

THE MESSENGER

A newsletter of Manor Memorial United Methodist Church

August-September 2026



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Manor Memorial United Methodist Church

9320 North Congress Street
New Market, VA 22844
540-740-8959

Pastor.....Stephen Creech
Lay Leader.....Rick Hassler
Governing Board Chair.....
Doug Loman
Director of Music Ministries.....
Gillian Saunders
Accompanist.....Enzo Abarquez
Administrative Asst .Debbie Creech
Superintendent of the Shenandoah
River District.....Kyungsuk Cho
Bishop of the Virginia Conference
Sue Hauptert-Johnson

EMAILS:

StephenCreech@vaumc.org
manormemorial@gmail.com

WEBSITE:

www.manormemorialumc.org

FACEBOOK:

www.facebook.com/ManorMemorialUMC

SUNDAY WORSHIP:

8:45 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.

Holy Communion on the first Sunday
of each month

Church Office Hours: Monday –
Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Jesus Loves Me

Rev. Stephen Creech



When I was a teenager, I participated in a Lay Witness Mission in a small community in Maryland. These weekend missions typically began on Friday evening and concluded on Sunday morning. During the Saturday evening worship service, each person in the congregation was given a small wooden cross to carry in a pocket as a reminder of Christ's presence and love.

In the midst of distributing the crosses, one little preschool girl was accidentally overlooked. She tugged gently on her mother's sleeve and quietly asked, "Does Jesus love me?"

Her mother, surprised by the question, replied, "Why, yes, Jesus loves you. Why do you ask?"

The little girl answered, "Because I didn't get one of His crosses."

Her innocent words have stayed with me through the years. They remind us how easily we can associate God's love with outward signs, when His love reaches far beyond anything we can hold in our hands.

As Christians, we are called to take up our cross and follow Christ—not simply to endure life's hardships, but to live as witnesses to the love and grace of our living Savior. Our testimony is not centered on the burdens we carry, but on the One who carries us through them. We are not called to dwell on our trials, but to proclaim the hope and salvation we have in Jesus Christ.

If Jesus loves me, then there is a cross for me to bear. Yet His cross is never meant to crush me. Instead, it draws me closer to Him and reminds me that I never walk alone. As Jesus Himself said, "My yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Too often we become so weighed down by the cares of this world that we lose sight of the eternal glory God has prepared for those who love Him. We allow temporary struggles to overshadow everlasting hope.

Yes, Jesus loves me. The cross He gives me is not intended to make my burden heavier, but to teach me to trust Him with every burden I carry. When I place my worries, fears, and sorrows into His hands, I discover the peace that only He can give.

Every cross I bear becomes a reminder—not of God's absence—but of His unfailing love. And with grateful confidence, I can joyfully proclaim:

Yes, Jesus loves me.

-- SRC

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. 26 What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?" Matthew 16: 24-26



Sunday, September 13, 2026

11:00 a.m. Worship Service NO EARLY SERVICE

Fellowship Meal afterward

Guest Speaker: Rev. Bass Mitchell

Update from Mercy and Outreach Committee

We are concluding our school supplies collection for Ashby Lee Elementary School in Quicksburg and will deliver the supplies in early August.



On Open **HOUSE DAY**, August 10th, the committee will provide dinner for the staff of Ashby Lee Elementary School, North Fork

Middle School and Stonewall Jackson High School. We appreciate your support and participation in the school supplies collection! Many teachers and students will benefit in the use of the supplies.

