



THE MESSENGER

The News of the Centreville United Methodist Church February 2007

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPHS

Pastor Grier

An article in the January/February magazine, "Today's Christian," caught my attention. It's an article about songwriter, Chris Tomlin, and his passion for Christian worship. Maybe the name Chris Tomlin doesn't "ring a bell" for most people, but many of his songs will. At our Contemporary worship service we often sing, "How Great Is Our God" and "Holy Is the Lord." Those are Chris Tomlin songs. Perhaps on Christian radio you've heard, "Indescribable." That, too, is a Chris Tomlin song.

What caught my attention the most in the article about his young Christian worship leader/song writer, was what he had to say about worship. He says: "The deal about worship is that the heart of it is what pleases God, not what pleases us. We do get amazing benefits out of worshipping God-our souls are filled up, we get life. But the purpose isn't so I can feel better about myself. Worship, in its simplest sense, is giving our lives to God . . . the fruit of lips that praise His name."

Did you catch that? The heart of worship is "what pleases God, not what pleases us." The heart of worship is "giving our lives to God." Are we not guilty of often allowing worship to focus on us, rather than on God? Consider some of the things we say, or hear others say: "The music's too loud!" "I don't know this hymn." "The people aren't very friendly." "The sermon was too long." "Where is everybody? The church isn't very full!" "It's too hot in here." "It's too cold in here." "Look at how so and so's dressed." "Someone's sitting in my place." Let's face it, some Sunday mornings God just isn't on our minds, to say nothing about His love in our hearts and His praise on our lips!

To be sure, not everything will always please us about a worship service. But when we worship, if we'll concentrate on praising God, on hearing the Word of God, on giving to God, and on serving God, then we'll find that worship will be a blessing to us, and to God. Someone has said, "Worship is a physical expression of our spiritual relationship

with God." When we truly worship as we ought, then our love, and our praise, will over-flow in thanksgiving to God, who deserves our everything because of what He's done for us in Christ Jesus. See you in church this Sunday!

CONFIRMATION CLASSED TO BEGIN

This year's Confirmation Class will begin to meet on Sunday, February 18th. As in past years, the class will meet during the Sunday School hour, 9:45 till 10:45 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. At least one parent or grandparent is asked to be a part of the class, sitting in on the sessions and sharing the discussions. There will be at least one field trip during the classes-a visit to historic Barratt's Chapel, near Frederica, Delaware. Barratt's Chapel is known as the "Cradle of American Methodism." The class will meet most every Sunday till May 27th, which is Pentecost Sunday, the "birthday" of the Church. For more information you may call Pastor Grier.

LENTEN OBSERVANCES AND STUDY

The Lenten season begins this year with Ash Wednesday, February 21st. This holy season of forty days, not counting Sundays, is a special time in the life of the Church which culminates with the Holy Week observances of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. It is a time for Christians to contemplate the meaning of the cross, which accomplished God's plan of salvation in Christ Jesus. It is a time to remember that we "are bought with a price."

A number of events are planned for this year's Lenten season. On Ash Wednesday evening, there will be a service of ashes and Holy Communion at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. During the Sunday evenings of March 4, 11, 18 and 25, there will be an opportunity for fellowship with a covered-dish meal, followed by a Lenten study. This will take place in Fellowship Hall beginning each week with the meal at 5:30 p.m. and the study at 6:30 p.m. During Holy Week, there will again be Holy

Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 5th, at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, and a Good Friday service at 7:00 p.m. on April 6th. Let us make ourselves available to God during this up-coming holy season. Let us walk with Jesus to the cross that we may rejoice with Him come Easter!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Barbara Erickson

Our December and January meetings have been held in the home of Mary Ethel Dye and Lynda Palmatary. Come join us in February for a tour of Corsica Hills remodeled and expanded Nursing Facility.

Arrangements are being made for us to have a more permanent space for our work area at church. We would like to be able to set up sewing machines and leave in place for sometime while we work. We have been asked to make more blankets and bags.

We have also been asked to participate in a benefit for Camp Pecometh, by donating a quilt for their Silent Auction....Time is short..they want it in April.

If you are willing to help in any way...let us know and we can arrange to bring you materials if you would rather work at home in the winter....

New cabinets and counter tops have been chosen for our remodeled kitchen! We will begin the packing process shortly, as the kitchen will be closed for the month of March, maybe longer.

Some long range plans include participating in the Town Farmers Market this spring and fall - this is a big undertaking and help is needed to make it work. Can you help?? Plan your garden now for fall jellies, jams, produce etc.

We are not all work - we are planning a tour of Bylers General Country Store followed by lunch... and a M&D dinner in late spring...watch bulletin for dates..

UMW Calendar of Events

Tuesday mornings - 9:30 workshops

Feb. 5th - 10 a.m. - prepare valentine gift bags

Feb. 14th - 1:30 p.m. - Corsica Hills Tour

Crab Feast - NEED CHAIRPERSON!

October 27th - 9:30 a.m. - Fall Festival

Dec. 1st - 9a.m. - Children's Shopping

Our Cookbooks are still availablecontact any UMW member or the church office for a copy.

VALENTINE'S

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday, February 10th from 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.

\$5 for adults and \$4 for seniors and children.

