



The Beech Grove STAR



4251 Driver Lane, Suffolk, Virginia 23435
(757) 538-8353 phone
office@beechgroveumc.org

February – March, 2012

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, Feb. 1
Red Cross Blood Drive
3 - 7 pm

Sunday, Feb. 5
"Soup-er Bowl" Sunday

Tuesday, Feb. 14
Happy Valentine's Day!

Monday, Feb. 20
Presidents' Day

Tuesday, February 21
UMM Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper
6 - 8 pm

Wednesday, Feb. 22
Ash Wednesday
7 pm service

March 5 – April 1
Easter Egg Factory
needs you!

Sunday, March 11
Daylight Savings Time
begins

Peek Inside for More News

- **Easter Egg Factory Schedule**
- **Conference Connections**
- **Lay Servant Academy & Speaker Training**

Pastor's Corner... "The Attitude of Christ"

Legend has it that a missionary was swept overboard while traveling on very high and tough seas, and was subsequently washed up on a beach at the edge of a remote native village.

Nearly dead from exposure and lack of food and fresh water, he was found by people of the village

and nursed back to health. He lived among them for twenty years, quietly adapting to their culture and working alongside them. He preached no sermons, and made no claim of personal faith. He neither read nor recited Scripture to them.

But, when people were sick, he sat with them, sometimes all night. When people

were hungry, he fed them. When people were lonely, he gave a listening ear. He taught the ignorant and always took the side of the one who had been wronged.

The day came when missionaries entered the village and began talking to the people about a man named Jesus.

(continues on page 5)

And We're Off!

Church Council Approves Building Design Proposal

After months of discussion, prayerful consideration, and multiple revisions, the Church Council unanimously approved the building design proposed by the Site Planning Committee during the Council meeting held January 16th.

"This is an exciting way to begin the New Year," exclaimed Pastor Keith following the vote. With the Council's full support, we're off and running.

The architect responsible for the proposed design is Lyall Design Architects. Lyall Design, formed in 1990, was the recipient of the 2011 Honor Award for an Architecture Firm from the Hampton Roads



Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Our lead architect, Russell Parrish, is a graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

(continues on page 6)



Happy Birthday!

FEBRUARY

- 2 Jahricca Zirkle
- 12 Kasey McIntosh
- 12 Corey Sanchez
- 13 Yvette Jump
- 13 John Lumbard
- 14 Linda O'Keefe
- 16 Shelby Dillingham
- 19 John Eberwine
- 20 William Shoemaker
- 24 Lewis Wood
- 24 Jim Wray
- 25 Kevin Heitzhaus
- 28 Dale Davis
- 29 Joyce Carter

MARCH

- 3 Braden Willis
- 4 Steve McIntosh
- 9 Jeanne Cox
- 10 Jeff Hill
- 14 Stephen Bell
- 16 Mara O'Keefe
- 16 Rod Vernon
- 16 Ruth Shumate
- 27 Art Jones
- 27 Russ Sanchez
- 31 Laine Magrisi

***please let us know if we've missed your special day*

**"Soup-er Bowl" Sunday
February 5, 2012**



Help Beech Grove support another super team this Superbowl Sunday by participating in a special "Soup-er Bowl" offering. Please bring a can or bag of soup to church, and the collection will be taken to the Wesley Community Center for their food programs. Cash donations are still welcome and will be taken to the center as well.

The Wesley Center provides a variety of services to disadvantaged, inner-city families in our area. Bring your soup for a great "kick-off" to help the hungry this year!

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Tuesday, February 21 • 6 – 8 pm**

The United Methodist Men return again this year for one of their most anticipated meals of the year. Fill your belly on Fat Tuesday with a hearty whole wheat pancake breakfast served from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Bring the whole family for this traditional kick-off to the Lenten season. Tickets are \$6 per person and available at the door with Scouts and Scout leaders in uniform receiving a \$1 discount.

Proceeds support Heart Havens which operates 10 Virginia conference homes and provides residential services for adults with intellectual disabilities.



Thanks!



Our church grounds received a much-needed spruce-up just before the holidays thanks to members of the UMM and Sea Scouts Ship 16.





Scouting at Beech Grove

Scout Sunday is celebrated on February 12th. Uniformed Boy and Girl Scouts from each of our troops will host both worship services!

Pack 89: Following the most successful popcorn sale of our history, our boys have continued to work hard on rank advancement efforts in preparation for the upcoming annual Blue and Gold Banquet in late February. But before we get there, we'll tag along with the Boy Scouts on a pair of weekend outings, storm the ice at a Norfolk Admirals game and test our custom car designs at the annual Pinewood Derby.