TOTAL SUPPLIES COLLECTED:

Black Dry Erase Markers – 240

16 count pack Crayons – 100

#2 Pencils – 622 Glue Sticks – 203

2 Pocket Folders with Prongs – 180

Pencil Sharpeners - 2

Washable Crayola Coloring Markers – 102

Colored Pencils – 102

Wide Ruled Spiral Notebooks – 195

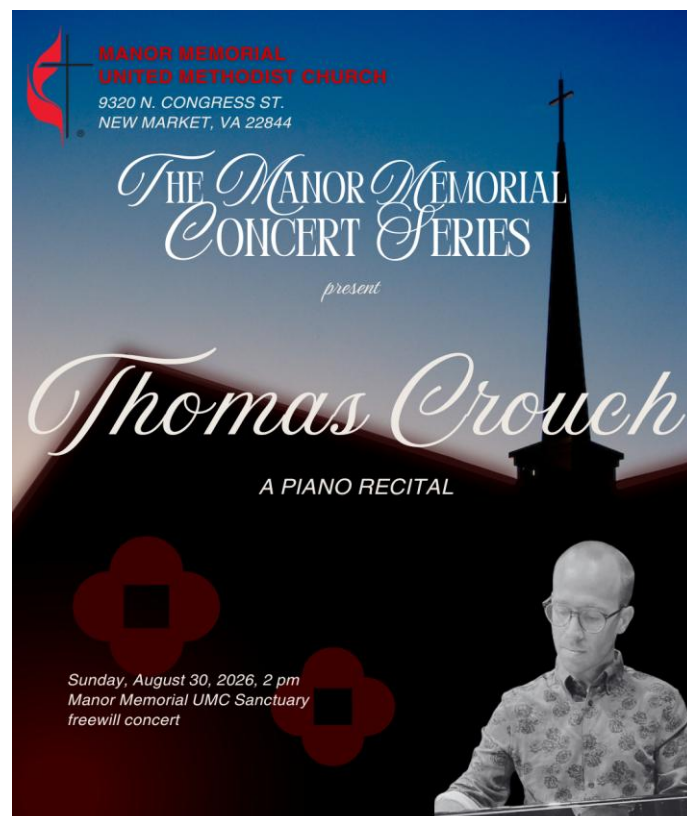
Dry Erase Markers – 2

Update from Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry

On Thursday, July 16th, our Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry assisted **53 families** with supplemental food for a total of 141 individuals who were in need of food assistance. During last month's food pantry on June 18th, the pantry served **66 families** for a total of 148 individuals. Over the past few months, we have seen fairly consistent patron guest attendance. However, summer rains and extreme heat have definitely had an effect on the number of families visiting our pantry. Thank you to all those who volunteer their time, talents, and manpower to serve at the pantry.



We are open on the 3rd Thursday of the month from **1 pm to 5 pm.** in the lower level of Farrow Hall and our main entrance is located on John Siever Road. If you know of someone in need of food assistance, for a one-time visit or long-term need, please let them know we are here to help with their food concerns. Either they or you can contact the church office by calling 540-740-8959. Donations to the food pantry mission can be made directly by making your check payable to **MMUMC Food Pantry** or **Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry**. Many thanks for your continued support



Concert Series at Manor Memorial Month of August

August 2nd – 2:00 p.m.
Aleksandra Velgosha (Piano Recital)

August 30th – 2:00 p.m.
Thomas Crouch (Piano Recital)

These are freewill concerts

*Come and spend an enjoyable Sunday afternoon listening to
professional musicians sharing their gifts*

Farewell Luncheon for Gillian Saunders

After faithfully serving as our **Director of Music**, Gillian will be leaving Manor Memorial United Methodist Church to pursue new opportunities in brighter fields.



Please join us as we express our love, gratitude, and appreciation for her dedicated ministry with a **Farewell Luncheon** in her honor following the 11:00 a.m. worship service on **Sunday, August 30**.

Come and help us celebrate Gillian, thank her for the many ways she has blessed our congregation through music, and wish her God's richest blessings as she begins this new chapter.

Luncheon details will be announced soon.

Update from United Women in Faith

!

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24



**United
Women
in Faith**

RECAP OF UNDISCOVERED SUNDAY – JULY 26

The results are in! Undiscovered Sunday was a monumental success! The congregation's outpouring of love and generosity was overwhelming. UWF collected 260 pairs of girls' undies, 121 pairs of boys' undies, and 217 pairs of socks for the children served by the District

Children's Clothes Closet at Mission Central. We also received \$165 in donations. "Thank you," doesn't begin to cover the feeling of gratitude felt by all. Your donations will be a blessing to so many children.

