



# The Colonnade

Cokesbury United Methodist Church  
14806 Blackburn Road, Woodbridge, VA

April 2008  
Volume 47, No. 4

## Mission/Outreach News

*God, open our hearts, our minds and our doors to the people around us. Help us to mirror the loving spirit of your Son. In your name we pray. Amen.*

By Peggy Dorton

### MISSION TRIP NEWS

*Red Bird Mission Trip – August 17 to August 23*

The participants of the Summer Mission Trip to Red Bird Mission will be busy raising funds for this trip. We will raise \$2,000 to fund this August 2007 mission. We are asking your help in reaching this goal and are providing some ways in which you can be involved.

1. Pray for the people of the Appalachian Mountains and for those who will be traveling to minister to them and help meet their needs.
2. Donate unused household items to be sold at the Flea Market to help fund this trip. The first Flea Market is planned for May 17. We are in need of donated items.
3. Donate your time and/or talents to raising funds through volunteering to help at a Flea Market or by providing baked goods for the Flea Market. The mission Team will run the concession stand on May 24. We are requesting baked goods for our bake sale that day.
4. Donate money to the Mission efforts of Cokesbury by placing money into the offering plate designated to Missions.

### THANK YOU!

The Mission/Outreach Commission wants to thank all who contributed to the “love offering” at the pancake dinner. Together we were able to raise \$152.00 that will be taken to the clinic at Red Bird.

Thank You to the Cokesbury UMW for collecting medicinal and health care items for the Red Bird Mission Clinic.

### PRAYERS FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

The 22 missionaries listed below have been chosen for support by the Virginia Conference Board of Global Ministries. Please remember them daily in your prayers.

Brazil, Eluzinete Pereira Garcia; Cambodia, Clara Biswas; Chile, John Elmore; Democratic Republic of Congo, Poto Valentine Shutsha and Jacques Akasa Umembudi; Florida, Kim King Torres; Kentucky, Betsy and Chuck Jack; Liberia, Linda Howell Gray and James Gray; Marion, VA, Linda and Mark Stransky; Mississippi, Diane Wood; Roanoke, VA, Gail Stickler and Mary Ward; Rocky Mount, VA, Susan Putnam; Tennessee, Diantha and Steve Hodges; Tonga, Robert May; West Virginia, Judy Matheny; To be assigned- Elma Jocson

### 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>**

## *Faith and Fellowship*

*I pray that, according to the riches of God's glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:16-21*

The assembly of the followers of Christ, known as the church, can be a place where the fullness of God's power is at work in people's lives. The church can be a place where your faith is deepened and your spirituality grows as you are supported and encouraged by the fellowship of other Christians.

Do you want to be more connected to your family of faith? One way is to become a member of the church. The sense of commitment that comes from becoming a member of the church, as compared to attending church regularly, can make a difference in how you feel about your faith community.

I view becoming a member very similar to being adopted. Foster parents are very loving and caring people. They love the child that they are caring for. When a foster parent actually adopts a child, they do not love the child any more than they did prior to the adoption. They still care for and treat the child the same. However, the act of adoption has made all the difference in the life of the child. The child who has been adopted receives a strong message they are special and they are loved. And, perhaps most importantly, it says to them that they have a place in the family that they can never lose.

In the same way, becoming a member does not change how the pastor and others in the church will respond to you. But, it may make all the difference in your perception of being a member of our family of faith.

If you have been attending Cokesbury, but have never formally joined the church, I would encourage you to prayerfully consider joining the church. Let Cokesbury move beyond being your "foster family" of faith, to becoming your "adoptive family" of faith. After all, the Apostle Paul reminded us in Ephesians 1:5, "[God] destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ..."

If you have questions or wonder what "becoming a member" may involve, please call the church office and speak to Pastor Russ. Additionally, the church will be offering informative classes for people who wish to join. These will be one-hour sessions held on Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m. on **April 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>**. While the classes are not a requirement for joining the church, they are a good way to have your questions answered. They also provide you an opportunity learn more about what it means to live as a disciple of Christ, to be a United Methodist, and to grow in your commitment to your family of faith.

