



# WESLEY FAMILY NEWS

JUNE 2007 ISSUE

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



You're heading for the ride of your life as you twist and turn your way through this water park adventure! Get ready to make a splash as you soak up thrilling Bible stories where God uses the very common element of water to teach some very uncommon lessons. You'll find the coolest place to be is in the Son!! Join us

June 18 – 22, 2007

6:00 – 9:00p.m.

Dinner will be served from 6:00 – 6:30

(Pre-K and K children may come from 6:00 – 7:30p.m. or they may stay until 9:00)

## The Life Guard Chairs are Empty - Will You Fill One?



### We Need

**People:** Lifeguards (teachers for Pre-K – K; grades 1 and 2; grades 3 and 4; grades 5 and 6).

**Props:** Pool type decorations – noodles, rings, boogie boards, small beach chairs, colorful beach towels.

**Provisions:** Food Donations – we have a specific list of needs – If you would like to purchase an item or items from our list, please contact Diane Nees – 703-360-4987 or [diane.nees@fcps.edu](mailto:diane.nees@fcps.edu).

## Message from Pastor Tony...

“The mission undertaken by the Son, was not to show himself as having all power in heaven and earth, but to reveal his Father, to show him to men such as he is, that men may know him, and knowing, trust him. It were a small boon indeed that God should forgive men, and not give himself. It would be but to give them back themselves; and less than God just as he is will not comfort men for the essential sorrow of their existence. Only God the gift can turn that sorrow into essential joy: Jesus came to give them God, who is eternal life.”

George MacDonald

In many ways we mistake Jesus' mission to be about himself, when in fact it is about the Father. Jesus' mission is to reveal the Father as the Father truly is. The Father desires to give us all that we need and all that would be good for us if we would but trust Him to provide it. Most of us, however, are constantly looking ahead to a future that is coming rather than living fully in the moment that has come. Why? Because we do not trust God with our future. Earlier in the sermon MacDonald writes that humans do not trust because, “we easily imagine ourselves in want, we imagine God ready to forsake us. If we imagine our vulnerability, our want, even though we are safe for the moment and in possession of all we need, why do we believe God ready to forsake us? Why do we take so much effort to protect what was provided and to worry about the accumulation of more in the future? Isn't God able to provide for our future as God has provided for our present? MacDonald declares that the person who does not trust God is an

atheist, no matter what they might say they believe.

Ouch. This sounds harsh and tough. It is one thing to be forgiven; quite another to live in complete and utter surrender to God in all things. Yet the scriptures teach nothing less. Our surrender to God though allows the real purpose of God the Father to take place. The gift of God's self can only be received by the one who is open to and surrendered to the idea of receiving that gift.

The Easter/Pentecost cycle celebrate and acknowledge this gift of God. Jesus' death and resurrection bridge the chasm that separates sinful humanity from righteous God with forgiveness. We often forget though, that the Holy Spirit is given as well to vanquish and destroy sin. God desire for us is not just to forgive us, but to transform us. That happens in one way; one person at a time choosing by an act of will to trust God and not themselves.

Are you surrendered to God in such a way that God comes first and everything else second? Or are you consumed with much worry and anxiety for the things that are looming before you? Are you more concerned to fortify your position and your possessions than to strengthen your relationship with God and receive God's gifts? If God is not first in all you do and think and say, then what and who is? As you answer these questions (and as I do too) will we come clean before God and change our ways and trust God in all we say and do?

