



THE SPIRE



Centenary United Methodist Church 1501 Rivermont Avenue Lynchburg, VA 24503

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March 2010

From Snowboarders to Egg Hoarders!!

Ski Trip UpLIFTing – well, most of the time!

By Bill Roseveare, *Ski Dude*

Twenty-five degrees, an abundance snow, and a high probability of immense fun! Yes, we did have a fun-filled evening at Wintergreen on February 12th.

Our 2nd annual Centenary United Methodist ski trip included two snowboarders (Jack Bryson and his friend Hunter), eleven skiers (Wes and Mari Smallshaw, Lillian and Lauren Peake, Marty Waugh, Tim and Kane Campbell, Emily Roseveare and her friend Kaitlin Blankenship, Bill and Matthew Roseveare), and eight tubers (Steve, Mari, Wes, Rick, Charlie, and Jimmy Smallshaw, Tim and Kane Campbell).

We did have a fun trip! The snow conditions were excellent. Of course there was so much snow on the ground that the snow machines were turned off! Yea, no snow blowing in your face as you ride the lifts. Fresh powder could still be found along the outside of some slopes. There was very little, if any wait, at the lift lines to ride back up the slopes. Well, except for that last ride of the night.

Night skiing ended at 10:00. When Matthew and I arrived at the bottom of Dobie at 9:35. We grew concerned after noticing a large crowd waiting to ride the ski lift up the mountain. After a couple minutes, with the crowd growing, we realized the lift had stopped. We got especially concerned when we observed a Wintergreen employee arrive via snow mobile, inspect the lift, then, promptly ride back up the mountain. Jack, Hunter, Marty, Matthew, and I all ended up making the long trek up Dobie. What a hike! The lift started briefly around 10:00, just long enough for Tim and Kane to get off, and then stopped again.

The conditions were excellent for snow tubing too. I



understand the lanes were particularly fast that night, and the lines moved quickly.

Having admired Kane's snow boarding prowess and endured the hike up from the bottom of Dobie, I learned two new lessons: Don't even think about keeping up with an 8-year old on a snowboard, and I will never again complain about the price of a lift ticket.

Easter Egg Hunt part of Fun Spring Activities



By Susan Hall, *SPIRE Reporter for Children's Council*

Church Family Fun Night will be March 24th at 5:30pm.

Our theme will be "Spring"! One of our activities will be gathering items for care packages to send to our college students... we have 10 students that would love to get cards and goodies to brighten their day as they reach the finish line of their spring semester and start to get prepared for final exams. We have a donation of girl scout cookies, but any small items like teas or popcorn would be appreciated. Please bring your items by the church office if you aren't able to attend Family Fun Night.

The Easter Egg hunt will be on the 27th. Everyone is invited! The location is not quite decided, watch the Glad Tidings. There will be hot dogs on the grill and great fellowship! Easter egg hunting for all ages!! We are asking for donations of plastic eggs filled with candy or small toys. Please bring those on the 24th or drop off in the church office.

And we are looking forward to a Galactic Blast for Vacation Bible School in June – the solar system and beyond!!!



Dear Friends –

Recently I heard about and saw the following logo from another Virginia United Methodist congregation that has a high commitment and great

vitality. These are characteristics we need to embrace if we are to grow and make disciples of Jesus Christ to transform the world. I think we would do well to embrace these five commitments for 2010 and into the future:

- GIVE
- GR2W
- S3RVE
- SH4RE
- WO5SHIP

**Five Commitments
that will change your life.**

Larry's Corner

by Larry Davies,
District
Superintendent



Ron Crandall lists 10 obstacles that face any church seeking to grow stronger...

1. A lack of vision for doing God's will
2. A defeatist attitude draining energy from people
3. Members attached to old ways and ideas
4. Inadequate finances
5. Inflexible members
6. Inadequate or rundown facilities
7. Low levels of faith and commitment
8. A cold shoulder toward outsiders
9. Power cliques that create conflict
10. A survival mentality

On the other hand, Dr. Gilbert Bilezikian wrote of six areas a church should and could be...

1. Teaching needs to be life changing
2. Fellowship that goes below the surface
3. Seeking and saving the lost
4. Sharing the wealth
5. Love of another kind
6. The source of hope

Jesus says, "You are the light of the world..."

Every church has at least a few of the 10 obstacles listed above but if we concentrate on the 6 areas a church should be, our church will be the light Jesus called us to be.