Fellowship and faith are an integral part of the life of the church. As you experience them more fully, you may just find the power of God at work in your life in an abundant way.

In God's grace, *Russ*

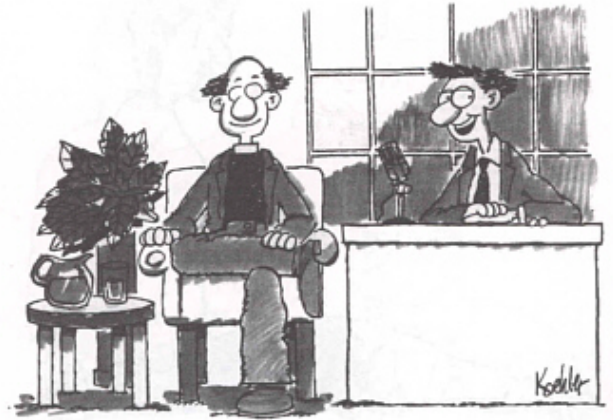
# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



- 2 Patrick Derr  
Andrew Clark
- 3 JJ Baiden-Amissah  
Elaine Copeland
- 5 Delores Schiele  
Bunny Wirick
- 6 Melissa Clark
- 8 Chad Tyrrell
- 9 Thomas Fabricius
- 10 Mark Fulton
- 12 Michael Obeng, Jr.
- 13 Tracy Wertz
- 15 Wayne Heatwole
- 16 Carl Armenstrout  
Victor Wertz
- 17 Louise Young  
Robert Tyrrell
- 20 Grace Bockes
- 22 Kimberly Smith
- 24 Matthew Ritenour
- 25 Michael Cotter
- 26 Leanne Gribik
- 28 Tony O'Brien  
Bessie Sesay  
Shauna Bohnet
- 29 Jean Durham
- 30 Alex Villanueva

# A p r i l

- 4 Judy and Mac McCain
- 7 Bunny and Bob Mahar
- 8 Kimberly and Lin Smith
- 17 Suzette and Mark Fulton
- 22 Donna and Doug Sapp
- 30 Robin and Joe BeMiller



"Coming up next, the deacons will receive this morning's offering and then, stay for our feature presentation—the sermon. Don't go away!"

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## Pot Luck & Praise !!

Do you love good food?  
Do you love to sing praises to the Lord?  
If so, we have a deal for you!  
Come join your brothers and sisters on  
Saturday – April 12 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for  
good food and a song fest for our Lord and  
Savior.

We would like to thank all our friends at Cokesbury for the many kind expressions of sympathy ~ cards, prayers, phone calls, flowers ~ upon the death of my mother. It is so comforting to know that our church family is always there when needed, especially during a time of grief.

We love all of you!,  
*Mary Jane and Harry Fizer*

# Money Matters

By Mary Seltzer, Treasurer

The table below shows Cokesbury's financial picture as of February 29, 2008.  
2008 Funded Annual Budget = \$238,944

Month	Month-to-Date		Year-to-Date Income			Year-to-Date Expenses	
	Required to meet the Budget	Income Received	Required to meet the Budget	Income Received	Percentage of the Budget Funded	Actual Expenses	Income to Expenses
January	\$18,380	\$13,269	\$18,380	\$13,269	72%	\$16,667	80%
February	\$18,380	\$15,478	\$36,760	\$28,697	78%	\$33,720	85%
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 February 29th, we have paid back \$25,748 toward our \$28,638 debt, leaving a balance of \$2890.\*\*

## United Methodist Women Update

By Gayle Urban, UMW Secretary

Thank you to all of the congregation who participated in this year's UMW candle burning program. Money given goes to UMW mission work, transforming lives and extending God's love in many ways around the world.

Cokesbury UMW is collecting items for 2 mission projects: Red Bird Mission in KY (where Cokesbury mission team served, '07); Mattaponi Healing Eagle Clinic in VA (clinic staffed by volunteer doctors and nurses who serve needs of Native Americans on Mattaponi Reservation, near Rappahannock, VA). We have small "shopping lists" of items needed; contact Gayle Urban for a list.

