

Worship Leaders Schedule

Greeters	Readers	Acolytes
December 20th		
8:30—Clay & Carene Edwards	8:30—George Robertson	8:30—Cameren Farmer
December 27th		
8:30—Beth Honea	8:30—Jimiya Harris	8:30—MacKenzie Geist
January 3rd		
8:30—Clay & Carene Edwards	8:30—Iris Hoye	8:30—Iris Hoye
January 10th		
8:30—Beth Honea	8:30—Craig Purcell	8:30—Caden Purcell
January 17th		
8:30—Clay & Carene Edwards 11:00—Jo Robinson &	8:30—George Robertson 11:00—Chris Ganoe	8:30—Cameren Farmer 11:00—Ean Smith
January 24th		
8:30—Beth Honea	8:30—Carene Edwards	8:30—Diamond Lachney
January 31st		
8:30—Clay & Carene Edwards	8:30—Jimiya Harris	8:30—Jimiya Harris

<u>All Stars: All children 1st - 5th grade</u>	<u>Youth - All youth 6th - 12th grade</u>
Jan. 3 - No meeting	Jan. 3 - no meeting
Jan. 10 - Baked Potato fundraiser luncheon - All children meet in Fellowship Hall after Sunday School (or by 11am) to help with set-up. Parents sign up to bring something!	Jan. 10 - 4pm Youth Council Meeting (everyone is welcome to our youth council meetings) 5 - 7pm regular youth meeting - Eva leading lesson, dinner volunteer needed
Jan. 17 - 5 - 7pm regular meeting- dinner volunteer needed	Jan. 17 - 5 - 7pm regular youth meeting
Jan. 24 - 5 - 7pm regular meeting - dinner volunteer needed	Jan. 24 - 5 - 7pm regular youth meeting
Jan. 31 - 5 - 7pm regular meeting - dinner volunteer needed	Jan. 31 - 5 - 7pm regular youth meeting
Feb. 7 - SOUPER BOWL luncheon fundraiser - All children meet in Fellowship Hall after Sunday School (or by 11am) to help with set-up. Parents sign up to bring something!	Feb. 7 - Super Bowl - No Meeting
Feb. 14 - No Meeting	Feb. 12 - 14 - District Youth Retreat
Feb. 21 - 5 - 7pm regular meeting - dinner volunteer needed	Feb. 21 - 5 - 7pm regular youth meeting
Feb. 28 - 5 - 7pm regular meeting - dinner volunteer needed	Feb. 28 - 5 - 7pm regular youth meeting
	Contact Eva Booth with any questions. 804-586-5044, emrbPOOH@yahoo.com

Ivey Memorial UMC

The Nugget



DECEMBER 2015
JANUARY 2016

Pastor's Article

When Felix Mendelssohn composed the tune, Festagang an die Kunstler, in 1840, little did we know it would result in the season carol, "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing". Little did we understand John Wesley's commentary on Psalm 96:10, regarding the reign of God and the Kingdom of God established on earth for all to witness. (Wesley's Notes on the Psalms)

Christmas & Epiphany—December & January, change our understanding. In the time of seasonal gatherings and hunkering down to defeat the cold, of witnessing the birth of Yeshua to Joseph and Mary and the visitation of Balthazar, Melchior, and Gaspar, we as God's people, take more time to reflect on the meaning of God's Kingdom among us in the gift of Bethlehem town as well as our participation in life with the heavenly gift of the King of Kings on earth for all to share. Fundamentally, and pragmatically, how are we initiating God's call to live in the Kingdom and invite ourselves and those we know and love into a vibrant life giving relationship with Jesus and his family in Heaven and Earth? How are we allowing good to triumph over the evils of poverty and alienation among us? How are we living the glory of the Lord composed within and shared abroad like Mendelssohn and Wesley? Truly, how are we knowing Christ and making Christ known?

In the Blessings of Christmas-joy unspeakable and of Epiphany-joy witnessed,
Jesus—the reason for our lives and our seasons of life,

Pastor Jim Smith

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Outreach Ministry Letter

Dear Ivey Congregation,

As we begin to anticipate the close of one year and the new beginning that comes with a new year, I want you to know I appreciate all that you have done in 2015 to spread God's love to others. Each time you have been asked to reach out to others you have not only answered the call but exceeded expectations.

