



The Colonnade

Cokesbury United Methodist Church
14806 Blackburn Road, Woodbridge, VA

March 2008
Volume 47, No. 3

Good Year Predicted For The United Methodist Men

By Joe Greene

It looks like 2008 will be a banner year for the United Methodist men as our second meeting of the year included 19 attendees - three of whom attended for the first time.

For the immediate future, our plans include the following activities:

- * 17 February - Provide the anthem for the 8:30 service
- * 16 March - Provide the anthem for the 11:00 service
- * Provide Rising Hope with a \$200 donation for the purchase of children shoes
- * Provide funds to purchase 20 folding chairs for the fellowship hall
- * Provide funds to purchase Cokesbury logo pens to be distributed to Sunday visitors
- * Conduct a food drive from Feb. 24th to March 16th - all food collected will be given to Acts
- * April - visit Rising Hope for a pancake dinner followed with an evening of fellowship

We encourage all men to join us and invite a friend for our next meeting. Our meetings are very informal and you will enjoy a wonderful evening of fellowship and a great way to get involved in church activities.



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 5th Sunday

Sunday School 9:45 AM

(For children, youth, and adults)

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

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny!



Beginning @ 9:00 a.m.

Adults \$3.00 -

Children Saturday

March 22, 2008

All you can eat

Breakfast \$2.00

Easter Egg Hunt to

follow @ 10:00 a.m.

Grand Prize for

Golden Egg found in

each Age Group 2 to

12

At Cokesbury United Methodist Church

Face Painting - Raffle Tickets for Door Prizes -
Jelly Bean Counting Contest

Living with the Mind of Christ

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"
(John 11:25-26)

The Easter message is that Jesus has been raised from the dead. Yet how can we ever come to believe that Jesus lives again?

Though subtle, the gospel of John names four key characters who struggle with this question. These followers or would-be disciples of Jesus represent dissimilar personalities. They possess diverse positions regarding faith, which necessitates a variety of responses from Jesus so that each of them can come to believe in his resurrection.

When "the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved" arrived at the empty tomb and "saw the linen wrappings lying there," he didn't go in at first (John 20:5). Why? In part, it's probably because he didn't need to go in. He was already living in the full assurance of Jesus' love. Consequently, he had no doubt that Jesus was "the resurrection and the life." And so it is for all of us who experience Jesus' love; when we enter the tomb, we are able to see and believe at once.

Most of us, however, are not blessed with such a temperament. For whatever reason, we need to feel something more than Jesus' love. Perhaps we're like Peter, who saw the linen wrappings just like "the other disciple," but still found it difficult to believe. Peter – like many of us – was confused. He did "not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead" (John 20:9). Before Peter could make sense of Jesus' death, burial and resurrection, Peter needed to experience reconciliation. He had to find out if Jesus would accept him despite his three denials. That moment would come, but only after Jesus broke bread with Peter and challenged him to serve the Christian community (John 21:9-19). And so it is with all of us who need forgiveness; the tomb is cavernous and devoid of meaning until we know that we are welcome at the Lord's Table and that he enlists our full participation in his mission.

Some of us are like neither "the other disciple" nor Peter. Instead, we resemble Mary, whose devotion to the Lord is unquestionable, but whose understanding is restricted by a temporal, earthly view of Jesus. It's an all-too-human perspective that sees him as a close intimate friend, but not as Lord who makes demands upon us. For Mary, Jesus' death was a personal loss. When she went to the tomb, she was grieving and had no expectation of ever seeing him again. But when he called her by name – as the good shepherd does with his sheep – she heard neither Jesus' nor the gardener's voice, but the living, resurrected voice of the Lord. Therefore, she didn't say to the other disciples, "I have seen Jesus." On the contrary, she said, "I have seen the Lord" (John 20:18). And so it is with all of us who must hear the Lord, not just Jesus, call us by name.

