



# The Prospector

Prospect United Methodist Church

Ebony, Virginia

February 2016

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

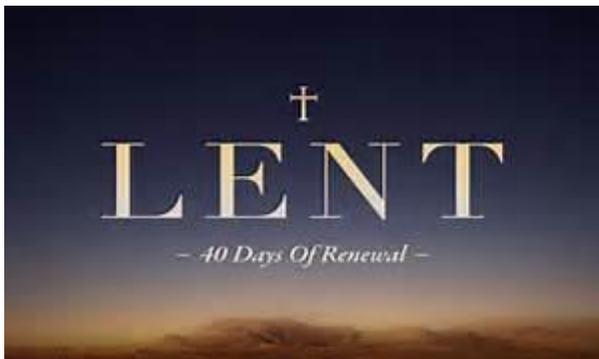
## Reflections from our Pastor:

Grace and peace in the name of Jesus. As we are moving into this time of Lent I am preparing to burn the palms of Palm Sunday. Jesus rode triumphantly into Jerusalem as people gathered to wave them. Now we burn them to create the ashes that we dispense as a reminder of how God created human kind. Lent is a time to focus on our relationship with Jesus.

After the Holy Spirit ascended upon Jesus, he was immediately cast into the wilderness to deal with Satan. During these 40 days, I urge you to take some time every day to reflect on where you are in your journey with Jesus. Go into your quiet place and pray. Lent is about denying ourselves and focusing on God.

During this time of self evaluation may you draw closer to God. Praise God!

*Ken*



We are pleased to announce that on February 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and now also March 3<sup>rd</sup> Lifetouch Photography Studios will be taking photos of our Church friends and family for our new pictorial directory. The allotted slots are filling up quickly. To sign up, go to the Church website [www.prospectumc-ebonyva.org](http://www.prospectumc-ebonyva.org) and follow the simple directions by the photo in the upper left-hand corner, OR you may see Annette Jones or Peggy Donochod on Sunday mornings.

Lifetouch specializes in individual and family portraits, and will include your pets, special interests, and multi-generational photos. Don't miss out on this opportunity for you and your family to be included!

Every sitting will receive a FREE 8x10 photo with NO obligation to purchase additional photos. Lifetouch understands the importance of reaching out to the community and they offer your family a \$5 certificate off any additional photos ordered in exchange for bringing in a food donation for Holly Haven and/or the local food bank. ***We thank you and look forward to having an updated directory that includes everyone!***

## Worship Opportunities and Activities

The Worship service at Prospect United Methodist Church begins at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday and at 11:00 a.m. a Bible study is being held. These studies cover different topics at different times. Right after service, you are invited into the fellowship hall for coffee and snacks. Hot tea and hot chocolate are also available. On the last Sunday of the month, we celebrate our special occasions with cake and a covered dish fellowship lunch. Bring a dish to share and enjoy meeting new members and friends. Check the calendar concerning the lunch dates. We will always have the cake.

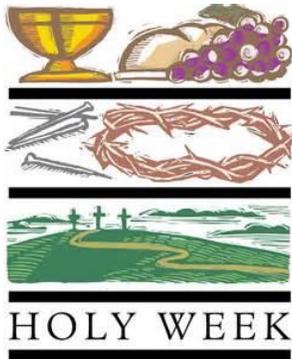


### Ash Wednesday

February 10 begins our time of Lent with Ash Wednesday. A service will begin at 7:00 p.m.



**Palm Sunday** is on March 20. We celebrate the entry of Jesus into the City with singing and waving of the palm branches. As a special gift to his members and friends Rev. Ken makes crosses from the crown palm branches.



**Maundy Thursday** is March 24. This night is celebrated with a service and Holy Communion at 7 pm remembering the Last Supper.

**Good Friday** service will be 7:00 p.m. This is the day the crucifixion of Jesus Christ is observed.



Easter morning the sunrise service will begin at 6:30 a.m. at the home of Chip and Bev Hill at Lakeview Subdivision off Siouan Road. Directions will be available. The Worship service begins at 9:15 a.m. Special music will be presented and an Easter Egg Hunt after the service.

The Administrative Council meets on the third Monday night at 7:30 p.m. All committee chairpersons are asked to attend or send a report. Any member of the church is invited. The choir has its practice on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. At this time the choir is working on special Easter music. The United Methodist Men meet on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. They enjoy a meal and have a short meeting and occasionally a program. The United Methodist Women meet on the fourth Monday night at various times. Check the bulletin or calendar for the time.

