



THE SPIRE



Centenary United Methodist Church 1501 Rivermont Avenue Lynchburg, VA

(434) 846-4601 www.centenary1806.com

September 2010

JIFF Begins New Year

By Chris Howell, *JIFF Leader*

Another year begins! Several of the JIFF "staff" met on Monday, August 23 for planning and prayer for the 2010-2011 session of JIFF (Juniors in Fun and Fellowship). Quickly we



began to feel the spirit of God energizing us. Though all in attendance have volunteered for a number of years - we all agreed that we felt God moving in a special way.

Planning led to brainstorming and brainstorming led to transformation of spirit. Sometimes volunteering for JIFF is like being in the trenches. You survive a week and then before you know it - it is time to dig in again. But with some planning and outstanding recruiting, we are poised for a truly great year!!

Paula Howell is the director - providing the core guidance and preparation. She coordinates all the big pieces: teachers and special speakers for each station and group leaders for each of the 5 divisions: K-2, 3-5 girls/boys, 6-8 girls/boys. She can use more human resources - even if you can only appear once a month as a group leader or game room supervisor (or maybe you have a special skill you'd like to share as a one-time presenter?) Email her today and she will find the spot for you paulahowell44@gmail.com

Melva Shelor will lead Bible Study, the game room is freshly stocked with games like Connect 4, Battleship, Air Hockey and the pool table. One station will be different each week of the month: the nurses will present health topics, Gigi will craft/cook/etc., Mari Smallshaw and her Dad will be musical. Ah - there's a gap here that needs filling...are you the one God needs to help on that week of the month?

The last of the 4 stations will consist of educational computer game contests with me and Minute-To-Win-It challenges led by Denise and Jack Bryson. The JIFFers got to enjoy challenges the first week involving balloons, cups and pencils. If you think it's easy - come and try!!

One of the brainstorms on 8/23 has led us to create a reward system for good choices. Each week the students will receive a chip for coming and have the opportunity to earn more chips. They will bank their chips to spend in the monthly Chip Shop. The kids are really excited and worked hard to earn chips. In addition to school supplies, candy and small toys - we are hoping to have some big incentives for kids to save up for: skating/bowling trip, gift certificates, sporting equipment. Some of the other suggestions included one-on-one instruction on guitar, piano, sports. Or a dinner out? Or a fishing/boating/hiking trip? Maybe that is what God is calling for you to do?

Whatever it is that he wants you to do - we'll find a way to use your talent. Just do it.



Interfaith Outreach

In June and July of this year we had 379 people seek assistance from IOA. That is 140 more than the same period last year. Due to this high volume, we are again asking for help with hygiene kits.

If your class, circle or group can collect the following items: sample size tubes of toothpaste, deodorant, soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion and shaving cream along with a wide-tooth comb, razor, adult toothbrush and inexpensive wash cloth.

Place these items in a zip-lock bag and we will pick them up... just give us a call at 846.6098. Or you can drop them off at our office at 701 Clay Street.



Dear Friends –

You are special to me!

As I write this letter to all of you, I have no particular agenda in mind. There is no unusual need for money, no push for helpers, or no begging on my part to you. No, I am merely writing to tell you that

I appreciate you. I am glad that we have opportunity to worship the Lord together, to serve God via our local church and that it is a comfort to me to know you stand behind the ministry here.



Thinking about signing up for Stephen Ministry Training?

By Peggy Harper, *Stephen Minister*

In early May, the first Stephen Ministry class completed the 50 hours of training required to be commissioned as a Stephen Minister. This was a time of excitement and terror for those of us being commissioned. Excitement – in that we would then begin the next step in the process of being a Stephen Minister. Terror – oops, now we begin “Stephen Ministry”.

What should you expect when you sign up for training? First, 50 hours of classroom training. It seems daunting and in the beginning it feels stilted. Expect a lot of reading, a lot of role playing and discussion. I would advise you to remember that the training scenarios prepare you for the “worst case”. One of the hardest concepts to grasp is the need to avoid fix it responses. It is our natural inclination to want to ‘fix it’. The Stephen Ministers’ role is not to provide results but to be there to listen, to be there and to be supportive community.

Expect to learn ways to listen, to be caring and compassionate in various settings while providing for



Without you and others like you, I would not be able to carry on the service of the Lord. So let me briefly say, "Thank You!" I often thank the Lord for you. Today, I want to say it to you in black and white: I mean it from my heart.

