



# The Prospector

Prospect United Methodist Church

Ebony, Virginia

October 2010

<http://www.prospectumc-ebonyva.org/>

## From our Pastor

Dear brothers and sisters of Prospect United Methodist Church,

Fall is fast approaching us. Time to take down our hummingbird feeders, bring in our hanging plants, change the filters in our furnace and prepare for cold weather. The leaves on the tree in front of the parsonage have yet to turn colors but are falling to the ground. Fall is a beautiful time. The heat of the summer is behind us, hopefully, and we can get to enjoy walks and sitting on the porch, just taking in some of God's beauty. The squirrels are working through the eleventh hour to insure enough food for winter and the earth prepares for the cool weather. The fall flowers bloom and the summer flowers fade.

As I think about the fall season of our lives I look back with joy and look forward with anticipation. As you may know I have been dealing with a bad back for a couple of months now. Getting old is not for sissies! I think that there will be some difficulties as I grow older but like fall we must take the bad with the good, the fallen leaves with the beauty. Jan and I have been out of high school for 35 years this year and as we were away a couple of days in Myrtle Beach we talked about the children, our courtship, and our growing old together.

We cannot do anything about the past but we must consider how we enter into the harvest season of our lives. I am not one who prepares very far in advance. I just kind of go with the flow and then readjust my sail. You may be someone who plans far in advance, if so can I come and stay with you when it gets cold? As we prepare for the harvest season, however you prepare, may we think about friendships we need to re-establish, relationships we need to fix, love we need to rekindle, and think deeper about our relationship with Jesus.

We have taken in 9 new members in the last 2 weeks at church and there are more to come. Several weeks ago the choir sang a song: My House is Full but my fields are empty, who will go and work for me today? As we continue forward in this our fall season may we be attentive of relationships, old and new. The song goes on to say the fields are full and ripe but the workers are few. Will you be one of Jesus' workers who receives the harvest of plenty? May your harvest be overflowing and may love find you at every cross road. Where there is not love may you bring it and share it. May your harvest season be the best ever.

May God richly bless you.

With Love and Joy

*Ken Thrasher*

# Prospect United Methodist Church

## Committee on Lay Leadership

### Officers for 2011

<b>Lay Leader</b>	<b>Peggy Donochod</b>
<b>Administrative Board Chair</b>	<b>Jan Tomlinson</b>
<b>Administrative Board Recording Secretary</b>	<b>Annette Jones</b>
<b>Director of Music</b>	<b>Glenda Gibbs</b>
<b>Assistant Director of Music</b>	<b>Mary Ann Johnson</b>
<b>Youth Coordinator</b>	<b>Pam Pickard</b>
<b>Adult and Family Ministries</b>	<b>Annette and Charles Jones</b>
<b>Church Historian</b>	<b>Annette Jones</b>
<b>United Methodist Men Chair</b>	<b>Charles Jones</b>
<b>United Methodist Women Chair</b>	<b>Annette Jones</b>
<b>Disaster Relief Coordinator</b>	<b>Al Hartley</b>
<b>Annual Conference Delegate</b>	<b>Pam Pickard</b>
<b>Alternate Annual Conference Delegate</b>	<b>Jan Thrasher</b>
<b>District Conference Delegate</b>	<b>Edith Snead</b>
<b>Alternate District Conference Delegate</b>	
<b>Staff Parish Relations</b>	

#### Chair:

<b>2011</b>	<b>Hal Keeney</b>		
<b>2012</b>	<b>John Cox,</b>	<b>Susan White Cunningham</b>	
<b>2013</b>	<b>Patricia Conner,</b>	<b>Al Hartley,</b>	<b>Terry Broome</b>

#### Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominating)

<b>Lay Leader :</b>	<b>Peggy Donochod</b>				
<b>Linwood Mills</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>Nancy Cox</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>Joyce Trask</b>	<b>2012</b>
<b>Nadine Evans</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Nila Miller</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>Glenda Gibbs</b>	<b>2013</b>

#### Worship Committee

<b>Glenda Gibbs</b>	<b>Hal Keeney</b>	<b>Annette Jones</b>
<b>Edith Snead</b>	<b>Pam Pickard</b>	<b>Peggy Donochod</b>

