

~Page United Methodist Church~

Our Mission: To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World!

Our Vision: Loving, Feeding, Praying, Serving!

May 21, 2017

Sixth Sunday of Easter

* Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING MUSIC

RINGING OF THE HOUR AND LIGHTING OF THE SANCTUARY

OPENING PRAYER: **Living and gracious God, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ you have brought us out to a spacious place where we are called to live as those redeemed. Empower us by your Spirit to keep your commandments, that we may show forth your love with gentle word and reverent deed to all your people. Amen.** *(Revised Common Lectionary Prayers)*

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP: Robert Diehl

LEADER: Christ is risen!

ALL: Alleluia!

LEADER: The Lord, our Creator, tells us not to fear for we have been redeemed.

ALL: God has called us by name, and we belong to God.

LEADER: When we pass through the waters, God is with us. When we pass through rivers, we will not be overwhelmed.

ALL: When we walk through fire, we shall not be burned and the flame shall not consume us.

LEADER: So let us go forth and testify to our redemption.

ALL: Let us go forth and testify about our Savior's love for us. Let us worship our risen Lord!

(adapted from Isaiah 43:1-3)

*HYMN: *The Day of Resurrection*

Red Hymnal #303

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING, OFFERTORY PRAYER, ANTHEM

*DOXOLOGY: *(In Unison)* **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.** *(Red Hymnal #95)*

CHILDREN'S TIME

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

*HYMN: *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High (2x)* *Black Hymnal #2088*

1st SCRIPTURE LESSON: Acts 17:22-31 *(p.785)* Robert Diehl

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God**

2nd SCRIPTURE LESSON: 1 Peter 3:13-22 *(p.858)*

SERMON: *Empowered to Tell Our Stories* *Rev. Laura Stratton*

*HYMN: *I Love to Tell the Story* *Red Hymnal #156*
You are always welcome to come to the altar and pray during our last hymn.

*BENEDICTION

*RECESSIONAL *Easter People... (vs. 1&2)* *Red Hymnal #304*

Today's Altar Flowers are given by Shirley Comer in memory of her husband, Jim Comer's birthday on May 22nd!

We have large-print hymnals available. If you would like one, please let Pastor Laura or an usher know.

Don't let Sunday be the end of your spiritual focus this week. Continue your faith journey with:

PRAYER: This week, as we continue our Easter celebration, pray this prayer: *O God, our sovereign, our banquet, our crown: In the resurrection of your Son you have brought us into your palace. Train us to be heirs to your throne, that we may shield the needy; through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Book of Worship #399)*

STUDY: Reread today's Scripture readings. Are you ready to give a defense of your faith? What would you say?

SERVICE: Find opportunities – both verbally and through actions – to share your story of God's love and hope and mercy this week.

Our Stewardship

"We will be loyal to the United Methodist Church and support it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our services and our witness."

Vital Statistics through May 14th

Attendance: 65 **Joined Church:** 0 **People in Mission:** 5 **Small Groups:** 5
General Fund: \$1341.26 **Amount Needed Each Week:** \$2153.00 **Amount to Mission:** \$35

*****For gifts above and beyond your regular offering, please cross out "Roof" and write-in "Parking Lot" on your offering envelope. We will need to replace the parking lot in the future, and we want to begin saving money for this project.*****

Serving today:

- Pianist: Rachel Milam
- Organist: Nora Belle Comer
- Choir Director: J.R. Stratton
- Acolyte: Grace Hulse
- Ushers: Daryl Davison, Aron Davison, Donnie Grinnan, & C.T. Campbell
- Nursery this Week: Lois Foley & Sierra VanEtten
- Nursery next Week: Joyce Jenkins & Vicki Davison

MAY 21, 2017

EMPOWERED TO TELL OUR STORIES



(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Areopagus_sermon)

PAGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1062 Springfield Road, Luray, Virginia 22835

www.pageumc.org

Sunday School 9:45am

WORSHIP 11:00am

Pastor.....Rev. Laura Stratton

Parsonage: 743-5556 Office: 743-6446 - Email: pageumpastor@gmail.com

(Office Hours by appointment)

Lay Leader.....Nora Belle Comer

District Superintendent.....Rev. E. Thomas Herndon, Jr.

Bishop, Virginia Conference.....Rev. Sharma Lewis

~ Our Life Together at Page UMC ~

This Week

- Sunday, 5/21** 9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Sunday Worship
- Monday, 5/22** 10:00am Nurture Group Meets
1:00pm Spring Study on the Sermon on the Mount
- Tuesday, 5/23** 2:30-4:30pm Pastor Laura's Office Hours
- Wednesday, 5/24** 12:00pm Wednesday Prayer – Pray where you are!
1:00 United Methodist Women Meeting
7:00pm Outreach Meeting
- Thursday, 5/25** 10:00-12:00 Pastor Laura at Gathering Grounds
7:00pm Choir Practice
- Sunday, 5/28** 9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Sunday Worship
Newsletter Deadline – June, July, & August

Looking Ahead

- Saturday 6/17** Jonathan Lamb Commissioned at Annual Conference!
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Worship With Us

- **Liturgists:** If you are interested in reading Scripture and leading the Call to Worship during worship on Sunday, please tell Pastor Laura!
- **Choir:** Join us Thursdays at 7:00pm for practice!
- **Nursery:** Children are welcome during Sunday worship, and we have a moment we spend talking just to them. We have Bibles and crayons and paper in the pews for children. Nursery services are available for children ages 0-6 years old. Two adults will be in the nursery, located downstairs. If you need help, ask the ushers to help you find the way.

Grow With Us

- **Sunday School:** Take another opportunity to grow in your faith and join us for Sunday School at 9:45am! We have classes for all ages.
- **Wednesday Prayer:** Pastor Laura invites all to join her in a time of prayer and

devotion on Wednesdays at 12:00noon. Wherever you are, whatever you are doing, for prayer and devotion. To receive an email reminder, tell Pastor Laura.

- **Prayer List:** If you asked for prayers for someone, please let Pastor Laura know about updates on their condition. We want to be able to celebrate their joys and continue our prayers for those who need it, while keeping our list current.
- **Bible Study & Coloring at Hidden Springs:** The second Thursday of every month, we will go to Hidden Springs Senior Living from 1:00-2:00pm for a time of Bible study, reflection, and adult coloring. Let Pastor Laura know if you want to come!
- **Spring Bible Study:** Join us in May as we spend four weeks taking a closer look at Jesus' Sermon on the Mount! We will meet May 8th, 15th, & 22nd from 1:00-2:30pm.

Serve With Us

- **Page One:** During May we are collecting **Peanut Butter & Jelly**. Don't forget to add this to your shopping list!

Acts 17:22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among

them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands,²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live,²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us.²⁸For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.”

²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent,³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God