



The Prospector

Prospect United Methodist Church

Ebony, Virginia

October 2017

<http://www.prospectumc-ebonyva.org/>
www.facebook.com/ProspectUMCinEbonyVA

Reflections from our Pastor:

Grace and Peace to you in the name above all names, the name of Jesus Christ. I was waiting for inspiration before tackling this newsletter article. God spoke to me at 12:41 AM and told me to speak words of hope and promise to you. The world has seen some terrible earthquakes, floods, fires, natural disasters, and violence during this year. The message God sends is one of hope. God is still on the throne and in control.

We have all been challenged recently by the thoughts of a church initiative that seeks to explore areas of opportunity for a brighter future for our church and our church family. I must admit that I did not know how to approach this. I realize now that it is going to require some new thinking. I realize that this cannot be accomplished without prayerful consideration and a team effort. I also know that I cannot accomplish this on my own. Shouldering the load together will require us to take on new responsibilities and challenges. Ultimately the goal remains the same: making disciples for Jesus.

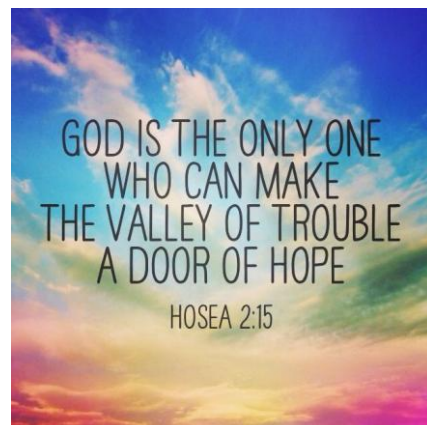
We just might need to readjust our sails a bit as our world continues to change.

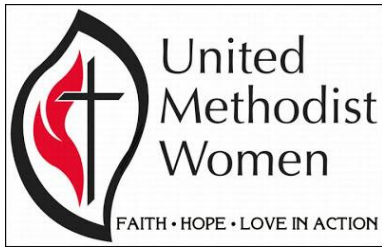
I am so impressed with the steps taken in mission, the choir, the bell choir, UMW, UMM, the Great Clothes Giveaway, incorporating musicians into our services, and the way we pull together whenever there is a project or a need. Jesus is glorified and delighted in His children.

As we prepare for Thanksgiving and the Advent season may we give thanks to our God for all the blessings that we have received. May we also continue to grow in love for one another as we glorify God to our world.

With much love and respect I submit this.

Pastor Ken





The Ice Cream Social was a great success for the UMW. We had nearly 50 people attend and everyone enjoyed the ice cream and delicious toppings as well as the music that was presented by Mary Gugler, Kim Phillips, Bruce French and Keenan Broome.

Our program in September given by Deputy Brad Evans of the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department on Senior Safety was very informative. There were lots of questions asked and good information was shared by all. We hope that these tips will not be needed by any of our church family but it is good to know what is going on around us and know how to react.

We hope that we will have more ladies attending our meetings since we do cover a variety of subjects with our programs as well as getting to know the ladies of the church in a different setting.

Hope to see you October 23, 7:00 P.M., at which time we will have one of our District Officers giving the program. It would be really nice to have a large number attend and see just what the UMW is all about.

Patricia Conner, President



Mission continues making our version of a “Happy Meal” for shut-ins, those recovering from illness or surgery, and individuals that could just use a smile. At least twelve meals are prepared each month and delivered to friends and neighbors.

Keeping food on the tables of those less fortunate is another goal for Mission. The Society of Saint Andrews is still receiving our loose change (and occasionally some paper money) to feed people for just a nickel a meal. Please continue to support this gleaning Mission work.

You can help keep food on the table at Holly Haven with your food donations. There is a collection place in the Narthex for food that is then taken to them. They always appreciate our thinking of them.

And 18 members of our church have been trained and are regularly helping out at ***Project Restoration/Abundant Love***, the food pantry in Bracey. Hunger is real in Brunswick and Mecklenburg counties and this organization helps improve the lives of many who would otherwise not get enough to eat.

