

The Chimes

Upcoming Events: Invite Your Friends and Neighbors to FUMC

Sat., July 20, 7-8:30 pm: S'mores and Music

Enjoy a marshmallow roast, make s'mores with a variety of candies and join in the singing of campfire and praise songs led by our music director Kevin.

Sun. August 11, 5-7:30 pm: Family Movie Night

Join us for a showing of Breakthrough (PG), nursery is available. Enjoy hot dogs, fried chicken, movie snacks and frozen treats to beat the summer heat!

Sat., August 17, 3-4:30 pm: "End of Summer" Carnival

All ages! Games, face painting, snacks and more. If you can help with an activity, sign up at www.FranconiaUMC.org/signup.

All of our events are open to the community, so many hands are needed to make them welcoming to all. Please consider helping with set up, clean up, running an activity, etc.

Calendar Notes - Mark Your Calendar Now; More to Follow

- August 25: Blessing of the Backpacks
- September 7: Annual Backyard BBQ
- October 6: Rise Against Hunger Meal Packaging Event
- October 19: Dinners for 8 Pot Luck
- October 26: Annual Trunk or Treat
- November 24: Annual Thanksgiving Dinner
- December 7: Annual A Night in Bethlehem



FUMC Welcomes New DCYM

FUMC welcomed Jared Lorraine as Director of Children and Youth Ministry (DCYM) in May 2019. A Pennsylvania native, Jared earned his Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministry at Messiah College in Mechanicsburg, PA. He is pursuing his Masters of Divinity at the Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.

Jared's interest in children and youth programming was kindled during the five summers spent working as camp staff, including three years as a camp counselor. Jared led church services on multiple Sundays and ministered to youth of varying ages and stages in their growing faith. Having previously worked at a residential treatment facility for children with behavioral challenges, Jared has a keen understanding of the difference commitment can make in shaping the growth of children and youth of varying ages and abilities.

Jared believes in building onto the energy of the ministry of the church and taking that mission beyond the church walls – and children and youth are a big part of this mission.

As we continue to grow our children and youth ministries, please lend helping hands to Jared; reach him at Youth@FranconiaUMC.org.

Baptism News

The following were recently baptized at FUMC:



- Jessica Efua Arthur Posey, daughter of Jess Posey and Joana Arthur, on June 9
- Baafi Kusi, son of Charles and Simonetta Kusi, on June 16

Our Grads!

Congratulations to FUMC's 2019 graduates:

- Peggy Owusu-Ansah, Robert E Lee High School
- Colby Dickinson, ME, Lipscomb University
- Rachel Ingle, BA, Christopher Newport University
- Haley Winter, MPA, George Mason University

Kingdom Heroes Returns Sept. 13

Kingdom Heroes is a time of Biblical learning and fun for our 'tweens (ages 4th-6th grades). This age group is ready to dive deeper into Bible study and life questions and these are woven into the social time of these events. This past year, Kingdom Heroes completed two studies: *Celebrity Status*, which discussed social media, celebrities, and the celebrity status of Jesus, and *Fruit of the Spirit*, learning what the Bible has to say about love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Kingdom Heroes meets on the 2nd and 4th Fridays, 6-7:30 pm during the school year, and will return on September 13.

Upcoming Phoenix Rising Dates:

July 25 and 26
 August 22 and 23
 September 26 and 27

Thursday dates are meal packaging at 6:30 pm. Friday dates are meal deliveries at 5:15 pm. Both days are suitable for participation of all age groups. Email PhoenixRising@FranconiaUMC.org

What's New on Sundays for Kids

Children's Church

FUMC's children's church is an interactive experience that is hosted during the 9 and 11am services. Children begin in the sanctuary with family and dismiss to children's church after the children's moment. If you would like to volunteer, sign up at www.FranconiaUMC.org/sign-up.

