



WESLEY FAMILY NEWS July 2009

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

Clair Travis Ordained at Conference

Clair Travis is ordained a Full Connection Elder at the Holston Annual Conference.

What a privilege it was to be asked to sponsor Clair Travis, Wesley's Youth Director from June 2004 to May 2007 at her ordination on Monday, June 15th in Lake Junaluska, North Carolina. I asked Bishop Kammerer permission to attend the Holston Annual Conference instead of our own Virginia Conference. She graciously agreed and so I was present that evening and stood with her Uncle David as her sponsors as she was ordained by Bishop Swanson on Monday evening. I flew back on Wednesday after enjoying some time with Clair, her family and the Holston Conference. It was a great three days!

Clair received a new appointment at this year's annual conference. It is Grace United Methodist Church in Soddy Daisy, Tennessee (outside of Chattanooga). I believe moving day is June 24th.



From left to right: Rev. David St. Clair, Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr. Rev. Clair M. Travis, Bishop Kenneth L. Carder, and Pastor Tony

Current Special Needs:

UCM---tomato sauce, pasta, rice, beans, canned vegetables and fruits, Enfamil with iron, canned tuna, juice boxes, small-sized snacks and large size diapers

Rising Hope---microwaveable macaroni and cheese, vienna sausage, spam, tuna, pasta, tomato sauces, peanut butter, jelly, single-serving canned fruit, cup-of-noodles, rice baby cereal, baby formula, baby food, and diapers all sizes



**Mark your calendars for
the
Peach Festival
Saturday, August 8th
11:00—3:00**

Wesley Family news is a monthly publication of the Wesley United Methodist Church staff in Alexandria, VA . It is published to convey information with the members and friends of the church about The Virginia Annual Conference, The Alexandria District and the program offerings of Wesley as a connectional member of the United Methodist Church.

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District Superintendent: Alan Reifsnyder

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Home Page <http://www.wesleyva.org>

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

Message from Pastor Tony...

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.
Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be
attentive to the voice of my supplica-
tions!

If you, O LORD, should mark iniqui-
ties, Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you, so that
you may be revered.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and
in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord more than
those who watch for the morning, more
than those who watch for the morning.
O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with
the LORD there is steadfast love, and
with him is great power to redeem.

It is he who will redeem Israel from all
its iniquities.

Psalm 130 (NRSV)

Recently I have noticed during my devo-
tions and prayer that I come to a place
where I seem to be blank and empty. In
the past, my normal response has been
to run away into some busyness or some
other distraction. I mean why not? I
have come to the end of what I think
and what I feel. Seems like a good time
to move on, right? Well maybe not.

What has been happening recently is
that I have just stopped and sort of men-
tally and emotionally sat down and
waited. It is like being on the edge of
thick and impenetrable forest or wood.
Going further isn't an option, but I am
not ready to go back. So I sit and notice
where I am. Or maybe it is like coming
to the edge of the ocean at the beach and

looking out over the vast expanse of wa-
ter and just kind of stopping and looking
for awhile.

In the time of waiting I realize that what
seemed empty to me was not quite so
empty. There seems to be a holy pres-
ence that is reaching out to sit with me.
Indeed this Holy Presence seems to
come from beyond all the boundaries I
have run up against. The Holy presence
invites me to stay awhile, be open and
attentive, to ask questions and to won-
der. I find myself understanding the
lines in Psalm 130:5-6

I wait for the LORD, my soul
waits, and in his word I hope;
my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for
the morning, more than those
who watch for the morning.

As we come to the end of what we can
think and feel and realize that we can no
longer move forward on our own steam
and strength we face a choice. Or we
can go on to something else, familiar
and under our control. We can stay put
for a little while and see what happens
and who shows up. I recommend stay-
ing and seeing who shows up. What is
an impassable barrier for us is porous to
God. Staying put gives God an opportu-
nity to embrace, enfold and draw us
even closer to Him. For what we cannot
do on our own God is more than willing
to do for us. Give it a try.

