



The Prospector

Prospect United Methodist Church

Ebony, Virginia

August 2016

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

Reflections from our Pastor:

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord!

As we hopefully move past our 90 plus degree days and move into what I consider the prettiest time of the year, the fall, I'd like you to consider for yourselves a movement towards your relationship with Jesus. The best way to do that is by a greater awareness of the work of God in our lives, study God's word, pray, and outreach. I also would like you to look for opportunities to promote Jesus in the circles in which you travel.

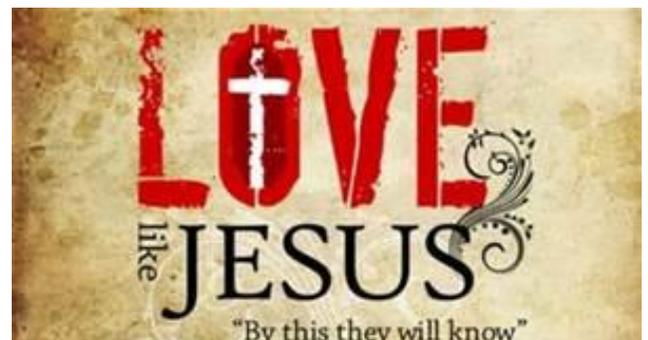
As we move towards the election a great amount of prayer and discernment is required on our part to allow God's presence in the process. Knowing that you voted with your head, heart, and the voice of Jesus in your ear, cast your ballot. I am going to ask that as Americans you exercise your right to vote. Those who developed this country on their backs and religious ideals deserve our consideration.

There are many issues that are trying to separate the church in today's society. This week's lectionaries text from Hebrews challenges us to walk by faith and to live our lives accordingly.

Jesus calls us to love God with all we are and all we have, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. That requires a commitment. More than lip service we are commanded to make disciples, to bind up the broken, feed the hungry, and care for the widows and orphans. These things require us to get involved and sometimes it demands us to get our hands dirty. The first and last thing it requires us to do is to love as Jesus loves. If we are to make a difference and lasting change in our society and world it is going to take rolling up our sleeves, put on our work boots and go get things done.

May we be a church on the move for Jesus' sake. Invite a neighbor to help with this task. God bless.

Ken Thrasher



Church Can Happen Anywhere!

On Sunday evening, June 26th, a special service was held on Lake Gaston. Thirty-one Christians went out on pontoon boats and heard scripture, sang, and ate. Our friends Mike and Ann Day and several of the folks in his church joined us. It was a beautiful evening to be out on the water praising God.



Fall Festival

The Church's annual fall festival will be held on Saturday, September 24, 2016 from 9:00a.m. to 2:00p.m. In lieu of the auction this year we held a yard sale in April and will have vendor spaces available the day of the festival. We will still be having the breakfast, Ruby's treasures, the country store, the craft table, the snack shack, live music and entertainment for the children.

Applications for vendor participation will be available by calling Bev Hill at (434)636-5101. Items for Ruby's Treasures can be brought to the church for evaluating and pricing anytime or by calling the above number for pick-up availability. Large appliances will not be accepted.

If you are interested in helping please contact either Bev Hill or Charles Jones (434) 636-2297 and we thank you in advance for your help.

Charles Jones and
Bev Hill, Co-Chairmen

Card Ministry

The Prospect Card Ministry has sent almost three hundred cards to members and friends of Prospect since beginning in January. Bev Hill, Elaine Chipley, Christine Ferguson, Linda Shelton, Brenda Johnson and Frieda Davis have each sent cards for a month. In the upcoming months, Maxine French will be doing the cards in September, Barbara McCaughey in October, Sharon Nold in November and Peggy Donochod in December. Let them know if you know someone you would like to be remembered with a card from Prospect. Donations of cards are also appreciated especially thinking of you cards and get well cards. You can give them to any of the women listed above.

Submitted by Brenda Johnson

United Methodist Women

On July 25th the Prospect United Methodist Women welcomed about 40 church members who came to our Ice Cream Social. It was a great event and everyone seemed to enjoy the ice cream sundaes. The patriotic video was outstanding and we thank Keenen Broome for organizing and showing this video. It certainly brought back many memories. This was our way of saying "Thank You" to the Prospect family for their support of the UMW throughout the year. We appreciate and value your support of our fundraisers.

Our next meeting will be Monday, August 24th at 7 p.m. when we will welcome Brenda Childs from South Hill. She will tell us about the Upper Room, a thrift shop in South Hill where the funds collected are used for mission work. We look forward to having her visit with us. All women are invited to attend.

The September 26th program will be a representative from the Jackson Field Behavioral Health Services...formerly Jackson Field Home. This facility services children and teens experiencing behavioral and mental problems. This year they had 8 graduates from there on campus school-the Gwaltney School. Four students received high school diplomas and 4 received GED certificates. Seven students received Home Health Care Aide certification and pins. The facility is located in Jarratt, Virginia. Please come and hear more about this most worthwhile facility and one that our UMW supports yearly.

