



The Prospector

Prospect United Methodist Church

Ebony Virginia

October 2008

<http://www.gbgm-umc.org/prospectatebony/index.html>

From our Pastor

I went to do the chaplaincy Wednesday and while preparing I ran across Psalm 112. I was so inspired with the text that I shared it at Bible Study that evening. I would like you to read the text and see how it can enhance your thought process.

- 1^[a] Praise the LORD. ^[b]
Blessed is the man who fears the LORD,
who finds great delight in his commands.
- 2 His children will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches are in his house,
and his righteousness endures forever.
- 4 Even in darkness light dawns for the upright,
for the gracious and compassionate and
righteous man. ^[c]
- 5 Good will come to him who is generous and lends
freely, who conducts his affairs with justice.
- 6 Surely he will never be shaken;
a righteous man will be remembered forever.
- 7 He will have no fear of bad news;
his heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.
- 8 His heart is secure, he will have no fear;
in the end he will look in triumph on his foes.
- 9 He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor,
his righteousness endures forever;
his horn ^[d] will be lifted high in honor.
- 10 The wicked man will see and be vexed,
he will gnash his teeth and waste away;
the longings of the wicked will come to nothing.

The text speaks so clearly of our ability to be the wellspring of Grace and Love for our children and grandchildren, as well as others. The way in which we handle adversity can also speak loudly of our faith in Christ Jesus.

There have been many twists and turns for our parish this year, along with many wonderful events. How we deal with them speaks volumes of who we are. I love rivers

and streams, their gentleness and also their power. We are to be like a rock in the middle of the stream of God's love. It is not supposed to stop with us but to surround us and continue to work past us. The righteousness of God will pour over us and will bring delight in our lives.

Blessings to you.

Love,

Ken Thrasher

Missions:

Well, the Summer is over and our Mission breakfasts are back! We hope that you have been enjoying them. Many thanks to Lee & Justin Cunningham and Tony & Jean Barnette for the delicious breakfast they prepared in October. Once again, I would like to invite you to participate in preparing a breakfast along with us. Please let us know if you would like to help, and we can always use clean-up help at the end. Our next breakfast will be Sunday, November 2nd prepared by Peggy & Dan Donochod.

Several of our men have worked hard recently building a handicap ramp for a person in need. Many thanks to Rudy Conner; Tony Barnette; Steve Forrest and Dan Donochod. This is a true "labor of love" and we thank them.

Your Mission Committee

Upcoming Events

- Oct. 16 UMM meeting
- Oct. 20 Administrative council meeting
- Oct. 26 Fellowship supper and Family Fun Night
- Oct. 27 UMW meeting
- Nov. 2 UMW Fall Day Apart at Prospect United Methodist Church. A district meeting.
- Nov. 17 Administrative council meeting
- Nov. 15 Spaghetti supper, UMW
- Nov. 17 Administrative council meeting
- Nov. 20 UMM meeting
- Nov. 24 UMW meeting
- Nov. 26 Thanksgiving Eve Service
- Nov. 30 Charge conference, Matthews Chapel United Methodist Church
- Dec. 6 UMW Advent Retreat, Blackstone
- Dec. 14 Children's Christmas Program and Cantata
- Dec. 15 Administrative Council meeting
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Candle lighting Service
- No UMW or UMM meetings in December.

World Changers Mission Trip

by Annie Parrish

As most of you know, this past June I went on my first missions trip to Augusta, Georgia. It was one of the best experiences of my life!

We started out on a Friday at 9 a.m. We had a couple of pit stops along the way and then a major stop when the tire blew out on the luggage trailer! Yet another fun experience, 30 youth standing on the side of a highway for an hour and a half!

We finally got on our way and after about five hours, stopped at a hotel outside of Augusta, to spend the night. We weren't due to check in until the next morning. When we got to the church where we would be staying, we saw it was huge!! There were 4 big buildings with classes in them and bathrooms with four showers in each one! There were almost 300 youth there to work. We slept in the Sunday school rooms. There were about ten girls from our group in there.

