



# The Colonnade

Cokesbury United Methodist Church  
14806 Blackburn Road, Woodbridge, VA

June 2007  
Volume 46, No. 6

## A Letter of Thanks

We received the following thank-you letter from ACTS. As part of the special Easter offering that we received, we gave \$873.50 to Turning Points, which is a domestic violence prevention program sponsored by ACTS:

To the congregation of Cokesbury United Methodist Church,

Thank you for your wonderful generosity for those in your community who are in need of a safe place to stay while they determine their options.

It's important for each of the women and children that we serve to know that there is a caring and compassionate community that supports the belief that all deserve to live without fear of abuse.

Sincerely,  
Cathy Penolano  
Program Director

### **Worship Services**

**8:30 AM & 11:00 AM**

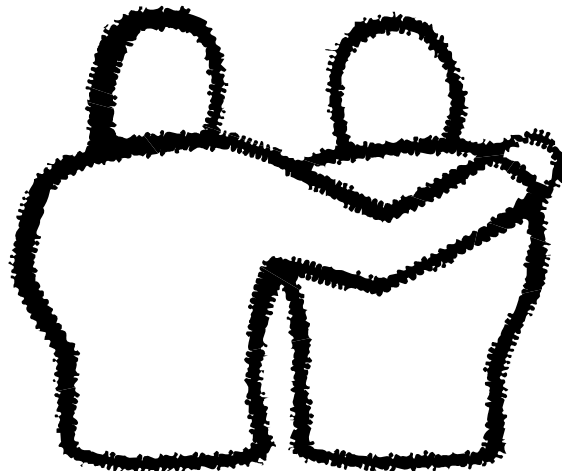
Nursery available both services

The 11am worship service features a children's worship for 4-9 year olds.

*On months with 5 Sundays, Service begins at 10 AM on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday*

Sunday School 9:45 AM  
(For children, youth, and adults)

Cokesbury UMC Web Site:  
<http://www.CokesburyUMC.us>



## ***Connectional Grace***

*And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*  
*Hebrews 10:24-15*

Annual Conference is a time for the Virginia United Methodist churches to gather together in conference. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, felt that conferencing was a means of experiencing God's grace. He saw the importance for the church leadership to meet together, to discuss and decide on the direction the church was to go, and, most importantly, to worship together as the body of Christ.

So, from June 10 through June 14, all pastors of the Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church will meet in Roanoke to be connected in this means of grace. And, just as important, a lay delegate from each United Methodist congregation will be present to represent each church. In fact according to the rules governing the United Methodist Church, there is one lay delegate for every clergy member. Therefore, the governing body of our church is made up of equal representation between clergy and lay people, giving us a wonderful mix of biblical, yet practical, position on our theological and social principles.

Another aspect of conferencing is that it serves as a reminder that we are not alone in our Christian ministry. Seeing the more than three thousand members of the conference and hearing all the reports from the UM boards and agencies, we are reminded that we are connected to something larger than just our own congregation, and that our resources add to theirs to create a powerful influence in our world. Through God's grace, we are all connected and empowered to be the body of Christ in this world.

The Annual Conference is when we certify and send out specially trained and equipped lay persons for specialized areas of ministry. These are the people who "make it happen" in our churches and in our communities, and Cokesbury is honored to have one of our members receive this certification.

Linda Ennis will receive her professional certification in youth ministry during this year's Annual Conference. For the past three years, Linda has earned post-graduate credits by completing courses at Wesley Theological Seminary. She has written papers and has defended her theological positions and beliefs before the Board of Ordained Ministry, where, as a candidate she has been "examined and found knowledgeable." Additionally, Linda has worked for the past 2 years as Cokesbury's Director of Youth Ministries (without pay, I might add). This practical experience was also reviewed to ascertain that she not only had a strong theological basis for her ministry, but that she also had the gifts and talents to work effectively with youth and also with adult counselors.

Therefore, receiving her certification is a big accomplishment for Linda. Please join me in thanking her for her dedication to youth ministry and congratulating her on her accomplishment. At the conference, the "Recognition of Professional Certification for Local Church Ministry" will be held at 9:15 a.m. on Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, at the Roanoke Convention Center, and everyone is welcome to attend.

In God's grace,

*Russ*

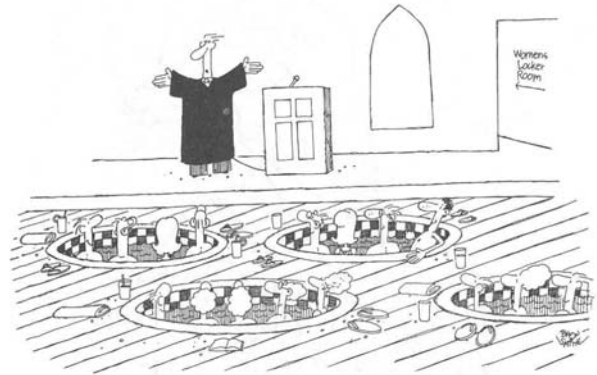
# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



