



The Colonnade

Cokesbury United Methodist Church
14806 Blackburn Road, Woodbridge, VA

April 2007
Volume 46, No. 4

Cokesbury UMC to Participate in Prince William County “Worship Watch Program”.

By Joe BeMiller

The Missions committee is working together with the Prince William County Police Department to bring a safe environment to churches throughout Prince William County.

A church security survey was conducted at our church on March 16th, by the Police department, and a security report was presented to the Disaster Response Coordinator. Recommendations in the report were offered on ways to make our church a safer place to worship. Signs will be placed at the entrances of our church showing the general public that we are working together with the police department to thwart crime.

The Disaster Response Coordinator of Cokesbury UMC will be on the Worship Watch board of Prince William County helping to make policies and guidelines for all places of worship in our county. The Prince William County Police are offering presentations to churches and committees. These presentations are crime prevention based and there are many topics.

For more information on the “Worship Watch” program, contact Joe BeMiller.



BLOOD DRIVE

By Doug Phelps

Cokesbury and St. Paul are going to combine their efforts in the Red Cross Bloodmobile Program. Blood is urgently needed and in very short supply. Cokesbury blood donors are encouraged to participate in giving blood at St. Paul on Friday, April 27, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cokesbury will sponsor the next Bloodmobile drive on November 20 and will be assisted by St. Paul.

For appointments, call Chris Casement at 703-897-9125.

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>

Easter Shalom

[The source of this article comes from the writings of Dominican friar Brian J. Pierce.]

One of the most moving scenes in the Gospel of John is Jesus' resurrection appearance to the disciples on the evening of the first Easter. The community of believers is still together, though barely — hanging on by a thread. Fear has seized them, paralyzed them. There is no air in the room. Reading the text, one gets the sense that the disciples are suffocating from fear and the anticipation that they too may face persecution and death. No one is speaking; the Word has died.

Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you" After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit..." (John 20:19–22)

The disciples take a deep breath, inhaling the gift of the Spirit, and they immediately remember — from deep within their collective consciousness — the creative breath that Adam inhaled "in the beginning." (Genesis 2:7) Like the shalom that was born from the dark, watery chaos of their beginnings as a people, it is the risen Christ this time who shares the breath of God's shalom with the community of disciples. It is the first day of the week — a new beginning. Life is born out of chaos and death. The wisdom of the ancestors has again proven to be true:

[There is] a time to weep and a time to laugh;... a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. (Ecclesiastes 3:4–8)

Jesus' breath, his life-giving Spirit, inaugurates a new time, a new creation — a time to plant and laugh and dance and love, a time for the suffocating silence to break into joyful proclamation and praise. It is a renewal of their hope in God's reign of peace. Shalom becomes a reality when a community comes back to life in the Spirit, when we exhale our fear and inhale the life-giving breath of God. Shalom is real, sings the psalmist, when God's breath recreates us, renewing the face of the earth. (Psalm 104:30)

Jesus breathes out the Holy Spirit, and along with it, his gift of peace. The community of disciples awakens from its deadly paralysis and rediscovers the shalom of God — the spiritual and communal harmony that is the gift of the risen Christ. The story does not end there, though. Along with the life-giving breath of the Spirit, Jesus sends the humbled disciples out to radiate that very same creative peace to the world, to announce the reign of God. "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Shalom is both gift and mission. Freed from the slavery of fear, the disciples are sent out to leave the footprints of God's peace everywhere they go.

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In this Easter season, I pray that each of us may feel the breath of God bringing peace into our lives, and emboldening us to serve Christ. May our service in Christ's name, bring the reign and peace of God more fully into our families, our church, our community, and our world. Amen.

God's grace be with you always,

Pastor Russ

The Cokesbury UMC Flea Market

A Short History and a Small Request

By Barbara Firth

On the April 16th we will celebrate our 17th year of running the Cokesbury UMC Flea Market! This year it will run through November 3rd.

In the late 1980's, the committees of Cokesbury United Methodist Church were looking for ways to compensate for needed contributions to complete their annual apportionments. After thoughtful consideration and prayer, Glenn Wirick suggested that Cokesbury start a weekly flea market. We had a beautiful parking lot and it was not normally used on Saturdays, especially in the morning.

After the Administrative Council approved it, Glenn was assigned the task of getting it up and running. After approval by Prince William County and the Prince William County Police, the first flea market was started in the middle of March, 1990. During the first flea market, Dennis Wissinger and Glenn sold coffee and donuts under the trees near the parking lot while it was snowing. There were approximately ten vendors at that first flea market.

