



The Colonnade

Cokesbury United Methodist Church
14806 Blackburn Road, Woodbridge, VA

June 2006
Volume 45, No. 6

Vacation Bible School – 2006!

Adventures of the Treasure Seekers – Exploring God's Promises

By Tricia Kearns, Vacation Bible School Director

Sign up now for an exciting week of discovery, as we join an archeological dig and search for the treasure in God's Word! Vacation Bible School will be held **Sunday, July 16th through Friday, July 21st from 6:00-8:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.** Dinner will be served each night at 6:00 pm, followed by an hour and a half of lessons, music and crafts. The week will end with a VBS picnic Friday night. All ages are encouraged to attend – adults too! Adult study will be led by Pastor Russ from 6:30-8:00 pm each evening while the children are participating in VBS. Nursery will also be provided for children age 4 and under.

We are very excited about this year's VBS, and to make it truly successful, we need lots of volunteers!! A sign up sheet will be placed in the narthex – we need teachers for all age groups, kitchen help every evening, chief cooks and bottle washers, and transportation for the entire week. If you are interested in giving of your time, please sign up or call Tricia Kearns at 703-730-7722, or by email at triciakearns@comcast.net. You can also contact Melissa Clark at 703-491-8659.

Thank you and we'll see you this summer!!



DON'T FORGET ... KIDS FEST! SATURDAY - JUNE 10

The Family Care Committee will be hosting the **Sixth Annual Kids Fest** on Saturday, June 10, 2006. The Family Care Committee is currently seeking volunteers to help make this another fun-filled event. There will be craft tables, face painting, games and many other activities for the kids to participate in. We have also scheduled representatives from the Prince William County Fire and Rescue, Sheriff's Department, Police Department and ATF to participate. This is a Free Event open to the Community and followed by a picnic. If you are interested in helping out with Kids Fest, a signup sheet will be located in the Narthex or contact Cheryl Pettitt (703) 590-2495 (clpetitt@comcast.net) or Diane Haggart (703) 491-3645 (Sissy3645@aol.com).

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>

A Heavenly Place

God put this power to work in Christ when he raised {Jesus} from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named; not only in this age but also in the age to come. And {God} has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is {Christ's} body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 1: 20-23

From time to time, I am asked about heaven. I never quite feel qualified to answer questions on this topic. In part, because I am not one who dwells much on heaven and what it might be like. I certainly accept that one of the main tenets of our faith is that through Jesus Christ we have everlasting life. I believe that there is a heaven, and that our citizenship in that heavenly kingdom comes as a gift of grace through our faith in Jesus Christ. Yet, I find that I do not focus on this. I tend in my day-to-day ministry to deal more with how we are to live in God's kingdom on earth, rather than God's kingdom in heaven.

However, this year as I prepared for the Ascension of the Lord worship service, that we celebrated on May 25th, followed closely by our Memorial Day service on May 28th, I found myself thinking about the kingdom of heaven.

It is Christ's ascension into heaven, forty days after his resurrection from the grave, that declares unequivocally that Jesus is the Son of God, and he now sits upon the throne of God. Jesus, as the King of kings and Lord of lords, reigns over God's kingdom on heaven and on earth.

Therefore, Christ's ascension speaks to us of the identity of Christ. If God is willing to give to Jesus all authority on heaven and on earth, then truly Jesus Christ must be one with God.

Christ's ascension also clarifies for us our own expectation of a heavenly homecoming and provides us hope for the future. In John 14:1-4, Jesus declares:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going."

Finally, Memorial Day caused me to reflect upon those who gave their life in service of their country. Why would someone be willing to do such a thing? I believe that our willingness to fight against the evil and darkness of this world would not be so strong if it weren't for the promise of the kingdom of heaven. Knowing that there is something more to life than merely our earthly existence provides a person with the incentive to follow in the example of Christ and to take a stand against evil and oppression.

So, let us live our lives, not only with a heavenly hope, but also with an earthly purpose. Let our life live out the prayer, "your kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

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 Bab 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



- 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



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Please Join Us in Saying Farewell

There will be a reception for Marsha Eland on 4 June after the 11:00 service. This will offer the congregation and friends an opportunity to wish Marsha and Mike a fond farewell before they leave for South Carolina.



"And this petition requests changing the term 'sinner' to 'person who is morally challenged.'"

