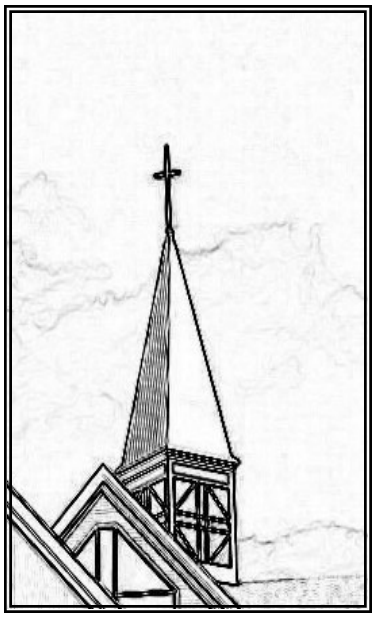
A Publication of Seaside United Methodist Church

Seaside Currents

Volume 20, No. 8

August 2009



Special Note

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"Seeing Stars"

During our time at Young Harris College, Mary Jane and I both developed a healthy appreciation for the stars in the sky (YHC has a outstanding astronomy program). This appreciation for the beauty of the heavens and the sparkling spheres that adorn them has not been lost during the intervening years. Many is the time that I have stared into the heavens from our back yard on those rare and unusually clear evenings. I have even been known to pull off the road when driving in sparsely populated areas, just to look up in wonder at the constellations.

On a recent evening, after coming home from a late meeting, I happened to glance up and was taken aback by the extraordinary beauty arrayed above me. It was a crystal clear, moonless night and it seemed that you could see every star in the sky. Yet, even as I reveled in the sight above me, I stood in full realization that in my hurry, I almost missed it—it was mere chance that I glanced up and noticed the stars. It occurs to me that the stars are always up there, every evening of my life. Sometimes the clouds cover them up. Sometimes city lights and pollution obscure them so they can't be seen. But usually, if I don't see the stars, it's simply because I don't look up.

How many times do we find ourselves puttering away in our daily grind, only to discover too late that we have missed out on one of our personal joys: watching children play, listening to inspiring music, reading a good book, or spending time with our family. Jesus knows how important it is to take the time away to find joy in some of those little things. Often those "little things" bring more meaning and significance to our lives than a hundred days full of those other things that we think are so important. Spend some time this week looking around you for some of those "little things" that bring you special joy. Then give thanks to God who not only provided them to you, but also allowed you to see them.

...Scott...

COUNTRY FAIR KICK-OFF
GOSPEL CONCERT

SATURDAY
August 29, 2009 at 6:00 PM – 7:45 PM

Featuring:

"The Masters Men"

(A male a capella group)

Guest Quartet Let's Sing

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT CHURCH OFFICE
$10.00 Adults
$2.50 Children under 12 years

Each member when joining the church is asked "Will you support SUMC with your prayers, presence, gifts and service?" We celebrate our ministries and events in this issue of the Seaside Currents.

Many of our members and friends remain on the prayer list for a longer time as they cope with health and personal issues. These names are printed monthly in our newsletter. The list of new names printed in the Sunday bulletin will be updated each month. Please provide the office with an update of both prayer lists. Please remember each in your daily prayers

O radiant God, in the midst of tribulation, suffering, crippled hope and shattered dreams, stand by these Your servants until they are well once more.

Members:

Bill Barb
Carl & Lomie Lou Bazemore
Harold Blalock
Bruce & Linda Bowden
Frances Broome & Parents
Frank & Frances Rogers
Mary & Eric Bruton
Sandy Casciato
Kemp Causey
George Cotter
Walter Dodge
Bobby Eckerd
Karen Gaddy
Al Graham
Jeanne Horton
Crystal & Tabitha Huggett
Bobby Johnson
Gil & Kathy Johnson
Henry & Margaret Jones
Paul & Sarah Justice
Aeden Klein
Edith & Jim Linke
Donna Lloyd
Tom Lloyd & family
Crystal & Edna Matthis
Susan McDonald
Dottie McVaugh
Shirley Owen
Linda Perna
Dale & Joan Powell
Tom & Lois Puls
Betty & Clifford Pursey
Kathy Scalise
Seaside UMC Staff
Susan & Ed Seidel
Dot Sellers
Wayne Shoemaker
John & Midge Sparks
Stephen Ministers
Nancy Thomasson & family
Marie Wilcox
Mandee Williams
Jan Wright & family
John & Claire Winship
Jack Zachary

