy,** with the sure and certain hope of the resurrection, is conveyed to Doug and Gail Paysour on the recent death of Gail’s brother Jimmy Lewis; and also to the family of Ernest Baker, who died October 20, 2019.

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**Thank You…**

Dear WHUMC, 

Even though I have not been physically able to attend services at Windsor Hills Church for several years, I still feel very much a part of the people there. I want to thank you for remembering me with prayers and visits, sanctuary flowers, cards, food and communion. I feel blessed by all the kindness shown.

With Christian Love,

*Jeannine Burks*

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**Composer Weekend 2020:**

**with Joel Raney**

**April 25-26, 2020**

Mark it on your calendar!

WHUMC will again host a Composer Weekend!
Dankie...Shukran...Do Jeh...Kiitos...Merci...Grazie...Arigato...Gracias...Asante...Istuti...Spasibo...Xie Xie

Thank You

This is the time of year when we become more intentional about giving thanks. I would like to express my gratitude for our parents and the children entrusted to us each week. What a gift to spend Sunday mornings with your children digging deeper into our faith! Our Sunday School teachers and assistants are a group of dedicated volunteers who invest in our children each week. This is one of the many things I love about Windsor Hills! A big SHOUT OUT to those teachers who invest in the lives of our children.

During the Thanksgiving Season, encourage an attitude of gratitude in your houses. Many ideas include writing thank you notes to friends, writing what you are thankful for on a pumpkin, doing a nightly round table of thanks...you get the idea.

Technology: Here is a list of family friendly apps you could download on your phone for when traveling:
The Berenstain Bears Give Thanks, Cookie Doodle, Turkey Hunt, Thanksgiving Coloring Book

Sunday School: This month our focus is on the New Testament books of John and Matthew. We are learning that God came to be with us by sending his Son, Jesus. We are also learning that Jesus is not afraid of our hard questions. While we may not always understand his answers, he is never afraid to hear us ask. Jesus has entrusted us with power to share his love with others.

Upcoming Events & Activities: Practice for the Christmas Musical is in full force. Everyone should have received a CD with the music to practice at home. If you don’t have one, please see Heather.

**Nov. 3rd:** Layman Farms Pumpkin Patch Outing Rescheduled after 11 am service

**Nov. 6th:** SPEAKING PARTS ONLY Christmas Musical Rehearsal in Library at 5:30 pm

**Nov. 17th:** Advent Wreath Making during Sunday School

**Dec. 1st:** Practice after service with lunch

**Dec. 7th:** Dress Rehearsal & Christmas Party Downtown

**Dec. 8th:** Christmas Musical “Away in a Mango” at 10:30 am

**Dec. 19th:** Family Gingerbread House Decorating at 6:00 pm

**Dec. 24th:** Family Christmas Eve Service at 4:30 pm

Thanksgiving Prayer:

Thank you for the year our family has shared together. We are grateful for the blessings such as our home, food, health, church family, and thank you for the love you have shown us all. Please continue to guide us in the year to come and help us to remain faithful to you in our daily lives. We love you Lord. In Jesus’s name, Amen.

Blessings,
Heather

“Children are not a distraction from more important work. They are the most important work.”
- C.S. Lewis
Youth Events...

We’ve had a busy year so far. I suspect that many of you are thinking the same thing I’m thinking…. Where did 2019 go? Halloween is past, Thanksgiving is coming, meaning Advent and Christmas are almost here!

First off- Thank you to Tom and Brenda Simpson for help chaperoning the Youth at Kings Dominion. We had a great time. Also, a big thank you to everyone who participated in the Trunk or Treat—it was a fun event for all!

For November:

11/3- We will be baking cookies for Kairos Ministry
11/10: Youth Group at Raleigh Court UMC
November 15th-17th: Virginia Conference Youth Retreat at Eagle Eyrie
11/24: No Youth Group (Community Thanksgiving Service)

I will be contacting the kids directly at youth group and via text and the Remind App. Stay tuned on the church Facebook page, Sunday Bulletin, constant contact and on the church website for updates! ~Megan

Our youth group meets on Sundays from 5-7. Students are encouraged to invite friends to come out for a meal, games, fellowship, and a message!

