



**WESLEY
FAMILY
NEWS**
July 2008 Issue

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

**Wesley United Methodist Church Presents
The Eighth Annual
Peach Festival
Saturday August 16, 2008
From 11:00 am—3:00 pm**

**Free Food
Free Entertainment
Moon Bounce & Dunk Tank
Kids Games
Crafts
Rail Road Display
And Much More**

**Volunteer Opportunities are Still available
Please contact
Watson Pryor 703 619-9204
Diane Nees 703 360-4987**

Message from Pastor Tony...

Several years ago the annual conference adopted a task force, called “The 250 Task Force”, short for 250 new churches in 30 years in the Conference. There have been many “growth” initiatives in the annual conference over the years. All start with a great burst of energy, go for awhile, and then fizzle out. Anyone who has been around for awhile knows that if you just hold your breathe, it will all go away. The 250 Task Force made its final report this year, introducing a new initiative titled “All Things New”. The question is, “Will this effort stay with us, or just go by the wayside, like all the rest?”

I hope not, and I am cautiously optimistic. “All Things New” is positive and motivated by a desire to share the gospel and celebrate God’s grace and power. But truthfully, so were the rest. And many people dug in their heels and resisted the changes that needed to be made to make those efforts work well. For “all Things New” to be a success for the conference (and for Wesley Church) we need to understand what it is and what it entails, how it impacts us and how our attitude and unity impact “All Things New”.

Existing local Churches fit in to “All Things New” by being willing to become a “Fruitful Congregation”. This idea is based on the book Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations, By Robert Schnase. The Five Practices are:

- Radical Hospitality
- Passionate Worship
- Intentional Faith Development
- Risk-taking mission and service
- Extravagant Generosity

What I like about these is that you, the congregation of Wesley, already exhibit these practices in your life. They aren’t foreign to you. Could we do them better? Of course. Could we do them more intentionally and effectively? You bet. But I have witnessed us do them all at various times.

As we learn together about “All Things New” I invite you to do these things:

Prayer for Wesley Church to grow spiritually and numerically.

Read the book Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations. (I will make copies available to borrow or you can purchase it at Cokesbury.)

Go to the Conference Website to learn more about “All Things New”.

<http://www.vaumc.org/index.cfm/fa/content.view/menuID/3800.htm>

Wesley Church has been in decline for 30 years (as most churches have). Let’s make our next 30 years a time of recovery and reinvigoration.

With Love, Pastor Tony

United Methodist Men

Please take note of the following dates

- July 7th VA Conference UMM Days at Camp Rainbow
- Sept. 20th Alex. Dist UMM Rally Burke UMC (details to follow latter)
- Nov. 7-9 VA UMM Spiritual Life Retreat Blackstone, VA (VUMAC) Rev. Dr. Maxie Dunham guest speaker



Please pray for Wesley's UMM that spark planted by the Holy spirit will truly ignite and all men of our church warm up to Christ's love in its glowing.

- Bud West

The Power of Prayer

Would you like to be a Member of the Wesley Prayer chain? You would receive a call or an e-mail from a member of the chain when requests for prayers are received. Please call Dale Swartz, (703) 780-3048

If you would like to participate in the Wesley Internet Prayer Group, please e-mail Jim Sohn: jimsohn@cox.net.

Wanted, Updates

Do we have your Current mailing and/or email address?

If not, please contact the church office to make any changes.



Summer Office Schedules

Pastor Tony will be on vacation for July 16th until the 31st. Mary Pryor will be back in the church Office as secretary Tuesday through Friday beginning July 8th. Kym Clark will still be in the office on Mondays.

Note of Thanks From the Magills

Dear Wesley,

Earl & Janet would like to thank you for the beautiful farewell service and reception. Forty + years in one place has created many, many friends and memories which we shall never forget. We were blessed to be a part of Wesley when David & Marcia were growing up - a special thanks to Marge Doeppner and her Pre-School and Pam Chase, our Youth Director.