Friends:

Tony Abatleil & family
Aunt Dolly
Jeannie Beaner
Charlie Blankenship
James Blankenship
Jim & Jackie Bowen
Sammy Brick
Grace Budd
Linda & Bill Chambers
Craig
Charles Cunningham
Kimberly DeGroot
Bishop Edwards
Emmanuel Outreach Church
Marge Ewing
Helen Fleming
Alice & Sandy Feldman
Robert Floyd
Ethel Gaunt
Glenn
Tom Goldsmith
Ardell Gore
Gaye Graves
Rich Hall
Missy Hasty
Tammy Heiselmeyer
Tiffany Henderson & Sons
Caroline Hincher
Joel & Debra Hunter
Terry Ikner
David Inman & family
Billy Jenkins
Kevin & Melissa
Ashley King
Sara Kravitza
Lewis Krump
Regan Marlowe
Betty McPherson
Frank & ruby Mastroni
Susan Melvin
Mildred Odom
Jo O'Keefe
Parmalee family
Capt Phil Perry
Rose Phelps
Charles Phillips
Emily Polanski
Lee Powell
Dallas Pruitt
John & Brenda Quackenbush
Marilyn Riordan
Mary Jeanette Schneider
Molly Smith
Phillip Stavonovic
Jan Sutton
Jacqueline Terrintino
Lois Tomlin
Polly Troutman
Bob Verost
Village Point UMC
Ernest & Patsy Ward
Clayton Williamson
Brian Willis
Lisa Wray
Ronald Wray
Camille Yorkey
All those unemployed
All victims of violence

Serving Our Country:

Ian Gerdes
Capt Greg Jenkins
Simone Kamil
Matthew King
Michael King
Mark Miller
Aaron Pait
Blake Ramsey
John Reider
John Rogan
Garrick Shelton
Adam Steelman
Jordan Thaymes
Christopher Verost
Walt Wintsch
Justin Wright

Worship Attendance

	8:00	9:30	11:00
June 7	126	212	130
June 14	130	208	174
June 21	125	179	145
June 28	148	249	178

Sunday School Attendance

June 7	53
June 14	47
June 21	47
June 28	48

Welcome New Members

Mark & Janet Benton unite with us by baptism and profession of faith.

Address Changes & Additions

Mark & Janet Benton
409 40th St
Sunset Beach, NC 28468
Tele. 575-3269

Save the Dates!

The 6th Annual Women's Spiritual Retreat will be held at Ocean Isle Beach on:

Tuesday, November 3,
Wednesday, November 4,
Thursday, November 5.

Our spiritual retreat leader will again be Pastor Trish Archer, Pine Valley UMC, Wilmington. Mark these dates on your calendar—you won't want to miss this one!

Special Recognition Reminder

We have received a number of special recognition forms already, which we appreciate. This is just a reminder to keep them coming. The forms—which are green—can be found in the gallery.

Pat Burke 287-4507

Lectionary Bible Readings for August

August 2

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a
Psalm 51:1-12
Ephesians 4: 1-16
John 6: 24-35

August 9

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33
Psalm 130
Ephesians 4:25-5:2
John 6:35, 41-51

August 16

1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14
Psalm 111
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

August 23

1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43
Psalm 84
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

August 30

Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 or Psalm 72
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Methodist Home for Children—Going Back to School

The children in the Methodist Home for Children Foster Care and Group Homes will be going back to school. They will be in need of new clothes and school supplies. We will be collecting donations of gift cards to Wal-Mart or Target in small denominations of $5-$50. Cash donations are always welcome so we can buy the cards for you.

