



CELEBRATING

Our Partnership in the Gospel of Jesus Christ



FITH US The Newsletter, A Publication of the Farmville United Methodist Church, August 2012

Greetings, and may God's grace and peace be with you!

It is soooooo good to be back home with you! My time of being "Under Construction" at Duke University Divinity School is complete for another year. Eight down...two to go!

The words "Under Construction" bring to mind a story about Billy and Ruth Graham on a road trip. I will do my best to paraphrase what was said and took place.

It seems as Billy and Ruth were driving to some destination and like many of us, they hit a stretch of road that was being worked on by the highway department. The travel was very slow with periodic halts in the traffic movement. Finally, they came to the place on the highway where the workers, construction cones and equipment ceased to exist and they saw an orange sign which read—*End of Construction, Thank You For Your Patience*. Upon reading the sign, Ruth commented to Billy that those words would be fitting for her tombstone!

I know those words are fitting for my life, and maybe for yours as well, because as followers and believers in Jesus Christ...our life is always "Under Construction" in some way, shape or form! (and by the way--in my life, thanking others for their patience with me is certainly a must as well.)

For it seems, even when we are riding on the road of life which is a good and smooth pavement, the Lord is always opening new opportunities for us to exit into...the Holy Spirit is always guiding and challenging us through detours...and of course, there are always times when we have to deal with those specific "Under Construction" periods, that seem to give us unexpected moments in life and even throw our best laid plans into turmoil!

Yes, for better or for worse, our life always is "Under Construction" as we are called to continue to grow in the qualities that are more and more Christlike, as "...God who began a good work in you will go on completing it until the Day of Jesus Christ comes." (Philippians 1:6 New Jerusalem Bible)

As we continue on our way in this life of growing more like Jesus, what John Wesley called Sanctification or going on towards "Perfection", let us also be patient with God's construction in our earthly life. For when His work in us is complete...1 John 3:2 tells us, "we shall be like Him."!

Hmmmm, now that is something for us to be patient about, as we go through our times of being..."Under Construction"! To God be the glory!

It is good to be back home with you! Take care...peace....

Pastor Bill



Dear Friends in Christ,

Wow, where has the summer gone? The lazy, hazy days will soon become school days and everyone will be starting the activities of fall. When fall comes it almost seems like a new year. Perhaps because of the school calendar – but here at Church it seems that way as well.

With fall, our Stewardship Campaign “DO IT FOR LOVE” will take off and culminate with Commitment Sunday on October 14th. This year’s theme represents so many of the ways love is expressed, shown, shared, given and received. As Christians, we learn in I Corinthians 13:13 “*And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.*” The most precious example of love is Jesus – because of His love for each and every one of us, he was nailed to the cross. I don’t know anyone who can even come close to understanding the magnitude of His love. As I look in the Bible for the word “love”, it is unbelievable the number of passages which contain love. However, the Bible is love and how grateful we as Christian are to accept the most unconditional love.

As you think of our campaign “DO IT FOR LOVE”, please remember all the ways love has been a part of your life. Not only accepting love from others, but think about the many way you show your love.

Our Stewardship Campaign is when you have the opportunity to show your love for our church, for church operations but most importantly to God – so we can fulfill our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ.

Within a few weeks we will be sending our information explaining how our campaign will run this year. Each year the District requires each church to submit their operating budget. So in order for the Finance Committee to prepare this budget, we need to have an approximation as to what the giving will be. As you think about your pledge and how you will respond, remember this is a promise of which you plan to give to FUMC. We also know things happen and you may not be able to honor this pledge fully. While it is important to recognize this pledge is not only to FUMC but also to God, we earnestly hope you will be able to fulfill your commitment. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Finance Committee or the Church office. Your pledge is confidential and the only person who sees and records them is Nan Walston. She has been doing this for years and we feel this is best for our members as well as the committee, so when you make your pledge other than Nan – it will be between you and God.



Electronic Giving Now Available

FUMC is pleased to announce a convenient new way to make your regular

offerings. With our new electronic giving program, you can easily set up a recurring giving schedule or make one-time contributions. It’s convenient for you to provide much-needed consistency for our church. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending service, our church will continue to receive your contributions on an uninterrupted basis. Please call the church office or go on line to our website (www.farmvilleumc.com) and click the link to Vanco Services.



Fellowship Meals

Wednesday Night Fellowship Meals

Things are getting back to a school routine – so will Wednesday night Fellowships. We plan to begin on Wednesday after Labor Day and run through until Easter. I thank each group who works so hard to prepare and serve meals.

I would like to have a group who does not have the opportunity prepare meals to clean-up on Covered Dish Wednesdays. Please call to volunteer. Thank you.
Irene Pollard

Fellowship Meal Schedule for September

September 5: Circle III; September 12: UMMEN;
September 19: New Beginnings; September 26: Vereen Class.



Beginning this Sunday, August 5, we will resume our regular service schedule; 8:30am Praise and Worship Service, 9:30am Fellowship Time;

10:00am Sunday School and 11:00am Traditional Service.



