



Friday, February 22  
Spaghetti Supper, 6 p.m.  
(R.S.V.P., 793-6824)  
Talent & Variety Show  
7:15 p.m.

Saturday, February 23  
Hobby Showcase  
Making the "Unity Quilt"  
Kids' Activities & Workshops  
10 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Movie: "John Wesley"  
10 a.m.  
Light Soup Lunch  
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.



Saturday, February 23  
3:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary  
Special Guest Ed Kilbourne  
Singer, Storyteller, Folk Theologian



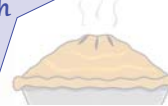
Sunday, February 24  
Worship  
Celebration  
10:30 a.m.

Music by Youth, Children,  
Adult Choirs



Sunday, February 24  
Covered-Dish  
Luncheon

Noon  
Please bring a side dish  
or a dessert!



Sunday, February 24  
Stop Hunger Now  
4 p.m.  
Dedication  
of the Meals

Dear Mount Vernon Family,

Why have a Lenten Festival of Unity?

What a great opportunity to get to know one another in a deeper way, to learn from each other, and to celebrate how God is at work in our lives, in our families, and in our congregation.

What a great opportunity to hear an inspirational word, to sing a new song, to share a meal, and to watch our children discover the beauty and love of God within us.

What a great opportunity to package over 10,000 meals

to send to families who are in crisis, and who are in need of help we can offer.

My thanks to Dr. Sam Newell and her leadership, and to the planning team and all groups who have worked to make this weekend happen.

It will be worth every effort from every member of Mount Vernon to come and re-connect, to grow deeper in love with each other, deeper in love with Christ's Holy Church, and more committed to the good news we are called to share.

Lenten blessings to all,



The Lenten Festival of Unity is coming together, and the committee is excited to bring this event to Mount Vernon. Part of the beauty of this event is the number of people who are volunteering and participating throughout the weekend. It is truly a churchwide event and brings together the young adults, committees and councils, United Methodist Women, and the church leadership. I have had the pleasure of working with everyone and coordinating the event, and I hope that all of you will come to Mount Vernon and enjoy all the activities that are planned. I also hope that you will invite friends and family, old members, and members who are less active in the church fellowship. This weekend is an opportunity for everyone to get to know each other better, and it is an opportunity to show off how GREAT Mount Vernon has become.

Each of you should receive an invitation, and please send this invitation to someone else and personally invite them to be a part of our fellowship. If you need additional invitations, they are in the church office. The success of this weekend depends on you. Mount Vernon and all that it is depends on you!



The festival will start with some fun on Friday night as the young adults host a spaghetti supper followed by a talent and variety show. If you would like to participate, please talk with Melissa Herke. We would love to have singers, dancers, actors, musicians, comedians, and entertainers of all sorts to perform on stage in the fellowship hall. The

spaghetti supper starts at 6 p.m. with the show following at 7:15. Please RSVP for supper by filling out a yellow slip during the Sunday service or by calling the office (793-6824).

On Saturday there will be all sorts of activities for all ages hosted by the Evangelism Committee and the Children's Council. The hobby showcase will begin at 10 o'clock in the fellowship hall and run until 3 o'clock. This is an opportunity for church members to show off their talents and hobbies. Some of the participants will also teach or demonstrate their hobbies. For example, Beth Payne will give a workshop on floral arranging, Pat Giles will teach knitting, Sue Wickers will be spinning and felting, and Katie Fitch will give chair massages. And all are invited to make a square for our Unity quilt. Other booths include photography, robotics, coin collecting, poetry, and painting. If you would like to share your hobby or talent, please call Gary Benefield.

While all that is going on in the fellowship hall, the children will have plenty of activities to participate in, from 10 a.m. till 3 p.m. Frank Cuthrell will help children and their parents build birdhouses that they will paint and decorate. Angela and Scott Longerbeam will help the children make an Easter garden full of plants and



flowers. Other activities like crafts and making musical instruments are planned, and the children will learn a new song to sing in the worship service on Sunday.

