



The Prospector

Prospect United Methodist Church

Ebony, Virginia

May 2016

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

Reflections from our Pastor:

As we come into this spring time we can again see the beauty of God's creation beginning to blossom. With new hope and enthusiasm we look towards a beautiful summer. Like the resurrection of Jesus we look towards new life and renewal. The old tired look of winter is replaced with flowers and leaves where before there were none. Planting gardens and flowerbeds, enjoying time outside, Hope springs eternal.

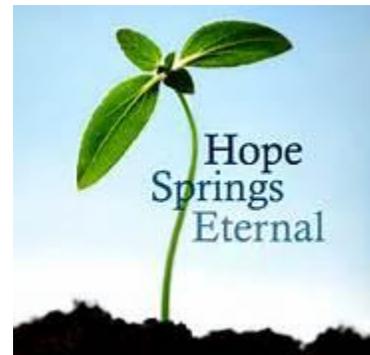
We mourn the loss of Naomi Hammond and pray for healing for the many who are sick and for those with surgeries. We also know and believe that God is in the midst of all of our times of need.

If ever there was a time in history that we needed to hold firm to our faith it is now. As our world continues to go through many disasters and times continue to change around us, the one thing we can rely upon is the love and grace of Jesus Christ. I urge you to pray with me and commit ourselves to his service.

I look forward to a great future for our church as we commit ourselves to knowing God better and serving Jesus as disciples.

May God Bless You!

Ken Thrasher



In Memoriam

Naomi Green Hammond

February 20, 1934 - April 25, 2016

*The world may change from year to year,
And friends from day to day
But happy memories of you
Will never fade away.*

Rest in peace, Naomi.

Card Ministry/Grief Support

Submitted by Brenda Johnson



Thank you so much for the wonderful response to help with the new card ministry at Prospect using the memorial gifts for Guy. Hopefully the people who receive the cards will be as blessed as those who have volunteered their time to send the cards for a month. Those who are helping with cards are Christine Ferguson, Bev Hill, Frieda Davis, Maxine French, Sharon Nold, Elaine Chipley, Linda Shelton, Barbara McCaughey, Peggy Donochod and Jan Tomlinson.

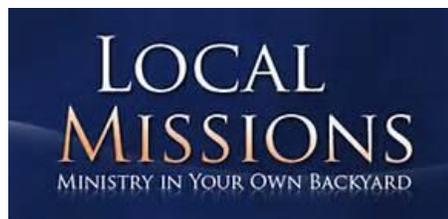


Thank you also to another group of Prospect members who are working together to provide support for other members as they experience the journey of grief the first weeks after a loss. We welcome your ideas to help with this ministry.
Brenda Johnson

FINANCE REPORT

The monthly amount needed to meet our budget in 2016 is \$11,558.670. Following are the amounts received for the budget through March 31, 2016.

	<i>Received</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Jan	9,346.00	- 2,212.67
Feb	10,993.58	- 565.09
Mar	10,569.07	- 989.60
Total	30,908.65	-3,797.36



The Mission group just keeps plugging along with monthly meals to those who may need a little extra "love" from their church family. I know we can all use more love in our lives and when it comes in the form of good food and a quick "Hello" from a friend, the day is a little brighter.

A road clean up was done and another one will probably occur before summer is officially here.

The nickel jar for St. Andrew's is ongoing, providing meals to needy people for just 5 cents. It's amazing what just a nickel can do.

We also helped with the "backpack" project". Meals were packed in bags and delivered to a local grade school for children who might not have anything to eat after school. We packed "65" bags a week for several weeks. They were greatly appreciated.

A special "Thanks" to everyone who helps the Mission Team - we could not do what we do alone!

Valerie & Chris Ruch





The Prospect United Methodist Women would like to thank everyone who participated in our Mother's Day Song Dedication fundraiser. This is our third year for this fundraiser and each year your support has enabled us to raise more money to fund our mission projects for the year. This year we have collected close to \$400! After Mother's Day we will begin our Father's Day Song Dedication fundraiser. Our goal for Father's Day is \$300. Hopefully, we will exceed this goal. Your loyal support is greatly appreciated.

During the month of May we will ask you to participate in making kits for conference. This year there is a great need for school kits and health kits. I have made copies of the needed supplies for these two kits and they can be found on the table right as you enter the sanctuary from the bell tower entrance. A list of the items needed for each kit can also be found on page 4 of this newsletter. Monetary donations may be given and the items will be purchased to make the kits.

In some countries, children don't have books or school supplies. Many have no schoolrooms; classes are held in inadequate or half-destroyed buildings, tents, or even the open air. School kits may be these children's only educational resources. Health kits provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. Health kits are also used as learning tools in personal hygiene literacy, nutrition, and cooking classes.

Our next meeting date is May 23rd and the program will be provided by Madeline's House, an organization that provides safe shelter for victims of domestic and sexual violence. We will be collecting items to present to them. If you would like to come to our meeting in May to hear more about Madeline's House or if you would like to help provide items helpful to them we would appreciate your presence and your gift. They can always use Wal-Mart gift cards in any amount. These are used to purchase household items, groceries, and prescription medication for clients. Also needed are: Clorox wipes, Bleach, liquid laundry detergent, paper plates, paper towels, toilet paper, and Solo cups. There will be a box in the fellowship hall where you may put these collected items.