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Money Matters

By Walter Blair, Finance Committee

***The table below shows Cokesbury's financial picture as of May 14, 2006.**

2006 Annual Budget = \$212,107

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	\$14,130	\$16,510	\$14,130	\$16,510	128.5%	\$13,416	123.1%
February	\$14,130	\$14,167	\$28,260	\$30,677	108.6%	\$27,214	112.7%
March	\$19,381	\$16,148	\$47,641	\$46,825	98.3%	\$40,425	115.8%
April	\$19,531	\$18,231	\$67,172	\$65,056	96.9%	\$65,056	100.0%
May*	\$21,519	\$10,177	\$77,932	\$75,234	96.5%	\$67,635	111.2%
June	\$17,230						
July	\$17,230						
August	\$17,230						
September	\$22,381						
October	\$20,881						
November	\$14,230						
December*	\$14,234						

****** As of May 14, we have paid back \$5,561 toward our \$28,638 debt ******

- **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.

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.

Get Out Of Debt

As of May 14

we have paid back to ourselves

\$5,561

toward our debt of

\$28,638!

That is

19.42%

Of the total!

Did you miss your Café Latte?

I didn't miss my pizza!

Thanks to each of you for all you do!

Mission/Outreach News

Submitted by Robin BeMiller

LOCAL MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Volunteers needed to prepare and serve dinner at "The Lord's Table"

What: Dinner for homeless and low income residents of Prince William County

When: Thursday June 29, 2006

Start set-up for food service at 6:30 pm

Short Worship Service at 7:30 pm

Where: St. Paul's UMC, Woodbridge

Approximately 6 volunteers are needed to prepare light menu items, serve the food and fellowship with the men and women who rely upon "The Lord's Table" for their sustenance. God calls us to be in fellowship with the Least and the Lost. What a wonderful way to share God's love to those hurting in our own community.

MISSION MINUTE

"And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God." Romans 8:27

"Miss Margaret" is a mean old woman. She has few friends, and when I spent time with her, she always tries to pay me. I tell her I don't need to be paid, and I joke that I am earning stars for my crown. Miss Margaret lived in a cabin without plumbing. One day we found her on the floor of her cabin. She had suffered a series of strokes. Miss Margaret sold her cabin and truck and went to live with relatives in North Carolina, but she returned home to Willow Alaska, more estranged than ever from her family. She moved into a hotel

Then she had another stroke and was hospitalized three weeks. Uncooperative with medical staff, she just wanted to go home. I was her main visitor. I got her mail and paid her bills. I refused the \$40 she offered for helping her, so she said to give the money to the church. When I told her it would go toward camp scholarships, she grumbled, "You and your children." Miss Margaret does not like children.

Ignoring advice about assisted living, Miss Margaret checked herself out of the hospital against doctors' orders and went to live with family members in California. That lasted about a week. Now residing in an assisted living home, Margaret is very unhappy. I continue to visit her, get her mail, pay her bills and earn stars in my crown. What painful stars!

When I'm not trying to help Miss Margaret, I coordinate an outreach ministry of the Willow [Alaska] United Methodist Church—distributing food, clothing and household items and assisting with heating fuel, transportation and home repair. But Miss Margaret stays on my mind.

I love that mean old woman. In some ways, it is my job to help her, but the reality is it's my calling to help her and my joy to serve. Your gifts through the Advance for Christ and His Church enable me to serve. Thank You!

Deaconess motto: What do I wish? I wish to serve. Whom do I serve? The Lord is his poor and needy ones. And what is my reward? I do not serve either for reward or for thanks, but out of gratitude and love. My reward is that I may do this. Amen.

--Fran Lynch, deaconess, Willow, Anvik, Grayling Church and Community Ministry, Alaska Missionary Conference



By Ann Miller Mooney

Have you checked out the church library? It's been moved to room 6, right next door to its previous location.

Among the authors whose books are in the library is Billy Graham. *Peace With God*, a classic, was described by one reviewer as "medicine for the ones who are constantly searching for truths in life." We also have copies of many of his other books including *Find Freedom* and *Angels: God's Secret Agents*, as well as his 1997 autobiography, *Just As I Am*, which he wrote at age 78. He writes about his boyhood in North Carolina, his evangelistic trips and revivals, and his famous Crusades. There are numerous photographs.

In addition, we have a copy of *The Quest for Serenity*, written by his wife, Ruth Bell Graham.

