



The Prospector

Prospect United Methodist Church

Ebony, Virginia

June 2017

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

Reflections from our Pastor:

As I was preparing the message for Pentecost Sunday, I wanted to remind you of the gift God sent us so that He would always be with us.

Our sign in front of the church says “Jesus knocks on the door, we must open it.” The Holy Spirit works in much the same way. All we have to do is ask. Along with our asking comes the responsibility of using what we have received.

Acts 2 speaks of the day when the disciples received the Holy Spirit. The tongues of fire were evenly distributed among them, none getting more while others got less. The important part of this text is what they did with what they received. They took the Word out to the people. All nations of Jews and converts to Judaism, as well as everyone else who were there in Jerusalem that day heard the Word. Some 3,000 accepted Christ that day!

That same Holy Spirit given to the disciples awaits your beckoning call, to become alive and active in your life and in mine. Be sure to empower God's gift in everything you do.

Facing this world and all its issues is tough, but easier when we know the Holy Spirit of God goes before, behind, above, below, and in us.

Receive your God given gift this season with gladness. Make the call to our Heavenly Father, asking for a double dose of His Spirit. God Bless.

Ken Thrasher



Spirit of Pentecost, blow open the doors of our shut up hearts, and set our tongues free to proclaim your praise. Bestow your gifts on all people, that our youth may have visions, our elders may dream dreams, and our sons and daughters may prophesy. Blow into our lives and renew us as a people of faith that we may find the strength and courage to be the people you call us to be.

Amen

KITS FOR CONFERENCE

As in years past, we are assembling health and school kits which are used by people around the world. Health kits are most requested this year. They provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. You may buy the materials or you may make a donation to Elaine Chipley. Elaine will buy the items and the Women's group will assemble the kits.

HEALTH KITS (\$12 PER KIT)

- 1 hand towel
- 1 wash cloth
- 1 comb (sturdy, longer than 6 inches)
- 1 metal nail file or nail clippers
- 1 bath size soap (No Ivory or Jergens soap due to moisture content)
- 1 toothbrush...adult size only
- 6 adhesive bandages (3/4 inch to 1 inch size)
- \$1.00 for toothpaste
- Put items in a 1 gallon size plastic sealable bag.

SCHOOL KITS (\$11 PER KIT)

- 1 pair blunt scissors (Rounded tip only. No plastic scissors, please.)
- 3 pads of paper
 - Spiral- or top-bound pads
 - 150 sheets or less of loose-leaf paper can be substituted for 1 pad
 - Combination of spiral, top-bound, side-bound, or loose-leaf paper is acceptable
 - No composition books
- 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
- 1 14x16 inch cloth bag (available at church)

Your donations are needed by Sunday, June 11th.



September 30th, 2017

Harvest Craft & Vendor Festival

Plan on attending Prospect's first Craft & Vendor Festival. It should be lots of fun with breakfast beginning at 8:00 am and festival activities beginning at 9:00 am. There will be live music and food available. Profits will go to support Project Restoration (local food banks in Bracey & Ebony) and also our local mission at the church. There will be local crafters and vendors, our country store, and the grill will be preparing hot dogs and hamburgers for your purchase. The church crafters will have their table and the quilt will be present and raffled off. There will not be yard sale items or an auction. Come on out and support this new event and say a few prayers for beautiful weather.

FINANCE REPORT

The monthly amount needed to meet our budget in 2017 is \$11,028.33. Following are the amounts received through May 31, 2017.

	<i>Received</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Jan	9,521.75	- 1,506.58
Feb	8,261.05	- 2,767.28
Mar	8,247.00	- 2,781.33
Apr	12,822.70	+ 1,794.37
<u>May</u>	<u>7,137.00</u>	<u>- 3,891.33</u>
Total	45,989.50	- 9,152.15

Have you seen our new prayer crosses?



Each colored stone represents a person we have prayed for.

Each color represents a different cause; for example, a type of cancer.

We collected the stones during 2016 and Chris Ruch made these beautiful crosses using the stones as the base.

Keep praying! God is still working!!

TWO BEAUTIFUL ADDITIONS to our Church's building plan were consecrated on Mother's Day. They are the two lovely stained glass windows designed and hand crafted by Janene Rehder, a local artist. If you have not yet seen these new windows, which once again fulfill our Campaign theme of "preserving our past while building our future", please be sure to visit the double classroom and the choir room in the new addition. Janene was kind enough to create a lovely step-by-step photo album of the incredible process necessary to create these windows and it is on display in the classroom window for all to see.



WE DID IT
THANKS TO YOU!

Capital Campaign Ends!!

