



# The Grapevine

**Clarksbury United Methodist Church**  
15924 General Puller Highway, Hardyville, Virginia  
[www.clarksburyumc.com](http://www.clarksburyumc.com)

April 2016

**Our Mission:**

To receive and share God's love through worship, education, service and outreach.

---

## Pastor Ken's Corner

**John 20:1-18 (NRSV)**

<sup>1</sup> Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. <sup>2</sup> So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." <sup>3</sup> Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup> The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup> He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.

<sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, <sup>7</sup> and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup> Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup> for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

<sup>10</sup> Then the disciples returned to their homes. <sup>11</sup> But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; <sup>12</sup> and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. <sup>13</sup> They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." <sup>14</sup> When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." <sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to her "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" <sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

He is Alive!!! <sup>18</sup> *Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"* In that scripture we read that Mary who went to the tomb expecting to find the lifeless, wounded body of Jesus instead found the stone rolled away from the entrance to the

tomb. She races back to the other disciples and tells them; they race to see for themselves. *Peter...“saw the linen wrappings lying there,<sup>7</sup> and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself “...this in itself is something so incredible, so unbelievable. John (the other disciple) “who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed”;* that Jesus, whose mangled, lifeless body they had seen placed in this tomb on that dark Friday, is **gone...WHERE???** Yet John believes!!!

What about **Mary**? She saw the stone rolled away, was shocked, and comes back and is now weeping outside the tomb...*“she bent over to look into the tomb;<sup>12</sup> and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.<sup>13</sup> They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."*

Imagine her confusion and pain, her loss and grief; where is Jesus's body? Then...*“<sup>14</sup> When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.<sup>15</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?"* Talk about unexpected, who could have imagined? Jesus had told them all what was to happen but not one of His disciples nor His inner circle understood. How could they? This was not possible!!!

With God ALL THINGS are POSSIBLE!! Then *<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Wonder of Wonders... HE IS ALIVE!!!...NOT dead, but is ALIVE and...<sup>17</sup> Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'....* Small wonder that she goes back to the other disciples as Jesus had directed her.

Imagine walking into that crowd of men and saying, *“I have seen the Lord”;* and she *told them that he had said these things to her.* Who would believe? John would...but who else?

On that Easter morning the world found out about the fulfillment of Jesus' claim that the “Temple would be rebuilt in 3 days.” How impossible and improbable and inconceivable His claim to rise from the grip of death...to lay aside His life and take it back up again...all to demonstrate God the Father's love, grace, and dominion over death and life itself. **Do you believe? Do you Believe He died for you for the forgiveness of your sin, for your salvation?**

Do you realize just how precious you are to God? Do you realize how precious your brothers and sisters are to Jesus? You have heard me say several times that “something is only worth what someone else is willing to pay for it”.... God values US...Jesus values us...YOU AND ME!!! The Holy Trinity LOVES US enough to have paid the ultimate price for YOU and ME, and for the WORLD. Let us remember that...to keep that idea in the forefront of our actions and deeds, our prayer life and in our interactions with our brothers and sisters from here on out.

I would be remiss if I did not say how happy I am with all the labor and work and joyful fellowship and community effort that Clarksbury (YOU) and the congregations of Zoar Baptist and Philippi Christian Churches have combined to celebrate both Lent and Holy Week and now the Easter season.

Additionally, praise goes to all our combined efforts by the women and men of our church for their wonderful meals and many thanks to the ministers who helped us focus our spiritual direction during those Lenten lunches. My heartfelt thanks go out to Rev. Eric Vaudt, Rev. Grant Ambrose, Rev. Ileana Rosario, Rev. June Haislip and Rev. John Choi for joining our worship services and to their church members who joined us for the combined worship services and great meals.

Let us not forget those wonderful, tasty Easter eggs. The ladies looked like they had great fun on that project...even got some help in the kitchen from one of the guys. In all these joys to God be the glory.

The earth itself is renewing and refreshing...green sprouts, blooming flowers...even the trees putting out new leaves...the life and death and life again cycle of creation. Right now though...spring is here at last!!!! ☺ ☺

No time to rest though...we have another Food Pantry Project on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April; it is upon us so quickly. I know that there has already been much labor and effort...procuring, receiving gifts of food and resources, sorting and bagging, and distributing and praying.

As we march into this Easter season and beyond, let us go with the confidence of the knowledge of our RISEN SAVIOR...Jesus the Christ...His victory over Death and let us LIVE into the abundant LIFE Jesus has prepared for us.