I had a pretty busy schedule: 6:15 am was breakfast, leave for the work site by 7, get back around 4 pm, if we were lucky! Once back, we showered and ate dinner about 6. In the evening there was worship and hanging out and finally bed at 11 pm. There was a great Christian band every night and I bought their cd.

I loved my crew and meeting new people. There were about 8 people on each crew. We were in downtown Augusta, in a very old area that needed a lot of work. We painted houses, rebuilt porches and spoke to a lot of the local people. I am sure that we changed the lives of many of the people we worked for.

Thank you all so much for supporting me and helping me to go on this mission. I learned so much and am ready to go on another one. Next year's mission will be to Norfolk, VA. The year after that will be international!

Fall Festival

Wow, our big day has come and gone. God was so good to us to allow us to have a rain free day.

Bev and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who worked so hard to make this event a big success. We also thank those that supported the event with their donations and purchases.

The total of the day was \$8,447.67.

Breakfast, country store, snack shack and crafts are still selling and turning in money.

At the end of the year we will have a final total for the event.

Thank you all once again and may God continue to bless each of you.

*Charles Jones and Bev Hill
Co-chairperson*

Adult and Family Ministries and Kitchen Committee

Mark your calendars for October 26, 2008. Fellowship Supper and Family Fun Night will begin at 5:15 p.m. Pumpkin carving contest and costume judging will begin at 5:15 p.m. Dress up your pumpkin and yourself for lots of fun. The covered dish meal will begin at 6:00 p.m. After a delicious meal we will enjoy the cake walk and play bingo. Of course you win a cake in the cake walk but there will be prizes for the other events as well. Looking forward to seeing you all on the 26th at 5:15 p.m.

Annette Jones

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women continue to collect food items for the Holly Haven Home in LaCrosse. Rebecca Jones, the administrator, is always happy to see us come. The home receives very little help from Social Services and depends on church groups and individuals to help them stay open. Thank you for helping with your generous donations.

Mark your calendars for November 15. The group will sponsor a spaghetti dinner at the Ebony Fire House Meeting Hall. The meal will consist of Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert and beverage. See any member of the UMW for your tickets. Tickets will be on sale October 28, 2008.

Christmas is just around the corner. Our cookie sale will be on December 7, 2008, after worship service. A sign up sheet will be in the fellowship hall and narthex on November 9 until November 30. The dozen and a half homemade cookies will be in a pretty Christmas tin for \$6.00.

All of our fundraising events help us meet our mission goals for our church, county, district, state as well as internationally. We thank you in advance for your continued support.

Annette Jones

President

Website Update

The church website is at <http://www.gbgm-umc.org/prospectatebony> . Send comments and suggestions to prospectumc@embarqmail.com

Vacation Bible School—VBS

Prospect hosted an exciting VBS this summer. It was a fun-filled week "surfin' through the scriptures" at Vacation Bible School with lots of fun for kids of all ages!!!! There was learning and sharing of God's love with members of our community. Lessons were taught about learning how to live and love by learning the BE-Attitudes that Jesus taught.

Thanks to all volunteers who worked to make a difference in someone's life!! Thanks to all who listened to God's call to be a part of this exciting time at Prospect!!!!!!!!!!

Catfishing

Robert Wilson, Steve Forrest and Rudy Conner have enjoyed taking some of the church's youth out cat fishing. Several of the trips were for another church helping to feed families in need. We've had many different situations from hot sun to pouring down rain. It's been a funtime, but it's "Lazyman's Fishin"!

Bryson Parrish

Missing Article

This space should contain an article that someone had written to put into the Prospector. It was never received. You can imagine that the person who was to write the article was very busy and decided that it was not important enough to spend the effort.

Who was the person? Was it you?

Could you (Should you) have written an article for the Prospector that would have shared information or given encouragement to others in our church? Help and share!

