



THE SPIRES

March 28 - April 3, 2010

Glorifying God through knowing Christ and making Him known

Community Gardens Possibility for FBSUMC!

We are excited that the leadership of our church has agreed to be a key community partner in the newly formed Greater Kingsport Community Garden Association! Our garden, located on the Bloomingdale Retreat Center site, will be open to church members and will have hunger relief efforts as its primary focus. The site will have individual (or family) plots, a "Children's Garden," and a plot set aside to raise produce solely for the hungry in our community. It is our goal to make this effort so successful that other churches will join us in fighting hunger in our community.

The subject of Community Gardens was presented last year at our church's "Abolishing Poverty in Appalachia" conference and was researched by the United Way of Greater Kingsport's Food Insecurity Task Force. It is our goal to have significant documented outcomes from our gardening program to present at this year's conference, scheduled for September. Community Gardens have been established throughout the US—especially over the past few years—as a response to a troubled economy and to help alleviate hunger. Community Gardens not only help supplement limited incomes, but also provide "community" and connection to other needed resources and support systems.

There are four objectives to our garden: 1) Give parishioners a place where they are welcome to garden, whatever their life situation; 2) Grow food for the community and individuals; 3) Set an ecologically sound and sustainable environmental example; and 4) Create a beautiful, welcoming and spiritually sustaining place that supports people's efforts to live in dignity, seek peace, and transform their lives.

While there is still much to be done in the next two months, a lot of work has already been done over the past year and a huge "THANKS" goes to the Master Gardeners of East Tennessee (especially our own Nancy Walker!), members of the Church & Society Committee, Rev. Jenkins, and Pat Turner. We will soon be establishing a "Garden Center" at church to provide detailed information about the program as well as providing educational hand outs, seed sources, and children's activity sheets. With Spring finally on its way, our gardens need to be planted soon!

Holston Conference UMW 36th Annual Spiritual Enrichment Experience

May 14-15, or 15-16, 2010, will be a wonderful time to get away from the stress of life and renew your mind, body and soul. We are so excited as Spring will be bursting forth at Lake Junaluska, offering walking trails and many lovely flowers. It's such a beautiful place—a place where one may experience not only personal blessing, but spiritual revitalization and challenge as well.

Yes, the Spiritual Enrichment Experience is on its way, so please mark your calendar today and complete the registration forms which are available on the website (www.holstonconferenceumw.com) or on the UMW bulletin board. Prepare now and make plans to participate in this year's exciting event at Lake Junaluska—May 14 and 15, or 15 and 16, 2010. This event has always been one of the favorite activities for Holston United Methodist women. You get to choose which session you attend—either Friday/Saturday or Saturday/Sunday. We have several women already registered from FBS, so carpooling to this event will be possible.

Rev. Catherine Nance will be the spiritual leader and communion celebrant. Music leader will be Nancy Love Owens, and Jean Osborne will serve as pianist. (See www.holstonconferenceumw.com for complete biographical information on these ladies!

If you register prior to April 28 the registration fee is only \$15 (\$20 late registration fee). Room rates vary depending upon occupancy and choice of lodging, but highest rate is \$78 for double at either the Terrace or Lambuth Inn. Rate includes one night's lodging, lunch and dinner on the first day and breakfast on the second day. Please call Doris Dexter (288-2973) for more information.

Projected As New Sr. Minister

Bishop James Swanson and the Cabinet have projected Mickey Rainwater as the next Senior Pastor of First Broad Street UMC, which will take effect on June 23. Mickey is presently serving as the District Superintendent of the Morristown area and he and his wife, Joy, have a five-year-old daughter, Elizabeth. Our present Senior Pastor, Clark Jenkins, has been projected as the new District Superintendent of the Morristown District. Please keep the Jenkins and the Rainwaters in your prayers during this time of transition. More information will be made available in the coming weeks as we share together in this pastoral transition.

Contact Us

Church Office 423-246-4471
Prayer Line 423-224-1544
Reservations 423-224-1502
Child Care Ctr 423-224-1527
Fax Number 423-246-1361
website: www.fbsumc.org

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CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Recently Hospitalized . . .