Come and see how you can be a part of making disciples for Jesus Christ during Lent 2010. It is essential that we all embrace our church vision for making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. There are many lost people in our community. What are you and what is the church doing to bring them to Christ? We shall be looking at new and different ways to embrace these commitments and develop a high commitment and great vitality in all our ministry activities. 2010 should be a great year for all our ministries!

Grace and Peace,



Palm/Passion Sunday,
March 28: 11:00 AM

Holy (Maundy) Thursday,
April 1: 7:00 PM service with the
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper



Good Friday, April 2
7:00 PM
Service of Tenebrae.



Easter Sunday, April 4: 11am worship &
cantata: "Share the Good News! He Is Risen"



By Alice Wilkinson, *Stephen Leader*

The Importance of Confidentiality in Stephen Ministry

Last month we learned that confidentiality is a cornerstone of Stephen Ministry. It is necessary that you know the importance of this cornerstone.

Confidentiality is absolutely essential for building safe, healing, caring relationships. Stephen Ministry is confidential. Stephen Ministers don't reveal what their care receivers have told them. Not to the pastors, not to the Stephen Leaders, not to their spouses or friends, and not to other Stephen Ministers.

Why? Because trust is vital for a caring relationship to be effective. Care receivers are experiencing difficulties that leave them feeling very vulnerable. Discussing their innermost feelings is an important step in the healing process. But in order to open up and discuss that which is troubling them most, care receivers need complete trust in their Stephen Minister, and the assurance that what they say will not be circulated to others and become news for gossip.

This assurance builds trust and creates a safe place, where care receivers can risk revealing their most painful issues – problems they might not even discuss with close friends or family. Confidentiality helps create a relationship that promotes healing and hope.

Another aspect of confidentiality is that nobody – except the Stephen Minister, the care receiver, and the pastor or Stephen Leader who matched the two together – even knows that a care receiver has a Stephen Minister. Care receivers, of course, are free to tell others about the relationship and who their Stephen Minister is, but the Stephen Minister never tells. This means a care receiver can choose to have complete anonymity so that if he or she doesn't want people to know that he or she has a Stephen Minister, nobody will ever know.

Why this talk about confidentiality? To build your trust in Stephen Ministry. It is a high-quality caregiving ministry that you can count on should you ever have the need. Confidentiality is a cornerstone of good ministry and of our Stephen Ministry.

Centenary's Marvelous Mature Methodists invite you to lunch and a fabulous program



**Lynchburg's
African-
American
Legacy**

What do you know of Lynchburg's **Legacy Museum of African American History**, opened in 2000 in a downtown Victorian house? Hear museum volunteer **Carolyn W. Bell** describe its origins, rotating exhibitions, programs and special events.

Tuesday, March 16 – 11:30am

About the Special Program:

Centenary's Marvelous Mature Methodists will learn about a little known cultural gem, the Legacy Museum of African American History, when they meet on Tuesday, March 16.

The museum is located in a Victorian house at 403 Monroe Street, adjacent to the Old City Cemetery. To document the rich social and cultural history of African Americans in Lynchburg and the surrounding counties – Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford and Campbell – the Legacy Museum collects and displays precious artifacts that would otherwise be lost to public view.

It offers rotating exhibitions and programs on all aspects of local African American history and culture, from the first arrival of Africans in Central Virginia until the present day. The museum collaborates on special programs with other local educational and historical institutions.

The guest speaker will be Carolyn W. Bell, one of the museum's most dedicated volunteers. Dr. Bell is Susan Duval Adams professor of English emerita of the former Randolph-Macon Woman's College. The Legacy Museum is a particular passion of this Louisiana native. Do invite guests to hear her informative talk.

As usual, 3Ms will bring sandwiches for lunch at 11:30am with drinks and dessert provided. The program following will end by 1pm.

Applying Bible Principles

An oxymoron is the use of two terms which are contradictory in nature. "Jumbo shrimp" is an oxymoron. "Ferocious lamb" is another. "Dumb scholar" is yet another.

One of the saddest and most contradictory is the oxymoron, "Stingy Christian." Because we have been redeemed through our faith in Christ, Christians should be the most generous of all people. We have been abundantly blessed of God, who has given us all things richly to enjoy (Rom. 8:32).

James 1:17 expresses this truth clearly: "Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

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Palm Sunday Concert & Lunch

Please join us Sunday, March 28 for a delicious lunch & gospel concert featuring The Harvesters from Sanford, NC.

The Harvesters' Quartet was organized in 1953. Over the years, they have become one of the top gospel groups in the nation. The Quartet is comprised of a group of outstanding singers who deliver a program that is uplifting and inspirational.

