



The Grapevine

Clarksbury United Methodist Church
15924 General Puller Highway, Hardyville, Virginia **October 2016**
www.clarksburyumc.com

Our Mission:

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

Pastor Ken's Corner

2 Timothy 3:14-17 (NRSV)

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

Fall is here!!! The trees are shedding leaves, temperatures are cooling...there might even be a few days where we can have doors and windows open and enjoy those breezes without the air-conditioning.

For the church, we are preparing for our Charge Conference at Lower UMC at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 16. Everyone is encouraged to attend, even though normally there is a low turnout. Come and hear what your church has done in the past year and what the church is focused on for the coming year.

We have done much FOR our community and IN our community throughout the year including the Soup Ministry, the Mobile Food Pantry, and our Spring Food Bank. The year isn't over yet...NOW we are making preparations for our Fall Food Bank. We will go into the community and invite and encourage them to join with us in helping others in the community who need help. The sign-up lists are, for the most part, complete. But we all know the real work is in the distribution and picking up of the bags of food and then in the sorting and bagging of the food and supplies for distribution on October 22.

An Advent Bible study is planned for five sessions starting on Wednesday, October 26, at 7 p.m. Adam Hamilton's *Not a Silent Night* will be used for the study. Books will be provided for each person who registers. A registration fee of \$10 will be charged.

¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

All the work done and charitable efforts made are out of our abundance of faith in Christ Jesus. Jesus commands us to love our neighbors and to serve them. The good works we do in our community are not SO THAT we might be proud of OURSELVES, rather that we serve our Lord and act righteously toward our fellow man. This is putting our faith into action IN our community and IN our own lives.

I believe it is our FAITH in Jesus that we put into ACTIONS for and with the CHILDREN and YOUNG PEOPLE of our community that truly lives into the above commands from our Lord.

Keep our Soup Ministry, those who serve and are served, in your prayers. Think about how you can partner with and support this worthy ministry.

This note is much condensed from my letters in the past...maybe because we have so much WORK to do. I will urge all of you over the next few weeks to PRAY, to MEDITATE on GOD'S WORD and to look to what you CAN DO for OUR COMMUNITY and OUR CHURCH.

We together, have pledged OUR prayers, OUR presence, OUR gifts, OUR service and OUR witness for Christ and His Church.

Peace & Grace
Pastor Ken

Annual Budget for 2016 (Operating Funds) **\$108,223**
Total Received for Operating Funds as of August 31, 2016: **\$70,738.42**
Income Needed to Date to Meet Budget: **\$72,148.67**

COFFEE HOUR FOR October

October	2	Polly Van Benschoten
October	9	Jerry Dant
October	16	Petra Walian
October	23	Linda Dobbins
October	30	Terry Cleveland



*If you would like to be a part of this ministry,
please contact Polly Van Benschoten, 776-0569*

Correction does much, but encouragement does more.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR LAY LEADER

Stewardship, God's economic plan

By Warren Wright



You hear about the stock market and its ups and downs, the rising and falling prices of oil and the problems faced by the banks and S&L institutions. You're well aware of the world's economic plan or the lack of it. But I want to tell you about God's economic plan. In **1 Timothy 6:17-19**, is a passage that may explain God's economic plan better than any other.

"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

"Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life."

One of the greatest mistakes, I think, that we make when we talk about money in the church is that we often do it in the context of a special appeal or in a crisis situation.

If we are told that there are thousands of starving people who need our help and a special offering is taken, if that strikes your fancy, you'll probably give and maybe even give sacrificially to help meet that need. Or, if you are reminded that the church needs your gift for the building fund, and you feel that that's a legitimate need, then you will give generously in response to that need, too.

And, the result is that too often Christian people have been conditioned to think that the only time they really need to get serious about giving is when there is a need that appeals to their particular emotion. And some needs are just more appealing than others, aren't they?

But the problem actually starts with us, with people who don't recognize that **the teaching of Scripture is not to give to needs but to give to the glory of God.** We are stewards of God's wealth. God provides it to us, and He says, "Here you are, you are all stewards." We don't have a choice in that. Our God is a giving God. He has given all to us, and He wants His people to learn how to be generous, too, and willing to share.

We are like the people in the parable of the talents. God gives us something to use for a while, and then finally He comes back, like the master in the parable, and He says, "Now give me an accounting. What have you done with what I have given you to use during your time on the face of the earth?" The Day of Judgment will be the day of accounting.

What the Bible says about stewardship

1 Timothy 6:17-19 ESV

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

1 Corinthians 4:1-21 ESV

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God. ...

UMM NEWS

By Warren Wright, UMM President



The United Methodist Men will meet on Monday, October 10th at 7 PM, for our Adam Hamilton study "Making Sense of the Bible." At that time we will study chapters 24-25-26-27. The next regular business meeting will be on Monday, October 24th at 6 PM followed by our study by Adam Hamilton, chapters 28-29-30-21-32 and this will conclude our study. At our business meeting we will be finalizing plans for our Friday October 28th Barbeque Dinner. 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.