We're enjoying our new home and miss our Wesley family and friends. We will be back to visit.

Love,
The Magills

Website Statistics

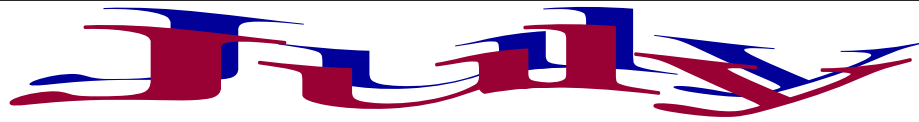
As of June 14th:

Of the 9748 page views so far this month the Wesley Sermons accounted for 5522. So far this month we have had more folks come directly to the Wesley website and listen to sermons vs. listening to the sermons via pod cast. This is a change from past statistics. Maybe more of our pod cast listeners have now bookmarked the Wesley site and are using direct access. Of course this may change from month to month. It is also interesting to note that most listen to the most recent sermon. That tells me that we have a lot of 'regulars' who keep up with the weekly sermons vs. picking and choosing a sermon by title.

The overseas statistics have changed some regarding who listens to the sermons. New Zealand now ranks one, followed by the Netherlands, Germany, Australia, the UK, the Peoples Republic of China, and in 7th place the Military (exactly from where I cant tell).

For those who are searching, we get the most hits (rank ordered) from AOL, Google, Yahoo and <http://www.soso.com> (Tencent is China's largest and most used Internet service.)

From reviewing the statistics, I would say for a medium sized church we are making a world impact through Tony's sermons. There is no question that the sermons are what brings folks to our site and brings them back.



Birthdays

07/01 Jane Barnes	07/12 Justin Lorentzen	07/17 Kevin Rowland
07/02 Katie Pryor	07/13 Emma Brown	07/19 Joshua Adams
07/03 Cole McFarland	07/14 Douglas Chase	07/19 Kiki Miguel
07/05 Audry Morris	07/14 Jarrod Denham	07/23 Haylee Denham
07/06 Lou DeV Vaughn	07/15 Ben Robinson	07/24 Michael T. Shultz
07/08 Kellianne Tomlinson	07/15 Earl Magill	07/27 Judy Ferreira
07/09 Ed O'Lenic	07/15 Benjamin Clark	07/29 Katie Inlow
07/11 Steve Skidmore	07/16 Kris Murphy	07/30 Nancy Clingenpeel

Anniversaries

07/06/1982 Karl & Kay Tomlinson	07/11/1987 Tom & Christina Swartz
07/08/1961 Gene & Nora Rudd	07/17/1959 Robert & Linda Shellhouse
07/08/2006 David & Karola Scarce	07/20/1949 Ray & Jean Martines
07/09/1965 Kerry & Pamela Pealer	

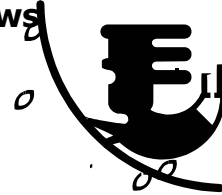
In-Service 2008

Date	07/06/2008	07/13/2008	07/20/2008	07/27/2008
Acolyte	Devin Loftus	Andy Nees	Olivia Pryor	Jacob Reeves
Lector	Patty Calloway	Jean Harris		Rhonda Reeves Long
Childcare	Nancy & Nick Restifo	Mary & Olivia Pryor	Dixie Eng & Roni Walker	Linda Baublitz & Rosemary Salak
Counters	Bill Convery & Ben Robinson	Lou DeV Vaughn & Jeff Nees	Watson Pryor & Steve Skidmore	Donna Adams & Corey Tullar
Coffee Hour	Dorothy Shultz	Tom Grisby	Connie & Larry Dohm	Connie Lorentzen & Rosemary Salak
Communion Steward	Lauren Walker			
Church Lock-Up	George Talbot	George Talbot	George Talbot	George Talbot
Sunday School	Communion- No Sunday School	Mary Ruth & Joey Forstall	Corey Tullar & Brenda Denham	Jean & Coleman Harris &

