





**Epworth United Methodist Church**

60 Merriman Way Road  
Moneta, VA 24121  
540-721-4926

<https://epworthumcmoneta.org>

Sunday Worship—9:30 a.m.  
Livestream also on Facebook:

click link:



**Halesford United Methodist Church**

1601 Lakewood Forest Road  
Moneta, VA 24121  
540-520-7875

<https://www.halesfordumc.com>

Sunday Worship—11 a.m.  
Livestream also on Facebook:

click link:

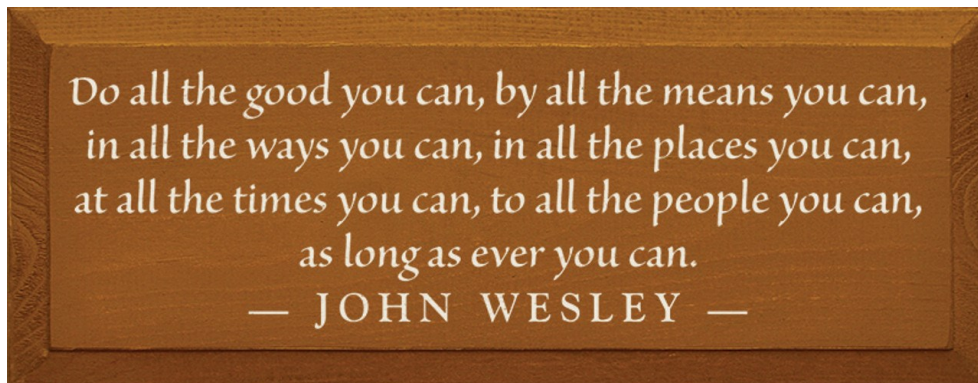


**Sunday School**—Every Thursday @ 7:30 p.m.

via Zoom—contact Cindy Lollar for link [clollar65@gmail.com](mailto:clollar65@gmail.com)

**Prayer Meeting** —Every Other Thursday @ 7:00 p.m. (see calendar for schedule)

via Zoom—contact Cindy Lollar for link [clollar65@gmail.com](mailto:clollar65@gmail.com)



**Go green!** If you would like to subscribe to a full color electronic copy of your monthly newsletter (instead of paper) please email Cindy Lollar - [clollar65@gmail.com](mailto:clollar65@gmail.com)

Design Team: Teresa Edwards, Kaye Hancock, Betty Johnson, Cindy Lollar

*From the  
Pastor's  
Desk*



## **“God of Hope”**

To all who are in Christ Jesus,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. My prayer is that you and your families are well and that this correspondence finds you in perfect peace.

As we step into the new year, 2025, I want to remind you of a powerful verse that speaks to the hope we have in God:

*"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13)*

This verse offers a beautiful promise as we face the year ahead. It tells us that God is the source of our hope, and when we trust in Him, God fills us with joy and peace. This peace and joy are not based on our circumstances, but on the trust, we place in God.

The coming year will likely bring both good times and challenges. Yet, no matter what happens, we can be confident that God's Holy Spirit will empower us to live with hope. This hope isn't something we can create on our own, but something God pours into our hearts. And this hope doesn't just stay with us—it overflows to others, encouraging and lifting up those around us.

As we begin this new year, let's remember that God is with us. God is filling us with His hope, peace, and joy, so we can face each day with confidence. Let's trust in God's strength and let God's Spirit work in us, so that we can be a light to others and share God's hope with the world.

May 2025 be a year where your heart is filled with hope, and where that hope overflows to those around you.

In conclusion, let us continue to work towards ministries of excellence as we make disciples for Christ for the transformation of the world.

In Christ's love,

Pastor Jeff

## NOTES FROM A LAY LEADER

*“<sup>26</sup> So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, <sup>27</sup> for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.” Galatians 3:26-29 New International Version*

Welcome to our new Washington Parish Newsletter! It is an exciting step forward as our two congregations become closer through God’s love and guidance.