And if that is not enough, we will show an award-winning movie at 10 a.m. "John Wesley," directed by John Jackman, tells the life story of John Wesley, "a man who became one the giants of faith." Discussion with Barry Foster will follow the movie.

If you get hungry during this fun-filled day, the Evangelism Committee will have a light, soup lunch available from 11:30 until 1 o'clock. There will also be hotdogs and chips for the children. So come early and take part in the festivities and then sit down to a bowl of homemade soup. Or come for lunch and stay for the afternoon, because the big event of the weekend takes place at 3:30.

The highlight of the festival is our special guest, Ed Kilbourne. Ed has entertained all over the United States with his storytelling, humor, and inspirational songs, and has produced multiple albums. Plan to come and to invite as many friends as you like. Children will enjoy the first part and then go to the youth room for a movie and popcorn.



On Sunday we invite you to join us at 10:30 for a worship celebration with beautiful music from our youth, adults, and children. I hope to see a packed sanctuary, so invite as many friends and family members as you can.

Following the service, a covered-dish luncheon organized by UMW Circle 1 and Circle 2 will be held in the fellowship hall. Fried or baked chicken will be provided, and we ask everyone to bring a side dish or a dessert.

Finally, at 4 o'clock we will conclude the festival with our mission project, Stop Hunger Now. Everyone is invited to participate in assembling 10,000+ dry meals that will be sent to developing countries. So put on some old clothes and come out for this worthy cause. A dedication of the meals will close the Lenten Festival of Unity.



Thank you all for your time and effort and support. It has been amazing to watch the individual parts of this weekend come together. It is just a small example of how each of us can come together to make Mount Vernon strong. It is also an example of how we can reach out to others and make the ministry of Jesus Christ grow. I hope you will all come and enjoy the Lenten Festival of Unity and be blessed with the joy that God extends to us when we are all together.

— Sam Newell

Calling all children (ages 4 and up) – and youth!

Rehearsals – on WEDNESDAY NIGHTS – have begun for our next musical!

# It's OK to Be Different!

To be presented on

Sunday, April 16

At the 11:00 a.m. worship service



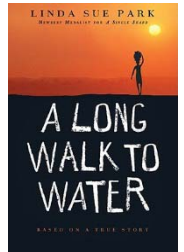
## Children's Library Book Spotlight

On Our Wish List

**A Long Walk to Water,**  
by Linda Sue Park



"A Long Walk to Water begins as two stories, told in alternating sections, about a girl in Sudan in 2008 and a boy in Sudan in 1985. The girl, Nya, is fetching water from a pond that is two hours' walk from her home: she makes two trips to the pond every day. The boy, Salva, becomes one of the "lost boys" of Sudan, refugees who cover the African continent on foot as they search for their families and for a safe place to stay. Enduring every hardship from loneliness to attack by armed rebels to contact with killer lions and crocodiles, Salva is a survivor, and his story goes on to intersect with Nya's in an astonishing and moving way."



*\*Description taken from Goodreads.com*

View our wish list online at  
[WishList.com/MountVernonUMC](http://WishList.com/MountVernonUMC)

## Community Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, February 13, 7:00 p.m.

This year the service will be at Ascension Lutheran Church, 314 West Main Street. This is a special time, when not only your Mount Vernon church family but your friends and neighbors from other intown churches worship together to begin the season of Lent.



## Children's House News

Children's House is now accepting applications for fall registration for infants/toddlers through 4-year-olds. There are openings in all classes at this time, so register early!

We are excited that Children's House Preschool is one of the pilot schools in the Smart Beginnings program! Under the leadership of our mentor, Joyce Underwood, our teachers are receiving excellent enrichment training. We received glowing reviews from our pre-rating before Christmas. The reviewer was especially complimentary of the quality of interactions between our teachers and the children. Well done, teachers!



We are looking for any new or gently used riding toys for the children to use. Please call Lindsay Payne, Director, with any questions (792-0274).

