



WESLEY FAMILY NEWS

February 2008 ISSUE

Wesley United Methodist Church 8412 Richmond Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22309-2328

Antonio “Tony” Ellis Named New Youth Leader

Antonio L. Ellis is a native of Charleston South Carolina. He is a 1999 graduate of Burke High School. Throughout high school he played trombone in the marching band under the notable musicianship of Maestro Linard McCloud Sr. For him music is a universal language that soothes doubts and calm fears.

Thereafter Antonio participated in a dual degree scholastic program between Benedict College and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. He earned Bachelor Degrees in Religion and Philosophy. While matriculating through undergraduate school, he remained committed to the arts by participating in the marching band and gospel choir.

After graduating he pursued a MA Degree in Religious Studies at Howard University in Washington, DC.

Throughout his undergraduate career, he became intrigued by publications of Howard Divinity School Professors Dr. Cain Hope Felder (New Testament Scholar), Dr. Cheryl Sanders (Ethicist), and his academic mentor Dr. Ronald Hopson (Psychologist). Therefore, it

was not a difficult task choosing Howard for advanced theological studies.

Antonio is currently a candidate for the Doctor of Education Degree in Administration and Policy at Howard University.



His motto is

“Everybody is Somebody and God is the Father of us all”.

Message from Pastor Tony...

As I sit here at my computer I have a cd playing by a church musician from Richmond who does some neat things with some of the old hymns. These jazzy reinterpretations remind me of how important our hymns are to us and to me personally for my devotional life. For instance I use the two following verses of well known hymns as daily prayers.

The first is one I pray several times each day:

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

This is a family favorite and we all know and sing it often, but they are also what turn to in order to remember God and His love for you and me.

The other verse is one I use when I need to remember to work a little harder and with more intention and enthusiasm.

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
You, who unto Jesus for refuge have fled?

In fact the 3rd verse of this same hymn is another favorite prayer:

Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

If you struggle to pray or if you want to enliven already settled prayer practices using the hymns of the church is a great way to do so. Reciting the verses as poetry, singing them with their familiar tunes, or putting them with a new tune are great ways to pray and let God's Spirit enter in. These above are mine; they need not be yours. I hope you have a hymn book with your Bible and that you will read the hymns, pick ones that speak a Godly word to you and maybe memorize a verse or two to take with you wherever you go.

In Christ's Love, Pastor Tony

REMEMBER! Lent starts Wednesday, February 6. Ash Wednesday services will be held that evening at 7:30.

We celebrate with the
Baggette family
on the
baptism of
Caleb Orion Baggette.



Report from the Financial Secretary		
Budget income	\$ 195,606.00	
Budget expense	\$ 196,868.00	
Difference		\$ (1,262.00)
Total Conference/District Apportionments	\$ 51,830.00	
Paid on Conference/District Apportionments	\$ 32,212.00	62%
Unpaid		\$ 19,618.00
Total income without Preschool	\$ 210,047.00	
Total expense without Preschool	\$ 204,358.00	
Difference		\$ 5,689.00
Preschool income	\$ 62,321.00	
Preschool expense	\$ 58,350.00	
Difference		\$ 3,971.00
Thanks to those who made this possible.		

Sunday Lunch Bunch for February

Have lunch after the Fellowship Time with church friends. We go to local, moderately priced restaurants, and enjoy a time of visiting and dining together. Tentative schedule:

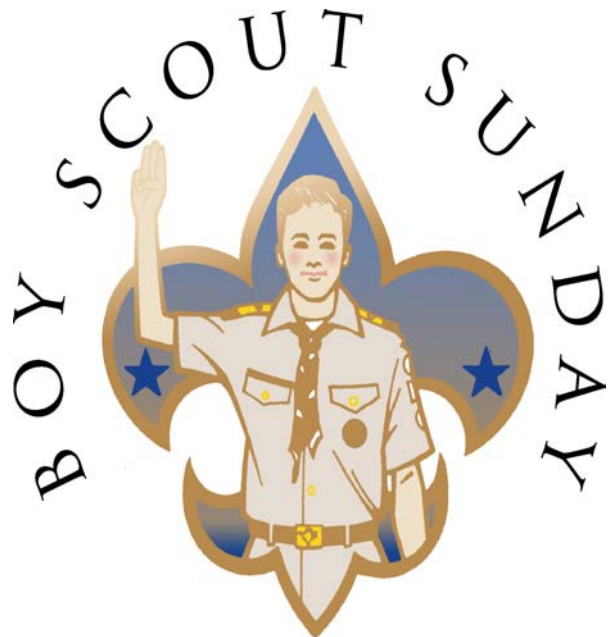
Feb.03- Chef Huang's

Feb.10-Ft. Belvoir Officers Club

Feb.17- Green Olive Buffet

Feb. 24- Italian Pie

Make other suggestions and comments to Nora Rudd.



