



The Colonnade

Cokesbury United Methodist Church
14806 Blackburn Road, Woodbridge, VA

January 2006
Volume 45, No. 1

Special Thanks

Walter Blair - Chairman, Finance Committee

Thanks to everyone who turned out to help make Cokesbury's Annual Ham Dinner one of the best ever!

To the members of the Finance Committee for their continued dedication and hard work, to Linda Crawford for unparalleled agility at pie cutting and youth corralling, to the Youth who did another **SPECTACULAR** job keeping the food & drinks flowing and adding their special zip to the evening, and, of course, to the diners, who provided the fun and fellowship.

Thanks to you all the 2-hour dinner provided over 400 much needed dollars to the church's Operations and Ministry fund.

Did Someone Say Marriage?

In honor of the marriage between Pastor Carl Ennis and Linda Crawford, you are invited to attend a celebration reception in the home of Marsha and Mike Eland at 4610 Moss Point Pl. Woodbridge, VA. The reception will be an open-house and you can come at any time between the hours of 2:00pm and 4:00pm on the afternoon of Saturday, January 14, 2006.

Note: Carl and Linda ask that you bring your blessings, but no gifts please.



Annual Spaghetti Dinner
Saturday, March 11th
5:00pm-7:00pm

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

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

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>

New Year, New Hope

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a *new birth* into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 Peter 1:3-5

When people speak of a new year there is usually a sense of excitement. They express hopefulness for the future. Many express an expectation that the new will be better than the old. Many even express a desire to start over. And certainly the whole concept of a new year's resolution speaks of our desire to live differently, to do things better, in the upcoming year.

So, in many ways, the expectations and feelings that we attach to a new year are very much in keeping with our Christian faith. Having just experienced the Advent and Christmas seasons, the Christian understands the concept of hopeful expectancy. Of course ours is not just a hope that by chance the new year will somehow be better than the last. Our hope and expectancy is based upon the promise that our Savior, Jesus Christ, will come into our world in surprising and powerful ways surrounded in God's glory.

In addition to our great expectation for the return of Christ, we have also been given a very wonderful gift for the here and now. Through repentance and forgiveness, and through faith in Jesus, we have been given a new birth. Through our faith in Christ as our Savior, we have been given a new life by God. Scripture uses images of being set free, loosened from bonds that bind us to sin and death, and of exiles being able to return home to a God that loves us.

Moreover, rather than having to rely on our own resolution to do better, as a born again child of God we have the Holy Spirit indwelling within us. That means that we have a sure and present comfort in times of need, we have an inner strength to face the trials of life, and we have a trustworthy guide and counselor for living in this new life that has been given to us.

So, in this new year, it is good for us to wish one another a happy new year, for we have every reason to look forward to the future – one lived in God's grace and love.

Forever in God's grace, *Russ*

It has been a true blessing to be serving as your pastor at Cokesbury. My wife Gayle and I especially want to thank all of you for your generous and kind financial Christmas gift that we received from the congregation, as well as the many cards, food-stuff, and personal gifts that we received during this Christmas season. Thank you, very much.

All are welcome!
Come and learn about
"Discovering the fingerprint
of God in our lives!"

**Pastor Russ will lead
a seminar on
the Means of Grace**

When: Saturday, Jan. 21

Where: Fellowship Hall

Breakfast: 8:15 a.m. It's free!

Seminar: 9 to 11:30 a.m.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



- 2 Oless Gherke
Mark Young
JJ Baiden-Amissah
- 4 Jacqueline Elliott
- 5 Terence Quaye
- 6 Doreen Johnson
Naomi Shaw
Tanya Vance
- 7 Mark Bailey
- 8 Pamela Metzger
- 9 Melanie Irby
- 11 Rita Johnson
- 12 Eileen Moore
Kathryn Nelson
- 14 Joseph Elliott
- 15 Nancy Mowrey
Laura Ash
Derek DeRose
Zainab Sesay
- 18 Roberta Deahl
Hunter Wertz
- 19 Glenda Lawson
Richard Derr
- 20 Katherine Rose
- 22 Diane Haggart
Beatrice Quartey
- 23 Victoria Rose
- 26 Heather Johnson
- 28 Doreen Addison
- 29 Jim Lawson
Brent Fortenberry
Eric BeMiller
- 30 Kimora Fabien

January

- 12 Naomi and James Shaw
- 13 Bunny and Glen Wirick
- 21 Donna and Roshier Bailey
- 30 Mary and Jack Jewell



It occurs to Rev. Billings in the middle of point #2 that point #3 misses the point entirely.

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Potluck and Praise

By Robin BeMiller

Mark **January 21**, from **6 p.m. to 8 p.m.** on your calendar!

Yes, Potluck and Praise will be back on the 3rd Saturday of January. Usually we have P&P on the 2nd Saturday, but have moved it to the 3rd Saturday, because of other functions during the normally scheduled weekend.

January 21st .. Let's Do It!!

