



The Corner Journal

Luray United Methodist Church
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Pastor's Note

May Christ be found **ALIVE** in you!

APRIL

[Join Us Sunday Mornings](#)

**8:30am Praise and
Worship Service**

**11am Traditional Worship
Service**

**Communion Sunday,
April 5**

Communion Rail- Choices

"Way of the Cross" walk
Ecumenical service
Friday, April 3 @ noon

Good Friday Service
Friday, April 3 @ 7pm.

Easter Sunday, April 5
Fireworks 6am- Jennings' Farm
Services 8:30am/ 11:00am
Egg Hunt 10am

UWF Yard Sale
Collection Week -April 26-30
Yard Sale- May 1-2

Sunday Services on YouTube
every Sunday
(search LurayUMC!)

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What do people see when they look at us?! Do they see joy and devoted faith? If not, what do they see? Weariness? Frustration? Loneliness? Disappointment?

¹³ That same day two of Jesus' followers were going to a village called Emmaus. It was about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked about those things, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them. ¹⁶ But God kept them from recognizing him. ¹⁷ Jesus asked them, "What are you talking about as you walk along?" They stood still, and their faces were sad. ¹⁸ One of them was named Cleopas. He said to Jesus, "Are you the only person visiting Jerusalem who doesn't know? Don't you know about the things that have happened there in the last few days?" – Luke 24:13-18

At Easter, we have the chance to find in Jesus' resurrection, Jesus bringing *life* back into us. Will Jesus re-ignite fires that have been allowed to burn out? Will Jesus bring forth a holy energy that only comes from God? Will Jesus bring forth life where no one expected it, when death had come, when it had been buried?

It wouldn't be the first time.....

He joined them at the table. Then he took bread and gave thanks. He broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. But then he disappeared from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "He explained to us what the Scriptures meant. Weren't we excited as he talked with us on the road?" – Luke 24:30-32

What will Easter be for you? Will it be more of the same, or will it be a chance to re-claim, re-new, and re-ignite? Think about the words the New Testament uses to describe this life that we have been given in Jesus.

*I came that they may have **life**, and have it **abundantly**. – John 10:10*

*For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have **eternal life**. – John 3:16*

*So if anyone is in Christ, there is a **new creation**: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! – 2 Corinthians 5:17*

*I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the **light of life**. – John 8:12*

In what ways will someone experience Jesus alive this Easter – through you?

I'll see you Sunday! Happy Easter!

Grace & Peace,

Erich



In-Person Worship every Sunday

8:30am and 11:00am

Sunday School 9:30am

Sunday morning worship continues to be available
livestream to YouTube at 8:30am and/or 11:00am

Worship Services also on YouTube

April Calendar

- 4/2 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm PUMC
- 4/3 Way of the Cross– Ecumenical 12pm Episcopal
- 4/3 Good Friday Service 7:00pm LUMC
- 4/5 Easter Fireworks 6:00am Jennings' Farm
- 4/5 Communion Sunday/Communion Rail Blesses–
- 4/6 Trustees Meeting 6:30pm
- 4/11 Church Workday 9am-12pm
- 4/11 SPRC Meeting 7pm
- 4/16 Finance Committee Meeting 5:15pm
- 4/16 Worship Committee Meeting 6:00pm (Parlor)
- 4/17 English Country Dancing 6:30pm
- 4/26-4/30 Yard Sale Collection Intake (mornings)
- 4/27 Book Club 10am
- 5/1-5/2 Yard Sale 8am-1pm

Happy Birthday!

If your birthday is this month and you do not see your name, please contact the church office so we can update our records.

- 4/2 Donna Hansen
- 4/2 Brad Chamberlain
- 4/2 Helen Harmen
- 4/6 Sue Raeburn
- 4/6 Olivia Grieve
- 4/7 Susan Lloyd
- 4/8 Chris Deibert
- 4/15 Lynn Dolce
- 4/15 Robin Stevens
- 4/16 Liz Osborne
- 4/21 Julia Verba
- 4/23 Debi Garrett
- 4/26 Carol Eackles
- 4/27 Aaron Grieve
- 4/29 Pam Drumheller
- 4/30 Eli Bennett



WEEKLY MEETINGS

Small Groups:

Sunday morning Small Group: 9:45am, Basement
"Genesis"

Tuesday Bible Study: 11am, Image Classroom

Wednesday Theology Study: 12pm, Image Classroom

Thursday evening Illumine Group via Zoom meeting: 6pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/6459052827?pwd=S1VwT3o3WjNqR3RFbmhqUFpLVW9DZz09&omn=88388770916>

Meeting ID: 645 905 2827

Passcode: 627382



*HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!
CONGRATULATIONS*

4/6/68 Bonnie & Jimmy Sullivan

4/25/87 Judy & CR Suddith

If your anniversary is this month, please contact the church office so we can update our records.