## Women's Bible Study

A short-term (8-week) Disciple Bible Study class for women is being offered during Lent. Through this class, participants are invited to listen afresh to the witness of the Old Testament to hear God's call and purpose for their own lives and to respond to that call. The class meets on Monday mornings from 9:30 until 11:00. It began on February 4, but it's not too late to join. A nursery is provided, as needed. Beth Bauman (489-6514) is the leader.



## Contributions to the Haitian Student Fund

have been received from

- Fred & Nancy Evans, Margaret Powell, Pierce & Judi Turbiville, the Landis Class, Beth deAristizabal, Barbara Brande Davis, Mary Evelyn Jefferson, Briggs & Beth Bauman, Lin Benefield, Shirley Gammon, Kerns Memorial United Methodist Church, Barry & Susan Foster, Mount Vernon United Methodist Women Circle #2, West Main Baptist Church, Bob & Fran Ashby, Jean Beach, Susie Crews, Charles & Carol Majors, William & Elizabeth Leggett, Jack & Nancy Weikel, Walter & Lisa Weikel, April & Brett Simpson, and J.G. & Ann Hurt*

"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world."

*Nelson Mandela*

## Mount Vernon's Youth: Being the Hands and Feet of Christ

Our Mount Vernon youth love to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community and the world! In January they participated in a retreat with other youth groups called "A Night Apart." Sleeping in a cold warehouse downtown, they participated in simulation games and discussions about what life is like for homeless people in our city. Later that week, they prepared dinner for approximately 60 downtown residents through the ministry of Grace and Main. The next weekend, they braved cold and ice to assist with the Brunswick Stew, one of their major fundraisers for the summer mission trip.



Mount Vernon will be preparing/packaging 10,000 meals on Sunday, February 24, for **STOP HUNGER NOW**, all to be shipped to Haiti. For an additional \$1 we can provide four more meals; \$5 will provide 20 more meals; \$10 will provide 40 more meals. Between now and February 15 you may write a check for the number of additional meals you would like Mount Vernon to send to Haiti – 25 cents per meal. Make your check payable to the church with "Stop Hunger Now" in the memo line.

**WE WANT YOUR INPUT!!** Your Missions Committee will be conducting a poll of the membership beginning Sunday, February 11, to determine what missions are deemed important for Mount Vernon to support. Suggestion slips will be available next to the Suggestion Box that will be in the hallway outside the church office. While the Committee thanks you for your confidence in allowing us to choose the various missions to support each year, we feel strongly that your input is very valuable and greatly needed. And we thank you in advance for your suggestions!

Gifts in memory of

**Sylvia Gibbs**

have been received from  
Melinda & Lindy Coiner,  
Bill & Bonnie Griffith,  
Jane Chappell, Debra Lappan,  
Budge & Carolyn Kent,  
Robert & Ann Joynt, Donna Leahey,  
Tim & Sandy Moses & Family,  
Dr. and Mrs. J. L. Cumbey,  
Rebecca Atkinson, and  
Catherine S. Williams.

Gifts in memory of

**Richard Underwood,**

Tom Underwood's brother,  
have been received from  
Jesse & Verla Wall and  
Tom & Betty Leggett.

A gift in honor of

**Sonny & Rosalind Morton**

has been received from  
Peggy O'Sheel.

A gift in memory of

**Henry Lea Elliott,**

Van Keck's brother,  
has been received from  
Jesse & Verla Wall.

## Mount Vernon Sweatshirts and T-shirts for Sale!

Our youth are selling sweatshirts and t-shirts as a fundraiser for the Youth Mission Fund. The shirts will be **gray with black print** or **navy blue with white**.

Orders placed by VALENTINE'S DAY (Feb. 14) will be ready in time for the Lenten Festival of Unity! Orders placed after that date will be ready in early March.