When Epworth first joined with Halesford in the HERO parish, it seemed that Halesford and Epworth were drawn toward each other. We were close geographically, and some members from each church already knew each other. And God had placed the right spiritual DNA in our two congregations, calling us to work together in his love and grace. When we became the Washington Parish, our ties became even stronger.

As two small congregations, we quickly found that, working together, we could reach the critical mass that it takes for successful programs. Can drives, Brunswick stew, community breakfasts; all flourished with our joint efforts. We supported each other’s individual efforts and slowly started to plan events together. Like lost cousins finding each other after generations apart, we have realized how close we really are. Our women’s group joined together –Halesworth United Women in Faith—and our men met for breakfast. We alternated hosting special services. Sunday school on Zoom—organized during the pandemic—continues to help us learn and grow together. We have successfully produced 2 Christmas Cantatas and have alternating joint Sunday worship services (Fifth Sunday) each year. We now have a joint choir when we worship together. We feel comfortable in each other’s space, singing each other’s favorite hymns.

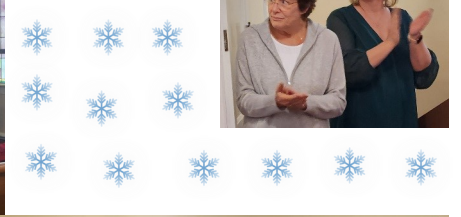
I truly believe that none of this has happened by accident. Spirit-led by God and two wonderful pastors, our congregations have grown together in love, faith, trust and grace. Now, with our Cooperative Parish newsletter, we will share all our news with each other---like a family sitting together over dinner, telling about our day. To God be the glory—great things He has done!!

Please read and enjoy the newsletter, and share what **you and your groups** are doing in service of God. Smile when Cindy or Betty takes your picture. Mark your calendars with all the things that are happening. We are doing great new things!!

In His Service,  
Chris Mosig, Epworth Lay Leader  
[Cmosig67@gmail.com](mailto:Cmosig67@gmail.com), 914-262-9106



Washington Cooperative Parish  
*Presents...*  
**Jesus**  
 THE REASON  
 FOR THE  
 SEASON  
*A Christmas Cantata*  
 Combined choir & Youth department  
 Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> - 3:00 P.M.  
 Epworth UMC 60 Merriman Way Rd.



## Lenten Book

The calendar has turned to January, 2025. On the church calendar, during December 2024, we celebrated the Advent season, which means “coming”. We remember Jesus’ coming to be a sacrifice for our sins, focusing our hearts on Him during the busyness of the Christmas. The next season on the church calendar is Lent, followed by Easter.

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday (March 5, 2025) and ends on Holy Thursday (April 17, 2025). Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word lencten, which means "spring." The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" and the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

Members of the Washington Cooperative Parish will once again come together to meditate on an assigned Scripture from the Lectionary, pray over the reading, and write as God leads. These writings will be put together in a book, to be read during the season of Lent. Details are being finalized, and more information will be forthcoming. Please be open to being a Lenten book writer. This ministry is powerful and helpful.

Thank you,  
Betty Johnson, Halesford Lay Leader

## (FREE) UWF Mountain View Movie Matinee Event

WHEN: January 25, 2025

WHERE: Kaleidoscope... 2500 Hardy Road, Hardy VA

MOVIE: 10 AM – 12 PM ~ Whale Rider (PG-13)

LUNCH: 12 PM – 1 PM ~ Soup Luncheon (complementary popcorn...drinks...soup!)

MOVIE: 1 PM – 3 PM ~ Dolly Parton—Coat of Many Colors (TVG)

*Bring your own favorite movie candy of choice!*

*Choose to stay all day for both movies?*

Stay 10 AM -1 PM “or” 12 PM—3 PM for 1 Movie and Lunch?

