

The MESSENGER

Volume 15, Issue 1

April 2010

*From the
Pastor*



1 Corinthians 13 is a favorite scripture --- especially for weddings, but also for memorial services. We read the passage as a good definition of love --- of a person or a couple. Actually, in this passage, the Apostle Paul defines the kind of love that is the foundation of living together in a community and the foundation of ministry.

1 Cor. 13:4 begins, "Love is patient..."

Patience is not the typical way we think of love, but perhaps we should give it a bit more consideration. The Greek word for patience literally means, "It takes a long time to boil."

1 Thessalonians 5:14 says: And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them." We are to be patient with one another; we truly do not know the difficulties of another's life.

1 Corinthians continues: "love is kind; It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." (NIV translation)

This is the way we are called to live with one another – not just as couples or families but as a community.

I would like to add one thought – not in the scripture—but which I have found as a good definition of love: "to wish the best for another and to work to make that happen."

Blessings and Christian love to you all,

Pastor Paula

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				01 *7pm Trustees *7pm Seder Dinner *7pm Al-Anon	02 *7:30pm Tenebrae	03
04 Easter Sunday *6:45am Sunrise Service *8:45am Worship Service *11am Cantata	05 *6:30pm Cub Scouts *6:30pm Disciple I	06 *7:30pm UMYF Meeting	07 *11am Prayer *7pm Choir	08 *7pm Worship *7pm Al-Anon	09	10
11 *12pm Missions *12pm Kid's Club *4pm New members *6:30pm Cub Scouts	12 *6:30pm Cub Scouts *6:30pm Disciple I	13	14 *10am UMW *11am Prayer *7pm Finance *7pm Choir	15 *7pm Admin. Council Mtg. *7pm Al-Anon	16	17 *7pm Bridge
18 *7:30am UMM Breakfast *Safe Sanctuary Training – committee members *6:30pm Cub Scouts	19 *6:30pm Cub Scouts *6:30pm Disciple I	20 Newsletter Deadline	21 *11am Prayer *7pm Choir	22 *7pm Girl Scouts *7pm Al-Anon	23	24 *UMW Plant Sale *UMM Yard Sale
25 *10am "In Our Own Voices" *6:30pm Cub Scouts	26 *6:30pm Cub Scouts *6:30pm Disciple I	27	28 *11am Prayer *7pm Choir	29 *7pm Al-Anon	30	



Jesus' Children

“Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”
Matthew 19:14 niv

Kid's Club

All children grades 3rd through 5th are invited

April 11th Kid's Club is going **Bowling**. After the 11:00 am service we will eat the usual bag lunch together in the social hall and then car pool to Liberty Lanes at Massaponax. Cost will be \$9.00 which includes the lane and shoe rental. Time will depend on how many people participate. If we have 15 bowlers we can bowl two hours. If we have less, we don't get the group rate and only bowl one game. So invite a friend and join use for a fun day of friends, fellowship and bowling!

Projected FUN Group and Senior FUN Group Activities for 2010

FUN Group

MARCH: Hawaiian Lu-Wow
(at church)

MAY: Mount Pony Theatre/Dinner
Culpeper, VA

SEPTEMBER: Seafood @ Capt. Johns
Cobb Island, MD

DECEMBER: Christmas Theatre at the West End Assembly of God
Richmond, VA
(October 1st deadline for signing up and paying for this event.
Tickets must be reserved well in advance.)

Senior FUN Group

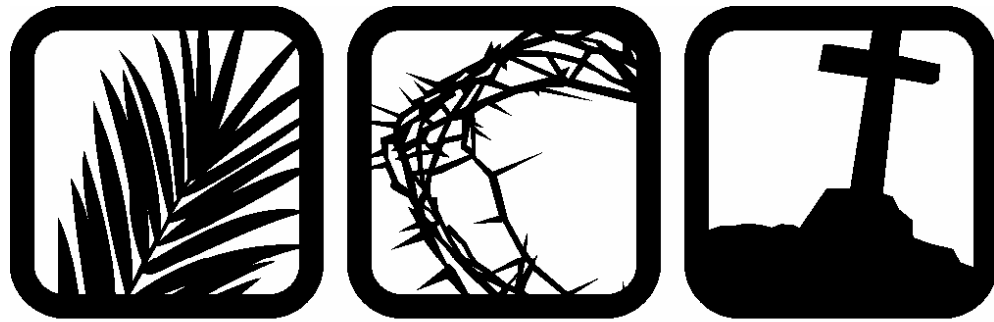
APRIL: Thomas Stone House Trip
Port Tobacco, MD