In Christ's Love, Pastor Tony

Kid Venture

Sunday School Assistants are needed this summer. Also, need someone to lead Sunday School on 5, 12 and 19 July. Please contact Ken Denham:

denham1996@gmail.com or
571-312-6171, if able to help.

July Kid Venture Topics

Virtue: Forgiveness—deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay.

Memory Verse: "Forgive the things you are holding against one another. Forgive, just as the Lord forgave you." Colossians 3:13, NIrV

5 JULY

Bible Story: No Mercy (The parable of the unmerciful servant) • Matthew 18:21-25

Bottom Line: Since God forgives you, you should forgive others.

12 JULY

Bible Story: Making Change (Jesus and Zacchaeus) • Luke 19:1-9

Bottom Line: When people are forgiven, it can change them.

19 JULY

Bible Story: Getting Even God's Way (Joseph reveals his identity to his brothers) • Genesis 45:1-15

Bottom Line: When you want to get even, do the opposite.

26 JULY

Bible Story: Go First (Jesus teaches about forgiveness) • Matthew 5:1-2,23-24

Bottom Line: Don't wait to start making things right with others.

Congratulations to Ryan Tracey and Matt Grigsby, members of the Mount Vernon High School lacrosse team that won the National District Championship!



THANKS to Our VBS Volunteers!

Thank You!!!!

Many thanks to all of the people who volunteered their time and talents to this year's Vacation Bible School.

Almost 30 children attended through the week.. The music, crafts and drama made for a memorable week for everyone involved.

Brenda Denham

Voices of Youth Performance July 20th

Voices of Youth will perform Monday, July 20th at 7:00PM at Messiah UMC, 5215 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA. Voices of Youth (VOY) is a mission outreach and education program of the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church whose purpose is to Awaken the UMC to Mission.

VOY is a summer youth vocal choir that participates in mission work in the US and abroad, and then shares their mission experiences via music and testimonies. Each year 30-40 high school youth travel to a mission site for approximately one week, followed by vocal concerts at a dozen or more VA UMC churches over the following 2 weeks.

Voices not only educates congregations about what the UMC is doing in mission, they also challenge local congregations to get involved in mission work.

Voices has been a life-changing experience for so many youth over the years. High school age youth are encouraged to apply for and participate in next year's Voices tour.

The plans for our 9th Annual Peach Festival are underway!

Saturday, August 8, 2009

11:00 to 3:00 p.m.

On the grounds of Wesley United Methodist Church

The Wesley United Methodist Church annual peach festival is a family friendly fun event with peach sundaes & desserts, Crescent Model Railroad and Lego display, a moon bounce, dunk tank, kids' games, crafts, dancers, singers, martial arts demos, and many local community service organizations, and.....of course Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Snow Cones, and Popcorn.

BEST YET - IT IS ALL FREE.

Your help is needed to support this community outreach, while having fun and fellowship. Here are a few areas where you could assist:

Prior to Peach Festival

**Posting and distributing flyers
Donating prizes for games
Loaning your cooler for ice**

The Day of Peach Festival:

**Help with set-up
Grillers
Assist with serving food
Assist with desserts
Help with kids games and craft activities
Supervise moon-bounce or dunk tank
Help with take down and clean up**

See Watson Pryor or Diane Nees if you wish to volunteer for any of the above positions.

Notes from Annual Conference

In mid-June, I attended the 227th session of the Virginia Annual Conference at the Scope in Norfolk as your lay leader. The theme of this year's conference "Let's Get Growing: More Diverse People" celebrated current and future diversity.

This was my first experience attending conference and I found it to be a very rewarding experience – both spiritually and educationally as I learned of many programs throughout the conference of which I had been unaware.

For our congregation, the most important news up front – during the "Fixing of the Appointments" service on the final day it was revealed that Pastor Walton C. "Tony" Forstall II would continue to serve our church during the upcoming year.