Our "Call to Prayer and Self Denial" program will be October 24. We are planning a potluck meal and a recipe swap as part of our program. We will ask those participating to tell about

their dish and why they chose this particular dish to make and share. In the early church sharing meals was central to the formation of Christian community. These were times of prayer, praise and sharing of stories of one another's life experiences. Our offerings collected this evening will support programs that empower women to gain the resources they need to earn a living wage and care for themselves and their loved ones.

November will be our final meeting for 2016. As we think of Thanksgiving this month we will have our World Thank Offering program. As we have been blessed in so many ways we will consider ways that we may be blessings to others in our communities and in the world. We will also learn about various centers throughout the world which are supported by our UMW funds that assist women, children and youth. All women are invited to attend this meeting and learn more about the activities and organizations that our unit supports.

Elaine Chipley, President

United Methodist Men

The August meeting will be August 18, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. All men of the church are invited to attend. The meal will be at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will follow. The men are making plans for a Sunday service and also another Baked Potato Bar meal.

The men support a lot of local missions, the Society of St. Andrew, Hospice and the Veterans just to name a few. Donations are usually made in the Fall and a list will be given in the next edition of the "Prospector".

Ya'll come for good food and lots of fellowship.

Charles Jones, President

Missions Commission



The Mission Commission would like to thank all of you who contribute your time and talent to help us with our missions. You continue to feed our nickel jar for the Society of St. Andrews. It is amazing how many meals they provide for people in need. We recently had a road clean-up day, and while the number of “pickers” was few, we were able to pick up trash on our adopted road and improve our local scenery. We plan on another pick up sometime this fall. It is good to have Annette back and we continue to make and deliver our “happy meals” to members and friends of the church. We try to do meals each month and thank those of you who help out. And please remember that we are available to assist in chores around your house if you are having a hard time keeping up. Whether you need help cleaning gutters, yard clean up or other household maintenance...please reach out to us. Thanks!

Chris & Valerie Ruch

And don't forget our friends at Holly Haven!!!
Communion Sunday is “3 Can Sunday”.



“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”

Is the motto that has been used to represent our United Methodist Church? It is very comforting to know that a Church, which is after all God's House, will welcome all God's people. I am always pleased when we have visitors attending our Sunday service and it is lovely to see everyone take the opportunity to welcome them. We make the difference as to whether they return or not! Let's continue to be the Church that Jesus would be proud of.

We have a wonderful mix of “old and new” faces in our Church each Sunday morning and it would be helpful if we wore our **name tags** again. If you don't have a name tag yet, or can't find yours, please write your name on the pad in the fellowship hall and Jan Thrasher will make one for you. Thank you!

Peggy Donochod, Lay Leader



FINANCE REPORT

The monthly amount needed to meet our budget in 2016 is \$11,558.67. Following are the amounts received for the budget through July 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
Apr	10,078.85	- 1,479.82
May	10,448.00	- 1,110.67
June	9,765.25	- 1,793.42
July	10,904.61	- 654.06
Total	72,105.36	- 8,805.33

Capital Campaign

It is so exciting to see our Capital Campaign total continuing to grow thanks to the support of the friends and family of Prospect UMC. The latest total to date is: **\$597,040.23!**

As a reminder, there are several ongoing fundraisers that we invite you to participate in:

. The **WALL OF CROSSES** has completely transformed our Narthex. It is a wonderful way to honor or memorialize a special friend or loved one. We invite you to spend a little time there.



.RECIPES AND REMEMBRANCES

is a very unique historical cookbook which contains over 300 recipes and helpful hints AND a wonderful pictorial history of our Church! This is truly a handy treasure and a wonderful keepsake. It makes a perfect gift to share with family and friends. The cookbook is only \$15!

. There are just a few matted **watercolor prints of our Church** surrounded by gorgeous autumn colors. These beautiful prints are numbered and matted, and were created by our local artist William Ward Moseley. This was one of the first fundraisers we had for our building project. They look lovely framed on a wall or sitting on a table. They also make a wonderful and personal gift! The cost is only \$20.

For more information about the Wall of Crosses, or to make a purchase, please contact Peggy Donochod 636-2494 or pdono@buggs.net. Please know that donations are always welcome and may be placed in the Sunday offering, but **please** mark Capital Campaign or building fund in the memo. Thank you so very much for your support. May God continue to bless our Prospect Church family.

Peggy Donochod & Anne Hartley

Opportunities at Prospect

Many opportunities are offered by Prospect United Methodist Church. We hope you will see something that you may be interested in. Come join us anytime.