The Prospect crafters have begun to meet to make all the beautiful items for the Fall Festival. If you would like to join them they meet on Monday at 9:30. Contact Dot Ford or Marilyn Reed if you have questions.

The church is planning to update the pictorial directory. There is a separate article in this newsletter explaining the information you need. If you have questions or need assistance in signing up, you may call Annette Jones at 434-636-2297 or Peggy Donochod 434-636-2494.

Annette Jones

## United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women were unable to hold our first meeting of 2016 due to inclement weather, and so Monday, February 22nd will be our first meeting of the New Year. We will begin at 6 p.m. with a Soup and Salad Dinner followed by our Pledge Service. Each member is asked to make a pledge to support Missions during the year. This pledge may be paid monthly or all at once.

The UMW would like to thank the congregation of Prospect UMC for their support during 2015. We had 3 major fundraisers and through your support we collected \$313 for the Mother's Day Song Dedication, \$265 for the Father's Day Song Dedication and \$351 for the Veteran's Day Song Dedication. We also sold angel bookmarks and little bags with the 23rd Psalm included which totaled \$154.

Our donations to various groups in 2015 totaled \$1,526. Other monies were also sent to the district for various obligations. Following is a list of the missions we supported.

Brunswick County Social Services  
Ebony Fire Department  
Central Rescue Squad  
Henry Fork Service Center,  
Jackson Feild Homes  
Red Bird Mission  
Blackstone Conference & Retreat Center  
John 3:16 Center  
Lawrenceville UMC Food Bank  
Life Fellowship Ministries  
American Legion  
American Cancer Society  
United Methodist Family Services  
Kits for Conference  
Wesley Community Center

We all need to remember that while on this earth we are to be Christ's hands, feet and voice. We are proud of our service in 2015 and we offer all of you a big HUG and a big THANK YOU for your support!!

We also visit shut-ins in our congregation. Last year we made about 9 visits to those who were home bound because of sickness, surgery or age. We loved spending time with them and enjoyed watching them unpack "Love Baskets" that we took to them. These included toiletries, books, magazines, snacks, quick breads or cookies and other little items we felt they might enjoy. What a blessing to watch their faces "light-up" as they examined their surprises!!!

Programs and Fund Raisers are being planned. The Mother's Day and Father's Day Song Dedications will continue in 2016. Please remember your special loved ones by dedicating a song in their memory or in honor of them on these special days. It's not as expensive as flowers but just as thoughtful!!! Another fundraiser is being planned. It will be announced to the congregation soon. I hope all of you will be listening for Linda Shelton to explain this new fundraiser to you! Again, we ask for your support with these fundraisers as we support women, children and youth here and around the world.

We are always thrilled to have women visit our group. You do not have to be a member of the church to belong to UMW. If you are "Mission Minded" we invite you to come and learn more about our UMW and our mission emphasis. Our monthly meetings are the fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m. You are always welcome!!!

Elaine Chipley, President

## United Methodist Men

Since last newsletter, the UMM have sponsored a Baked Potato Lunch. This was a popular event and all that attended enjoyed a baked russet potato or a baked sweet potato, salad, dessert and tea. Also the men gathered items and held a silent auction. There was much activity with the bidding and most went home happy with their purchases. This was a fun time for all.

Christmas rolled around and the men erected the Nativity Scene on the front lawn of the church. On Christmas Eve someone took a picture of the Nativity Scene which included the front of the church as well. This was just beautiful and just maybe we could get Rev. Ken to show it on the power point during worship one Sunday.

The men are in their planning stages for the year's activities so watch for announcements of their events.

We invite all the men of the church to come join our group. We like to have new members who would like to give us new ideas that we can address. Our meetings are on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. We enjoy a meal, have a short meeting and on occasion a program or a discussion of a project. Our group loves to help ones who need a helping hand and we help the Missions Team with their projects like delivering meals to our community people and also helping with the trash pickup.

I look forward to seeing you at our February 18 meeting.

Blessings to each of you,  
Charles Jones, President

## Mission Committee Activities

The Mission Commission continues with its monthly activities. Our "happy meals" deliveries continue to be well received. And we want to thank those who help prepare, cook and deliver. Look for another delivery day sometime this month.