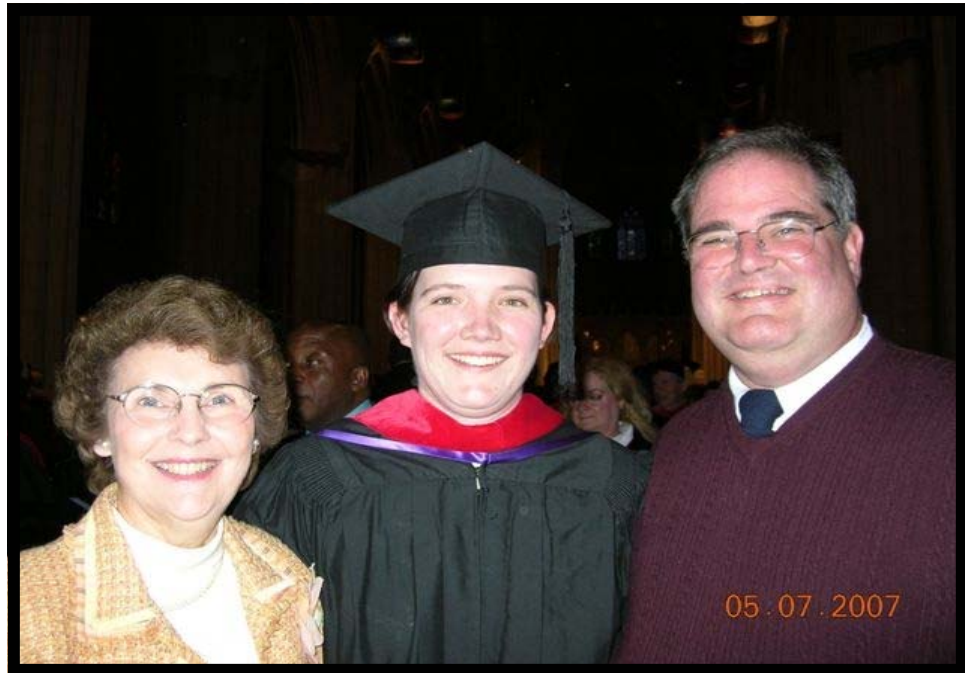
In Christ, Pastor Tony

## Ladies of the Methodist Church

All ladies of Wesley Methodist Church are invited to attend the Spring Dining Out at Pema's on Monday, June 11 at 6:30 PM. Please let Gayle Besemer, 703-780-7624, know if you will be attending. Come and enjoy the good food and fellowship!

## Clair Continues Her Journey

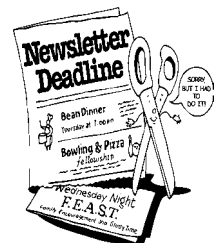
Clair Travis graduated from Wesley Theological Seminary Graduation on May 7th at The Washington National Cathedral. Based on a possible 4.0 Grade Point Average, Clair graduated Summa Cum Laude (GPA 3.85-4.0) with a in Master of Divinity.



At the graduation, Wesley UMC was recognized for participating in the Ministry and Mission Program. Great job Clair and great job Wesley. It was truly a warding team effort!

### 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



## Note From Clair...

Dear Friends at Wesley UMC,  
Thank you so much for three wonderful years in your presence. While there is much about my time at WUMC that I am appreciative of, I would like to thank you at this time for the wonderful send-off. Thank you for the recognition luncheon, the yummy cake, the beautiful table runner, and especially the scrapbook, framed photos, and other pictures. I will keep all these gifts close and will always remember fondly my time at Wesley.

Blessings,

### **Volunteers Needed**

**August 11th  
Peach Festival**

**Can You Serve Food?**

**Assemble Tents?**

**Supervise Games?**

**See Chuck Anderson**

Thanks from the

## **Nurturing Parents Program**

Thank you for partnering and volunteering with us for safer children and families. Your support of families in our communities through your contributions makes many of our programs possible. Thank You

## **...Only as good as the Data**

As many of you know, we are in the process of compiling a database of all of our members. Please send address changes, phone number updates and email changes to the church office.

Updated information can be emailed to WesleyChurch@verizon.net, mailed or dropped in the slot of the Church office. Thanks to everyone who has sent changes



## Birthdays

- |            |              |              |
|------------|--------------|--------------|
| 2 Gerald W | 7 Jack B     | 24 Geoff C   |
| 3 Leslie T | 8 Watson P   | 25 Chelsea W |
| Richard R  | 11 Diane N   | 26 Clyde P   |
| 4 Jared B  | 12 Kelly L   | 28 Bill Con  |
| 5 Don H    | 16 Rick F    |              |
| 6 Jim Sm   | 22 Jessica S |              |

## Anniversaries

- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 3 Mel & Millie  | 19 Gary & Cindy    |
| 6 Steve & Nancy | Earl & Janet       |
| 7 Harry & Dale  | 25 Charles & Nancy |
| 12 Pat & Shane  | Dave & Betty       |
| Jim & Valerie   | 28 Art & Judy      |
| Don & Audry     |                    |