You and I were purchased; the price of our salvation was PAID---IN---FULL...as those nails drove into Jesus' flesh and He hung on that cross and died for us...because he loves us/me...and we live by faith in the Son of God. When Mary looked in and saw the empty tomb she cried tears of great sorrow. Then she saw and had joy fill her soul as she recognized him..."*Rabbouni!*"...not only our teacher but our **SAVIOR**. **At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow and tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!**

He lives in you and me and we need others to see the Jesus in us.

**Grace & Peace**  
**Pastor Ken**

Annual Budget for 2016 (Operating Funds) **\$108,223**  
Total Received for Operating Funds as of February 28, 2016: **\$18,820.31**  
Income Needed to Date to Meet Budget: **\$18,037.17**

**COFFEE HOUR FOR APRIL**

April 3 – Polly Van Benschoten  
April 10 – Kathy Wright  
April 17 – Lucy Blevins  
April 24 – Becky Foster

*Christians are like lumps of  
coal:  
alone they die out, together  
they glow.*

## FINAL COUNT DOWN TO SPRING FOOD PANTRY DAY

By Fran Miller

Food Pantry Committee

**W**ell, the time is almost here for our Spring Food Pantry Day. The date is Saturday, April 16, from 9-11 a.m. We want to thank you for all your support with the food items you have brought in or the money you have donated. If you haven't signed up to help out that day, please do so. As a final plea to having at least 100 bags of groceries, we are asking you to fill a bag with the items listed below and bring it to the church Sunday, April 3 or April 10. Please double bag your items. Again thank you for all your support.



7 vegetables

Jar of spaghetti sauce

Peanut butter

2 cans pork & beans

2 Ready Meals

2 canned meats or tuna

2 soups or soup mixes & 1 Ramen noodles

2 cans fruit

Box of pasta

Bag of dried beans

1 breakfast food

1 box macaroni & cheese

2 pkg. rice or pasta mix or 2 envelopes

instant mashed potatoes

## UMM NEWS

By Warren Wright, UMM President



**T**he UMM will begin their 2016 Bible Study, *Making Sense of the Bible* by Adam Hamilton, on Monday, April 11, at 7 p.m. The next regular business meeting will be on Tuesday, April 26, at 6 p.m. with our second Bible Study session to start immediately after the business meeting. In April the UMM will begin their collection of articles for Health Kits and Cleaning Buckets for the UMC Annual Conference to be held in Roanoke June 17-19. Plans have been finalized for the Mother's Day breakfast to be held on Saturday, May 7 at 9 a.m. Remember that there are no membership or dues requirements to be a part of the United Methodist Men of Clarksbury, just a willingness to serve Jesus Christ within your church and community.

**Mission—To Help Men Grow In Christ, So Others May Know Christ.**

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE JUNE 10

By Fran Miller

Chairperson, Finance Committee

**I**f you are a graduating high school senior or continuing college student, applications are now being accepted for the church's scholarship. You may access the eligibility requirements and the application on the church website. The link to it is on the main page. Applications are also available on the bulletin board in the hallway as you enter the fellowship hall. Completed applications are due by June 10.



## Hymnology 101

April 2016

By Polly Van Benschoten

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” Page 57



**W**hen Rev. Grant Ambrose spoke at our third Lenten luncheon he used this hymn as a part of his message to us. “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” was written by Charles Wesley in 1739 to commemorate a renewal of his faith following an illness where he was cared for by a group of Christians who ministered to him physically and spiritually. The hymn took the form of an 18-stanza poem. (You can see all the stanzas on page 58 of our hymnal.) The seventh verse, which begins, O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing, and which now is the first verse of a shorter hymn, recalls the words of Peter Böhler, a Moravian scholar whom the Wesley brothers studied under, who said, “Had I a thousand tongues I would praise Him with them all.”

This hymn has traditionally been the opening hymn in Methodist hymnals since the time of Wesley’s *Collection of Hymns for the Use of the People Called Methodists* published in 1780.

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad  
the honors of thy name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,  
that bids our sorrows cease;  
'tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of canceled sin,  
he sets the prisoner free;

his blood can make the foulest clean;  
his blood availed for me.

He speaks, and listening to his voice,  
new life the dead receive;  
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,  
the humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,  
your loosened tongues employ;  
ye blind, behold your savior come,  
and leap, ye lame, for joy.

In Christ, your head, you then shall know,  
shall feel your sins forgiven;  
anticipate your heaven below,  
and own that love is heaven.

### A NOTE FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

**Diane Faulkner**

On March 6 new directories were available for pick up at the church (either in the Narthex or the Fellowship Hall). If you have not picked up your copy, please do so; there are several left.

