



The Prospector

Prospect United Methodist Church

Ebony Virginia

May 2009

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

From our Pastor

Spring 2009 has been a very exciting time at Prospect. The youth have been meeting twice a month and are doing some really neat art work in the Nursery upstairs. They are also going to be cooking for us this Sunday for Communion Breakfast. The kids are trying to raise some money to go to an event along with a couple of thousand more kids. We had a great Spring Renewal and met Jimmy Taylor. Jimmy is a high spirited preacher and we had a lot of fun with he and Ann when they came to preach. Jimmy will be coming back to preach for the Mother's Day Service. Jan and I are going to go to New York and spend Mother's Day with our mothers.

The Lenten Season was a bit different this year. I instructed our people to have a "Guilt Free Lenten Season." Scripture records for us that we are to "Rend our Hearts and not our clothes." We are to get our hearts right with God and not to change just our outward appearances. We started with the Ash Wednesday Service in which we were reminded of our creation and our Creator. Easter Sunday was a beautiful sunny, cool morning with Sunrise Service at Chip and Bev's on the lake. It was cold so I preached short and we then enjoyed a wonderful breakfast. The 9:15 service was packed and filled with excitement. The count was 152+. The children had an Easter Egg Hunt and all were reminded that Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed! The 11:15 service brought several visitors from Upstate New York. They were very shocked to find out there was a Yankee Preacher at Prospect.

Several more people have joined our fellowship with several more preparing to join. We have

gotten the go ahead to develop a Building Committee and will be scheduling a Called Charge Conference to assign people to the committee and to get the approval of the church. Dr. Martin will come and lead the conference. There is a lot of excitement surrounding our plans and we are eager to get started. There was a story about a preacher who went in and told the congregation that he had good news and bad news. He stated that they had the money for the new building, to which everyone applauded. One person asked him what was the bad news. He said it is in your pockets and you have not given it yet. Now begins our work! CiCi Carroll is gearing up our fundraising committee and has shared many great ideas with us. We have begun by recycling electronic goods. We can build this church with God behind us. It sure is great to see enthusiasm and excitement as we fill the sanctuary and meet new friends.

The Mission Trip to Texas went well, with a few bumps in the road. There was a flood and a car accident but all in all we went and met some great people, did some excellent work and ran smack dab into God there. Wesley UMC was gracious enough to host us and give us accommodations. There were 16 who went and 6 of them were from our church. Robert Wilson, Lee Cunningham, and Susan White cooked for us all week and did an excellent job. Bill Hoofnagle, Matt Edwards and I went to add our help to the carpentry needs still not completed from Hurricane Rita. These folks have been waiting for help since 2005 when the hurricane hit them. I didn't do much work but lead the team in spiritual enthusiasm. It was a long way and a hard trip but we came back better than we were before we went. The faces of those whom we were able to help were worth every mile.

God is ALIVE and well and working throughout our church. There is an awesome spirit of joy and fellowship that I see and feel as we worship God together. Remember worship is God's plan for us to give worship to Him. The purpose is not for us to see what we can get out of worship but what we can put into the worship of God. If we all become active participants in Worship then God will receive adequate praise and we will receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. Bring everything you have and present yourself before Almighty God and He will find you worthy. Jesus guaranteed that through his acts of love poured out to you and I.

Live your life as it was the most precious gift ever given you and celebrate every moment of it.

God Bless You and keep you.

Love

Ken

Ken Thrasher

A mothers Day Poem

Below is a Mothers Day Poem written some time ago by Alene L. Carroll. Thanks to Alene for sharing it with us as we remember and celebrate our mothers (and all mothers) this year.

Mothers Love

*God is Love,
Love lasts forever,
God created mothers
Mother's love never
Will pass away,
For her children
Will Love their children
In the same old way.*

Alene L. Carroll

Recycling for the Scouts

Anything that is aluminum can be recycled. All other items are not being accepted by the recycling industry since the market for such has been closed.

The last shipment of aluminum taken to be recycled weighed 585 pounds. We thank you for your support of the Scouting Fund at Prospect UMC.