- 1 Leanna Elliot
- 2 Pam Tyrrell
- 5 Jack Kornieck
- 6 Jessica Johnson  
Ruby Wiley  
Louis Spicer  
Joseph Daniel Stead
- 10 Bob Gallagher  
Bill Yount
- 11 Samantha Quaye
- 13 Jason Sapp  
Amanda Spurlin
- 14 Katelyn Ritenour  
Lauren Fisher  
David Smith
- 16 Lydia Blair
- 18 Winnifred Hogan
- 20 Mark Butman  
Lance Urban
- 21 Katie Owen
- 22 Tinabell Baiden-Amissah
- 23 Kenneth Johnson
- 24 Jessie Commerce
- 25 Julia Clark  
Sharon DeRose
- 26 Stephen Tyrrell  
Lawrencia Addison
- 27 Tosh Gross  
Millie Harris  
Sarah Burke

# J U N E

- 7 Frances and Robert Powell  
Denise and Patrick Elliott
- 9 Anita and William Yount
- 19 Wanda and James Lawson
- 21 Julie and Bill Mahan
- 24 Melissa and Rick Clark  
Marian and Arthur Benson  
Deidre Dorsey and John Kelly



True, "Bubblin' Bob" was packing them in. But how to keep the hymnbooks dry?

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"But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness."

James 3:17-18 – New International Version

# Money Matters

By Don Dorton, Finance Committee

**\*The table below shows Cokesbury's financial picture as of April 30, 2007.  
2007 Funded Annual Budget = \$210,400**

Month	Month-to-Date		Year-to-Date Income			Year-to-Date Expenses	
	Required to meet the Budget	Budgeted Income Received	Required to meet the Budget	Budgeted Income Received	Percentage of the Budget Funded	Budgeted Expenses	Income to Expenses
January	\$16,185	\$12,593	\$16,185	\$12,593	77.8%	\$12,512	100.6%
February	\$16,185	\$12,670	\$32,370	\$25,263	94.1%	\$30,462	82.9%
March	\$16,185	\$17,078	\$48,555	\$42,341	88.9%	\$43,181	98.1%
*April	\$20,230	\$22,421	\$68,785	\$64,762	94.2%	\$58,130	111.4%
May	\$16,185		\$84,970				
June	\$16,185		\$101,155				
July	\$20,230		\$121,385				
August	\$16,185		\$137,570				
September	\$20,230		\$157,800				
October	\$16,185		\$173,985				
November	\$16,185		\$190,170				
December	\$20,230		\$210,400				

**\*\* As of March 31, we have paid back \$17,821 toward our \$28,638 debt, leaving \$10,817 \*\***

- **Month to Date: Required to meet the Budget** – Amount the church needs to meet its projected funding. These figures are based on the projected monthly revenues based on offering history and projected fundraisers.
- **Month to Date: Budgeted Income Received** - Amount the church has received toward the budget for the month indicated.
- **Year to Date: Required to meet the Budget** - Cumulative budget needs to date.
- **Year to Date: Budgeted Income Received** – Cumulative amount the church has received toward the budget.
- **Year to Date: Percentage of the Budget Funded** - Comparison of budgeted offerings received vs budget needs.
- **Year to Date: Budgeted Expenses** - Year-to-Date amount the church has spent against the budget. 'N/A' indicates that expenditures have not been updated since the last end-of-month period.
- **Year to Date: Budgeted Income vs Budgeted Expenses** – Percent of income received to expenses received.



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**Articles for *The Colonnade* are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month for the next month's edition.**

## “WARNING”

\*The following article contains mature matter\*

Last fall a new program was introduced at Cokesbury, The Endowment Program for Cokesbury United Methodist Church. At this same time a permanent Endowment Fund Committee was created in accordance with The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church.

The committee has many specific responsibilities, one of which is to inform the members of Cokesbury on what an endowment is and how members of Cokesbury can use endowment giving as part of their planned stewardship and also part of their estate planning.

First some facts about Endowments and Endowment Giving:

1. Endowment giving is not intended to replace stewardship tithes and offerings that are used to operate the regular church programs and ministries. That is to say, endowment gifts are not used to pay utilities, employee salaries, buy office supplies, or any other operating expenses. Instead endowment gifts are an opportunity by Cokesbury members to provide never ending monies for a program or ministry designated by the endowment gift giver.

2. The endowment gift principal is not spent but invested in secure instruments that provide annual income to the program or ministry designated by the endowment gift giver. This results in the never ending gift. An example might be the giver wants to provide monies for the replacement of hymnal books and pew bibles. An endowment gift is a far better solution to a one time monetary gift because each year the monies from the investment of the original gift will be available to replace old hymnals and bibles. Years and years down the road the original endowment gift will still be giving to Cokesbury.

3. It doesn't take millions of dollars, or even hundreds of thousands of dollars to establish an endowment fund. An endowment

gift of \$10,000 will provide around \$400 a year for the program or ministry designated by the endowment gift giver. Each year many members of Cokesbury give well over \$400 to special programs and ministries. By establishing and endowment fund these members can ensure their annual gifts live on even after their passing.