Also, we have a correction to the new March 2016 directory. Please correct your directory changing Kimberly South's phone no. to: 804-815-8485.

Again, if any of your information is inaccurate or you change any of your information at a future date, please give me the new information so that I may update our records at the church.

Thank you and may God bless each of you!

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR LAY LEADER

By Warren Wright



We need the shower of the Holy Spirit in our lives like never before. During a good rain vegetation is nourished, animals are nourished, the grass gets greener, and rain refreshes the land. Rain causes things to grow and be fruitful.

We, as well, need to be spiritually nourished and refreshed through the word of God and through the Holy Spirit. We all know people who are in a drought! There comes a time in every person's life when they experience a drought of some kind. It may be the drought of health—when it seems like there is no end in sight to your physical problems. It may be the drought of finances—when it seems like the bills are coming in faster than the money to pay them. It may be the drought of your occupation—because you have lost the enjoyment of doing what you do for a living.

But of all the droughts I can think of, the worst is a spiritual drought. In the midst of spring showers, Peter found the strength to get out of the boat and the faith to walk on water. And when he failed, he found the strong arms of Jesus to lift him out of his crisis. If you want to survive the day to day showers of life, don't make the storms bigger than they are and don't give in to fear; but walk in the strength of the arms of Christ.

### Deuteronomy 11:14-17

Today my prayer is, "Lord, we need rain!"

## SOUP MINISTRY

By Kathy Wright, Chairperson, Lucy Blevins, Diane Faulkner, Helen White



**A**pril will be a very busy month for Clarksbury's soup ministry. On Saturday, April 2, the soup ministry committee will be working with Dave Cryer of the Cryer Center with the distribution of food to our eligible soup ministry recipients. On Monday, April 4, homemade soup, provided by Clarksbury's volunteers, will be distributed to our soup ministry recipients along with a sleeve of crackers. On Saturday, April 16, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., the soup ministry folks will be distributing homemade soup (with crackers) to those who receive groceries at the Spring Food Pantry distribution. On Monday, April 18, homemade soup (with crackers) will again be delivered to the soup ministry recipients in the Deltaville area.

As you can see, **volunteers** are a very important part of our soup ministry mission at Clarksbury UMC. If you know of someone who would benefit from this ministry, or if you or someone you know would like to participate, **please** notify one of the committee members listed above, or myself, Kathy Wright, 757-373-9166, or email [kdwright@va.metrocast.net](mailto:kdwright@va.metrocast.net). God Bless!

## **United Methodist Men to Begin Collecting Articles for Kits for Conference By Warren Wright**

**B**eginning Sunday, April 17, the UMM will be asking the congregation to contribute articles for Health Kits and Cleaning Buckets for the UMC Annual Conference to be held in Roanoke on June 17-19. Boxes will be placed throughout the church for the collection of these articles. Members of the congregation can also make monetary contributions for these articles and members of the UMM will shop for the articles. Listed below are the articles for both kinds of kits:

### **Health Kit Materials**

- **1 hand towel**
  - 15 x 25 inches to 17 x 27 inches;
  - Kitchen, cleaning, and microfiber towels not acceptable.
- **1 washcloth**
- **1 comb**
  - Comb needs to be sturdy and longer than 6 inches long;
  - No pocket combs or picks please;
  - Rattail combs and combs without handles are acceptable with a minimum of 6 inches of teeth.
- **1 metal nail file or nail clippers**
  - No emery boards, please.
- **1 bath-size soap**
  - 3 oz. and larger sizes only;
  - No Ivory or Jergens soap due to moisture content;
  - Do not remove from original packaging.
- **1 toothbrush**
  - Adult size only;
  - Do not remove from original packaging.
- **6 adhesive bandages**
  - ¾ inch to 1 inch-size;
  - Common household Band-Aids.
- **1 plastic bag**
  - One-gallon size sealable bag only.