You encourage me with your smile; you encourage me with your words; you encourage me with your prayers. As we continue to work together in this place, we do it for God's glory. God has blessed me with some very special people, and you are one of them.

Grace and Peace,

Promotion Sunday

September 12

Service in the Chapel 9:30am

your care receiver. Confidentiality, reliability, trustworthiness, spirituality, the use of Christian resources and the use of community resources are some of the topics that are covered during the course of the class. While not in a one on one caring relationship Stephen Ministers continue to support one another in prayer, in supervision group and in love.

For me, when we did the overview of the first book in Sunday school, all I could think is “Boy, I wish I had this available last year or the year before, or even during the years in the district office.” I was chomping at the bit to begin. After the training process, and yes, it is a process. I still feel the same. If I never have an “assigned care receiver” during my time as a Stephen Minister, what I have learned about myself and how to allow God to be the eternal care giver is worth it all.

Won't you join us in this exciting and terrifying journey upon which we have embarked?

Word to the Wise: Don't Wait Until June!

By Ida Powell, *SPIRE Contributor*



Next spring church members will receive the annual plea for "Kits for Conference."

Churches across Virginia will send many thousands of kits to Annual Conference, destined for the United Methodist Committee on Relief's (UMCOR) supply warehouses. Those kits are available for distribution following disasters of many kinds around the world and also at home when needed.

The value of kits far exceeds their actual costs. Think of pregnant woman giving birth shortly after the Haiti earthquake, for whom a birthing kit with simple but essential supplies would make a life or death difference for her and her baby.



Darla Rowley/UMCOR

Think of a child receiving a school kit whose previous learning tools may have been only a stick for writing in the dirt. Think of hurricane or flood victims receiving such essentials as a comb, soap, washcloth and towel, toothbrush and paste after escaping with nothing but their lives.

Other kits contain baby layettes, essential bedding, or the fabric and hand sewing items allowing a woman to clothe herself or others, thus learning an income-producing trade. In addition to worldwide sites, cleaning kits went to the Nashville and Memphis areas following recent flooding.



Start NOW

In the days just ahead, area stores will be offering some terrific bargains on school kit contents. Wise Centenary members will keep a list of necessary items handy, taking advantage of some of the year's best prices and setting aside things needed next spring.

See Kits continued on Page 5

Centenary's Marvelous Mature Methodists present

Lynchburg Living Choices



Presented by **Tulane Patterson, Owner**
Generation Solutions

Learn about options available to us and our loved ones for living our "Autumn Years".

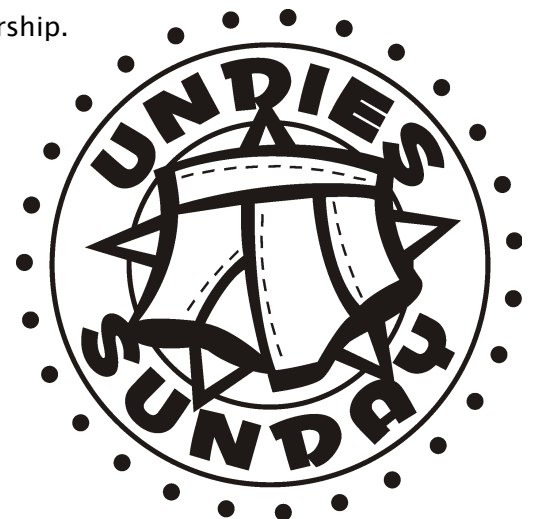
We'll have our "Brown Bag" luncheon 11:30am, Program at Noon. In Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday, September 21

Undies Sunday September 12

Please bring new packages of underwear for men, women, and children to worship.

They will be collected and donated to local area missions. Thanks.



Guest Preacher

The Rev. Jennifer Vestal Moore, Director of Church Relations at the Society of St. Andrew's will be our guest preacher on Sunday, September 19. Pastor Rick Ecklund will be out of town at a seminar.

Applying Bible Principles

“For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil” (1 Timothy 6:10).

How would people describe you? Are you one who “loves” money? Is your life marked by a continual inordinate concern about and striving for money? If so, then perhaps you are one who truly “loves” money.

Money is neutral. It is neither good nor bad. What matters is our attitude towards it. If we view it as a means to an end, a means of exchange, and something God can use in our lives to bring glory to Himself, then we probably do not love money. On the other hand, if we are always wanting more and more money, if we will do just about anything to obtain it, and if we think about money more than anything or anyone else, we likely are guilty of loving money. In that situation, it has become a “god” to us, and we bow at its altar in continuing service in order to obtain more of it.