JULY 2008						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>29 9:00 AM Christian Education 10:00 AM Worship - Kwasi Kwakye-Nuako 12:00 PM All Nations Methodist Church 2:00 PM CS Den 2 Webelos II 5:00 PM UMYF</p>	<p>30 6:30 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>1 7:00 PM Women Step Group</p>	<p>2 2:00 PM Den 2 6:30 PM Mt Zephyr Neighborhood Watch</p>	<p>3 7:30 PM Harmonica Club 8:30 PM AA</p>	 <p>4 Independence Day Church Office Closed</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6 9:00 AM Christian Education 10:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM All Nations Methodist Church 5:00 PM UMYF</p>	<p>7 6:30 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>8 10:00 AM ROCK 10:00 AM Staff Mtg 7:00 PM COM 7:00 PM Women Step Group 7:30 PM Troop 993 Committee Meeting</p>	<p>9 7:00 PM Webelos II</p>	<p>10 10:00 AM MOW 7:00 PM Den 3 7:30 PM Harmonica Club 7:30 PM Nominations Cmtc Mtg 8:30 PM AA</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 9:00 AM Christian Education 10:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM All Nations Methodist Church 5:00 PM UMYF</p>	<p>14 5:00 PM Nurturing Parenting Program 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM Finance Cmtc Mtg</p>	<p>15 12:00 PM Newsletter Deadline 7:00 PM Women Step Group 7:30 PM Admin Board Mtg</p>	<p>16 Pastor's Vacation</p>	<p>17 Pastor's Vacation 7:00 PM BS Pack Mtg 7:30 PM Harmonica Club 8:30 PM AA</p>	<p>18 Pastor's Vacation</p>	<p>19 Pastor's Vacation</p>
<p>20 Pastor's Vacation 9:00 AM Christian Education 10:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM All Nations Methodist Church 5:00 PM UMYF</p>	<p>21 Pastor's Vacation 6:30 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>22 Pastor's Vacation 7:00 PM Women Step Group</p>	<p>23 Pastor's Vacation</p>	<p>24 Pastor's Vacation 7:00 PM Den 3 7:30 PM Trustee Mtg 8:30 PM AA</p>	<p>25 Pastor's Vacation</p>	<p>26 Pastor's Vacation</p>
<p>27 Pastor's Vacation 9:00 AM Christian Education 10:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM All Nations Methodist Church 2:00 PM CS Den 2 Webelos II 5:00 PM UMYF</p>	<p>28 Pastor's Vacation 6:30 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>29 Pastor's Vacation 7:00 PM Women Step Group</p>	<p>30 Pastor's Vacation</p>	<p>31 Pastor's Vacation 7:30 PM Harmonica Club 8:30 PM AA</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>



Wesley Preschool and Kindergarten News



**Wesley Summer Camp July 2008
Register now!**

**JULY 14-17
Jungle Theme**

Cost of the camp will be \$95 per week.

No sibling discounts.

Unless pre-arranged, we will not pro-rate tuition due to missed days, absences/illnesses.

Hours 9 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

A bag lunch is to be brought from home daily.

Ages: 3 years old, completely and totally potty-trained to 8 years olds.

Camp is limited to only 25 campers so register early!

Contact: Darlene Spurlock at 703 360-9082/244-0223



**Wesley Preschool and Kindergarten Open House
August 28, 2008 at 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

Because of our increase in capacity to 75 we have plenty of room for lots of new students! Please pass the word that we are registering for the fall now. We have a wonderful staff lined up and are anxiously awaiting September! Our mission is to be an educational ministry of the church with emphasis on teaching values that Jesus taught. And to be an outreach for the church with emphasis on reaching families with children and turning them to Jesus.

