

"A New Understanding"



As the daylight begins to shorten and the air becomes cooler, we know the season of Fall is among us. Change is evident, and it will affect our lives and future.

So, how do we live in these days of challenging fuel prices, job lay-offs and making the correct decision in electing a presidential leader? It is important that we continue to be in prayer, read the Holy Scripture and ask for God's will to be done in and for the people. By faith we are called into discipleship with fellow believers. You know we understand God, not from human intelligence, but through the gracious gift of the Holy Spirit. *"The Holy Spirit will teach you all things and bring you to remembrance all that I have said to you"* (John 14:26).

I believe, like St. Paul, that God is present and active in the world, reconciling all of creation to God's purpose. So, where are you in God's plan? The mission or task of each congregation is to remain faithful to God's direction. It is easy to talk about theology but the call is to live it!

Like you, our church is facing some new challenges. When we put together our gifts, resources and talents, God can use these for the glory of the Kingdom. As you reflect on these words, know that God is always with us. The *Emmanuel* is real! Live in expectation and know when God mixes with us, great things do happen. I am looking forward to life in the future with Christ, aren't you? The greatest joy is giving, while the most rewarding living is helping one another. May we pray this prayer in the weeks ahead:

*Almighty God, Thank you for my community of faith that surrounds me. Continue to teach me to be Christ-centered. Remind me to be generous to all your children. Help me to give from my heart, so that others may see Christ in me. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

Live in Faithfulness and Cultivate Fruitfulness,  
Pastor Art



**The Gift Of His Son Has Been Given.  
Pass It On.**

## Everyone Can Serve

Look for opportunities to serve; don't wait to be asked! Remember: You can serve without being a part of an "official" ministry. We all can:

- extend the word of welcome, whether or not we are official greeters;
- be listening, caring friends, whether or not we are official lay counselors;
- be ready to give reason for the hope that is in us, whether or not we are on the evangelism team;
- be enthusiastic participants and ready to give a hand, whether or not we are on the planning or cleanup committees.



Holy Ghost Weenie Roast is set for Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. Petting zoo, hayride, cake walk, carnival games, bounce house, food, and Trunk or Treat. Costumes welcomed. Candy donations appreciated.



### Children's Ministries

PJ's & a Movie features "Where the Red Fern Grows" on Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. Showtime is 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Open to all children eligible for K-5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Children's Fellowship meets 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month from 2:00 -3:00 pm

### Youth Ministries

Youth Beach Retreat "Hold Fast" October 10-12 with special guests Rusty Barton & Dane Mills.

Reminder - November 1<sup>st</sup> Youth Rally 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Contact Ms Cathy @ 340-5015 for more info.

Fundraisers: Oct 26<sup>th</sup> - Potato Bar; Nov 16<sup>th</sup> - Krispy Kreme; God's Creation Calendars & notepads are available every Sunday. Proceeds benefit our trip to the December Conference event.

Youth meet every Sunday from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

## Meet The Staff

### Pastor

Rev. Arthur Wolz, Jr.

### Associate Pastor

Rev. Elinor R. Dalton

### Lay Leader

Bruce Grubb

### Administrative Asst.

Joyce Williams

### Music & Arts Dir.

Grace Holdren

### Choir Dir.

David Prescott

### Children & Youth Dir.

Cathy Sorrell

### Program Dir.

Michelle McKinney

### Nursery Dir.

Cathy Graham

### Sexton

Bob Holdren

Our next **Prayer Service** will be Sunday, October 5, 7:00-7:45 PM, at which time we will pray for:



- The **WORLD** and its leaders
- Our **COUNTRY** and its leaders
- The **CHURCH UNIVERSAL** and its leaders
- **THALIA UMC** and its leaders and missions
- Our **FAMILIES** and **OURSELVES**

Pray for our **church** to "catch the vision" of being in mission to the world outside our walls. Think of ways **YOU** can make a difference "*in the name of Jesus,*" and take others with you!



Candy Foster and Rev. Elinor Dalton are working toward developing a ministry to adults as well as older adults. They need input from those who are interested in helping develop these plans. For example: trips to local eateries, plays at various theatres, programs, lunches and game times here at Thalia UMC—the list is limitless! Contact Candy Foster at 227-5342 or Elinor Dalton.

**GODBLESSUSALL!!**

## FALL HYMN FESTIVAL



Virginia Wesleyan College will present its annual fall hymn festival "*For All the Saints*" on Sunday, October 26 at 4:00 pm at Virginia Beach UMC. A massed choir of area singers will present 3 anthems and lead the congregation in numerous hymns. Our choir director, David Prescott, will be conducting one of the anthems and many singers from Thalia will be part of the choir. If you would like to sing in the choir, see David or Grace for details. If you're not able to join the festival choir, come fill the congregation as we celebrate the saints, those of the past, and those who daily surround us with God's grace and mercy.