A box will be in the Foyer from August 1-24th on Sundays from 7:30AM to 12:30PM. During the week the box will be located in Carol's office.

Freddy Tatum 579-1187
Carol Matthews 575-4267

Memorials & Honoraria

In Memory of:
Jim Thomasson

Given by:
Tripp & Teresa Thomasson
Stanley Brandenberger
Ron & Pat Melvin

In Memory of:
Bettie Anna Haynes
(Barbara Day's mother)

Given by:
M/M Arthur Perry
M/M Chris McCrory
M/M Robert Borman
M/M Vince Bianco
M/M Mike Petrone
M/M Eric Lindquist
M/M Bill Lemmon
M/M Ray Wiltbank

In Memory of:
Don Farrington

Given by:
Frances Broome

In Memory of:
Dick Loester

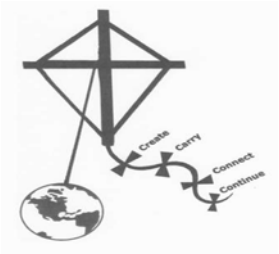
Given by:
Brunswick Quilters

Teddy Bear Ministry

The Teddy Bear Ministry received a special thank you from Brunswick Community Hospital for the 20 bears donated.

"Thank you for your generous donation of 20 bears. Your donation of bears will comfort children needing surgery as well as children in special need circumstances. On behalf of the entire staff at Brunswick Community Hospital, THANK YOU!

Sincerely,
Ruth Ann Keener"



Bible Studies for Fall Quarter

The following studies will be offered in the Fall:

NEW! Facilitator Karen Gaddy will lead a year-round Sunday Bible Study beginning September 13th at 11:00 AM. The class will be held in Room 210 and focus on living a Christian spiritual life.

Sunday evenings from 5:00 to 7:00 Dina Braddy will lead the video course A Heart like His: The story of David. The course lasts for 11 weeks and begins Sunday, *September 13th in Room 222.*

Monday mornings, beginning September 14th, from 9:00AM to Noon, Disciple I will be facilitated by Peggie York. This course lasts for 34 weeks and is an overview of the Bible giving equal time to the Old and New Testaments, emphasizing the wholeness of the Bible as the revelation of God. Class will be held in Room 222.

The 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings at 10:00AM, Women in Study and Prayer (WISP) meet in the Parlor to study Billy Graham's book *The Holy Spirit.* A new book will be selected by the group upon completion of this title. The group will be led by Yvonne Hundley and Nancy Camino.

Tuesday evenings beginning September 15th, Jim Hilgenberg will lead Adam Hamilton's course on *Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White.* This is a five-week course. Class time is 6:30PM until 8:00PM.

Wednesday mornings from 9:00 to 12:00, Pastors Mary Jane and Scott will co-teach Disciple II *Into the Word, Into the World*. Disciple I is a prerequisite to taking this second study. This 32-week study is an in-depth study of Genesis, Exodus, Luke and Acts. The study begins September 9th and will meet in Room 210.

Thursday morning co-facilitators Martha Eaton and Pat Nutter will lead Disciple IV, *Under the Tree of Life*. Writings in the Old Testament (Esther, Nehemiah, Psalms, Proverbs and others) and the writings of the Apostle John in the New Testament remind us that life lived in faithful community is the answer to the "human condition." The class meets 9:00AM to 12:00PM and lasts for 32 weeks. The study begins September 10th in Room 207. Disciple I is a prerequisite.

The Men's Bible Study Breakfast, Part II, will begin Saturday morning at 9:00AM on October 17th and continue through Saturday, November 21st. Frank Malkin will facilitate this DVD study by Ray Vander Laan.

The Navigators Sunday School Bible Study class meets in Room 222 at 9:30AM each Sunday. They are currently using the *Pilgrimage Growth Guide* but will be selecting a new study in the Fall. Jim Story leads this class and others facilitate as needed.