With Love,
Megan Rodman
New Locks Being Installed For Better Church Security

From the Trustees

The Administrative Board and the Trustees are working to provide greater security for our church. **In November the locks on all the outside doors will be changed** to locks that have keys that cannot be copied. We are also having installed **electronic access controls on three of our doors—the education wing door, the office door and the breezeway door on the Windsor Road side.** These doors will have key pads and will enable people with codes access to the church.

We have contracted with Security Lock and Key to install the access controls and the new locks on all the outside doors. This will happen in November. The date has not been determined yet. The Trustees have determined those people who will need to have a restricted key. Notification will begin in the next couple of weeks.

Group leaders for church groups as well as outside groups using the church will be issued a code to make it possible for them to access the door closest to their meeting or program using the key pad. The access control system gives us the ability to assign codes for specific dates and times and to update the needs of those with codes as we learn the specifics of the system. We will be learning together and working to make the transition as smooth as possible. Those group leaders and individuals who will be given codes to access their meetings and programs will also be notified by the Trustees prior to the November installation of the access control system. And will be given information on how to get a code and how to use it.

**The interior door locks will not change. Please keep your current keys so that you can unlock closets and classrooms inside the church.** If you have a key that you will not need for the interior doors you are welcome to return it and we would be glad to have it back.

Please address any questions about the transition to the new locks and code system to HelenRuth Burch, Chair of Trustees at hrburch@aol.com or 540-797-2760.
November Senior Luncheon: November 20

All luncheons are on Wednesdays and will begin with lunch at 12:05 pm with the program beginning at 1:00 pm.

The November Senior Luncheon

Greek Isles Travelogue by Heather Case
Heather led a Windsor Hills Tours group on a Greek Isles Mediterranean Cruise in September. Come hear of their adventures and see beautiful photos of Montenegro, Corfu, Santorini, Mykonos, and more!

December Senior Luncheon: December 18

Lunch Catered by Outback Steakhouse and Christmas Music
Featuring Karen Jones Harwood, Organist

This special Christmas lunch will be catered by Outback Steakhouse. We need to give Outback an exact number of those planning to eat so they know how much food to bring. **We need all lunch RSVPs by Friday, December 6 at 12 noon.** Please understand that we cannot add lunches after this date, but you may still attend the program.

You may RSVP for the lunch now, or anytime until December 6 at 12 noon by email whumc3@whumc.roacoxmail.com or phone, 774-4730. As always, guests are welcome, just make sure they are in your RSVP count. The catered meal is anticipated to be around $12 per person, and you will pay at the door. Come join senior friends from WHUMC and the community for this warm, catered lunch and festive musical event. **RSVP by Dec. 6 at 12 noon.**
Wednesday Morning Matters

Wednesday Morning Matters is a small group which meets outside the church every other Wednesday at 8:30 am at Mill Mtn. Coffee in Salem. This is a great time to join our group if you are interested!

We discuss a variety of issues in a respectful and loving environment. Our current book is “The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus” by Amy-Jill Levine. The book helps Christians and Jews understand the “Jewishness” of Jesus so that their appreciation of him deepens and a greater interfaith dialogue can take place. Levine’s humor and informed truth-telling provokes honest conversation and debate about how Christians and Jews should understand Jesus, the New Testament, and each other.

Anyone is welcome to join! Read chapter 4 for our November 13 meeting.

*E-mail or Call Heather if you are interested in joining us, so she can have a book ready for you!

heathercase@whumc.roacoxmail.com or (540) 774-4730

NEWS from Roanoke District: Solar Panels / Generator Units Going to Puerto Rico

On behalf of the Roanoke District Share the Light mission team I wanted to share an update with your church. The generosity of your congregation along with others has enabled 47 solar panel/generator units to be purchased and shipped to Puerto Rico. After a few challenges, they are now being assembled and distributed on the island of Vieques. The eight member Roanoke District UMVIM team is busy in ministry with those without reliable power in this region. Follow the team’s journey on Facebook at: Roanoke District Puerto Rico Solar Panel Mission Initiative 2019. https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1317371728415021&ref=br_rs

Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

Again, thanks to your church for making this mission possible.