Ship 16: We've enjoyed several sailing events recently including the Davy Jones Regatta and the Koch Cup Regional Regatta, both in North Carolina. We also took top honors for sportsmanship at the Hampton Roads Sunfish and Dinghy Distance Race!

Girl Scout Troop 5292: We enjoyed a long weekend together at Great Wolf Lodge, but are back on track with service projects including making Valentines and collecting cell phones for our military. We'll also step in to assist with the Easter Egg Factory efforts and continue selling those delicious cookies. We're also looking forward to our very first Powder Puff Derby!

Kudos to Ambassador Jennifer Coston who recently earned her Gold Award (the highest Girl Scout award offered) by developing a butterfly garden and related classroom curriculum for Driver Elementary --way to go!

Toast Girl Scouts' 100th Anniversary with a delicious cookie!



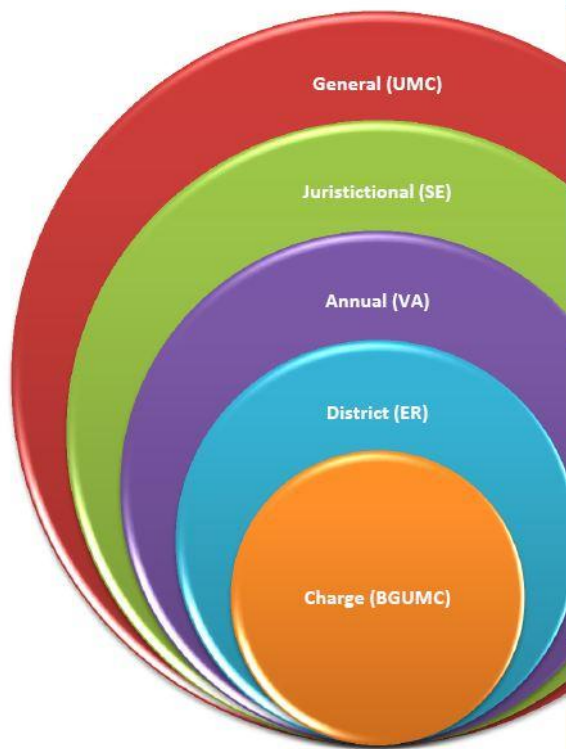
It's Girl Scout Cookie Time again! From Daisies to Brownies to Girl Scouts, all our Beech Grove troops are ready to take your order and satisfy your craving for the most-anticipated treats of the year. In honor of the organization's 100th anniversary in 2012, a new cookie has been unveiled: Savannah Smiles.

The Girl Scout Cookie Program generates immeasurable benefits to support their chosen activities for the year, fund community service and leadership projects, attend summer camp, travel and provide events for girls in their community. It also helps develop five essential life skills: goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills and business ethics. Help grow our girls again this year!

Choose from the following eight flavors available for \$3.50 per box:

- **Savannah Smiles:** a lemony delight to celebrate 100 years of Girl Scouting --hoorah!
- **Thin Mints:** a thin minty wafer covered in chocolate -- the most-popular Girl Scout cookie of all time!
- **Samoas:** vanilla cookies covered with caramel, rolled in toasted coconut and striped with fudge
- **Trefoils:** the delicate-tasting shortbread is embossed with the Girl Scout logo
- **Do Si Dos:** crisp and crunchy oatmeal cookies sandwich a creamy peanut butter filling
- **Tagalongs:** a tasty cookie topped with creamy peanut butter and wrapped in chocolate
- **Dulce de Leche:** sweet bite-sized cookies feature milk caramel chips inspired by Latin America
- **Thank U Berry Munch:** real cranberries are complemented by white fudge chips in a hearty cookie

What does it mean for us to be **Connectional**?



General Conference (<i>umc.org</i>) The top policy-making body of The United Methodist Church. The nearly 1,000-member assembly meets once every 4 years to consider revisions to church law, as well as adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy and economic issues. It also approves plans and budgets for church-wide programs. <i>The 2012 meeting will take place April 24-May 4 at the Tampa Convention Center.</i>
Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference (<i>sejunc.org</i>) The UMC divides the United States into 5 regions or jurisdictions. A Jurisdictional Conference happens every 4 years primarily to elect Bishops. <i>The 2012 meeting will be held in Lake Junaluska, NC from July 18-20.</i>
Virginia Annual Conference (<i>vaumc.org</i>) Equips local churches for ministry and provides a connection for ministry beyond the local church. Led by Bishop Charlene Kammerer. <i>The 2012 session will be held in Roanoke, VA, June 22-24.</i>
Elizabeth River District Conference (<i>elizabethriverdistrict.org</i>) Groups of churches in a geographic area are organized to form a district. Churches in a district will work together to provide training and mission opportunities. Led by the district superintendent (DS), Rev. Brad Phillips, usually for a 6 year term.
Beech Grove Charge Conference Made up of all members of the local church council. Meets at least annually to review and evaluate the total mission and ministry of the local church and adopt objectives and goals. This meeting is presided over by the DS.

