

"A Disciple's Path"

Harrisburg Happenings
www.harrisburgumc.org
704-455-2311

Nov 10 2015



THIS SATURDAY HUMC Annual BBQ



Saturday, Nov 14 10:30 - 2 p.m.

Start sharing the news that the HUMC BBQ is happening and you won't want to miss it.

Pre-Sale Pork Butts:
\$30.00 each (Pre-Cooked - approximately 7 lb.)
Chopped or Whole - your choice.



Orders must be called in:
(704) 455-2311
BBQ Plate: \$8.00

(BBQ, bun, home made slaw, chips, iced tea or coffee)
(Free for children 5-years and under)

BBQ Tray: \$7.00

(BBQ & slaw only)

Two-Sandwich Plate: \$8.00

Pint: \$8.00

To-Go Orders: Order any of the above;



BBQ BAKE SALE, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2015

(MISSION FUNDRAISER)



Please consider baking an item or two for the Bake Sale. Bring your baked goods to the church fellowship hall by 9:45 am on Saturday, November 14th. If you would prefer to drop them off Friday evening, please put a note on your baked item(s) that it's for the BBQ Bake Sale. **Whole Cakes, Pies, Loaves of Bread** (be sure to price your items as you know the value) price **Sliced Cakes, Pies, Cookies, Brownies, Fudge, Lemon Bars to equal \$1.00 value.** If you would like to work the bake sale, please put your name on the sheet posted on the BBQ bulletin board. Thank you!

Harrisburg Happenings

page 2

Here's this years Pastor's Report from Change Conference October 2015

Harrisburg UMC – Revs. Toni Ruth and Wesley Smith

It is a blessing and privilege to serve with the saints at Harrisburg UMC – God is truly working in and through this church! This year has been one of change and growth for the church and they have responded with grace, energy, and generosity! For the second straight year, we are approaching the end of the year with a surplus. What is exciting about this is that the church is not seeking to simply sit on this surplus, but to put it use for the ministry and missions. In 2015, we have continued the work we started in 2014 of strategically addressing needs of our physical structure and site. Much of the planning and conversation that took place has come to fruition in 2015. This is exciting and is indicative of a church that is looking ahead to a bright future and is willing to take some big steps into that future.

We continue to operate as a 7 day a week worship center and have faithfully built a reputation in the Harrisburg community as the church that will welcome and help any in need. We reach out through Room in the Inn in partnership with 3 other local churches to help house the homeless in the winter. We welcome AA, Alanon, Cabarrus County Lunch Plus, Harrisburg Crisis Assistance Ministry Food Pantry, and Boy and Girl Scouting, as well as continuing to support our own Stepping Stones Preschool. Whether or not those who participate in these programs have come to attend HUMC, we have been the body of Christ reaching out in love and showing those in trouble that God and His love are very real.

We are continuing to provide a much-needed ministry through the HUMC iBelong Special Needs Ministry, which includes a multi-sensory environment where children with special needs can find respite during worship and more than 25 trained lay people to help with any children that need to use the room. We continue to reach out to the autism community in particular by participating in the Autism Speaks Walk, which allowed us to meet our neighbors and share our vision. As word of the HUMC iBelong ministry continues to spread through our community, we continue to pray that God will use this ministry to welcome some of the 90% of families affected by special needs that are un-churched in our community.

Also reflective of the church's growth is our hiring of Richard Smith, our Director of Student Ministries. This indicates the church's willingness to invest in the growing of disciples and ministry to and with children and youth. Hiring this position is a step of faith for this church and demonstrates their trust in God as we move into the future. We are excited to have Richard as part of our staff and look forward to much fruitful ministry.

Harrisburg UMC is growing in many ways and we are honored to be part of the story that God continues to write in this church. We know that there are wonderful things in store for 2016 and we are excited to see what God does through us in the coming year!

The Statistics

10/26/2014 - 11/8/2015

- 8 Baptisms
- 11 persons joined by Profession of Faith
- 5 persons joined by Transfer from other Methodist Churches
- 6 persons joined by Transfer from non-Methodist Churches
- 5 persons removed from the roll by Transfer to other churches.
- 2 members died

Harrisburg Happenings

page 3



O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree

The christmas trees are due to arrive for unloading on **Saturday, Nov. 21**. In recent years the truck has arrived about 1pm, and unloading takes only about one hour.

For the 2015 Christmas season, the methodist men are moving the tree lot away from the construction area, and toward the grove.

Contact Tim Martin to let him know if you can help unload, Saturday the 21st. And, be looking for the sign-up sheet to staff the lot for tree sales, starting the week of Thanksgiving. We appreciate your help during this busy time.

Tim Martin = 704-906-2703; timmartin5861@gmail.com

Welcome New Members!

A dinner will be held after the 11:00 service on Sunday, November 22nd, to honor the families that have joined our church family in 2015. If you are a new member, we hope you have already been contacted, and will come and let us show how happy we are to welcome you. We invite all other members to come and take the opportunity to get to know our newest additions. We do ask that you bring a salad or dessert to share.

• • • • •
• The Angel Tree will
• be sponsored by the
• Missions Committee this
• year.

• We will be providing
• gifts for CVAN a Battered
• women's shelter in the
• concord area.

• The tree will be at the
• entrance of the sanctuary
• on November 29th.

• Please take a gift
• request and return unwrapped gifts to the tree by
• December 13th.

• Thank you for your support .

• Any questions ask Margaret Williams
• • • • •



Harrisburg Happenings

page 4

Mark 1:16-18 Called in Community

By: www.shortdailydevotions.com

Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. (Mark 1:16-18 ESV)

The modern media's portrayal of the "lone wolf" seems to be growing more and more popular. From movies where the hero is mowing down hundreds of bad guys by himself, to books about "maverick" politicians standing against the grain and defying the status quo, it would seem as if we love a stand alone hero. But how realistic a notion is this one man versus the world mentality? And have we tried to adopt this model into our spiritual walk?

Even a cursory examination of Jesus' first interactions with his disciples should be sufficient for the realization that we were never intended to go it alone. In fact, if we take it way back, what was the first thing after creation that God said was "not good"? For man to be alone ([Genesis 2:18](#))! We were created in God's image ([Genesis 1:27](#)), and our God actually exists in community. Three persons in one being, and we affectionately define that truth as the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit ([Deuteronomy 6:4](#); [1 John 5:7-8](#); [John 1](#)).

So, if we are his image bearers, is it a hard leap to think that maybe we were intended for community as well? Not at all. And surely Jesus' calling of Simon and Andrew is a great example of that intention. He didn't call Simon, and then later come back for Andrew, but rather called them together, in community with himself.

God has not called us to "go it alone", and for us to aspire or attempt to do so is both foolish, and counter to the Gospel! We are one body, with many parts ([1 Corinthians 12:20](#)). Our spiritual community should invade our personal lives, our family, our relationships, and help us to be the person Jesus has called us to be.