Also, the library has books by members of the Billy Graham Crusade team—*Then Sings My Soul* by George Beverly Shea and *Count It All Joy* by Grady Wilson.

RISING HOPE

By Bunny Mahar

Helping Hands wants to thank everyone in the congregation who provided food staples for our recent trip to Rising Hope. We enjoyed a presentation by Rev. Kincannon and a tour of the facility. We were overcome with all the

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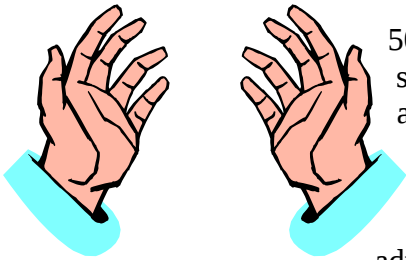
wonderful things that happen inside that building. They are rich in the Lord's blessing and offer so many services to the poor and homeless. In addition to providing food for the soul, they provide food and clothing to those in need, as well as counseling and interview skills. A list of volunteer needs was provided and we would like to share some of it here.

- Teachers for Adult Bible Study group on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:30 pm and Sunday mornings from 9:30 -10:45 am for six week sessions
- Drivers to pick up residents at Kennedy Shelter at 9:00 or 9:15 am on Sundays to bring to Adult Bible Study and Sunday worship celebration (Rising Hope's van can be used)
- Teacher's assistant to help with pre-school program on Wednesdays from 1:30 - 3:00 pm (while mothers are getting food from Milk and Honey Food Ministry)
- Aide to assist Girls Club when additional adult is needed to go on special outings or when substitute is needed, Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 - 5:30 pm or weekends
- Drivers to pick up food at Giant in Kingstowne on 4th and 5th Saturdays of the month no later than 9:30 am
- Carriers who can help unload and put away food every Saturday of the month from 11 :00 am -12:00 noon
- Drivers to substitute, as needed, for food pick-ups on Wednesday mornings and for food deliveries on Wednesday afternoons
- Prayer warriors to pray with constituents when they receive food from Milk and Honey
- Food Ministry on Wednesdays from 1 :30 - 4:00 pm and Thursdays from 4:00 -8:00 pm
Report generator to enter names for food list and tally number of recipients for required reports on Tuesdays

If you can help in anyway, your assistance would be a great help to those who give up so much of their time to make this mission the masterpiece it is. It has become the hallmark for other similar programs.

HELPING HANDS

By Bunny Mahar



If you are over 50 or retired, you surely know you are eligible to join with the Helping Hands – the older adult’s ministry here at Cokesbury. These “most experienced cooks in the church” provide a potluck luncheon with their meetings on the first Sunday of each month after the second worship service.

It has been a very busy year so far – starting out with a spaghetti supper and game night along with the UMYF. It was so much fun, in fact, that we are planning to do it again. We then nourished the congregation with our wonderful soups in February, attended an Easter pageant in Springfield and made a field trip to Rising Hope, carrying along a lot of food provided by the congregation. Still ahead we have planned a cookout, a trip to the theater, an ice cream social, a visit to the Apple Harvest Festival in Winchester, a train ride, miniature golf, game nights and more.

We serve by sharing the load at the flea market on at least two occasions each year. We also make donations to special needs in the church and plan to purchase more chairs for the fellowship hall. Our funds find their way to the Salvation Army, All God’s Children Camp, hurricane victims, and others. Each year we sponsor Operation Christmas Child and (only with the congregation’s help) provide many gift boxes to children all over the world.

Our next meeting will be on the **second** Sunday, June 11th (due to a conflict) and will be a cookout in Bob and Bunny Mahar’s backyard. If you would like to join us, please do. If you need directions, give us a call (703-494-1821).

SHOE BOXES

By Bunny Mahar

Everybody got new shoes for Easter; everybody will get new sandals for summer. Helping Hands is collecting shoe boxes to wrap and get ready for Operation Christmas Child. It takes a lot of time and effort to get together enough boxes for everybody here at Cokesbury who so generously fill them up. If you have any empty shoeboxes with separate lids or will purchase shoes anytime before November, please contribute the boxes to our Christmas Child project. Boxes are wrapped once each week, beginning in September, until the middle of November when the filled boxes are delivered to the distribution point. Thanks in advance for your help.



Parable of the Dead Church

A person once called a pastor to say he wanted to join the church. But, he went on to explain that he didn’t want to worship every week, study the Bible, visit the sick, witness to non-Christians, or serve as a leader or teacher.