Sponsored by VIM for the Appalachia Mission Trip

OUR HAVEN UPDATE

Larisa Thomas

CUMC helped Our Haven Winter Shelter for the first time the weekend of January 19th and 20th at the Kent Island UMC. Thanks to all who volunteered or supplied food donations. It was reported to be slow, which is a good thing, meaning the need is not too high right now. There was only one guest to accommodate. More guests are expected for the last time we will staff the shelter, February 16th and 17th. The volunteer spaces have been filled, and as of right now, there is no additional need for food donations.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation - It seems so far away. But it is closer than you think. It is time to start working on Vacation Bible School. Last year's was a huge success, thanks to all the last minute volunteers. We have over 100 kids go through the classes!

All interested in helping with this year's Bible School, please contact Larisa Thomas (Larisa@atlanticbb.net or 758-2144) or attend an Interest meeting on March 21st at 7 pm in the church library. Let's make this one an experience the children will always remember!

NURSERY

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped in 2006. Kelly Nelson, our Nursery Attendant, did an excellent job with the children. In fact, most of the time she does not need help! But we still need to schedule volunteers for two reasons. 1) In case we start getting new families with children, we need to be prepared. 2) in Case Kelly is not able to make it. So volunteers are still needed and Larisa is making calls now. We suggest, on your volunteer day, to check in with Kelly by 10:50 am (9:50 in summer). If Kelly does not need you then check back with her half way through the service. If she still doesn't need you, enjoy the worshipping! Please notice any vacancies on the Volunteer Schedule outside of the nursery, and feel free to fill in your name or contact Larisa Thomas (Larisa@atlanticbb.net or 758-2144)

Thanks!

APPALACHIA MISSION TRIP

Larisa Thomas

The Volunteers in Mission scheduled the next mission trip for Thursday April 12 through Sunday April 15th. This is open to anyone who has the heart and desire to serve the Lord. Construction experience is not necessary. There are jobs even the “Hammer-challenged” can do! This trip will focus on the Guwan Valley, West Virginia area. Anyone interested must contact Larisa Thomas and attend the training workshop on Wednesday, February 28th at 7 pm in the church library.

CHRISTMAS IN APRIL

Larisa Thomas

Christmas in April is scheduled this year for April 28th. This is an excellent way to serve people in our area. Sign up forms are available in the VIM mailbox. Each volunteer needs to complete an application and return it to the mailbox. Any questions can be directed to Robin Pilli at 758-1126.

EVANGELISM

Ann Harlan

Keep your eye on the bulletin boards around the church for pictures and information on members of our church. I may ask to take your picture and for you to write something about yourself. All of this is to let us get to know one another better. So many interesting things happen in our lives. I may begin to add them to the newsletter also. Near the beginning of spring we will continue our door hanger campaign for new members. If you like to walk and would like to help for an hour here and there, let me know.

WOMEN’S MORNING OUT

Ann Harlan

Our February meeting will be a little different. We will be sharing lunch together after the presentation. Please bring a salad or soup to share and we will provide everything else needed. The Morning Out will begin at 10:00 a.m. and childcare

is available. All women are welcome. The program is to be announced. We will not have a meeting in March due to the construction. Please call me at 410-758-4349 with any questions. I look forward to meeting with all of you!

CAMPBELL’S LABELS

For proof of purchase, Campbell’s only want the UPC label from each package or can. They no longer want the entire label! Some products are worth more than others.....there is a flyer posted in the hall to assist you if you are interested.

CUMC CHURCH MINISTRIES FAIR

Please plan to attend at 12 noon on Sunday Feb. 18th the First Centreville United Methodist Church Ministries Fair. This is an opportunity for you to find out what is going on at CUMC. What ministries are there? How do you get involved with them? Who is involved with them? Come and learn about all that Centreville UMC has to offer. Snacks will be provided.

If you have a ministry that you would like to share please call Ken at 410-758-6939 to let him know to get you some mor info!!!

UMW SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship applications are available in the church office and must be completed and returned by April 10th. If you would like more information you may call Susan Klepper at 410-758-1647.

TRAINING FOR CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Church leadership training for Trustees, Finance Committee, PPR Committee, Lay Leader, Church Council will be held on Saturday, February 17th from 8:30 - 12 pm at St. Marks in Easton. In addition, there will be presentation on the roles of each committee and how they all relate to the life of the church. The cost is \$5.00. Registration materials are available in the church office.

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY SUB SALE

Please order your subs by Sunday, January 28th. Call Katie Laing at 410-758-6939 or email kttoddl@yahoo.com.

Subs may be picked up on Sunday February 4th after Sunday or after church service.

QUILT AUCTION
DONATIONS NEEDED!

Camp Pecometh is hosting its first Quilt Auction on Saturday, April 28th at 1:00 p.m. More details about the actual event will be coming soon; however, we are in need of quilts to auction off. If you have quilts you would like to donate or if you are willing to make a quilt for the auction, please contact Katie Laing at 410-758-6939 or call Camp Pecometh directly at 410-556-6900. All Proceeds from the auction will be used for Camper Scholarships and Capital Improvements at Camp Pecometh.



Centreville United Methodist Church

608 Church Hill Road
Centreville, MD 21617

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