JUNE: Tour Montpelier mansion
Orange, VA

OCTOBER: Historic Fredericksburg walk/
Lunch downtown

All of these events are tentative and subject to date changes due to scheduling conflicts that may arise. The FUN Group Committee will keep you informed.

Announcements and Sign Up sheets will be posted for each activity on the bulletin board in the Narthex.



HOLY WEEK

HAPPENINGS



Maundy Thursday Seder/Holy Communion/1st Cen. Meal, 7 p.m., Social Hall. By candlelight, we will learn about the Jewish Seder that Jesus celebrated at Passover. Then we'll join in a First Century supper meal. Bring typical supper finger foods to share: cheese slices/cubes, crackers, breads, olives, figs, apricots, dates, nuts, sliced apples/pears, luncheon meats in small squares or on toothpicks. (no utensils or dishware will be used)



GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

The Service of Shadows. Tenebrae, is a somber service of sorrow and mourning where we use increasing darkness to dramatize the increasing sadness of Holy Week. Candlelight is extinguished as scriptures are read, choir music is sung and the sanctuary stripped bare of all decorations.



EASTER SUNDAY

Easter commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Bring flowers to decorate a bare cross during the service. The choir's Easter Cantata will be sung at the 11am service. Celebrate with joy that Jesus overcame evil and death. The Christian greeting for today is "He is risen." "He is risen indeed."

MENTAL ILLNESS RECOVERY

APRIL 25, 2010 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Sunday

"In Our Own Voices" will be presented at St. Matthias United Methodist Church in Stafford County at 426 Deacon Road (at the intersection of Deacon Road and Edwards Drive) in the Grafton Village area. The meeting will be held in the

Social Hall at the end of the building closest to Edwards Drive. <www.stmatthiasumc.org>

This presentation is in observance of the national May is Mental Health Month. The program is presented by persons who have been diagnosed with some form of mental illness. The presenters will describe the recovery process for persons diagnosed with mental illness. This is an excellent program and is recently available in our geographic area. You won't want to miss this significant presentation.

St Matthias will sponsor a Yard Sale for the people of the community and church.

Each table will cost \$10.00.

The sale is on June 5, 2010 from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Lou Pitzer or Margaret Morgan.

We need volunteers to weed flower beds. We divide the flower bed and it only takes a little time if we have several people to weed.

PLEASE CALL
MARTHA HASEBLUSH
373-9352

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

NEXT" SENIOR FUN" EVENT IS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 15th TO VISIT THE THOMAS STONE HISTORICAL SITE IN PORT TOBACCO, MD WITH LUNCH AT "CASEY JONES RESTAURANT".

WATCH FOR SIGN-UP SHEET ON BULLEYIN BOARD.

*Dear members of the St. Matthias family,
Thank you to all who have offered up prayers,
sent cards, written emails, prepared and
delivered food, visited, called, and
maintained constant concern during this
challenging time for us. Your thoughtfulness
has been greatly appreciated.
With love, Patsy and Larry Vida*

*Our family wants to thank everyone at St. Matthias for the cards, prayers, love and support you gave to us during Larry's recent illness and death. Your faithfulness in showing God's love has helped us so much. Thank you, also, for the lovely reception you hosted after Larry's memorial service. We so appreciate it. We will be combining the money we have received into a memorial gift that we will give to St. Matthias UMC.
Debbie, Eric & Scott Whittington*

Narthex Renovation Completed



Dedication of the renovated Narthex was held on March 14th. Generous donations and many long dedicated hours donated by skilled church members resulted in the Narthex renovation completion ahead of schedule and below budget. The generous donation of time, talent, and money allowed the project team to add matching glass doors to the Social Hall entrance and have the Sanctuary professionally painted in decorative colors. St. Matthias is blessed to have such a generous and talented congregation. We are all grateful to the Narthex Renovation Project team for envisioning such an extraordinary improvement to our church and managing the project to make this vision a reality.

