

*** THIS WEEK AT LEESBURG UMC ***

Sunday 12/18/11

- 8:15 AM Traditional Worship: Cantata, "Tapestry of Light"
- 9:45 AM Praise Worship: Cantata, "Songs of Praise"
- 9:45 AM Sunday School (Asb, EdBldg)
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship: Cantata, "Tapestry of Light"
- 12:30 PM Angel Ringers (Sanc)
- 4:00 PM Birthday Party for Jesus (AG1&2)
- 6:00 PM Club 45 party (AG)

Monday 12/19/11

- 7:00 PM Troop 998 (Asb, 3 clsm)

Tuesday 12/20/11

- 10:00 AM LUMC staff meeting (Libr)
- 7:00 PM AA Literature meeting (Wes)
- 7:00 PM Heavenly ringers (Sanc)

Wednesday 12/21/11

- 10:00 AM LUMP Winter programs (Asb)
- 7:00 PM Chancel choir (choir, Sanc)

Thursday 12/22/11

- LCPS winter break begins
- 7:00 PM Admin Board (Asb)
- 7:30 PM Praise Team (Sanc)
- 7:30 PM Chorus Old Dominion (Asb)

Friday 12/23/11

- 11:00 AM Overeaters Anon (Parl)

Saturday 12/24/11: Christmas Eve

- 9:00 AM OA (Parl)
- 10:00 AM SLA 12-step group (Parl)
- 12:00 PM Traditional Worship
- 5:00 PM Family Service I
- 6:30 PM Family Service II
- 8:00 PM Contemporary Worship
- 11:00 PM Traditional Worship

Sunday 12/25/11: Christmas Day

- 11:00 AM Worship

Monday 12/26/11

Office Closed

Tuesday 12/27/11

Office Closed

7:00 PM AA Literature meeting (Wes)

Church Robber Still At Large

The thief who stole money and keys from LUMC in October is apparently still working churches in the area. Please be attentive and welcoming to unfamiliar people in our midst, so that visitors will be welcomed and this thief (should she show up here again) won't have the chance to do her thing unremarked-upon. Also, be careful of how and where you leave your valuables on Sunday mornings.

Our Prayers

Healing: Harry & Anna Hough, Dick Hammond, John Laycock, Clayton Mallery, Ginny Moore, Jim Tiffany, Shon Jerry, Vicky Weaver, Sarah Klein, Lisa Talbot

Military & non-military personnel serving overseas, especially Scott Lewis whose unit is in Afghanistan, and Don Lew, Jr.

CHECK THE CALENDAR!

LUMC facilities get a lot more use than you may be aware of. If you want to have an unscheduled meeting – especially in Wesley or Asbury halls – please check the weekly calendar posted by the office door before you get started. To schedule a room, please call or email Linda Stoutenburgh in the church office. 703-777-2056, office@leesburgumc.org

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*LUMC4Life—We're downtown and all around!
"The mission of LUMC is to make disciples who live transformed lives,
and influence their generation and the next with God's love!"*



Ministries

► FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR AND NARTHEX

The Altar Guild would like to offer you the opportunity to have flowers on the Altar or in the narthex in celebration, honor, memory or thanksgiving of someone or for a special occasion. Would you like to sponsor a Sunday? If so, please sign the flower calendar across from the church office and fill out a "Flower Request Form."

Please note: This year, in the spirit of the Lenten Season (February 26-April 1), the Altar Guild will be placing greens on the Altar and in the narthex instead of flowers. All money collected for sponsorship during Lent will be donated towards a church mission or charity. If you would like to sponsor greens during a Sunday in Lent your message will appear in the bulletin and a donation will be made with the funds by the Altar Guild.

► RECONNECT SUNDAY: SAVE THE DATE!

January 8th, 2012 is Reconnect Sunday. Join us in Asbury Hall between 7:30 and 11:00 for breakfast, meet some new people and find where you will fit in! Representatives from the various LUMC ministries will be on hand to answer any questions you may have. For information or questions, please contact Laura van Leliveld at laura@leesburgumc.org.

