



The Corner Journal

Luray United Methodist Church
1 West Main Street, P.O. Box 606 Luray, Virginia 22835
Pastor Erich Bennett
Office: 540-743-6540 Pastor's Mobile: 540-244-5928 Fax: 743-9109
Email: lurayumc@lurayumc.org

Pastor's Note

JUNE

[Join Us Sunday Mornings](#)

Combined Summer Services

*Sunday, May 31– Sept 13
10am Service*

*Communion Sunday,
June 7*

Communion Rail–VA Annual Conference

*VAUMC Annual Conference
June 17-20 @ JMU
Volunteers needed to help*

*VBS-Road Trip
June 12-6pm-8pm
June 13-9am-2pm*

*Father's Day
Sunday, June 21*

*Sunday Services on YouTube
every Sunday
(search LurayUMC)!*

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Meet Rev. Alderman

My father was a chief in the Navy. His rate, signalman, no longer exists. Dad retired from the Navy after 24.5 years and then worked at the post office for 10.

In 1992, about six years after he retired from the Navy, Dad was struggling with our home church's response to the first Gulf War. He said that the senior pastor never mentioned the war but noted that the associate pastor mentioned it in prayer.

At the time, I was working at *Port Folio* magazine, a lifestyle and entertainment weekly, and I told my father of a columnist who had written that 90 percent of clergy opposed the first Gulf War. "So?" my father replied, "So what? So did 90 percent of the troops; they didn't want to be there, either."

I had no idea how meaningful my father's words would become. A few years later, while studying at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, I volunteered at the VA hospital in Oak Cliff, Tex. My role was simple: one Sunday morning a month, I visited the rooms of new patients to tell them that worship was offered in the chapel and that they could attend in person or watch on closed-circuit TV.

One Sunday, I had a couple of rooms to visit on a particular floor. I walked by the room of a patient who was not new, and we made eye contact. Seeing his truncated limbs, I thought he might be a burn and amputee victim, and I was somewhat relieved that I didn't have to go into his room. I passed by his room a couple of times while looking for new patients and we made eye contact each time. My father's words came back to me, and I realized that the patient probably didn't want to be in the hospital, so I went into his room. He asked for water. I knew enough to know that I couldn't give him water himself, so I told him I'd tell the staff, and did.

I've learned since that the people called Methodist have a history of going into places that other people don't want to be, and I've followed as congregations have led me into places such the Cheriton Volunteer Fire Company, the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore, and the Thurman Brisben Center in Fredericksburg. This has come to help me appreciate Jesus' words in John 20:21, "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

I look forward to seeing where we're sent together.

Gratefully,

Ned Alderman





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

[June Calendar](#)

- 5/31 Combined Worship 10am/ Potluck Luncheon in honor of Pastor Bennett and family
- 6/1 Trustees Meeting 6:30pm
- 6/7 Combined Worship 10am (through 9/13)
- 6/7 Communion Sunday/[Communion Rail – VA Annual Conf.](#)
- 6/10 Charge Conference 7pm via Zoom
- 6/12 VBS 6-8pm
- 6/13 VBS 9am-2pm
- 6/17-20 VA Annual Conference– JMU
- 6/17 Final Choir Rehearsal (until fall)
- 6/19 English Country Dancing 6:30pm
- 6/21 Father’s Day
- 6/21 Pastor Bennett’s last Sunday service @LUMC
- 6/29 Book Club 10am

WEEKLY MEETINGS

Small Groups:

- Sunday morning Small Group: 9:45am, Preschool room
"Exodus"
- 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=S1VwT3o3WjNqR3RFbmqUFpLVW9DZz09&omn=88388770916>

Meeting ID: 645 905 2827

Passcode: 627382



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

Walt Surratt, Judy Aleshire, Betty McNeely,
Jimmy Sullivan, Karen Grieve

Please Pray for those in Senior Centers & Nursing Homes:

Jim Grieve and Joanne Lee: 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

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.

