



The Grapevine

Clarksbury United Methodist Church
15924 General Puller Highway, Hardyville, Virginia March 2017
www.clarksburyumc.com

Our Mission:

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

Pastor Ken's Corner

Romans 5:12-19 (NRSV)

¹² Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned – ¹³ sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. ¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many.

¹⁶ And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification.

¹⁷ If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all.

¹⁹ For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

“just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned –”

In the scripture passage above, Paul, in his letter to the Romans, tells the Christian world that as sin came into the world by man...and the consequences of sin are grave and deadly, so we all reap the wage of Sin...Death! During our 40 days of Lenten reflection and meditation it is good to ponder our priorities, our daily routines, our thoughts and our prayers and during these times of reflection count the cost of our SIN.

For which Christ **paid in full**....for all on the Cross!

“For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many.”

Paul continues...with, even though we are connected with the sin of ADAM through our human nature, we also can have faith in the free gift of grace from God that, through one man, Jesus Christ, is the super abundant Grace which pays the sin debt for us all.

“¹⁸ Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹ For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.”

As original humanity's sin condemns us all, so through the righteousness and obedience of Jesus Christ we are justified, or put into a right relationship with God by Jesus Christ.

It is essential for us to realize that we have a RIGHT relationship with God that has been restored, even though our sin would make it impossible to restore, because of the perfect gift of God's grace and mercy through Jesus Christ. Meditate on that over LENT.

Lent is HERE and, as we have for a number of years in the past, we are planning for and invite you to come to our Lenten luncheons if you are able.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Minister</u>	<u>Servers/Providers</u>
March 8	Rev. Hyung Moon	United Methodist Women
March 15	Rev. Jeongin Kim	United Methodist Women
March 22	Rev. Illeana Rosario	United Methodist Women
March 29	Rev. Grant Ambrose	United Methodist Men
April 5	Rev. Eric Vaudt	United Methodist Men
April 12	Rev. John Choi	United Methodist Men

The **meal starts at 12 noon (cost \$6)** to be followed by a service of song, hymns, readings or meditations from around **12:30 until 1 p.m.** The money raised is given to **mission ministries of Clarksbury including, but not limited to, the Society of Saint Andrew.**

Additionally, we will have a new Bible study for the Lenten season using Adam Hamilton's *24 Hours that Changed the World.*" Books are available; just ask Warren Wright, Carl Tate or me. The cost for the book will be \$10 and can be paid for at the time you pick up your copy. The study will have six sessions covering the seven chapters of the book. The classes are intended for anyone interested and the schedule is as follows: first session – Wednesday, March 15, at 7 p.m. with subsequent sessions on each of the following Wednesday evenings, concluding on April 19 with the final session.

The ladies will be working on their Easter eggs and Lenten luncheons. The UMM will be busy as well and there will also be opportunities for all to serve with our Mobile Food Bank efforts with the Cryer Center on March 4 from 9-11 a.m. Philippi is the scheduled church providing the majority of the workers...but there is always plenty for all to do. If you can spare the time, come out and lend a hand.

During Lent, many Christians commit to fasting or giving up certain types of luxuries as a form of penance. Many Christians also add a Lenten spiritual discipline, such as reading a daily devotional or praying through a Lenten calendar, to draw themselves near to God. The Stations of the Cross, a devotional commemoration of Christ's carrying the Cross and of his execution, are often observed. Many Roman Catholic and some Protestant churches remove flowers from their altars, while crucifixes, religious statues, and other elaborate religious symbols are often veiled in violet fabrics in solemn observance of the event.

Consider what you will do for LENT. What will you sacrifice or give up? Will you endeavor to DO something positive and uplifting for others as imitators of Christ's sacrifice for humanity 2,000 plus years ago?

There are Society of St. Andrew daily Lenten devotionals in the narthex and the social hall. Consider picking one up and following a Lenten routine of daily meditation and scripture reading.

My prayer is that WE continue to pray and meditate on His WORD daily, NOT JUST BECAUSE IT IS DURING LENT, and that we serve our community selflessly and celebrate those lost sheep who have lost their way (like you and I have at different times) when the lost are found and returned to the fold.

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

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

Peace & Grace
Pastor Ken

Budget information updated as numbers are available. Thank you for your understanding.

Annual Budget for 2017 Operating Funds) \$112,185.00
Total Received for Operating Funds as of February 28, 2017: **\$18,704.28**
Income Needed to Date to Meet Budget: **\$18,697.50**

Grudges are like hand grenades;
it is wise to release them before they destroy you.

COFFEE HOUR FOR February

March	5	Anne Tompkins
March	12	Polly Van Benschoten
March	19	Petra Walian
March	26	Fran Miller



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

UMM NEWS

By Warren Wright, UMM President



The final session of our Bible Study, "Half Truths" by Adam Hamilton, Chapter 5, will be held on Monday March 13th at 7 PM. Our regular monthly business meeting will be held on Monday March 27th at 7 PM. 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.