► PLAY DAY THURSDAY VOLUNTEER NEEDED

We are looking for a volunteer to assist with the Play Day Thursday ministry. Play Day Thursday is held the first and third Thursdays of every month from 8:30 – 11:30am in the Nursery. Caregivers of children under the age of 3 are able to drop the children off and enjoy a morning out, the new volunteer would join Celesta Miller and Margrit Snyder in caring for the up to 6 children that sign up. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Laura van Leliveld at laura@leesburgumc.org.

► FINANCIAL PEACE

Financial Peace University dates have been set for January! We will be starting the next session on Tuesday, January 24th at 6:30 in the AG front room. We are also considering a weekday morning

class, more details soon. More details are on the website: <http://LeesburgUMC.org/Ministries/FPU>

► THE ROLL "UP YONDER"

The hymn "When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder" was written in 1893 by a Methodist Sunday School teacher, James Black. This Advent season, we're keeping a "roll" in the church library, where you are invited to write the names of loved ones who are already answering the roll call in Heaven. The poster for names is positioned beside the small ceramic angel piece, which is from the Georgia Bange angel collection. Come by, and honor the memory of the angels who were important in your life. If you haven't visited the library before, it's just between the church offices and Wesley Hall. Stay and browse a while!

► LEESBURG UMC PRESCHOOL

Preschool registration begins Feb. 6 for church members and currently enrolled families. There is a \$25 discount in the registration fee if you register that week. There will be an Open House on Jan. 9 and Jan. 30, 9:30-11 am. Please see our website for information: www.leesburgunitedmethodistpreschool.com.

► STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stress and tragedy seem to be most favored in December. Maybe it just seems that way because Christmas time magnifies the tragedy. Either way Stephens Ministers are here to pray with you or for you.

We can come to your home or here at the church. This is all held in strict confidentiality.. Talk to Pastor Jim, Wayne Reynolds, or Lou Legard, our Stephens Leaders for a referral.

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom. " - Colossians 3:16a

► INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE FORMING AT LUMC

Do you play an orchestral or band instrument? Interest is growing for an instrumental ensemble at LUMC. The vision for this group is to include not only adults, but our *middle school and high school* instrumentalists as well. If interested, please contact Pam Bentley at pam@leesburgumc.org for more information.

Youth Alternative Gift Bazaar

On-going in Wesley Hall

Choose a meaningful gift to give a loved one and help children and families around the world receive training and animal gifts that help them become self-reliant.

Please note: you cannot gift the tax deduction.



Flock of Geese, \$20



Flock of Chickens, \$20



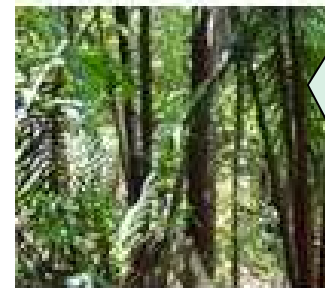
Heifer, \$500



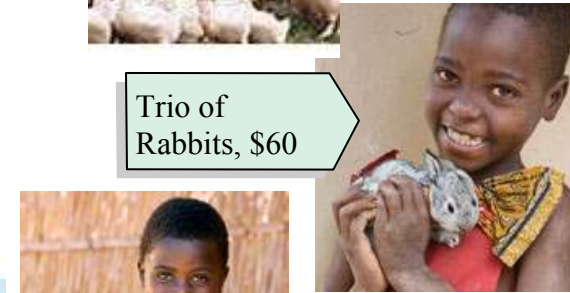
Llama, \$150



Flock of Ducks, \$20



Trees, \$60



Trio of Rabbits, \$60



Pig, \$120



Goat, \$120



Sheep, \$120



Honeybees, \$30

Sample of the inside of gift card:

"In your honor, a gift has been made to Heifer International to help struggling people around the world become self-reliant for food and income. May this gift bring you joy as it brings hope to families in need."

Our 2012 Commitments Report

Leesburg UMC, thank you! Through the first two weeks of Advent, **83** families/individuals (174 persons including family members), representing about 2/3 of our membership who contribute on a regular basis, have presented their 2012 Commitment forms, including most of our leadership. Of these, **83** made a commitment to give regularly to the Operations Fund, and **48** to the Building/Mortgage Fund!