Upcoming for the months ahead will be food for Thanksgiving for local families and gifts at Christmas. When VDOT trims the sides of the roads a cleanup will be scheduled for our stretch of the highway.

Thanks again for helping make our Mission work so pleasing to others. We are truly blessed.
Your Mission Team



VBS was on Saturday, July 29, from 9 a.m. till 2 p.m. 10 children attended and had great fun...inside, outside, and in between. There were hands on

activities to reinforce the Bible story teachings. For example, Denise Painter brought angel containers and young plants for the children. They discussed the parable of sowing seeds and made containers to take home. The children also enjoyed arts and crafts and good things to eat.



Harvest Craft & Vendor Festival September 30, 2017



This year the annual Fall Festival had a new look and a new goal. **Half of the profits from our new and improved Festival will be donated to Project Restoration's Food Pantries with local mission receiving the rest.** Twenty one crafters and vendors helped to make our event a success. It was a beautiful day, the food for breakfast and the lunch time goodies were delicious and then for dessert you could purchase home baked items from the Country Store. There was a variety of singers throughout the day providing praise music and the beautiful quilt was displayed to hopeful winners. Other than an occasional strong wind, it was a glorious day. Local businesses supported us by purchasing ad space in an ad book. There were many volunteers that helped make the Festival a success. Thanks for working together on this new look for our event.



During 2017, Prospect has welcomed into our fellowship Jane Middleton, John and Gail Donati, Alexandra (Zan) Broome, Isabella Broome and John Penley. Those being baptized are Bruce French, nephew of Charlie and Maxine French and Jacion Green, grandson of Lorraine Beaulieu. We miss the angels taken to heaven this year: Ray Sublett, Thelma Shurling, Renee Nash, Alene Carroll and Gail Donati.
Annette Jones, Membership Secretary

Join Us for Some Fun! All are welcome!!



Family Fun Night will be on October 29. The costume and pumpkin carving contests will begin at 5:00 p.m. Wear your best costume and bring your best carved pumpkin! The covered dish meal will begin at 5:45 p.m. Please bring a dish to share. After the meal we will enjoy cake walks and other games. Please bring cake, cookies, or cupcakes to give to the winners of the cake walk. Come and join in this time of fun and fellowship and laughter. It's always a good time for all ages!

Want to have some fun and fellowship while enjoying God's lovely outdoor world? Our Church has a fun golf league that plays every Monday morning (weather permitting) at the Tanglewood Country Club. If you would like to join see Pastor Ken.



Perhaps this is more your style..... fun and fellowship while sitting in a nice air-conditioned movie theatre enjoying a cup of popcorn and a soda? We do that too!!!! On the first Monday of each month the South Hill Movie Theatre offers up a good movie, soda and popcorn for only \$5. Come on out and invite your friends to join in too. The movie begins at 2 pm and we meet in the lobby around 1:30.



Tuesdays are all about music!! At 5:00 p.m. the Hand Bell Choir practices. At 6:00 p.m. people learning guitar meet. At 7:00 p.m. the choir members meet to practice under the direction of Mary Gugler with Mary Ann Johnson playing the piano. The choir members are learning lots about music and last week started practicing for the Christmas Cantata which will be on Sunday, December 10. If you would like to join us contact Mary Gugler or just come on Tuesday evening.



Wednesday's at Prospect Church are all about quilting and sewing – an excellent small group opportunity to have fun and get to know each other! First Wed of month (9AM -2PM) is “Busy Bees”. Second Wed is the Piecemakers group meeting – starts at 10AM. The third Wed is for special topics with speakers, teaching, etc. For more information, contact Gerry Cluett at 434-636-3507 or Kate Moreen at 434-636-0235.



Wednesdays at 7pm, Bible Study is held at the home of Charlie & Maxine French. On Fridays at 8:00 am, join Rev. Ken at the Bulldog Golf Shop in Bracey. Sunday School is at 11 a.m. after the regular worship service at 9:15 a.m.



