

The Church Mouse



JANUARY-
FEBRUARY
2011

2011 Bi-District Leadership Training

You may attend one of the following sessions:



Leadership Training Class

Staff Parish Relations Committee, led by the Rev. Jim Tongue and the Rev. Dr. John Martin

Local Church Treasurers, led by Mr. David Domnisse, Conference Treasurer

Rethink Church led by Mrs. Linda Rhodes, Conference Director of Communications. What if we Rethink church? Not in terms of what it is but what it could be. What if church were not just a place we go, but something we do?

Learn to see your church from the inside and from the outside; discover how your church can connect with the community, with other churches and resources, with God the Creator and with change; and discern what your church is known for. What if our

churches were vibrant, active places where people wanted to be ~~ not just on Sundays, but all week long?

UMW Training, led by Mrs. Sue Mayo, Farmville District UMW President, and Mrs. Carol Elmore, Petersburg District UMW President .

Are you a member of United Methodist Women and would like to know more about the organization? Are you interested in possibly taking a leadership role in your unit, but are not sure what it entails? Does your UMW unit need program ideas? If you answered, "yes" to any of these questions, join us in our UMW session as your district mission teams help you find the answers!

****** OR *******

You can attend any two of the following sessions at our Idea Expo:

First Session: 2:30—3:45

30 minute break

Second Session: 4:15—5:30

Idea Expo Opportunities To include; Joy For the Funeral Ministry, Conspiracy of Kindness: A Refreshing New Approach to Sharing the Love of Jesus, Health and Wholeness-Body, Mind, Spirit, How to Start a Praise Band for Passionate Worship, Spirituality and Photography, Bible Study 101 For Small Groups, Missions for Smaller, Older Congregations, What's your Story, Hospitality: Do I Need to Be Trained? And How a Small Rural Church Can Make a Difference in the Local Community.

Come Join the Farmville & Petersburg District's 2011 Bi-District Leadership Training January 16th at VUMAC 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm
All sessions begin promptly at 2:30 in the classrooms.

Need not be in a current leadership role to attend. If you have a remote interest in any of the above titles, please seek out someone in the church for more details.

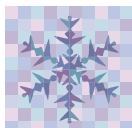
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GARY'S UMC MISSION

- To encourage every person to become a disciple for Jesus Christ. Everyone is welcome to be a part of this community of faith that nurtures our brothers and sisters, reaches out to those in need, and witness to those without hope.

CHURCH CANCELLATIONS. The best way to know if church services are cancelled because of the weather is to check the local news station. Channels 6, 8, and 12 will all list Gary's UMC if services have been cancelled. I will also send out an email. If anyone would like a phone call, please let me know and I will make sure you get one. Thanks, *John Houlberg*



**Sunday School
9:45
Worship Service
11:00**

Dear Church Family and Friends of Gary's,

As we turn the page of our calendars, it's hard to believe that another year has passed and now we begin the New Year of 2011, but reality has set in and yes! Welcome to 2011.

I am still sitting on the pre-2011 side as I write this letter, having just experienced the privilege of singing in "The Christmas Story."

This is a beautiful story of God's Love woven in the fabric of poetry and song. The combined choirs of Blandford and Gary's did an outstanding presentation to an overflowing congregation who came to see and hear the Good News of Christ's birth.

My thoughts this morning in the afterglow of this were, why can't we experience this ministry throughout the entire year? Then when we come to Christmas it will be a crescendo of all that has been happening in the months leading up to this climax.

What keeps us from joining our hearts and voices in words and works of grace and beauty in

ministry to those whom God would call us to share His Love Story?

You may be thinking! I can't sing and think that's excuse enough to sit on the sidelines of ministry at Gary's and watch others perform. But this is not about performance but about participation.

Join the choir of ministry in 2011. If Lena Franklin can lead a group of non-singers into participating in a wonderful chorus of voices to praise our Lord and Savior, just think of what the Holy Spirit can do as He leads us, a group of non-participating laity, into an orchestrated Body that will glorify our God through Jesus Christ.

Your place of ministry may be in an area other than music; Christian education, Administration, Maintenance, Evangelism, Youth leadership, or the Prayer Ministry in which we all can participate. As we come together as the Body of Christ, directed by the Holy Spirit, Jesus will surely be lifted up to draw all men unto Himself!

Come together and Let's make this New Year spectacular for Christ!!!



This letter comes with an alarm button. Punch in the correct words and the alarm won't go off. You fill

in the blanks and then come join hands and hearts in ministry with the Holy Spirit and together we'll sing a "New Song" to our Lord as we honor His Presence throughout the coming year.

I ___do___ things _____ Christ
 ___strengthens ___!!!!!!

A Voice Among Many Voices,

Pastor Henry

*Then you will call upon
 me and come and pray
 to me, and I will listen
 to you. You will seek
 me and find me when
 you seek me with all
 your heart.*

Jeremiah 29:12-13

Little Things Continue to Mean A Lot...