The rest of us are like Thomas. He neither went to the tomb nor trusted the testimony of the other disciples. He needed concrete, indisputable, empirical evidence of Jesus' resurrection. Without it, he could not believe. In many ways, Thomas symbolizes the modern skeptic. Although Jesus didn't hide his scars from Thomas, he did not receive the blessing pronounced on "those who have not seen and yet have come to believe" (John 20:29). And so it is for all of us who demand credible, physical evidence. Although we are unable to touch Jesus' wounds as Thomas did, we still must learn that they are as real today when we share in and complete the sufferings of Christ "for the sake of his body" (Colossians 1:24).

The good news of Easter is that Jesus rose from the dead. He was and remains unwilling to abandon his disciples – those whom he loves along with those who are confused or have doubts.

[This article comes from Homiletics magazine, and was written by Kevin Moore, Ph.D. candidate in New Testament at the Iliff School of Theology in Denver. Used with permission.]

Forever in God's grace, *Russ*

Loving others... as Christ first loved us!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



- 5 Betty Greene
- 7 Jennie Lamb
- 9 Carl Wirkner
- Rick Clark
- 12 Scott BeMiller
- Mark Salyers
- 20 Dexter Armentrout
- Kelly Cox
- 21 Jeremy Yoho
- 22 Alyssa Drye
- Nicole Elliott
- 25 Margaret Palomares
- Norma Burnette
- 26 Julie Mahan
- 28 Marian Benson
- 29 Dan Haggart
- 31 Michele Surdam

M a r c h

- 13 Areta and Carl Zeigler
- Katie and Jarod Owen
- 18 Juliette and Wilfred Jones



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New Arrival

Joe and Norma Brunette are happy to announce the arrival of their newest granddaughter "Bethany Anne Gamey", Daughter of Melisa and Albert Gamey born January 28, 2008 adopted February 8, 2008.

Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, March 15th
5:00pm-7:00pm

\$3.00 ages 3-11
\$7.00 12 & up

Menu:
All-U-Can-Eat
Spaghetti,
salad, rolls,
beverages, and
dessert



Cokesbury United Methodist Church
14806 Blackburn Rd - Woodbridge, VA
<http://www.CokesburyUMC.us/Dinner>

Money Matters

By Mary Seltzer, Treasurer

The table below shows Cokesbury's financial picture as of January 31, 2008.
2008 Funded Annual Budget = \$238,944

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	\$18,380	\$13,269	\$18,380	\$13,269	72%	\$16,667	80%
February	\$18,380		\$36,760				
March	\$18,380		\$55,140				
April	\$22,976		\$78,116				
May	\$18,380		\$96,496				
June	\$18,380		\$114,876				
July	\$22,976		\$137,852				
August	\$18,380		\$156,232				
September	\$22,976		\$179,208				
October	\$18,380		\$197,588				
November	\$18,380		\$215,968				
December	\$22,976		\$238,944				

** As of January 31st, we have paid back \$25,185 toward our \$28,638 debt, leaving a balance of \$3453.**

- **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.

Mission Team News

By Peggy Dorton

Thank you to the Cokesbury congregation for the generous support given to the Mission Team in providing food and serving at the Lord's Table Homeless Mission. Our next participation in this ministry will be Thursday, April 3rd.

Plans are being made for the Redbird Mission Trip to Beverly, Kentucky which will be August 17-23. Ten people have already signed up but our goal is at least 16. The mission team will be sponsoring several Flea Market dates and will also have items for sale to raise money for the trip. We are again asking for donations of items to be sold, so keep us in mind when you are spring cleaning.

