

February

Events

Feb. 1st

7:30 p.m. - ASP
Meeting

Feb. 2nd

7:00 p.m. -

Focus Group

Feb. 7th

Sub Sale

Feb. 9th

1:30 p.m. -

UMW Meeting

6:30 p.m.- UMM
Meeting

Feb. 12th

Sudlersville Coffee
House

Feb 13th

8:00 a.m. -

Pancake Breakfast

Feb. 17

7:00 p.m. -

Ash Wednesday

Service

Feb. 26

7:00 p.m. -

Middle School Dance

The Messenger



February 2010

Newsletter

Reverend's Remarks

February 2010

Robert Browning said, *"Take away love and our earth is a tomb."* February is synonymous with Valentine's Day and is celebrated worldwide. This holiday is coined after several Christian martyrs that share the name, Valentine. It wasn't until the middle ages that Valentine's Day became associated with romantic love and, unfortunately, there is much pain associated with it for some. Love doesn't always have happy endings. Even though Valentine's Day may arouse many emotions in us, as Christians we should take this opportunity to discover what the Word of God says about love

I Corinthians 13 is one of the most famous passages in the scriptures. It is quoted routinely at weddings and has been the source of many greeting cards. This particular chapter in I Corinthians is so much more than poetic phrases about love. Paul meant for love to be a motivation for using the Holy Spirit's gifts. No matter how gifted you are, no matter how successful you are, no matter what our status is, there is an overarching principle that should guide everything we do. For the scripture says, *"If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal"* (I Corinthians 13:1).

Paul gives sixteen descriptions of what love is and what love is not. Love is patient, kind, protects, trusts, hopes, preserves, rejoices in truth, and never fails. Love is not prideful, boastful, envy, rude, self-seeking. It does not hold grudges, delights in evil, and is not angry. Love is the driving force in everything. This scripture is not merely a definition of love; rather it describes love in action. Love puts it all together. Love isn't something that just happens to you, you have to make something out of love.

This active love should be practiced every day not just one time every year. We are able to actively love because God showed love to us by sending his only begotten son in to the world - *"For God so loved the world..."* (John 3:16). Let us love one another the way God loves us, no strings attached!

Prayer Thoughts:



As you all know by now, each Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m., a group of ladies meet in the Pentecost Sunday School Room (the Red Room) to lift up the name of Jesus and to pray for you and the prayer requests received from both services, and from our website. It is such an honor and privilege to gather together in faith and unity to seek His face and His heart to bring these and our requests to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Who is also our High Priest. And it is our High Priest that I would like to speak about, since this is the month of February, commonly referred to the “month of love”.

We all know that February 14th is Valentine’s Day, a day to celebrate our love for those close to us and to one another. I’m not going to go into the history of how this day came to be but rather center on the Great Love we have through our High Priest, Jesus Christ, **“who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the Sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man” Hebrews 8:1-2.** Returning to **Hebrews 7:24-27,** which states, **“But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He ever lives to make intercession for them.** For such a High Priest was fitting for us, Who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; Who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people’s, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.”

What does it mean to “intercede”? Webster’s Dictionary states to intercede means “to plead or make a request in behalf of another or others before an authority; to intervene for the purpose of producing agreement; mediate”.

What a comfort to realize that as we, here on earth go through our various trials and tribulations, we have a Great High Priest, Who sits at the right hand of God, our Heavenly Father, pleading before Him for whatever we have done or need. And the Father who sees us, sees the righteousness of Christ in us (2 Corinthians 5:21) because we have been redeemed by His only Son’s blood sacrifice.

Can you get a mental picture of what this might look like? Satan accuses us and Jesus might say something like, “Wait just a minute, this person has accepted My sacrifice on the cross and is covered by My blood. The verdict is innocent! He/She has asked for forgiveness and has repented, therefore the charges are dropped! My love for them has covered their sins and I remember their sins no more – as far as the East is from the West!” (Psalm 103:6-14)

Now this is LOVE!!

