



## Pastor's Column

As we enter 2017, I would like to share my annual goals as Lead Pastor of Hughes-El Buen Samaritano. The overarching goal for the year is church growth, inviting our

neighbors into relationship with Christ and us as we strive to continue Jesus' ministry in the world.

**Goal 1:** Work with church leaders to create and implement a "Marketing Plan" for the church.

A team has been recruited (Anne Dean, Kathie Gartrell, Marge Kumaki, Rick Ripley and Sharon Skinner) and we will discuss how we share our ministry for Christ with the community. Our mission, vision, values and current ministries are strong. How do we tell and show the world what is happening here? How can we further develop current ministries or create new ministries which change the world for Christ and help bring meaning and purpose to the lives of Christ's followers?

**Goal 2:** Personally visit with young adult members of the congregation to build relationships, listen for their vision and ideas for the congregation and seek participation and leadership in ministries.

Visiting with all members, especially those in crisis or transition, is important. But we have many young adults who grew up in this congregation and continue to live in this area. Connecting with young adults and growing a congregation with

worship and ministries meaningful for young adults brings greater energy and vitality to the body of Christ.

**Goal 3:** Envision, revise and strengthen the Informal/Contemporary Worship experience

Worship is at the core of what we do as a community of faith. Current trends in worship are to craft multi-sensory worship experiences. Our Worship Creative Team is already helping to plan seasons of worship services with thematic unity and multiple senses in mind. Remaining current on worship trends and especially Contemporary Christian music, is important as we seek to be relevant and grow as a congregation.

**Goal 4:** Strengthen the ministry partnership with Silver Spring UMC

We are committed to being ministry partners with Silver Spring UMC, sharing Pastor Evelyn, through June 30, at least. Opportunities to share in ministry and invite community members to be engaged with our faith communities strengthen our potential for growth. Evaluation of the current partnership, with goal setting, and completing grant application(s) will enable the partnership to continue for at least another year.

If the Spirit is nudging you to serve in any of these areas, please contact me. Pray for me and Hughes-El Buen Samaritano as we seek to continue being "faithful disciples reflecting the face of Christ to all whom we encounter."

## February Worship Opportunities

### February 5, 2017 – Epiphany 5

**Theme:** The role of faith and compassion to bring healing for all God's people.

**Scripture:** Luke 7:1-17

**Sermon Title:** "Healed by Faith; Healed by Compassion"

**A Service of Holy Communion**

### February 12, 2017 – Epiphany 6

**Theme:** Has Jesus fulfilled our hopes, dreams and visions? Sharing stories of the impact of following Christ.

**Scripture:** Luke 7:18-35

**Sermon Title:** "Are You the One?"

### February 19, 2017 – Epiphany 7

**Theme:** The power of forgiveness to change lives

**Scripture:** Luke 7:36-50

**Sermon Title:** "Forgiven!"

### February 26, 2017 – Transfiguration Sunday

**Theme:** Spiritual mountaintop experiences strengthen our faith, even as we continue to serve a world in need of healing and grace.

**Scripture:** Luke 9:28-45

**Sermon Title:** "Blinded by the Light"

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## Choir Notes

If you are looking for a great way to share your talents and specifically your musical talents, the choir is looking for YOU!

The choir rehearses Thursday evening from 7:30 - 8:30 p. m. and Sunday morning at 10:00. If you are a soprano, alto, tenor, or bass, we would like you to join us. If you are interested, contact Bill Fink at 302-592-0848 or any choir member.

Musically yours,  
Bill Fink  
Choir Director

## United Methodist Women Calendar

### February Circle Meetings

**Loyalty** on the 1st and **Friendship** on the 7th in the Parlor at their regular times. Check the Sunday Bulletins for any changes.

The **General Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, February 15 in the Parlor.

The **Executive Board Meeting** will be on Monday, February 27th at 10 a.m. in the Parlor.

If you shop at Giant, please consider buying Giant Gift Cards to use for your grocery shopping. We receive 5% from each card sold. The 5% has been used to provide scholarships of \$200 for each of our graduates and to accomplish other projects around our Church *when* funds are available. Gift Cards for \$25., \$50, and \$100 are sold in the library between services. These gift cards can also be used for Pea Pod purchases.

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### THE RUMMAGE SALE NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Rummage Sale at Hughes was started in the fifties. The women were excited about the \$300 they made to be used for Mission. Today, each Rummage Sale brings in between \$3,000 and \$4,000. Check the list to see who receives the benefits from the Rummage Sale.

A few of the women that worked on that Rummage Sale are still helping. In order for the Sale to continue, we **need your help**. Are you willing to give an hour or two at any time during the set up and sale. We need help Wednesday, March 15 between 5 and 8 p.m., during the days on Thursday, March 16 and Friday March 17, and during the beginning hours of the sale on Saturday, March 18, (9 to 11AM) and for clean up after the sale (1:30 to 3 PM). We can use many volunteers at all the above-mentioned times.

Doree Thorpe and Jeanette Baxter continue to serve as our very capable leaders. Please help us continue this service to mission, to the residents from the community who benefit from the bargains at the sale, and members of our congregation who contribute items they no longer need.

Middle School and High School students can earn credit toward their community service hours by helping before and during the Rummage Sale. Look for the sign-up sheets in the Narthex on the Sundays before the Sale.

Current recipients of sale proceeds include:

Pastor's Fund \$600, Hughes Church \$1,000, The following groups receive between \$100 and \$200 each year: Board of Child Care Auxiliary, Chamber of Commerce (provides holiday meals for fire and police personnel), Meals on Wheels, Shepherd's Table, Montgomery Interfaith, Camp Hope, ROCK, Hughes Food program, Montgomery Avenue Center and Susanne House (serves homeless women), TESS, Epworth House, and other community organizations.