As you are aware, Jimmy Mays' granddaughter Addyson was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis at one week old. All donations from the lunch will go to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. We are so close to finding a cure! The Great Strides Walk for CF is set for May 8 in Lynchburg. Thank you for becoming one of Addy's Angels and adding MORE DAYS FOR THOSE WITH CYSTIC FIBROSIS!

Please invite your neighbors, co-workers, friends and relatives to join us for a fun-filled afternoon of "some good ole fashioned Southern Gospel music". Amen!



The Lynchburg District set a goal of preparing 100,000 Meals for Haiti, 210,000 meals were prepared! The total amount of \$51,000 to ship the food has been raised from the churches of our district.

You can continue to help - Give to UMCOR Advance #418325 - make your check payable to Centenary UMC & indicate the Advance number on the memo line, Thanks.

United Methodist Youth Update

New Youth Leaders



Bill & Lisa Roseveare have agreed to become the new Centenary UMC Youth Leaders. Please welcome them, thank them, and support them in any & all ways.

An Invitation

Are you in grades 6 - 12?

Do you want to learn more about Jesus Christ??

Do you like to marshmallows, chocolate, pizza???

Do you enjoy helping others????

Do you like games and fellowship?????

If so, please join Lisa, Bill, and Reba for Youth Group from 6:00 - 7:30 on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month.

Don't forget... Our first meeting is in the Centenary Youth Room on Wednesday, March 10th.

UMCOR already in Chile'

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is responding to the needs of people affected by the 8.8 magnitude earthquake that struck Chile early on Saturday, February 27.

UMCOR is working with partners in Chile: Iglesia Metodista de Chile (IMECH), Ministerio Social Metodista (MISOM) and Equipo Metodista de Acción Humanitaria (EMAH) to respond with resources and support.

Financial support can be made to **Chile Emergency Advance # 3021178**





Did You Know?

Recently the Staff/Parish Relations Committee met and asked that the congregation be informed about all the things the pastor must be concerned with or involved in. So here goes . . . As an ordained elder of The United Methodist Church and a member in full connection with the Virginia Conference, Pastor Rick is appointed by the bishop to be the pastor of Centenary UMC. With ordination, an elder is also a part of the United Methodist connectional system. This means that he gives time to the Virginia Conference, the Lynchburg District, is connected through the Order of Elders to all other United Methodist pastors, and to our local community.

In addition to preparing a weekly sermon, choosing music, and crafting worship services (hymns, prayers, Scripture, etc.) for each week, Pastor Rick coordinates the special music, any special decorations in the Sanctuary or specific needs for the service. He also drafts the bulletin, complete with the weekly insert with information about the hymns, the Scripture lesson, and a stewardship thought. He also performs wedding and funerals as called upon by congregational needs. Our pastor must coordinate all reports to the Annual Conference including reports for our Charge Conference. He chairs the Nominations and Leadership Development Committee. The pastor is an ex officio member of all committees and groups of the church and makes every effort to obtain these meetings. He meets with committee members and groups as needed. Pastor Rick also visits those in the hospital, those in nursing homes, the shut-in's and anyone requesting a visit from the pastor. He also does pastoral counseling with several members on a regular basis.

Pastor Rick, fulfilling the responsibilities as a member of the Order of Elders serves on the Virginia Conference Board of Discipleship – Division of Evangelism. In the Lynchburg District our pastor is the chair of the District Committee on Ordained Ministry (the body tasked by The Book of Discipline to credential local pastors and admit persons into the ministerial candidacy program). He serves on the “All Things New” district steering committee and is an active participant in the Five Talent Academy. Recently he was elected as the clergy chair of

the leadership group of the new Lynchburg District Common Table structure. Pastor Rick also will be serving on the Advisory Board for the Park View UMC Mission now being formed. He also is the chairperson of the Central Lynchburg Clergy Cluster Group. He is also required to earn 8 continuing education units every quadrennium and to attend Annual Conference. He is active in the Lynchburg District Clergy group and the Rivermont Area Ministerial Fellowship.

Pastor Rick, in short, serves as the chief administrative officer of Centenary UMC. He must make decisions on our day-to-day administrative workings of the church such as scheduling weddings and pre-marital counseling, opening and securing the church on Sunday mornings, coordinating repairs, seeking new people for leadership roles (paid and volunteer), preparing for Bible Studies, assisting with VBS, preparing the agenda for church council meetings, and any thing else that promotes our church and helps in making new disciples to transform the world.

Sager Brown Mission Team Forming – Join Us!!