Sunday,
February 10th



Our heartfelt condolences are extended to the friends and family of the following Wesley Church family members ...

Alfred E. Forstall, Pastor Forstall's Farther; Ed Becker, Nancy Convery's Father; Lyton Harris, Don Harris' brother

Teddy Bears Needed

New and gently used teddy bears may be donated for the Teddy Bear Ministry. Please bring your bears to church and deposit them in the basket marked "Teddy Bear Ministry" located in the narthex.

All are Invited
PANCAKE BREAKFAST
 WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 Easter Morning - March 23rd
 7:00 - 9:00 a.m.
 * PANCAKES & HAM
 * COFFEE AND JUICE

Wesley United Methodist Church
 8412 Richmond Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22309
 For directions, Call 703-780-5019 or visit www.wesleyva.org

Wesley UMC is located off Route 1 between Fort Belvoir and Alexandria. Turn on Mohawk Lane (at NAPA Auto Parts sign). Go 0.1 miles to Richmond Avenue and turn right. Drive past the church to the parking area on the right beside the church. Breakfast served in the Fellowship Hall.



Keep On Clipping!!

Cut the UPC symbols from labels of Campbell products; put in a small envelope or plastic bag; put in baskets in narthex. We are helping the Henry Fork Center in Rocky Mount, Virginia collect enough to win a second van. The Center provides a preschool, and before and after school care in an economically depressed area in central Virginia.



Wesley Family News Deadline

The deadline for submission of articles/items of interest for the Wesley Family News is at **Noon, the 15th of each month**. Please submit all items in writing. When possible, please send them via email to WesleyChurch@verizon.net

UMW International Dinner And Silent Auction March 8th

Save the night of March 8th for dining on foods from around the world and shopping for treasures here in our Fellowship Hall. It will be an evening of fun and fellowship, and will help the UMW to raise funds for support of UMW projects nationally and internationally, and for needs here in our church.

Mary Pryor will coordinate the food dishes. Jamaica, Italy, Mexico are perennial favorites, with a couple of new countries this year.

We urge our members to search out new or gently used items to donate to the auction. Gayle Besemer and crew will set up tables on the 7th. Items may be brought to the third classroom of the Fellowship Hall, and put on the metal shelves there from now until the 7th.

One popular feature of the auction is bidding on gift certificates from local restaurants and merchants. Connie Lorentzen is heading up that committee, and would appreciate help in obtaining gifts from our members' favorite businesses.

If you can help in any way, please contact the ladies in charge. Bring a friend or neighbor, and be in the Fellowship Hall Saturday night, March 8th at 6:00 p.m. for food, fun and fellowship. Tickets (\$10 for adults, \$5 for 12 to 6 year olds) will be sold after church starting on Feb. 10th.



February Donations for Local Children

For a number of years, our congregation has given clothing items for young elementary children at some of the local schools. This year, the United Methodist Women would like to collect packs of diapers for the new Hopkins House Childcare Center. Bring assorted sizes, and place in the narthex.

Be a Part of Caring for others at Wesley UMC -**Join the Member Care Ministry**

We meet every other month following worship in FH. We follow an agenda. Our minutes are shared with those unable to attend and are available upon request.

Telephone Tree- This has been updated (November 2007). We will continue to use email and the telephone tree to keep our congregation informed.

Caring for our sick and the shut-ins - collectively Partners of Member Care Ministry make contact through phone calls, visits or a card to let folks know we are thinking of them and that they are missed. We try to coordinate our contacts with Pastor Tony. Volunteers agree to make contact and this report is shared during the following meeting.

Partners of Member Care have been encouraged to have their Spiritual Gifts analyzed for the purpose of identifying their individual strengths.

We have attempted to record members missing 3 Sundays in a row so that we may send a postcard to let them know they have been missed. This has been done through our ministry and with the help of the ushers and worship sign-in sheets. We counsel with Pastor Tony relating to this.