August 3 – 6 pm Monthly UWF Dinner with UMM & Meeting

UWF will provide the meal: Meatball sandwiches, salad, and dessert.

- Crockpot with meatballs and sauce – Debbie S. & Donna M.
- Marinara sauce – Yvette & Lana
- Mozzarella Cheese – Cheryl
- Bread – Debbie C.
- Salad – Clara
- Dessert – Carol, Donna L. & Dee

Meet at 4:30 pm to set-up.

We will finish examining the "**Living Into Our Purpose**" form, recording our unit's activities during the past year. Your ideas are always welcome for opportunities to be involved in mission for women, children, and youth locally and globally.

UNIT ACTIVITIES

August 3 – 6 pm Monthly UWF Dinner with UMM & Meeting

August 22 – Assist with UMM's Chicken Bar-B-Q

Volunteers – Carol Douglas, Clara Chambliss, Lana Cox

**September 7 – 6 pm Monthly UWF Dinner with UMM & Meeting
(UMM prepare dinner)**

September 25-26 UWF Rummage Sale

**September 26 – Assist with UMM's Chicken Bar-B-Q
Volunteers – Carol Douglas, Becky Schaeffer**

SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT UWF ACTIVITIES

**August 15 – August Fun Gathering, 11 am – 1:30 pm
Shenandoah County Park, Maurertown**

**September 12 – District Prayer Breakfast (SOUTH)
9 am, Mountain Valley UMC**

October 1 – District Annual Meeting, 7 pm - Zoom

We welcome all women of faith and invite you to join us at our monthly meetings in Farrow Hall.

Donna Myers, UWF President

UWF Officers

**President – Donna Myers
Vice President – Lana Cox
Secretary – Clara Chambliss
Treasurer – Debbie Creech**

Activities of the UMM for August and September:

Update from United Methodist Men



August 3rd – Monday - UMM/UMWF Monthly Meeting - 6pm Farrow Hall

August 22nd - Saturday - Chicken BBQ

September 14th - Monday - UMM/UMWF Monthly Meeting - 6pm Farrow Hall

September 26th - Saturday - Chicken BBQ

(During the grass growing season, the UMM maintain the church's lawn)

2026 UMM Officers

President: Tom Schaeffer

Vice President: Monty Cox

Secretary: Jay Munnikhuysen

Treasurer: Doug Loman

Board: Les Warr, Jim Douglas, Virgil Trent



Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 6:30 PM
Low Country Boil

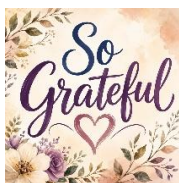
Speaker: Kimberly Jennings Beers
Co-Director for Healthcare for the Homeless Suitcase Clinic

Free Will Offering for JMU Suitcase Clinic

Keezletown UMC
RSVP to Scott Dillard 540-810-0903
so we have plenty of food for everyone.

Keezletown United Methodist Church
1456 Indian Trail Road
Keezletown, VA 22832

Keezletown United Methodist Men are planning a Fall Rally, **September 2, 2026m (Wednesday) at 6:30 PM** with a Low Country Boil and guest speaker from the JMU Suitcase Clinic. Rev. Richard Bensinger plans to share about upcoming UMM ministry/opportunities as well.



The family of Timothy and Amanda Creech is deeply grateful for the outpouring of love, prayers, and kindness shown to them following the passing of their son, Granger. Your compassion, support, and heartfelt expressions of sympathy have been a source of comfort during this difficult time.

Schedule for Shenandoah Terrace Worship Services



August 9th – Rev. Stephen Creech

August 23rd – Monty Cox

September 13th – Rev. Darlene Wilkins

September 27th - Jim Douglas

Shenandoah Terrace and Manor Memorial have partnered together to provide worship services for residents twice a month. Each service lasts approximately 30 minutes and includes a message, singing, and/or music.



Collection for the upcoming Rummage Sale continues each Wednesday through the end of August. Please bring your items to Farrow Hall. If you are unable to come during these times, just contact Debbie Smith or Jackie Spicer to arrange a more suitable time.