Those Annoying Attendance Pads!

Oh! Why do they keep telling me to write my name and address in the attendance pads? THEY KNOW ME! I don't need to do this. I'll just pass it on down the row to the next person. How annoying! They don't need this information... THEY HAVE IT! I don't need to do this. After all, they saw me in Sunday school. (or not). I don't have to sign this thing... I'm not a member of this church.

Yeah, I know what you're thinking. Every Sunday when I help gather the pages from the pads, I'll find some pads with absolutely NO NAMES written down when I clearly saw people sitting in that row.

So, that's what you think. You see, every time you sign your name to the pad, you're counted. Not just as an attendee in church that day, but your attendance represents a census of the number of people who attend on certain Sundays or holidays, certain seasons of the year, Communion Sundays, etc.

The Worship Committee sometimes looks over these attendance pads to find a pattern of the number of people who attend on certain Sundays. We plan the service around these numbers. Also, the UMC has to account for our attendance to the district. By looking at the number of attendees, it indicates whether the church is growing in numbers or not.

Please add your name to the attendance pad. Yeah, it's a nuisance but all of us need to do it. If you're signing the pad as the "_____ Family", please put down the number of family members who are present that day. If you've signed the pad, passed it down the line, then someone comes in and sits down after you've signed it, please pass the pad back to these people.

I know I can "count" on you to do this.

Becky Hubbard, Worship Committee

UNITED METHODIST MEN

The UMM have volunteered to underwrite the cost and help prepare and serve the breakfast for the Micah Mission every other month during 2010 between the hours of 7AM and 10AM. We had a busy but enjoyable time feeding approximately 40 people in February with pancakes, sausage and fruit. Our next breakfast will be on April 17th. Marian Lynch has volunteered to prepare some sausage gravy and we will add the eggs, toast, etc to complete the breakfast. We have several that have volunteered, but if you are interested in helping in April or at a future time, please contact Gordon Payne or Bob Dixon.

On April 24th between 08:00 and 1PM the UMM and UMW will have their annual Yard Sale and Plant Sale. Please start collecting the good stuff that you want to contribute to the yard sale and you can deliver it to the church on April 21st through April 23rd or contact Gordon Payne at 373-8825 and he will come pick it up.

Plan your garden and yard work around the time of the UMW Plant Sale. The UMW always have many beautiful hanging plants, annuals, as well as vegetable plants.

The UMM will be serving hotdogs and drinks at the Palm Sunday youth event "The 2nd Annual Easter Tellin". Hope to see you there.

We invite all of the men of the church to come and support our Methodist Men at our regular breakfast meeting on the third Sunday morning of each month at 07:30.

Gordon Payne
President

March

Administrative Council Notes

DEVOTION: “God is our Refuge.” Remember, throughout life’s storms, God is our rock. The more firmly our faith is rooted in Christ, it will sustain us as individuals and our church in the midst of all the storms. (Psalm 18:30-36)

CALENDARING: The following additions were made to the calendar.

- 10 April – Greg Anderson will be working on the kitchen and bathroom floors
- 10 April – Trustees will be repairing the parking lot
- 14 April – UMW Trolley ride through historic Fredericksburg – meet at the church to leave at 10:00 am
- 24 April – UMM will serve breakfast at Micah ministry

SAFE SANCTUARY: Peg Jones and Michael Trant have viewed the videos. They are well presented and very interesting. The program encourages the formation of a safe sanctuary policy. The committee will have its training on 18 April after the 11:00 service and will begin drafting a church policy. The **MANDATORY** training for anyone involved with our children and youth will be in June.