May 11: UMW will assist with the Mother's Day service, led by Pastor Russ.

May 17-18: Conference UMW Spiritual Life Retreat at Blackstone, VA; cost is \$69.05 for lodging and meals. All women of the church are welcome; we will sign up at our April 14 meeting, so registrations can be mailed together. The retreat has music, inspirational speakers,

small groups, quiet time, books, a relaxing and scenic setting...this year's theme: "Listening to God." If you plan to attend, or want more information, contact Mary Wright or Donna Sapp. We will carpool or take the van to Blackstone for the retreat.

The Colonnade Staff

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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.

<b>APRIL 2008</b>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Family Care Mtg 7:00 Missions & Outreach Mtg	<b>2</b> 7:30 Choir	<b>3</b> 7:00 Disciple 3 7:30 COGP	<b>4</b> 7:30 COGP	<b>5</b> 6:00-2:00 Flea Market (Admin Council) 10:00 Recovery, Inc. 3:00- Wedding COGP Reserved
<b>6</b> 8:30/11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 New Members Class 12:15 Helping Hands Meeting/Potluck 1:30-5:00 COGP	<b>7</b> 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Prayer Group 7-9:30 Choraliers	<b>8</b> 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Finance Mtg	<b>9</b> 7:30 Choir	<b>1</b> 7:00 Disciple 3 7:00-9:30 COGP	<b>1</b> 7:30 COGP	<b>2</b> 6:00-2:00 Flea Market (UMW) 10:00 Recovery Inc. 6:00 Potluck & Praise 7:30-9:30 COGP Sanctuary
<b>1</b> 8:30/11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 New Members Class 9:45 Trustees Mtg 1:30-5:00 COGP 5:30 UMY	<b>4</b> <b>1</b> 1:00 Ruth Circle <b>6</b> 6:00 Handbells <b>7</b> 7:00 Prayer Group <b>9</b> 7-9:30 Choraliers <b>7</b> 7:30 UMM/UMW Meeting	<b>1</b> 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Admin Council	<b>1</b> 7:30 Choir	<b>1</b> 7:00 Disciple 3 7:00-9:30 COGP	<b>1</b> HH Depart for Lancaster, PA 7:00-9:30 COGP	<b>1</b> 6:00-2:00 Flea Market (Education/VBS) 10:00 Recovery, Inc. HH return from Lancaster, PA
<b>2</b> 8:30/11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 New Members Class 9:45 Worship Committee 1:30-5:00 COGP 5:30 UMY	<b>1</b> <b>2</b> 6:00 Handbells <b>7</b> 7:00 Prayer Group <b>9</b> 7-9:30 Choraliers	<b>2</b> 6:30 Girl Scouts	<b>2</b> 7:30 Choir	<b>2</b> 7:00 Disciple 3 7:00-9:30 COGP	<b>2</b> 7:00-9:30 COGP	<b>2</b> 6:00-2:00 Flea Market (Founders Day Comte) 10:00 Recovery Inc.
<b>2</b> 8:30/11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Endowment Comte 1:30-5:00 COGP 5:30 UMY <b>Receiving New Members</b>	<b>8</b> <b>2</b> 6:00 Handbells <b>7</b> 7:00 Prayer Group <b>9</b> 7-9:30 Choraliers	<b>2</b> 6:30 Girl Scouts	<b>3</b> 7:30 Choir	<b>3</b> 6:30 Disciple 3 7:00-9:30 COGP		

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

## **MEMBERSHIP CLASS**

Pastor Russ will teach a three-week class on United Methodist beliefs and sacraments. If you are interested in attending the class as a current member or with the possibility of becoming a member of Cokesbury, please call the church office at 704-494-5400. It is an interesting learning experience for those who are already members, as well as those who wish to join our church family. Classes will be held at 9:45 a.m. on Sundays, April 6, 13, and 20.

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