From January 2015 till now we have been busy, we had accomplished at least one outreach program a month for 2015, some small and some much larger having a lasting impact on the community.

We started with a chili cook-off in January to cards for our veterans in February. We fed a group of 40+ men for CARITAS and had that many of us to turn out on a snowy night to help serve and fellowship with them. The soups and muffins and cake hit the spot. Ours eyes were opened through prayer walks to needs in the community: The Free Little Library being one of the first. I had never thought about children not having access to a library, I just jumped in the car with my children and we went to the library, what if I had not had a car. There are those who don't. When asked to raise the money to install one we raised it in one Sunday with \$.05 left over and stocked it with books. You did this! We asked you for Teen Bible because there is a need to get Bibles into the hands of teens and again you answered the call with funds to purchase 100 bibles. In our prayers it came to us to start a prayer shawls ministry 25 have been donated to date with us having given or mailed out 14 that have gone as far as Maryland and Northern VA to Tennessee.

Every stitch in each shawls or lap blanket blessing someone in need. We have been blessed and we have used those blessing to bless others. Through another prayer walk it was revealed that we had a wonderful ministry in the food pantry but we had the resources to take it a step further and bring those who have no transportation to get groceries for the month in our bus at a program offered by Chesterfield County at Elizabeth C. Scott Elementary. We are building relationships with our neighbors at the fire station and Harrowgate elementary School. We did cards and pork butts for the fire station and a basket of goodies for Harrowgate. From Fun and Faith to Trunk or Treat, we have answered God's call to share his love and grace with others as it has been shared with us. This is what "How to Reach New People" is about, building relationships with our community, sharing god's love and grace.

As we close out 2015, I want to say thank you to everyone who did any one of the things I have mentioned. In doing so you chose to be the hands and feet of Christ to the world. We are told to go and make disciples, this year through "How to Reach New People" I realized in order to do that we first need to build relationships.

In closing remember if what we do impacts one person, that was the person God knew was ready to be impacted. It is not up to us to judge who does and does not deserve God's grace (if that were the case I am sure a lot of us would not be deserving) it's up to us to share God's grace and love with others.

Your sister in Christ and in ministry,
Dorothy Vincent



Baked Potato Luncheon

The All Stars will host a Baked Potato luncheon with all the toppings after church on Sunday, January 10 in the Fellowship Hall. Cost is by donation and all proceed go towards our PassportKids Mission trip. Come enjoy lunch and support our children at the same time!

WANT TO INVEST IN OUR FUTURE? If you would like to volunteer some time we would love to have you! If you have a lesson you would like to lead with our youth and/or our children we would love to reap the benefits of your knowledge. We are also always looking for volunteers to serve us dinner. If you would like to volunteer or just get some more information, contact Eva Booth at 804-586-5044 or emrbPOOH@yahoo.com. Thanks and God bless!

Chili Cook-off

Join us for our Third Annual CHILI COOK OFF!!!

Saturday
January 30, 2016
11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Come vote for your favorite chili.

Cost: one taste for \$1.00
six tastes for \$5.00
one bowl for \$5.00





Farewell to Ivey

I've worked at Ivey for over two years and I can now call you a family! I came to you single, unhealthy & broken. The stresses of being an Army bandsman, and the lack of confidence I had in my skills, had almost destroyed my love of music & me. But this church body has helped heal my heart, soul and body! Look how God has blessed His Servant: The Lord sent me a Methodist Chaplain Pastor!!! (The Lord has humor!) And You all were a part of my wedding!! God granted me just what I wanted & more than I could dream! I would love your prayers during this time of stressful transition and grieving. I leave behind my beautiful worship dancers and youth band not only here but at Fort Lee as well. It has been a dream of mine to dance before the Lord again and I'm healthy enough to do so now amen!!! Continue to pray with me for the people who will take all my ministry positions, and for new ministry opportunities at Fort Jackson South Carolina & our new assignment! Would also love prayers for our next duty station we will be moving to in July!

Ephesians 3:20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, **21** to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen

Marybeth Gunther

UMW News!

Ivey UMW met on December 2, 2015 at Carini's for our Christmas dinner. Twelve members were present and everyone enjoyed the Chinese gift exchange. We laughed as some gifts were quickly removed from tight little hands! You had to be there!