(Windsor Hills supported this mission with a gift of $5,000 from our estate funds.)

Revised Common Lectionary

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Windsor Hills has a Bowling League! We have a great group but would love to have even more bowl with us! This is a great opportunity to spend time with each other, make new friends, and invite others in the community to join us.

Important Details:

*League Night is Wednesday evenings at 6:15 pm (through mid-April)

*Ages 18 and up are encouraged to participate. Families may bring children/youth to bowl on separate lanes

*Cost is $10 per week, free shoe rental, and t-shirts will be between $10-$12

(If this interests you, but cost is an issue…please let Heather know. We want YOU to join us.)

If you would like to sign-up to bowl as a substitute, please contact Heather Case (540) 774-4730 or heathercase@whumc.roacoxmail.com

KAIROS Prison Ministry

Our KAIROS Prison Ministry Team is preparing for our 35th “3 ½ day short course in Christianity” at Keen Mountain Correctional Center on November 5-8. To learn more about KAIROS, you are invited to visit www.kairosprisonministry.org. Please take time to click on some of the videos that show what God is doing inside of prison walls.

Richard Lawson will serve as the ‘Weekend Leader’ for our ‘Inside Team’ of 34 men. Isaiah Burrell, Dave Benson, and Ken Briggs will also be representing our congregation on the team. However, KAIROS allows for many Christians to support the ministry from the comfort of home.

Three ways of support are:

**PRAYER**—During the period of November 5-8, someone will be praying for the residents and our team for 24 hours/day. If you would like to cover a 30 minute time of prayer, please contact Dave, Isaiah, Richard or Ken.

**COOKIES**—Home baked and ‘prayed over’ cookies are at the heart of this ministry. We have heard many times “I came for the cookies, and I found Jesus”. Thank you for the baked cookies you donated.

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT**—It costs about $12,000./year for the KAIROS Ministry at Keen Mountain. If you’d like to help, see one of our 4 team members. Checks should be payable to ‘KAIROS of Virginia’.

Thank you for supporting KAIROS and the many other ministries of WHUMC.
Merry Christmas, AfterCare!

Our AfterCare folks seldom receive personal mail.... If you would like to give them that treat by remembering them with a Christmas card, the following addresses are provided.

**North Roanoke Assisted Living** - 6910 Williamson Rd., Roanoke, VA 24019
   Bernard Casey
   Kirk McCraw

**Meadow Hills** - 5046 Williamson Road, Roanoke, VA 24012
   Ronald Asbury
   Lisa Asbury
   Gloria Hudson

**5300 Hawthorne Road, Roanoke, VA 24012**
   Shannon Fields, #524
   Tina Turner, #302
   Stephanie Barone

**Other Addresses:**
   Linda Perry, 129 Hershberger Rd., Apt. 509, Roanoke, 24012
   Lena Cook, 155 Avendale Avenue, Apt. 3, Roanoke, VA 24012
   Robert Crawford, 1020 13th Street SE, # 316, Roanoke VA  24013
   Terry Delaney, 51 McDivitt Road Salem VA 24153
   Michelle Gorman, 807 Whitney Ave, Apt. 105A, Roanoke, VA 24012
   Kathy Gossage, 1020 13th Street, # 212, Roanoke VA 24013
   Annette Mignott, 2111 Fallon Avenue, # 5, Roanoke, VA 24013
   Pat Pruitt, 4902 Grandin Rd., Roanoke, VA, 24018
   Amie Sheaff, 2713 King Street N.E., Roanoke VA  24012
   Abby Smith, 3750 Williamson Rd., Apt. L, Roanoke VA  24019
   Gary Songer, 1150 Vinyard Rd. Clearview #403, Vinton VA 24179
   Ashley Janney Bryson, 2824 Dell Avenue, Roanoke, VA 24012
   Heather Durham, 4606 Fort Lewis Church Rd., Salem, VA 24153
   Ike Burrell, 3517 Normandy Lane, Apt. 49, Roanoke, VA 24018
   Leatha Young
The poinsettia has long been coupled with the Christian tradition of celebrating the birth of the Christ child. This Christmas 34 beautiful jingle bell poinsettias will be displayed in the sanctuary and Windsor Hall. You may purchase a poinsettia In Honor or In Memory of a loved one, or you may make a donation to “Missions.” Please complete the information needed on the form below. Turn in the completed form along with a check for ten dollars each ($10.00) payable to: “Windsor Hills UMC” to the church office or in the offering plate, no later than December 8th. Orders will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Poinsettias may be picked up after the Christmas Eve Service.

