



The Prospector

Prospect United Methodist Church

Ebony, Virginia

May 2015

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

Reflections from our Pastor:

Grace and Peace to you in the one who was, who is, and is to come, Christ Jesus!

Spring has fully sprung with new growth and life. Pine pollen has let us know that the pine trees are budding out. Time to plant new flowers, mulch gardens, and prepare for vegetable gardens.

Spring is also the time we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and the vitality of new life. The resurrection is God's promise to us that we will experience new life.

The church has lost several beloved members already this year. They will be sorely missed. But spring buds eternal with new opportunities and new life. We have new opportunities to make disciples and to look for new ways to offer JESUS to the world.

Our new bus will be lettered next week and we look forward to its maiden voyage full of smiling church members as we take a journey together.

We are looking forward to a special musical program for Mother's and Father's Days that will minister to our hearts.

We are also very excited about the addition to our choir with the hiring of Sherry Jones as our Choir Director. You are invited to come and sing with us.

The Methodist Men's group is planning a Blue Grass Night as well. We are also a few weeks into our study of Revelation with Dr. David Jeremiah. The study has been very well received.

There are other opportunities for us to get together. We are going to have a picnic in July and have talked about a Saturday night sermon on the pontoon boats. I'm sure we will have some deserts and a time of fellowship. I am so excited about the opportunities Jesus offers us this year.

May God Bless You!

Ken Thrasher

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN NEWS

2015 COOKBOOK



We are very excited about our upcoming cookbook “**Recipes and Remembrances**” from Prospect United Methodist Church. This special project is a part of our “Close the Gap” fundraiser for the Capital Campaign.

In the spirit of our campaign theme, “**Preserving the Past While Building Our Future**”, we are reflecting this theme in the cookbook itself. We will be including recipes from our members and friends of Prospect as well as our extended families and loved ones who have passed on (you can submit a recipe “in memory of”).

The deadline for recipe submission is May 17th. To submit recipes, contact Joyce Rector (joycevector@yahoo.com) or pick up a recipe form from the Capital Campaign table in the Fellowship Hall and return it to the same box on or before the deadline.

We are anticipating that the cookbook will sell for about \$10 and will be ready later in summer. Please consider purchasing several cookbooks as they will make wonderful gifts for your family and friends. **RESERVE YOUR COPIES NOW!** Look for the sign-up form also on the Campaign table.

These cookbooks will be so much more than a collection of recipes, they will be yet another

part of the history of our Church. We hope you’ll be a part of it and thank you for your continued support!

CLOSING THE GAP



Our campaign is ultimately about expanding and enhancing our ability as a Church body to better support God's work now and His plan for Prospect's

future. In other words, **our commitment to be good stewards and disciples for Christ.**

Together, we are closing the gap! **As of 4/1/2015, we have reached 80% of our campaign goal** that has allowed us to complete 2 of our 3-phased building project, expanded our ministries, and growing our membership!

Reaching our \$700,000 goal will mean all 3 phases of our building project will be covered financially (including payoff of the mortgage) — with funds available for future needs.

This is a huge accomplishment we can all be proud us.

Peggy Donochod & Anne Hartley

FINANCE REPORT

The monthly amount needed to meet our budget in 2015 is \$10,283.00. Following are the amounts received for the budget through April 30, 2015.

| | <i>Received</i> | <i>Difference</i> |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Jan | 9,886.28 | - 396.72 |
| Feb | 7,272.50 | - 3,010.50 |
| Mar | 12,655.03 | + 2,372.03 |
| Apr | <u>12,200.38</u> | <u>+ 1,917.38</u> |
| Total | 42,014.19 | + 882.19 |

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women would like to thank all who participated in our Mother's Day Hymn Dedication fundraiser. With your help we were able to raise over \$300 to be used to help women, children and youth locally, nationally and internationally. We are also able to help with local charities such as Relay for Life and the Fire and Rescue Department. Without your continued support we would not be able to fulfill our purpose. We will have two more fundraisers this year on Father's Day and Veteran's Day. We ask for your support and offer a thank-you in advance!

The Farmville District UMW held a Mission Day on April 11th at Payne Memorial United Methodist Church in Cumberland, Virginia. It was a great event and the speaker, Darlene Runaldue, was very inspiring. Her topic was, "How Is It with Your Soul?"

Our April program was presented by Peggy Sickles, the Farmville District Secretary of Program Resources. Her program was entitled "A Gesture of Gratitude". It focused on how we can reflect God's inclusive welcome to all, especially those viewed as "strangers".

Our unit will be attending a program in July which some of you may be interested in. Shiloh United Methodist Women will host a speaker on July 18th whose topic will be "**Human Trafficking**". While we may not realize it, this is a very serious problem in the state of Virginia. Jen Jordan will be the speaker and more information will be forthcoming. If you are interested in attending please let a UMW member know. We will carpool to Shiloh which is outside of South Hill.