FINANCE REPORT: Kathy Smith distributed the finance reports for January and February. In spite of missing two Sundays because of snow, the revenue exceeded expenditures. Ground Maintenance and Snow Removal, Utilities, and the Music Program have exceeded the expenditure rate for this point in the year because of the snow, cold, and cantata music, respectively. Thank you notes will now be sent for all memorial gifts given even if the family chooses to send personal thank you’s.

PASTOR REPORT: Pastor Paula reported the Lay Leadership Committee has been looking for people willing to “fill in holes” for sound technicians and coordinator and an Education

chair person. If anyone is lead by the Spirit to volunteer for these positions, please contact Pastor Paula.

TRUSTEES REPORT: Doug Reading reported the Trustees are busy.

- Three classrooms (4, 17, and 6) will be painted
- Materials in room 17, not being used for classes will be removed and stored in the storage shed.
- Air conditioners installation, spring cleaning, and driveway patching are scheduled for 10 April.
- Sanctuary roof is showing signs of needing to be replaced and an estimate of \$12,000 was gotten for replacement. Scrip money will be designated for this project after the parsonage loan is paid off.
- New thermostats were installed throughout the building and the Trustees would like feedback on the comfort level of the sanctuary, social hall, and kitchen.

SANCTUARY RENOVATION PROJECT: A team has been created of members from both the Worship and Trustees committees with Doug Reading as the Chair. A kick-off meeting was held with members and a design consultant. The committee will develop a project plan, with concept, design, and cost for an audiovisual system, new sound system, improved lighting, and some upgrades to the look. Renovation also includes putting solar film on the windows and the Trustees have gotten an estimate of \$1200 to do that.

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE: Debbie Whittington joined the group and shared some ideas she has for evangelism. Some of the ideas are:

- Scriptures will be added to the candy inside the eggs for the Easter egg hunt.
- VBS kick-off is being planned to include the surrounding neighborhoods.
- Committee is looking into ways to have “faith stories” shared.

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UMW PLANT SALE



The annual UMW Plant sale will be April 24th at the church. We will have our usual beautiful hanging baskets, annuals, and vegetable plants. In addition, this year, we have some wonderful herbs for sale. Please save your planting time for our sale at St Matthias UMC. The funds received are used for our mission projects.

Thanks for your support.

SPRC

The SPRC will begin advertising to fill the position of Director of Youth Ministries. We are asking church members to help advertise this paid position by spreading the word to friends and family that St. Matthias is looking for qualified and interested applicants. If you know anyone who might be interested in this position, please have them contact the church for further details. A description of applicant qualifications is included below.

Thank You,
The SPRC Committee

Goal: With the understanding the youth of our church are tomorrow's church leaders, we are seeking an individual who will create, lead and guide the Youth Ministries programs, grades 6-12, at St. Matthias United Methodist Church. It is our goal to hire a Director of Youth Ministries who will help the youth make a commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, support the youth in their growth as disciples and representatives of Jesus Christ through such spiritual disciplines as personal Bible reading, daily prayer, peer support and service to others, develop leadership skills in the youth, and encourage and provide opportunities for the youth to serve their community.

Qualifications: 4 year degree associated with youth ministries, education, theology, or a related field. Significant experience working in youth related ministries, and be in touch with social issues concerning youth and able to relate to youth technologically and spiritually.

Maundy Thursday, April 1

7 p.m., Social Hall
Seder, 1st Century Christian meal
Holy Communion

Good Friday, April 2

7:30 p.m. Tenebrae Service

Easter Sunday, April 4

6:45 a.m. Sunrise Service outdoors by the crosses
Breakfast afterward in Social Hall
8:45 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. Choir's Easter Cantata



FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

United Methodists everywhere, including of course here at St. Matthias UMC, participated last month in the special offering known as "One Great Hour of Sharing." This is the offering that covers administrative support for UMCOR's vital work in providing relief to people suffering and in need all over the world.