On December 5, 2015, Ivey UMW participated in the Advent Retreat at Blackstone, VA. The Keynote speaker was Rev. Lynn Litchfield, Chaplain of "Grace Inside". She spoke of her ministry to the women's prison at Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women and the of the other Chaplains of "Grace Inside". She shared the stories of the women's hardships in prison such as a lack of hygiene items, poor medical care, & low wages; as well as stories of the women she has seen transformed by God's love and grace. She told us of what she and the other Chaplains do to supply bibles to inmates, extra support for those who are close to being released, and offering ways to help change their lives for the better. The Chaplains are performing a much needed ministry to the incarcerated population of Virginia and need support in gaining awareness of this ministry. If you are interested in learning more about "Grace Inside" please visit: <http://graceinside.org>.

Last month, we traveled to Trinity UMC, Disputanta for Fall Day Apart. We listened to Larry Cartwright speak about Camp Rainbow Connection and the good work his volunteer group does for this wonderful mission. Ivey UMW gave a monetary donation.

Thursday, February 4, 2016, is the United Methodist Day at the General Assembly. Cost is only \$25.00, and you can register online now. It is a unique event, so if you have never attended before take the time to go with the group from Ivey UMW.

Last but not least, Ivey UMW will continue to focus on the "Domestic Violence" issue we have worked on for the past year. Did you know that one in four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime. Read Resolution 3423, "Violence Against Women & Children", The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church 2012. We will have more info as we continue to work and make a difference on this very important issue.

Yours In Christ,

Carene Edwards & Rookie Hale—Co-Presidents

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

The Nurture Team and Congregational Care

The July/August 2015 issue of "Interpreter" features many articles under the heading, "Wrapping one another in Jesus' love—congregational care." Congregational care is the main focus of the Nurture Team, but many within the Ivey family assist with this mission. In fact, each and every member of the Ivey family can, in some way, participate in congregational care.

We must care for those who are present each Sunday, those who are shut-ins, and those who for reasons unknown are "missing." We must care for our neighbors. No one can be ignored. It is not only a Biblical mandate but an expression of our love for one another. Caring for others is the essence of the teachings of John Wesley through his system of small group meetings, bands and societies. A church that experiences congregational care will survive.

"United Methodist Congregations have a strong reputation for ministry worldwide in poverty, injustice, health and spiritual outreach." We are aware of UMW support of missionaries and we know that UMCOR (through our donations) is usually the first organization to reach others when a tragedy such as a hurricane, flood or other natural disaster strikes.

"Additionally, churches have valuable congregational care ministries that serve their own members." Congregational care can take many forms, and does so here at Ivey. We offer prayer as we lift up the needs of others on an hourly, daily or weekly basis. All have heard the testimonies that tell us the power of our prayers in the lives of others. We meet physical needs when we help care for the sick or homebound with our visits or when we take food to nurture the body.

"Serving other church members can mean more than taking food and interceding in prayer." We take food, we pray and we say, "let me know if I can help." To be a true care giver, to really serve, we need to actually do something. We can meet emotional needs with phone calls to shut-ins or by sending greeting cards. We can show our love for one another with our hugs and greetings and "passing the peace" each Sunday morning—or wherever we see a friend from Ivey. We need to greet strangers and visitors in the same manner.

Congregational care takes place on Sunday morning as our teachers welcome each group and share the Gospel and God's love with those in the class. It takes place on Sunday evening as leaders and parents serve our Tadpoles, All Stars and Youth groups. It is evident when groups practice hand bells and choral arrangements to share with the congregation during church services. Care for one another is displayed during the funeral receptions or pot luck meals in the social hall. Congregational care is shown as we share our space with the Child Development Center, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and with those groups who wish to remain anonymous. Sharing joyfully with them is caring. The Fall Festival, Trunk or Treat, Easter Egg hunt, Bible School and Choir Camp are activities where we share the love of Ivey with others. A new ministry begun by the Outreach Team is providing prayer shawls to those who need to feel our loving arms around them. On a weekly basis someone from Ivey is working in the food pantry or providing food to help stock the shelves.

As I read the "Interpreter" and wrote the words above, it became clear to me why I love Ivey. It is because we are congregational care givers—we are a congregation that reaches out to others with love and compassion. As Jesus said: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22: 37-39.