We invite **all** women to attend our meetings.

We love visitors and new members!!!! We meet each 4th Monday evening (except in May....it's Memorial Day and we'll meet on Thursday, May 28th). Please join us as we work together to put faith, hope, and love in action.

Elaine Chipley, President



Pictured Left to Right: Charles & Cheryl Green, Linda Shelton, and Ronnie Wright

I wish that all of you could have joined us in church on Sunday, May 10th. It was one of the most special Mother's Day Services I have ever attended! Linda Shelton and the Women's Ministry arranged a musical program that began with "Let It Be" (by Sir Paul McCartney) performed by Charles Green and ended with "Mama" (by B. J. Thomas) performed by Ronnie Wright. In between, Cheryl & Charles Green performed the four songs included in the Mother's Day Hymn Dedication. Charles also played the piano as he and Cheryl sang.

Rev. Ken & Jan each shared a personal story about their mothers. And the sermon was about 8 of the most important mother's in the Old Testament, beginning with Eve and ending with the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Children's Lesson was endearing and the children participated enthusiastically. Thank you, Rev. Ken and Jan, for preparing this uplifting service. And thank you Linda, Charles, Cheryl, and Ronnie for sharing your talents with us!

Chris Barden

United Methodist Men

The Homegrown Bluegrass Band will be in concert at the Prospect United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall on May 30, 2015 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Several of the musicians have received awards for their musical abilities so plan to come out and enjoy the great music and fellowship. A love offering will be taken for the band. Hot dogs, chips and drinks will be available.

The UMM meet on the third Thursday of each month except July and December and invite all men to come join them. The men are in mission helping with church projects as well as projects locally, statewide and nationwide. We look forward to seeing you at a meeting soon.

Charles Jones, President

Membership Notes

During March we welcomed *Mary Gugler* as a new member. In April, *Paula Wood* transferred her membership to Prospect.

We are so happy to have Mary and Paula in our faith community and we pray for you daily.



Guy Johnson, April 3, 2015

2015 GOALS FOR PROSPECT

To have an average of 100 in worship on
Sundays
5 professions of Faith
Small groups
Vital worship
Deepen our Spiritual Level



Since the last Prospector, the mission team had 7 volunteers who cleaned up a yard for one of our members. Lots of tree branches to cut and remove, raking and blowing of pine needles and leaves, and when we were done the yard looked so much better. This clean up was a suggestion from another member. So please, if you need (or know of someone who may need) some work done around the house, we are here!

In April, we had 6 volunteers do a road cleanup of our adopted highway. Our area is route 903 from the NC/VA border, left at Ebony General and up to Siouan Road. We were small in numbers, but managed to pick up 13 bags of garbage. I anticipate we will do another cleanup in August or September.

And the mission group has prepared monthly "happy meals" for 12 members and friends. This effort always brings smiles to the recipients. And I hear that the food is pretty good! So if you get a call for a delivery...I would accept!

Thanks to the generosity of our church family, we are able to continue to support Holly Haven and the Society of Saint Andrews. Thanks for all you do!
Chris & Valerie Ruch

Congratulations to Howdy & Jan Tomlinson, who will be celebrating their 56th Wedding Anniversary next Saturday, May 17th.

Worship and Fellowship Opportunities

Do you like good food? If so, join with us on the last Sunday of each month for our fellowship luncheon. Bring a covered dish to share. We also celebrate our birthdays and special occasions with our monthly cake.

The second Friday of each month, the Food Bank is located at the Lawrenceville United Methodist Church. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Rev. Ken for information. This is a great mission opportunity.



We welcome our new choir director, Sherry Jones. We have practice on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. If you wish to join us, see Sherry.

Church will be held in Roanoke, Virginia from June 19 through 21. Rev. Ken and Jan will be attending. ***

Our country's Independence Day is July 4. Let's celebrate our great country by asking God to be a real presence once again.



The church picnic will be July 18 at Twin Oak Shores. People usually start to gather around 10:00 a.m. for fellowship, games and good food around noon. Bring a covered dish to share.



Saturday, May 30, 6 – 8 pm



Home Grown Bluegrass Band

Special Concert in the
PUMC Fellowship Hall



Each May, the United Methodist Church reassigns ministers. PUMC is blessed that Rev. Ken Thrasher is returning to our pulpit and will continue for the next year.

For everything he does, in every season of our lives, we are grateful!



***This year we are preparing Health Kits and School Kits to be delivered to UMCOR at Annual Conference. Pick up the directions on what to include from the news table at the back of the church, or donate \$12 to the effort. ***

Prospect United Methodist Church
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