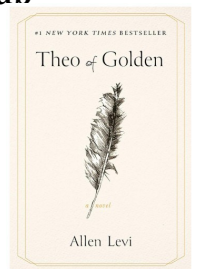
United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith

UWF—Book Club

The Book Club will be meeting on
April 27 @ 10am in the Parlor.

This month's book is
"Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi.



Everyone is welcome to attend!



**Please keep our members in
your daily prayers:**

Walt Surratt, Judy Aleshire, Betty McNeely,
Jimmy Sullivan

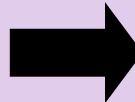
Please Pray for those in Senior Centers & Nursing Homes:

Jim Grieve: Hawksbill Asst. Living, 122 N Hawksbill St, Luray

Doris Waters: 210 Virginia Ave. #311 Bridgewater 22812

Jeanie Judd: Skyline Terrace/Memory Lane, 123 Lakeview Dr.,
Woodstock. VA 22664

Can you
fill the
board?



B I N G O

Forgiving others	Attending mass	Obedient	Shows contentment	Having faith in Jesus
Having a personal relationship with God	Helping others with care	Controlling my anger	Have peace in everyone	Being open-minded
Bring joy to everyone	Being loyal	Free!	Using a bible for activities	Compassionate to others
Unselfish	Pray for forgiveness of sins	Praying for everyone's safety	Loving others	Honest
Being kind to others	Being patient	Encouraging	Being humble	Courageous



Annual Church Yard Sale

It's time to do some spring cleaning and find those hidden treasures that are waiting for a new home!

Just bring your donations to the Fellowship Hall the last week of April 26-30, preferably in the morning (*other times can be arranged by contacting the office*).

Then invite neighbors, family, and friends to come shop on May 1-2 from 8am-12pm.

Church yard



Contact Cathy Whittle with for more information.

Preschool snapshots from January



The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society

Curtis Nolley, Artistic Director
Presents

When Music Sounds

Featuring
Charles Gounod's

Messe Solennelle (St. Cecilia Mass)

April 10, 7:30 pm

April 12, 3:00 pm

Bridgewater Church of the Brethren

Tickets available online at
singshenandoah.org

At the door

Bridgewater Foods Supermarket

Friendly City Food Co-op, HARRISONBURG

Adults 15\$ Students and Seniors \$12

2025-2026 Season
Celebrating our 55th Season



2026 LUMC Church Council Members:

Walt Surratt (Jeff Jennings)-Church Council Chair; Cathy Weaver-Council Secretary;
Jon Sisler-Trustees; Cathy Whittle - UWF President; TBA- at Large Member;
CR Suddith-Finance; Julia Verba-Treasurer; Jeff Jennings- Lay Leader;
Cathy Whittle-Worship; Lisa Sisler-Fellowship/Fun-Raising ; Judy Suddith- Staff/Parish;
Dave Naser-Missions; Layne Vickers-Christian Education Cord.; Rev. Erich Bennett



DONATIONS WELCOME



Our grocery cart is located in the sanctuary for donations each and every Sunday!



Help NEEDED
to Unload
Food Truck

However, feel free to drop off your donations at the office throughout the week. Items will be divided between Page One & Choices.

Thank you to Lou Sizer for delivering these blessings!

Wednesdays @ 11 AM
at Page One Food Pantry
35 N Bank St.
If you are able, come with
gloves & mask to assist.



Loaves and Fishes continues to take up special collections monthly to pack in the bags for the children. Please help, if you can.



Rice Krispies Treats

WE HAVE WITNESSED A MIRACLE!