The Cross Talkers Sunday School Bible Study class uses the *Uniform Series of International Bible Lessons.* Class meets 9:30 Sunday mornings in Room 210 with Ron Klein leading.

Registration sheets for each class will be placed in the Gallery and a registration table will be in the Sanctuary Gathering Room on August 16th at all three services. Please sign up so we know how many workbooks to order. If you have any questions, please call Colleen McGregor at (910) 575-2563.

Rae of Hope

A 5K Walk/Run will be held on Saturday, September 26, 2009 at 8:00AM on Ocean Isle Beach. This event is in memory of Rae Lynn Yates, MD. All proceeds will benefit the Sarcoma Foundation of America. A poster is on display in the Gallery and brochures will be available soon.

Freddy Tatum 579-1187

Moving Day Thank You

Thank-you to the United Methodist men who helped move Pastor Scott's and Pastor Mary Jane's household goods from the trucks into their home. The work was hard, but the fellowship was priceless!

Thanks,

Jim Story

Country Fair News

The Country Fair will be September 4th and 5th and everyone in the Church is needed for this event. Proceeds of the Fair go to the Building Fund and Local ministries.

Three Ways to Participate:

Volunteer

There are numerous events in the Country Fair and all need volunteers. There are sign up sheets at the Church for your convenience. Just decide where you want to work and you will be welcomed to that group. If you are unsure what you can do, the Event Leader will tell you where you are most needed.

Clean out closets, garages, and get rid of excess furniture

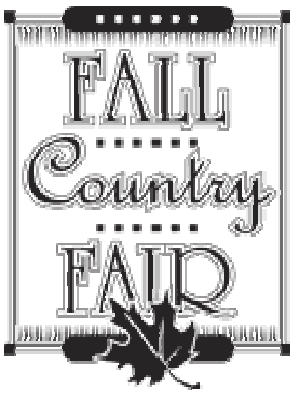
Clothing and small items can be dropped off at the Church. Members of the pick-up team will pick up furniture and heavy items. Call the Church and let us know what you have and the pick-up team will take care of it.

Spread the word

Tell all your friends and neighbors about the Fair, September 4th and 5th. Ask them to attend and to bring their friends and neighbors and tell them about all the fun we have together at Seaside.

There will also be a Gospel Concert August 29th, from 6:00-7:45PM, a Pasta Dinner Friday evening on the 4th, and a Pancake Breakfast Saturday morning on the 5th. More information on these events will follow.

Von Dyke



At Seaside UMC

Country Fair Pasta Dinner and Pancake Breakfast

Tickets will be available to buy in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays beginning August 2nd. We will no longer be mailing tickets out to members of the congregation. You may buy tickets in advance to sell or give to your friends and neighbors. This will save the church postage and will let us have a better count on the number expected for the meals. You will also be able to buy them beginning August 3rd (Monday–Friday) in the Gathering Room from the volunteer at the desk or from either Darcie or Carol. In addition, you may also buy tickets at the door on the day of the event.

Thank You!

A warm thanks to the Hospitality Committee, the SPRC members, and all the other volunteers and food preparers who helped make the Welcome Barbecue for Pastors Scott and Mary Jane a huge success!

United Methodist Men

The UMM will not meet in August but will resume on September 14, which is a week later than usual due to Labor Day being on the first Monday in September. Men of all ages are encouraged to attend and take an active part in our different missions. We start at 6:30PM with a meal followed by a program and short business meeting. Come out and enjoy the food, fellowship, and inspiration.

NORTH CAROLINA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ANNUAL CONFERENCE—2009

By Bob and Carol Aspy

The theme of the 2009 Annual Conference was "A Future of Hope" with a focus on learning. "Your God is too small," was the theme of Bishop Al Gwinn's opening address to the 1600 + United Methodists who were in attendance at the Annual Conference. The Bishop acknowledged, "The biggest challenge for the church is to let God be God."