#### Missions Committee

<b>Chair:</b>	<b>Lee Cunningham</b>		
<b>Jan Tomlinson</b>	<b>Judy Wise</b>	<b>Susan White Cunningham</b>	
<b>Ethel Jones</b>	<b>Peggy Donochod</b>	<b>Hal Paxton</b>	
<b>Dorinda Paxton</b>	<b>Tony Barnette</b>	<b>Jean Barnette</b>	
<b>Dan Donochod</b>	<b>Larry Miller</b>	<b>Nila Miller</b>	

**Evangelism**

**Chair: Barbara Gilmartin**

**Jan Thrasher**

**Ellie Maynard**

**Hattie Baird**

**Gina Pickens**

**Dorinda Paxton**

**Pam Pickard**

**Memorial Committee**

**Terry Broome**

**Trustees**

**Chair:**

**(2011)**

**Dan Donochod**

**Jim Gibbs**

**Tony Conner**

**(2012)**

**Robert Wilson**

**James Lynch**

**(2013)**

**Bev Hill**

**Corey Lett**

**William Hoofnagle**

**Charles Jones**

**Secretary**

**Patricia Conner**

**Finance Committee**

**Chair: Edith Snead**

**Treasurer**

**Don Broome**

**Financial Secretary**

**Mary Lynch**

**Head Teller**

**Christine Ferguson (2013)**

**Administrative Board Chair**

**Jan Tomlinson**

**Lay Leader**

**Peggy Donochod**

**Representative of Trustees:**

**Robert Wilson**

**Annual Conference Delegate**

**Pam Pickard**

**Pastor**

**Ken Thrasher**

**Tellers**

**Chair Christine Ferguson (2013)**

**(2011)**

**Bev Hill**

**Linda Biggs**

**(2012)**

**James Gibbs**

**James Lynch**

**(2013)**

**Edith Snead**

**Terry Broome**

**Kitchen Committee**

**Annette Jones**

**Communications**

**Anne Hartley**

**Email Prayer Chain**

**Ellie Maynard**

**Christian Education**

**Pam Pickard**

**District Stewards**

**Edith Snead**

**Advocate Representative**

**Ellie Maynard**

**United Methodist Family Services**

**Dot Ford**

**Higher Education**

**Clara Mills**

**Hermitage Guild**

**Harold Heiser**

**Petersburg District Delegate at Large**

**Edith Snead**

## Prospect's Capital Campaign

**“Preserving our past while building our future”**

### **Building Committee:**

The future is looking bright for Prospect as we look forward. The Building Committee is working in conjunction with the Fundraising Committee to move forward with the Capital Campaign to enable us to build our new Fellowship Hall and Education Wing.

Our plan is a three phase plan: Phase I is to build a new Fellowship Hall and Education Wing to include three classroom/study/meeting rooms, a children's nursery, men & women's handicap restrooms, a large storage area, large working kitchen with pantry and a choir room, all this will surround the fellowship hall and includes a new “bell-entrance” foyer. Phase II is to reside and reroof the existing Sanctuary to match with the new building, and ....Phase III will be to reconfigure the Sanctuary to accommodate additional seating for a growing congregation.

We have much work ahead of us as we begin to research possibilities from financial institutions and perhaps the need to “fine tune” our plans to align with our financial parameters. In the near future you'll see work begin as plans go forward to drill a new well in the front yard and extend the septic system to an area, past the cemetery, behind the building. We're looking forward to this work beginning, as I'm sure you are, however, there is still much work to be done through our Fundraising ..... and this is where YOU come in!

*Dan Donochod – Building Chairman*

### FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:

Our work is cut out as we look to the future of Prospect and what it means to each of us and our Christian responsibility.

We hope you have all seen the “thermometer” on the lawn which indicates a very impressive “start” with over \$300,000 toward our goal of \$700,000. As Dan has mentioned previously, this Building Plan has three stages, we obviously do not need the entire amount in hand before we start, but we DO need to have a good sense of what monies will be committed to this project. We hope you are giving prayerful consideration to where you need to be in the life of our Church and its future. We are very excited as we see our membership commit to being an important part of what we believe is God's plan for us as a Church. If you have not made your commitment yet, please consider doing so as soon as possible, to enable us to move forward together.