Items we wish to sell:

- Accessories (Jewelry, Scarves, Gloves)
- Books (Hardcover & Paperback)
- Blu-Rays, DVD's, CD's
- Furniture (Chairs, End Tables, Lamps, Bed Frames)
- Home Décor (Pictures, Knick Knacks)
- Kitchen Gadgets
- Kitchen Essentials (Dinner Ware, Canning Supplies, Flatware)
- Power Tools
- Small Appliances
- Soft Goods (Towels, Tablecloths, Placemats, Bedding)
- Toys, Games, & Puzzles

Items we do not wish to sell:

- Clothes
- Electronics

Friday, September 25, 2026
(3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.)
Saturday, September 26, 2026
(9:00 a.m. until...)
9320 North Congress Street
New Market, Va 22844
Proceeds will go to various charities

Biography of Denzel Abarquez "Enzo"

would share a little about his pursuits, so read on.

Many of you have asked about the background of our accompanist, Enzo Abarquez. We asked him if he



Denzel Abarquez hails from the Philippines. He is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in Piano Performance, Pedagogy, and Literature from James Madison University (Harrisonburg, VA) under the tutelage of Dr. Gabriel Dobner. Lovingly called Enzo at JMU, Enzo is a doctoral assistant, serving as accompanist to the School of Music. He has worked with the vocal studios of Dr. Bridgid Eversole and Dr. Sonya Baker, and instrumental studios of Dr. Diane Phoenix-Neal (viola), Dr. Paulo Steinberg (piano). Enzo has served as the accompanist for the conducting studio of Dr. Kira Omelchenko, and has performed as soloist for the JMU Symphony Orchestra. Outside JMU, Enzo serves as an organist at Manor Memorial United Methodist Church (New Market, VA) and piano teacher at Eastern Mennonite University Prep Music (Harrisonburg, VA). An avid festival

participant, Enzo has traveled to Taiwan (2019 Maestro Art International Piano Festival) and California (2025 Montecito International Music Festival) to pursue both solo and collaborative opportunities. This year, Enzo is humbled to have served as orchestra manager for the JMU String Camp and collaborative pianist for the American Viola Society Festival, both held at Forbes Center for the Performing Arts at James Madison University.



Teacher: Jessie Caffery

Chair Yoga at Manor Memorial

Starting September 8th

8:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

If you have been thinking about trying yoga, now is a wonderful time to begin! Jessie Caffery will be offering Chair Yoga Classes at Manor Memorial beginning September 8th twice a month on Tuesday morning for practitioners of all levels, especially beginners. Chair yoga is a gentle, low-impact form of yoga that is especially beneficial for those with balance concerns, limited mobility, or difficulty getting down to and up from the floor.

Practicing yoga while seated in a chair provides many of the same physical and wellness benefits as traditional yoga, while making the movements safer and more accessible. It is an excellent way to improve flexibility, strength, balance, and overall well-being in a comfortable and supportive environment.

If you have questions about Chair Yoga or would like more information, please contact **Jessie Caffery** at **540-325-5314**.

To register online or learn more about Moon Child Yoga, visit **yogamoonchild.com**.

We hope you will join us as we continue to promote health, wellness, and fellowship within our church and community!

Sentara Six-Week Grief Support Group **Sentara Hospice Services**

Free to anyone in the community dealing with grief due to the loss of a loved one.

Session 1

July 28-September 1st
6 Consecutive Tuesdays – 11 am. To 12:30
Bethlehem Brethren Church
178 Pleasant Hill Road
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Session II

July 30 – September 3
6 consecutive Thursdays – 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.
Sentara Hospice Services
871 Martin Luther King Jr. way, Suite 203
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

To register and for more details, contact
Melanie Wylie, Bereavement Coordinator,
at 540-564-5833 or email at mdwylie@sentara.com

Register Your Child Now for Biblebreak Classes!



**Weekday Religious Education
Starts September 15th
In Shenandoah County**

Click on the QR code below for
Student Sign Up!