From the Little Church Who Can, Gary's UMC will continue to collect for the Prince George Food Bank. Our targeted items for the next 2 months are:



January Canned Meats *February* Soups, Ravioli, Stews

They do collect grocery bags (paper or plastic) year round for food distribution. The large department store bags are good for the clothes closet.

They do accept clothes donations there and anyone is welcome to shop. So spread the word. Please continue to place donations in one of the two collection areas

(Narthex or back hall way).

Should you wish to physically help, they are open on Tues & Fri from 10-2. Gary's UMC volunteers the 4th Friday of each month.

Submitted by Julie & Jane Lee



A Peek Back...

We hope you enjoyed the many missions and activities Gary's was involved in last year! More so we hope you are ready, willing and able to participate in whatever God has in store for Gary's this year!

There are so many pieces to our puzzle, it requires so many hands. We hope your hand can be a part too.

More than ever we partnered with our neighboring UMC's Oak Grove and Blandford with the three Cluster Meetings. Gary's kicked it off with a service and covered dish, Oak Grove held a true picnic event and Blandford finalized it with a Live Nativity. Not to mention all the SCE's (Sister Church Events). These items will be shown in the Cluster news as well as on their respective websites. Be sure to show your support in the sharing of Christ not just with the Cluster but with the community as a whole.

There are so many opportunities to serve, Prayer Warriors, Working with the Youth, Sunday School Subs, Acolytes, Making a Joyful Noise, Nurture~Outreach~Witness Team, if in doubt as to what *you* can do, ask and thee shall receive a role to fulfill.

May God Bless You Abundantly this New Year!

. Submitted by Karen Dearman Bailey



FUND RAISER FOR WANDA "SAM" PERKINSON

The UM Men at Oak Grove are having a Boston Butt Sale to help raise money for Sam's medical bills. We need as much help as we can get. The meat will be cooked on January 29th at Oak Grove Church, where you will have to pick up your orders at 2 PM. All orders are on a **Pre Sale** basis at \$25.00 each with ALL proceeds going to Sam's medical bills.

We need all orders by the 25th of January.



Please include name, phone number and how many Boston Butts you wish to order. You may contact me here at the office (732-2538 or PetersburgDistrict@vaumc.org) or by calling Van Miller at 804-691-2912.

January 2011

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2	3	4	5 BS	6	7	1/8
9 UMM Mtg	10	11	12 BS/ Council Mtg.	13	14	15 SCE
16	17	18 UMW Mtg	19 BS / SCE	20 CF Mtg	21	22 Scouts Stew
23 Chili Cookoff	24	25	26 BS	27	28	29
30	31					Pls Note Times/Dates can change!

- 1/5 - Every Wed Night 7PM Bible Study ~ *Philippians.*
- 1/9 UMM Mtg 8:30 AM
- 1/12 Council Mtg 7PM
- 1/18 UMW Mtg 7 PM
- 1/20 Compassionate Friends Mtg 7PM
- 1/22 Boy Scouts Brunswick Stew \$6/QT
- 1/23 Chili Cook-off immediately after church
- Choir Practice each Thursday @ 7:30 pm

United Methodist Men's (UMM) Group

UMM will meet every 2nd Sunday of the month for breakfast at 8:30 AM, Hope you can join them!

Strengthening all men through Christ.

Steve Snodgrass is the 2011 UMM President

Nursery Volunteer Schedule is as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Jan 02 Bonnie & Elaine | Jan 09 Karen S. & Girls |
| Jan 16 Carol D & Lena | Jan 23 Erin & Tyler |
| Jan 30 Lori & Karen B. | Feb 06 Patty & Shel |
| Feb 13 Trinity & Katherine | Feb 20 Janet & Kacee |
| Feb 27 Julie & Boys | Mar 06 Brandi & Stacia |

"Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly and leave the rest to God" Thanks to all who volunteer, if you are interested, please contact Stacia Lee.



Remember Night Bible Study starts January 5 at 7PM
Philippians
All Invited.

A BIG Thank you to everyone that contributed flowers for our Alter in 2010. Thank you too for those who helped me in making sure the flowers were picked up from the florist and placing them on the alter. You know who you are!! I greatly appreciate all you did!



Having fresh flowers on our Alter each Sunday is again my goal for 2011. I would like to extend a welcome to anyone that would like to place flowers in church for a special occasion, memorial and or in honor of a love one. Please help me meet this goal.