If you are determined to get rich, no matter what, before you continue that lifestyle, read Paul’s admonition to Timothy in 1 Timothy 6:9–10. Consider Solomon’s counsel in Proverbs 11:28 and Ecclesiastes 5:10–11. And think about the words of the Lord Jesus in Matthew 6:24, who said, “No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

Or as Jesus would say, “Let anyone with ears listen.”



UMW Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Lynchburg District United Methodist Women will be held in the sanctuary of Centenary UMC on Sunday, September 26 at 3:00pm with registration beginning at 2:30 in the Narthex.

The theme of the meeting will be "Joy to the World" and the guest speaker will be Julie Taylor, Executive Secretary for Children, Youth and Family Advocacy for the Women's Division of the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries based in Washington, DC. Unit awards will be presented and readers will be recognized. All Centenary women are invited to attend this meeting and learn more about the UMW, an organization with over a million members throughout the world.

United Methodist Women is a community of women whose purpose is:

- To know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ
- To develop a creative supportive fellowship and
- To expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Join a million other women helping support many worthy programs and projects related to women, children and youth.

Property Committee Plans Work Day

Property Committee Chair Carl Gravely is inviting all of the congregation to participate in a church work day on Saturday, October 9. Work will include all types of tasks both inside and outside the building.

There will be cleaning, tossing junk, organizing closets and classrooms inside the church. Outdoor projects will include landscaping, clearing clutter from outbuildings and general sprucing up.

Have special skills? Can you change the inside workings of a toilet? Want to learn? How about pruning? Or getting spots out of carpets? Or perhaps your skill is getting all the pots and pans in their right places in the kitchen. A wise man once said “Every job has two things in common. It must be done. And it must be done well”. Take advantage of this opportunity to do a job well.



Mari is a Winner!

By Ida Powell, *Spire Reporter*

Centenary's own Mari White Smallshaw recently received multiple awards for excellence in broadcasting. The 73rd Annual Virginia



Broadcasting Awards included three first place awards for Mari who co-hosts The Morning Line with Brian Weigand. Their early-morning show is heard on radio WLNI, 105.9.

Competing in the Large Market category, the duo garnered First Place Award for Best Morning Show in Virginia for the second consecutive year. Their First Place Award for Best Documentary offered recollections of Hurricane Camille. A final First Place Award featured a Human Interest Series focused on "Surviving Summer With Your Kids." Sons Wes, Rick, Charlie and Jimmy can surely take credit for input on those reports.

Mari is also heard at Centenary where she sings and sometimes solos with the Sanctuary Choir. She directs Centenary's handbell choir and also plays with Lynchburg's "Bells of the Blue Ridge." At the recently completed Vacation Bible School Mari led the music classes. JIFF students will be pleased to know that she and her Dad will be returning to lead a music station once a month. In the past that has included everything from bell ringing to music appreciation.

Whether on the air or at church, Mari's talents in both journalism and music are a source of pride to her fellow Centenary members. Congratulations!

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.

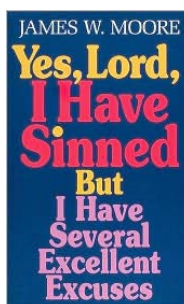
Kits (continued)

Here's what goes into a school kit: a pair of child's rounded tip scissors, approximately 250 sheets of ruled paper loose or in pads, a 12 inch ruler, a hand-held pencil sharpener, six new and unsharpened pencils with erasers, box of (only) 24 crayons, a 2 ½" eraser.

For a complete list of contents for each kit, go to www.umcor.org, click on "How to Give," then on "Relief Supplies;" or check with the Centenary Church office.

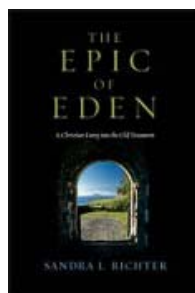
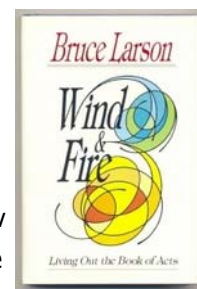
Boy Scouts have the right idea: "Be Prepared!" By purchasing now with back-to-school sales and continuing during the year as opportunities arise, Centenary can double or triple the number of relief supply kits sent to Annual Conference next June.