In addition, 11 families/individuals expressed their intention to tithe, thus committing a tenth of their income directly toward God's work.

All are encouraged to complete your 2012 Commitment form and, if you have never done so, begin to measure your giving not in dollars but as a proportion of your income, which is the biblical norm for measuring our gratitude and faithfulness. *Grateful* giving means giving our "first-fruits", not our left-overs, and faithful giving means giving to God's work, not to a budget or program.

Thank you for your grateful and faithful response!

(2012 Commitment forms along with envelopes are available in Wesley or Asbury Halls. We hope to have everyone's completed commitments today, with our final report in the January newsletter. Place completed forms in the envelope and include with your regular giving, or mail to the church office [107 W. Market St., NW, 20176]. Thank you!)

"But just as you excel in everything... see that you also excel in the grace of giving."

- 2 Corinthians 8:7

Missions

► ANGEL TREE/ HOLIDAY COALITION TREES

Thank you, Thank you. Wow, LUMC is in the Christmas spirit. The Angel Trees and Holiday Coalition Tree tags were all taken and replaced with gifts for deserving families in the area.

You purchased 54 gifts for Holiday Coalition including bikes, toys and clothing. Members also purchased six bikes and over 80 gifts of clothing, toys, video games, baby books and many more items for the Salvation Army Angel Tree. Thank you for sharing the love of Christmas with many families who are struggling this Christmas season.

Thank you to Betsy Creamer for organizing this and for Celesta Miller for delivering the gifts to Holiday Coalition.

► SIGN UP TO RING THE BELL FOR THE SALVATION ARMY!

Sign-up through the church website: <http://leesburgumc.org/ministries/Salvation%20Army%20Bell%20Ringing%202> If you need to change time or can't make your designated time, please call Bill Harrison at 703-777-4586 and let him know.

The dates are: Fridays & Saturdays, Nov. 11 – Dec. 24, plus the Monday and Tuesday before Thanksgiving. With the expectation that we will be able to fill so many weekday slots, if you are available during the workday, please take those timeslots, thank you!

Who: Anyone! But... Giant has requested no more than two people at a time because of large groups blocking access to the store in the past.

What: Ring the Bell for the Salvation Army to raise money for them to help those in need in Loudoun County.

Where: the Giant on Market Street in Leesburg

When: 2-hour shift (you can pre-arrange to split a shift.)

How: Wear layered clothing as temperatures may fluctuate. Bring a cardboard box or rug to stand on, which will help keep the cold from the pavement from

your feet. Remember to say: "Merry Christmas!" and "Thank you!" Never leave kettle unattended, if you need a break, please take the kettle to the customer service desk in the store.

► INTERFAITH RELIEF

Reminder it is the first Sunday of each month. We are so appreciative of everyone's **generous** donations. In Oct and Nov we collected 422 lbs of food. The bags can be found under the Missions table in Wesley Hall and it has a list on it with commonly needed food.

► ESL TEACHERS NEEDED

There is an opportunity for several English as Second Language (ESL) teachers, starting in our winter session. **NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED**, only need to speak English. Contact Wayne Reynolds 703 777 4796 or the church office, 703 777 2056.



Advent

Miscellaneous

► THANK YOU, MUSICIANS!

Many thanks to the many musicians who worked so hard to present cantatas at this morning's worship services. We wish to thank the Leesburg UMC and Harmony UMC choirs for their presentation of the inspiring cantata, "Tapestry of Light." And we also wish to thank "Raising Praise" for the presentation of their original cantata, "Songs of Promise." We appreciate your efforts to make a joyful noise to the Lord!

► CHRISTMAS LOVE GIFT

BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,
The time has come again to show our appreciation for the Staff of LUMC. Please make your contribution and mark on your check "Christmas Love offering" and place in offering plate. Thank you, *SPRC*

► CHRISMONS TREE

The tree set up in the front of the sanctuary is called a Chrismons Tree, which is derived from the words "Christ Monogram" Beside the tree you will find brochures which describe the significance of the symbols depicted on the ornaments on our Chrismons tree. You can find more about Chrismons at chrismon.org.

► BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE—LONGEST NIGHT LITURGY

**Wednesday, Dec 21, 2011, 7:00 PM
at St. Peter's Episcopal Church,
37018 Glendale Street, Purcellville**

In this service we remember those feelings of pain and darkness and loss in the Christmas story and we're reminded there's more there than just "a Hallmark Christmas". This service offers the freedom for people to feel whatever they're feeling and to not have to put on a Christmas smile for everyone.

We've chosen December 21, before the Winter Solstice, because it is literally the longest night of the year and represents the longest night of our lives, in which all of us find ourselves from time to time. We will light three Advent candles signifying people's losses, saying prayers for each. Finally, we will light a candle of hope and share a message of hope. We'll sing songs, read scripture and pray and offer anointing with oil for healing.

Do you know someone blue this Christmas? A great way to help them would be to bring them. More information is available at www.stpetes.net.

► ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

If you have a problem with alcohol, there is help.
540-667-0322 or 1-800-835-6130
www.AALoudounDistrict10.org



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Administration

► ADMINISTRATIVE SUBSTITUTE NEEDED

We are looking for someone who can step in to keep things going in the office when our administrative assistant takes vacation time or is sick. We are looking for someone well versed in Microsoft Office software (primarily Publisher, Word, and Outlook, with a little bit of Excel), and who could learn a some basics of our database software, answer phone calls, and work with Pastor Jim. We need a person who can be reasonably comfortable working in someone else's rather messy workspace... Daytime hours would be expected, but start and end times can be flexible. Contact the office if you are interested.

► YEAR END GIVING FOR 2011

IMPORTANT YEAR-END REMINDER: Contributions you wish to make to LUMC for 2011 **MUST BE** either: 1) put in the offering plate on or before Sunday, December 25, or 2) placed in the Admin. Asst. mailbox by December 31, or 3) mailed with postmark on or before December 31. All offerings put in the offering plates on Sunday, January 1, will be counted for 2012, regardless of any notes or preprinted dates that may be marked on your offering envelope.

► 2012 OFFERING ENVELOPE SETS DELAYED

Our 2012 offering envelope sets have been delayed due to an oversight by the printers. I do not know whether we will receive them before January 1. Please note your current envelope number, and mark it on any offerings you make in 2012 until the new envelopes arrive. Thank you for your help with this!

Linda Stoutenburgh, Financial Secretary

► BULLETIN ITEM SUBMISSIONS

Items and information are due to the office by the end of the day each Wednesday, so that I have all bulletin information available first thing Thursday mornings. Items received after 8:30 am on a Thursday may not be able to be included in the Sunday bulletin.

-Linda Stoutenburgh

► LUMC PICTURE DIRECTORIES

LUMC picture Directories are available in tWesley Hall.

► NEEDED! SCRIPTURE READERS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Adults Needed! Scripture readers for Christmas Eve worship: Noon, 8:00 pm, and 11:00 pm. Please contact Pastor Wishmyer or the church office. Thanks!

Children Needed! We are still in need of some children to do readings at the 5:00 and 6:30 family Christmas Eve services. If your child is interested, please let Laura van Leliveld know at laura@leesburgumc.org.

► CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Here is our schedule of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship for 2011. Nursery will NOT be available for these services.

Christmas Eve:

12 noon—Traditional Worship
5:00 pm—Family Service I
6:30 pm—Family Service II
8:00 pm Contemporary Worship
11:00 pm Traditional Worship

Christmas Day:

11:00 am—Worship (no Sunday School)

New Year's Day:

8:15, 9:45, & 11:00 am—Worship (no Sunday School)



Welcome Our Newest Member:

Dec. 11, 9:45 Service

Baptized Member:

Lila Michelle Anderson

Daughter of James &

Kristen Anderson

(sorry we overlooked

listing Lila last in last

week's bulletin. Welcome, Lila!)