Unfortunately, my job as “Fundraising Chair” is all about “FUNDS”. We are working very hard at trying to find new and inventive ways to do this. Sometimes we need to think “outside” of our Church, and welcome the support of our local community. Our Fall Festival was, once again, an example of what we can accomplish when we all work together towards a common goal, and include the community! It will be events like this that we will need to continue to fund this Campaign. All our events need to be an “all-Church effort” if we are going to succeed. Please step up and do your part! We are all looking forward to the PIG PICKIN' EVENT here at the Church on Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Just like our Fall Festival, what a great day it will be, and what an opportunity to highlight our Church and its people to the community. This is a very important way to help us “grow” our

Church and introduce Prospect to others. Weather permitting, we will have the BLACKRIDGE BOYS entertaining us from the Church porch, while our guest enjoy delicious food, good company and perhaps even some “fun and games” on the front lawn. If you’re wondering what YOU can do to help with this event, wonder no more. We’ll need folks to bake delicious deserts; help set up for the event and clean up after it; plus..... SELL TICKETS IN ADVANCE!! **See the” Pig Pickin”” article for all the details!**

Another successful endeavor was our “Historic Bank” Lenten offering. Fitting in with our “Preserving the Past” theme, these wonderful banks were made by Bob Wilson



and several men of the Church, from the original wood from Church rafters that were recently replaced, dating back to 1887! The banks are numbered and come with a wonderful informational insert of the history of our Church. We asked for a donation of “at least” \$10. It was a very special way to save a daily Lenten offering that was then donated

on Easter Sunday to our Capital Campaign. This was a great success!!! We would like to ask that you to start saving again, and we will have a special “Thanksgiving Sunday Offering” to donate towards this Capital Campaign. If you do not have a bank (and it’s not necessary to use the bank) but would like to purchase one, please contact Bev Hill or myself.

This is exciting.....A purely “painless” way of giving to our Capital Campaign is just to apply for our Church’s “**Capital One Credit Card**”. Please see me for



information and applications. When you receive your credit card, the Church will receive \$50 the very first time you use it, and then the Church will continue to receive a % of your all your purchases after that. Used wisely, this is a wonderful way to help!

So as you can see, there is a lot going on and a lot to be excited about for Prospect. We appreciate all your help and welcome your suggestions of new ways to make this Capital Campaign a success.

*Peggy Donochod – Fundraising Chair*

## Homecoming 2010:

### Reflections by Rev. Ken

What an **AWESOME DAY** it was! I was so excited and I really feel that God was glorified in our efforts. The ushers stated that the attendance was at 150. Can you see the day that we have that as a regular Sunday attendance? We can and will follow God's lead and become the church He calls us to be.

Alene Carroll wrote a beautiful poem "The Little White Church in Ebony". (Reprinted in this newsletter.) The comments that I heard were all very positive and everything seemed to work for the good as we served the Lord.

The food was great and plentiful. The special music was super at the church and at the firehouse; seeing old friends and meeting new ones was tremendous. Let's not lose the enthusiasm that we developed or lose touch with many of the people who were in attendance. Now is our opportunity to go and ask them to join us on a regular basis.

Before we started our Building Campaign, the Lord gave me a number that we were to prepare for. That number is 200! Prepare the way for the Lord and watch as He transforms the ordinary into the extraordinary. When we act faithfully, God will provide the harvest.

I do want to thank Cici Carroll for her leadership, all those who helped and all who participated to make this very special day such a success.

*Love Ya'll,*

*Ken*

## Do Not Worry!

Read Matthew Chapter 6 verses 24-34!