CALENDAR—AUGUST 2026

Sunday, August 2nd - Holy Communion

Sunday, August 2nd – 2:00 p.m. – Aleksandra Velgosha Concert Series (Piano)

Monday, August 3rd – 6:00 p.m. UMM and UWF dinner and meetings

Wednesday, August 5th – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. – Bring your Rummage Sale items to church

Thursday, August 6th – beginning at 9:00 a.m. – District Committee on Ordained Ministry meet in Manor Hall (Private Event)

Sunday, August 9th – 1:30 p.m. – Worship at Shenandoah Terrace – Speaker – Rev. Creech

Wednesday, August 12th – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. – Bring your Rummage Sale items to church

Wednesday, August 19th – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. – Bring your Rummage Sale items to church

Thursday, August 20th- 1 to 5 p.m.—Food Pantry

Sunday, August 23rd – 1:30 p.m. – Worship at Shenandoah Terrace – Speaker – Monty Cox

Wednesday, August 26th – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. – Bring your Rummage Sale items to church

Sunday, August 30th – 2:00 p.m. – Thomas Crouch Concert Series (Piano)

CALENDAR—SEPTEMBER 2026

Wednesday, September 2nd – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. – Bring your Rummage Sale items to church

Sunday, September 6th - Holy Communion

Monday, September 7th – LABOR DAY (church office closed)

Tuesday, September 8th – 5:00 p.m. – Worship Committee meeting

Wednesday, September 9th – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. – Bring your Rummage Sale items to church

Wednesday, September 9th – 5:30 p.m. – Choir practice

Thursday, September 10th – 1:00 p.m. – Mercy and Outreach Committee meeting

Sunday, September 13th – 11:00 a.m.-MANOR MEMORIAL HOMECOMING (No Early Worship) with fellowship lunch afterward. Guest Speaker – Rev. Bass Mitchell Guest Organist – Yasmin Phillip

Sunday, September 13th- 1:30 p.m. - Worship Service at Shenandoah Terrace
(Rev. Darlene Wilkins, Speaker)

Monday, September 14th – 6:00 p.m. UMM and UWF dinner and meetings

Wednesday, September 16th – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. – Bring your Rummage Sale items to church

Thursday, September 17th - 1 to 5 p.m.—Food Pantry

Friday, September 25th and Saturday, September 26th, Rummage Sale, sponsored by the UWF

Sunday, September 27th - 1:30 p.m. - Worship Service at Shenandoah Terrace – Speaker
– Jim Douglas

WEEKLY EVENTS

Chair Yoga at 8:45 a.m. meets on two Tuesdays in the month (Starts September 8th)

Yoga meets in Farrow Hall on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. (Starts on September 8th)

Choir meets every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

AA meets in Manor Hall on Tuesdays and Fridays from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Jesse and Peggy Alger
Matt & Marianne Branigan
Alvin (Ron Humphries' father-in-law)
Norma Miller

We have updated the prayer list. If there is someone you would like included, please call the church office.

SYMPATHY

Nancy Martz – July 30, 2026
Elizabeth Funkhouser – July 29, 2026
(sister of Dick Lamma)

HOME-LIMITED

Henry and Catherine Buhl
Joyce Dawson
Juanita Durrett

WORSHIP SERVER SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2026

Liturgists:

August: Rick Hassler (08-02) (08-09)
Donna Myers (08-16) (08-23) (08-30)

September: Elizabeth Sawyer (09-06)
(09-13) (09-20) (09-27)

Ushers:

August: Doug Loman
September: Jim Douglas

Greeters:

August: Rhonda Bowen
September: Cheryl Hassler

IN NURSING FACILITIES

Pat Brumback – Shenandoah Place, 50
Burkholder Lane, New Market, VA 22844

Nancy Cotton – Shenandoah Place, 50
Burkholder Lane, New Market, VA 22844

Vivian Myers – Shenandoah Place, 50 Burkholder
Lane, New Market, VA 22844

BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST

08-06 Matt Hughes
08-14 Daniel Walker
08-15 Vivian Myers
08-16 Tom Linski
08-21 Haley Hughes
08-24 Dianna Siever
08-25 Anna Palmer
08-26 Jill Bush
08-26 Gail McKinney
08-28 Gillian Saunders
08-30 Frank Driver