Because of "One Great Hour of Sharing", UMCOR is able to pledge 100% of donations given directly to relief efforts. Even though this particular offering was on a specially-designated Sunday in March, gifts to this fund are accepted all year long.

Most recently, UMCOR relief efforts have been dedicated to earthquake recovery work in Haiti. UMCOR was, in fact, already present and active in Haiti prior to the devastating earthquake; two UMCOR staff members lost their lives during the earthquake.

It was recently reported, to date, the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church has raised and sent to UMCOR for Haiti-designated relief efforts, the sum of \$853,000. Here at St. Matthias, we can be proud that almost \$3,000 of that amount came from us. It is of course, not too late to give for the Haiti earthquake relief effort, or any other UMCOR cause that speaks to you. Please be sure to indicate the specific project/fund you wish to support on the memo line of your check.

Kathleen Smith
Finance Committee

MORE FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

At our March meeting, the Finance Committee approved a revision to our policy of writing "thank-you" notes for all designated gifts to our church that are over a specific dollar amount. The new policy is "thank-you" notes will be sent for all gifts, regardless of the amount given "In Memory of" departed St. Matthias members and friends.

It doesn't hurt to have a little Biblical humor to start or end the day!

Q. What kind of man was Boaz before he married Ruth?

A. Ruthless.

Q. What do they call pastors in Germany ?

A. German Shepherds.

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

Q. Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?

A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a Little prophet.

Q. What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?

A. Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Also, probably a Honda, because the apostles were all in one Accord.

Q. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

A. Samson. He brought the house down.

Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden ?

A. Your mother ate us out of house and home.

Q. Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?

A. Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once.

Q. Which area of Palestine was especially wealthy?

A. The area around Jordan. The banks were always overflowing.

Q. Who is the greatest babysitter mentioned in the Bible?

A. David. He rocked Goliath to a very deep sleep.

Q. Which Bible character had no parents?

A. Joshua, son of Nun.

Q. Why didn't they play cards on the Ark ?

A. Because Noah was standing on the deck.

PS... Did you know it's a sin for a woman to make coffee?

Yup, it's in the Bible. It says . . 'He brews'

**KEEP SMILING!!!! GOD LOVES YOU BUNCHES
AND! BUNCHES!!!!**

Friends are God's way of taking care of us.

This Month's 
Birthdays!

1	Lisa Bornholtz
1	Adam Bray
2	Bob Gmitter
2	Peter Russett
3	Barry Jones
3	Doug Reading
7	Harriet Lane
8	Nancy Ann Morgan
9	Stephanie Bornholtz
10	Cheryl Posey
11	Julia Nedza
12	Lucien Lane
13	Bob Dixon
13	Nicole Zwieneff
19	Bonnie Gardner
19	Pete Wick
19	Regina Wilkerson
21	Susan Ganger Glover
21	Herbert Pitzer
21	Erin Wetzel
24	Joe Reichard
24	Bill Wade
25	Wallace Clark
25	John Duling
25	Eugene Rushing
26	Fenton Piggott
30	Mackenzie Beth Barnes

April Birthdays & Anniversaries



5	A.C. & Shirley Glover
5	Jim & Helen Powell
6	Jeff & Laraye Berry
6	Mike & Erica Murray
14	Roger & Margaret Morgan
21	Larry & Regina Wilkerson
26	Roger & Fran Varela

Please let the church office know if there are any errors or omissions with this list. We are constantly working on updating our files.

**St. Matthias United Methodist Church
426 Deacon Road
Fredericksburg, VA 22405**

**NON-PROFIT
ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
FREDERICKSBURG
VA
PERMIT No. 235**

Return Service Requested**Time-Dated Material** Please Expedite

Newsletter Deadline
April 20th

**St. Matthias United Methodist Church
426 Deacon Road
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22405
Phone: (540) 373-8759
Email: office@stmatthiasumc.org**

Sunday School
9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship Services
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Nursery Hours
8:45 a.m. – Birth to 2 years
Sunday School Hour – Birth to 2 years

Nursery Volunteers Always Needed!!!!