HYMNOLOGY 101

October 2016

By Polly Van Benschoten

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" Page 400



1 Samuel 7:12 – Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mispah and Jeshanah and named it Ebenezer; for he said, “Thus far the Lord has helped us.”

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” was written in 1758 by British Baptist hymn writer Robert Robinson (1735-1790). His father died when he was eight years old. He was bright and headstrong and a handful for his mother. When he was 14 she sent him to London for an apprenticeship with a barber where he proceeded to get into more trouble. When he was 17 he and some of his drinking buddies decided to attend an evangelistic meeting where they planned to make fun of the event. Instead he was deeply moved by the sermon and later gave his life to Christ. After his conversion in 1755 he first preached at a Calvinistic Methodist chapel (he wrote this hymn to complement a sermon he preached there) and then founded his own independent congregation. Later he became pastor of Stone Yard Baptist Church, a relationship that lasted for 30 years (1761-1790).

A favorite line in the last stanza seems to be particularly autobiographical in his case (and perhaps in ours also) – “Prone to wonder, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love.” Another line – this one in the second stanza – also seems to be autobiographical – “Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.”

The Biblical allusion in stanza two “Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I’ve come;” refers to 1 Samuel 7:12. Ebenezer means “Stone of Help.”

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.

O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

By David Dobson, Chairperson



Greetings beloved Church Family at Clarksbury.

The worship committee had its quarterly meeting on September 8th to close out VBS 2016 and plan for the autumn and Christmas seasons. Some special events include: ringing of the church bell on September 11, as we remembered the 15th anniversary of the tragedy of the day; opening the doors on November 7th for community prayer the day before the presidential election; special remembrance for Veterans Day; and Becky has something special planned (as usual) for our Christmas celebrations.

Efforts are being made to have a special event early in 2017. Be ready! We also welcome our newest member, Mary Banker, into the fold. All of our parishioners are welcome to offer suggestions and comments on worship to any committee member.

NURTURE AND CARE COMMITTEE

By Jerry Dant, Chair

There are times we need to remember our members and their families with a card to cheer them up or support them in their time of need. It is very difficult to know the needs of all our members and friends, so I am asking that if you know someone in our church family or other church family that could be cheered up or supported with a card and a message, please let me know by either a phone call or via email. I personally know how good it feels to receive cards from our local community. We are all children of God so let's remember each other with cards.

Article

By Fred Dant Quoted article came from a Bible study by the renowned author Adam Hamilton. In April 1953, President Eisenhower made a speech shortly after the death of Joseph Stalin. It was a speech designed to reign in the cold war. Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, and the hopes of its children. The cost of one modern heavy bomber is this: a modern brick school in more than 30 cities. It is two electric power plants, each serving a town of 60,000 populations. It is two fine, fully equipped hospitals. It is some 50 miles of concrete highway. We pay for a single fighter plane with a half a million bushels of wheat. We pay for a single destroyer with new homes that could have housed 8000 people. This, I repeat, is the best way of life to be found on the road the world has been taking. This is not a way of life at all, in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron.



POWER OF PRAYER

The Knots Prayer
Dear God,
please untie the knots
that are in my mind,
my heart and my life.
Remove the *have nots*,
the *can nots* and the *do nots*
that I have in my mind.

Erase the *will nots*,
may nots, and
might nots that find
a home in my heart.

Release me from the *could nots*,
would nots and
should nots that obstruct my life.

And most of all, dear God,
I ask that you remove from my mind
my heart and my life all of the *am nots*
that I have allowed to hold me back,
especially the thought
that I am not good enough.

Amen.

Let us rejoice in our Faith and Church Family everywhere!

Our Vision:

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



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October 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
2 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Communion	3 11 a.m. Soup Ministry	4 Tommy Crittenden Helen White 7 p.m. Trustees	5	6 6p.m. Worship Committee Meeting 7 p.m. Chancel Choir	7	8 Deliver Bags for Food Pantry 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
9 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	10 Cacky Guill 7p.m. UMM Bible Study	11 Danny Walton Janis Slaughter 7p.m. EY circle	12 Ivey Huff	13 7p.m. Chancel Choir	14 Anne Tinney	15 Eric Vaudt Collect Food Pantry Bags 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
16 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	17 11 a.m. Soup Ministry	18 Finance & Church Council 7 p.m.	19 Repack Food Pantry Bags	20 7 p.m. Chancel Choir		22 Food Pantry Distribution 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
23 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	24 6p.m. UMM Meeting and Bible Study	25 Jerry Duke	26	27 7 p.m. Chancel Choir	28 UMM Barbecue Dinner	29 Phyllis Motley 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
30 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	31 Kathy Wright					

The deadline for the November 2016 Grapevine will be **Monday, October 24** . Send items to pwalian@yahoo.com.
October 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 October are Mary Banker and Cacky Guill
 Sydney and Sierra Funk will serve as **ushers**.
 The **reader** is Mary Banker