



THE SPIRE



Centenary United Methodist Church 1501 Rivermont Avenue Lynchburg, VA

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August 2010

Bears Need Traveling Money

By Betty Wooldridge, *Wild Animal Trainer*



The year-long drive for Teddy Bears and other stuffed animals is coming to a close again. For several years the Childrens Council has worked with elementary-age students at Centenary to gather stuffed toys

to provide to Gleaning for the World's Teddy Bear Brigade.

In Africa and Central America, many parents who cannot care for their children abandon them in cities. With no one to care for them and no where to go, the children roam the streets, often becoming addicted to drugs, involved in crime and a danger to themselves and others.

The "lucky" ones — some as young as four or five years old — are picked up by the government and taken to state-run orphanages. In the orphanages, these children — who often seem more like animals than humans — are placed in ten-foot square rooms covered with wire like cages. They must be "rehumanized" before they can join the other children in the orphanage or be released into the population. It is a harsh and heartbreaking reality.

Experience has shown that the simple gift of a stuffed animal can cut in half the amount of time it takes to help a child make this turnaround. These children have been loved by no one and had no one to love. When they are given a stuffed animal, they have, for the first time in their lives, a personal possession that is their own —



a symbol of security that offers them unconditional love and helps them begin to heal.

A stuffed animal seems like such a little thing. But the difference it can make is immeasurable. Orphans, refugees, abandoned children — children who have nothing — are changed when they receive even this small gift that they can call their own.

The Centenary "Children Helping Children" program has collected over 500 stuffed toys. (plus over 100 that need cleaning). Our goal is \$1 per animal. We have \$168 right now. We will be taking the animals to Gleaning For the World August 18 or 20.

Help us get these animals to orphanages around the world and bring comfort to so many children who have nothing but the clothes on their backs. Thanks for your support!



Habitat Celebrates Recent Builds with Help From Centenary

By Ida Powell, *SPIRE Contributor*

Habitat for Humanity's summer newsletter highlights homes built by Rivermont area churches including Centenary. The seven lower Rivermont churches, best known for Day of Difference events, work together during the year on a variety of projects including Habitat builds.

The most recent activity began in 2008 with renovation of an old house on Dinwiddie Street. Upon completion it was sold and proceeds were used to

See Habitat continued on Page 4



Dear Friends –
It is that time of year (the time after Annual Conference) when we must

begin preparations for our annual charge conference and planning for the next year. The first committee to meet will be the Nominations & Leadership Development Committee which will meet on August 5. This committee is tasked by The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church to nominate a slate of officers to be elected at our charge conference on November 14.

This is a time consuming and often difficult process because many times, people do not want to take any kind of leadership role in the church. My sincere thanks to those of you who make yourselves available!

We have tried questionnaires, surveys, etc. to learn what members of the congregation are interested in serving and in what capacity. These have had very limited results.

Larry's Link

(from District Superintendent Larry Davies)



The following was adapted from "The Dream of Bishop Wesley Frensdorff." We used it at a small church conference I attended in Pittsburgh. I was impressed and wanted to pass it on to you.

Litany for the Church

Let us dream of a church:

...in which all members know simply and surely God's great love.

...in which Jesus is very Word, our window into the Father's heart; the sign of God's hope and design for everyone.

...in which the Spirit is not symbol but wind and fire in us all; gracing the church with a kaleidoscope of gifts and constant renewal.

A church in which:

...worship is lively and fun as well as reverent and holy. ...people know how to pray and enjoy it – frequently

Please let any of the committee members or me know if you are available and interested in a particular position. If you are currently serving, please let us know if you wish to continue. It is very frustrating to put together a slate of officers and committees and have someone tell you they no longer wish to serve (sometimes after the charge conference has elected them).

The more interested people who become involved in the life of our church – the better for all of us. We need and appreciate new and fresh ideas. Please become involved if you are not and remain involved if you already are involved.

If you have any questions or are unsure of what areas you might want to work in, please contact me or see the list of current officers and committees for 2010 posted on the bulletin board by the elevator near the choir room in the Education Building.

Grace and Peace,

and regularly, privately and corporately, in silence and in word.

...people break bread, then break down walls, challenged by faith.

A church:

...without all the answers but asking the right questions.

...so deeply rooted in gospel and tradition that, like a living tree, it can swing in the wind and continually surprise us with new blossoms.

Let us dream of a church:

...a ministering community rather than a community gathered around a minister... so salty and so yeasty that it would be missed if no longer around.