The Colonnade Staff

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

2008 Holy Week and Easter Calendar of Events

Day	Time	
March 16, Sunday	8:30 & 11 a.m.	Worship Service, Palm Sunday
March 21, Friday	7 p.m.	Good Friday Worship Service
March 22, Saturday	9 a.m. 10 a.m. 6 p.m. – midnight	Bunny Breakfast Easter Egg Hunt Easter Prayer Vigil
March 23, Sunday	6:45 a.m. 7:30 a.m. 8:30 & 11 a.m. 9:45 a.m.	Easter Sunrise Service Continental Breakfast Worship Service, Easter Sunday Lenten Study
March 30, Sunday	10 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Worship Service, Easter Cantata Potluck Luncheon

Lenten Study

The Lenten study, Living with the Mind of Christ, led by Pastor Russ continues in March. The class is given on Tuesday and Sunday mornings. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Lenten Study: Living with the Mind of Christ	Tuesday, 10 AM	Sunday, 9:45 AM
Surrender: The Moment of Letting Go	Feb. 26	Mar. 2
Humility: Moving Up by Coming Down	Mar. 4	Mar. 9
Obedience: How Far Will You Go?	Mar. 11	Mar. 16
Glory: Unexpected Glory!	Mar. 18	Easter, Mar. 23

COKESBURY UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

By Gayle Urban, Secretary

The Ruth Circle of Cokesbury UMW meets on the second Monday, March 10, at 1 p.m. The evening meeting of Cokesbury UMW meets on March 10, at 7:30 p.m. Women of the church are welcome to attend either meeting. The program will be our traditional "Candle burning" program, led by Gayle Urban. This is a time to donate money "in honor or in memory" of a loved one; you can give any amount that you choose; we light the candle as we remember loved ones who are a meaningful part of our lives. This is one of the special programs during the year, and another way we give money to missions, helping others who are in need.

It was a blessing to have 105 women in attendance at Cokesbury on Ash Wednesday, February 5, for the District UMW "Quiet Day" service of communion and imposition of ashes, led by Pastor Russ. It was a beautiful warm day, and a special time of fellowship.

UMW Executive Officers for 2008 are: President, Mary Wright; Vice President Peggy Dorton; Secretary Gayle Urban; Treasurer Donna Sapp.

March 7: Church Women United meets here at Cokesbury, for "World Day of Prayer" program, at 10 a.m. There will be a meal, after the service. Contact is Olga Fraser.

March 8: Mini-Mission event, by District UMW; at Manassas-St. Thomas UMC; there are 2 workshops. Cost is \$15, and includes lunch. Time is from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

March 10: Monthly Cokesbury UMW meetings: 1 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.

Coming up: May 17-18 is the annual Spiritual Life Retreat at Blackstone; cost is \$69.05.

YOUTH CORNER

By Linda Ennis

We want to thank everyone who contributed to the **Souperbowl of Caring**. We raised \$368.00 for the LeLand House and provided ACTS with 48 cans of soup. You might say that it was really a "Souper Day."

Do The Famine! No, this is not a new dance the kids are doing these days. The Famine refers to the 30 Hours of Famine that the Cokesbury Youth Group participated in on Feb 22 – 23 at Friendship United Methodist Church in Arlington. The activity began immediately after lunch on Friday when they began the Fast that would last for 30 hours. At 7:00 pm, we made our way to Friendship where we participated in worship and service projects and also a little fun as we gained a just a little experience of the hunger that thousands of people, men, women and children, experience around the world on a daily basis. Our Fast consisted of only liquids such as juice and water through 6:00pm on Saturday. We prepared lunches for the homeless, all without a meal for ourselves, made "Happy Hats," which are hats designed to cheer up children in hospitals, helped disabled youth ice skate, and other service projects throughout the 30 hours. As we made our way back to Cokesbury on Saturday night we were hungry and we knew that we will soon be sitting down to a nice dinner, but we also came away knowing that for many people the hunger will not go away.

Our thanks to the Administrative Council for providing a meal to "Break the Fast" when the youth returned to Cokesbury Saturday night. We really appreciate the leadership of our church coming out to support the youth.

Our **March Schedule** will be very different as we continue to learn about how famine affects people and cultures. We will be playing a game called "Tribe" that will last the entire month! Yes, I said the ENTIRE MONTH. In the game we are divided into different tribes and given different skills and circumstances. Each tribe will be given an opportunity to make plans and create a culture all their own as the game progresses. Here's how the March schedule is shaping up.