Tuition Information for 2008-09

Kindergarten	\$300.00 per month
Pre-K-5 day	\$220.00 per month
5-day	\$220.00 per month
3-day	\$180.00 per month
2-day	\$170.00 per month

Non-refundable \$60.00 registration fee to secure your placement.

Director: Darlene Spurlock, 703 360-9082, wpsdirector@aol.com

Snippets from Conference (Gleaned from the Daily Advocate)

Display to honor Virginians killed in Iraq War

The American Friends Service Committee, the conference Board of Church and Society and the Virginia Conference Chapter of Methodist Federation for Social Action will today honor fallen U.S. military personnel and Iraqi civilians by sponsoring “Eyes Wide Open,” the exhibition on the human cost of the Iraq War. The traveling exhibit will be on display in the courtyard area of the Convention Center today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This display will specifically focus on the cost of the war to the Commonwealth of Virginia, with 116 pairs of boots representing the fallen service men and women from Virginia, and a visual representation of civilian casualties.

The exhibit was also displayed outside the Fort Worth Convention Center during the recent United Methodist General Conference.

Authentic faith is what young people want, Kirk says

“Deech” Kirk, executive director of the Center for Youth Ministry Training in Nashville, said young people are not being “touched by our faith in a way that makes a difference in their lives.” As a result, he said, they are inarticulate about their faith. What young people do want is an authentic faith community. “It’s time for the church to reclaim testimony. Young people want to hear ‘This is how God changed my life.’ Or ‘I experienced God this week by ...’ We have what they’re looking for.” “We need to take the baptism vows seriously, where we promise to raise each young person up in the faith,” he added.

Annual Conference adopts ‘All Things New’ plan

Surrounded by apples representing growth and becoming fruitful, the Virginia Annual Conference approved the 250 Task Force’s “All Things New” plan Monday, planting seeds for 250 new faith communities in the next 30 years and revitalization of existing congregations.

The plan puts teeth into a proposal first approved on the floor of Annual Conference two years ago. “This is a lengthy and complex report that represents two years of work by this task force,” said Bishop Charlene Kammerer in calling for a vote on the total proposal. It was approved with only a handful of opposing votes. There was some debate on the proposal. The task force adopted several friendly amendments to improve the language of the report. Pete Costello offered several amendments that centered around the idea of not limiting the Holy Spirit’s action surrounding the plan.

Some amendments were accepted by the task force membership, but others were rejected. Brown reminded the Annual Conference that the plan did not limit the work of the Holy Spirit. The Rev. Anthony Busic urged the entire Annual Conference to stick to the plan after its passage. Brown said that the conference can be assured that the plan will be the focus of the conference for the next three decades. Members received a commitment card as they entered the arena to respond to the “All Things New” plan. As familiar hymns were sung, the bishop led the way as members placed their commitment cards into bushel baskets.

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There were 23 Elders ordained on Monday Night, 20 probationary Elders commissioned, and 21 Elders retired this year.

Volunteers bag 40,300 pounds of sweet potatoes

Even before the sun rose Tuesday morning, revealing a magnificent day for a Potato Drop, delegates to Annual Conference began streaming onto Civic Center parking lot by 5:30 a.m. to bag sweet potatoes for their hungry neighbors. About 300 delegates, visitors, and volunteers warmed over the 20-ton pile of sweet potatoes, putting them into sacks for distribution to nine regional service agencies. By the end of the day all 40,300 pounds of donated spuds were either on shelves of food banks and food pantries that too often find their shelves depleted or on the tables of hungry families that too often do not have access to fresh produce.

Charles Brownlee, a retiree who volunteers with Bland Ministries in Southwest Virginia, drove from Farmville to get 2,000 pounds of potatoes for more than 80 families served weekly by the Bland Ministries food pantry. "Just in the last couple of months we've seen an increase in the number of families needing food from our pantry," said Charlie. "At least 15 more families come in each week. I never have a problem giving out food, there is so much need. I don't know what we'd do if we didn't get stuff like these potatoes and other vegetables we get from the Society of St. Andrew." The Potato Drop, an event that has been held each year for the past ten years in conjunction with the Virginia Annual Conference, was co-sponsored by the Society of St. Andrew and the Virginia Conference Board of Global Ministries.