## The Little White Church In Ebony

By: Alene Laura Carroll

In tribute to 2010 Homecoming and Capital Campaign

*Come to the little white church in Ebony,  
It is the pillar of the people here,  
The little white church in Ebony,  
The little church we love so dear.*

*We recall the brave people of long ago,  
Who gave and gave in good times and bad,  
Who established the church in Ebony,  
In happy times and some sad.*

*The Homecoming should be,  
A time for joy to meet old friends,  
A time to make new ones,  
With lasting memories that never end.*

*To sing our favorite hymns and verses,  
What joyous music we shall hear,  
For a happy day well spent,  
All things remembered from yester year.*

*Come to the little white church,  
The little white church in Ebony,  
Where precious memories we recall,  
It is still here for you and me.*

*Our plans are now to make it better,  
With every one doing what they can,  
For the present and the future,  
For every child, woman, and man.*

*The church where the true gospel is preached,  
To save us all from sin,  
To keep us on the straight and narrow,  
To save us, and others to win.*

*We can make it better,  
Let us meet in one accord,  
In the little white church in Ebony,  
Let us come and praise the Lord.*

## Finance:

The monthly amount needed to meet our budget in 2010 is 8,224.66.

Following are the amounts received for the budget through September 30, 2010..

	<b>Received</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Jan	9,220.37	+ 995.71
Feb	7,797.57	- 427.09
Mar	6,455.00	- 1,769.66
Apr	7,427.62	- 797.04
May	7,750.50	- 474.16
Jun	7,628.00	- 596.66
Jul	6,913.00	- 1,311.66
Aug	8,599.26	+ 374.60
Sep	<u>7,059.00</u>	<u>- 1,165.66</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>68,850.32</b>	<b>-5,171.62</b>

## United Methodist Women Charge Conference 2010:

The United Methodist Women are twenty strong and we work hard to fulfill our mission. We meet monthly except for July and December.

Prospect's UMW ladies have adopted Holly Haven, a home in LaCrosse for the mentally challenged persons who cannot find help at other places. There are between fourteen and sixteen residents there all the time. Rebecca Jones is the administrator and so dedicated to her work and the residents. Every first Sunday in the month we ask our church congregation to bring food, paper products etc. to help with the needs of the home. Our

UMW and church congregation respond so willingly and it is so much fun to take the items there because the residents get to know your car and come running out to help take in the supplies.

During the past year the unit met our unit pledge and made donations to the five channels of giving. We also made donations to candle burning and prayer and self-denial. Other donations given were to John 3:16 Center, Henry Fork Center, Brunswick County Social Services, Relay for Life, Haiti through UMCORE, Jackson Feild Home, VUMAC, Red Bird Mission, Central Rescue Squad and Ebony Volunteer Fire Department.

This year our unit will present two gifts to mission pins. Prospect's unit is a Silver Mission Today unit and a six star unit.

The unit members participate in the reading program and we buy books to read throughout the year. We send cards to those in our church and in the community that are sick, need encouragement and for sympathy.

Some members attend meetings of the district and participate in district projects.

Our UMW sent kits to conference including money for some kits and also money for the shipping.

Our unit members made heart shaped pillows for oncology patients at Community Memorial Healthcenter, Halifax Regional Healthcenter and Southern Virginia Regional Hospital. We also served families of our congregation that lost loved ones this year.

Our UMW members have had a great time having bake sales and dinners to raise funds to accomplish our mission projects.

*Annette S. Jones    President*

## **United Methodist Men Charge Conference 2010:**

The United Methodist Men have nineteen members. They all work hard to do projects at church and assist with fall festival. The men meet once a month except for July and December for a dinner meal, meeting and some time special programs.

The men have donated to the following causes: UMCORE for Haiti project, our church "Angel Tree", Prospect Kitchen Fund, Ebony Volunteer Fire Department, Lake Gaston Fire Department, Central Rescue Squad, Hospital Hospitality House and Hunters for the Hungry.

The men have a special "Valentine Sweetheart Dinner" for their wives and include all the widows of the church. There is a wonderful catered meal; entertainment and prizes for all that attend.

The men have a ham dinner in the early spring as their only fundraiser of the year. This is always well attended. The men invite the UMW to share their meals with them at special occasions. The men help the UMW and the UMW help the UMM.