Much like the Olympics every 4 years, 2012 will be a very busy year in the life and organization of the UMC. One of the hot-button discussions for this year's General Conference is a proposal to restructure the organization described above. We will do our best to keep you abreast of the outcomes of these events.

Treasurer's Report

Beech Grove UMC Mission Statement

Our Beech Grove family seeks our Lord's will and shares Christ's love with all.



	Nov. - Dec. '11	2011 totals
Income		
Plate offering	\$ 32,655.80	\$197,473.20
Building fund	8,616.00	9,267.00
Special offerings	50.00	2,923.00
Missions	295.00	1,561.40
Other	\$ 4,370.83	\$140,168.53
TOTAL	\$ 45,987.63	\$351,393.13
Disbursement		
Operating/program expenses	\$ 7,899.12	\$ 59,805.63
Virginia UM pensions	\$ 1,615.72	9,694.32
Pastor/staff compensation	\$ 19,311.24	105,471.29
Other	\$ 23,591.25	\$177,189.82
TOTAL	\$ 52,417.33	\$352,161.06

A complete report is posted in the hall for your review.

Pastor's Corner (continued from cover)

After listening for a while to their story, the natives began insisting that Jesus had already been living in their village for many years.

"Come," one of them said, "we'll introduce you to Him." The missionaries were led to a hut where they found their long-lost companion!

Many times our actions truly do speak louder than words!

We have begun a new year together with goals and dreams before us. We have been entrusted by our Lord to be the Body of Christ in the community and beyond. It will make you tremble when you really focus on our call to be disciples of Jesus Christ.

May our actions be such a powerful influence that when we speak words of faith, people will know that we practice what we speak (preach).

An attitude worth pondering,
Pastor Keith Moore



**Beech Grove UMC's
Plan for Ministry**

**We are called to be a compassionate,
nurturing congregation who serves God
through prayer, worship, fellowship, study
and missions as we
"Honor the past, serve the present
and build the future."**

Travel to the Holy Land and Jordan October 1 - 11, 2012

Join Elizabeth River DS Brad Phillips and wife Kay as they lead a spiritual journey to the Holy Land and Jordan this fall. Call #464-5392 or email kphillips53@cox.net if you have questions about or are interested in joining the trip.



Lay Servant Academy and Speaker Training February 24 - 26, 2012 - Blackstone Conference and Retreat Center

Again featuring a high caliber of instructors, the Virginia Annual Conference invites you to attend the 2nd Annual Lay Servant Academy and 34th Edition of Lay Speaker Training at the Blackstone Conference and Retreat Center. A total of 18 different ten-hour course offerings cover everything from men's, prison, clown and puppet ministry to Bible storytelling, UMC heritage, Holy Communion, history of Christian beliefs and discovering your spiritual gifts.

New this year, 24 additional mini courses are open to anyone and do not require meals or overnight stays. Topics include social media, journaling your prayers, audio/visual technology, guitar in church, youth/young adult engagement, inclusiveness, visitation and many more. Each course is only \$6! Childcare is provided for infants and toddlers at nearby churches.

Fewer speakers and general sessions also allows for the addition of live music groups to this year's weekend schedule! For more information and to register, visit www.vaumc.org or contact Lay Servant Academy Director David Bailey at dw.bailey@comcast.net or #804/338-3168.



And We're Off! *(continued from cover)*

The new design meets the five objectives set by the congregation at the May 2011 brainstorm session; 1) 2nd floor access, 2) improved handicapped accessibility, 3) kitchen upgrade, 4) dedicated choir space, and 5) central entrance/gathering area.

The Council's decision to move ahead with the project sets the next steps into motion. Momentum will begin to build in the Capital Campaign phase in which a program will be established to raise the necessary project funding. The Site Planning Committee will work with Lyall Design in obtaining contractor bids. And on the heels of these steps, district approval will be sought and church conference approval necessary in order to break ground.

Oh yeah...and I'm sure that you're interested in seeing the design.☺ And you should!

It is a functionally beautiful and welcoming design. Keep your eyes peeled in the coming weeks for advertising of a congregation-wide unveiling, coming soon to a Fellowship Hall near you!