As you know, I delivered 68 kits and a monetary donation for UMCOR from our church. In all, members of the conference donated a total of 38,070 kits and monetary donations were \$83,592. Also, 9,800 pounds of non-perishable food items were donated for local agencies. The Conference Offering for missions in Mozambique and Brazil, and the Pathways ministry in Petersburg, totaled more than \$220,000. Volunteers including more than 100 youth bagged 35,000 pounds of sweet potatoes for area food pantries. In light of the current tough economic situation, it is truly impressive that Virginia Methodists continue to give in such a wonderful way.

The communion table used during the conference was made from recycled wood from structures in the Driver community in southeastern Virginia which were destroyed by tornados in April 2008.

The conference showed positive membership growth in 2008. Membership stands at 338,602, up 968 from the previous year.

I was very pleased to make contact with a couple of our former Wesley pastors – Roy Miller and Teresa Smith. As many of you know, Roy is retired now but he and Louise are enjoying life and sent best wishes to all of you. Teresa is now the director of New Pathways ("Guiding People to Living Lives of Hope") and was on hand at the Expo in the adjoining exhibit hall signing copies of her recently published book -- Through the Darkest Valley: The Psalms of Lament and One Woman's Lifelong Battle Against Depression.

Watson Pryor, Lay Leader



Our heartfelt condolences are extended to the friends and family of Laurel Ichter. Laurel's husband, John, passed away May 4th.

We are saddened to announce the passing of Martin Chase, a longtime Wesley member, on June 15th at Fair Oaks Nursing Home in Greenville, Illinois. While a member of Wesley, Martin was an active member of the bell choir and served as Chair of the Administrative Council. Martin is survived by sons Stephen, Robert and David, seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held at 1 p.m., June 27th at the First United Methodist Church, Greenville, Illinois. A Wesley Memorial Service will be held in August.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial gifts to:

Home Health Care of Bond County, 504 S. Prairie, Greenville IL 62246
 First United Methodist Church, 310 S. 2nd St., Greenville IL 62246
 Wesley United Methodist Church, Alexandria VA 22309

United Methodist Men

Reminder that there will not be an UMM meeting in July or August. Also, if interested in contributing for a Gift Basket for the Peach Festival, please see Bud West.

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 Wesley-Church@verizon.net





July Birthdays

07/01 Jane Barnes	07/11 Steve Skidmore
07/02 Katie Pryor	07/12 Justin Lorentzen
07/03 Brenda Denham	07/13 Wesley Soules
Cole McFarland	Emma Brown
07/05 Audrey Morris	07/14 Douglas Chase
07/06 Lou DeVaughn	Jarrod Denham
07/08 Kellianne Tomlinson	07/15 Benjamin Clark
07/09 Ed O'Lenic	Earl Magill
07/10 Dennis Matthews	Ben Robinson
	07/16 Kris Murphy
	07/17 Kevin Rowland
	07/19 Joshua Adams
	Florizal Matthews
	Kiki Miguel
	07/23 Haylee Denham
	07/24 Michael Shultz
	07/27 Judy Ferreira
	07/29 Katie Inlow
	07/30 Nancy Clingenpeel



July Anniversaries

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



July & August In-Service

July	07/05/2009	07/12/2009	07/19/2009	07/26/2009
Acolyte	Elizabeth Forstall	Joseph Forstall	Kellianne Tomlinson	Hannah Nees
Lector	Patti Calloway	Lou DeVaughn	Lance Tracey	Jean Harris
Childcare	Shirley King & Audry Pomerening	Gwen & Devin Loftus	Margaret Minnie & Connie Lorentzen	Diana Tracey & Ryan Tracey
Counters	Watson Pryor & Steve Skidmore	Donna Adams & Corey Tullar	Bill Convery & Dave Restifo	Bill Convery & Charles Anderson
Coffee Hour	Dixie Eng Walker	Audry & Don Pomerening	Dale & Harry Swartz	Marcy Baggett
Communion Steward	Kaye Tomlinson			