## In-Service

Date	06/03/2007	06/10/2007	06/17/2007	06/24/2007
Acolyte	Hannah	Sydney	Olivia	Kelly
Lector	Christina	Jean	Gwen	Lou
Childcare	Olivia & Mary P	Shirley K & Audrey	Dixie & Roni	Margaret M & Connie
Counter	M/M M. Adams & Corey	Dave R & Linda B	Bill Con & Ben R	Lou & Jeff
Coffee Hour	Judy & Art	Lila	Diane & Lance	Tom Gr
Communion Steward	Dale & Harry			
Church Lock-Up	Don H			

## Congratulations to Our Graduates

Charlotte F, Randolph Macon College  
 Katie P, Mount Vernon High School  
 Clair T, Wesley Theological Seminary  
 Ashleigh T, Christopher Newport University

## Kits for Conference

Bring your kits for conference to the church by June 10th.

### Sewing Kit Items Value: \$18 per kit

- 3 yards of cotton or cotton-blend, solid color or print fabric (must be 3 yards of uncut fabric)
- 1 pair sewing scissors
- 1 package of needles
- 1 spool of thread
- 5-8 matching buttons

Wrap sewing notions in the fabric and place in a sealed one-gallon plastic bag.

### Layette Kit Items Value \$35 per kit

- 6 cloth diapers
- 2 shirts or 2 one-piece body suits
- 2 baby washcloths
- 2 gowns or sleepers
- 2 diaper pins
- 1 sweater open in the front
- 2 receiving blankets

Bundle the items inside one of the receiving blankets and secure with the diaper pins.

### School Kit Items Value: \$11 per kit

- 1 pair blunt scissors (rounded tip)
- 2 pads (or loose leaf) of 8 1/2" x 11" ruled paper
- 1 30-centimeter ruler
- 1 hand held pencil sharpener
- 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers
- 1 eraser, 2 1/2"
- 12 sheets construction paper (varied colors)
- 1 box of 24 crayons (only 24)

Prepare a 14" x 16" (finished size) cloth bag with handles and an optional closure (Velcro®, snap or button) and place items in the bag.

### Important Kit Assembly Information

All items included in kits must be NEW items.

All emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations. Since strict rules often govern product entry into international countries, it is important that kits contain only the requested items—nothing more. Do NOT include any personal notes, money or additional materials in the kits. These things must be painstakingly removed and will delay the shipment.

### Peach Festival Call for Volunteers!

Wesley's Annual Peach Festival will be held on Saturday, August 11. To continue tradition of this fun community outreach venture, we need your behind-the-scenes help in one of the following activity areas:

- *Donations*
- *Food Preparation*
- *Kids Activities and Events*
- *Entertainment*
- *Table Displays*
- *Set-up and Clean-up*

If you can donate your time and talents to the Peach Festival (no task is too small!), contact Chuck Anderson, (703)360-4883



## Wesley Preschool and Kindergarten News



### **Congratulations to our Graduates!**

Another successful year at Wesley. Special Congratulations to our new first graders Miss McKenzie C, Miss Isabelle C, Miss Jackie F, Mr. Evin Mc, and Miss Gopika P!

Go with our blessings as you start a new chapter in your education.

### **Wesley Summer Camps 2007**

**Register now for the following FUN weeks!**

<b>First Camp:</b>	<b>JUNE 11-15, \$90,</b>
<b>Second Camp:</b>	<b>JULY 23-27, \$90</b>
<b>Third Camp:</b>	<b>AUGUST 6-10, \$90</b>

**A one time \$20.00 Registration fee due now** to secure placement in one or all of the 3 camps. Forms are located outside Preschool Office and in Church office.

**Cost of the camp will be \$90 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 7 years olds.

**Camp is limited to only 25 campers so register early!**

**Contact: Darlene Spurlock at 703 360-9082  
wpsdirector@aol.com**

Still accepting registrations for Fall 2007.

Last day of School May 25.

Director out of office until June 5th.

**Wesley United Methodist Church**

8412 Richmond Avenue

Alexandria, VA 22309-2328

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

E-mail: [WesleyChurch@verizon.net](mailto:WesleyChurch@verizon.net)

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

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

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Address Correction Requested

# Mark Your Calendars Now for a Busy Summer Ahead!!!!

*Vacation Bible School*  
*June 18-22*

*Wesley Summer Camp*  
*June 11-15*  
*July 3-27*  
*August 6-10*

*Peach Festival*  
*August 11th*



# JUNE