"This load will provide nearly 121,000 servings of nutritious food to those who don't get enough to eat," said Marian Kelly, director of the Society of St. Andrew's Potato Project, now in its 25th year. "Since we started the Potato Project in 1983," explained Marian, "this hunger-relief program has saved over 395 million pounds of food, mostly potatoes, that would have ended up in landfills or been plowed under because they were not commercially marketable." Angie Williams, conference director of Youth Ministries, reported that at least 50 of the 72 youth delegates were on the pile. Several other youth groups also volunteered.

-Carol Breitingner, Society of St. Andrew

Familiar Faces at Conference...

Jim Godwin was doing well on his new knees. He has yet to test them on the sail boat.

Teresa and Ted were fine. I didn't visit too long with them. Ted looks great!

Roy and Louise Miller seemed to be doing fine, but I only saw them from afar.

Our Conference Offering Today

This year's goal is \$300,000 and will benefit the following projects:

BRAZIL: \$50,000 - VIVART, a hip-hop ministry with inner-city youth. (VIVART means "Life Through Art.")

MOZAMBIQUE: \$50,000 — Orphanage at Cambine Mission Center.

GLOBAL HIV/AIDS FUND: \$100,000
For ongoing assistance in offering help and treatment for those with HIV/AIDS.

REBUILDING OF SEASHORE UM ASSEMBLY CENTER, BILOXI, MISS.: \$100,000
— A cornerstone for youth ministry in Mississippi, the facility was totally destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

Kits Report

The Rev. Tom Lee led the dedication of Conference Kits and said that monetary donations of \$74,920.61 were collected along with: 16,895 Health Kits, 15,257 School Kits, 3,676 Sewing Kits, 2,388 Layettes, 33 Flood Buckets, 42 Bedding. The total monetary value placed on kits and donations was \$598,820.61

Wesley United Methodist Church

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(703) 780-5019/(703) 780-5061 Fax
E-mail: WesleyChurch@verizon.net
Website: <http://www.wesleyva.org/>
Daily devotions:<http://www.wesleyva.org/devotional>

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**4th of July Holiday
Church Offices will
be closed**

**Pastor Tony will be on Vacation
July 16-31**

Wesley Kit Report

Our congregation sent the following kits to conference:

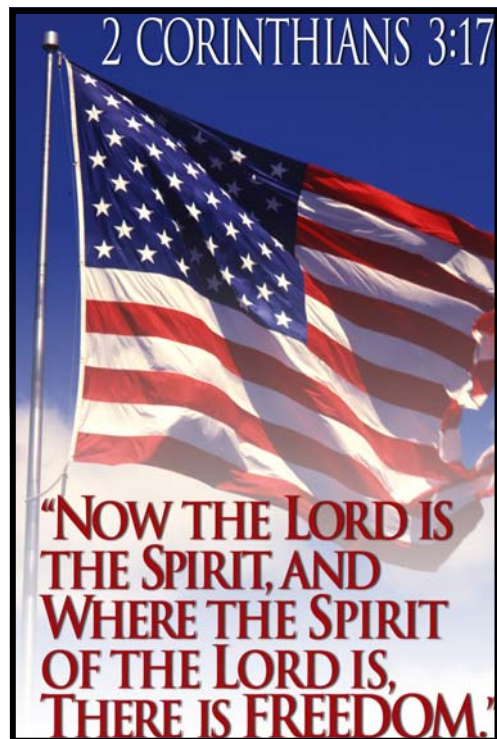
16 School Kits

4 Layette Kits

2 Health Kits

\$23.00 for shipping

Thank you to everyone who participated!



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