By Carl and Paula Howell, *Team Leaders*

The MISSION TEAM is getting ready to make another trek to Baldwin, LA to the UMCOR Center. There have been many disasters in the world in just the past few months and UMCOR has been there for all of them, there will be much need to restock the warehouse and assist in many other ways in those communities. It is hard to believe but there is much clean-up still needed from the hurricanes of 2005, 2006 and 2008.

We will take a team of 10 to 12 members and there is space available. The van(s) will leave Centenary on October 30th for a two day drive and arrive by Sunday evening (10/31), begin working early Monday(11/1) morning through Friday (11/5) at noon at which time we will start back home a tired but blessed group of Missionaries.

Let us know as soon as possible if you are interested and we will fill you in on what to expect.



Interfaith Outreach Association begins “Circles of Hope” Sessions



THANK YOU!

In 2009, Interfaith Outreach Association interviewed over 1,700 people seeking assistance. We were able to help over 1,100 of those families, reaching out to over 2,600 people.

We completed 49 home visits, offering over \$6,000 worth of furniture to families.

We assisted the visually impaired with their basket weaving, and provided help and hope to men and women who were incarcerated at the Lynchburg Detention Center.

If you want to learn more about what we do and how we do it, please join us for a Circle of Hope information session (schedule below). Please call our office and leave your name so we can reserve a seat for you. We promise not to keep you more than one hour!

Wednesday, March 17 at noon

Wednesday, March 31 at noon

Tuesday, April 6 at 7:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 21 at noon

Tuesday, May 4 at noon

Thank you for your support and belief in our work as we join together to relieve distress, strengthen families and transform communities!

CUMC Member honored by Rush Homes

The Vincent Mark Russell award was established by Rush Homes in 2004 to honor a volunteer who put forth an extra effort during the year to assist Rush Homes in fulfilling its mission. It is named after one of their founding board members – someone who has volunteered countless hours to see that the vision of Mabel Rush is realized in the greater Lynchburg community.

Centenary UMC has assisted Rush Homes by providing the church van one day each month for their Rush Hour tours. Centenary’s members have been helpful in many ways including financial and volunteer support. Some of those efforts have been spearheaded by the 2010 Vincent Mark Russell Award recipient – Paula Howell. To keep herself humble, she locked the keys in the van during one tour. Good – but not perfect!!



Day of Difference Churches join with Habitat for build

Though the partnership was announced earlier – work has been delayed by Mother Nature! The Day of Difference churches and Habitat will be building a home on Monsview Place. Work is beginning at the job site on March 6. The goal is for the house to be dedicated during the Day of Difference events in late May.

From DOD volunteer coordinator Charlie Wilson regarding work on February 27: It took two weeks of waiting, but today we finally got to work with a very enthusiastic group of volunteers. Check out some of the pictures I took to show what we did and who did it. All the wall components (headers, tees, corners etc.) were built so when we need them in two weeks, they will be ready for wall construction.

For the next several weeks we need volunteers to do the heavy work of building the deck, constructing and placing the walls, putting up the roof trusses and sheathing the roof. I will have to send out a new building schedule to make up for the snow days (I feel like I'm back teaching up in NJ), but for the most part the next 3 or 4 weeks will be basic framing. We need as many as 15 to 20 volunteers each Saturday to get this work done. Lots of nailing, lifting etc. Joins us in helping to get the house framed.

Willing workers should let either Charlie Wilson forestlawn16@verizon.net or Carl Howell attheriver@hotmail.com know. All that is needed is a willingness to learn. Skills are appreciated but NOT required! Also needed are folks to provide lunches. Contact Paula Howell if you can help with food. paulahowell44@gmail.com.



**2010 Operating Budget
through February 25, 2010**

Receipts:

Pledged Offering	27,673
Prior Year Pledge	179
Unpledged Offering	4,459
Loose Plate Offering	150
Church School Offering	388
From UMFS	300
Miscellaneous Offering	(512)
Interest Income	32
From Gifts/Memorials	1,545
Total Receipts.....	\$34,214


Expenses:

Apportionments	-0-
Pastor Support	- 11,868
Program Support	- 3,082
Building & Grounds	- 14,886
Office Support	- 2,854
Staff Support	- 13,819
Total Expenses.....	\$46,509


Benevolence Receipts

Outside of Budget

Stephen Ministries	200
Fellowship Fund	215
JIFF	65
Pennies with a Purpose	109
VIM	50
Meals for Haiti	530
UMCOR -Haiti Advance	2,278
TOTAL	\$3,447