August	08/02/2009	08/09/2009	08/16/2009	08/23/2009	08/30/2009
Acolyte	Andy Nees	Matthew Grigsby	Kelly Loftus	Trish Skidmore	Sydney Nixon
Lector	Kellianne Tomlinson	Fran West	Millie Yuhas	Bud West	Tom Swartz
Childcare	Diane & Hannah Nees	Kaye & Kellianne Tomlinson	Donna Adams & Brenda Denham	Nancy & Nick Restifo	Gwen & Devin Loftus
Counters	Lou DeVaughn & Jeff Nees	Watson Pryor & Steve Skidmore	Mike Adams & Corey Tullar	Linda Baublitz & Dave Restifo	Bill Convery & Charles Anderson
Coffee Hour	Gwen & Tom Loftus	Karl & Kaye Tomlinson	Ken & Brenda Denham	Jane Barnes	Corey Tullar
Communion Steward	Donna Adams				

Summer Office Schedules

Pastor Tony will be on vacation for July 8th until the 24th. Rev. Betsy Caudill, District Program Coordinator will preach on Sunday, July 12th. Pamela L. Michell, Executive Director, New Hope Housing will speak on July 19th.

Mary Pryor will be back in the church Office as secretary Tuesday through Friday beginning July 1st. Kym Clark will still be in the office on Mondays.

July 2009

July 2009							August 2009						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jun 28	29	30	Jul 1	2	3	4
9:00am Christian Edu 9:30am Kid Venture 10:00am Worship; Sar 12:00pm All Nations M	10:30am Bible Study; I 7:00pm BS Troop 99:	7:00pm Women's Ste 7:00pm Venture Crew 7:30pm SPRC Meetin:	6:30pm Neighborhoo 7:00pm Peach Festiv: 7:30pm Harmonica C 8:30pm AA; FH #1	7:00pm CS Committe 7:30pm Council of MI 7:30pm Harmonica C 8:30pm AA; FH #1	12:00pm Newsletter' D	Independence Day 11:00am Boy Scout Pk
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00am Christian Edu 9:30am Kid Venture 10:00am Worship; Sar 12:00pm All Nations M	10:30am Bible Study; I 7:00pm BS Troop 99:	7:00pm Women's Ste 7:00pm Venture Crew 7:30pm SPRC Meetin:	7:00pm Peach Festiv: 7:30pm Harmonica C 8:30pm AA; FH #1	10:00am Meals On Wif 7:30pm Harmonica C 8:30pm AA; FH #1		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00am Christian Edu 9:30am Kid Venture 10:00am Worship; Sar 12:00pm All Nations M	10:30am Bible Study; I 7:00pm BS Troop 99:	10:00am ROCK; Fellow 7:00pm Women's Ste	7:00pm Trustee Meet 7:30pm Harmonica C 8:30pm AA; FH #1			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00am Christian Edu 9:30am Kid Venture 10:00am Worship; Sar 12:00pm All Nations M	10:30am Bible Study; I 7:00pm BS Troop 99:	10:00am Circle Meetin 7:00pm Women's Ste	7:00pm Peach Festiv: 7:30pm Harmonica C 8:30pm AA; FH #1	7:30pm Harmonica C 8:30pm AA; FH #1		
26	27	28	29	30	31	Aug 1
9:00am Christian Edu 9:30am Kid Venture 10:00am Worship; Sar 12:00pm All Nations M	10:30am Bible Study; I 7:00pm BS Troop 99:	7:00pm Women's Ste 7:00pm Venture Crew 7:30pm BS 993 Comr	7:00pm Peach Festiv: 7:30pm Harmonica C 8:30pm AA; FH #1	7:30pm Harmonica C 8:30pm AA; FH #1		
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Wesley Preschool and Kindergarten News

Register now for the Wesley Fall program!



Wesley Preschool and Kindergarten Open House

Come and visit your classroom and meet your teacher!

September 3, 2009 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 2009-10

Kindergarten	\$310.00 per month
Pre-K-5 day	\$230.00 per month
5-day	\$230.00 per month
3-day	\$190.00 per month
2-day	\$170.00 per month

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

School begins on September 8th 2009

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

Wesley United Methodist Church

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

Non-Profit
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Address Correction Requested

July 3 Church Office Closed

July 4 Independence Day

August 7 Peach Festival