Over the years it has grown to between 50 and 60 vendors per week and all the committees of Cokesbury have the chance to participate in running the food stand and the Flea Market Committee collects the vendors fees each weekend.

The flea market has brought in many different vendors. A few have become members of Cokesbury and many have made contributions to Cokesbury above and beyond the fee that they pay each week. Each Saturday, from April through the first Saturday in November the members of Cokesbury, the community, and the vendors get together for a time of fellowship and sharing ideas and wares. The money from the flea market has helped the general fund and the finances of each of the committees that participate.

Cokesbury's committees are faithful in their help with the food concessions during the flea market season. Many members serve on more than one committee, thus an overlap and sometimes, burn-out, occurs.

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER PROVIDING 4 HOURS
OF YOUR TIME, ANYTIME, DURING THE 30 WEEK FLEA
MARKET SEASON.

1. To man the concession stand

Or

2. To help with parking control

If you are led to consider a 4 hour shift any time during the 30 weeks, please call me at 703-491-7539. Your time will be greatly appreciated.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



- 2 Patrick Derr
Andrew Clark
- 3 JJ Baiden-Amissah
- 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
- 19 Denise Elliot
- 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 Ken Wood
Alex Villanueva

**A
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L**

- 1 Vera and Jerry Edmonds, Sr.
- 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



"I, too, was saved from a life of addictions.
I was hooked on phonics."

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Thanks to My Cokesbury Friends

I wish to thank everyone for the many cards, visits, and prayers from my Cokesbury friends that I received during my recent surgery and long recovery process. I am truly blessed to have such a wonderful church family.

Your Brother in Christ,

Joe Burnette

Mission/Outreach News

By Robin BeMiller

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.

A group of eight from Cokesbury is preparing for a trip to the Red Bird Mission in Beverly, Kentucky and we still have room for two more people. If you would like to join us on August 19 through August 25, please contact Robin BeMiller at (703) 494-0088.

In case you have never heard of Red Bird, we have provided a little bit about this mission below. Even more information can be found on their website at "www.rbmission.org".

The History of Red Bird Mission

Red Bird Mission was founded in 1921 in the southeastern corner of Kentucky to provide education and Christian evangelism ministries to residents of the area. Red Bird Mission was born in answer to the prayers of God-fearing people in the mountains of Southeastern Kentucky who prayed that someone would come and help them. The mission of Red Bird today is the same as 1921 - to bring Jesus Christ into every heart and to bring life abundant to all.

Ministries at Red Bird Mission include: the Red Bird Clinic, The Red Bird Mission School for grades K-12, Community Outreach through Clothing and Craft Ministries, The DeWall Senior Citizens Center and the Red Bird Elderly Housing Apartments. These missions receive help from the Work Camp Program where over 2,500 persons volunteer annually to support these missions.

Ways to support Cokesbury's Mission Team to Red Bird:

1. – Pray for Cokesbury to be the light of Christ shining in this world.

The Colonnade

2. – Pray for the Mission Team and those they are going to serve.

3. – As you "Spring Clean" donate any unwanted items to the Mission Team for use at the "Red Bird Mission Sales" to be held at the Flea Markets on May 12, June 2 and August 4.

†
Pot Luck
and
Praise!
April 21st

Come join us for some good grub, and after the food is gone, help us to praise our Beloved Lord Jesus with uplifting music.

Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The Colonnade Staff

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Church Office: 703-494-5400

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

Update from United Methodist Women

By Gayle Urban, UMW Secretary

There are many ways to participate in the UMW organization, and all women of the church are welcome! Cokesbury UMW officers Mary Wright, Norma Burnette, Gayle Urban, and Peggy Dorton, are always available if you need information.

- The annual UMW Spiritual Life Retreat * for women will be May 5-6, at Blackstone, VA. Cost for the meals and lodging for Saturday-Sunday, is \$67.50; we will leave early on Saturday morning, May 5 and come home Sunday afternoon. This is always a special time of spiritual nourishment, with women from around the conference. Theme is, "Windows to the Soul." There will be lots of good musical praise, small group sessions, quiet time, bookstore time, prayer labyrinth, ice cream social, communion, and more!