Indian Path: Betty Parise

Discharged: Vivian Caffey, Samantha McClintock (St. Mark)

In Memory of

our church family members

Ruth Lightfoot—March 17

Sympathy is expressed to her family.

Jean Dubberly—March 18

Sympathy is expressed to her family.



to **Jan Gibbons** on the death of her father, **James L. Harlan, II**, who died March 21.

Young Women's Retreat

**A program of the Holston Conference UMW
May 15-16, 2010**

Who needs a break more than our young women? The 2010 Young Women's Retreat will be a great time to get away (childcare is available) for some time of renewal and fellowship. Rev. Leann "Lou" Crandall, who was born and raised a United Methodist in Kingsport will be the leader. She is currently serving in her first appointment at First UMC, Cleveland, as the associate pastor. Music will be led by Amanda Powell, who is currently music director of a unique worship experience called Alive360 at Federated Church in Chagrin Falls, OH. Amanda sings with Quire Cleveland and Apollo's Fire, two of Cleveland's professional early music ensembles and teaches private piano and voice lessons.

There are six different workshops from which participants can choose only 1 to attend! That may be the most difficult part of registration. All activities will take place at Lambuth Inn. Room fees vary but a double rate is \$78. Children do not pay a room charge--only \$14.50 for meals.) Early registration (prior to April 28) is \$15 with \$20 after that date. You must register prior to April 28 if you want childcare, which is available at \$10 per child.

For complete details on the retreat and registration forms visit www.holstonconferenceumw.com or find a copy on the UMW bulletin board. Contact Doris Dexter (288-2973) for questions.

Prayer Corner . . .

Certain thoughts are prayers. There are moments when, whatever be the attitude of the body, the soul is on its knees. ~ Victor Hugo, *Les Miserables*, 1862



Living Last Supper Invitations

Know someone who might not know about our presentations of the Living Last Supper? Pick up a post card from March 21-March 28 in the lobby to invite a friend or family member.

Heart to Heart--

A Marriage Enriching Event at FBSUMC

Facilitated by Pete and Ginny Rowlett, certified leaders
Association of Couples in Marriage Enrichment

Friday, April 16-- Sunday, April 18, 2010 Cost: \$50.00/couple
Please register by calling 224-1513 by April 11.

Childcare is available at the church on Friday evening and Sunday morning.

Chancel Arrangements . . .

The chancel is adorned with palms symbolizing Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

WORSHIP

Passion/Palm Sunday—March 28, 2010 Contemporary Worship Services

Fellowship Hall – 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Scripture: Mark 15: 25-39

Message: *The Crucifixion*

Andrew Amodei

Traditional Worship Services

Sanctuary – 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Scripture: Philippians 2: 5-11

Message: *The Mind of Christ*

Clark Jenkins

Sanctuary – 9:40 a.m.

Scripture: Luke 22: 39-46

Message: *The Power in the Garden*

Fred Howe

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

"Joy" TV Ministry: 9:30 a.m. *see below

Radio Broadcast: 10:00 a.m., WKPT (1400 AM)

To Watch JOY TV

COMCAST SYSTEMS: We are broadcasting on Sundays at 12:30 p.m.; Mondays at 7:00 p.m.; and Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m..on the following stations: Abingdon, VA Ch. 2; Bristol & Gray Ch. 14.

CHARTER SYSTEMS: We are broadcasting on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.; Mondays at 7:00 p.m.; and Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. on Ch. 13 for Johnson City, Kingsport and Rogersville.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

9:30 a.m.

Message: Andrew Amodei

Our Father's Place

4:00 p.m. in Chapel

Message: Clark Jenkins

Evening Worship

6:00 p.m. in Chapel

Message: Fred Richard

After Hours "On Call" List for the Week

Sunday, March 28 Clark Jenkins (292-2795)

Monday, March 29 Clark Jenkins (292-2795)

Tuesday, March 30 Andrew Amodei (765-6197)

Wednesday, March 31 Clark Jenkins (292-2795)

Thursday, April 1 Andrew Amodei (765-6197)

Friday, April 2 Jack Weikel (292-9000)

Saturday, April 3 Janet Batts (341-9233)

Training Available

There will be Welcome Center Host/Hostess training on April 10 (Sat. morn) at 9:00 a.m. If you are not yet a Welcome Center Host but would like to be, then please come and join us. We will have light breakfast food, juice, and coffee. We want to be prepared for all our guests. This will be led by Nancy Mallicote and Janet Batts (224-1514).

