



THE SPIRES

April 4 - April 10, 2010

Glorifying God through knowing Christ and making Him known

GET READY FOR "50 Days of Evangelism" that starts on Easter Sunday!

- **Cut this out and put it on your fridge.**
- **Pick up a calendar in the Welcome Center. Ask some friends if they would like to participate.**
- **You will find these on our web-site.**
- **This will end on Pentecost Sunday as we celebrate the BIRTHDAY OF THE CHURCH!**

50 DAYS OF EVANGELISM

1. Pray about 5 different people that God would put on your heart to pray for during these 50 days of Evangelism and pray for them each day.
2. Look for someone who needs help by opening the door/going out of your way to show God's grace and love.
3. Take some "goodies" to Fire Hall/Police station/Oncology group, etc. Place a note that they are from a Christian friend.
4. Take some time to share your faith with a child.
5. Visit a nursing/assisted living place and take flowers and or goodies. Remind them of God's love for them.
6. On your day off, call someone you know who lives alone; ask them to name one thing you can do for them. Tell them how great God is.
7. If you have extraordinarily good service from someone at a restaurant leave a extra-tip and a note that says, "Blessings, from a Christian friend"
8. Tell a youth at church, even if you don't know them, how good it is to have them in church.
9. Select a favorite verse of scripture and list it below your emails (someone will look it up).
10. Make sure your kids know Jesus Christ as Savior through phone call, in person, or a card.
11. If you save coupons, take some and hand out to folks downtown at the educational facilities.
12. Get the phone book out today and find 5 names at random. Pray for each to be strengthened in their faith or to become a Christian.
13. Write a note of encouragement to someone you know who has not been coming to church and tell them how much they are missed.
14. Make some cookies to take to a neighbor. Tell them it is something your church is doing and invite them to come Sunday.
15. Take some bottled water and goodies to the Same Day Surgery waiting room. Tell them it is just a way to live your faith out if they ask.
16. Pray for all the people on your street to know Jesus Christ as their Savior and/or for their faith to become stronger.
17. If you work in an office, carry a stick-it note pad. Write a little pick me up on it with a scripture verse they can look up. Let them know you care.
18. Leave something little (tin of mints, daisies, etc) with a note that says God loves you.
19. Pay for the person's food in the line behind you. Have an employee explain it is from a Christian friend & that God's love should be passed along.
20. Encourage someone today with how God has brought you through a difficult time.
21. As you have prayed for the 5 people for 20 days now, ask God if there is something He wants you to do for them.
22. Take a walk in your neighborhood or park and send up a prayer to God for those you pass by.
23. Go out of your way to befriend someone you have been at odds with.
24. If someone tells you they are having a rough day/time, ask them if you can pray for them right then.
25. Volunteer to help a child today that you know needs some special time.
26. Pray for those in prison today and if you know of someone close to this situation, send them a card telling them you are praying for them.
27. Take some new coloring books and crayons to the children's ward at the hospital.
28. Take a food basket to a home bound person today and remind them of God's love.
29. Pray a special prayer for all the children who will go to Buffalo Mtn camp this summer; that they will know Christ and walk close with Him.
30. Send a note of encouragement to a single mom today and tell her what a great job she is doing and remind her of God's love and provision.
31. Encourage someone who is looking for a job. Take them an outfit to wear for interview or help them with resume, etc.
32. Offer to keep a neighbor's child/children for a couple of hours. Remind them that God wants them to take time for themselves.
33. Take your neighbor a treat and invite them to the upcoming renewal services called, "A New Song . . . A New Hope"
34. Pray with your spouse and/or children unexpectedly today.
35. Love and pray for an enemy today. (I know you have one).
36. Share with someone today about God's goodness.
37. Open the phone book and select a name at random and send that person a Christian greeting card.
38. When someone is trying to merge into your lane of traffic; let them in, smile, and wave. (You can do it!)
39. Tell someone who waits on you today (grocery, restaurant, etc) how much you appreciate them and what a blessing they are.
40. Spend time doing a Prayer-walk. Pray for those who do not know Christ.
41. Take some bottled water to a park and hand them out. When they ask you why, tell them you are trying to live out your faith.
42. If you see someone unusual today and start to judge; DON'T. Instead, say something kind to them.
43. Share your faith story with someone God puts in your path today.
44. Next time you leave a tip for someone, leave them a card of encouragement.
45. Reach out to someone you have been avoiding.
46. Pray about asking someone to come and join you for the Renewal Services.
47. Take your grandchildren or a child you know somewhere special today. Tell them how much Jesus loves them.
48. Invite someone to come to the Pentecost Celebration Sunday.
49. Thank God for all your blessings and pass some of those on in whatever way God leads you to.
50. Incorporate at least 2 of these ideas into your everyday life. I bet you never realized what "evangelism" is!