We thank Tony Barnette for taking our trailer load of aluminum to Richmond to be recycled.

We have a collection bin in Ebony across the road from the Ebony Post Office adjacent to the big oak tree.

If you have any questions about recycling aluminum; or need to have the aluminum you have on hand picked up please give Jim Gibbs a call at (434) 636-3007.

Evangelism

The Evangelist committee had a wonderful turnout for the Faith Renewal Services. Prospect had three nights of music and great food and fellowship and wonderful preaching. The BJs from South Hill Methodist sang one night, the choir and three of our ladies sang another night and Ronnie Wright and three of our girls sang the last night. Rev Ken spoke for 2 nights due to an emergency with one of the speakers, but we didn't mind listening to him twice!

Jimmy Taylor spoke the third night and a wonderful time was had by all. Jimmy will be returning to speak very soon.

The Evangelist Committee is planning a movie night, showing the movie "Facing the Giants", along with a discussion afterwards. An old fashion sing a long is also in the works. We are hoping to be able to have one every once in awhile!

Missions:

We are so excited about our "MISSION" work here at Prospect. Our "ADOPT OUR MILITARY" Project has been a great success. In our first "mailing" we have adopted 5 members of our military that are deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan:

Bryce Highland - neighbor of Marilyn Reed

Kirk Jones - friend of Ellie Maynard & family

Sam Langmack - Linda Marrone's Grandson

Adam Randall - Hal & Dorinda Paxton's nephew

Alex Feling - Nila & Larry Miller's Grandson

We hope to get some "feedback" from our servicemen so that we know what they will need for our next mailing. This is such a wonderful opportunity to show how much we care, and we hope that you will all take part in it. Remember that the "personal" touch items like a card, photo or letter is really appreciated!

If you would like more information about this project, or if you have a close friend or family member serving overseas that you would like to have included, please contact Nila or Larry Miller (434) 636-3799. We will also be putting together a "needs" list for the next mailing. They will be distributed in the Sunday Bulletin and posted on our "Adopt Our Military" picture poster bulletin board. We thank all of you for the great response for our first mailing!!!! (We hope to make this a quarterly mission!)

AND.....Our "Mission Team" is alive and well (and perhaps a little sore!) after travelling all the way to and from Texas to do God's work. We had a team of six (6) from our

Church!!!! We are grateful for each of these special people: Rev Thrasher; Bob Wilson; Susan White; Lee Cunningham; Matthew Edwards ; Bill Hoofnagle

A SPECIAL TREAT is in store the first Sunday in May as our Youth will be preparing our Communion Breakfast. This will be a fund raiser to help them to participate in their "Youth Retreat" scheduled in June. Please do come out and support our wonderful young people.

As a reminder, MISSIONS will NOT be preparing breakfast during the Summer Months (July, Aug & Sept). If you, or your "group" would like to sponsor one of these breakfasts, please contact Peggy Donochod 636-2494. Thank you.

Lee Cunningham
Mission Committee Chair

United Methodist Men

By the time you read this the annual Ham Dinner will be over. Thank you to all those who supported this project.

The UMM make donations to the local fire departments, rescue squad, Hunters for the Hungry, Voices of Youth,

Kitchen Fund, the MCV Hospitality House, and local needs.

Our men also help with the Fall Festival setup and cleanup.

All men of the church are invited to join our group. We meet the third Thursday of each month except July and December at 6:30 p.m. for a meal and meeting and special speakers.

Charles Jones, President

Kits for Conference

Virginia Annual Conference will be held in Norfolk this year June 14-17. The kits they are requesting are: Health Kits, School Kits, Baby/Layette Kits and Sewing Kits. The March Advocate has the instructions and they will be available at church in the fellowship hall. Betsy Baird and Dede Snead will be taking the kits to conference. If you have any questions, contact Dede Snead.

Kitchen Committee

The May fellowship supper will be on May 31, the fifth Sunday night and June's supper will be June 28. The meals begin at 6:00 p.m. Bring a dish and enjoy the fellowship. Donations are accepted to help purchase needed items for the kitchen.