Scout Recycling

Prospect UMC - Scouting has a recycling collection bin in Ebony at the Ebony Volunteer Fire Department Station.

It is located directly across the street from the Ebony Post Office, in front of the big oak tree.

We are recycling ALL aluminum products and we also recycle plastic containers. We cannot recycle paper items or glass, because there is not a resource for recycling these items.

The money from the recycling goes into the Prospect UMC - Scouting savings account for the future needs to carry out the Scouting program.

We have experienced that a number of boys in Brunswick County who are interested in Scouting come from single family homes, and they need some financial help to participate in the Scout activities. The complete uniform for a Scout is about \$120.00; and the cost per Scout to go to summer camp is \$200.00; plus some programs have a fee; and there is always the snack shop.

The troop and pack wants to be able to help those Scouts who are in need of some financial assistance so they can fully benefit from the Scouting program.

If you have any questions as to items that are recyclable or wish to have something picked up, you may call Jim Gibbs at (434) 636-3007. There is a bucket in the Fellowship Hall for collecting items for recycling.

Thank you for supporting Scouting

Ode to Lucy Gay Nash

by Ellie Maynard

Lucy Gay Moseley Nash--it's a name you hear once and have a feeling your life will be changed forever. For the longest time I called her Mrs. Nash, not daring to use the familiar name for her. We met when my husband was doing some work at her lake house. She told him to take me over to see it. The main room had large windows way up high and my husband commented on the cobwebs way up there and how hard they must be to keep away. "Oh, let me get a rag for you, just bring that ladder over here," she replied, and soon the windows had even been Windexed! She also insisted we visit Prospect Church. Our first Sunday, there sat Lucy Gay in the choir, waving and smiling at us. After the service she introduced us all around and welcomed us into the Prospect Family.

My kids and I were soon involved in all sorts of activities. My oldest son's first major encounter with Lucy Gay was when the Christmas play came up. I told him she wanted him to play a shepherd. He refused. Not cool. No way. Well, I wasn't going to force him, but I knew Lucy Gay would have her way! I asked Joey to pick the twins up from practice, which he did. Upon returning home, he walked through the kitchen very nonchalantly, announcing he needed a bathrobe for the play. The following years Joey was a wise man and played Joseph twice! Yes, she will have her way! Lucy Gay didn't make my children be involved, she just taught them about being part of a church family and sometimes doing things you don't want to do.

Lucy Gay was also my 4-1-1 guru. "What's so and so's phone number?" "Who was the lady in the blue dress at church?" "When did they say that meeting was??" "Just quick calls. Sometimes she would call me just to check in and see how my week was going. That was

always a pleasant visit. Our longest call was when I asked her, "How do you know there is a God?" "Well, that's easy," she replied, and repeated the words from *How Great Thou Art*.

Throughout the years I have come to learn of many ways in which Lucy Gay contributed to those she loved--from buying prizes and gifts for the children, to paying for the educational curriculum, to a well in a far away country so children would have clean water. But Lucy Gay wasn't all about money. She was proud of her church, her community, her family, her heritage. She loved to tell tales about growing up at Prospect and in Ebony. And she went way back! Yes, Lucy Gay taught me a lot about giving back to the church and community, anyway you can, and being a part of a very special family. I have been fortunate to have had such a special mentor--someone to reassure me that no matter how wild rehearsals are, the program will turn out beautifully, someone to gently put into my heart that I don't need to ask if there is a God, I just need to look at my life, my children, my world, to know there is something bigger than me guiding my every step.

I can only hope to be able to carry forth Lucy Gay's teachings--to give as much as I can and then some. To treat everybody as family, to continue the strong history of Prospect church. And if I forget to make an announcement at the proper time, just go ahead and shout it out whenever! Just make sure you get it heard!