SEPTEMBER

09-02 Jeff Rexroad
09-03 Melanie Sullivan
09-04 V Kagey
09-05 Missy Hughes
09-08 Oliver Finrock
09-09 Edith Butler
09-09 Katherine Butler
09-12 Don Erbaugh
09-13 Bill Wright
09-16 Linda Borrer
09-16 Bob Schmidt
09-21 Becky Schaeffer
09-21 Joseph Wilkins
09-22 Darlene Wilkins
09-23 Phyllis Deeney
09-23 Jan Hearn
09-26 Janelle Seekford
09-28 Ken Deeney

Counters:

Aug 2	Clark Myers & Jay Munnikhuysen
Aug 9	Clark Myers & Jay Munnikhuysen
Aug 16	Clark Myers & Jay Munnikhuysen
Aug 23	Tom Schaeffer & Elizabeth Sawyer
Aug 30	Tom Schaeffer & Elizabeth Sawyer
Sep 6	Tom Schaeffer & Bonnie Good
Sep 13	Becky Schaeffer & Donna Myers
Sep 20	Becky Schaeffer & Jay Munnikhuysen
Sep 27	Becky Schaeffer & Jay Munnikhuysen

SERMONS, SCRIPTURES AND HYMN SELECTIONS FOR AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2026

August 2, 2026		10th Sunday after Pentecost	HOLY COMMUNION
LITURGICAL COLOR: RED		SERMON: Sometimes Blessings Hurt	Genesis 32:22-31
HYMN UMH 367	He Touched Me		Matthew 14:13-21
HYMN UMH 618	Let Us Break Bread Together		
August 9, 2026		11th Sunday after Pentecost	Matthew 14:22-33
LITURGICAL COLOR: RED		SERMON: Walking on Water	
HYMN UMH 369	Blessed Assurance		
HYMN UMH 707	Hymn of Promise		
HYMN UMH 378	Amazing Grace (1, 2, 4, 6)		
August 16, 2026		12th Sunday after Pentecost	Matthew 15:10-28
LITURGICAL COLOR: RED		SERMON: An Unworthy Believer	
HYMN UMH 64	Holy, Holy, Holy		
HYMN UMH 85	We Believe in One True God		
HYMN UMH 545	The Church's One Foundation		
August 23, 2026		13th Sunday after Pentecost	Matthew 16:13-20
LITURGICAL COLOR: RED		SERMON: Messiah	
HYMN UMH 404	Every Time I Feel the Spirit		
HYMN TFWS 2146	His Eye is on the Sparrow		
HYMN TFWS 2223	They'll Know We are Christians		
August 30, 2026		14th Sunday after Pentecost	Romans 12:9-21
LITURGICAL COLOR: RED		SERMON: Overcoming Evil	
HYMN UMH 451	Be Thou My Vision		
HYMN UMH 593	Here I am, Lord		
HYMN UMH 400	Come Thou Fount of Evry Blessing		
September 6, 2026	HOLY COMMUNION	15th Sunday after Pentecost	Romans 13:8-14
LITURGICAL COLOR: RED		SERMON: Live Like This!	
	HYMNS WILL BE SELECTED LATER		
September 13, 2026	HOMECOMING	16th Sunday after Pentecost	
LITURGICAL COLOR: RED		Guest Speaker: Rev. Bass Mitchell	
	HYMNS WILL BE SELECTED LATER		
September 20, 2026		17th Sunday after Pentecost	Matthew 20:1-16
LITURGICAL COLOR: RED		SERMON: Fair!	
	HYMNS WILL BE SELECTED LATER		
September 27, 2026		18th Sunday after Pentecost	Acts 3:1-19
LITURGICAL COLOR: RED		SERMON: What Will You Give?	
	HYMNS WILL BE SELECTED LATER		