Annette Jones

Adult and Family Ministries

Adult and Family Ministries will be sponsoring a "Progressive Dinner" on May 16, 2009 beginning at 5:00 p.m.

The event will be at the Ebony Fire House Meeting Room.

The meal will be catered. Meal includes choice of two soups, salad, choice of two meats, veggies, bread, dessert and beverage. The cost will be \$15.00 (this amount includes tax and tip) payable before the event. If you wish to make a check, please make it to Prospect United Methodist Church and hand it to either Charles or Annette Jones. We will be ordering meals according to the number paid by May 12, 2009.

This will be a fun evening and there will probably be some surprises!

Looking forward to seeing you on Saturday, May 16.

Charles and Annette Jones
Chairperson for Adult and Family Ministries

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women meet on the fourth Monday night of each month except July and December. The May meeting this year will be on May 27, 2009 due to the Memorial Day weekend. Our members invite all the women of the church to become members of our unit. We work hard to help women and children of our county, state, all states and the world through our mission giving.

If you are interested in purchasing spaghetti sauce on June 2 by the quart for a donation of \$6.00, please see a member of our unit. This is one of several fundraisers for the year 2009.

Prospect's UMW members continue to collect food items to be given to Holly Haven in LaCrosse, Virginia. There are sixteen residents. This home for adults receives very little funding from social services and struggles to operate. The manager, Rebecca Jones, appreciates very much our donations to help her continue to operate this home.

Kits for conference will be due soon. There will be flyers at church giving instructions for each kit. The delegate to the Virginia Annual Conference takes the kits with him/her and they are used worldwide. You do not have to be a member of the UMW to contribute a kit or money for us to buy the items needed to make a kit. Money is also needed to ship the kits.

We, the UMW members, thank you for helping us support our missions by supporting our fundraisers and projects.

Annette Jones, President

Birthdays and Anniversaries

May Birthdays

May 5 Ken Thrasher
May 14 Betty Hicks
May 20 Barbara Gilmartin
May 21 Larissa Conner
May 23 Linwood Mills
May 25 Josh Thrasher
May 27 Jean Barnette

May Anniversaries

May 5 Jim and Glenda Gibbs
May 16 Howdy and Jan Tomlinson (50 years)
May 22 Steve and Marilyn Reed

June Birthdays

June 9 Lisa Conner
June 9 Chip Hill
June 10 Dustin Donati
June 23 Dan Thrasher
June 30 Mary Luck

June Anniversaries

June 1 Bill and Linda Faulk
June 24 Chip and Bev Hill

July Birthdays

July 2 Kirsten Carroll
July 7 Dede Snead
July 9 Jan Thrasher
July 13 Larry Miller
July 16 Keith Carlson
July 16 Dorinda Paxton
July 24 Ethel Jones
July 31 Howdy Tomlinson

July Anniversaries

July 21 Richard and Wanda Beville

If you haven't signed the calendar in the fellowship hall for your birthday and/or anniversary, please do so soon. If your birthday or anniversary was in the four

months listed above, please include them also. They will be used next year. We don't want to leave anyone out - you may get some kind of a surprise on YOUR special day!!

FINANCE

The monthly amount needed to meet our budget is \$8,133.00.

Following are the amounts received for the budget through April 26, 2009.

	Received	Difference
Jan	7,275.36	- 857.64
Feb	7,078.03	-1,054.97
Mar	8,805.65	+ 672.65
Apr	<u>8,549.55</u>	<u>+ 416.55</u>
Total	31,708.59	- 823.41

Prospector

The Prospector schedule has been changed to a quarterly document. Issues are published around the first of the month for the following months: February, May, August, and November. All articles need to reach Harold by the deadline at the following e-mail address: prospectnewsletter@embarqmail.com

To receive your Prospector via e-mail contact Harold at the above email address. This is a wonderful way to receive it. It will save the Church money on postage! 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 AUGUST ISSUE IS NOON TUESDAY, JULY 28th.

Prospect United Methodist Church

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