On going: Funeral Dinners/Receptions

Welcome New Members

Thank and Salute Departing

Members: Teddy Bear Ministry

Lunch with Friends

Beginning January 2008

Military Outreach

Casserole Ministry

New this year – The 2008 Member Care Ministry budget has been increased to cover the broadened initiatives of this Ministry.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 10th following worship in FH. Invitation is extended to anyone interested. To assist in scheduling, we announce upcoming meeting date at end of each meeting. Calls to Ministry Partners are made prior to each meeting and announcements are made at worship service. Wesley UMC bulletin and the church calendar are other sources used to communicate.

Mission: Maintain contact and reach out in compassionate love and care to the individuals and families of the Wesley Congregation.


Vision: Assure that every member of the congregation feels cared for in times of illness, crisis and in times of joy.

Member Care Ministry – Coordinators, Jean Harris and Corey Tullar

Join this meaningful group to help care for one another through the Member Care Ministry. Contact the Wesley church office to learn more. (703-780-5019)



FEBRUARY 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>27 Youth Ski Trip 9:00 AM Christian Education 10:00 AM worship 11:00 AM Reception for Jane Colgrove 12:00 PM All Nations Methodist Church 12:15 PM International Dinner Planning Mtg 2:00 PM CS Den 2 Webelos II 5:00 PM UMYF</p>	<p>28 School Holiday 6:30 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>29 7:00 PM CS Den 8 webelos I 7:00 PM women's Step Group (AA) 7:30 PM Nominations Cmte Mtg</p>	<p>30 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>31 5:00 PM CS Den I Tigers 7:30 PM Harmonica Club 8:30 PM AA</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2 Groundhog Day</p>
<p>3 Transfiguration Sunday 9:00 AM Christian Education 10:00 AM worship 11:00 AM welcoming Lunch for Antonio 12:00 PM All Nations Methodist Church 3:30 PM Confirmation Class 5:00 PM UMYF</p>	<p>4 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5 7:00 PM CS Den 8 webelos I 7:00 PM women's Step Group (AA)</p>	<p>6 Ash Wednesday 2:00 PM CS Den 2 webelos II 6:30 PM Mt Zephyr Neighborhood Watch 7:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>7 5:00 PM CS Den I Tigers 7:30 PM Harmonica Club 8:30 PM AA</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 9:00 AM Pinewood Derby</p>
<p>10 First Sunday of Lent 9:00 AM Christian Education 10:00 AM worship: Boy Scout Sunday 11:30 AM Member Care Ministry Meeting 12:00 PM All Nations Methodist Church 3:30 PM Confirmation Class 5:00 PM UMYF</p>	<p>11 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12 10:00 AM ROCK 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM CS Den 4 Wolfs 7:00 PM CS Den 8 webelos I 7:00 PM women's Step Group (AA) 7:30 PM Troop 993 committee Meeting 7:30 PM Trustee Mtg</p>	<p>13 7:00 PM webelos II 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>14 Valentine's Day 10:00 AM Meals on wheels 5:00 PM CS Den I Tigers 7:00 PM CS Den 3 Bears 7:30 PM Harmonica Club 8:30 PM AA</p>	<p>15 Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>16 8:30 AM Troop 862 - Cadette Troop 5:00 PM MZCA Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction</p>
<p>17 9:00 AM Christian Education 10:00 AM worship 12:00 PM All Nations Methodist Church 3:30 PM Confirmation Class 5:00 PM UMYF</p>	<p>18  Church Office Closed Presidents' Day 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>19 7:00 PM CS Den 8 webelos I 7:00 PM women's Step Group (AA)</p>	<p>20 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>21 7:00 AM Girl Scout Cookie Distribution 5:00 PM CS Den I Tigers 7:00 PM BS Pack Mtg 7:30 PM Harmonica Club 8:30 PM AA</p>	<p>22 3:00 PM Troop 862 - Cadette Troop</p>	<p>23 Troop 862 - Cadette Troop</p>
<p>24 9:00 AM Christian Education 10:00 AM worship 12:00 PM All Nations Methodist Church 2:00 PM CS Den 2 webelos II 3:30 PM Confirmation Class 5:00 PM UMYF</p>	<p>25 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>26 7:00 PM CS Den 4 Wolfs 7:00 PM CS Den 8 webelos I 7:00 PM women's Step Group (AA)</p>	<p>27 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>28 5:00 PM CS Den I Tigers 7:00 PM CS Den 3 Bears 7:30 PM Harmonica Club 8:30 PM AA</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>1</p>