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand -John 6: 1-15

A huge crowd followed Jesus because they had seen Jesus miraculously heal the sick. A hungry crowd, no food nearby. MEN were the only ones counted...add women and children one Bible reference said it might be **20,000** total people. The disciples didn't have enough money to buy food for this crowd to even have a bite, Even if enough food was available...It would cost more wages than they could make in 8 months

One **unnamed boy** shared his food... five small small barley loaves and two small fish. Andrew says," But how far will they go among so many?" Jesus takes the food, gives thanks and distributes to those seated as much **as they wanted**. When they **had all they wanted** Jesus said to gather all the left overs and do not waste any.

Twelve baskets were filled with the left over bread from the 5 loaves of barley bread...**A MIRACLE!**

We are witnessing a miracle as well!

God heard the prayers of the people! He heard those who gathered on the evening of Sunday, **January 18,2026**, at our church, our homes, around our country and our world. We were praying for Walt Surratt's healing after his bone marrow transplant and for strength and hope for Walt and Sharon. We came as little and insignificant as the unnamed boy in the story above. We gave what we had...love, fears, hopes and mustard size faith to God. God took what we gave Him...certainly not enough in our eyes. But God listened to our prayers and none were wasted

- Saturday, January 17, 2026, Sharon posted that she had seen a note from a doctor in Walt's MY CHART, "possible transplant failure". We quickly planned to have a prayer vigil the next day
- **Prayer Vigil on Sunday, January 18, 2026**
- Monday, January 19, 2026, white blood cells are coming up!! No oxygen needed overnight. Kidney function continues to improve. He ate a small breakfast.
- Wednesday, January 21,2026, Walt needed platelets and whole blood **but** internally many things had improved! Doctors discontinued one of the anti rejection drugs!
- Thursday, January 22,2026, Counts are really coming up and he's eating a little more.
- Friday, January 23,2026, White Blood Cells continue to come up! Doctors want to discharge Walt from the hospital to the apartment within walking distance!!
- Saturday, January 24, 2026, Walt is discharged from the hospital to an apartment!
- Monday, January 26th, 2026, Walt's white blood cells jumped into the normal range! Two meds are getting discontinued. Walt is getting PT at the apartment to make him stronger.
- Walt starts posting on Illumine messaging site for the first time since January 3rd
- Tuesday, January 27, 2026, Walt doesn't have to go to the clinic! First time since before Christmas they don't have to go anywhere! Walt is experiencing fatigue and a lot of bone pain as "the factory restarts"!
- **March 20th, Walt receives results from a recent bone marrow biopsy. The results show 100% donor DNA... which is exactly what they wanted to see!!! WE HAVE WITNESSED A MIRACLE!**



WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS



Tuesday Morning Bible Study w/Pastor Ellen, 11am, Image Classroom

Wednesday Theology Chat, 12pm– Image Classroom

Thursday Evenings, Illumine Bible Study Group 7pm, Zoom meeting code: 834 9729 1159 Pass: 180392

Sunday Evenings, 6pm - Lenten Study (starts 2/22/26)

Sunday Mornings Sunday School

Adult Small Group– Image Class– 4th Floor– 9:45am

VANCO Online Giving



Online giving means that you can automatically make your monthly or weekly tithe contribution and offerings to the church. You can give either by making a recurring draft from your checking or savings account, or by using a debit or credit card. See our web site's home page (www.lurayumc.org) and click the eGiving button in the header to get started. You can also download the Give + app from Google Play or the iTunes stores.

Email the church with questions, and we will have Julia Verba contact you.

Chancel Choir:



Basses: CR Suddith, Dale Houff, Earl Brunson

Tenors: Erich Bennett, Dave Naser

Altos: Cathy Whittle, Alice Gray, Layne Vickers, Judy Suddith, Bella McCoy

Sopranos: Carol Miller, Nancy Brubaker, Julia Verba, Cathy Ashanky

Weekly KIT Email (Keeping in Touch):

This is an informative weekly email to let you know what is coming up or happening at the church each week. Call or email the church office to be added to the list.

Keep in Touch!

Praise Band:

Cathy Ashanky-Leader/Piano/Singer, Erich Bennett, Tommy Page-Guitar/Singer, Robert Spencer-Singer, Jeff Jennings-Singer, Robert & Michelle Griffith-Singers, Putter Cox- Bass Guitar



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