Winter Food Pantry Committee

By Fran Miller, Chairperson



Winter Food Pantry A Success!

We would like to thank all the people who made the Winter Food Pantry such a huge success – the volunteers who helped sort our food, pack our grocery bags, and give up their day to help distribute the food. On our distribution day, we were able to help 51 families comprising 170 people. We distributed 94 bags of groceries, 51 bags of toiletries, and items donated by the Cryer Center. Thanks to the Soup Ministry, we were also able to distribute 51 quarts of soup and items from our warming tree. But that is not all this day was about. We had 8 people ask for someone to prayer with them. We think the families felt the caring and welcoming attitudes of our volunteers that day. We, as a group, felt that we were doing what God meant us to do – reach out and help our neighbor. We truly felt the Spirit! Now don't think your job is done. We will be seeking volunteers to help with our new Summer Food Pantry. So keep your eyes open for articles appearing in upcoming newsletters. Again, thank you for all you have done.

NURTURE AND CARE COMMITTEE

By Jerry Dant, Chairperson



The Nurture Committee would like to thank all who have sent a card, visited, or prayed for our home bound members. It is very essential for them to feel a part of the church as if they are here every Sunday. We know they are in our hearts and we need to remember these members in all ways possible. We have had some suggestions on things we might do and you will be hearing about them in the next newsletter. If you need an address of a home bound member, please call me at 776-6975 or e-mail me at jerryd1935@msn.com. Speaking of heart, there is a heart on the bulletin board with their names and address on it. God Bless

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR LAY LEADER

By Warren Wright



I take my responsibilities as your **lay leader** very seriously and have spent some time re-reading what those responsibilities really mean. This month I would like to share some of these responsibilities with you.

The **lay leader** has a role and responsibility that touches the entire breadth of the congregation's life. The **lay leader** will:

- advocate
- model responsible and faithful discipleship
- build awareness within the congregation
- recognize and celebrate the ministry of the laity
- meet with the pastor
- serve on various committees
- continue to study
- assist the church council
- inform the laity of educational opportunities.

The **lay leader** serves as primary advocate for and representative of the laity in the congregation and must be a professing member of the congregation.

A prior part of this advocacy work includes the recognition that the **lay leader** should be a person of faith and integrity. As an "extension" of the congregation in the community, the **lay leader** also will need to be aware of the reputation that the church has in the community and work either to enhance it or improve it. The **lay leader** is also an advocate for the needs of the community.

The **lay leader** will strive to inspire the congregation to care for those beyond the walls and windows of the church.

Now that you know what **my** responsibilities are as your **lay leader**, I want you to know what **our** mission is as laity members of the United Methodist Church and the work of our Lord.

THE MISSION OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The United Methodist Church is a connectional church, which means in part that every local church is interrelated through the structure and organization of districts, conferences, jurisdictions, and central conferences in the larger "family" of the denomination. *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* describes, among other things, the ministry of all United Methodist Christians, the essence of servant ministry and leadership, how to organize and accomplish that ministry, and how our connectional structure works. Our Church is more than a structure; it is a living and vibrant dedication to the

Kingdom of God. The *Discipline* describes our mission to proclaim the gospel and to welcome people into the body of Christ, to lead people to a commitment to God through Jesus Christ, to nurture them in Christian living by various means of grace, and to send persons into the world as agents of Jesus Christ. Thus, through you – and many other Christians – this very relational mission continues. **“...all Christians are called to minister wherever Christ would have them serve and witness in deeds and words that heal and free”**

Clarksbury’s mission statement: “To receive and share God’s love through worship, education, service, and outreach”.

SOUP MINISTRY

By Kathy Wright, Chairperson



The soup ministry was very involved in the distribution of homemade soup (and a sleeve of crackers) at the Winter Food Pantry Distribution on Saturday, February 18, serving fifty-one families. The soup ministry distributes homemade soup twice a month, year round, to families in the Deltaville community. If you know of someone that may benefit from this mission of Clarksbury U.M.C., **please** contact one of the members of the committee, listed above, or myself, Kathy Wright (757-373-9166) or email kdwright@va.metrocast.net. God Bless!

Warming Tree Ministry

By Kathy Wright



As a new mission, the warming tree ministry has been very successful. At one time, we were almost out of all our warming items. We sent out a call to our congregation for more warming items. The response was overwhelming! These warming items have been made available at Clarksbury U.M.C. when the Cryer Center Mobile Food Pantry Distribution came the first Saturday since November 2016 and at our Winter Food Pantry Distribution on February 18. We have one more opportunity to help those needing warming items on March 4 when the Cryer Center Food Mobile Pantry will be at Clarksbury U.M.C. We would like to THANK EVERYONE who contributed to the warming tree by purchasing items, making items, or contributing financially for this very successful mission. Our next mission will be to add a coat closet to our warming tree. We continue to look for ways to assist our Deltaville community, and if you would like to help in any way, just contact one of the committee members listed above, or myself, Kathy Wright (757-373-9166) or email kdwright@va.metrocast.net. God Bless.