- 6/1 Michael Weaver
- 6/3 Heather Sours
- 6/5 Jon Sisler
- 6/5 Phil Jennings
- 6/6 Devan Deavers
- 6/11 Donna Miller
- 6/12 Erich Bennett
- 6/14 Ken Knesch
- 6/16 Leif Carlson
- 6/22 Eileen Knesch
- 6/25 Lisa Martin
- 6/26 Bonnie Sullivan
- 6/29 Carey Verba



**BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY**



*HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!
CONGRATULATIONS*

- 6/8/91 Lisa & David Martin
- 6/11/83 Sue & Doug Raeburn
- 6/12/65 Elly & Larry Hakel
- 6/15/85 Julia & Carey Verba
- 6/21/86 Missie & Chris Deibert
- 6/22/02 Candice & Erich Bennett
- 6/22/74 Judy & Steve Bell
- 6/25/93 Michelle & John Barrett
- 6/26/65 Karen & Jim Grieve
- 6/28/73 Donna & Rich Miller
- 6/30/72 Sharon & Walt Surratt

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



Sunday, May 31– Sept 13

10am Service

Over the summer months, we are joining together for one combined worship service at 10am with Sunday School starting at 9am.

This culminates on Sept. 13 with our
Lakeside Service & Picnic @ Lake Arrowhead

The first Sunday of each summer month, everyone is given the opportunity to sing in the Summer Choir. Rehearsal is at 9:30am in the choir room prior to service at 10am. No musical experience required. It will be a simple anthem. See Mark for further details.





The Adventure of a Lifetime

June 12: 6-8pm

June 13: 9am-2pm

Join the Caravan! Fun, Faith, & Adventure!



Charge Conference Information

Topic: Group Charge Conference
 Time: Jun 10, 2026 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
 Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/95116150436?pwd=fxUSrxdxpUWbqbamh61r3ta4KbXWX1.1>

Meeting ID: 951 1615 0436
 Passcode: 028115

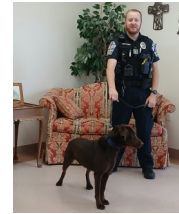


Preschool snapshots from May

Firefighter's visit



Policemen's visit



Field Day



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!



Page One
FOOD PANTRY
Help NEEDED to Unload Food Truck

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

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!



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



Canned Soup
(no creamed varieties please)



United Women in Faith

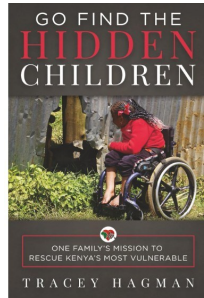
United Women in Faith

UWF—Book Club

The Book Club will be meeting on June 29 @ 10am in the Parlor.

This month's book is "Go Find the Hidden Children" by Tracey Hagman

Everyone is welcome to attend!



The Virginia Annual Conference will be June 17-20, 2026 in Harrisonburg, VA.

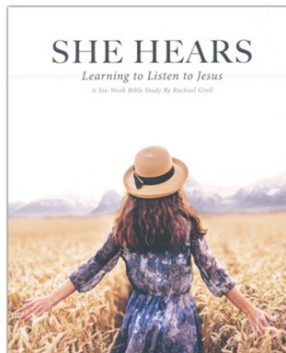
As the host district, the Shenandoah River District is recruiting volunteers. Please website to view opportunities and sign up. Please also let the church office know so we can keep record of our participation!

www.shenandoahriverdistrict.org/annual-conference-volunteers/



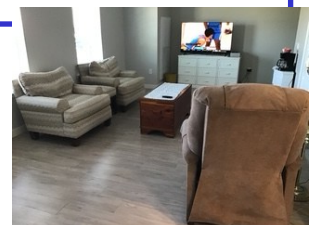
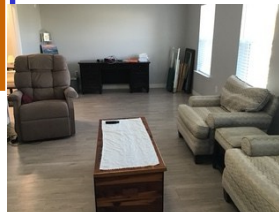
Women's Summer Bible Study - Coming Soon "She Hears"

Would you like to participate? Order "She Hears" wherever you get your books. The intention is to meet at parks or other places where anyone with kids can play during the study and also potentially build connections with other community members. Feel free to invite friends who don't attend LUMC. Reach out to Elisabeth Alger to express interest. (540) 742.1006, ebethalger@gmail.com



Hi. I would like to thank all my friends at Luray who have checked on me. I am doing well and socializing. They have happy hour everyday and 2 times a week a group play cards. We have been out on the bus several times. They have a gym so I work out 5 days a week. I see my gulf shores church friends at least on Sunday. A large church, 2services 500 -600 average for both. They are a Global Methodist church. I hang out with Dave and Lawanda some. My nephew. My apt is a nice size. Big enough for me. All thrift store furniture except MJ's chest she made and recliner.

-Bill Ricketts





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 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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