Kingdom Kids

Kingdom Kids Sunday School provides Bible stories with music time, a lesson video and a craft or activity to drive home the message. All Kingdom Kids are made a "Knight of the Lord's Table," and receive a wooden shield with their name on it that hangs on the wall of armor. Participants are able to track certain mile markers in the Christian faith with stickers (learning the Lord's Prayer and Ten Commandments, baptism, bringing a friend to church, etc.) which will decorate their Shield of Faith. They can also earn lesson badges for their shields. When participants graduate to the Explorers group, they will take their Shield of Faith with them as a reminder of their time at Franconia UMC, where they were taught to put on the full armor of God and stand firm.



Staff Appreciation Reception, April 28

Our wonderful staff was shown appreciation following the 11 am worship service. Above from left: Kevin Lackie, Mike Finch, Marlo Brown, Paulette Treadwell, Heather Nye, Kim Santoro. First row, Jess Berg, Pastor Melissa Porter-Miller and June Shuffett. Photo courtesy of Suzanne Ackley.

Music Opportunities!

Join the Summer Choir for the 9 am Traditional Service!

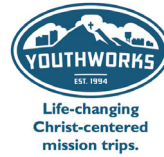
No Weekday rehearsals - 8:30 am Sunday Mornings
 ALL ARE WELCOME. Contact Kevin, Music@FranconiaUMC.org.

Join the Praise Band at the 11 am Contemporary Service!

Practice on Tuesday's, 7 pm
 Extra need for drummer/bass players
 ALL ARE WELCOME. Contact Kevin, Music@FranconiaUMC.org.

Youth Ministries

YOUTH NEWS: The Youth have been hard at work raising the funds for their 2019 Mission Trip to Harrisburg, PA with YouthWorks, a Christian, multi-denominational program that provides a Christ-centered experience for youth groups throughout the U.S. and beyond through various types of projects. The teens and chaperones spend a week with other youth groups working, experiencing meaningful worship and making friends with other youth groups, proving that we are one universal church under Christ. **Commissioning Sunday** will be July 28 at the 11 am service. Come and give the youth a great sendoff as they go to spread God’s love to a world in need.



Fundraising Results: Thanks to everyone who helped provide \$3,730 of the \$3,800 needed to fully fund the trip through car washes, Christmas ornament sales, participation through parents night out, fundraisers at Moe’s and Bertucci’s, and our FUMC spaghetti dinner, t-shirt sales and cash donations.

Youth Group is for students who have completed confirmation or are in grades 7-12. This year the youth participated in Bible studies *Not a Fan* and *The Fruit of the Spirit*. This past spring the youth and other family members attended the Toby Mac concert at the Eagle Bank Arena. It was a great night of worship and fellowship! Photo courtesy of Gale Deutsch.



Youth, family and friends at Toby Mac!

The Youth Group will have pop-up events throughout the summer to keep in touch, so if you would like to join us please watch the happenings and Facebook page for details. Our next official meeting will be September 1, 6-7:30 pm.

UMCOR Kits for Conference

Thanks to the cash donations from Franconians, supplies for 200 UMCOR health kits were purchased. Volunteers assembled the kits on June 2 and they were delivered to Annual Conference in mid-June. Photo courtesy Suzanne



Earthlings, take note:

VBS Sunday will be celebrated on July 14 with one (combined) worship service at 10 am followed by an ice cream social. Read more about VBS on page 7!

Worship Schedule Change Provides New Opportunities

After reviewing a worship survey that was distributed in 2018 as well as the results of the two-service model that was well-attended during summer 2018, the decision was made to change to a year around schedule of two services effective May 5, 2019. FUMC’s Sunday morning schedule is now:

9 am - Traditional Worship with Children’s Church

10:15 am-10:45 am - Sunday school opportunities for all

11 am - Contemporary Worship with live band and Children’s Church

Attendees have commented on the impact of a fuller sanctuary during the two worship services, in addition to having a dedicated Sunday school time that does not conflict with a worship service.