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Recently Hospitalized . . .

Holston Valley: Kathryn Robbins
Discharged: Suzanne Berry, Betty Parise



to the family of **Betsy Codispoti** on the death of her mother, **Jayne Amon**, who died March 23.

In Memory of

our church family members
Camilla Hoard—March 27

Sympathy is expressed to her husband, Wayne.

Fern Bellamy—March 27

Sympathy is expressed to the family of her daughter, Retta.

Prayer Corner . . .

*God speaks in the silence of the heart.
 Listening is the beginning of prayer.*

—Mother Teresa



After Hours "On Call" List for the Week

- Sunday, April 4** Janet Batts (341-9233)
- Monday, April 5** John Wilson (723-9998)
- Tuesday, April 6** Andrew Amodei (765-6197)
- Wednesday, April 7** John Wilson (723-9998)
- Thursday, April 8** Andrew Amodei (765-6197)
- Friday, April 9** Jack Weikel (292-9000)
- Saturday, April 10** Jack Weikel (292-9000)

Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will go to the General Morgan Inn in Greeneville, TN, on April 16. The bus will leave the Wanola parking lot at 11:00 a.m.

March 28, 2010

Morning Worship	858
<i>Our Father's Place</i>	10
Evening Worship	18
Total Worship Attendance	886
Sunday School	566

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.

WORSHIP

Easter Sunday--April 4, 2010

Contemporary Worship Services

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

Scripture: Luke 24: 1-12

Message: *The First Day*

Andrew Amodei

Traditional Worship Services

Sanctuary -- 8:30 a.m. -- 9:40 a.m. -- and 10:45 a.m.

Scripture: Isaiah 65: 17-25

Message: *A New Thing*

Clark Jenkins

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: TBA

No Our Father's Place or Evening Worship

Chancel Arrangements . . .



The chancel is adorned with Easter lilies in honor and memory of loved ones.



