



# WESLEY FAMILY NEWS

October 2009

Wesley United Methodist Church 8412 Richmond Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22309-2328

## Elisabeth von Trapp Performing at Wesley

For Elisabeth von Trapp, “ the sounds of music “ are part of her earliest memories. Born and raised in Vermont, Elisabeth is the granddaughter of the legendary Maria and Baron von Trapp, whose story inspired *The Sound of Music*. Singing professionally since childhood, Elisabeth has enthralled audiences from European cathedrals to Washington D.C.’s Kennedy Center. Inspired by her father Werner von Trapp’s guitar playing and singing, Elisabeth has carried on the legacy of the internationally renowned Trapp Family Singers. She began taking piano lessons when she was eight and by the age of sixteen she was playing guitar and traveling the back roads of New England performing with her siblings at weddings, gospel meetings and town halls.

No one leaves an Elisabeth von Trapp performance unchanged ... audiences of all ages are drawn by the promise of her famous name ... awed by the beauty of her voice and musical arrangements ... their hearts touched forever by the astonishing sound of her unique new music.



**Current Special Needs:**

**UCM**---tomato sauce, pasta, rice, beans, canned vegetables and fruits, Enfamil with iron, canned tuna, juice boxes, small-sized snacks and large size diapers

**Rising Hope**---microwaveable macaroni and cheese, vienna sausage, spam, tuna, pasta, tomato sauces, peanut butter, jelly, single-serving canned fruit, cup-of-noodles, rice baby cereal, baby formula, baby food, and diapers all sizes



**Liora  
Karla  
Patricia  
Tomlinson  
Baptized  
September  
20, 2009**



Wesley Family news is a monthly publication of the Wesley United Methodist Church staff in Alexandria, VA . It is published to convey information with the members and friends of the church about The Virginia Annual Conference, The Alexandria District and the program offerings of Wesley as a connnectional member of the United Methodist Church.

Bishop: Charlene Payne Kammerer

District Superintendent: Alan Reifsnyder

**Wesley United Methodist Church Staff Members**

- Tony Forstall**, Pastor .....wforstall@cox.net ..... 703-780-5019
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## *Message from Pastor Tony...*

A couple of months ago I spoke of that moment in our lives when we search after and desire God and come to place where we can go no further on our own. At that moment I encouraged you to stay there and wait versus giving up or running away. I suggested that by staying put and waiting you would experience the marvelous love a God extending through any barrier to reach and be with you.

In my first experience of this image I found myself seated in a clearing in the woods with a hedgerow to my right. The hedgerow was impenetrable. Never the less God penetrates to extend a loving and comforting presence to be with me. Being seated seemed to indicate that I was willing to wait and was committed to staying there and wait upon God. This was a great comfort and a pleasant grace.

Lately the situation has shifted in a small but a dramatic way. I am still seated in the same place with the same experiences. Yet, I am realizing that I am no longer just seated. I find I am seated in wheel chair! This is not a little disturbing. What does this mean, if any thing at all? I wondered if this was meant as a prediction for the future. Is this what I was to become? That idea didn't seem to make sense in my spirit. What did seem to connect is that I come to God (as I believe we all do) with limitations, some of them severe.

What are my limitations? I know many of them. Some of you might be able to offer ones I hadn't even thought of. God, through Jesus in the power of the Spirit, will direct me as I need.

This confinement to a wheel chair also led me to ponder how all of us are differently-abled. Rather than seeing ourselves with abilities and disabilities we can say that any-

one is enabled differently. Some of our valued abilities, recognized and valued by most as gifts, are the very things that keep us from loving as God calls us to love. Sometimes some one not blessed with abilities that are "normal and commended may have been given new, less obvious avenues to God's presence and service in His name.

(Mark 9:42-48) "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. {43} If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. {44} {45} And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. {46} {47} And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, {48} where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

Jesus' flair for the extreme sometimes keeps us from applying his words in the mundane and small parts of our lives. The causes of my stumbling are more often my attitudes, my anger, and my ignorance. I invite you to ask the question, "What keeps me from experiencing God's love and power?"

When you answer that question be careful. Sometimes we identify external situations and other people as our stumbling block. They may or may not be. But you can't really change those things and in order to experience God's love and power you need not change or remove them. Indeed the only way to change any other person or external situation is to allow God to change you.