In case you have missed the great news, thanks to YOU and the dedication and generosity of our Church family and friends we have been able to end the Capital Campaign, exceeding our revised \$600,000 goal! All unused Campaign funds will be managed through the Building Fund. Contributions to the Building Fund are always welcome and will help secure the future of our Church.

As a Church can now turn focus, energy and resources on using our facility to its fullest – to do God's work to transform the world through our church ministries, teaching and learning, coming together as a church family doing mission work. Many thanks to all!

Peggy Donochod & Anne Hartley

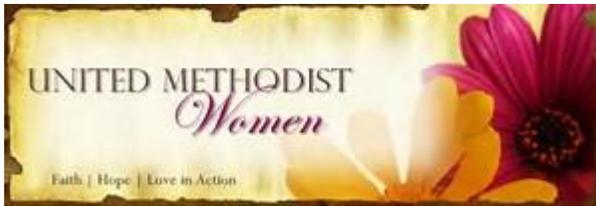


Open Hearts.
Open Minds.
Open Doors.

The People of the United Methodist Church

Summertime is the perfect time to reach out and invite your family, friends and neighbors to come and join us as we worship together on Sunday morning. Let them know that we are happy to have new folks worship with us, and that "summer casual attire" is welcome. GOD is just happy we're all here!

Peggy Donochod



The UMW has had a great start in 2017 and we would like to thank everyone who has been a part of making this happen. Everyone in the church has been there for us when asked. We are so proud of the success of the Mother's Day Hymn Dedication fund raiser and hope to have the same results or better for Father's Day Hymn Dedication. The choir helped pull that off. Several of the ladies in the UMW are also members of the choir. Thanks so much.

Candle Burning is the program for June and Pam Pickard will be our guest speaker. That will be June 26th and we invite all women of the church to attend. We do not have a regular meeting in July; however, on July 24 we plan to have an Ice Cream Social with a program or some type of entertainment. (Ice cream with lots of toppings). The entire congregation is invited so please plan to attend. Everyone who attended last year thoroughly enjoyed it and we know you will too. Just come to socialize and get to know other members of our congregation. This is just one of the ways to get to know us and enjoy being a part of the church.

The August 28th meeting will be Call to Prayer and Self Denial and we would also like to have you attend.

Kits for Conference is another project which is very important to the UMW as well as the whole church. Everyone is invited to participate by preparing a school kit or health kit. Page 2 of the newsletter has more information on how to support this great cause.

Another project that the UMW has participated in for a long time is the Clothes Closet in Lawrenceville. If you would be willing to be a part of this, we are in need of volunteers to work on Saturdays in the month of August. Usually we arrive around 9:00 A.M. and stay until 1:00 or 2:00. Three or four ladies or men are needed for each Saturday we commit to be there. As you know, some of our members are unable to do this because of health issues and we would appreciate help in this area. You do not have to be a member of the UMW to participate. This is a good opportunity to get to know other members of the congregation and also a time to decide if you would like to be a member of the UMW.

The Bereavement Committee has been using Angels on the tables and this seems to be something that has touched the grieving families. If you happen to have any Angels on hand that could be given to the committee to be used, we would certainly appreciate it. We plan to store them at the church and won't have to transport them from home each time they are needed. This would make this particular task much easier. Any help you can give would be appreciated.

We would encourage all women of the church to give some thought to becoming a member of this organization and we would welcome you with open arms.

Patricia Conner, UMW President





The **Mission Team** would like to thank all those who help with our monthly meal preparation and delivery. These "happy meals" bring smiles to those who receive them. We appreciate all the hands that prepare and distribute.

We also want to thank you for the continued contributions to our Society of St. Andrews nickel jar. Each nickel is enough to transport a deliver a meal to someone in need.

And speaking of feeding those that need assistance, please note that some of the profits from our Fall Vendor and Craft will go to local mission. The board decided to contribute 50% of the profit to Project Restoration, a local food pantry that has outreach locations in Bracey and Ebony. This will have a positive impact on many local needy families.

Thanks for the continued support of Holly Haven. You can bring in canned foods anytime and leave them in the narthex.



We will be scheduling another road clean up as soon as VDOT cuts the grass along our adopted highway. See you in church!

Chris & Valerie Ruch

United Methodist Men

The UMM though small in number continue to meet on the third Thursday of each month for fellowship, supper and meeting. In April the men cooked sausage and pancakes for the luncheon that day. Approximately sixty people ate that day. It was great to see so many stay for the fellowship since the luncheons had seen low attendance in the previous months. In May the men lined up a lunch at Roma's in South Hill. Everyone in the church was invited to this dutch treat meal; all that was needed was to sign up so the number could be given to the folks at Roma's. This was a great time, about seventeen folks shared in the fellowship and laughter. Another meal here will be announced soon, watch your bulletin.