**Let Renee Naden know your choice by **January 18th!** (We need to have a count for Lunch!)**

E-mail Renee @ [thenadens@yahoo.com](mailto:thenadens@yahoo.com) “or” Call [540-767-9539](tel:540-767-9539)

Each movie viewed counts as Reading a Book for 2025!!!  
(Possible Peanut Sale available from the Henry Fork Service Center)

God continue to bless you and yours!



United Women in Faith

### Halesworth UWF

The Mountain View District United Women in Faith Advent Brunch was held on Saturday, December 14, at Rocky Mount UMC. The Brunch, which included breakfast casseroles, fruit, pastries, juices, and coffee, preceded the program. After adjourning to the sanctuary, the Rev. Leigh Anne Taylor installed the UWF District officers for 2025. These officers are: Teresa Watson and Kim Millner, Co-Presidents; Holly Salmon, Secretary, Phyllis Lavinder, Membership, Nurture and Outreach; Kim Millner, Education and Interpretation; Carol Ellis, Treasurer; Renee Naden, Reading Resources Chair; Sarah Bowles, Social Action; Betty Johnson, Spiritual Growth. A Christmas Litany, singing and offering completed the program. After the program, three homeless mats made by Halesworth UWF were given to the delegation from Redwood UMC, who were pleased to take them to the warming shelter housed in their church.



The next Halesworth UWF meetings will be held at Epworth UMC on January 27 & February 24— Please come!



January Birthdays	
2	Clarence Allen (Halesford)
7	Ann Bolling (Epworth)
7	Pat Young (Epworth)
9	Brenda Goad (Halesford)
15	Alease Frazier (Halesford)
22	Mark Cannaday (Halesford)
22	Jason St. Vincent (Halesford)
22	Glenn Prather (Halesford)

February Birthdays	
5	Kaye Hancock (Halesford)
6	Rev. Kelvin Edwards (Halesford)
11	Carol Jean Gramling (Epworth)
12	Nancy Blankenship (Epworth)
14	Keyona Loggins (Halesford)
16	Chris Mosig (Epworth)
20	Carolyn Crider (Halesford)
21	Jay Hairston (Halesford)
22	George Ruple (Epworth)
27	Doris Dillard (Halesford)

January Anniversaries	
21	Waine & Diane Taylor (Halesford)

February Anniversaries	
	None

# Mountain View District Training Day

How will your church renew it's mission to **go, make disciples**, and **transform your community** in 2025? Laity, come to the District Training Day for inspiration!

If your church brings more than two participants, DS Sarah will pick up the tab for additional participants! To receive reimbursement, go ahead and register individually then submit receipt by email to [KatieWilson@vaumc.org](mailto:KatieWilson@vaumc.org).

## District Training Day is Saturday, Jan. 11, 2025!



The Mountain View District is excited to partner with the Northern Virginia District for this year's Training Day. NoVa District Training Day is an annual event designed to **equip, encourage, and empower** clergy and laity in their ministry.

This year's theme is **Go! Make Disciples! Transform the World!** and features keynotes from Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson, Bishop Kenneth H. Carter, Jr., and Michael Beck.



### 9:00 AM - Following the Holy Spirit's Lead

**Bishop Sue Hauptert Johnson**  
Resident Bishop, Richmond Area Virginia Annual Conference



### 10:45 AM - Go Boldly: Reclaiming an Adaptive Church to Transform the World

**Bishop Ken Carter Jr.**  
Resident Bishop, Charlotte Episcopal Area



### 1:15 PM - Never Alone: Sharing the Gift of Community in a Lonely World

**Rev. Michael Beck**  
Director of Fresh Expressions for The United Methodist Church

## SATELLITE TICKET

**\$45/person**

3 Keynote Presentations  
Fellowship & Conversation  
Lunch Provided

### Locations in 3 Districts

- Mountain View
- Three Notch'd
- Valley Ridge

*\*Option- Video Library (+\$20)*

We have **two Training Day Satellite locations** on the Mountain View District. Attendees can select from **Main Street UMC** in Bedford or **Smith Memorial UMC** in Collinsville. Satellite participants will gather at those locations and experience Training Day together. Lunch is provided.