## From the Finance Committee...

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	2008 Year to Date
Budget Income	16,048	114,715	131,441
Budget Expense	18,260	124,800	121,698
Net Budget	(2,212)	(10,085)	9,743
Non-Budget Income	1,801	16,675	16,630
Non-Budget Expense	98	17,242	1,538
Net Non-Budget	1,703	(567)	15,092
Pre-School Income	480	26,739	40,886
Pre-School Expense	1,522	31,323	33,402
Net Pre-School	(1,042)	(4,584)	7,484
Total Income	18,329	158,129	188,957
Total Expense	19,880	173,365	156,637
Net Total	(1,551)	(15,236)	32,320
	<u>12/31/2008</u>	<u>8/31/2009</u>	
Cash Balance	52615	38020	
General Fund	5718	-4764	
Preschool Funds	10817	6233	
Capital Campaign Funds	17839	11163	
We have paid 43% of Conference and District Benevolences due as of August, 2009			
For 2008 we paid 73% of Conference and District Benevolences for the year.			

## Annual Charge Conference

Tuesday, Oct. 20

7:30 PM

St James United Methodist Church  
5000 Echols Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22311

Everyone is invited to attend

## October Kid Venture

**Virtue:** Individuality—discovering who you are meant to be so you can make a difference.

**Memory Verse:** “How you made me is amazing and wonderful.” Psalm 139:14, NIRV

### Oct 4, 2009 – Week 1

**Bible Story:** THE Onesimus (Paul’s letter to Philemon about Onesimus) •  
Philemon 1:1,8-21

**Bottom Line:** When you belong to God, you can make a difference.

### Oct 11, 2009 – Week 2

**Bible Story:** THE Epaphroditus (Epaphroditus, a fellow worker) •  
Philippians 2:25-30

**Bottom Line:** When you take care of others, you can make a difference.

### Oct 18, 2009 – Week 3

**Bible Story:** The Dorcas (the story of Dorcas) •  
Acts 9:36-42

**Bottom Line:** When you use what you have to help others, you can make a difference.

### Oct 25, 2009 – Week 4

**Bible Story:** The One and Only (one body, many parts) •  
1 Corinthians 12:14-21,25-27

**Bottom Line:** When you do your part, you can make a difference.



## Youth Group Update

It has only been a short while since our first official youth group meeting on Rally Sunday, but already it is clear to see that this is going to be a great year for the youth. This year's verse is going to be 1 Timothy 4:12, "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith, and in purity." It is my hope that through making these words our focus this year the youth will grow in each one of the areas mentioned in this verse.

We have changed things up a bit as far as the structure of youth group as well. This year we will be meeting right after church on Sunday's until about 12:30 pm to have some fellowship, some food, and some time praying with each other and studying scripture together. From talking with the youth it seemed that this might be the best time to get as many of them together at once as possible.

In addition to meeting on Sunday's we will also be having youth group meetings on Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:30 pm. By having two youth group meetings a week and one mission/service opportunity per month the youth will constantly be exposed to the grace of Christ.

I am also excited to announce that the youth group will be going on a fall retreat the weekend of October 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$60 per person which includes lodging for two nights, all activities and all food. Make sure your youth signs up and if you have more questions you can email me at [kovjoh@bethel.edu](mailto:kovjoh@bethel.edu). Registration forms can be found on the youth page of the church's website.

Finally, as always volunteers are needed in a variety of ways. We need volunteers to help drive, cook, and counsel at the youth retreat. Also if God puts it on your heart to sponsor a lunch for one of our Sunday youth group meeting, it would truly be appreciated. Your prayers for the youth are always welcomed and encouraged.

God Bless.

John Kovacs  
Youth Director

## United Methodist Men

Wesley UMM have returned for another exciting year.

Thank to all who came out and to those who helped to make the Alex. Dist. UMM Rally on Sept. 12th made it a powerful day.

Wesley's UMM will resume meeting on Oct. 3 at 8:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall October's program will be a time to reflect on the future of our Men's Ministry and those programs which will give our support to during the reminder of this year and next. year.

There is one big event that is The Virginia Conference UMM Spiritual . November 6-8,2009 at Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center (VUMAC) in Blackstone. This years featured guest speaker is the Rev. Dr. Brain Collier. For more information please contact me (Bud West: [budwest681@hotmail.com](mailto:budwest681@hotmail.com) or visit the Virginia UMM website ([www.VirginiaMen.org](http://www.VirginiaMen.org)).

### Subscribe Today

## Virginia United Methodist Advocate Newsmagazine

Virginia United Methodist Advocate, the official conference newsmagazine is published monthly throughout the year. It provides information, interpretation and inspiration to approximately 7,000 subscribers.

Individual subscriptions are presently \$15 per year (\$25 for 2 years; \$36 for 3 years) when paid directly to the Advocate office. Individuals who subscribe during their local church's annual Advocate campaign pay the same rate.