4. Endowment funds are an excellent way to honor, remember, or memorialize family members and loved ones.

5. The endowment gift doesn't have to be given all at once, the gift can be given over a set time period, and even added to after it is established.

6. Endowment monies are not spent, they are invested in secure investments to preserve the gift principal, and only the annual income from the investment is spent.

7. Cokesbury United Methodist Church can be named in your will or designated as beneficiary on your life insurance to establish the endowment fund. Additionally gifts of securities, real estate, or tangible personal property can be donated to Cokesbury to establish an endowment fund.

More information about the Cokesbury Endowment Program can be obtained by talking with any member of the Cokesbury Endowment Fund Committee. The current members of the committee are: Jack Jewell, Joe Burnette, Norma Compton, Barbara Woods, Joe Greene, Pastor Russ Urban, Don Dorton, and Steve Nelson.

Some members may feel that they are not at a place in their lives that they want to think about estate planning and endowments, but think about what will happen to that program or ministry you've worked so hard to establish if your resources disappear. Endowment gifts is a way to establish a legacy and to ensure the ministries and programs dear to your heart live on.

# UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

*By Gayle Urban, secretary*

It is a busy season for United Methodist Women, and there are many ways and opportunities for the women of the church to participate. We send out a big “Thank you!” to all from the congregation who have helped with the fabric, sewing, and supplies that went into our tote bags of school supplies, to be taken to Annual Conference. The school kits give children around the world some items to help their education...items like scissors and glue and paper are common to us, but are a rare treat for many children. We hope that these kits will be a reminder of God’s love to the children.

Special “Mission Recognition” pins were given from the UMW last month, to Jack Jewell, Mary Jane Fizer, and Carolyn Benton. We appreciate their service to Christ, and their many ways of being a part of the ministries at Cokesbury.

Recently 5 United Methodist Women from Mozambique traveled and spoke in Virginia, and several women from our unit drove “up the road” to Cranford UMC to have a wonderful fellowship dinner with 2 of the ladies, along with many other sisters in Christ from around the Alexandria District. The women from Mozambique spoke about their home country, and told of some of the Methodist projects and schools operating there that give hope for a better future to the children and women. Our

UMW mission money helps to support some of those projects and schools, and it meant a lot to meet the women in person and hear their stories.

Twelve women from Cokesbury attended the UMW Spiritual Life Retreat in Blackstone in May, and had wonderful music, messages, small groups, entertainment, food and fellowship, with the theme of “Windows to the Soul”. If you’ve never been to the retreat, and are interested, keep it in mind for May of 2008!

**Monday night, June 11:** Guest speaker, Keith Harvey ( from Fairfax, who does mission work in Romania; friend of Joe and Norma Burnette) will speak at 8 p.m., for the UMW/UMM, and all from the congregation who are interested are welcome to come and hear him speak. This will be in the Cokesbury social hall. (Cokesbury UMW will meet at 7:30 p.m., to rehearse for the Father’s Day service, before the 8 p.m. program starts.)

**Sunday worship services, June 17:** UMW will present the two worship services that morning.

UMW officers are: Mary Wright, president; Norma Burnette, vice president; Peggy Dorton, treasurer, Gayle Urban, secretary. Contact any one of us if you have any questions, or want some information about events of the UMW.

Matthew 8:27: *“What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?”*  
*O Lord, how great thou art!*

# BIBLE FISHING

Submitted by Michael Obeng

## 1. THE CENTER OF THE BIBLE

This is pretty strange or odd as to how it worked out this way. Even if you are not religious or bible believer, you should read this .. and think..deep...

What is the shortest chapter in the Bible?

Answer – Psalm 117

What is the longest chapter in the Bible?

Answer – Psalm 119

Which Chapter is in the center of the Bible?

Answer – Psalm 118

Fact: There are 594 chapters before Psalm 118

Fact: There are 594 chapters after Psalm 118

Add these numbers up and you get 1188

What is the **center verse in the Bible**? Answer - Psalm 118:8

Does this verse say something significant about God’s perfect will for our lives? The next time someone says they would like to find God’s perfect will for their lives and that they want to be in the center of His will, just send them to the center of his Word!!!

Psalm 118:8 (NKJV) **“It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man”**

**Now isn’t that odd how this worked out ( or was God in the center of it)? I bet He is....**

Author-Unknown

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## 2. St. Theresa's Prayer:

May today there be peace within.  
May you trust God that you are exactly  
where you are meant to be. May you  
not forget the infinite possibilities  
that are born of faith. May you use  
those gifts that you have received, and

pass on the love that has been given to you.... May you be content knowing you are a child of God.... Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us.

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## 3. When I say “good morning” I mean:

**G**-od

**O**-ffers us His

**O**-utstanding

**D**-evotion to

**M**-ake us

**O**-bedient &

**R**-eady for a

**N**-ew day with Him.

**I**-nspire others please,  
and

**N**-ever forget

**G**-od loves you!

*Loving others... as Christ first loved us!*

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