

March Events!

March 6-7th -
Homeless Shelter

March 14th -
Spring Cleanup

March 15th -
Coffee Hour
Between Services

March 16th -
VIM Meeting

March 21st -
Coffee House

March 22nd -
50th Anniversary
Service at 2:30 PM

The Messenger

Centreville United Methodist Church



March 2009

Newsletter

Reverend's Remarks by Pastor Mark Farnell



Christians all over the world will soon be preparing for the season known as Lent. Lent is a forty day long season before Easter. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the desert, enduring the temptations of Satan. Lent begins with a day of repentance, Ash Wednesday and ends in horror and tragedy on Good Friday. Historically, Lent is associated with giving up something. I remember one particular year when I was old enough to understand what Lent meant I was going to give up my sweet tooth. Forty days without sweets? The agony of it all! Anyway, as hard as it was I went forty days without sweets. What did it prove? Nothing except I had enough will power to go forty days without sweets. It's O.K. to give something up for Lent but allow it to refocus you to the death and resurrection of Jesus our Lord!

Lent is one of the most important seasons in the church. Lent is a time of preparation for the believer, preparation through repentance, and nurturing in one's faith for Easter. Long ago Lent was a period of time meant for the preparation of those being baptized. With the legalization of Christianity in 325, it became a time of spiritual discipline for all people. Lent is a journey with Jesus to the cross. This involves discipline and self denial because we live in an age that says, "*Let it all go, be free.*" It's a time of dying to oneself. This is possible through an increase time in prayer. Be deliberate to add extra time in prayer and be still in the presence of God during the forty days of Lent. Learn more about God's grace. Turn off the television and allow more time in your daily devotions. Get involved in Bible Studies, home groups, take notes during the sermon. Have you volunteered in the church lately? Reach out and lend a helping hand to the many activities going on in the church, and to the community abroad.

Through these spiritual disciplines (and many more not mentioned), you can have a closer walk with God, and be built up in your faith. A faith that remembers what God has done and what God is going to do. A faith that takes the time during Lent to reflect on what our lives would be if Jesus had not lived and died for all people!



50th!!!! ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

Sunday, March 22, 2009 at 2:30 pm

Reception to follow in Fellowship Hall

RSVP to the church office by March 10th

410-758-4349

Share our history with the Bishop,
Superintendent, past pastors, our choirs, children,
youth, and see rooms of memorabilia. Buy a
celebration t-shirt, take a car decal, spread the
word of our 50 years!

Evangelism by Ann Harlan

Evangelism is a noun that means "the preaching of the gospel"

Lenten Prayer Room

The room across from our library will be once again transformed into a prayer center for Lent. It will be a place where you may go to experience prayer quietly using different centers and methods. There will be a communion table with consecrated communion containers for you to use also. Please help yourself to this center which will be available through the Lenten season. If you did not experience this prayer center last year please take time to use our room during any church hours.

Bear Ministry

A letter from a Bear Recipient:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

Greetings from Red Lion, PA. I have received my bear from my daughter, Robin Pilli. I have named him Paul. He has been going to Sunday School and church on Sunday morning and back again for church Sunday night. He goes to Wednesday night prayer meeting and to lady's Bible Study Thursday mornings. He reminds me of Paul the missionary. Everybody loves him, and he doesn't eat much so I can afford to keep him.

Love, Your sister in the Lord,

Ruth Boyd



Women's Evening Out

Coming at the end of April. Dinner and a demonstration by Message Therapist, Alison Harper, to show us how to do simple hand, foot and face massages. Watch for info about the date and time.

**Join us for Coffee Hour
Sunday, March 15th, 2009**

Following the 8:45 Service through the Beginning of the 11:00 Service!

We encourage those attending the 8:45 service to stay later and for those attending the 11:00 service to come earlier on this day so that we can fellowship together.



Mark Your Calendar

Sunday April 5, 2009 “Palm Sunday”

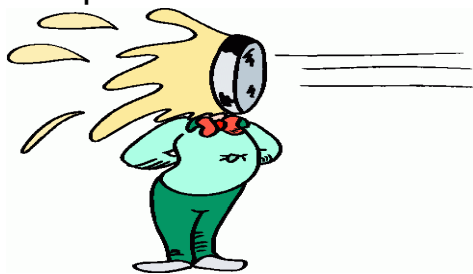
On this particular Sunday our new members join the ministry at Centreville United Methodist Church!

(During both Worship Services)

“Friendship Sunday” Sunday April 19, 2009

Invite a Friend! Invite a lot of Friends!

If **each** Worship Service has 185 people, or more in attendance then Pastor Mark gets a pie thrown in his face!!



Are we up to the challenge?

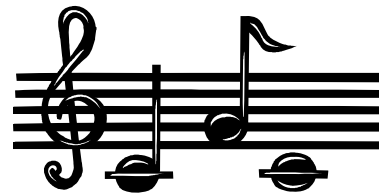
(If the challenge is met, a pie will be put in Pastor Mark’s face after each service)

Guess Who!!!

Last month’s mystery person was Herb Boone.

This month’s mystery person is originally from Baltimore, a graduate of John’s Hopkins University, and she moved to the shore after she got married “because her husband likes the country!” She has been attending church for the past 7 years– since her daughter was in Kindergarten. She works as a training manager for Verizon. Can you guess who this person is?

Music Notes by Nancy Cook



Speak To One Another With Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs.