3 Exciting New Books in the Church Library



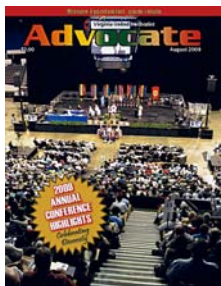
Yes, Lord, I Have Sinned, But I Have Several Excellent Excuses by James W. Moore contains messages prepared for broadcast on the United States Methodist Peabody award-winning "Protestant Hour". Moore is senior minister of the 8,000 member St. Luke's UMC in Houston, TX

Wind & Fire: Living out the book of Acts is presented dramatically by Bruce Larson in this book. Herein are fresh ways to put faith to work in your life. It is the author's 18th book; in it he presents exciting material from the New Testament with warmth and perspective insight for which he is famous.



The Epic of Eden by Sandra L. Richter explains how to put the Old Testament into an organized way of understanding and fills out ones knowledge with exciting new perspectives. She has a solution to help you make sense of the many facts and information contained therein.

Virginia United Methodist Advocate Newsmagazine



A major focus of the communications office is the Virginia United Methodist Advocate, the official conference newsmagazine published monthly throughout the year. It provides information, interpretation and inspiration to approximately 7,000 subscribers.

Individual subscriptions are presently \$15 per year (\$25 for 2 years; \$36 for 3 years) when paid directly to the Advocate office. Individuals who subscribe during their local church's annual Advocate campaign pay the same rate.

Church members can save money and time by subscribing for 2 or 3 years — 2 years for \$25 (SAVE \$5) or 3 years for \$36 (SAVE \$9). (Super Savings off the Cover Price of \$24/year!) A special rate of \$12/year for each subscription is also available for bulk orders (two or more) going to one address.

To pay by check, make the check payable to "Virginia Conference United Methodist Church" and mail it with a subscription form to the Virginia United Methodist Advocate, PO Box 5606, Glen Allen, VA 23058-5606. For more information about subscribing, contact Peggy Cribbs at 1-800-768-6040 or (804) 521-1100, ext. 110 or e-mail advocate@vaumc.org.

Teddy Bear Drive Ends

All year long the Children's Division at Centenary had been collecting stuffed animals on behalf of Gleaning for the World's "Operation Teddy Bear".

This year's drive was a great success with over 500 critters collected and over \$500 donated by our congregation to assist with transportation. On August 18, Ms. Betty, Mr. Garland, Taylor Ordway, and Wes and Rick Smallshaw loaded all the animals into the church van and delivered them to Gleaning for the World. The folks at GFTW were delighted to receive them and the monetary donation.

Gleaning for the World's Rev. Ron Davidson wrote

Vote to Help Society of St. Andrew Win \$250,000 Grant from Pepsi



Pepsi-Cola is giving millions of dollars in grants to fund ideas that will refresh the world. Each month a different group of ideas submitted from all across the nation are voted on in categories. The ideas that get the most votes are given money to help fulfill their goals. Society of St. Andrew's (SoSA) hunger relief ministry is in the September voting cycle



in the "Food & Shelter" category, \$250,000 level. You can help feed the hungry by voting for SoSA. Starting Sept. 1, go to SoSA's Web site, www.endhunger.org, and click on the "Pepsi Refresh Project" button. You'll be

taken directly to SoSA's listing, where you can vote once each day throughout the month.

Since its founding in 1979 SoSA has worked to fulfill the mandate of the Gospel in our lives by striving to adhere to the words of I John 3:18:

Let us love not only in words, but in deed and in truth.



in a letter to Centenary, "GFTW greatly appreciates your support. Each year, because of people like you, we are able to send thousands of stuffed animals to children who desperately need to experience the love and security that they can bring." He also asks that we continue to pray for their ministries.

Thank you, Centenary Church, for your generosity in this year's Teddy Bear drive. The Children's Division plans to conduct another drive in the upcoming year.


2010 Operating Budget through August 22, 2010	
<u>Receipts:</u>	
Pledged Offering	124,200
Prior Year Pledge	324
Unpledged Offering	20,800
Loose Plate Offering	1,039
Church School Offering	1,883
From Rustburg UMC	2,000
From UMFS	2,100
Miscellaneous Offering	398
Easter Offering	3,568
Shortfall-Budget	50
Interest Income	181
From Memorials	4,689
Total Receipts.....	\$161,232
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Apportionments	-18,881
Pastor Support	-50,290
Program Support	-7,374
Building & Grounds	-47,861
Office Support	-12,081
Staff Support	-58,000
Total Expenses.....	\$194,487
<u>Benevolence Receipts</u>	
<u>Outside of Budget</u>	
Stephen Ministries	850
Fellowship Fund	1,017
Sager Brown	911
JIFF	1,430
Pennies with a Purpose	435
VIM	50
Local Benevolences	140
Meals for Haiti	530
Conference Offerings/Kits	192
UMCOR	2,549
Operation Teddy Bear	434
TOTAL	\$8,538

MEMORIAL GIFTS

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

In Memory of Hazel Coleman
Ida and Bill Powell


In Memory of Sue Almond
Ida and Bill Powell




Thanksgiving

Community Inter-Faith Service
Centenary will be the host church for our annual interfaith 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!