March 2 – Tribal Game

March 9 – Milkshake and Messiah at Sudley United Methodist Church

March 16 – Tribal Game

March 23 – No Youth Meeting because of Easter

March 30 – Tribal Game

As you can see, the Tribal game is played every other Sunday, giving the tribes time to discuss their strategies for the next meeting. Who will win?

Loving others... as Christ first loved us!

DST BEGINS MARCH 9		MARCH 2008		EASTER MARCH 23		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2 8:30/11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Lenten Study 12:15 Helping Hands Meeting/Polluck 1:30-5:00 COGP 5:30 UMY</p>	<p>3 6:00 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 Prayer Group 7:9:30 Chorofiers</p>	<p>4 10:00 Lenten Study 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Missions & Outreach Comm. 7:00 Family Care</p>	<p>5 7:30 Choir 11:50 Rehearsal for Church Women Unified 6:00 Fleda Mkt Mtg 7:30 Book Club</p>	<p>6 7:00 Disciple 3 7:00-9:30 COGP</p>	<p>7 10-12 Church Women Unified 7:9:30 COGP</p>	<p>1 10-12 Recovery Inc. 10-8 FH Reserved 8 10-12 Recovery Inc. 10-4 Wedding/ Reception 6:00 Polluck & Proise</p>
<p>9 8:30/11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Lenten Study 1:30-5:00 COGP 5:30 UMY</p>	<p>10 6:00 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 Prayer Group 7:9:30 Chorofiers 7:30 UMM/UMW</p>	<p>18 10:00 Lenten Study 11:15 Founders' Day Mtg 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Adm'n Council</p>	<p>12 6:00 VBS Mtg 7:30 Choir</p>	<p>13 7:00 Disciple 3 7:00-9:30 COGP</p>	<p>14 7:00 Disciple 3 7:00-9:30 COGP</p>	<p>15 10-12 Recovery Inc. 10-12 Recovery Inc. 5-7 Spaghetti Dinner</p>
<p>16 8:30/11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Lenten Study 1:30-5:00 COGP 5:30 UMY PALM SUNDAY</p>	<p>17 6:00 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 Prayer Group 7:9:30 Chorofiers</p>	<p>18 10:00 Lenten Study 6:30 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>19 7:30 Choir</p>	<p>20 7:00 Disciple 3 7:00-9:30 COGP</p>	<p>21 7:00 Good Friday Service 7:00-9:30 COGP GOOD FRIDAY</p>	<p>22 10-12 Recovery Inc. 6:00-12:00 - Easter Prayer Vigil</p>
<p>23 - EASTER 4-6 COGP Sunrise Svc 6:45 Sunrise Service 7:45 UMM Brunch 8:30/11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Lenten Study 1:30-5:00 COGP</p>	<p>24 6:00 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 Prayer Group 7:9:30 Chorofiers</p>	<p>25 6:30 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>26 7:30 Choir</p>	<p>27 7:00 Disciple 3 7:9:30 COGP</p>	<p>28 7:9:30 COGP</p>	<p>29 10-12 Recovery, Inc. 7:00 Helping Hands Fun Night</p>
<p>30 Easter Conkato 10:00 Worship (One Service) 11:15 - Polluck 1:30-5:00 COGP 5:30 UMY</p>	<p>31 6:00 Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 Prayer Group 7:9:30 Chorofiers</p>					

Loving others... as Christ first loved us!

Attention Attention

If you were unable to participate in the photography sessions for the new Cokesbury pictorial directory, you will have another opportunity to do so. Cokesbury has received an additional photography day and hope that you will become part of the new directory. Appointments for Wednesday, March 19, between 3:00 and 9:00 can be made by calling the church office (703-494-5400) or Mary Wright (703-730-0448).

Photo Opportunity

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