The Annual Conference mission statement calls for "Healthy churches and effective leaders in every place making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Bishop Gwinn reminded the attendees that North Carolina is the 4th fastest growing state and the 10th largest state in the country. Yet, a recent poll says that 70% of the people in our society go to church less than six times per year. Therefore, the Bishop said, "God has placed us in very fertile ground." The Bishop then explained the new message of the United Methodist Church media campaign called "Rethink Church." Some of the points he touched on are: "What if church wasn't just about Sunday, but also about the other days of the week? What if the church wasn't a place we go, but something we do—a menu for adventure, an active verb, instead of a noun? What if church was the way church was in the beginning—*outbound, unbound, active*? What if the church looked at itself with seeker's eyes? What if church wasn't just a building, but thousands of doors? What if the church was more of an out-of-church experience? Then perhaps Sunday could be a day of rest and reflection on all that we accomplished Monday through Saturday. What if we "rethink church" not in terms of what it is, but what it could be . . . and what if we convince the world to do the same?"

The Bishop stated in his remarks that Conference and Denominational leaders are proposing cost saving measures in response to difficult conditions. The council of Bishops has rolled their salary back to their salaries at the 2008 level. They will stay in less expensive hotels; the Conference for 2010 will be cut to two days. Similar cost cutting measures were later adopted for District Superintendents and other clergy.

The learning sessions at the Annual Conference were led by Reverend Adam Hamilton who is the lead pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection near Kansas City. This church grew from four people in 1990 to over 12,000 members with an average Sunday worship attendance of over 7,500 in 2008. His church's mission is to reach "Non religious and nominally religious people and help them to become committed followers of Jesus Christ."

Reverend Hamilton raised the issue that the church needs to change. He used vinyl records, 8-track tapes, cassettes, CD's and an iPod to illustrate how listening to music has changed. Churches need to retool to keep reaching new generations who use iPods instead of vinyl records. He gave tips to bring visitors into membership and discipleship. Additionally, he explained why he believes United Methodism offers the world the best hopes for building a relationship with Christ.

A celebration of Acts 2 churches was held on Friday, June 12th. Acts 2 churches are those that meet certain criteria of excellence. First, the church must fully fund their apportionment to their Conference. The other criteria are: being active in Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Spiritual Formation, Risk-taking Mission, and Ministry to the World. Seventy-nine churches out of 800 in the Conference qualified as Acts 2 churches. Seaside United Methodist Church was honored as being one of the chosen churches for their excellence in Ministry. **We can be very proud of this distinction.**

Seaside Currents

Deadline for newsletter articles is August 10th for the September publication. Email your article to Jack DeGroot at bjand3@atmc.net. **Format your article in a word document and save is as a ".doc"** before sending it to me, this makes working with our software easier. Please DO NOT put articles in columns, they cannot be easily converted to our format. Always include your telephone number in case some clarification is needed for your article.

You are invited!

Caregiver Education
"Positive Approach to Caring for Persons with Memory Impairments" and "How Can I Make the Transition from Hospital to Home easier on both of us?"

Seaside United Methodist Church
1300 Seaside Road (Hwy 904)
Sunset Beach, NC
August 12, 2009
10 AM until 2 PM
Registration at 9:30 AM

Sponsored by the Cape Fear Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging, Alzheimer's Association—Eastern NC Chapter and Coastal Companion Care. Hosted by Seaside United Methodist Church.

Results from a recent survey reveal that most caregivers feel they do not have the information they need to deal with the challenges of caring for a loved one with a chronic illness, especially those with memory impairments. This workshop will familiarize caregivers with practical techniques to manage the physical demands of care giving. Peggy Smith, Program Director with the Alzheimer's Association—Eastern NC Chapter will teach skills for a positive approach to caring for persons with memory impairments. Joie Mahler, RN and owner of Coastal Companion Care will give you new skills to help when transitioning your loved one from the hospital back home.

Registration is required.

Please contact Holly Henderson at 910-395-4553 ext 204 or hhenderson@capefearcog.org to register or for more information.

Area Agency On Aging
Cape Fmr Council *ofG1Jvernments*