### **Cleaning Bucket Materials**

- **5-gallon bucket with resealable lid**
  - Buckets from fast-food restaurants or bakeries can be used if washed and cleaned;
  - Do not use buckets that have stored chemicals such as paint or pool cleaner;
  - Advertisements on the outside are acceptable.
- **Liquid laundry detergent**
  - One 50-oz. or two 25-oz. bottle(s) only.
- **Liquid household cleaner**
  - 12-16 oz. liquid cleaner that can be mixed with water;
  - No spray cleaners.
- **Dish soap**
  - 16-28 oz. bottle any brand.
- **1 can air freshener**
  - Aerosol or pump.
- **1 insect repellent spray**
  - 6-14 oz. aerosol or spray pump with protective cover.
- **1 scrub brush**
  - Plastic or wooden handle.
- **18 cleaning wipes**
  - Handi Wipes or reusable wipes;
  - No terry cleaning towels;
  - Remove from packaging.
- **7 sponges**
  - No cellulose sponges due to mold issues;

- Remove from wrapper.
- **5 scouring pads**
  - Remove from wrapper;
  - No stainless steel, Brillo pads, or SOS pads (nothing with soap built in).
- **50 clothespins**
- **Clothesline**
  - One 100-ft. or two 50-ft. lines;
  - Cotton or plastic.
- **24-roll heavy-duty trash bags**
  - 33- to 45-gallon sizes;
  - Remove from the box.
- **5 dust masks**
- **2 pairs kitchen dishwashing gloves**
  - Should be durable enough for multiple uses;
  - Remove from packaging.
- **1 pair work gloves**
  - Cotton with leather palm or all leather.

## THE POWER OF PRAYER

For most of us, prayer arises out of the sincere longing of our soul to be in touch with our Creator. It can be a simple conversation with God, a deeply felt desire to immerse yourself in the presence of God, or perhaps a "telegram" sent to God in a sudden moment of need.

Prayer is time spent with God. There is no one right way or place to pray. You can pray sitting down, standing up, or lying in bed. You can pray before you eat or sleep, at the beginning of the day or at the end. You can pray moment by moment as you work or play, or as you stand in line at the super market.

You may shout your prayer, whisper it, or commune with God in absolute silence. You may put it to music and sing it, or write in a private journal. Anytime, anywhere, for any reason it is appropriate to pray.

God hears you, and he answers you – through his Spirit, through His Word, or through the people in your life.

*Taken from Prayers for Life 2009, with permission from Publications International, Ltd.*

Last month Ken and I attended the Bishop's meeting with his York River District 'Praying Covenant Congregations'. Bishop Cho suggested that **Prayer Covenant Congregations** might want to include an article about prayer in each month's newsletters. How easy that would be for CUMC, I thought. After all, Charlie Weis said at our 'meet & greet' back in April 2014, "This is a praying church." Was she ever right-on! We definitely have seen proof-positive evidence of that, for sure!

This Prayer Power of CUMC should be shared among us, touching many, or maybe just one at a particular time. No matter, it would be our Awesome God at work. Please share whatever comes to mind regarding prayer in your life: what prayer means to you, what prayer has done for you, a favorite prayer, one you have read, or written yourself, a particular one for a particular season – doesn't have to be long – brief can be good.

Submit to Petra by the newsletter deadline – OR – whenever a prayer or related story comes to mind. It would be nice for our editor to have something at-the-ready each month. Submitted (this month!) by Terry Cleveland

**Our Vision:**

To be a spirit-filled and nurturing church family that reaches out and embraces the entire community.

# The Grapevine

## April 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2  5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
3 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship <b>Communion</b>	4* <b>Al Miller</b> 11 a.m. <b>Soup Ministry</b>	5  7 p.m. <b>Trustees</b>	6* <b>Paulette Topping</b>	7  7 p.m. <b>Chancel Choir</b>	8	9  5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
10 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	11  7 p.m. <b>UMM Bible Study</b>	12  7 p.m. <b>EY Circle</b>	13	14  6 p.m. <b>Worship Committee</b> 7 p.m. <b>Chancel Choir</b>	15	16 9-11 a.m. <b>Spring Food Pantry</b>  5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
17 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	18* <b>Richard Sisson</b> 11 a.m. <b>Soup Ministry</b>	19* <b>Richard Purcell</b> <b>*Mary Nell Ivey</b>  7 p.m. <b>Finance and Church Council</b>	20	21* <b>Jerry Crittenden</b>  7 p.m. <b>Chancel Choir</b>	22	23  5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
24 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	25	26* <b>Betty Johnson</b>  6 p.m. <b>UMM Business Meeting and Bible Study</b>	27	28  7 p.m. <b>Chancel Choir</b>	29	30  5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship

The deadline for the May 2016 Grapevine will be Sunday, April 24. Send items to [pwalian@yahoo.com](mailto:pwalian@yahoo.com).

\*APRIL BIRTHDAYS (If you know of any additions, deletions or corrections that should be made to the birthday calendar, please let the newsletter editor know.)

Counters for April are Fran Miller and Gayle Gilliland.  
Anne Tompkins and Diane Faulkner will serve as ushers.  
The reader is Gayle Gilliland.