...where there is wild sowing of seeds and much rejoicing when they take root but little concern for success, comparative statistics or even survival.

And finally, let us dream of a people called:

...peacemakers... an open, caring, sharing household of faith where all find acceptance and affirmation. ...serious about the call to ministry, gifted; a crew on a freighter, not passengers on a luxury liner.

Amen? Amen.



School Supplies NEEDED!!

By Paula Howell, *Day of Difference Representative*



You have another chance to make a difference in a child's life. Day of Difference back to school is August 14th. We have more children that are needing our help this year.

Look over the list and while you are out shopping

pick up a few items and drop off at Centenary sometime before August 9th. We will pack up as many bookbags as possible to help out the community. Thank you in advance for your support in our efforts.

The list follows: Zippered pouches, 3x5 index cards and boxes, Yellow highlighters, washable fat and skinny markers, subject dividers, Spiral notebooks (single and multiple subject), scissors (blunt and sharp), rulers (inches and centimeters), Black and White marbled composition books, plastic pencil boxes, pens, #2 pencils, 3 ring binders (½, 1, 2, 3 inches), college ruled notebook paper, pocket folders, crayons



Nominations & Leadership

Committee Needs

Your Input!

The Nominations & Leadership Development Committee (formerly known as Nominations & Personnel or Lay Leadership Committee) will meet on Thursday, August 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor to discuss church leadership positions for 2011.

Members include: Belva Shelor, Jack Bryson, Bob Staples, Gene Maddera, Tim Campbell, Renee Graves, Sue Pitts, Sue Reeves, Garland Harper and the pastor. If you have any suggestions or wish to change your status, please let these folks know. Thanks.



PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

*Centenary's Marvelous
Mature Methodists present*



**Organ
Magic**

Presented by **Johnson
Scott, CUMC Organist**

... an outstanding musician and teacher ...

We'll have our "Brown Bag" luncheon in Fellowship Hall at 11:30am. Program at 12:15 in Sanctuary

Tuesday, August 17

Centenary Members Invited to Sing in Family Choir

On August 29 the CUMC Family Choir, once again, will fill the Choir Loft with singers from our church family.

Any Centenary member is invited to sing in the Family Choir. Entire families and individuals are invited to come and sit together in the Choir Loft.

If you are interested in singing in the Family Choir, just come to the Choir Room at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, August 29 for a brief rehearsal on the familiar hymn "Lord of the Dance" in preparation for the service.

Choir robes will not be worn for this service. "Regular" church attire will be worn by the Choir.

Be sure to mark August 29 on your calendar! The Family Choir has become a tradition at CUMC and you will not want to miss this opportunity to sing praises to our God!

Let your heart sing and dance for Christ!!

District UMW/UMM Picnic!!

District-wide UMW and UMM Picnic, August 15, Amelon UMC in Madison Heights, 5 pm dinner and 6:00 entertainment. Bring a covered dish – paper products, drinks and chicken provided!

Applying Bible Principles

“ . . . if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away . . . everything has become new” (2 Cor. 5:17). Christians should have a different outlook on life, including money and material possessions. They realize that they own nothing, that everything they have belongs to God, and that they are only managers and stewards of what God has entrusted to them. Because of that, Christians should have a different attitude towards “things.”

That attitude demonstrates itself in many different ways. For example, Christians show mercy and give, in contrast to the those who borrow and do not repay (Psalm 37:21). Christians should hold possessions with an open hand, and “refresh” others with their bounty (Proverbs 11:24–25). They are honest and demonstrate their faith by their work and integrity (1 Thes. 4:11–12). They give to those in need and thereby demonstrate to a watching world the love of God (1 John 3:17).

When this kind of lifestyle is present in our lives, Jesus said that people will see our good works — our different attitude and perspective — and will glorify our heavenly Father (Matt. 5:16). And as we seek His kingdom first and foremost, we have His promise that He will provide what we need (Matt. 6:33).

As others observe you and your lifestyle, do they see any difference because of your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ? As they observe your relationship to “things,” especially to money, do they realize you are a manager, a steward, and not an owner? Or stated another way, is the manner in which you handle money and material possessions a testimony to your faith in Christ?



Habitat (continued)

build a new house on Monsview Place. Centenary member Carl Howell worked on the Dinwiddie renovation with help from David Shackelford; Denise Bryson and Joe Reed joined Carl at Monsview. Paula Howell prepared lunches for the work teams several times. In March she led her Dana Tyson Circle in preparing lunches for over 50 college students who worked with Habitat during their spring break.