### MYF Pancake Breakfast: A Sweet Success!



On Sunday morning, January 15th, the MYF youth served up pancakes and sausage in exchange for a free will offering. Over \$400 was raised to defray costs for their annual trip to ROCK in Ocean City at the beginning of February.

Thank you, MYF and to all who helped make this happen, as well as to all who donated to this very worthy cause.



## Notes from the Servant Team

By Dwight French

This past fall, Hughes underwent an administrative change. In place of the former Ministries Groups structure, with several program committees including Education and Worship underneath it, the service programs—other than those associated with Education and Worship—are now loosely gathered under the umbrella of one structural support group, called the *Servant Team*. “Loosely,” this means that individual service programs will generally operate on their own, without official committee oversight. The main purposes of the Servant Team are to provide support to any service programs if/when they need it, and to research and plan new service programs as opportunities arise.

The charter members of the Servant Team are now in place: Dwight French; Sharon Qaranivalu; Scott Lutrey; Amanda Vierling; and Evelyn Rivera. Each service program of the church has been assigned to one of the Servant Team members, who will act as a liaison for their programs. Any program that might need assistance of some sort (recruiting helpers, working with community partners, collecting supplies, etc.) should contact their assigned Team member. The assignments are as follows:

Dwight: Smart Sacks; Life Skills/ESL; Summer Lunch Program; Faith Promise; Missionary Contacts

Sharon: Shepherd’s Table; Hughes House; Arcola Nursing Home worship

Scott: TESS Center/Giving Tree/Giving Cross; Glenhaven ES support; Prayer Shawls; Prayer Ministry

Amanda: Blood Drive; Camp Hope; Meals on Wheels; Sunday Lunches for Bill Kaler

Evelyn: 4 Corners Service Center; Board of Child Care; SERVV; Rummage Sale; Women’s Shelter; Asbury support

Any service initiative that is not represented on the above assignment list and wants an assigned liaison should contact one of the Servant Team members and let them know.

As for new service programs, the Servant Team has started to investigate the possibility of adding a second monthly meal service to our Shepherd’s Table ministry. As you may be aware, Shepherd’s Table has just moved into a new building with beautiful new cafeteria facilities and has expanded their meal service to 19 meals per week; breakfast/lunch/dinner on M-F and brunch/dinner on Saturday and Sunday. They could use additional volunteer teams to help serve additional meals. We were thinking that perhaps an additional team could be formed, independent of the team that currently serves dinner on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. That team would serve lunch on some weekday or brunch on a Saturday. We would like to give people a chance to serve who may not be available for the evening Shepherd’s Table, or whose schedule better suits serving during the daytime.

Anyone interested in serving should contact Sharon Q. at [sharonq3@yahoo.com](mailto:sharonq3@yahoo.com). Please let her know what days you would be available. If we can find at least 7 people interested in this opportunity and someone willing to serve as coordinator, we could try to carry out this service project.

# RE-INTRODUCING LULA



Dear Hughes-EBS Family,

I am LULA, your **L**imited **U**se, **L**imited **A**ccess lift. I am happy to report that I am feeling much better and am very glad to be back in service for you. New sensors and rollers have been installed on my doors so that I can transport you from the ground floor to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and gym levels much more reliably. My “surgery” was estimated to cost \$18,646.00, but since my team of technicians was able to get me up and running in a fraction of the time budgeted, the final cost was \$12,691.84.

Please allow me to share with you ways that you can help me stay in service:

I am a lift, not an elevator. I can hold a maximum of three (3) people standing at any one time. If you are riding me in a wheelchair, then only one other person may ride with us.

Please do not hold my door open with your hand or use anything to prop my door open. I have an “open door” button on my control panel, all you need to do is press that button and my door will stay open.

And, please remember that my mission is to transport you, the members of my church family. You might notice that I am more petite than some of my full service cousins! I can’t be used for moving tables, chairs, grocery carts, heavy boxes or other bulky items. Every time I do, my doors get all out of sorts and I can’t be available for you. But, you could use the accessible ground floor entrance by our Parlor to move those larger items to the Social Hall.

I am so glad to be back, and I’m ready to be at your service.

<b>Financial Snapshot</b>		
Operating Budget	December 2016	Total 2016
Income	\$112,238*	\$591,570
Expenses	\$ 71,552	\$590,208
* \$55,000 was needed from Savings to balance the budget in 2016.		

## Our Church Family

### Deaths:

Thelma Trent (member) died December 6, 2016.

Kenneth Kidd (husband of Sally Kidd, our member who died March 2015) died December 8, 2016.

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## Thank You Notes

Again a huge thank you to the wonderful congregation of Hughes! **The Giving Tree** was a huge success. We served three families and surprised them with your generosity. Extra thanks to Rick Ripley, Doug Dixon and Cheryl Geske for your help.

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### FROM SEAN AT A WIDER CIRCLE:

Thank you for supporting A Wider Circle's Holiday Program. This year, with your help, we were able to provide gifts and holiday cheer to more than 3,500 children and adults! Here is what one participant had to say about the impact of the program:

I am in shock. I wish I could hug and kiss each and every one of them. They have no idea what this means to my family. They have no idea. I mean, it's fun to give gifts to people, but this is a lifesaver. When my kids wake up on Christmas, they're going to have tears in their eyes - I have a very emotional family. I am so grateful, from the bottom of my heart.

Your help this season has made a huge difference in the lives of those we serve and we are forever grateful. We look forward to working with you in the coming year as we continue to create solutions for those in need.

Regards,

Sean

Kindly e-mail your Caller articles to Marty Weaver, Editor at [caller@hughesumc.org](mailto:caller@hughesumc.org) or place them in the Caller drawer outside of the Church Office by the 15th of each month.