## From Your Program Director

We have a lot of fabulous events coming in October. Please take the time to be an active member of your congregation and join us. As always, the most update calendar of events is listed on our website [thaliaumc.org](http://thaliaumc.org).



Leadership opportunities are coming available for the New Year at TUMC. Please prayerfully consider the call to service if someone from our Spiritual Gifts Team contacts you about a position. Our programs at Thalia are only as strong as the people who choose to serve.



**Stop Hunger Now:** Everyday approximately 25,000 people die of hunger-related causes. That is nearly 10 million people a year. On Sunday, November 23rd, after the 11:00 AM service, Thalia will host a meal packing event with the Stop Hunger Now organization. We will be packaging 10,000 meals to be sent to people around the world who suffer from starvation. We will need at least 35 volunteers (ages 5 to 105) and \$2,000+ (increases in the cost of rice may change this figure). Sign up sheets for volunteers will be posted in late October. Please plan to support this important mission.

**Eastern Shore Migrant Ministry:** Thalia continues to support the Alyson Jolly House of Hope, or “Casa Esperanza” in Wachapreague on Virginia’s Eastern Shore. Look for information on our next scheduled work day at the mission and continue to collect clothing and food items for this cause.

Walker’s Florist, the florist for the Church, has asked that we return the flower vases if possible. They are trying to keep the price down for the flowers.



Georgia pecans will be available again this year around the last week of October. The cost will be \$7.50 per 1 pound bag of pecan halves. If you would like to reserve some call Doris Johnson at 496-1728.

All profits go to the Wesley Community Center in Portsmouth, a National Mission Institution of the United Methodist Church.



**Saturday, November 15th**  
 Doors open at 6:00 PM  
 Supper at 6:30 PM  
 Tickets \$14.00 per person  
 Nursery for children 6 and under.  
 Snack provided. Must register in advance with names and ages.

Entertainment by Thalia Singers  
**100%** of ticket sales benefit large hall renovation.  
 Tickets on sale starting Sunday, October 19th.



The Thalia Striders are getting organized and energized for another year of fund raising. Our “Relay for Life” team is open to everyone wanting to do something positive to fight cancer.

We meet on the second Tuesday night of each month at 7:00 PM. The next meeting will be October 14th.

The first fund raiser for 2009 will be our semi-annual Bake Sale scheduled for November 9th.

Mary McKinney—Team Captain

For the Advent season, the Program Council would like to continue the thematic approach that has all members studying the same scriptures and readings.



*Advent*

Devotional Study

We are proposing the book “What Do You Want For Christmas?” by James Moore for a short four-week study or devotional for each Sunday School Class. It can be purchased as a single book to be used as a devotional, lesson, or individuals can purchase a copy to read each week at home.

The book explores the question of what people really want for Christmas, which only Christmas can give - peace, joy, love, and forgiveness. Each lesson includes a Scripture, a brief reflection, discussion/reflection questions, a brief prayer, and a focus for the next week. There will be a sign-up outside the Sanctuary for your class or for individuals. We will order the books, which are now at \$6.50, but if we order enough, we hope to reduce the price to \$5.00. Give yourself a special gift this Christmas. Don’t we all wish for peace, joy, love and forgiveness? Let’s share in this community of faithful believers!

Pat Mills, Spiritual Formation Team Leader

John Calvin urged that we offer prayer “when we arise in the morning, before we begin daily work, when we sit down to a meal, when, by God’s blessing, we have eaten, and when we are getting ready to retire.”

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Remember to turn in  
your **Farm Fresh**  
receipts to the  
church office.

Coming  
Events



- October 3-4: UMW Rummage Sale, Ladies of the Church Bake Sale and Sidewalk Café
- October 10-12: Youth Beach Retreat, Sandbridge
- October 23: TUMC Annual Charge Conference, 7:00 PM
- October 25: Children's Holy Ghost Weenie Roast
- October 26: Fall Hymn Festival, VBUMC, 4:00 PM
- November 1: TUMC Youth District Rally, "R U Shining?"
- November 15: Jake's Diner, 6:00 PM
- November 23: Stop Hunger Now Packing Event
- November 23: Community Thanksgiving Service
- December 7: Children's Christmas Program
- December 14: Thalia Musical Presentation

Check our website for information updates  
[www.thaliaumc.org](http://www.thaliaumc.org)

