



WESLEY FAMILY NEWS

MAY 2006 ISSUE

A few words from Pastor Tony...



Dear Folks,

I find myself faced with is a deep yearning for God's ways, God's presence, and God's guidance. I suppose I have always felt these promptings, but they had been overwhelmed by my frustration and anger that I didn't feel God's presence as closely as I thought I should and that God's paths were not followed by those around me (and by myself) as well as I would like.

For a time I thought that it was my anger and frustration I was supposed to deal with directly. I am afraid I am wrong, at least for right now.

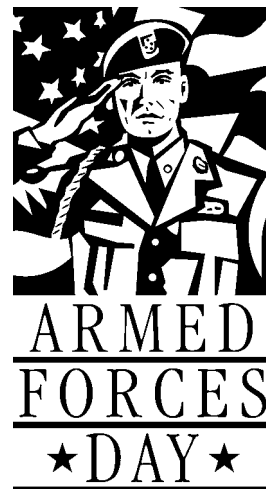
What I am called to confront is these deep wishes for closeness to God and obedience to God and what I do to ignore, alter, or subvert God's activity in my life. For God is active in my life, and if you are honest about it, God is active in your life.

God is persistently seeking to connect with us in love and power. This love and power that God shares doesn't change God, but it does change us. God is seeking to accompany us in all aspects of our life.

To enjoy God's love and life in us, we must necessarily allow God to root out the attitudes and activities that hinder or blemish our relationship with God.

I think I am tired of my so-called "righteous anger" and my disdain for some injustices. I really want to draw closer to God and grow up in to the person God has in mind. I wonder if you feel the same? Please be encouraged as you journey with God. It isn't always easy or quick, but it is almost always rewarding.

Love to all,
Pastor Tony





**Wesley United Methodist Women
(UMW)**

June is the month we collect kits for the Annual Conference. Please see item on **page 6** for more information.

Upcoming Events:

May 22, 7 p.m., Trinity Circle

Our Purpose

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.



Folks at Wesley,

The Member Care Ministry would like to have the names and addresses of your friends and family who are in the service of our country. We do pray for the military in general but feel it is better to pray for them personally and send cards to let them know we care.



April was filled with many fun, unique, and service-oriented activities; from the Youth Jam Session, to stuffing Easter Eggs, to the Crop Walk, we were definitely busy.

Things are going to slow down a bit in May, but there's still plenty to look forward to!

Here's what's up:

May 7 – Regular Youth Meeting, 5:00-6:30PM

May 14 – Mother's Day, no youth!

May 21 – GUYS Night, 4:00-6:30PM; this is a night devoted to doing "guy stuff" and talking about guy issues... no girls allowed!

May 28 – Memorial Day Weekend, no youth!

And for a little June preview; we will prepare and deliver a meal to the shut-ins on June 4. Plan on helping out from 4:00-6:30!

**Clair Travis
Youth Director**

ADMIT ONE

Or two or three....

*Sunday, May 21st
10 a.m., Worship Service*

*Washington Mill Singers
will be at the*

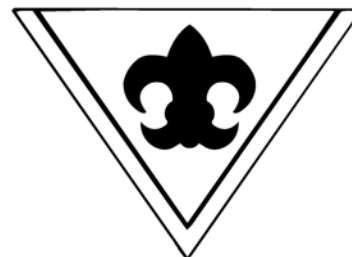
Wesley United Methodist Church

The Evangelism Ministry has arranged for the Washington Mill Singers, 5th and 6th graders from Washington Mill Elementary School, to perform during Worship Services. This group directed by Marlene Fleming-Dillon performs annually at the Martin Luther King Celebration in our community and they are excellent. We will be inviting their parents to attend our service that morning and our coffee hour will be an opportunity to meet these young people and their parents.

Wesley's Preschool students will also perform during this Worship Service.

*Sunday, May 7th
12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.*

*Cub Scout Pack 876
and
Boy Scout Troop 993
will hold a
Recruitment Drive
on the Church Grounds
and
in the Fellowship Hall*



If you know of any young boys who may be interested in joining the Cub Scout Pack or the Boy Scout Troop Please encourage them to attend this Recruitment Drive.