FEBRUARY

Birthdays

02/01 Joe Powers	02/15 Harry Frizzell	02/25 Melanie Englert
02/02 Nicholas Restifo	02/15 David Chase	02/26 Sallie Jackson
02/05 Eileen Broertjes	02/15 Kathleen Bailey	02/27 Diana Tracey
02/07 Chuck Anderson	02/17 Mack Bayne	02/27 Ken Murphy
02/10 Lisa Stewart	02/20 Ray Martines	02/28 Joseph Forstall
02/10 Jozef Shultz	02/20 Donna Adams	02/28 Sean Anderson
02/11 Jane Colgrove	02/21 Christopher Inlow	02/29 Abby Baggette
02/11 Anna O'Lenic	02/24 Gene Rudd	
02/13 Doug Talbot	02/25 Dixie Eng	

Anniversaries

02/13/1989
Joe & Marianne Bassi

02/18/1984
Tom & Marti Hammitte

02/20/1988
Jeff & Diane Nees

In-Service

Date	02/03/2008	02/10/2008	02/17/2008	02/24/2008
Acolyte	Erika Swartz	Trish Skidmore	Ryan Tracey	Jonathan Convery
Lector	Karl Tomlinson	Boy Scouts	Coleman Harris	Gwen Loftus
Childcare	Nancy & Nick Restifo	Mary & Olivia Pryor	Dixie Eng & Roni Walker	Linda Baublitz & Rosemary Salak
Counters	Lou DeVaughn & Jeff Nees	Watson Pryor & Steve Skidmore	Donna Adams & Corey Tullar	Linda Baublitz & Dave Restifo
Coffee Hour	Tony Ellis Welcome	Edie & Steve Skidmore	Marcy Baggette	Kay & Karl Tomlinson
Communion Steward	Corey Tullar & Cornelia Inlow			
Sunday School	Connie Dohm & Tom Swartz	Connie Dohm & Jeff Nees	Rosemary Salak & Charlotte Forstall	Rosemary Salak & Charlotte Forstall



Wesley Preschool and Kindergarten 2008 February Newsletter



To be such a short month February is jammed packed! This month you will see themes about weather, groundhogs, shadows, hearts, love, past Presidents, Mardis Gras and dental health! Wow! See what I mean?

Feb. 6th is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season. Lent is the season of preparation for Easter. During these weeks of Lent, Christians try to get back into the healthy habit of daily prayer. Talk this over in your family. Maybe you can sing your praise in the shower or while tying your shoelaces. Pray the Lord's Prayer when you make your bed each morning or when you turn the covers down each night. Your good-morning and goodnight kisses can be acts of thanksgiving for the love that surrounds you.

Decide on some simple way to pray every morning and every bedtime, and then stick to it.



In celebration of Valentine's Day we will have a School Valentine Dance on February 13th in the Fellowship Hall from 11 am until noon. Sign up sheets will be located outside of the classrooms for refreshment donations. Parents/siblings are invited to attend.

We will not have school on February 18th in observation of Presidents' Day.

Our 100th day of school will be in February! Individual classes will have their own celebration for this day. See your class' newsletter/calendar for details.

Our fall registration begins on March 3 for in-house students, their siblings, and Church members. Secure your spot for the fall by registering early. Open registration begins on March 10th.

And get this! Spring break is March 17-24! Back to school on March 25.

Please remember our school policy on Health. It states that it is best to keep your child home if he/she has not had a good night's sleep or if they show any signs of illness. Any child with a fever will not be allowed to attend school. Please notify the school of illness immediately. Any/all contagious/communicable illnesses will be reported to the whole student body. Please do not send your child to school if you know that they are sick. We appreciate your compliance with this policy. The best way to keep everyone healthy and happy is prevention. Also remember, Tuition is due on the first day of school of each month. Please add a late charge of \$25 to your tuition check if paid after the 10th of each month, unless pre-arranged with the office. Thanks.

Don't forget to dress warmly! We will go out even on blustery days.

God bless you all. Happy Valentine's Day and 100th Day!

READ, READ, READ!



God's Blessings+
The Wesley Preschool Staff



A Wesley warm welcome to our new students! Graham, and Azilee!



Wesley United Methodist Church

8412 Richmond Avenue

Alexandria, VA 22309-2328

(703) 780-5019/(703) 780-5061 Fax

E-mail: WesleyChurch@verizon.net

Website: <http://www.wesleyva.org/>

Daily devotions: <http://www.wesleyva.org/devotional>

Address Correction Requested

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Organization
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Mount Vernon,
Virginia 22121
PERMIT #1

Mark Your Calendars

February 6th

Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 pm

February 18th

Presidents Day