CREW NECK SWEATSHIRT	HOODIE SWEAT-SHIRT (pullover)	LONG-SLEEVE T-SHIRT	SHORT-SLEEVE T-SHIRT
ADULT: Small – XL \$20.00 2XL – 3XL \$25.00	ADULT: Small – XL \$28.00 2XL – 3XL \$31.00	ADULT: Small – XL \$19.50 2XL-3XL \$20.50	ADULT: Small – XL \$18.50 2XL – 3XL \$19.50
YOUTH: Small – XL \$18.00	YOUTH: Small – XL \$26.00	YOUTH: Small – XL \$13.50	YOUTH: Small – XL \$12.00

Please return this form to the church office by February 14 for pickup of shirts on February 22. (Orders placed after February 14 will be ready in early March.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_



NUMBER ORDERED	TYPE OF SHIRT	SIZE	COLOR	AMOUNT
_____	CREWNECK SWEATSHIRT	_____	_____	_____
_____	HOODIE SWEATSHIRT	_____	_____	_____
_____	LONG-SLEEVE T-SHIRT	_____	_____	_____
_____	SHORT-SLEEVE T-SHIRT	_____	_____	_____

Total number ordered \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

*Our Deepest Sympathy to*

*The family of Dorothy Adkins,  
who died on January 7, 2013.*



*The family of Sylvia Gibbs,  
who died on January 14, 2013.*

## Services of Worship

**February 10, 2013**

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY  
Scripture: 2 Samuel 15: 7–14  
Sermon: “David and Absalom”  
*The Rev. Barry S. Foster*

**February 17, 2013**

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT  
BOY SCOUT SUNDAY  
Scripture: Mark 1: 9–15  
Sermon: “Walking Together”  
*The Rev. Barry S. Foster*

**February 24, 2013**

LENTEN FESTIVAL OF UNITY  
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT  
Scripture: 2 Timothy 1: 1–14  
Sermon: “Woven Together”  
*The Rev. Barry S. Foster*

**March 3, 2013**

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT  
Scripture: Genesis 15: 1–12, 17–18  
Sermon: “A Night of Faith That  
Changed the World”  
*The Rev. Barry S. Foster*

## February Birthdays

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 2 Gayle Miller  | 23 Mary Lou Dunn                  |
| 3 John Southward<br>Matt Charles  | 25 Gary Benefield<br>Sally Fuller |
| 6 Courtney Bailey   | Sonny Morton<br>Mac Newell        |
| 7 Lee Burton<br>Jean Gauldin<br>Elizabeth Hylton<br>Pierce Turbiville<br>Susan Turner | Jordan Sater<br>Elizabeth Scott   |
| 8 Barbara Brande<br>Davis   | 26 Chris Colbert<br>Steve Jones   |



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 9 Jay Barker<br>Amanda Foster<br>Steve Huff<br>Jane McMillan<br>Lewis Williamson | 27 Lynn Eller<br>Budge Kent, Jr.<br>Kirk Milam |
| 11 Beth Eller<br>Vicki Johnston  | 28 Phil Blackmon<br>Suzanne Harris             |



## March

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 12 Wright Garrett                                   | 1 Parson Jacob Lutz  |
| 14 Martha Sule                                      | 2 Sam Newell<br>Lauren Neighbors   |
| 15 Nancy Rudder<br>Frank Sule                       | 3 B. G. Lewis, III<br>Judith Terry   |
| 17 Will Anglea<br>Mary Ley<br>Bob Sutter            | 4 Fran Darkis  |
| 18 Chris Eller<br>Jenny Sessoms                     | 5 Caroline Brande<br>Frankie Jean Thomas<br>Betty Lea<br>Peggy McFarland<br>Anne Wayne Patterson |
| 19 Barbara Caldwell<br>Glenn Giles                  | 6 Sandy Burch<br>Shirley Duncan<br>Margaret Harden   |
| 20 Pat Maurakis<br>Louis Dibrell, III<br>Ben Hughes | 7 Lauren Miller  |
| 21 Zane Kinn  | 9 Kathleen Southey   |



## In Our Thoughts and Prayers . . .

At home: **Bill Hardy,  
Zane Kinn, Margaret Powell**

At Roman Eagle:  
**Lucy Scarce, Zula Callahan,  
Barbara Dyer**

At Riverside Healthcare:  
**Greg Read**

In Raleigh: **Vitula Porter**

At Stratford House:  
**Newton Ray, Sr., May  
Bergman, Marjorie Hood,  
Paul and Helen Stanfield,  
Becky Farthing**