Use UMCOR Advance to Support Bread for the World



United Methodists can make a big difference in the lives of hungry people by supporting UMCOR and Bread for the World. When you designate your UMCOR gift to Advance #98235, your support will be directed to Bread for the World. Make your checks payable to Centenary UMC & indicate the Advance number of the memo line. Participating in Bread for the World is a very effective way for United Methodists to make a difference in the lives of poor and hungry people.

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad.

God's grace in Jesus Christ moves us to help our neighbors, whether they live in the next house, the next state, or the next continent.

Confronting the problem of hunger can seem overwhelming. What can one person do? Plenty. Bread for the World members write personal letters and emails and meet with our members of Congress. This outpouring of concern sends a powerful message to our political leaders and helps us move closer to our goal of ending

Stewardship - August 2010 Operating Budget

July 25	3,738
August 1	4,743
August 8	5,372
August 15	2,388
August 22	2,749

Answered Prayers - Red Bird Mission School Reopens

“When we left here at the end of the school year, we didn’t think that we would be coming back here. A miracle has taken place. We are back here. A miracle has taken place.” (Mark Smallwood, RBMS teacher). “I also learned that God is faithful. When I prayed this summer that God’s will be done for Red Bird School, I knew that God would answer, but I didn’t know when or how.”

158 students reported for the first day of class. Thanks be to God.

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SHARE Packages available for September

Call in by 9/12. Pickup on 9/25



REGULAR PACKAGE-\$22: 1# (lb) hickory smoked ham steaks; 1# breaded chicken breast; Cooked bratwurst, 5 dinner links by Johnsonville; ¾ lbs cubed sirloin beef tips,

ready to cook; Aunt Jemima frozen blueberry waffles; 3# potatoes; Additional fruits and vegetables

6 PACK: ITALIAN DINNERS FOR TWO-\$22: (2) 30 oz. Meat Lasagna in oven safe/microwavable trays; (2) 24 oz. Chicken Pasta Alfredo Skillet Meals; (2) 24 oz. Beef Ravioli in Marinara Sauce Skillet Meals.

THE BIG GRILL PACKAGE-\$22: 1# center cut boneless pork chops; 1.25# whole pork tenderloin; 1# boneless chicken breast fillets; 1# jumbo meat franks; 1# quarter pound beef patties, 80% lean; 3.8# chicken leg quarters.

SEAFOOD BOX-\$20: (8) 3 oz. Premium Crab Cakes/ 65% Lump Crab Meat; 20 oz. Bag IQF Breaded Ovenable Tail Off Shrimp; (2) 4 oz. Pkg. Tilapia Stuffed with Scallops and Red Peppers; (2) 4 oz. Pkg. Lemon Herb Tilapia Filets.

BREAKFAST WRAP SPECIAL-\$18: (4) 4 oz. breakfast wraps; (3) 4 oz. breakfast wraps (breakfast tortillas are filled with fully cooked ham, cheese, onion, and sweet pepper omelets); 2 pkgs. Fully cooked pork sausage links, 13 oz. each; 2# grade A hash brown potato patties; (4) 3 oz. cinnamon roll Danish, individually wrapped.

NEW! FLOUNDER DEL RAY-\$10: King & Prince Seafood's Flounder Fillets stuffed with Crabmeat. 2 ¼ lbs premium flounder fillets filled with seasoned crabmeat stuffing and basted with a savory glaze. 4 large 9 oz. portions.

KELLOGG'S NUTRIGRAIN BARS-\$10: 48 bars, individually wrapped and labeled in one case. Great for packing lunches or after school snacks. Only 21 cents per bar!

*SHARE is a nonprofit volunteer service and food distribution program that helps people at **all** income levels stretch their food dollars.*

If You Eat -You Qualify!!

Call Paula or Chris Howell - 847-8138

**Centenary United Methodist Church
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Lynchburg, VA 24503**

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