April Birthdays

- 1 Frances Smithwick, Marge Sherwin, Bobbie Hutchins, Ed Latham, Cathy Harvey, Diane Shaver, Terry Reed, Amanda Owens, Austin Wyker, Thomas Carty, Kathryn Golob, Sarah Testerman, Jennifer Garland, Austin Weaver
- 2 David Oaks, James Harris, Linda Abbott, Eric King, Chris Rose, Ross Smith, Rachel Bennett, Samantha Culhane
- 3 John Albrecht, Leighton Wood, Christian Humbert, Cary Boggs, Lindsay Jones, Austyn Cave
- 4 Jean Kern, Lee Cornell, James Early, John Leonard, Glenn Ward, Brian Robbins, J Welch, Julie Ball, Delaney Boyd
- 5 Joe Stras, Lynn Doane, Carole Young, Todd East, Ruth Ann Hoard, Sara Fugate, Sarah Vaughan, Victoria Edmisten, Preston Mercer, Spencer Murphy
- 6 Judy Blalock, Judy Mosley, Preston Carter, Aria Cochran
- 7 B.J. Reeves, Sheila Cox, Nancy Walker, Vince Goodman, Rebecca Williams, Bo Corum
- 8 Ronald Bussey, Nancy Fritz, Kathy Ladley, Michael Pappas, Stephanie Bellner, Thomas Click, Drew McIntosh, Jackie Ramsdale, Braden Boyd, Sydney Culhane
- 9 Mary Lousie Highsmith, Rick Currie, Tom Brock, Marty Dedrick, Eric Salaita, Preston Smith, Karrie Thomas, Lucas Vaughn
- 10 Tim Thayer, Ken Ernst, Edithann Wadewitz, Butch Lady, Joe Bettini, Bill Witherspoon
- 11 Cheryl Salaita, Debra Wurmser, Ted Glynn, Art Brown, Leroy Leonard, Lawrence Collier, Drew Romance
- 12 Vicki McCrary, Deborah Smith, Kathi Boyd, Susan McKee, Katie Latham, Drew Doran, Elisabeth Cowart, Ainsley Collier
- 13 Sara Collins, Martha Parham, Heath Dotson, Robert Goddard, Lyndsey Brundrit, Meredith Dean
- 14 Kelly Williams, George Schneider, Lloyd Herlong, Rochelle Trent, Eddie Simmers, Carter Vickers, Serenity Lyttle
- 15 Juanita Lane, Tom LaGuardia, Eric Quisenberry, Elizabeth Reid, Allison Bonds, Eric Hammonds, Kristopher Forsha
- 16 Jack Pippin, June Childress, Christi Bonner, Ginny Jenkins, Sarah Sumner, Keely Morris
- 17 Judy Deere, Gary Casey, Dona Gilliam, Katherine Scoggins, Jane Dean, Joe Doran, Nathan Frazier
- 18 Mildred Umberger, Betty Jean Isley, David Leonard, Margaret Reel, Judith Sadler, Nicky Killen, Ben Morris, Andy Taylor, Bailey Smith, Brad Onks, Lily Arnold
- 19 Maryann Hasek, Barbara Lively, Madre Forsha
- 20 George Mayfield, Clay Dubberly, Anna Moreland, Matthew Bonds, Michael Golob
- 21 David Bagwell, Ron Paul, Mary Sewell, Jane Skeen, Jan Gibbons, Alejandra Lyttle
- 22 Marcine Berry, Marvin Goodman, Sharon Morris, Candy Alexander, Judy Sneed, David Dean, Penny Roberts, B.J. Jolley, Kyle Peterson, Grace Macdonald
- 23 Carolyn Sallery, Gary Williams, Finley Green, Becky Carver, Bonnie Macdonald, Brantley Kilgore, Emily Bounds, Justice Pinney, Elliot Tate, Isaac Tate
- 24 Edith Baker, Dick Owen, Becky Stone, Marjo Reid, Maribeth Carty, Melanie Hutchins, Todd Dickson, Marla Atkins, Rebecca Taylor, Rhett Warner, Caitlin Richardson, Val George, Katherine Culligan, Jack Kitzmiller
- 25 Peggy Davis, Evelyn Helton, Kay Jones, Max Hill, Fielding Rolston, Janice Cloud, Dennis Golob, Dennis Cleary, Jim Cox, Pat Bond, Thom Throp, Curtis Teague, Kayla Stidham, Matthew Norville, Fannessa Fisher, Porscha Hale, Jordan Willingham, Brock Jennings
- 26 George Salaita, Jim Ziegenmier, Melanie Watson, Charles Fontaine, Tyler Culver, Stephanie Jolley, Gage Taylor
- 27 Hoyt Denton, Linda Fontaine, Mike Harvey, Sparky Dyson, Diana Dennis, Andrew Bailey, Thomas Odom
- 28 Ann Morison, Clara McHorris, Martha Provenzano, Tricia Taylor, Amy Luethke, Emily Philip, Meredith Gregory, Lane Taylor, Bradley Bacon
- 29 Reba Thayer, Glenn Cott, John Staples, Pam Johnson, Melissa Teague, Robb Newman, Andrew Scruggs, Christy Free, Jill Rose, Chase Salyer, Emma Rogers, Kaile Fletcher
- 30 Angela Dotson, Nancy Mallicote, Phyllis Hill, Bob West, Betsy Carpenter, Michelle McInturff, Jennifer Harris, Kelli Rogers, Bryce Herlong, Will Glasscock, Silas Finley



Church Leadership Council Minutes **Monday, March 1, 2010 7:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Julie Bennett at 7:15 p.m.

Devotions and prayer were led by Joyce Russell.

Mike McIntire requested prayer for Bob Viers, our Treasurer, who will have colon surgery on Wednesday.

GOOD NEWS ITEMS

1. Ashley Dukart's prayer reflections at the 8:30 and 10:45 Traditional Services on Sunday were wonderful.
2. Ashley Dukart stated that her dad started work today.
3. Mike McIntire mentioned the 14-15 people who helped paint areas downstairs in the church and how nice it looks.
4. John Wilson is once again on FBS staff as Minister of Forever Young Adults.
5. Les Heaton did a fantastic job hosting the "Not So Newly Wed" Game at Wednesday Niter. Les stated that there are 77 couples in FBS who have been married over 50 years!
6. The Love & Logic workshop for parents and grandparents was a success
7. The Marriage Enrichment Program weekend is coming up.
8. Lent has begun with a meaningful Ash Wednesday. The other plans for Lent are in progress.
9. The Leadership Academy is in progress and doing well.
10. Spurgeon McCart's sermon on Sunday was great.
11. The Pentecost Sunday morning joint service will be held at Dobyons-Bennett High School stadium and for no charge.
12. We are very fortunate to have Bishop Swanson kick off the Mission Celebration on March 11 at 6:00 p.m.
13. Mission Celebration Weekend will be March 11-13. This will be an historical event, bringing together all the global Board connections. We are all encouraged to attend.
14. Bill Campbell reported that 8 people went to Atlanta to help with the refurbishing homes of flooding victims. It is a work in progress.
15. The seventh and eighth graders have been encouraged to attend the Missions Celebration Weekend. A pancake breakfast is being planned for them if they attend. Please acknowledge them when you see them at the celebration.