Church members can save money and time by subscribing for 2 or 3 years — 2 years for \$25 (SAVE \$5) or 3 years for \$36 (SAVE \$9). (Super Savings off the Cover Price of \$24/year!) A special rate of \$12/year for each subscription is also available for bulk orders (two or more) going to one address.

Please see Kym Clark in the church office to renew your subscription or to begin your new subscription. The official Subscription Drive ends October 30th.

### Wesley Family News Deadline

The deadline for submission of articles/items of interest for the Wesley Family News is at **Noon, the 15th of each month**. Please submit all items in writing. When possible, please send them via email to [WesleyChurch@verizon.net](mailto:WesleyChurch@verizon.net)



## Birthdays

10/01 Bud West	10/09 Elizabeth Forstall	10/19 Frances Siegel
10/01 Kamal Womack	10/10 Chris Holcomb	10/20 Lauren Walker
10/02 Ryan Kusterbeck	10/11 Steven Nixon	10/22 Dylan Ball
10/03 Eric Shultz	10/11 Alhaji Jeremiah Tracey	10/22 Todd Harris
10/04 Charlotte Forstall	10/13 Tom Grigsby	10/24 Megan Brown
10/05 Tony Forstall	10/13 Nathan Inlow	10/24 Jeff Nees
10/06 Samantha Murphy	10/13 Nicholas Inlow	10/24 James Roland
10/07 Luis Ferreira	10/15 Stephanie Restifo	10/25 Art Ferreira
10/07 Matthew Ferreira	10/16 Tom Ciuba	10/26 Christina Swartz
10/07 Betty Harris	10/17 Rowan Barry	10/28 Bill Convery
10/07 Christopher Inlow	10/18 Mason Ferreira	10/31 Tommy Brown
	10/19 Dick Lorentzen	

## Anniversaries

10/10/1987 Gary & Lauren Walker	10/24/1964 Richard & Noret Dovel
10/12/1985 Watson & Mary Pryor	10/24/1998 Richard & Katie Inlow
10/18/1969 David & Rebecca Chase	10/28/1978 Jim & Diane Smith

## In-Service

Date	10/04/2009	10/11/2009	10/18/2009	10/25/2009
Acolyte	Elizabeth Forstall	Joseph Forstall	Matthew Grigsby	Hannah Nees
Lector	Fran West	Christina Swartz	Watson Pryor	Gayle Bessemer
Childcare	Judy Ferreira & Sydney Nixon	Connie & Marina Dohm	Linda Baublitz & Audry Pomerening	Margaret Minnie & Connie Lorentzen
Counters	Bill Convery & Charles Anderson	Lou DeVaughn & Jeff Nees	Corey Tullar & Steve Skidmore	Donna Adams & Corey Tullar
Coffee Hour	Jean Hayden	Lou DeVaughn	Jean & Coleman Harris	Nancy Nixon
Communion Steward	Nancy Convery			

Wesley UMC Alexandria VA				Oct 2009 (Eastern Time)			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
9am - Christian 9:30am - Kid Venture 10am - Worship @ 11am - UMYF @ 12pm - All Nations	10:30am - Bible Study 7pm - Bell Choir 7pm - BS Troop 993 @ 7pm - Trinity Circle	7pm - Nominations 7pm - Women's Step	7pm - Adult Choir	7pm - Webloe II @ 7:30pm - Harmonica 8:30pm - AA @ FH #1	8am - UMMen		
World Communion 9am - Christian 9:30am - Kid Venture 10am - Worship @ 11am - UMYF @ 12pm - All Nations 12:30pm - GS 849 @	10:30am - Bible Study 7pm - Bell Choir 7pm - BS Troop 993 @	6:30pm - CS Webloe I 7pm - SPRC Meeting 7pm - Women's Step	5:30pm - CS Wolves @ 5:30pm - Neighborho 7pm - Adult Choir 7pm - Venture Crew	10am - Meals On 5:30pm - GS 2426 @ 6:30pm - GS Service 7pm - CS Bears @ 7pm - Webloe II @ 7:30pm - Harmonica 8:30pm - AA @ FH #1	4:30pm - Elizabeth 7:30pm - Elisabeth 8:30pm - von Trapp		
9am - Christian 9:30am - Kid Venture 10am - Worship @ 11am - UMYF @ 12pm - All Nations 12:30pm - GS 849 @	Columbus Day 10:30am - Bible Study 7pm - Bell Choir 7pm - BS Troop 993 @ 7:30pm - Finance	10am - ROCK @ 7pm - Women's Step 7:30pm - Administrat	7pm - Adult Choir 7:30pm - MZCA	5:30pm - GS 2426 @ 7pm - Trustee 7:30pm - Harmonica 8:30pm - AA @ FH #1	5:30pm - GS Movie		
9am - Christian 9:30am - Kid Venture 10am - Worship @ 11am - UMYF @ 12pm - All Nations 12:30pm - GS 849 @	10:30am - Bible Study 7pm - Bell Choir 7pm - BS Troop 993 @	10am - Circle Meeting 7pm - Women's Step 7:30pm - Charge	5pm - Staff Meeting 5:30pm - CS Wolves @ 7pm - Adult Choir	5:30pm - GS 2426 @ 7pm - CS Bears @ 7:30pm - Harmonica 8:30pm - AA @ FH #1	Wesley MYF Fall Retreat @ West View on the		
Wesley MYF Fall Reformation Sunday 9am - Christian 9:30am - Kid Venture 10am - Worship: Pre- 11am - UMYF @	10:30am - Bible Study 7pm - Bell Choir 7pm - BS Troop 993 @ 7pm - Trinity Circle	6:30pm - CS Webloe I 7pm - Venture Crew 7pm - Women's Step 7:30pm - BS 993	7pm - Adult Choir	5:30pm - GS 2426 @ 7:30pm - Harmonica 8:30pm - AA @ FH #1	Halloween		