In July, we will have a Celebration of our Independence. We will serve ice cream and cookies and show a patriotic video. The **entire** Prospect congregation is invited to this special event. We will not have a regular meeting on July 25th.....just a Patriotic Celebration. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend. It will be fun!

As you can tell we are busy women. We enjoy being "Mission Minded Women". We enjoy helping women, children and youth here and all around the world. While we are a fairly small group we know that whatever we can do to help is appreciated by those who receive our gifts. Because of your loyal donations in our fundraisers we are able to help many more needy individuals. May we all strive daily to be God's hands, feet and voices wherever we go!!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOYAL SUPPORT TO OUR UMW UNIT!!!

Elaine Chipley, President

A NOTE FROM OUR LAY LEADER

I'm so thankful to be a member of this Church. Our Church "family" is just like our own family, we work and play together, we care about each other, help each other out, and definitely pray for one another. Unfortunately, just like our own families we have many members going through hard times, be it illness and health issues, loss of a loved one or extended friend and family concerns. God knows their needs; we ask that you please keep them in your prayers. There may be opportunities for us to reach out and help. If you would like to help, but are not sure what is needed, please see Pastor Ken or me.

We are also blessed that we have many visitors coming through our doors to worship with us. Please make a point to seek those folks out and welcome them. YOU are the face of our Church, and our Church represents the face of Jesus.

While I'm speaking of faces, it really helps to put a face and a name together if we wear our nametags. If you don't have a name tag, or have misplaced it, please write your name on the pad on the fellowship hall information table so that Jan Thrasher can make you a new tag the next time she makes tags.

We hope to see your smiling face Sunday.
Peggy Donochod

~~~~~  
**SPECIAL DATES**

- Monday, May 16**  
*Happy 57<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to  
Howdy & Jan Tomlinson!*
- Monday, May 23**  
*UMW Meeting  
Program by Madeline's House*
- Monday, July 25**  
*Patriotic Celebration at PUMC*



# KITS FOR CONFERENCE

We are preparing Health Kits and School Kits to be delivered to UMCOR at Annual Conference. Pick up the directions on what to include at church, or use the following lists. You may also make a monetary donation for this effort.

**Items needed for school kits**

- 1 pair blunt scissors
- 3 pads of paper (one may be 150 sheets or less of loose-leaf paper)
- 1 hand-held pencil sharpener
- 1 30-centimeter ruler
- 6 unsharpened pencils
- 1 2-inch or larger size eraser
- 1 24-count box of crayons

All of these items are to be put in a 14x16 inch cloth bag. (We will have the cloth bags available for your items.)

School kit value is \$11 per kit.

**Health kit materials include**

- 1 hand towel
- 1 washcloth
- 1 sturdy and longer than 6 inches comb
- 1 metal nail file or nail clippers
- 1 bath-size soap
- 1 toothbrush
- 6 adhesive bandages
- \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste.

Put items in a one-gallon size sealable bag.

Health kit value is \$12 per kit.



## **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN NEWS**

THANK YOU ALL SO VERY MUCH for your generous donations during our Lenten season enabling us to continue to “Close the Gap” toward our \$700,000 goal. The special Lenten Offering added over \$1,800.00! While we remain committed to reaching our goal, the “landscape” in front of the Church has changed now as we decided it was time to remove the thermometer sign.

As a reminder, the \$700,000 covers a 3-phased building initiative. Phases I and II have already been completed, except for a few special features that were included in the plan and are now being added. The new kitchen, fellowship hall and classroom space is all being put to good use. Here is a “before and after” picture.



The remaining funds to get us to \$700,000 will be used to plan Phase III (the reconfiguration of the Sanctuary to accommodate additional seating) and to provide for other maintenance needs in the future. A definite timeframe for Phase III implementation will be aligned with membership growth in the future.

Our Wall of Crosses is a continuing fundraiser and is the focal point of the Narthex. I would invite you to come, reflect and spend some quiet

time in this very special part of our Church. There are several other ongoing fundraisers: Our cookbook supply is dwindling so get yours now, we have lovely watercolor prints of the Church created by William Ward Moseley and don't forget the Happy Home flavorings for your cooking needs. To purchase any of these items, please contact Peggy Donochod 636-2494.

### **NEW STAIN GLASSED WINDOW**

We have installed 1 of 2 beautiful custom-made stained glass windows in the bell tower classroom window. Its “sister” window, which will be installed in the choir room, is still under construction. The artist that designed and is creating these windows is Janene Rehder, who lives at the lake.



Continuing with our “Preserving the Past While Building the Future” theme, the patterns have features from the stained glass window over the Altar and the Sanctuary windows, and even include some of our old glass from the windows that were removed from the upstairs classrooms when the new building was constructed. These windows will be consecrated to the GLORY OF GOD after both windows are installed. We hope that you will join us for this special event!

Peggy Donochod and Anne Hartley

**Prospect United Methodist Church**

**PO Box 25**

**Ebony, VA 23845**