Ephesians 5:19

What a wonderful September beginning as all our musical ministries groups are singing, playing, and ringing the glorious sounds of our faith!

You are invited to join one or several of the following opportunities for making music:

WEDNESDAYS - 6:30 PM - Cherub Choir - Ages 2 through Grade 1
 6:30 PM - Youth Choir - Grades 2 through Grades 8
 7:00 PM - Praise Team Rehearsal

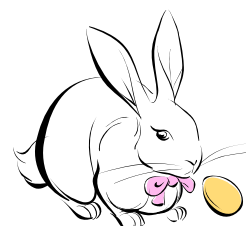
THURSDAYS - 6:00 PM - Tintinnabulators - Grades 3 through Adult
 (Music Reading Required)
 6:45 PM - Joy Bells - Experienced Bell Ringers
 (All bell positions are filled at this time)
 * 7:50 PM - Adult Choir - High School Juniors through age 90

SUNDAYS - 4:00 PM - Youth Praise Team Rehearsal

* A Special Note: The Adult Choir is seeking persons who have sung in high school or college. **NO MUSIC READING IS REQUIRED**, just a love of singing and of serving the Lord.

From Sunday School by Laura Phillips

The Easter Celebration is back!! The CUMC Sunday School is sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt that will take place on April 11th. Ages 2 years to 5th grade are invited to attend along with their parents. Time: 10:30-12:00. Donations of filled eggs will be gladly accepted the week of April 5th. Call 410-758-2288 if you have any questions.



Coffee House

Join your Praise Team,
The Heart's of Worship, during a
*Coffee House in Honor of the
50th Anniversary Weekend.*



**Saturday, March 21st
Doors Open at 6:45
Music from 7-9 PM**

**Admission: Free!
(Donations Appreciated!)**

Spring Clean!

By Henry Covington, Jr.

The Trustee's will be having a Spring Cleanup on Saturday, March 14th at 8:30 AM. Help will be appreciated to rake leaves, pick up sticks, spread mulch, plant new bushes, wash windows, improve the play ground, and perhaps repaint the parking lines. If you have an hour or so, please come and join us. For details, please call Henry Covington, Jr. at 758-2247

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

By Larisa Thomas

We have narrowed the dates for VBS! We are looking at Sunday July 5-10th or Monday July 6-11th. We want to know what those volunteering think. Please email us with your preferences.

We are starting the recruitment process! Please prayerfully consider helping in any capacity and contact me at Larisa.Thomas@centreville-umc.com or 410-758-2144 for more information.



By Ken Laing

New Recycling Program!

Please Remember that we are collecting old, usable cell phones, and ink cartridges! Drop off buckets at various locations in church! Thanks for your support!

Yard Sale Donations Needed in April!

Please remember the youth as you begin your spring cleaning! Yard Sale Collection Dates will be April 15th, 16th and 17th from 6:30-8:30 PM in Fellowship Hall with the Sale on Saturday, April 18th.

500 Miles to Appalachia!

Help the Youth Mission Team get to Appalachia by purchasing “a mile.” Each mile is \$10, and when you or your family purchase your mile, a “mile” with your name will be put up in the Sunday School Wing. We are hoping to stretch 500 miles up and down the Sunday School Wing! Help us meet our goal!

Youth will be selling miles beginning on Sunday, March 8th until we meet our goal! As always, we thank you for your support. Without you, we couldn't go on our mission trip! By supporting us, you are in mission with us!

Wanted: Sign Person!

CUMC is in need of someone to help change the sign out front which tells Centreville our upcoming events. This is an easy job and just needs someone during the week that has 15 extra minutes. You will be emailed what to write; an easy way to serve! Please contact Pat in the church office for more information.

Volunteers In Mission

QAC Homeless Shelter - We are in the process of getting ready to help staff the Homeless Shelter on Kent Island March 5-7th. Thank you to all who have volunteered to help staff, provide dinners, and supply food items. We are also still looking for volunteers to help provide dinners April 9 and 10. It is easy to serve, and the guests are always very appreciative. The signup forms are on the VIM Bulletin Board across from the church library.

Christmas in April – This has now been renamed to “Rebuilding Together.” Our church will be participating April 25th to help repair houses in Queen Anne County. If you are interested, please sign up on the VIM Bulletin Board.

Next Meeting - March 16th. All are invited to be the hands through which God can work! You can also contact me at Larisa.Thomas@centreville-umc.com or 410-758-2144.

SUNDAY MARCH 22 – ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

By Larisa Thomas

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) is the arm of the United Methodists that is there to help people who are affected by storms or war disaster or disease. We take this special offering one time a year to underwrite UMCOR’s “costs of doing business.” That helps keep their promise that 100% of every other gift made to UMCOR can be spent on the project – not on administrative costs.

UMCOR is a good steward of God’s gifts. Offering gifts over and above those used to cover administrative costs are channeled where they’re most needed. UMCOR’s specialized ministries- responding in disaster, fighting hunger, alleviating poverty, providing relief supplies around the world, and offering hospitality to immigrants and refugees- all assist the most vulnerable people whose need is the greatest.

Please bring a special offering on March 22nd to help support UMCOR. There will be a special collection for these gifts; checks can be made payable to CUMC with a memo stating UMCOR. Thank you for helping the United Methodists spread humanitarian aid.



Centreville United Methodist Church
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Centreville, MD 21617

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Phone: 410-758-0868
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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 March 15th!