March 21, 2010

Morning Worship	760
Our Father's Place	12
Evening Worship	22
Total Worship Attendance	794
Sunday School	609

DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Children and Family Ministries Director Opening

As most of you know, Marilyn Jones, our Director of Children's Ministries, has responded to God's call and will be going along with her husband, Clint, to Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University this fall. The Staff-Parish Relations Committee has formed a Search Committee to fill this important position with the goal of finding a person by July 1, 2010. If you are interested in the position or know someone who might be, a Job Description and Application for Employment can be picked up in the Church Office or by e-mailing Mike McIntire at mmcintire@fbsumc.org. Questions? Please contact Dena Anthony, Search Committee Chair at 863-2829 or Margaret Deans, Director of Education/Programs at 224-1513.

Caregivers Gathering

Are you a caregiver and sometimes feel overwhelmed by the responsibilities that entails? Then you might enjoy being a part of our Caregivers' Group. The next meeting is on Wednesday, April 7, from noon to 1 p.m. in room 241.

Janet Batts is our special speaker this month and will share from her own experiences being a caregiver. Doreen Paul will open the time together with a devotional thought.

If you have questions, please give Joy a call at 224-1512. Please feel free to bring your lunch and eat during the meeting. Also, this group is open to the community so bring a friend!



When "Pull Yourself Together" Doesn't Work!

You've heard it time and time again: "Pull yourself together . . . Cheer up . . . Tough it out . . . It's not that bad." Perhaps people have said it to you. Or perhaps you keep saying it to yourself. But it hasn't helped. You are still hurting. Things are coming apart, not coming together. Here's the good news: You don't have to go through your struggles alone. Help is available. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers who will walk with you, listen to you, and provide confidential one-to-one care as you search through the pieces and find what is truly in your heart. To learn more about Stephen Ministry for yourself or someone you know, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry leaders: Andrew Amodei (224-1504), Joy Eastridge (224-1512), Nick Grabar (288-2320), Jim Harless (578-8336), and Melanie Watson (288-9010).

UMW General Meeting, May 13

All women are invited to attend our general meeting (dinner meeting) on May 13 at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our program will be presented by Kay Ann Smith from Circle 3, who will share her personal experience of "Finding the Fifth Day in My Backyard." She uses lovely photographs to illustrate. Offering for our annual "Blanket Drive" will be taken (checks may be made to FBSUMW). Betty Mathieson, Mission Education & Interpretation Chair, will have one of the blankets on display at the meeting. These blankets cost only \$5. Last year we collected \$593.13, so we hope to do that well or better this year! Please plan to attend.

Wednesday Nights 5:30 p.m.-- March 31

Program: Living Last Supper *see article below
Menu: hamburger, baked beans, chips, cake
Make your dinner reservations by calling 224-1502 by noon on Tuesday. You must call 224-1502 to set up standing reservations.

Adults: \$6; Children 5-11 years: \$3;
Under 5: Free; Family Maximum: \$25
Feel free to attend the program even if you are unable to come for the meal.

AARP Safe-Driving Class

On April 15 and 16 from 9 to 1 p.m. in Room 306, Rosalee Sites will teach a review course on driving. This class, offered by the AARP is designed to help people to drive more safely longer and to make adaptations to overcome some of the limitations of the aging process.

The class is designed to be taken over two days. Some insurance companies offer small discounts to those who take the class once every 3 years. The class costs \$12 for those who are members of AARP and \$14 for those who are not. You can pay at the door on the first day of class, but please call now to reserve your spot: 224-1502.

"Bring One" Items

The Bring One items for the week of Sunday, March 28, will be beef stew and/or chicken and dumplings. The items for the week of Sunday, April 4, will be cash or checks for the communion offering baskets. Thank you for your support.