BackPack Pals

August is upon us – where has the summer gone? We need to start thinking about school beginning, thus we need to make a commitment to the number of children we will serve through our Back Pack Pals ministry this school year. We ministered to fifteen children last school year. Because we started in October rather than the beginning of the school year, we have some money to start this school year. However, we cannot commit to a child and later decide we don't have the funds to carry them for the year. Like last year we need money committed even though it does not have to be paid right now. If you are willing to commit to support a child or part of a child (\$300 per child), please notify Nan by phone or in writing. We need these commitments by mid-September. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this ministry. If you have any questions, please call Irene Pollard.



GIVE HANDBELLS A TRY.....

Do you like music but can't carry a tune in a bucket? Now you can carry a tune. How about trying handbells? You don't have to be able to sing or read music. It's fun and just think of the beautiful music you can make. Contact Drucilla or Sheri Von Schrlitz if you are interested.



Greetings to All,
I hope everyone is successfully "beating the heat" this summer. Just a quick reminder that our regular supper meeting is on Monday, August 13th at 7:00pm. The invitation is open to the men of the church to join us for food and fellowship.
In Christ,
Hugh Williams



COLLEGE STUDENTS ADDRESSES

Parents, if you have a son or daughter that will be away from home at a college/university, please call the church office with their addresses. We like to keep in touch; we want our young people to know that this church cares about them. Please call the church office as soon as you can with this information.



Thank you to everyone who has provided refreshments for the 9:30 am Sunday Fellowship time so far. We need people to sign up for the coming weeks. The calendar is beside the coffee pot, so if you are enjoying the refreshments please remember to take a turn and volunteer for a Sunday. If everyone takes a turn it doesn't come around so often for a few. Fellowship and food just seems to go together!



As we prepare for fall and spring traditional worship services, our church is in need of acolytes to light the altar candles and serve in special worship services throughout the year. Anyone (young and mature alike) above the age of 8 or in grade 3 is eligible to serve. Please contact the church office by Monday, August 27 if interested



CHRISTAIN SYMPATHY...

.....to the family of Louise Lewis who died July 30, 2012



PLEASE BE IN PRAYER FOR.....

Andrew Parks, and family, Rufus & Evangeline Cochran (health) Horace Allen (health) Tracey Smith (health) Cindy Parks (healing) Karen Campbell (healing) Denise Stillwell (healing) Edna Erwin (healing) Kailey Lynne Eaton (healing), Jean Cuthrell (healing), Minnie Lee Winborn (health) the family of Louise Lewis , unspoken request. **(If you wish to list your family and friends please call the church office.)**



A THANK YOU NOTE!

Thank you for your gift of \$484.00 to the United Methodist Retirement Homes Foundation, 2012 Mother's Day Offering.
With warmest regards,
Cheryl P. Miller
Development and Donor Management Coordinator



August 4: Luke Warren
 August 6: Margaret Wells
 August 10: Catherine Tugwell
 August 16: Tommy Hardy
 August 20: Karen Sledge
 August 23: Mildred Carraway
 August 26: Bill Hall
 August 28: Sheri Von Schrlitz
 August 31: Erin Grimes, Dr. Bert Warren, Jr.



Sunday, August 5
 Communion Sunday

8:30am Praise and Worship Service
 9:30am Fellowship Time
 10:00am Sunday School
 10:15am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 11:00am Traditional Worship Service

Tuesday, August 7

NO Softball
 6:00pm SPRC Youth Director Interviews
 7:00pm Men's Prayer Group

Wednesday, August 8

7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Thursday, August 9

7:30pm Softball FUMC vs FPC

Saturday, August 11

6:00pm Back to School Movie
 "Happy Feet" (Ball Field)

Sunday, August 12

8:30am Praise and Worship Service
 9:30am Fellowship Time
 10:00am Sunday School
 10:15am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 11:00am Traditional Worship Service
 6:30pm SPRC Meeting

Monday, August 13

7:00pm UMMen Supper Meeting

Tuesday, August 14

7:00pm Finance Committee
 7:00pm Men's Prayer Group
 NO Softball

Wednesday, August 15

7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Thursday, August 16

6:30pm Softball FFWB vs FUMC
 7:00pm Leadership and Development

Sunday August 19

8:30am Praise and Worship Service
 9:30am Fellowship Time
 10:00am Sunday School
 11:00am Traditional Worship Service

Tuesday, August 21

6:30pm Administrative Council
 8:30pm Softball KCRFWB vs FUMC
 7:00pm Men's Prayer Group

Wednesday, August 22

7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Thursday, August 23

NO Softball

Sunday, August 26

8:30am Praise and Worship Service
 9:30am Fellowship Time
 10:00am Sunday School
 10:15am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 11:00am Traditional

Monday, August 27

7:00pm Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, August 28

7:00pm Men's Prayer Group

Wednesday, August 29

7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Thursday, August 30

7:00pm Worship Committee

Return Service Requested

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 Admin. Assist.: Nan Walston – nan.farmumc@embarqmail.com
 Organist/Music Director: Drucilla Lamm