Money Matters

By Walter Blair, Finance Committee

***The table below shows Cokesbury's financial picture as of December 25, 2005.**

2005 Annual Budget = \$212,764

Month	Month-to-Date		Year-to-Date			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	\$16,572	\$13,062	\$16,572	\$13,062	78.8%	\$15,954	81.9%
February	\$17,572	\$15,616	\$34,144	\$28,679	84.0%	\$32,367	88.6%
March	\$18,672	\$13,406	\$52,516	\$42,084	80.1%	\$48,905	86.1%
April	\$18,072	\$14,482	\$70,888	\$56,566	79.8%	\$65,267	86.7%
May	\$22,572	\$18,626	\$93,460	\$75,840	81.1%	\$82,360	92.1%
June	\$14,672	\$16,115	\$108,132	\$91,956	85.0%	\$102,679	89.6%
July	\$13,572	\$16,656	\$121,704	\$108,612	89.2%	\$123,790	87.7%
August	\$19,572	\$14,172	\$141,276	\$122,784	86.9%	\$142,561	86.1%
September	\$20,172	\$14,235	\$161,448	\$137,512	85.2%	\$159,834	86.0%
October	\$17,072	\$20,376	\$178,520	\$157,888	88.4%	\$175,392	90.0%
November	\$16,572	\$15,019	\$195,092	\$172,907	88.6%	\$188,692	91.6%
December*	\$17,672	\$18,323	\$212,764	\$191,229	89.9%	N/A	N/A

- **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 to expenses received.



The Colonnade Staff

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

Thanks ...

Olga Bruce-Fraser wishes to express her heart felt thanks to all those Christian Brothers and Sisters who have prayed for her during her knee surgery and start of recovery. She loves you all **deeply** and looks forward to returning to Cokesbury as the Lord leads her.

And ...

Mary Jane Fizer wishes to thank everyone for the most generous gift given to her by members of the Cokesbury community for Christmas. Mary Jane would also like you to know that the family we helped during the holidays was most appreciative. Thank You, Cokesbury!!

Cokesbury - January 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30&11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 1:30-5:00 COGP	2 Holiday Church Ofc. Closed 10:30-8 Fell. Hall Resv./Edmonds	3 7:00 Family Care	4 7:00 Book Club 7:30 Choir Reh.	5 7-9:30 COGP	6 7-9:30 COGP	7 8:30-1:00 Dist. Ldrshp. Training 10-12 Recovery Inc. 10-12 Quilting
8 8:30&11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Trustees Mtg. 12:15 H.H. Potluck 1:30-5:00 COGP 6:00 UMYF	9 6:00 Handbell Reh. 7:00 Prayer Group 7:30 UMM/LMW	10 7:00 Finance Cm.	11 7:30 Choir Reh.	12 7-9:30 COGP	13 7-9:30 COGP	14 10-12 Recovery/Inc. 10-12 Quilting 2-4 Ennis/Crawford Reception at Eland home.
15 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 1:30-5:00 COGP 4:30 CMG 6:00 UMYF	16 Holiday Church ofc. Closed 6:00 Handbell Reh. 7:00 Prayer Group 7-9:30 Choralers	17 7:00 Admin Council	18 7:30 Choir Reh.	19 7-9:30 COGP	20 7-9:30 COGP	21 8-12 Breakfast & Means of Grace Bible Study 10-12 Recovery Inc 6:00 Potluck&Praise
22 8:30&11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 12:15 Worship Cm. 1:30-5 - COGP 4:00 CMG; 6:00 UMYF	23 6:00 Handbell Reh. 7:00 Prayer Group 7-9:30 Choralers	24 7:00 Mission/Outreach Cm.	25 7:30 Choir Reh.	26 7-9:30 COGP	27 7-9:30 COGP	28 10-12 Recovery Inc. 10-12 Quilting
29 10:00 Worship Svc. 11:15 Chili Cook-off 1:30-5:00 COGP 4:00 CMG 6:00 UMYF	30 6:00 Handbell Reh. 7:00 Prayer Group 7-9:30 Choralers	31				

Fruit Stand To Close Early

By Jack Jewell, United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men wish to thank you for your business during the nearly 30 years that we have been offering these great citrus products fresh from the groves in Florida.

There are some complications that you need to be made aware of. Due to the droughts, floods and hurricanes that have affected the groves recently and the high cost of fuel, there have been some changes made in the way we receive our fruit. We now must pay a fuel surcharge and the deliveries must be 100 cases or more. Of course, the basic price of fruit has escalated as well.

Regrettably, we cannot continue past December 2005. We are going to try some better advertising for 2006 and we hope that prices and surcharges will abate next year and we can continue to supply you with fresh fruit, thru March 2007, as we have done in the past.

Thanks again for your support and we should hope for a better fruit season next year.

Happy New Year From The UMM

Reserved for Calendar
Cokesbury United Methodist
Church
14806 Blackburn Road
Woodbridge, VA 22191

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