Hymnology 101
March 2017
By Polly Van Benschoten



“God Will Make a Way for Me”

“...I will even make a way in the wilderness,
and rivers in the desert.” - Isaiah 43:19

God will make a way
Where there seems to be no way
He works in ways we cannot see
He will make a way for me

He will be my guide
Hold me closely to His side
With love and strength for each new day
He will make a way, He will make a way

By a roadway in the wilderness, He'll lead me
And rivers in the desert will I see
Heaven and Earth will fade but His word will
still remain
And He will do something new today

Oh, God will make a way
Where there seems to be no way

He works in ways we cannot see
He will make a way for me

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Hold me closely to His side
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With love and strength for each new day
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This was the choir's anthem on February 5. It was written by Don Moen (born June 29, 1950) who is an American singer-songwriter, pastor, and producer of Christian worship music. The song was written for his sister-in-law and her husband, whose oldest son died in an auto accident while three other children were seriously injured. His name is associated with some of the most well-known songs in contemporary Christian music. He was a student at Oral Roberts University. He sang this song at an ecumenical event in Saint Peter's Square in July 2015. To learn more about this event go to this website. (<http://www.romereports.com/2015/07/31/don-moen-the-protestant-who-sang-for-the-pope>)



“Walk a mile in his shoes” By Ivey Huff

Have you heard this expression? I heard it all the time when I was a child. Later, I had the opportunity to try it out!

In 1946 my husband got orders to go to Shanghai, China. He was told that the tour would be two years, unless he chose to take his family, in which case it would be a three year tour. When he asked me, I jumped at the chance. How else would I get to the other side of the world? He left soon. Our 15 month old son and I headed out for China several months later; by train across country then ten days across the ocean in a converted LCI. Shanghai harbor looked good, much like I imagined the New York harbor would look. Fred, along with his commanding officer and his wife were there to meet us.

They drove us to the hotel where we would live There were two servants (required) who were there to greet us, a man called Pete and a nurse called Amah. I learned that our government requires a nurse for a preschool age child. The next day when Fred came home to lunch, he had a note from the C.O. It said that in the interest of continuing good relations with the host country, as well as my safety, I would not be allowed out of the hotel without an escort! THIS IS AN ORDER! Needless to say, I THREW A FIT! We had spent two weeks enroute to stand at the window and watch whatever went on! Finally, after a week of making everyone else miserable, I went to Pete (he was educated in an American school) and asked him why his people hated me

so much? He said, “Missy, they don’t hate you, they are afraid of you! You have yellow hair and blue eyes and they think you are a demon! When I take the little one with me to shop, I have to carry him on my shoulders so they won’t spit on him; (he had my coloring rather than his father’s black hair so he was a “little demon”).

Finally, something happened to change my attitude-I got a smack on the head, it wasn’t NCIS, it was the Lord! Just wanted to remind me how we in the South had treated the immigrants who were here against their will! I think they are the only ones who were forced to come to the great country of America! Suddenly, I knew how they felt! I felt proud of them for working to improve their education and to become citizens in my country. My grandmother had a way with words! When I would go complaining to her about my brother teasing me, she would say, “IF YOU COULD, WOULD YOU CHANGE PLACES WITH HIM??

Our three year tour turned out to be one year because the Chinese Communist notified us that they were ready to take over the cities; we had three weeks to leave! Because I was in the hospital, had a pre-school-age child and was pregnant, I was on the first plane home. Strangely, as I think back over my 92 years, the year 1947-1948 stands out as the most important year in my journey as a Christian.

Our Vision:

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



The Grapevine

March 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 6:30p.m. Chancel Choir	3	4 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
5 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Communion	6 11 a.m. Soup Ministry	7 Linda Dobbins 7 p.m. Trustees	8	9 7 p.m. Chancel Choir	10	11 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
12 Alison Crittenden Chuck Banker 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	13	14 Peggy Vaudt 7:00p.m. EY Circle	15	16 Ronnie Teagle 7p.m. Chancel Choir	17 Annette Johonston	18 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
19 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	20 Corey Buchanan 11 a.m. Soup Ministry	21 Finance & Church Council 7 p.m	22	23 7 p.m. Chancel Choir	24 Don Van Benschoten	25 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
26 Mark White 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	27	28 April Mauney	29 Linda Davis	30	31	

The deadline for the April 2017 Grapevine will be Monday, March 27.

Send items to pwalian@yahoo.com.

March 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 March are Warren Wright and Diane Faulkner
Tommy and Jenny Crittenden will serve as **ushers**.
The **reader** is Warren Wright