A new year will be beginning before we know it and with it will come many opportunities for you to become involved at Prospect!

Every year I set up a schedule of “**READERS & GREETERS**” for the first scripture reading on Sunday mornings. If you would like to be a Reader or Greeter and I don’t have you on my list, please contact me and let me know. “Reminder” names are posted in the weekly bulletin and Ann Adams will send you a copy of the scripture you will be reading ahead of time. If you can’t read on your assigned Sunday, again contact me and I’ll either find someone or read for you. We appreciate your willingness to serve.

Yummmm this is working very well! I’d like to thank everyone who signed up to bring our **Sunday Morning Treats** to enjoy together after service. The very first time I passed around a sign- up sheet, it came back filled! As a new year approaches, I will be passing around a sign-up sheet for 2018. As a reminder, names are posted in the weekly bulletin. Thank you for contributing to our Sunday mornings!

Peggy Donochod, Lay Leader



is an area that speaks to your heart, please get in touch with Jan Thrasher or Pastor Ken.

We want to develop a more robust children’s program at our church. If this

United Methodist Men

On Sunday, October 15, the men offered a Baked Potato Bar after worship. The fellowship hall was buzzing with the laughter of friends and family having a good. The lunch was a big success and there was also a silent auction. People were bidding on items, and then rebidding, to make sure they got the items they really wanted. All left very satisfied with their treasures.

The men meet on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. for a meal, fellowship and meeting. They invite all men to come out and join them. The men do many things to help at the church and in the community.

Charles Jones, President



Find us on
Facebook!

“Prospect Methodist Church in Ebony VA”

www.facebook.com/ProspectUMCinEbonyVA



Be sure to “like us” and
“Share”



CPR
First Aid
Training

Will be scheduled at our church on a Saturday in October or early November. The cost is \$35. If you are interested, contact Jan Thrasher now.

Prospect's Future

Expanding God's Love to All Generations

Prepared by Anne Hartley ♦ October, 2017 ♦
919-602-5012 ahartley.nc.rr.com

As announced in church on October 8 and in Rev. Ken's message in this newsletter, *the church is embarking on a new initiative to explore areas of opportunity for a brighter future for our church and our church family.*

Our goal at the end of the day is to ensure that our current and growing church family of all ages has the support and programs that are enriching and make disciples for Christ to change the world — now and decades from now. This forward-looking initiative will build on all of the good things that are working well now.

As many of you may recall, when we kicked off the Building Project and Capital Campaign, our theme was "Preserving Our Past While Building Our Future". This original focus was on the church building – the physical structure. At the same time we established Prospect's Vision and Mission statement, which hangs in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall, with copies available to take home. This Vision and Mission statement contains strategic goals that reflect the activities we are committed to in support of our vision and missions.

With the building initiative having been completed for 5 years(!), we now need a similar approach to take care of the life of the church and its vitality. Now is the time to look for opportunities to significantly enhance church life and its impact inside and outside. We are doing so by taking a fresh look at our operational systems and how we are using our

resources, time and talent to the benefit of our church family and in the greater church community.

Here's what you can expect: a committee is being established to lead this new initiative. Over the next couple of months we will be reaching out to our membership as we conduct a comprehensive survey of our current state, factoring in new thinking as well as membership and community needs. We will also conduct an assessment of talents and interest in growing our Laity services, leadership and ministries.

While I am happy to assist in organizing and launching this important initiative, it is without question that in order for us all to be successful, we will need a team effort just like the building project and capital campaign. When we come together with a shared mission and focus, we always rise to the occasion and move mountains!

So stay tuned and be thinking about this opportunity and how best to support it. If you have any questions or thoughts to share, please feel free to reach out to me directly, or put a note in the confidential Input/Suggestion Box that will be placed in the Narthex.



Prospect United Methodist Church

P. O. Box 25

Ebony, VA 23845