A young mother, Sierra Cash, moved with her three year old son into the Monsview home in July after its dedication in June. Take a moment to see her framed message of appreciation including a home photo on the porch outside Centenary’s office. Other photographs from the work sites are also displayed.

In the past 22 years, volunteer Habitat builders have completed over 270 homes in the City of Lynchburg, several are under construction, more are planned . . . and many more are needed to allow low-income families to become homeowners.

When the next request for assistance comes, give serious consideration to how you might help. **No** skill is required to build under the direction of highly skilled volunteers and staff. Whether hammering, painting, picking up building debris, preparing simple lunches, helping with administration, working at the Habitat ReStore, you can make a difference!

Update from the Property Committee



The Property Committee has been busy this summer! We have been gathering information and bids to replace the unit that provides cooling to a part of the education building (particularly affecting the Wesleyan Chapel classroom. The Trustees have approved the equipment and contractor and work will begin in late summer.

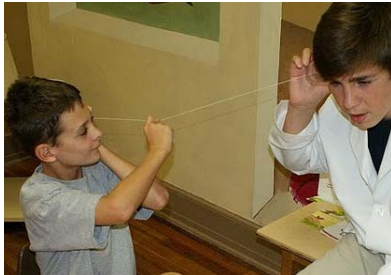
Please also notify us if you notice a running toilet, drippy faucet or safety concern. Last month’s fun feature “Mystery Pic Challenge” sure sparked lot of interest! For those of you who were stumped: the box/downspout on the left side of the picture is new! Although it was fabricated to be a close match – they are a little different!

–Carl Gravely, Property Chair

Centenary Member an All-Around Winner

By Ida Powell, *Spire Reporter*

Congratulations to Kane Campbell, who returned July 18 from the statewide Little League tournament in Abingdon, Virginia. His Lynchburg All-Star Team of 13 nine and ten year olds won the local Virginia District 2 Championship with four victories.



To begin the tournament on July 16, the game ball was delivered from the sky by a parachuter. On the following day Kane pitched two innings. Though the three games played at state level did not lead to the state title, the boys returned home still winners to their families and friends.

But that's not Kane's only sport. He and dad Tim recently won both father-son golf and tennis matches at Boonsboro Country Club. Several other awards have been won in swim meets, and football practice starts soon for him.

At Centenary Kane serves as an acolyte, sings in the youth choir, and has played the violin during worship with talent developed through school Suzuki lessons.

This rising fourth grader is an honor roll student at Paul Munro Elementary School, where he obtained a perfect SOL score last year. In addition to studying and sports practice, Kane has additional duties as a big brother to Cooper and to new baby sister Callen.

Mind, body, spirit: Kane is an all-around winner who has polished God-given gifts and talents with the active support of his parents and grandparents, receiving multiple awards to prove it. Centenary members are proud of these accomplishments and anticipate many more in the years ahead.

2010 Charge Conference

Our 2010 Charge Conference will be on Sunday, November 14 from 6-8 pm. Similar in structure to last year's charge conference, we shall be joined by the congregations from Peakland, Boonsboro, and Cove United Methodist Churches. Centenary will be the host church this year. We'll have a covered dish dinner and fellowship time prior to beginning the conference.

Kate McCrea Receives Honors

Kate is a very special young lady who contributes much to Centenary as a Sunday School teacher in Elementary 3-5 and she and her mother, Mary Kay, are Super Church teachers on the 2nd Sunday of each month. For the second year she has served as a teacher in our Vacation Bible School. She is truly a blessing to Centenary.

Congratulations to Kate McCrea, who spent four weeks this summer at Virginia Tech for the Governor's School for Agriculture. Kate is one of one hundred high school juniors and seniors from across the Commonwealth who were chosen to participate in this program. The mission of the Governor's School is to develop future leaders and scientists with a broad understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing the world of agriculture. From all accounts, Kate worked hard (but had fun!) While engaged in rigorous courses, scientific research, and a variety of other hands-on, cutting-edge academic activities.

Kate is a rising senior at E.C. Glass High School and the Central Virginia Governor's School (CVGS). She was also one of five CVGS students who were selected to present their research projects at a symposium sponsored by the National Consortium for Specialized Secondary Schools of Mathematics, Science, and Technology, held in June at the Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey. Kate's research focused on the effects of different levels of organic and inorganic insecticides on both wild-type and genetically modified strains of a particular plant called *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Whew!!