I will always remember visiting Lucy Gay a few weeks before her new journey, thanking God for this special lady in my life, and listening as she sang--

Oh Lord, My God
When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds
Thy hands have made

Prospect's Youth Group

Prospect's Youth Group has had many fun adventures recently--from a large community service project with a visiting youth group to finding an interest in drama! Several of the youth spent a long, dirty day pulling weeds and cleaning gutters, with the help of a group visiting from Wendell, NC. The following week, several more returned to continue the work. They have several more mission jobs lined up. If you are in need, let us know!

The youth group has discovered, with Miss Jan's help, a Christian Drama book of plays. Their first skit, Bedtime prayers and a song, was a big hit at the second service. They have started a new play which will be seen soon! It has been a lot of fun showing all the talent we have!

The Fall Festival was a great way to show how hard our youth can work! From helping in the kitchen, carrying auction items, making sure the bouncy house was bouncy enough and cleaning up. And in between all that, several of them played in their soccer games, returning to help come more!

A trip to King's Dominion is being planned for in the Spring. The group will be doing a lot of fundraisers to earn the money. If you are in need of some work, let us know!

We welcome our newest group member, Robert ! Robert is in 8th grade and lives in LaCrosse.

Annie and Bryson Parrish

FINANCE

The monthly amount needed to meet our budget is \$7,898.00.

Following are the amounts received for the budget through September 2008

	Received	Difference
Jan	9,025.58	+ 1,127.58
Feb	7,305.50	- 592.50
Mar	7,921.65	+ 23.65
Apr	6,006.04	- 1,891.96
May	6,997.75	- 900.25
Jun	7,033.00	- 865.00
Jul	6,188.94	- 1,709.06
Aug	7,591.84	- 306.16
Sep	<u>6,694.00</u>	<u>- 1,204.00</u>
Total	64,764.30	- 6,317.70

Invite a Friend

Prospect has added a weekly Contemporary Worship Service to our Sunday morning schedule. It starts at 11:15 a.m. Traditional worship and Children's Church is held at 9:15 a.m. All are welcome so invite someone to go to church with you.

Prospector

The Prospector is being published every other month. We try to get it out for the first Sunday of the month. The next one will be published in early December followed by February, and April. All articles need to reach Harold by the deadline at the following e-mail address:

prospectnewsletter@embarqmail.com

More exciting news.... If you would like to receive your Prospector via e-mail contact Harold at the above email address. This is a wonderful way to receive it. Not only will you be "the first to know" but it will save the Church a considerable amount of \$ on postage! If you live near a Church member who cannot attend, let us know if you could bring them their copy of the Prospector .. A wonderful outreach opportunity

This and other previous Prospectors will be available on our website

<http://www.gb-gm-umc.org/prospectatebony>

There will be a hard deadline for each edition of the Prospector. As such, the PROSPECTOR DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER SSUE IS MONDAY NOVEMBER 24th AT NOON

United Methodist Communications

The **Interpreter**, the ministry magazine for lay and clergy leaders in local United Methodist churches, is available online. Check it out at <http://www.interpretermagazine.org/> .

Angel Tree

We will once again be sponsoring our "Angel Tree" for the children who have a parent in prison. This is a very meaningful Missions project, and we appreciate your support in the past, and look forward to a very rewarding year again this year. There will be more information coming as we draw nearer to the Holiday season. This is a wonderful way to share our gift of love at Christmas with others.

Upcoming online courses

To see times for courses or to learn more about what is available, go to training.umcom.org. All these online courses are free.

Cleaning Teams

HELP.....WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

The Cleaning teams alternate every third month, the first Tuesday after Communion Sunday at 9 a.m. and we can finish in about an hour if we have help. We really need additional help NOW. Most of it is not hard work, and if you are able to help at all, please contact one of our team leaders:

Dede Snead (Dec, Mar, June, Sept)

Betty Hicks (Oct, Jan, April, July)

Peggy Donochod (Aug, Nov, Feb, May)

It is a very special gift to clean "God's House", please join us!

Prospect United Methodist Church

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