The crafters will be meeting on Mondays at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship until the Monday before the Fall Festival. If you have questions call Marilyn Reed 252-586-5757 or Dot Ford 434-636-5690. The choir meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Come join us to make a joyful noise for the Lord. Fellowship luncheons are the LAST Sunday of each. We bring a dish to share and have birthday cake for dessert.

Our Fall Festival will be on Saturday, September 24. There is more information on page 2 of this newsletter.

The United Methodist Men meet on the third Thursday of each month for a meal and meeting. All men are welcome. The Administrative Council meets on the third Monday evening. If you would like to serve on the council, please contact Rev. Thrasher.

In the month of October, the fellowship lunch is turned into Family Fun Night. We still have birthday cake after worship but the meal is in the evening. Bring a dish to share starting around 5:00 p.m. We will have fun with cake walks and other games. Bring your carved pumpkin and those in costume may receive a prize.

November is Thanksgiving month. We celebrate with a service of Thanks on November 23 at 7:00 p.m. No fellowship on November 27.

December is a busy month for everyone. The church will be decorated the Saturday after Thanksgiving. If you would like to help come around 10:00 a.m. Our choir will offer special Christmas music. Watch for the date. The Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be December 24 at 8:00 p.m. Christmas is on Sunday this year so come and celebrate the birth of Jesus on this Holy Day.

Come and participate in as many activities as you can. We are always happy to see you.

Charles and Annette Jones

Membership News

Since I last reported to the Prospector, two of our church members have taken flight to Heaven. *Naomi Hammond* on April 25, 2016 and *Mary Morris* on August 7, 2016. We will all miss them.

Several of our members have new addresses.



Ethel Jones

Ivy Ridge Assisted Living
590 Plank Road
Petersburg, Virginia 23805

Jean Sherman

Magnolias of Chesterfield
6701 Court Yard Road
Chester, Virginia 23831

Mr. and Mrs. Howard E. Tomlinson ***(Jan & Howdy)***

The Fountains
200 Trade Street, Apt. G 201,
Tarboro, North Carolina 27886
Phone number: 252-641-5060

Mrs. Nancy Cox

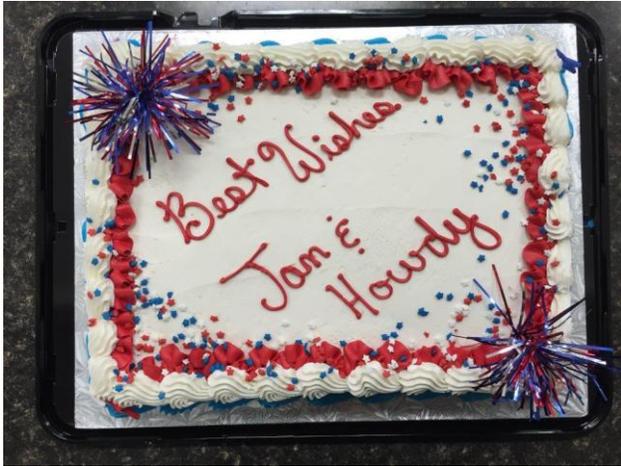
Hickory Hill Retirement Community
900 Cary Shop Road
Burkeville, Virginia 23922.

(Nancy's birthday is August 17th so drop her card if you can.)

We will miss each one of these members every Sunday but will keep them close in our hearts and in our prayers.

We would also like to welcome our new friends to the church. We look forward to your joining our membership soon.

Annette Jones, Membership Secretary



On Sunday, June 26th, long standing church members Jan and Howdy Tomlinson said their goodbyes to the congregation of Prospect United Methodist Church. Lay Leader Peggy Donochod presented Jan with a plaque in appreciation of her many years as council chair.

They have promised to visit regularly and have already been back once for service on Sunday July 31 in celebration of Howdy's 93rd birthday.

We have so many wonderful memories of this pair! Each December, Jan and Howdy would put on Santa hats and lead a group in Christmas caroling at local retirement and nursing homes.

They have been married for 57 years and are the most loving couple you will ever meet. I don't think I ever saw them without beautiful smiles on their sweet faces! We wish them well in their new home and know they are already actively involved and spreading the joy of Christ's love in their new community.



...God's gifts and his call are irrevocable.

Romans 11:29

Please be in prayer for the Thrashers as they prepare to open Bracey Meadows Adult Care Center this fall. They are working hard to provide a place where those who are dealing with physical or mental limitations can spend time in a stimulating and fun environment. It will also provide relief to full time caregivers. God laid this concept on Jan's heart over a year ago and they have stepped out in faith and are bringing it to fruition while still working their full time jobs. May God continue to guide and direct them and may this business thrive and be a blessing to many!

www.braceymeadowsadultcarecenterllc.com



Pictures submitted by Anne Hartley

Articles submitted by Editor, Chris Barden

Prospect United Methodist Church

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