Looking ahead the UMM are planning another Potato Bar in October. More information will be available closer to the date.

The men continue to help those in need in our church and beyond. They are a willing bunch of folks and seem to get lots done. We thank you all for your support over the years and continue to thank you so that we can help those in need in the future.

Charles Jones, President

Picture of Bill Hoofnagle helping out in the kitchen at the Men's Breakfast. Anybody notice that this tried and true Maryland Terrapins fan is wearing a Duke apron? Hmmmm... wonder how that happened?? Well, it just goes to show that our church always has Duke materials on hand. It also goes to show what a good sport Bill is!





The Capital Campaign may have officially ended but we do have a few of our fundraising items still available for sale, and they make wonderful gifts. If you are interested please contact Peggy, 636-2494.

- We have only a few of our special “Recipes and Remembrance” cookbooks at \$15
- Lovely signed and numbered watercolor prints of our church which were created as our first fundraiser for our Capital Campaign by William Ward Moseley available for only \$20
- There are very few Happy Home flavorings for only \$3

Thank you again for your support.

Membership News

Our church members and friends welcome Jane Middleton and John and Gail Donati as members of Prospect. We welcome you in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Bruce French, nephew of Charlie and Maxine French was baptized in March. Katharine Moerls and Hayward Green presented Jacion Green, their son for baptism on May 21, 2017. Jacion is the grandson of Bruce and Lorraine Beaulieu.

Since our January Prospector the angels came to take Ray Sublett, Thelma Shurling and Renee Nash to heaven. We know they are rejoicing with their Heavenly Father. We miss all three.

Annette Jones, Membership Secretary

Opportunities at Prospect

The craft ladies are meeting on Mondays at 9:30 a.m. They are making items to see at the Fall Craft and Vendor Festival for Prospect. If you need more information call, Dot Ford or Marilyn Reed.

Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. the hand bell choir meets for practice. At 6:00 p.m. the guitars practice. At 7:00 p.m. the choir has practice. If you feel you would like to join any of these musical sessions, please contact Mary Gugler.

Charlie’s Bible study will resume in September on Wednesday evening.

The UMM meet on the third Thursday of each month except July and December. Join them for fellowship and lending a helping hand to others.

The UMW meet on the fourth Monday evening of each month at 7:00 p.m.

The church picnic will be held the 15th of July at Twin Oak Shores recreation area. Come around 10:00 a.m. for fellowship and games, lunch will be about noon.

Watch your bulletin for other opportunities.

Readers & Greeters

I would just like to say thank you to all our “readers & greeters” that serve our Church each Sunday. If you would like to be included in this ministry, please contact Peggy Donochod. Most readers & greeters serve only 2 or 3 times a year. It’s a wonderful way to get to know our Church family and also have our Church family get to know you better. If you’re in the choir we will find someone else to “greet” for you. The Scripture reading is sent to you ahead of time by e-mail. Readers for the month are posted in the weekly bulletin, and if you need to change your date for any reason, no worries..... just contact me. Peggy



Is there an upcoming celebration in your family? As a tribute, think about providing altar flowers. Also, altar flowers can be dedicated in remembrance of a special loved one.

The cost of the two arrangements for the altar is \$70.00 plus tax. They are delivered to the church at no additional cost. If interested, please call 636-3567 or 6636-2297.



Vacation Bible School will be scheduled towards the end of July.

Bring your children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren!!

Would you like to help out with crafts, snacks, decorations, activities, or teaching??

More details to follow!



2017 Vision and Mission Statements
Prospect United Methodist Church
Rev. Kenneth Thrasher, Pastor

Vision

God sees Prospect as a historic pillar and spiritual sanctuary of the community with an open and welcoming embrace to all who choose to enter in harmony to exemplify His word through beliefs, behaviors and actions aligned with Christian principles — impacting ourselves, our community, our nation and the world.

Mission

We reaffirm our commitment to glorify God and make disciples for Christ. We will continuously re-enforce a faith-based community that is friendly, safe, fun, and spiritually nurturing for all. We will focus our efforts, stewardship, facilities, and other available resources to offer engaging programs, activities, and ministries for all ages in a variety of ways. We will strive to keep Prospect's heritage alive by maintaining a good balance of old and new traditions. We will seek to continuously improve our outreach programs to ensure our effectiveness as a concerned and caring church body in the community and beyond.

Our strategic goals are designed to accomplish our Mission and stay aligned with our Vision. We will maintain a three-year horizon while reviewing and reaffirming annually.



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