Also look for a road clean up day to be announced. We hope to get a crew out there sometime this month but will wait for a break in the weather...maybe a 50 degree day?

And keep those nickels coming for our nickel jar. It was announced in church that we sent over \$90 to the Saint Andrews Society. That's more than 1800 meals delivered to the hungry!

Pastor Ken also announced that our church, along with several other area churches are getting together to put prepare "backpacks" to be handed out to needy students so they will not go home hungry. If you are interested in this mission opportunity, please see us or Ken.

That's all for now....God Bless.  
Chris & Valerie Ruch



HIS HANDS HIS FEET

## **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN NEWS!!!!**

There is much excitement in our Church as we begin another year. We began our Capital Campaign in 2010, and here it is 2016! We are excited to announce that the latest figure at the end of December 2015 is \$589,708.39. This is a \$32,000 increase since the closing figures for 2014! We are definitely **CLOSING THE GAP**, and we know **WE CAN DO IT!** We need to remain prayerful about this process as we work together to reach our goal of \$700,000, including three phases of our building process.

At this point we thank **GOD** that we have accomplished two of the three phases. We were able to do this thanks to the hard work and dedication of many of our members and to the loyal financial support of our Church family and friends.

### **PHASES I AND II**

Our new education and fellowship hall has been built, and is being well enjoyed by both our members and our community.

The roof and siding of the Sanctuary have been: reinsulated, repaired and replaced to blend with our new bell town entrance and fellowship hall.

The steeple has been straightened

AND the bank loan has been repaid!!!

**PHASE III** is to look into ways to reconfigure the Sanctuary to accommodate an increase in our Church family and also have additional funds available for future needs of our Church. Our campaign is ultimately about expanding and enhancing our ability as a Church body to better support God's work now and in His plan for our future. We thank **GOD** for giving us this opportunity.

Anne Hartley and Peggy Donochod

## **FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**Mmmmmmm, I can smell it now.....**Circle your calendar for Saturday morning, **March 5<sup>th</sup>** and plan on **NOT COOKING** breakfast!!! Invite you family, friends and neighbors to come and join you at the Church. Breakfast will be served from 8 – 10 a.m. Breakfast includes juice, coffee, delicious fluffy pancakes, sausages and wonderful breakfast buns. All this for only \$6.00 for adults and children over 12, \$4.00 for children over the age of 3, and free for children under 3.

**“RECIPES & REMEMBRANCES” COOKBOOKS** are still available. It is exciting how well received these have been and how many folks returned to purchase additional books. We will not be ordering additional books once these have been sold. These cookbooks are so much more than a regular cookbook; they are a history book about our Church and its growth and changes over the years. Be sure everyone in your family has one. If you would like to purchase this special cookbook, please see me. They are only \$15. We thank you for your support to this project.

We have a variety of **HAPPY HOME FLAVORINGS** on hand in the fellowship hall and they are only \$3 a bottle. When you're baking all those delicious goodies with the recipes from your favorite new cookbook you may just need some additional flavorings, this is a great time to stock up!

**THE PERFECT GIFT for a Church member** is a beautiful **numbered watercolor print of our Church**, in rich autumn colors. These lovely prints were created by William Ward Moseley early in our building process as part of our fundraising efforts and there are only a few left. They sell for only \$20. They come matted and ready to frame so you can hang them on your wall, or sit them on a side table or desk top, just as they are, to be enjoyed.

## ***FINANCAL UPDATE***

**The monthly amount needed to meet our budget in 2015 was \$10,283.00.** Following are the amounts received **through 12/31/ 2015.**

	<b>Received</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Jan	9,886.28	- 396.72
Feb	7,272.50	- 3,010.50
Mar	12,655.03	+ 2,372.03
Apr	11,370.38	+ 1,087.38
May	14,720.28	+ 4,437.28
Jun	10,197.29	- 85.71
Jul	8,937.78	- 1, 345.22
Aug	12,225.32	+ 1,942.32
Sep	8,139.65	- 2,143.35
Oct	10,543.39	+ 260.39
Nov	12,160.20	+ 1,877.20
Dec	11,293.07	+ 1,010.07
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>129,401.17</b>	<b>+ 6,005.17</b>

**Prospect United Methodist Church**  
**PO Box 25**  
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