Trustees Update

The Trustees continue to be some of the hardest-working volunteers at FUMC. Recent projects completed or in progress:

- Updated hardware on some of the exit doors
- Installation of the second mini-split air conditioner in Cokesbury Hall
- Storm water drain (parking lot) and sidewalk replacement
- Brick repairs on western side of front stair (repainting, other masonry needs)
- Upgrade of electrical service

Thanks to all of our Trustees who keep the buildings and grounds safe and in great condition for all users.

Help Feed Our Kids This Summer!

We have a great opportunity to help feed kids this summer. Many of the children who attend Franconia Elementary School (next door to our church) are beneficiaries of free and reduced breakfasts and lunches at school. As a result, these children may be hungry during summer break.

FUMC is collecting food to distribute to these children and their families now through July 15. Donation bins/information is in Cokesbury Hall or contact Heather (703.971.5151 or ChurchOffice@FranconiaUMC.org).

Rise Against Hunger Fundraising Effort Reaches Halfway Mark

On October 6 we'll gather to package meals for Rise Against Hunger. After our successful packaging of 10,000 meals in 2018, we have increased our goal. That means raising an additional \$3,400 for this October's program.

Your financial support of this program is greatly appreciated.



Spring Candid's All-Church Birthday Party



The month of June (above) went "Over the Rainbow" to commemorate the birthday of Judy Garland (June 10). Decorations by Suzanne Ackley, cake by Pam Nicholson. November (at right) was a MARVEL-ous month.

In May, Franconians gathered to celebrate all of the birthdays at one time. Attendees sat at their birth month table. Volunteers decorated tables and provided desserts, and the rest of the supper was potluck. A few photos:



Decorations by Heather Nye, blueberry trifle by Suzanne Ackley. October's (at left) decorations are a nod to America's pastime, the MLB World Series. Decorations and cake by Curt and Amy Dorj Wilson.

Photos courtesy Suzanne Ackley.

The Matsiko World Orphan Choir (below) blessed FUMC with their music at worship and then also at a concert later that same day (March 31). Thanks to the FUMC Music Ministry for bringing the choir to FUMC.





Just as the county library has a summer reading program, FUMC is offering several good studies this summer. To learn more contact Barb Lawrence, blawrence5717@gmail.com. FUMC's small groups are open to anyone wishing to discuss these works; invite a friend!

Mondays beginning July 8:

-7 pm - Meet in the small kitchen (first floor, Sanctuary building) for *The Call* by Adam Hamilton. Follow the journeys of Paul, beginning with his dramatic conversion, as he spread the Gospel through modern-day Greece and Turkey. Travel to the early church sites and explore Paul's conversations with the Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Thessalonians. In this six-week study, you are invited to experience faith through Christ's greatest teacher and missionary. (source: amazon.com)

Wednesdays beginning July 17:

-11 am - Meet at Wegman's Pub for lunch and discussion of *The Great Divorce*. This work by C.S. Lewis is a classic Christian allegorical tale about a bus ride from Hell to Heaven. An extraordinary meditation upon good and evil, grace and judgment, Lewis's revolutionary idea in the *The Great Divorce* is that the gates of Hell are locked from the inside. (source: amazon.com)

Sunday weekly gatherings, 10:15-10:45 am

- Seekers Class, Room C304
- Span of Ages, Room SK
- Coffee and Conversations, Room CH
- SALT Class, Room SR

2nd Sunday meetings 12:30 pm

- Race and Faith Discussions

4th Saturday meetings, 8 am

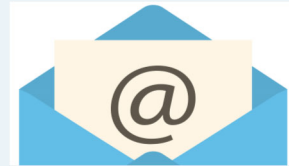
- Men's Study and Breakfast

Confirmation News

Jessica Efua Arthur Posey, daughter of Jess Posey and Joana Arthur, was confirmed on June 9, 2019. Jessica completed the process of confirmation in the United Methodist Church with Ms. Heather and her mentor, Shea Porter-Miller. During their studies, the group visited Temple B'nai Shalom in Fairfax Station and the Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C. to explore the history of our faith.