Living Last Supper

The Drama Ministry of FBSUMC also serves as an outreach program to our community. Last year, both performances of the Last Supper were very well attended by our church members as well as many guests. For this reason, we are adding a third performance as our **Wednesday Night program on March 31 (6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary.)** This additional performance is planned primarily for members of FBS. We are requesting that our church family members come to the Wednesday night performance if possible, and leave the two performances on Maundy Thursday for our guests. If you are unable to join us for Wednesday dinner, please come to the program immediately following in the Sanctuary at 6:15 p.m. Should you be unable to attend on Wednesday evening, of course we would welcome you and your guests to one of the two Thursday performances. The performance times are 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Childcare available for 7:30 only. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

A MESSAGE
FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

The Power of Multiplication


God has blessed me with pretty good math skills that have served me well through the years, and I have lived long enough to have observed the impact of inflation on the cost of things. Over short periods, we are often unaware of the subtle impact of these multiplying forces, but they have huge effects over time and often lead to difficult options and decisions. We see the impact of these forces all around us in the economy, the Federal Government, our Church and in our personal finances.

Let's look at some examples. If inflation is 2%/year, in ten years you will need \$121.90 dollars for every \$100.00 needed today. In twenty years, this will grow to \$148.59. If inflation is only 1% higher at 3%/year, you will need \$134.39 in ten years and \$180.61 in twenty years. And if inflation is 6%/year, you will need \$179.08 in ten years and \$320.71 in twenty years.

Why are these numbers important to us at First Broad Street? Because our budget and our ability to do ministries is continually impacted by this power of multiplication. Let's look back at some of the opposing forces that are at work. Over the last ten years, your giving has increased on an average of a little over 2%/year. Considering the economy over the last decade and also what has happened at many other churches and non-profits, we are truly blessed by your generosity. Where the pressure from multiplication comes in is that we have had several accounts on the expense side that have risen at a faster rate. Our Conference Apportionment has on average risen 1.55% faster than our giving. Health insurance has risen at an alarming rate over the last decade and is about double what it was in 2000. Our cost for utilities (electricity, gas and water) is 71% higher than ten years ago. Of course, we do have about ~ 20,000 sq. ft. more building. Salaries and benefits for staff have increased at a slightly higher rate than our giving and since this is the largest component of our budget, a small increase can have significant impact. We have also added debt service which is currently ~ 1.5% of our budget.

I don't think any of this probably surprises you, but these effects have several impacts on the operations of our Church. Areas that are under funded are often forced to remain under funded. Capital Maintenance is a major area that has been under funded for a long time, and the list of things that need to be repaired/replaced seems to grow every year. We move along year after year hoping that we don't have any catastrophic failures and trying to decide what has to be done and what can be put off for another year or two. Another area that is less obvious is our expenditures for ministries. These areas get squeezed just about every year. I know that God provides us what we need, but there is usually a fair amount of effort and agony in financial management of our WINGS ministries.

The thing about the power of multiplication that worries me the most is what has been called the 'tipping point'; that point where trends become uncontrollable, irreversible, and current activities cannot be sustained. I don't mean to imply that we have arrived at this point, and I certainly hope we never will.

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We need to use the power of multiplication in our Church. We can do this by inviting friends and neighbors to church and into a relationship with our Lord. The power of a growing congregation can overcome all of these little financial concerns. Who are you going to invite to First Broad Street?



Mike McIntire

Many Parts, One Puzzle

It took Leonardo da Vinci three years to complete his masterpiece, *Last Supper*. How long will it take our church family to complete a 1000 piece jigsaw puzzle of the masterpiece? Can we build it before Maundy Thursday? Just as it will take many hands to bring *The Living Last Supper* to our Sanctuary, it will take many hands to complete the 3-foot-long puzzle which will be located in the hallway near the Parlor. Construction began on Sunday, March 21. Come fit in a few pieces, fellowship, and be part of the finished Masterpiece© puzzle.

The Read 'Em and Reap Book Club

You are invited to join The Read 'Em and Reap Book Club on the third Thursday of each month at FBS. Mingle and munch begins at 6:15 in Rm 141 followed by a lively discussion from 6:30 to 7:30 of the following books: ***Respectable Sins: Confronting the Sins We Tolerate*** by Jerry Bridges (**April 15**) and ***Julie and Julia*** by Julie Powell (**May 20**). For more info, you may contact either Beth Geno at iegeno@embarqmail.com or Kay Ann Smith at 288-2468.