NEW MEMBERS – Janet Batts – Janet circulated handouts of new members, including individuals and families.

DISTRICT AND CONFERENCE NEWS – Les Heaton – (1) An ordination service will be held on the opening night of Annual Conference, Sunday, June 13 in Stuart Hall at Lake Junaluska and our own Andrew Amodei will be ordained a Full Elder. Les would like to see a hundred people from First Broad Street at this event. (2) Les encouraged attendance at the worship service on Thursday, March 11th at 6:00 p.m. which is part of the Sudan Summit and is leading into our Mission Celebration. Bishop Swanson will bring the message. At 7:30 p.m., there will be a concert by Lightnin' Charlie and the Central Baptist Choir to raise money for wells in Sudan. (3) Clark reported that he was in Chattanooga this past weekend to speak at a United Methodist Men's event. It was a wonderful event and illustrated what UMM groups were capable of becoming in most Methodist churches. Clark stated that we needed to address growing our own United Methodist Men's group.

40/50 DAYS OF PENTECOST – Janet Batts and Buddy Bounds – The devotional book, 24 Hours That Changed the World, is being well received. Prayer reflections have begun at Sunday services. A prayer group has been started on Facebook. Check it out. Plans for Pentecost Sunday have been discussed with laity, staff and WINGS. Other plans are moving along.

PROPOSED NAME CHANGE FOR BLOOMINGDALE RETREAT CENTER – Jerry Repass – The Board of Trustees recommended that the name of the Bloomingdale Retreat Center be changed to the Wimberly Woods Retreat Center. Joe Wimberly donated the property to FBS. Discussion ensued. The recommendation passed unanimously. A new sign and ceremony will be planned.

CLC RETREAT – STATUS OF PLANS – Andrew Amodei, Julie Bennett, Les Heaton, and Mike McIntire – The agenda is still in the planning process. It is anticipated that a date will be set for a four to six hour session on a Saturday to be held at FBS in late April or early May. Discussion ensued on dates. A date will be proposed before the next meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS – Council – 1) Mike McIntire made a motion to allow The Town Squares, a local singing group including members of FBS, use of the Fellowship Hall on July 18 as part of FunFest. Gail Preslar seconded. The motion passed unanimously. 2) Phil Horner, owner of Fleet Feet and a member of FBS would like to plan a fundraising race around July 4th to raise funds for a specific need at FBS. Discussion ensued. Bob Garver will discuss this with Phil and someone from laity will be chosen to work with Phil. 3) An offering for the victims of the earthquake in Chile was discussed. It was decided to wait for direction from Conference.

CLOSING COMMENTS BY SENIOR PASTOR – Clark Jenkins – Clark noted the following:

- Bishop Swanson will be preaching at St. Mark UMC on Sunday, April 18th thru Tuesday, April 20th.
- St. Mark will be assigned a new minister.
- On Thursday, May 6th, Mayor's Breakfast will be held. This will coincide with the National Day of Prayer.
- On Thursday, May 27, Bishop Swanson will host a Golf Tournament at Crocket Ridge Golf Course to raise money for wells in Sudan. Green fees will be \$100/person and there are also opportunities to sponsor holes.
- On Sunday, May 30th, Dr. Robert Williams, General Secretary of Archives and History, will be preaching at the 8:30 and 10:45 Traditional services.

Clark asked to keep FBS staff in our prayers during a time of transition. He thanked Council for all that they do in the life of the church. He closed the meeting with prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Children & 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.

For questions, call Joy at 224-1512. Please feel free to bring your lunch and eat during the meeting. This group is open to the community--bring a friend!

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 will or better this year! Please plan to attend.

Tai Chi Class Begins April 13

In addition to the two yoga classes already in progress here at FBS, a Tai Chi class will also be offered for members of the Senior Center and FBS Church. It will begin on Tuesday, April 13, at 9:45 a.m. in Room 239 immediately preceding the yoga classes. Ms. Hang Lei will teach 12 weeks of classes with the last class being July 1. There will be a minimal charge of \$25 to cover the honorarium for Ms. Lei. You may register through the Renaissance Senior Center or with John Wilson at 224-1546. Registration deadline is Sunday, April 11.