There are times when we don’t know how or what to pray, but be reassured that there are not only prayer warriors all over this world praying for you, but more importantly, Jesus, Himself is praying and interceding for us as well! And we have the Blessed Holy Spirit, whom Jesus calls The Helper, sent by the Father to teach us all things and bring to remembrance all of the things Jesus said to us in His Word! (John 14:26)

What an Awesome God we have – He Is LOVE! (1 John 4:16 b – God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in Him.)

We would like to encourage you – both men and women - to join us Sunday evenings at 6 p.m. to partake of the wonderful discipline of prayer and seeking the Father’s heart. He has ALWAYS been present with us. Come and experience the Love, Peace, Joy, and Authority of the Lord as He ministers to the faith cries of His children and answers our prayers. I can promise you, you won’t be disappointed!!

Until next month, may the Love of God touch and bless each of you. And don’t forget, we love you, too!

Volunteers In Mission

Volunteers In Mission (VIM) is one of the ways CUMC is reaching out and help others. As 1 Peter 4:10 instructs us, "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." From experience, I can tell you how amazing it is to discover God has given you a gift you never imagined you had. And the only way to find it is to step out in faith and try something new! February we have several areas where volunteers are needed.

VIM is gathering a work crew to help at a **Federalburg Habitat for Humanity** site on Feb. 20th. All experience levels are welcome. We will meet at the church at 7 AM and return by 5 PM. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP.



We also still need a few volunteers to help staff the **QAC Winter Shelter** on Kent Island. In particular, February 25th and March 25th (both Thursdays) are open. Come fellowship and serve by being a presence from 6 PM to midnight. A big thank you to all who served in January!

VIM is collecting **Health Kits** to replace the ones already sent to Haiti. Bulk items are needed for the disaster kits or you can assemble them yourselves in a 1 gallon Ziploc plastic bag:

- 1 Hand Towel (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27", No kitchen towels please)
- 1 Washcloth
- 1 Comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized please)
- 1 Nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers please)
- 1 Bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up)
- 1 Toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, No child-size brushes please)

6 Adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages

The deadline for items is February 14th. VIM will also forward at that time any additional monetary donation (just make the check out to CUMC VIM and put in the memo Advance #418325. Remember, all items included in kits must be NEW items and no substitutions are allowed.



Saturday February 13th is the next **Pancake Breakfast**. Treat your sweetheart or yourself to pancakes, sausage, and eggs along with a little bit of fellowship. We will serve breakfast from 8-10:30 AM. We are raising funds for the Youth Appalachia Service Project trip in the summer. \$5 Adults and \$4 Seniors/Children.

The next meeting is February 15th. All are invited to be the hands through which God can work! You can contact me at Larisa.Thomas@centreville-umc.com or 410-758-2144 to RSVP for any activity.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

By Larisa Thomas

Believe it or not, it is time to start planning for Vacation Bible School! While I have started the ball rolling, I again open the floor to see if anyone is being led to take a more active roll in VBS. Since I do find VBS an experience that has immensely rewarded me spiritually, I am willing to handle the organization and would be glad to still perform the opening and closing each night. What we would need is either 1.) someone willing to split the duties of director or 2.) someone willing to assume all of the director duties. Now is the time to start planning, so get in on the ground floor! Please prayerfully consider this and contact me at Larisa.Thomas@centreville-umc.com or 410-758-2144 for more information.