*For more information, please contact Bill Convery,
703-360-0196*

ITEMS OF INTEREST and DATES TO REMEMBER...



We are saddened to announce the passing of Bob Wilson on April 8th. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family. Funeral services were held April 22 at Wesley UMC. Internment will be on May 30th at 3 p.m. at Arlington National Cemetery.

*“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.”
Psalm 100.4, NIV*

PLEASE NOTE:

Our website now has a new address! We are the owners of our own internet domain name and our new address is: <http://www.wesleyva.org>. Our official Wesley calendar is accessible from the website as well as devotionals, Pastor Tony’s sermons, and many other items of interest.



**Lay Speakers Training
In
May 2006**

Lay Speakers training will be held Friday evening, May 12th, 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 13th, 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Centreville United Methodist Church. Besides the Basic Course in English and Korean, advanced courses in Development of the Early Church, the Discipline in Vietnamese, and Holy Mystery/Water and the Word will be taught. Please contact Bill Kirkpatrick at 703-591-3437 or email: b.wkirkpatrick@cox.net for additional information or to sign up.

BLOOD DRIVE
May 6th, 7 a.m. to noon
Aldersgate UMC
1301 Collingwood Road
Alexandria
Call 703-765-6555 for more info.



**The deadline for the Sunday Bulletin is Wednesday noon.
Please submit all items in writing. Thank you.**

Wesley Family News Deadline

The deadline for submission of articles/items of interest for the Wesley Family News is **1 p.m., the 15th of each month**. Any items received after that time will be considered for the following month’s newsletter. **Please submit all items in writing**. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



As many of you already know, Wesley UMC will be traveling to the Gulf Coast of Mississippi this year to assist in the UMCOR Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts. The 18-hour drive will be broken up with an overnight stay in Knoxville both to and from our ultimate destination of Pascagoula, Mississippi. If you are interested in participating in the trip, please contact Clair and let her know ASAP!

If you are not able to attend the Mission Trip, there are other ways you can help! That's right, fundraising has begun! Once again, we will be selling Wesley UMC Mission Trip Stock. And here's the best part; this year, it's available in all denominations! Our goal is to raise \$5,000, which will assist in transportation and insurance costs for the trip that will take us to Pascagoula, where we will be doing roofing, drywall, carpentry, and/or other projects. In return for your investment, you will get a full Stockholders' Report (including dinner) following our return from the Gulf Coast (date TBA).

Stocks can be bought before or after Sunday morning church services on the following dates: May 7, May 21, June 4, June 11, June 18, and June 25, or by contacting Clair Travis by phone 865-271-7231, or by email clair-travis@yahoo.com.

Kits for Annual Conference

The UMW at Wesley for many years has spearheaded the collection of various types of kits to be taken to Annual Conference and distributed around the world through Church World Services. This year, United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) will collect school, clean-up and bedding kits to be sent to the Sager Brown Depot in Baldwin, LA. We suggest our congregation concentrate on the school kits. They need to be at the church by June 11th, when they will be dedicated. We are requested to donate \$1 per kit to cover shipping costs.

School Kits contain: one pair of blunt scissors, 2 pads or notebooks of ruled paper approximately 8 1/2 x 11 inches (containing 150-200 sheets of paper), one 30-centimeter ruler (12 inches), one pencil sharpener, six unsharpened pencils with erasers, one large eraser, 12 sheets of colored construction paper, one box of 24 crayons, and one 11 x 14 cloth bag with cloth handles and a closure (Velcro, snap, or button). Pack these items in the cloth bag and secure contents with the closure. A donation of \$11 will also allow UMCOR to buy the supplies and assemble a school kit.

If you prefer, you may donate money. Make your check out to Wesley UMW and mark it for School Kits—\$12 per kit. In some congregation, volunteers make the bags. If interested, call Nora Rudd about details. Otherwise, they can be purchased at local stores.

Wesley United Methodist Church

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

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