In addition to her academic pursuits, Kate is involved in a number of extracurricular activities, including the French Club, Art Honors, and the National Honor Society, for which she will serve next school year as the Historian. She plays the Violin in the Lynchburg Symphony Youth Orchestra and is a four-year student assistant for the Lynchburg Chapter of the National League of Junior Cotillions. Here at Centenary, Kate helps Ms. Betty and Mr. Garland with their Sunday School class, serves as a Super Church leader, and for the second year, participated as a Vacation Bible School teacher.

Kate is the daughter of Mary Kay and Cliff McCrea and the granddaughter of Kitty McCrea and the late Graham and Mabel Meredith.



Congratulations to a Centenary Family Member



One of Centenary's former members and the son of Virginia & Bob Saville was honored recently during a Change of Command ceremony at Dyess Air Force Base, Texas. Lieutenant Colonel David A. Doss ("Andy") was officially recognized as the commanding officer for the 77th Weapons Squadron during an historic ceremony on June 24, 2010.

The change of command ceremony is a military tradition dating back to the times of the Roman Legions. The important ceremony uses flags to symbolize to all the authority of the incoming commander. The outgoing commander surrenders the flag and then passes it to the new commander who "accepts the command."

David is a 1995 graduate of Virginia Military Institute with a BA in History. He received his commission into the Air Force as a Distinguished Graduate of VMI's ROTC program. He attended Specialized Undergraduate Navigator Training at Pensacola Naval Air Station, Florida. He earned his navigator wings and continued specialized training in Electronic Warfare School in Florida.

In 2002, David completed Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Alabama. He continued his educational endeavors by completing Air Command and Staff College in 2005; Master of Aeronautical Science at Embry Riddle University, Daytona Beach, FL. In 2007; and in 2008 US Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

David has accumulated more than 2000 flight hours in the T-34, T-1, & B-1 aircrafts. He was deployed to the Middle East in support of Operations Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom.

David has earned many awards and decorations during his meritorious service in the United States Air Force and he has served in numerous leadership positions, preparing him for his recent recognition as Commander of the 77th Weapons Squadron in Texas. Proud parents, Virginia & Bob, were present for the Change of Command ceremony in June.

David and his wife, Marlina, have two sons: Chace and Austin. Centenary is proud to recognize "Andy" and his family for their contributions to our nation's freedom.

Bearers of Lyrics, Light and Laughter



Question: What does Centenary have in common with prisons in the United Kingdom and in the United States?

Answer: A concert by AG and Kate Buining.

AG and Kate presented a midday concert at Centenary on July 20 as part of the monthly 3Ms program. Luther White, in whose former United Methodist church the Buinings had appeared many times, arranged their visit. The multi-talented couple has performed in their native Holland, the UK and USA for more than 30 years.

Beginning with primarily offering programs of Wesleyan hymns in churches, they now are most often presenting acoustic country and gospel music in prisons as well as in some churches. After two months at home, the rest of their year is spent traveling in this country and the United Kingdom. Their vocal duets are accompanied with guitar, autoharp, five-string banjo and dulcimer. They proudly displayed two mountain dulcimers, made and given to them by a West Virginia prison inmate. AG often urged the Centenary audience to join in singing as he does in prisons where an inmate stated, "I like the way you get everybody involved."

Repeat visits to prisons, arranged by chaplains, have forged personal relations with inmates, some of whom have no other visitors during the year. Post cards and e-mail messages sent during their tours further strengthen those bonds. The contagion of Christian caring is evidenced in an inmates' message, "I have taken encouragement from all the good work that you do and have started helping others."




Many letters to the Buinings share a similar theme: "Prison can be a soul-destroying experience and can be a dark place to be. You gave me a brief glimpse of normality in a mad world and provided an hour in which I forgot where I am, enabling me to lose myself listening to your music." Others expressed appreciation for ". . . a sweet taste of freedom, even if only a short time . . . an hour of pure happiness."

So it has been in many prisons; so it was at Centenary where we echo the prison's message: "May God bless you both and protect you on your travels."