2010 Lenten Bible Study

When: Wednesday Evenings

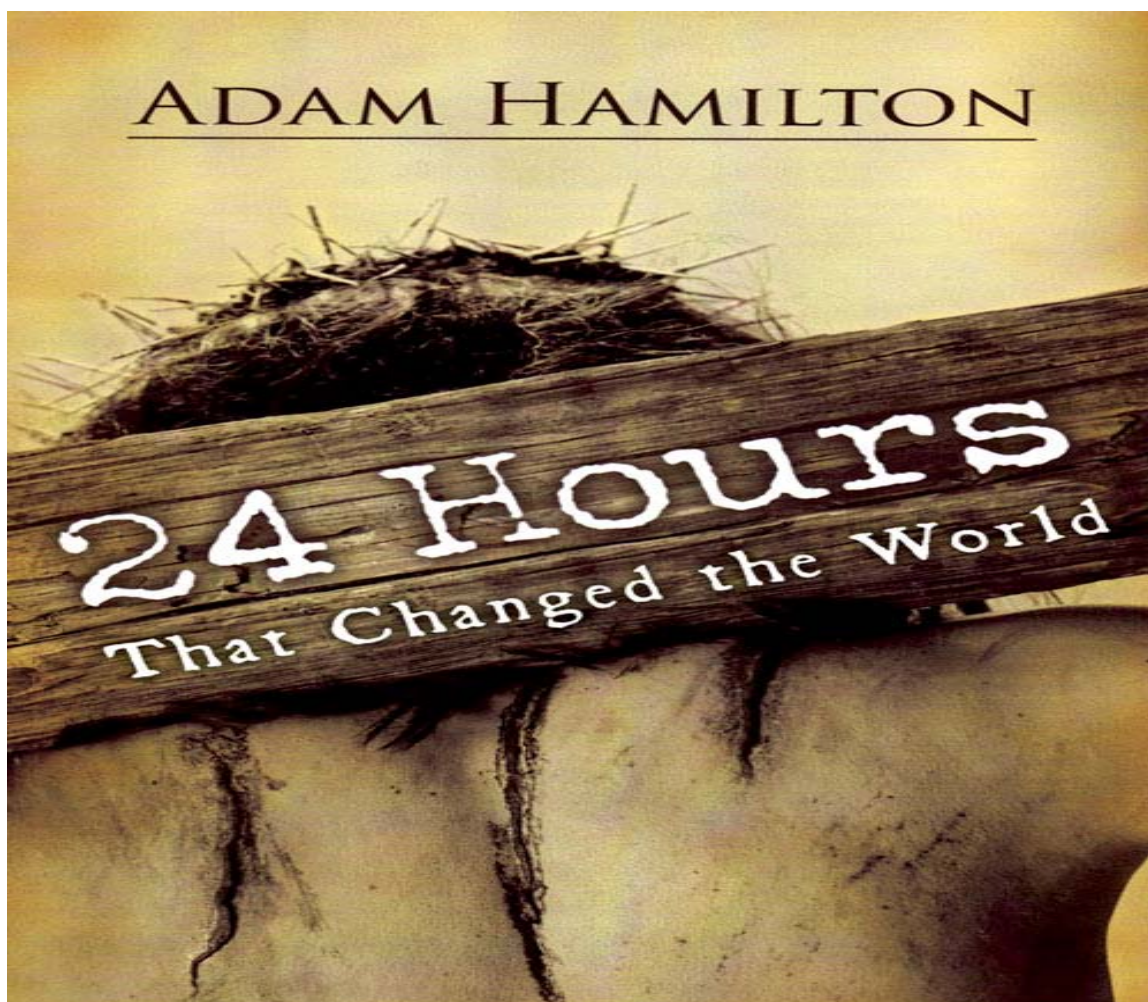
Dates: February 24th – March 31st

Time: 6:00 p.m. Covered Dish Supper in the Fellowship Hall

7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Bible Study in the Sunday School Wing

Instructor: Pastor Mark Farnell

Please call the church office at 410-758-0868 to sign-up.



24 Hours That Changed Everything

No other 24-hour event in human history has had more impact than
the last 24 hours of Jesus' life.

Evangelism Committee

Thanks for the Blessing of the Children's Christmas Shop

from Ann Harlan

In this world of overindulgence at Christmas by some in our society, it is a blessing to give our children a chance to give as we were given by our Lord Jesus. My heart leaped with joy and I was moved to tears on Christmas morning when we arrived at our granddaughter's home. The very first thing she said to me with glee, was not "Guess what Santa brought me" but rather, "Granny, I can't wait until you see what I got you! Close your eyes!". At 7 years old she has already found the real meaning of Christmas and what a joy! Each gift was chosen carefully with love and with her own money. Thank you to all who have helped bring this wonderful opportunity to our children making Christmas what it should be for all.



Honoring Mother's Day! May 2nd Tea!

Put a special star on your calendar reserving May 2nd at 3pm at church for a tea honoring Mother's Day. The tea will honor Mothers, daughters, granddaughters, aunts, special friends, God Mothers etc. We will have a fashion show of wedding gowns as part of the afternoon. If you still have your wedding gown or one worn by a grandmother or other special woman, please let me know and we will use it as a part of this special day. We would also encourage those girls who have American Girl dolls or other special dolls to bring them to share tea. More on this lovely afternoon as time gets nearer. Please call Ann Harlan, if you have a dress to share at 410-758-4349.