We encourage you to **bring a team from** your church so that together you can listen, learn, and prepare to equip your church for disciple-making alongside others from across the Mountain View District.

## EVENT SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. -- Welcome & Worship  
9:00 a.m. -- Keynote 1 (Bishop Sue)  
10:45 a.m. -- Keynote 2 (Bishop Carter)  
12:15 p.m. -- Lunch Break  
1:15 p.m. -- Afternoon Workshop

REGISTER: [2025.NOVATRainingDay.COM](https://2025.NOVATRainingDay.COM)

*\*Video library includes replays of Keynote Presentations and 25+ mini-presentations in multiple ministry areas.*





# COMBINED *Choir* & WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 A.M.  
Halesford UMC – 1601 Lakewood Forest Rd.



Sundays @  
Epworth UMC  
9:30 a.m.

Please let Cindy (Epworth) or Betty (Halesford) know if you have a prayer request you would like added and also updates on those currently listed.

Prayer Meeting held every other Thursday @ 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

**Collecting: plastic bags from your grocery or department store** for plan (plastic yarn) to make into homeless mats. Help the Halesworth UWF keep these bags out of the landfills. Please place in the recycle bin located in the Narthex. Thank you!!

**Collecting New Socks for the Homeless ~ Drop Box is in the Narthex at Epworth UMC**  
**“Socks for Lost Souls”**



Socks are currently being donation to Rescue Mission in Roanoke: <https://rescuemission.net/>



Thank you to all who are signed up with the Kroger Community Rewards program for Halesford (QD391) or Epworth (EP178). Without realizing that when you shop, a percentage of your total order is shared with our churches through the Community Rewards Program.

Here is the link to get started:  
<https://www.kroger.com/i/>

# January 2025

AA meets every Monday, Wednesday, & Friday @ 9:00 a.m. @ Epworth UMC  
 Tuesdays @ 7:00 p.m. @ Epworth , and  
 Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. @ Halesford UMC

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Sunday School 7:30 pm on Zoom	3	4
5 Epiphany Sunday Communion	6	7	8	9 Prayer 7:00 PM Sunday School 7:30 pm on Zoom	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Sunday School 7:30 pm on Zoom	17 Pastor Jeff Vacation	18 Pastor Jeff Vacation
19	20	21	22	23 Prayer 7:00 PM Sunday School 7:30 pm on Zoom	24	25
Pastor Jeff Vacation through the 23rd						
26	27 UWF Meeting 4 PM @ Epworth	28	29	30 Sunday School 7:30 pm on Zoom	31	

# February 2025

AA meets every Monday, Wednesday, & Friday @ 9:00 a.m. @ Epworth UMC  
 Tuesdays @ 7:00 p.m. @ Epworth , and  
 Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. @ Halesford UMC

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Feb 9-28—Preparation & Distribution of Lenten Devotional						1
2 4th Sunday After the Epiphany Sunday Communion	3	4 Tuesday Bible Study w/Pastor Jeff 7:00 PM on Zoom	5	6 Prayer 7:00 PM Sunday School 7:30 pm on Zoom	7	8
9 Coffee & Cake Gathering Event 9 AM—9:15 AM	10	11 Tuesday Bible Study w/Pastor Jeff 7:00 PM on Zoom	12	13 Sunday School 7:30 pm on Zoom	14	15
16	17	18 Tuesday Bible Study w/Pastor Jeff 7:00 PM on Zoom	19	20 Prayer 7:00 PM Sunday School 7:30 pm on Zoom	21	22
23	24 UWF Meeting 4 PM @ Epworth	25 Tuesday Bible Study w/Pastor Jeff 7:00 PM on Zoom	26	27 Sunday School 7:30 pm on Zoom	28	