2010 Operating Budget through July 18, 2010	
<u>Receipts:</u>	
Pledged Offering	107,779
Prior Year Pledge	179
Unpledged Offering	19,059
Loose Plate Offering	873
Church School Offering	1,665
From Rustburg UMC	2,000
From UMFS	1,800
Miscellaneous Offering	398
Easter Offering	3,568
Shortfall-Budget	50
Interest Income	161
From Gifts/Memorials	4,649
Total Receipts.....	\$142,181
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Apportionments	-14,162
Pastor Support	-43,372
Program Support	-7,197
Building & Grounds	-41,900
Office Support	-10,207
Staff Support	-50,402
Total Expenses.....	\$167,240
<u>Benevolence Receipts</u>	
<u>Outside of Budget</u>	
Stephen Ministries	700
Fellowship Fund	923
JIFF	999
Pennies with a Purpose	367
VIM	50
Local Benevolences	140
Meals for Haiti	530
Conference Offerings/Kits	192
UMCOR	2,549
Operation Teddy Bear	163
Sager Brown	785
TOTAL	\$7,398

MEMORIAL GIFTS



In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. C.T. Bryant
Darlene Bryant

In Memory of Carl Humphreys
Cynthia and Neal Raymond





Thanksgiving

Community Inter-Faith Service

Centenary will be the host church for our annual inter-faith community Thanksgiving Service on Thursday, November 25 at 9:30 am. We will need volunteers to greet, usher, sing in a choir, and refreshments following the service. Please put this on your calendar!

Generosity Abounds at Annual Conference

As of July 15, \$205,035 has been contributed toward the 2010 Annual Conference offering to fund leadership development in Brazil, Mozambique and northern Virginia. This is more than two-thirds of the goal of \$300,000 to fund curriculum and teacher training materials for "Shade and Fresh Water" centers and other children's centers sponsored by the Brazil Methodist Church; education and training for Sunday school teachers, lay preachers and pastors in the United Methodist Church in Mozambique; and job training programs at Grace Ministries, a community outreach program of the Arlington District that addresses material and spiritual needs of low-income immigrants in northern Virginia.

More than half of the churches in the conference have contributed, but funds are still being received in the conference business office. Donations may be sent to the Virginia Conference Treasurer, P.O. Box 5605, Glen Allen, VA 23058. On the check, indicate "Annual Conference Offering" or "# 928." With the contribution, include the name of the church, district and name of pastor.

Stewardship - June/July 2010 Operating Budget

June 27	6,453
July 4	5,521
July 11	4,810
July 18	2,784

Beulah Retreat Center Available

Beulah Retreat Center has many dates available for your church retreat or youth gathering throughout the summer. Please call Randy Mills at 434-660-3097 for reservations. Also, please visit www.beulahretreatcenter.org for more information.

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SHARE Packages available for August

Call in by 8/15. Pickup on 8/28



REGULAR PACKAGE-\$22: 1# (pound)

chicken breast fillets- non-breaded,

6 oz. imitation crab meat, 10 oz. shaved

smoked honey ham deli meat, Breakfast pork

sausage links, brown 'n serve 26 links, 2.7# roaster

chicken drums, 3# potatoes, fruits and vegetables

STOCK THE FREEZER BOX-\$22: 4# chicken corn dogs

by Foster Farms, 3# Cornish Game Hens stuffed with

wild rice, 2# frozen strawberries, (4) 4 oz. packages

of Banana Nut Muffins

SIRLOIN STEAKS-\$20: 3# USDA Choice Filet of Beef

BEAN AND CHEESE BURRITOS-\$12: 24 Burritos! Ole!

CHICKEN BREAST NUGGETS-\$7: 2 pound package

BREAKFAST FESTIVAL-\$18: 8 fully cooked skillet frittata omelets made with eggs, cheddar cheese, and honey ham; 8 fully cooked sausage links wrapped in blueberry pancakes; 16 fully cooked hash brown potato patties; 16 fully cooked pork sausage patties, extra lean

PORKALOOZA-\$18: 1# Teriyaki Pork Tenderloin, extra lean, 1.26# Peppercorn Pork Tenderloin, extra lean, 1# Center Cut Pork Chops, lean, boneless, 1.5# Boneless Pork Sirloin Roast

ORCHARD BERRY DANISH-\$16: (36) 4.25 oz. large Danish filled with a mix of blueberries, blackberries, and strawberries.

SHARE is a nonprofit volunteer service and food distribution program that helps people at all income levels stretch their food dollars. Each month, participants pay \$22 and complete two hours of community service. They get a food package of fresh and frozen meats, produce, specialty items and staples that would cost \$40 at the grocery store.

If You Eat -You Qualify!!

Call Paula or Chris Howell - 847-8138

**Centenary United Methodist Church
1501 Rivermont Avenue
Lynchburg, VA 24503**

**Non-Profit Organization
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