**Starting October 1st****Double the Impact of Your Giving**

All Contributions to the Capital Campaign will be matched dollar or dollar beginning October 1. Audry Pomerening's former partners have offered to match your contributions up to a total of \$10,000. If you can, without reducing your regular financial support of the church, contribute to the capital campaign and double your gift!

Bi-District Leadership Training Day  
January 9, 2010



RESURRECTING EXCELLENCE :  
Shaping Faithful Christian Ministry

**Leadership Training Day**

Saturday, January 9, 2010,

9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC), Annandale Campus.

\$25 registration will be open October 15-December 18, 2009  
\$60 registration on day of the event ONLY

**Pumpkin Patch Opens Saturday, October 11**

Mount Vernon United Methodist Church  
2006 Belle View Blvd  
Alexandria, VA 22307-1300

**Alexandria District Conference  
October 17, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.**

**Manassas St. Thomas UMC**  
8899 Sudley Road, Manassas 20110

Rev. Denise Honeycutt  
VA Conference Director of Mission and Global Outreach  
And District Business including Election of  
2010 Annual Conference Delegates

District Conference Offering (Monetary & Non-Perishable Food)  
For Rising Hope UM Mission Church's Food Pantry

**Mark Your Calendar now and plan to attend. .**



Wesley Preschool and Kindergarten  
October Newsletter 2009

Hi Everyone:



October's here already! The first month of school was GREAT. Your children are wonderful and we truly feel blessed to be a part of their education. This month our classes will be learning about the wonder of autumn, GOD MADE FALL. We will also learn more about fire safety (Take this opportunity to talk about fire safety in your home.) and I'm sure you'll see pumpkins, skeletons, spiders and bats adorning our halls. Don't forget that now's the time to arrange with your child's teacher to do some volunteer work your child's class.

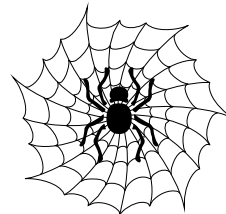
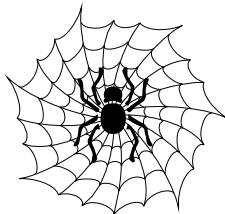
**Mark your calendars:**  
**No school on October 12<sup>th</sup>, Columbus Day.**  
**October 16<sup>th</sup>, Fire Safety Puppets visiting the school.**

The weather is changing! Make sure when the weather is cooler that you send a jacket for your child because we will go outside!

**Fall Festival: October 30<sup>th</sup>.** Fall Festival Dance! Parents and siblings are welcome. Cameras and videos are invited Please bring a plate of goodies to share. (Cheese/crackers, fruit, veggies, cookies, etc.) Costumes are welcomed as long as they are not scary or distasteful. Remember we are a "Christian Preschool."

**For November:**  
**Mark your calendars**  
**Individual School Pictures will be taken on November 09<sup>th</sup>**  
**And we have no school on Nov. 2 and 3rd.**

**Have a great October! Blessings to all of you!**  
**The Wesley Preschool and Kindergarten Staff**



God bless you!

**Wesley United Methodist Church**

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Virginia 22121  
PERMIT #1

Daily devotions: <http://www.wesleyva.org/devotional>

Address Correction Requested



October 9th  
7:30 pm

Elisabeth von Trapp

October 23rd - 25th

Youth Retreat