***Registration for the UMW Spiritual Life Retreat is needed soon; if you'd like to attend, plan to give your retreat application and payment of \$67.50 (made to VA Conference UMW) to treasurer Peggy Dorton at our meeting on April 9.**

- Monthly meeting: The April meeting of Cokesbury UMW will be at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, April 9. Gayle Urban leads the program, on "Candle burning." This program is a time to remember loved ones through a service in which we contribute money for each second that the candle burns; money goes to the UMW mission fund.
- Fundraiser: You can order knives and other kitchen items through the Rada cutlery catalogue, through UMW during the current fundraiser. Ask Mary Wright about a catalogue. These kitchen items make wonderful gifts!
- Donna Sapp and Peggy Dorton attended the Mini School of Mission in March, with other district UMW, and heard a meaningful program.

Contact UMW President Mary Wright (703-730-0448) for UMW information.

Breakfast & Egg Hunt

By Peggy Dorton

Mark your calendar for the Easter Bunny Breakfast and Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 7, 2007. The breakfast buffet will be held at 9:00 a.m. with the Easter Egg Hunt following at 10:00 a.m. The cost this year is \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children up to age 12.

This event is open to the community. Come join us for this fun filled event and bring your children, grandchildren and friends.

Be sure to bring your camera for some great pictures with the Easter Bunny. All children will receive a prize from the Easter Bunny.



Thank You!

By Peggy Dorton

A special thank you to all who have signed up to help the Family Care Committee by providing refreshments for the after service fellowship. Without your support this event would not be possible.

The Colonnade

A special thank you is also extended to Louise Young for her generous donation of bears for the Teddy Bear Ministry.



UMCOR PROJECT .. Help Needed

By Gayle Urban

Do you like to sew? United Methodist Women are putting together "School Kits" which will be taken to Annual Conference in June, where they will be part of a huge service project through UMCOR (United Methodist Commission on Relief).

We need volunteers who can sew tote bags, which we then will fill with the needed school supplies for children. **Specifics about the tote bags: "Prepare a 14 inch x 16 inch (finished size) durable cloth bag, with handles and a closure (such as Velcro, snap, or button)."**

If you can help with the sewing, or have durable material to donate, please contact Mary Wright. Our hope is to supply 100 bags or more, so we appreciate your help in making this possible!

APRIL 2007						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30/11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Lenten Study 12:15 HH Mtg/Potluck 1:30 COGP 5:30 UMY PALM SUNDAY	2 7:00 Prayer Group 7-8:15 Girl Scouts 7-9:30 Chordallers	3 10:00 Lenten Study 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Family Care	4 7:30 Choir 7:30 Book Club	5 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service 7-9:30 COGP MAUNDY THURSDAY	6 7-9:30 COGP GOOD FRIDAY	7 9:00 am Easter Bunny Breakfast/Egg Hunt 10-12 Recovery Inc. 6:00 pm - Midnight Prayer Vigil
8 4:00-6:00 am COGP 6:30 Sunrise Service 7:00 Continental Breakfast 8:30/11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Lenten Study 1:30-5:00 COGP EASTER SUNDAY	9 7:00 Prayer Group 7-9:30 Chordallers 7:30 UM Men/ UM Women Mtgs	10 10:00 Lenten Study 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Finance Mtg	11 6:30 Founders' Day Committee Mtg 7:30 Choir	12 7:00 Disciple II (Fellowship Hall) 7:00-9:30 COGP	13 Disciple II (Member's Home) 7-9:30 COGP	14 10-12 Recovery Inc. 7-11:00 pm Girl Scouts Babysitting
15 10:00 One Service/ Easter Cantata 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Trustees Meeting 1:30-5:00 COGP 5:30 UMY	16 7:00 Prayer Group 7-8:15 Girl Scouts 7-9:30 Chordallers	17 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Admin Council	18 7:30 Choir	19 7:00 Disciple II (Fellowship Hall) 7:00-9:30 COGP	20 7:00 Disciple II (Member's Home) 7:00-9:30 COGP	21 10:00 HH trip to USMC Museum 10-12 Recovery Inc. 6:00 Potluck & Praise
22 8:30/11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 12:15 SPRC Meeting 1:30-5:00 COGP 5:30 UMY	23 7:00 Prayer Group 7-9:30 Chordallers	24 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Mission & Outreach Mtg	25 7:30 Choir	26 7:00 Disciple II (Fellowship Hall) 7:00-9:30 COGP	27 7:00 Disciple II (Member's Home) 7:00-9:30 COGP	28 10-12 Recovery Inc.
29 FIFTH SUNDAY 10:00 ONE SERVICE 11:15 - Potluck 1:30-5:00 COGP 5:30 UMY	30 7:00 Prayer Group 7-9:30 Chordallers					

On Forgiveness:

Luke 6:35-38 (New International Version)

But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

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