The pastor commended him for his desire to join, but told him the church he sought was located in another section of town. The man took the directions and hung up.

When he arrived at the church, the man came face to face with the logical result of his own apathetic attitude. There stood an abandoned church building, boarded up and ready for demolition.



Ten Commandments for a Happy Church

1. Speak to people. Speak to everyone, especially to those whom you don't know. There is nothing quite so nice as a cheerful word of greeting.
2. Smile at people. It takes 72 muscles to frown and only 14 to smile. Your smile is one of your finest assets. Use It! It doesn't cost a thing!!
3. Call people by name. The sweetest music to any person's ears is the sound of his or her own name. If you don't know the person's name, introduce yourself and likely the person will respond with his or her name.
4. Be friendly and helpful. If you want friends, learn to be a friend. Everyone needs them. No one has too many.
5. Be cordial. Try to speak and act as if everything you do is a genuine pleasure.
6. Be genuinely interested in people. Try to like everybody and everybody will like you. Do not limit yourself to a few friends when there are so many likable people about you.
7. Be generous with praise. And be just as sparing with criticism.
8. Be considerate of the feelings of others. Usually, there are three sides to a controversy: yours, the other person's, and the right one. Try to see them all.
9. Be alert to give service. What we do for others counts most in life. Try giving yourself away. It's fun!
10. Develop a sense of humor. To this good sense of humor, add a generous dose of patience and a dash of humility. Then get ready to receive many blessings. They're sure to come!

Cokesbury UMC - June 2006						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*Don't Forget the Father's Day Brunch. June 18 at 9:45 a.m. Everyone Invited!	* <u>Coming Up:</u> Church-Wide Yard Sale August 12. Save your items to donate!	United Methodist Annual Conference June 11-14		1 7:00 Disciple 7-9:30 COGP	2 7-9:30 COGP	3 7:00 Flea Mkt. 10-12 Recov. Inc.
4 8:30&11:00 Worship 9:45 S.S./Disciple 1:30-5 COGP 4:30 CMG 5:30 UMY	5 6:00 Handbell Reh. 7:00 Prayer Group	6 10 Disciple 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Family Care	7 7:30 Choir Reh. 7:30 Book Club	8 7:00 Disciple 7-9:30 COGP	9 7-9:30 COGP	10 10-2 Kids Fest
11 8:30&11:00 Worship 9:45 S.S./Disciple 1:00 H.H. Picnic 1:30-5 COGP 4:30 CMG/5:30 UMY	12 6:00 Handbell Reh. 7:00 Prayer Group 7:30 UMM/UMW	13 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Finance Comm.	14 7:30 Choir Reh.	15 7:00 Disciple 7-9:30 COGP	16 7-9:30 COGP	17 7 - Flea Market 10-12 Recov. Inc. HH to Shenandoah Univ.
18 <u>Father's Day</u> 8:30&11:00 Worship 9:45 Brunch 1:30-5 COGP 4:30 CMG/5:30 UMY	19 6:00 Handbell Reh. 7:00 Prayer Group	20 10 Disciple 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Admin. Council	21 7:30 Choir Reh.	22 7:00 Disciple 7-9:30 COGP	23 7-9:30 COGP	24 7 - Flea Market 10-12 Recov. Inc. 6 - Potluck & Praise
25 8:30& 11:00 Worship 9:45 S.S./ Disciple 1:30-5 COGP 4:30 CMG 5:30 UMY	26 6:00 Handbell Reh. 7:00 Prayer Group	27 10 Disciple	28 7:30 Choir Reh.	29 7:00 Disciple 7-9:30 COGP	30 7-9:30 COGP	

Love to eat?
Love to sing?
Love to fellowship?
Love to lift up praises to our Lord?

Well, if so, I think we have just the thing for YOU!
Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 24 for a little
Pot Luck & Praise.

If you have the time, whip up a small dish of something or other to share with others, then at 6:00 p.m. scoot on down to your local church (Cokesbury, of course) and join in on all of the above. Don't cook and you're broke, you say? No problem, come on down anyway, because it sounds like you could use a little spiritual up-lifting and I have a sneaky suspicion that there will be plenty of food. You'll be on your way back home by 8:00 p.m.

Ok, I'm trying to be patient! **GO** mark that calendar.

Cokesbury United Methodist Church
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Woodbridge, VA 22191

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