Nursery Workers Needed

Occasionally, Beech Grove presents special events or programs that require childcare for those attending. Our skilled Nursery Attendant, Linda O'Keefe, can't always be available and would appreciate your support. Please contact her or the office to register your interest as a child care worker or volunteer for special events.

Don't forget to "Spring Forward" on Sunday, March 11th. It's the official start of Daylight Savings Time, so set your clocks forward one hour

before you go to bed on Saturday night to ensure you're not late for church on Sunday!



Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2012

In preparation for the highly-anticipated Annual Easter Egg Factory production, the entire Fellowship Hall will be cleaned and completely off limits all day.

Cold Hands, Warm Hearts.

Donate Blood.

American Red Cross

Wednesday, February 1, 2012 • 3 to 7 pm
Beech Grove UMC Fellowship Hall



Heart Havens' Homes Help Special Needs Adults Live Meaningful Lives ~February is Heart Havens Month~

"Where will my child live when I'm gone?" It was that question from an aging parent of a special needs child in 1993 that exposed the urgent need for a residential services program.

As a result, the Virginia United Methodist Conference established Heart Havens in 1996 with the first homes opening in 1999 --today, it operates a total of 12 group homes for adults with intellectual disabilities throughout Virginia. The program's goal is to help its residents live as independently as possible while promoting their personal sense of purpose and worth within the community.

Heart Havens empowers adults with intellectual disabilities to thrive in a safe and nurturing environment. This is accomplished by providing handicapped-accessible homes, helping individuals explore their dreams and make individual choices, connecting residents to their community and advocating for them.



UMW Hosts District Breakfast

In honor of Heart Havens month, the UMW welcomes more than 100 women from across the Elizabeth River District to Beech Grove for a Prayer Breakfast and Heart Havens special program.

Join them the 4th Tuesday each month for lunch and fellowship. Officers for 2012 are President Jean Devers, Vice President Penny Reynolds, Secretary Janice Morris and Treasurer Brenda Hawkins.



Salvation Army Luncheon

Please consider joining the Outreach Committee at the end of March to feed those less fortunate or provide a dessert. For more information and to sign up to dish or donate, please contact Janice Morris #483-0676.

Can You Lend A Hand?

We need ushers for each service in March and April. Please contact Brenda Bell at #394-1426 for more information or to sign up.



Our Cupboard Is Bare

Take advantage of grocery store sales and help us restock our Food Pantry with non-perishable items such as peanut butter, jelly, canned meat and vegetables, rice, pasta, cereal and more.

Help Light the Way

Each of our worship services begins with an acolyte bringing in the Light of Christ.

If you are interested in supporting this ministry, please contact David Willis at #638-1199.

Training is provided for all youth and adults.





Beech Grove's Annual Easter Egg Factory Rolls Again in 2012!

It's official, Easter is on its way! And with it comes the beloved and tasty tradition of the Beech Grove Easter Egg Factory. Please make note of the important dates to remember below as well as the prices and order options. We appreciate your orders and also welcome you to join the ranks of egg mixers, rollers, dippers, decorators and order fillers throughout the factory season whenever your schedule allows. We're open daily, Monday thru Saturday, from 9 am to 8 pm --so put on your hair net and come for some fun!

Easter Egg Menu

All of our delicious eggs are hand-rolled, dipped in milk chocolate and decorated with sweet frosting flowers

Please select from any of our four (4) flavors of filling:

- ⊗ Coconut
- ⊗ Butter Cream
- ⊗ Peanut Butter
- ⊗ Fruit and Nut

Easter Eggs are available in three tempting sizes:

1 ounce \$ 7.00

Bite-sized and sold only by the dozen in any combination of our four flavors

Half-pound egg \$ 5.00

Available in any flavor

1 pound egg \$10.00

Available in any flavor

WE'RE SORRY, but we are unable to personalize eggs of any size

Important Dates

*Tell your friends about open sale dates:
March 5 –24, 2012*

February 18: Box Labeling Day with pizza at noon

February 25: Box Making Day with pizza at noon

March 3: Set up Easter Egg Factory

March 5 : First day of production!
OPEN for business – phone orders and walk-ins are welcome

March 24: **Last day to PLACE orders**

March 31: Last day to PICK-UP orders

April 1: CLEAN UP and close down the 2012 BGUMC Easter Egg Factory

A few notes.....

- Come for one hour or many anytime between 9am – 8pm, Mondays through Saturdays. *No experience necessary!*
- Jobs include taking phone and walk-in orders, rolling and dipping eggs, decorating eggs, filling orders, etc. We'll train you!
- Children under 12 are not permitted to work in the factory, and childcare will be arranged if there is enough interest. Call the church office at #538-8353 to inquire.