Bear Hugs Needed!!!! Share a Bear Anywhere!!!!

Food Pantry

We are all giving so much and have even been asked to give more with the serious needs of Haiti. Our own food pantry is being used more and more and so we are now in need of food again to help our community. All of us have so much compared to so many. Whatever you can spare is such a help! We need the following items: paper and personal care items, cereals, powdered or condensed milk, meats, tomato sauce and spaghetti noodles, staples such as flour and sugar. Please put all items in the closet or near the closet of the room across from the library. Blessings and thanks to all!



Food Pantry
Donations Needed

United Methodist Women

Every Tuesday we meet for sewing of bibs, blankets, shawls and bags for those in need in our community. Can you work scissors and/or tie a knot? If so, come in and join us. We are continuing our "Women of the Bible" study every other Tuesday through February 23rd. Some of our upcoming events are:

February 9– UMW meeting 1:30 p.m.

March 9– Meet at the Hospice House for special tour 1:00 p.m.

April 20– UMW evening meeting with pizza, salad and dessert 6:30 p.m.

Please rsvp to Linda McCabe at 410-758-2641

May 11– A special lunch with Rev. Phyllis Redlinski at her Wye River home
11:00 a.m. Please rsvp to Barbara Erickson at 410-758-1655

Scholarship Committee Needs Help!

It's tough to raise three to four thousand dollars to support our scholarships. Committee members have resigned, moved away or have health problem etc. Our committee of three, sometimes four, have held chicken salad sales and bake sales along with the Men's chicken barbeque. Most people don't order until the day before the sale. The chicken has to be ordered, dressing cooked (four gallons minimum) phone calls made to obtain celery and chicken choppers. This is a very time consuming project.

After ten years or so of serving as the scholarship chair, I feel it is time for me to resign from this position. I do want to thank very much those who have supported our cause. It was because of an active scholarship committee, that we have been able to help fifty or so young people with their first year of college.

So I am challenging a new committee to take over and start a new decade of helping our very deserving scholars.

Sincerely,
Connie Wilson

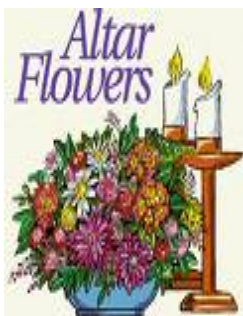


Centreville Lenten Devotional Booklet

The church is planning to publish a devotional booklet. Each devotion should include a scripture verse, a story that relates to the scripture, and a short prayer. For clarity when submitting your devotion please print or type. Space is limited so please limit your devotion to half a page. Your devotion needs to be into the church office by Sunday, February 7th.

Centreville United Methodist Officers and Members of the Church Council

Pastor - Rev. Mark Farnell
 Council Chair - April Sharp
 Vice Chair - Richard Phillips Jr.
 Recording Secretary - Bonnie English
 Lay Members to Conference - Emily Parry and Barbara Meeks
 SPRC Chair - Susan Morris
 Finance Chair - Dukes Meeks
 Treasurer - Lee Clark
 Finance Secretaries - Pat Clow, Ed Caporin, Bill Shannon, Joyce Downes
 Memorial Fund Treasurer - Linda Palmatary
 Trustee Chair - Henry Covington Jr.
 Worship Chair - Tammi Sewell
 Evangelism Chair - Laurie Dalziel
 Mission Chair - Larisa Thomas
 Superintendent, Sunday School - Laura Phillips
 United Methodist Men President - Lester Downes
 United Methodist Women President - Barbara Erickson
 Library Coordinator - Harriet Caporin
 Membership Secretary - Stacey Strotman
 CYM Representative - Student Leadership Members
 Ecumenical Representative - Emily Parry
 Members At Large - Bill Downes, Eileen Hahn, Barbara Meeks,
 Jerry Thomas, Dina Clark, Andy Cheezum



Worship Committee

If anyone would like to provide flowers for the altar, several dates are available to do so. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to honor someone that you love. If you are interested, please contact Tammi Sewell, worship committee chair @ 410-739-9600.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Another year is ahead of us as Christians of the Centreville United Methodist Church. Each day of this new calendar year demands its own resolution and its own challenges. Each day give its own hope and its own reward. January is not the beginning, it is a beginning. In the words of Philip James Bailey:

We live in deeds not years; in thoughts, not breaths; in feelings, not figures on a dial. We should count time by heart-throbs. He most lives who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best... Life is but a means unto an end; that end, beginning, mean, and end to all things –GOD.”