At Stratford House Rehab:  
**Mildred Ferrell**

At Our Lady of Hope  
(Richmond): **Alyce Roach**

## Attendance, Tithes, Gifts

<i>Week of</i>	<u>8:30</u>	<u>11:00</u>	<u>Contributions</u>
Jan. 6	32	101	\$10,099
Jan. 13	35	125	7,197
Jan. 20	21	121	4,525
Jan. 27	23	142	9,657

## Our Worship Assistants

### USHERS

**FEBRUARY 10 – 8:30:** John Morris, Tom Savastano,  
Darrell Williamson

**11:00:** Frank Grogan, J. G. Hurt, Budge Kent, John Ranson,  
Gene Saunders, Coleman Hylton (*alt.*)

**FEBRUARY 17 – 8:30:** Fred Duncan, Jim Bucklew, Tom Booker

**11:00:** Tom Leggett, Andrew Farley, David Fuquay, Tommy  
Hodges, Bill Smith, Frank Grogan (*alt.*)

**FEBRUARY 24 – 8:30:** Bill Booker, Darrell Williamson,  
Tom Booker

**11:00:** Tom Leggett, J. G. Hurt, Bill Smith,  
Charles Sampson, Tom Underwood, John Ranson (*alt.*)

**MARCH 3 – 8:30:** Fred Duncan, Jim Bucklew, John Morris

**11:00:** Bill Griffith, David Fuquay, Tommy Hodges,  
Tom Leggett, Tom Underwood, Frank Davis (*alt.*)

### FEBRUARY ALTAR GUILD

Joyce Underwood, Leah Cooter, Helen Cheney

## Gluten-free communion bread is available at Mount Vernon.



Please contact the pastor at 793-6824  
before Communion Sunday if you would  
like to be served gluten-free wafers.

## Another Chance for Brunswick Stew!

Our last Brunswick Stew was held on January 26. Because the newspaper omitted our announcement and the weather was bad, we still have a few quarts left in the freezer. You can buy it after church, or at Wednesday dinners, or during church office hours.

Some have said this is our most delicious stew ever! All proceeds benefit our youth summer mission trip.



## Wednesday Dinners & Programs

Dinner at 6:00 p.m. Cost: \$6 for adults; children under 12, no charge Programs, 6:30 - 7:15 p.m.

### Dinners

*Please note changes in schedule for February!*

- Feb. 6 Covered-dish meal – no charge. Bring something to share.
- Feb. 13 **NO WEDNESDAY DINNER!**  
Join friends from Mount Vernon and the community for the ASH WEDNESDAY service at 7 p.m. at Ascension Lutheran Church.
- Feb. 20 **NO WEDNESDAY DINNER!**  
WE WILL HAVE **FRIDAY DINNER** INSTEAD (February 22) for the Lenten Festival of Unity.
- Feb. 27 *Orange chicken, green beans, rice & gravy, dessert*
- March 6 *Covered-dish meal – no charge; no reservation*

### Programs

There are two options for adults: (1) In the fellowship hall, Dr. Ralph Kelley Hawkins, religion professor at Averett University, continues the series on archaeology in the Holy Land; (2) “Low-Impact Yoga” with certified instructor Dave Shivetts.



For children and youth: Rehearse for the spring musical, “It’s OK to Be Different!”

**In Case of Snow or Ice:** To find out whether we will hold Sunday morning worship services and Sunday school, or Wednesday night supper or other events, please check any of the following:

THE CHURCH WEB SITE ( [gbgm-umc.org/mountvernon](http://gbgm-umc.org/mountvernon) )  
(Search “Mt Vernon, Danville VA” to find the church Web site easily.)

AM RADIO 1330 WBTM WSLs TV 10  
FM RADIO 103.3 WAKG WDBJ TV 7



***Please be safe! If it looks bad ... do not come out and risk an accident or injury.***