Stuart Short
Nurture Chair

Parents Take Note—Deep Blue Children's Curriculum

* The Sunday school lessons our children are experiencing offer stories, science experiments, arts and crafts, animated video storytelling and active games to help children learn what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. What is provided on a weekly basis is much more than can be accomplished in the 45 minutes of Sunday school. Check out the website DeepBlueKids.com. It offers resources for leaders, children and families so that your child can continue learning during the week and "dive deeper" into the Bible. Check under the "curriculum" heading to gain insight into the lesson each week. Go to the "media" heading and scroll down to the Deep Blue Adventure App. Children have fun while learning Bible truths and God's Word to share with friends. The app includes a parental dashboard feature, mini games with Scripture jumble, trivia, Break Out, and a glider game. In addition they will find videos, customizable avatars, and fun weekly mini quests. What better way to allow your child some time with their tablet or notebook or your phone than "having fun" learning to be more like Jesus!

Stuart Short

Bazaar Happenings

* Whew!!! Bazaar 2015 is over and done and we can call it a success. We made approximately \$1800.00. This Saturday November 21st the Bazaar committee will participate in Marguerite Christian Elementary School fall craft show and that will complete our year. We would like to thank everyone who helped us set up, run and take down the Bazaar and make items for the bake sale. We could not do it without you. Pastor Jim deserves a big thank you for running up and down stairs getting stuff we have stored and helping to set up the Gingerbread House and our display room. Our wonderful church secretary Nicole took care of contacting and setting up our vendors, getting ads in papers, fixing our menus, helping us with our craft ideas and much more. I personally want to thank Brenda Harrup, Maxine Crostic, Jan Mills and Carol Eads for hours upon hours both at work shop and at home of crafting. There is **absolutely no way** possible we could even have a Bazaar without them and all their hard work. We will take a much needed break to enjoy the Christmas season gather our thoughts and think of new ideas for the upcoming year. Starting the 2nd Tuesday in February we will get back to work. If you want to join us please do. Like any good Methodist gathering we will feed you too. We have lots of fun and laughter so please think about joining us.

From the Bazaar Committee to our Ivey family have a Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year.

Angie Steines

Bazaar Chair

Thank You, Ivey!

* Back in 1957 on a Saturday afternoon we went out driving up and down Jefferson Davis Highway looking for a church when we found this little country church called Ivey. Little did we realize then what a part of our lives and spiritual growth that Ivey would play in our lives. In the past two months our health has taken a downward spiral (not from old age), we have been shown so much love, hospital and home visits, cards, delicious food, and continued prayers. Words cannot express how much we thank and love you!!

In spiritual love,

Henry & Agnes Brankley and Family

James River District Events

Mission Opportunities

UMVIM Trip to South Carolina

Rev. Nathan Decker is leading a District UMVIM team to help with the recovery effort in flooded areas of South Carolina in the spring or summer of 2016. If you are interested in joining the team, please contact him as soon as possible at NathanDecker@vaumc.org or (804) 898-1258.

UMVIM Trip to Hungary, August 11-21, 2016

The James River District is planning another *In Mission Together* trip to Hungary on August 11 - 21, 2016. The team will return to Alsozsolca, Hungary to provide VBS, evening worship, small group missions, and to visit with Roma families. The cost of the trip is the price of your airline ticket PLUS a fee to cover all expenses once you land in Budapest. The fee was \$790 per person in 2015, and we hope to keep it the same for 2016. If you are interested in going on the 2016 trip, please contact Linda Carty as soon as possible (434) 594-4938 or email: lmcarty2003@yahoo.com

2016 Lay Servant Academy

* The Virginia Conference is holding open registration for the 2016 Lay Servant Academy, which will be held February 26 - 28, 2016 at VUMAC in Blackstone. There will be several new courses and mini-courses this year, with an emphasis on equipping leaders and volunteers in our local churches. **REGISTER SOON** for the best opportunity to get your first preference of classes. The Lay Servant Academy will also offer inspiring worship, personal prayer space, and wonderful fellowship with others who serve God and their local communities. For detailed event and registration information, visit the Virginia Conference website at www.vaumc.org/LayServantTraining.