With this thought in mind, the music ministry of the church resolves to provide a relevant, vital music program for the church and God's work. We do need assistance from our congregation who have musical talents. Won't you let us know of your musical gifts?

The years pass so quickly and before you know it, those who reach the age of Senior members in our church are singing the following hymns:



The Old Rugged Face
 Precious Lord, Take My Hand (And Help Me Get Up)
 Nobody Knows the Trouble I Have Seeing
 It Is Well with My Soul (But my Back Hurts)
 Amazing Grace (Considering My Age)
 Just a Slower Walk With Thee
 Count Your Many Birthdays, Name Them One by One
 Go Tell It on the Mountain (And Speak Up)
 Give me That Old Timers Religion
 Blessed Insurance
 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (I've Forgotten Where I Parked)



Do you have a car and free time? Why not volunteer as a Road to Recovery Driver? The American Cancer Society's ROAD TO RECOVERY program is seeking volunteers to transport Cancer Patients to and from their treatments when all other resources have been exhausted. A brief orientation session is required as well as a valid driver's license and current motor vehicle insurance. This is a flexible opportunity with options such as where you are willing to drive and what days. If you would like to learn more and are interested, please contact Elmer Parkerson, Queen Anne's County Coordinator @ 410-310-6909 (Cell)

or 410-643-5595 (Home). E-Mail fsgtcop@verizon.net. This is a most rewarding program. Volunteer driving requires no special skills or education. Just a safe driving record, some free time, a serviceable vehicle and the desire to help. Thank you for your consideration.

Sub Sale



February 7th is the date of Super Bowl Sunday! Having a party? Heading to a friends? Just staying home? Well, let the Youth Group help you with your decision about what to eat or what to take to your friend's house! Italian 12 inch Subs are the Youth Missions Team's specialty. Subs are \$7 a piece, and need to be preordered by the 31st of January. Pick up is on the 7th at any time in the morning up until 12:30 PM. Subs are made fresh that day, and we only order a few extra so make sure you get your order in!

Call Stacy in the office at 410-758-0868 to place your order! All proceeds benefit the Youth's Summer Missions trip to Appalachia Service Project.

Coffee House

The Youth Missions Team is sponsoring a Coffee House on February 19th to raise funds for the Summer Missions Trip. We are working on bringing an outside band in to play that Friday night – and we will announce in church as soon as we have it confirmed! There will be lots of coffee with different flavors, and an assortment of delicious treats for your sweet tooth! Come fellowship, listen to great music, and support our amazing teens! \$5 per person to enter!



Middle School Dance

February 26th

7-9 PM

\$5 Entrance Fee

\$2 Pizza Slices

\$1 Snacks



Youth Missions ASP Team Meeting

February 1st

7:30 PM

Location: TBA



Centreville United Methodist Church
608 Church Hill Road
Centreville, MD 21617

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**CENTREVILLE
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**

608 Church Hill Road
Centreville MD
21617

Phone: 410-758-0868
Email Pastor Mark @
Mark.Farnell@centreville-
umc.com

We're on the Web at
www.centreville-umc.com

Sunday Church Schedule

8:45 AM - Praise Service with Nursery Available
9:45 - Sunday School for Ages Pre-School through Adult
11:00 AM - Traditional Service with Nursery Available

5:30-7:30: Middle School MYF (Grades 6-8)

6:30-8:30: High School MYF (Grades 9-12)

Calendar available online at www.centreville-umc.com.

Fellowship Hour will be held the 3rd Sunday of each month between both services in Fellowship Hall.
Mark your calendars for February 21.