Confirmation classes are open to students 12 and up. The coursework begins with Lent and runs through Pentecost (14 weeks). To learn more about the next confirmation class (will begin in March 2020), contact Jared at youth@franconiaumc.org.

ACCESS UMC RESOURCES: Keep up to date on connectional (UMC) news and training at the Alexandria-Arlington Bi-District website, www.novaumc.org



Church Email Roster

Need to touch base with a member of the staff? You can also call 703-971-5151 to reach the Pastor or Heather; but everyone else is easier to reach via email. Please note, capitalization does not affect email delivery.

Pastor Melissa:

PastorMelissa@FranconiaUMC.org

Jared Lorraine, DCYM:

Youth@FranconiaUMC.org

Heather Nye, Office Manager:

ChurchOffice@FranconiaUMC.org

Kevin Lackie, Music Director:

Music@FranconiaUMC.org

Jess Berg, Children's/Youth Music

ChildrensMusic@FranconiaUMC.org

June Shuffett, accompanist



Adults Needed to Support Our Growing Children's Ministry!

Volunteers are needed to help with Children's Sunday school programs, 10:15-10:45 am in these age groups:

- Kingdom Kids (ages 3-7)
- Young Disciples (ages 8-12)

Lessons are pre-planned, just pick them up the Sunday prior to look over. Supplies will be ready for you the next week. Contact Jared at Youth@FranconiaUMC.org.

Mid-week Opportunities at FUMC

Prayer and Meditation Service, Wednesdays, 6:30-7:00 pm

Join us for a time of refocusing on God, reading scripture, prayer, and sharing communion together. All are welcome; come and be renewed by this mid-week time of prayer and meditation.

Praying for Our Church - Breakthrough Prayer, Wednesdays 7:00-7:30 pm

Pray for our church on Wednesdays at 7 pm immediately following the Prayer and Meditation Service. Along with a church's usual prayers for healing, protection, comfort and wisdom, a Breakthrough Prayer Initiative means adding a request for God to break into the life of our church through new ideas, hopes and God's possibilities. During this time, we invite people to walk through the church, praying over the spaces and various ministries of the church. We pray for God to work powerfully in and through our congregation. Whether prayers are for your personal life or for the present and future of our congregation, including requests for God to break through anew is powerful and miracle-filled. It is a time of looking up and out in expectancy for what God may do or bring that's new. It is important that as a church, we continue to cultivate a strong, consistent foundation of prayer at the center of our faith life. We invite you to be part of this powerful ministry as we experience the power of prayer at work in our lives and our church.

-Pastor Melissa



FUMC Frontage Gets a Facelift

The church received a much-needed facelift this past winter with the removal of overgrown trees at the front of the church. Members of the Trustees and other volunteers worked to transform the front of the church.





Just a reminder that our ministries and operating costs do not take a break during the summer months. Your tithes and offerings continue to bless those we serve even if you are on vacation. If you'd like to learn more about electronic giving opportunities, check out www.FranconiaUMC.org/e-giving.

Financial Snapshot as of May 31, 2019	
YTD Budget Offerings	\$ 180,757
YTD Expenses	\$ 188,027
YTD Difference (minus AGC)	\$ 7,270
Account Balances	
Checking Account	\$ 10,722
Money Market & CD	\$ 102,104
Total Cash	\$ 112,826
Capital Fund	\$ 67,108
Reserve Funds	\$ 20,971

Vacation Bible School: Ready to Blast Off!

Eighty voyagers are gearing up to blast off July 8-12 at VBS: **To Mars and Beyond: Going Beyond with Faith, Boldness, Kindness, Thankfulness, and Hope!** Each day the children will participate in music, games, crafts, science and Bible stories to show them how great and awesome our God is, and how they can help in His Mission.

Thanks to the flight crew members and all who donated items to make the VBS a success. Please be in prayer for our team and the kids that will come through our doors for VBS!

VBS Sunday will be celebrated on July 14 with a combined worship service at 10 am followed by an ice cream social.



Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges

As widely reported, a majority of delegates to the U.M. General Conference this past February voted to amend rules in the U.M. Discipline to more clearly prohibit clergy from performing same-sex weddings, to increase the severity of penalties on clergy who violate those rules, and to prohibit ordination of gay clergy. These decisions elicited emotional reactions from clergy and laity on all sides of the issue. Many persons agree with the decision, while many were left feeling unloved and unwelcome.

During the March meeting of our Church Council we had a candid discussion of what these decisions mean to our denomination, to our local church, and to each member of our church community. It bears emphasis that while these amended rules and sanctions strictly limit the discretion of ordained clergy, they do not define who we are at Franconia. Franconia has always been welcoming and inclusive of everyone who wishes to worship with us. However, we also know that we can do better, even within the bounds of the rules in the Discipline. It is too easy to become complacent with how things have always been done or how we always feel welcome without taking time to understand whether others feel the same way.

This is especially true following the recent vote at General Conference.

Church Council also discussed that issues of inclusion extend to other areas in the life and health of the church, such as race, ethnicity, and physical ability. Church Council therefore decided to open a church-wide initiative on "Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges." We set a goal of identifying practical steps that can be taken immediately or over the longer term to ensure Franconia lives its commitment to welcoming all into fellowship. We established three short-term working groups to brainstorm ideas that can be presented in a report by this fall for consideration and implementation by the Church Council. If you would like more information about the working groups and how you can participate in one or more of them, please feel free to contact me or any of the facilitators: Sexual Orientation (Lisa Dickinson), Race & Ethnicity (Jess Posey), and Abilities (Brenda Talley).

True inclusion begins with our willingness to admit we have barriers so we can remove them.

-Jeff Sheldon, FUMC Council Chair

Summer Worship

Passionate Jesus

This worship series will explore what it means to live authentically and passionately, with Jesus as our guide. Rather than the ever-cool, calm and collected spiritual teacher that Jesus is often portrayed as, we will experience Jesus as a passionate, direct, expressive, and deeply authentic provocateur and seek to embrace our own capacity for passion. Sermon topics include:

- July 7: Grief: Being Present to the Process of Hope
- July 14: VBS Sunday (**one Service at 10 AM**)
- July 21: Joy: Savoring God's Gift

Star Wars: Faith and the Force

This five-week sermon series considers the connections between the Christian Gospel and the popular *Star Wars* movies. Each week will include a brief movie clip.

- July 28: A Force Called Grace
- Aug. 4: Droids and Discipleship
- Aug. 11: The Devil in Darth (Barb Lawrence preaching)
- Aug. 18: The Empire Strikes Out
- Aug. 25: From Padawan to Jedi Knight



FRANCONIA
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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The Chimes is published quarterly by the Franconia United Methodist Church

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Staff

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Director, Music Ministry: Kevin Lackie

Office Manager: Heather Nye

AGC Director: Kim Santoro

Church Hours (M-Th, 9:00 am-3:00 pm, Fridays by appointment only)

Sunday Worship

9:00 am: Traditional with Children's Church

11:00 am: Contemporary with Children's Church

Adult Sunday School: 10:15 am

Sunday Nursery: 8:45 am - 12:15 pm

Wednesday Prayer & Meditation/Communion: 6:30 - 7:00 pm

Wednesday Breakthrough Prayer: 7:00 - 7:30 pm

Missing Important Church News?

If you don't know the answer to that, stay in touch with the latest through these FUMC communication channels:

- **Sundays:** "Happenings" insert, slides in sanctuary, Cokesbury Hall
- **On the web** (www.FranconiaUMC.org or [www.Facebook.com/FranconiaUMC](https://www.facebook.com/FranconiaUMC))
- **Church-wide emails** (subscribe at: churchoffice@franconiaumc.org)
- **Church prayers e-list** (subscribe at: www.FranconiaUMC.org/eprayers)

Celebrating our 123rd Year in Community Ministry! 1896-2019