MEMORIAL GIFTS



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

In Memory of William Jopling
Marshall, Jr.
Earl and Helen Simpson

In Memory of Irene Simmons Reed
Bobby and Susan Oertel
Bernie and Carolyn Miller
Connie and Guy Boyce
Ernestine Dodl
Gene Maddera
Dave and Vickie Shackelford
Earl and Helen Simpson
Jim and Edythe Steffens
Jay and Aleen Harrison
Aubrey and Ann Mehaffey
Stonegate Residents
Nae Hugh and Virginia Pearson
Mertie Reed
Helen Morgan
Katherine Sasser

In Memory of Rebekah C. Moore
Ida and Bill Powell
Gene Maddera
Dave and Vickie Shackelford
Earl and Helen Simpson
Lewis and Shirley Moorman
Aubrey and Ann Mehaffey
Marvin and Frances Unger
Renee Graves
Hope Montague
Bob and Bernie Platt
Katherine Sasser

**Applying Bible Principles
(cont.)**

Think about some of God's good gifts:
 God gives the seed (Gen. 1:11).
 God gives the rain (Job 5:10).
 God gives health (Jer. 30:17).
 God gives life (Acts 17:25).
 God gives strength (Isa. 40:29).
 God gives riches (1 Chron. 29:12).
 God gives grace (2 Cor. 12:9).
 God gives eternal life (Rom. 6:23).
 And God gives us money and the ability to get wealth. Solomon said that money is one of God's gifts to people. The purpose for which He gives us money is stated clearly in Ecclesiastes 5:19 — for our enjoyment.

Some of us make that the primary reason for money. We major in pleasure and the things money can do for us. But there is another major purpose God gives us money, something that also can bring great pleasure: To give it back to Him.


That's why of all the oxymorons in existence, "Stingy Christian" is the most contradictory. We who have been given the most from God should be the most generous people in the world.

As the tombstone in an old cemetery read, "What I spent, I had; what I saved, I lost; what I gave, I have."

Stewardship - February 2010

Operating Budget

January 31	no church
February 7	no church
February 14	11,099
February 21	7,266



Snow, Snow, Snow & Finances

We missed two consecutive Sunday morning services and that can hit the church hard. Not only do we miss the opportunity to worship God and be with our church family, we also miss the opportunity to return to a God a portion of all God gives to us. Please make-up your offering at the earliest opportunity you have. It will be greatly appreciated!

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SHARE Packages available for March

Call in by 3/14. Pickup on 3/27.



REGULAR PACKAGE-\$24: 1# (pound) hickory smoked ham steak, 1# breaded chicken breasts, Lightly breaded Pollock fish fillets (5 pcs), Tyson seasoned steak strips, fully cooked, Smoked cocktail franks or smoked sausage, ½ lb. Tyson vegetable mix for stir fry, Pineapple upside down pie, Chicken stuffing mix, Onion soup mix, 3# potatoes, 2# onions, 2# sweet potatoes, 1 dz. Eggs, Celery, Carrots, Oranges, Additional fresh fruits and/or vegetables.

TURKEY BREAST -\$16: 4# turkey breast

WHOLE TURKEY-\$10: Ten Pound Whole Turkey!

SPIRAL HAM-\$22: 9# Cook's honey cured spiral ham

STEAK PACKAGE-\$16: (8) 6 oz. boneless ribeye steaks.

CHICKEN LEG QUARTER PACKAGE-\$7: 10# Gold Leaf Brand made by Tyson Foods. That's .70 per pound!!

BYRON'S BBQ CHICKEN PACKAGE-\$10: back by popular demand! 4# fully cooked pulled chicken with BBQ sauce

SUPPER TIME CONVENIENCE ENTREES-\$22: Each box will include (7) 16 oz. meals ready to cook in the oven or microwave. March boxes include Lasagna with Meat Sauce; Grilled Chicken Breast Alfredo with Penne Pasta and Broccoli Florets; Manicotti with Marinara Sauce; Beef Stir Fry with Broccoli Florets over Rice; Turkey Breast with Mashed Potato, Super Sweet Corn and Turkey Gravy; Southern Fried Chicken Breast with Mashed Potatoes and California Blend Mixed Veg; Chicken Cacciatore: Grilled Chicken Breast with Peppers and Onions with Sauce over Linguine.

(Self Help and Resource Exchange) is a nonprofit volunteer service and food distribution program that helps people at all income levels stretch their food dollars. Each month, participants pay about \$20 and complete two hours of community service. We get a food package of fresh and frozen meats, produce, specialty items and staples that would cost **\$40** at the grocery store.

*Call Paula or Chris Howell - 847-8138
or place your order in the church office.*

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

**Non-Profit Organization
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Return Service Requested