Inez Tyrcha 731-7725

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 2/2 Every Wed Night 7PM Bible Study
- 2/11-13 MYF Weekend Youth Retreat in Blackstone.
- 2/13 UMM Mtg 8:30AM
- 2/15 UMW Mtg 7PM
- 2/24 Compassionate Friends 7PM
- Pls Note Times and Dates Can Change.
- Also check out the Cluster News on Page 7 for SCE's.
- SCE - Stands for Sister Church Event

February 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 BS	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 BS	10	11 MYF Retreat	12 MYF Retreat
13 MYF Retreat/ UMM Mtg	14	15 UMW Mtg	16 BS	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 BS	24 CF 7PM	25	26
27	28					



Hooks n' Needlers

Our group was organized in January 2010 to learn how to crochet. It started out as a crochet class and we had some knitters join us. We were so fortunate to have

Trish Monday from Petersburg help us learn to crochet and lead us in our projects. We also received yarn, crochet hooks and knitting needles from various sources donated to our group. Many prayer shawls, lapghans and caps were made and used for various ministries. Lots of caps were put in the shoe boxes for that project. We still have some yarn left over if anyone would like to have some.

The other reason for forming this group was for the fellowship for those over 50. I would like to thank all those that participated in this group and all that donated to it.

We had a good time learning, making various things and the fellowship was great. We could feel God's blessing in everything we made and gave away.

We disbanded our group and most members have joined the Senior Circle at Southside Regional Hospital, it meets every other Wednesday morning.

If anyone is interested in forming another group to learn new crafts or group please contact me and we'll see what we can do.

Thanks for your support this past year.

Carole Lee, 732-6900 or pgecmom@aol.com

United Methodist Women's (UMW) Group

The United Methodist Women unit is organized for mission and serves the local church, the community, and the world through its mission education, advocacy, and direct service through the Board of Global Ministries. We would love to have you join us to fulfill this mission.

We meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month and all women of the church are welcome. Join us for our next two meetings, weather permitting, January 18 and February 15 at 7PM in the social hall.



Yes, the UMW continue to collect these labels, thanks

As you mark the UMW dates on your calendar, don't forget we'll be holding the Pancake Supper on March 8.

We greatly appreciate and thank you for your support during the year of 2010.

Submitted by Jean Janeka

UMW President

MYF ~ Youth News



Come Compete in Gary's MYF Chili Cook-off!

On Sunday, January 23rd immediately after church.

Prizes will be awarded for the best tasting chili in 2 categories: Adult and



Young Adult.

Donations will help pay for the Annual Youth Retreat in February.

We are not slighting soups, please bring and or come to enjoy the soups that will be available for those non-chili palates.

Invite your neighbors and friends to participate!

Cost: You Decide,
Love Offering

As you are aware we are in the process of seeking a new Youth Director. We have posted this on the website and on the district level as well.

If you know of someone who may be interested, please direct them to Pastor Henry.

Keep praying and He will Provide.

Gearing up for another wonderful, blessed, awesome, God-filled retreat the weekend of February 11-13, 2011! Go to <http://petersburg-umc.org/DistrictYouth.html>; for information on Blackstone. Newsletter and registration forms can be found there.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at this email: guppi598@yahoo.com

Subject: Blackstone.

If you know someone who should get this, let me know and I'll add them.

Thanks to all! Laura Hancock

Do you have a calling for once a month leading of younger youth?

Please consider.

Gary's Angels and Gary's Rising Stars

will be lost

without someone stepping up and leading them in 2011.

You know our future is based in our children, won't you consider

leading them?



Gary's Prayer Warriors request the following individuals be in your prayers...

Lesla Roakes

Jim Campbell

Madison Mingloski

Cliff & Joanne Lee

Bob McKinsey

Joe Story

Deborah Romero

John Staton

Jim Redmond

Ed Wessel

Sherry Chappel

Toddie Lee

Danny Bagley

Rose Moye

Howard Edwards

Ben T & Hope Mitchell

Susan Woods

Diane Rhodes

Ethel Moore

Robin Pugh Yoder

Joyce Griffith

Edna Brockwell

Joe Bender

Kim Lambert

Bernadette

Lafreniere

Nancy Elder

Tom & Lauren Cooper

Barry Royer

Wanda/Sam Perkinson

Juanita Carwile

Rick Rothenberg

Clint Lanier



Also please REMEMBER our Shut-Ins: Elsie Beck, Lola Lane, Catherine Price, Kathleen Barnes

For Pastor Henry and Shirley Butler

For Our youth and families.

For those serving in the Armed Forces

For The Least, the Last and the Lost

For The Need of Additional Prayer Warriors

Gary's United Methodist Church

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Rev. Dr. Henry Butler, Pastor
804-639-7985

Visit us on the web!
www.garysumc.org



January-February 2011

Join us!
Sunday School 9:45
Worship Service 11:00

Gary's Thanks God for
YOU!



GARY'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (UMC) MISSION

- *To encourage every person to become a disciple for Jesus Christ. Everyone is welcome to be a part of this community of faith that nurtures our brothers and sisters, reaches out to those in need, and witness to those without hope.*

MAY GOD RICHLY BLESS YOU!