*Charles L. Jones      President*

## **Pig Pickin' !!!!**

We are having a PIG PICKIN' on October the 23rd! It will be on the church lawn from 3-6 p.m. There will be live music, courtesy of "**The Blackridge Boys**" and possibly more. The food will be cooked by our own Chip Hill and we will be having pulled pork, beans, slaw, cornbread, dessert and tea or coffee. The price is \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. The event is a fund raiser for our building fund, so plan on coming out for good food, live music and a great time! We'll need all to help and bring desserts to serve. Lets make this a great success.

Thank you,  
Susan & Lee Cunningham

## **Missions**

**:-)** Just wanted to say thanks for all your support throughout the year. This past Sunday Susan asked for some cooks to help with Missions breakfasts and just like that we had three volunteers. We're still planning for about 20-25 Angel tree kids, you've been very supportive the past years and we really appreciate you stepping up to the bat. Were always looking for some help even if you don't cook we could use you for set ups and helping put the place back in order after breakfast. Thanks again.

.....Lee, Susan, Dan, Peggy, Larry and Nila

## **Family Fun Night**

Family Fun Night will again be sponsored by the Adult and Family Ministries. October 24 is the big night beginning at 5:00 p.m. There will be costume judging, pumpkin carving contest, covered dish supper (bring a dish to pass), cake walks and bingo. Come and enjoy the fun and fellowship.

## **Recycling for the Scouts**

**Anything that is aluminum can 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.

## **Prayer and Bible Study**

Communicate with God regularly! Thank him for the many gifts in your life. Remember to pray for the requests you hear while at church on Sunday and others you know which should be included.

Read and study your bible on a regular basis. If you are not in a regular bible study, join one here at the church or even start one for yourself and your



friends. You will be blessed.

**Have joy and share it. Faith is the key.**

## Church activities

### October 2010

Oct 12	Choir practice	7:00 p.m.
Oct 18	Administrative Council	7:30 p.m.
Oct 19	Choir practice	7:00 p.m.
Oct 21	UMM	6:30 p.m.
Oct 23	Pig Pickin' Ebony Firehouse	3:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Oct 24	Family Fun Night and Covered Dish Supper	5:00 p.m.
Oct 25	UMW	7:30 p.m.
Oct 26	Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.

### November 2010

Nov 2	Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.
Nov 9	Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.
Nov 13	UMW Spaghetti Supper	4:00 to 6:00 p.m. At the Ebony Firehouse
Nov 15	Administrative Council	7:30 p.m.
Nov 16	Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.
Nov 18	UMM	6:30 p.m.
Nov 22	UMW	7:30 p.m.
Nov 23	Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.
Nov 24	Thanksgiving Eve Service	7:00 p.m.
Nov 30	Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.

### December 2010

Dec 3	UMW pack cookies	
Dec 5	UMW cookie sale	after worship service
Dec 7	Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.
Dec 12	Christmas Program	10:00 a.m.
Dec 14	Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.
Dec 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	8:00 p.m.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### October Birthdays

October 5	CiCi Carroll
October 7	Casin Whitehead
October 9	Jeremy Thrasher Dot Ford
October 11	Ann Hoofnagle
October 12	Bobby Conner Tony Conner
October 13	Tony Barnette
October 15	Jim Gibbs
October 17	Diane Heiser
October 21	Annie Parrish Bryson Parrish
October 29	Hal Keeney

### October Anniversaries

October 1	Rudy and Patricia Conner (50th)
October 5	Hal and Dorinda Paxton
October 21	Charles and Annette Jones

### November Birthdays

November 1	Amaya Thrasher
November 13	Robert Pickens
November 14	Calvin Lynch
November 23	Don Broome
November 25	Robert Wilson
November 26	Dell Conner

### November Anniversaries

November 5	Richard and Wanda Beville
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### December Birthdays

December 2	Charles Jones
December 5	Neveah Moerls
December 11	Christine Ferguson Ashton Carroll
December 15	Mary (Hackie) Lynch
December 16	Gina Pickens
December 18	Wanda Beville Mary Ann Johnson
December 22	Annette Jones
December 23	A. J. Conner
<b>December 25</b>	<b>JESUS</b>
December 28	Rudy Conner

### December Anniversaries

December 5	Lee and Susan Cunningham
December 19	Calvin and Mary Lynch

**Prospect United Methodist Church**

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