FBS Golfers

"Are you ready to play some golf?" Jim Hutchins asks. "It's that time of year again and I have scheduled four outings. The first one is Tuesday, April 13, at Crockett's Ridge. There are five tee times reserved beginning at 10:00 a.m. Meet me at 9:50 a.m." Please let Jim know if you are coming either by phone (288-7553 and 747-6144) or by e-mail (JHutchins251@aol.com). Jim is not sure what the green fee will be, but Tuesday is Senior Day and special discount will be given. The other three scheduled outings are all on Tuesday: May 18, Cattails at MeadowView; June 17, Warrior's Path Golf Club; July 13, Twin Creeks Golf Club in Chuckey.

"Bring One" Items

The Bring One items for the week of Sunday, April 4, will be cash or checks for the communion offering baskets. The items for the week of Sunday, April 11, will be peanut butter and/or canned fruit.

Wednesday Nights 5:30 p.m.--April 7

Program: "Early Kingsport" with Kenny Stallard
Menu: scrambled eggs, sausage, cheese grits, baked apples, biscuits w/ gravy, jelly
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.

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 info.

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 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).

A MESSAGE
FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Strategies for Quality Growth

This title sounds like it could be a church conference, but it was actually the name of a training session put on by TVA that I attended last week as a Planning Commissioner for Kingsport and Sullivan County. The reason I decided to write about it was that a lot of data about growth in the Southeast surprised and shocked me and illustrated some of the things that we human beings are doing to God's world. Let's look at a little of this information:

- Between the end of World War II and 2000, the miles we drove in our vehicles increased at 400% the rate of our population growth.
- Between 1980 and 2000, the population of Tennessee grew 26% while our consumption of land grew 75%, our consumption of drinking water grew 2000% and our consumption of electricity grew ~35%. Tennessee is unique in electricity usage growth because all other southern states saw growth of 100 – 400%.
- As communities have grown, they have encroached on farm land and forests increasing the runoff of rain water. For example, the runoff of undeveloped land is only about 10% while areas with 35 - 50% impervious structures create runoffs of ~30%. These changes in land use have raised the flood plains for most streams and rivers.
- I remember that my grandparents had a cistern that captured rain water from the roof of their farm house. This water served their drinking, cooking and washing needs. Data from 1997 in Atlanta showed that they had 135 billion gallons of water run into their storm sewers; enough water for 3.6M people if it could have been captured, simply treated and used. This would be more than enough water to have prevented the terrible drought that they faced a couple of years ago. Unfortunately, the runoff in urban areas picks up much silt and chemicals making it difficult to purify.
- Average temperatures rise with the loss of our tree canopy. Urban areas are 2 - 6° warmer than surrounding suburban and farm land.
- Health concerns have also increased at least in part because of our sprawl. Most of you have heard of the alarming increase in obesity in this country. In 1990, the adult obesity rate in Tennessee was in the 10 – 14 % range, but it has grown to over 30% in 2007. I expect that many of you walked to school when you were kids, but this is a rare occurrence today. We have failed to make walking and biking safe and easy, and we have moved further away from our schools and work. This has helped contribute to our sedentary lifestyles. Not surprisingly, the more you are in an automobile; the more likely you are to be injured or killed in an accident. There is also an increasing body of data on the impact of air pollution and higher temperatures on our health.

This is just a small part of the data shared in this class that was primarily attended by professional planners and those involved with land use decisions. At the end, we were saying that the presenters were 'preaching to the choir'. This information needs to be shared with developers and bankers and ultimately the general public. As with many things, there is a huge financial component that hasn't been incorporated into the message. With God's guidance, we can continue to move toward being better stewards of His worldly blessings.

Have a blessed Easter!

Mike McIntire



First Broad Street
United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 1346
Kingsport, TN 37662
423-246-4471

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Pd.
Kingsport, TN
Permit NO. 169

Return Service Requested

Place mailing label below

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

We had a number of volunteers help with the painting of the first floor of the Office Wing, the Choir Room and an adjoining hallway. These were Bill and Judy Campbell, Darrell Cole, Isaac Conner, Jim Cornell, Jessica Cox, Mary Ann Foster, Danny Howe, Fred Howe, Bill Howle, Gary Lodien, Sandra McGinnis, Foy McIntosh, Ron and Doreen Paul, Jerry Repass, Bart Skrok, and Willis Vicars. We also had a number of volunteers help with landscaping work around the Church. These included Jessica Cox, Mary Ann Foster, Russ Jackson, Tim Martin, John and Carolyn McCoy, Jerry and Patsy Repass, Rick Russell, Rodney Umberger, and Robert Williams. Thanks to each of you for your efforts in making our Church more attractive and inviting place to visit and worship. If you see any of these people, be sure to thank them for their hard work.

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 available at church on Friday p.m. and Sunday a.m.

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.