Number of Poinsettias: _________

In Memory of: ____________________________________________________

In Honor of: ______________________________________________________

Given By: _________________________________________________________

Name: ___________________________________________________________

Phone: ____________________________________________________________

I prefer to make a donation to “Missions.” __________
NOVEMBER 2019

SERVING THE HOUSE OF THE LORD:

We thank each of the following for serving the House of the Lord:

Ushers
3  Dave & Debbie Tanis; Craig & Anne Kidd
10  Jim & B.J. Crook, Arthur & Shirley Grant
17  Garland Kidd, Renee Simmons
24  Tom & Meredith Campbell, Richard Lawson & Traci Porter

Parking Lot Greeters
3  Dave Tanis, Wayne Jacobs, Bill Rodman, Mark & Carolyn Fisher
10  Richard Lawson, Tom Akers, Ben Carson & Kathye Ashford
17  Dave Armstrong, Devin Bledsoe, Barbara Conner, Bette Near
24  Ken Briggs, Roy Aust, Joe & Ann Gillen

Kid Greeters
3  9 am  Jaxon Case & Dakota Eaton
    11 am  Harper Gregory
10  9 am  Cooper Wolfe & Emma Martin
    11 am  Kai Davidson
17  9 am  Gunnar Boothe and Emily Martin
    11 am  Harper Flanary
24  9 am  Blake and Cael Flanary
    11 am  Caroline Martin

Acolytes
3  Lola Rodman
10  Maggie Gregory
17  Nixie Rodman
24  Jasmine Eaton

Sunday Morning Coffee Club
3  Carolyn Fisher
10  Dana Bledsoe
17  Sandra Eaton
24  Craig & Anne Kidd

Altar Guild
Norma Tompkins and Lois Singleton

Communion Servers—November 3
9 am  Bill Powell and Jim Chandler
11 am  Wayne and Kay Jacobs

Nursery
3  Bill Kagey, Braden Cash
10  Dave Tanis, Jasmine Eaton
17  Esna Veldsman, James Eaton
24  Claudia Liechty, Carolyn Fisher, Debbie Tanis

1  Steven Kagey
   Kendra Tingler
2  Heather Pendleton
4  Brenda Simpson
5  Julia Bledsoe
6  Rene Wolfe
   Leila Schilke
   Ben Day
   Pat Hensley
7  Kay Jacobs
   Addison Winston
   Victoria Schilke
8  Autumn Stevens
   Phyllis Prado
9  Traci Porter
10  Cody Davidson
11  Perry Pence
   Dave Tanis
   David Thaler
12  Thelma Price
    Bill Rodgers
13  Krista Davidson
    Kathie Coulson
16  Ron Eison
18  Bill Magee
20  George Gleixner
21  Kimberly McDowell
22  Carma Newell
    Cheryl Sprinkle
23  Pam Stokes
24  Elizabeth Whatley
26  George Kesler
27  Todd Shores
    Jeff Dyne
30  Kevin Russell
30  Jayson Lamanca
30  Anthony Cash

November 9
Martin and Lillie Tanis

November 11
Alvin and Dolly Callahan
Taking a Peek at December…

For each Sunday in December, we will gather as one church family at a

**Unified Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.** in the Sanctuary.

* December 1, First Sunday of Advent, 9:15 am Sunday School…. 10:30 Unified Service… 11:30 am Children/Youth Practice and Pizza lunch.

* December 8, 10:30 Unified Service and Young People’s Musical

* December 15, 10:30 Unified Service & Choir Christmas Cantata

* December 22 and 29, 10:30 Unified Service

* Christmas Eve Worship, December 24: 4:30 pm Children & Family Christmas Eve Service 7:30 pm Traditional Christmas Eve Service