

Cornerstone United Methodist Church

1411 Rim Road Fayetteville, NC 28314 (910) 868-5686

March 2004 Newsletter

Did you know???

Did you know that all members of the church are invited and welcome to attend the church council meetings? This is a meeting where many issues affecting our church both present and future are discussed. All are welcome and all are encouraged to voice their opinions during this time. When matters are put to a vote, only the council members have voting rights. This is a time to find out where the church is headed and what plans are in the works! It is also a great way to find out what opportunities there are to help out and what is needed. Meetings are held the second Sunday of each month at 7:00 pm.

You Are Wanted!

Do you love to sing? Does the Lord fill you as you praise him in song? Share your joy with your church family! Dwight is in need of new and alternate Praise Team members to join in the fun. There is also a need for choir members for the exciting Easter music entitled A.D. The choir meets on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. Please see Dwight if you are interested in joining any of these wonderful teams!

Apportionments

We received a letter in early February stating that through our leadership and generosity of our members that 100% of Outreach Ministries Apportionments for the year 2003 were paid. May God continue to bless our church with a generous and missional spirit so that others will be blessed.

From Pastor Ben

In June of 1995 then Bp of the NC Annual Conference, C.P. Minnick, sent me to Fayetteville, NC for the purpose of planting a new church. For the last 9 years my family and I have labored to fulfill God's calling in our lives to establish a new congregation that expressed the best of the Wesleyan tradition:

- We wanted to be catholic. That is, we embraced the faith once and for all delivered to the saints (Jude 3) as revealed in the Holy Scriptures and articulated in the Creeds and Councils of the undivided Church. Our catholic nature called us to want to reach out to include people from every race, kindred, tribe and tongue.

- We wanted to be open to the fresh movement of the Holy Spirit as he enlivened, empowered, and directed our experience as Christian believers.
- We wanted to be evangelical – we wanted to preach the saving message of new life - eternal life - through Jesus Christ. We determined that we would actively invited men, women, boys and girls to accept Christ and be born again. Many of you reading this newsletter received Jesus Christ because of the ministry of this local church.

Although we have been through many troubles, toils, and snares along the way I believe that I have completed the mission I was sent to accomplish. For the last 18 months or so I have known that I was merely here to establish stability following our move into the church building. I was sent to Fayetteville to plant a church. That work is finished and it is now time for a new pastor to come to take this church to the next step in God's plan.

In the United Methodist Church the Bishop appoints each pastor to each church in his particular annual conference. This is an apostolic form of supplying ministers to churches. The New Testament word *apostolos* means "one who is sent." In our denomination pastors are *sent* by the greater church rather than being *called* by a local congregation.

Our church, each year, has submitted a charge profile that describes in detail our parish's theological stance, the character of the community, and the nature of the church body here at Cornerstone. Our District Superintendent, the Rev. David O. Malloy, also knows Cornerstone well and is advising the Bishop on the type of pastor best suited for this church. Also the Staff/Parish Relations Team of Cornerstone UMC is advising the Bishop in his decision and will meet with him soon. Finally, I have been consulted and my insight has been sought for this decision.

So, by the end of March or the early part of April you will know who your new pastor will be. On June 22nd of this year your new pastor will officially take over the leadership of Cornerstone United Methodist Church.

Lisa, the children and I, will be moving to Durham, NC. I will be accepting a staff position at the Church of the Apostles in Raleigh for the purpose of planting a new church in Durham.

We'll talk more about this in the days and weeks to come. But I want you to know that Lisa and I love this church so much. You are our very heart. We cherish each of you and thank God that we are privileged serve you.

Please pray for our Bishop as he seeks the wisdom and discernment of the Holy Spirit in appointing Cornerstone United Methodist Church's new pastor. Also, please remember to pray for me and my family as we transition to God's new adventure for our lives.

Mission First Saturday's

What 's that?

It is a Cornerstone outreach opportunity. It promotes participation in our community.

Who's it for?

It is for anyone and everyone that would like to participate: youth, teen or adult.

What do we do?

We help wherever we are needed. We have helped at the Salvation Army store, worked at Operation Save the Babies, Habitat for Humanity and even at our own church.

When does it happen?

We go out the first Saturday of each month. Usually we work from 8 a.m. until noon. We meet at the church and go out as a group from there.

How can I get involved?

Watch for announcements in the bulletin or in the monthly newsletter. There will be sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall for each activity.

Upcoming Projects

Saturday March 6—

Charity starts at home. We will meet to clean up our church. Think of it as an early spring-cleaning. The church is our people and we need to keep our house looking beautiful. All supplies are provided and all ages are encouraged to participate.

Saturday April 3—

Our project will be at the Salvation Army assisting in processing donated items and in stocking shelves. All ages are encouraged to participate.

If you have ideas, suggestions or questions, please contact Sandra Roper @ 425-8655.

St. Patrick's Day Potluck

It's that time again! The Wednesday night Discovery group is hosting another potluck! It will be held on Sunday, March 21 at 5:00 p.m. The Valentine's Day potluck was just a great time, so they decided to host another one! Potluck's are a great time to have fellowship and good food all at once. This allows followers from both services a chance to get to know one another, share faith and stories and connect as a congregation. The kids have a fantastic time, too! Please come out and join us!

PICTURES NEEDED

The information table needs updating. I would like to have pictures that have been taken around the church or at church gatherings to place on the board. If you have any photos to add to the board, please give them to me, Julie Layton ,so I can update the board. My phone number is 875-7415. Thank you in advance for any contributions!

Volunteers In Missions

Volunteers in Missions has a VIM Team from Mexico coming in April. They will be doing much hard work and evangelizing in the Silver City United Methodist Hispanic Mission April 5 through 8th. They will be working at the Avant Ferry Road United Methodist Hispanic Mission in Raleigh April 9 through 11.

We will be receiving them on April 12th for departure April 15th. In other words, three nights in Fayetteville and cooperative worship at Cornerstone United Methodist Church on Wednesday April 14th with all the Methodist Church and others that care to participate.

VIM Mission Coordinator, Myra Roberts, is looking for the gift of hospitality for three nights for these individuals. They are from the United Methodist Church in Quarataro, Qro, Mexico. They are educated and are offering of themselves in ministry to their people here. If you would be willing to offer shelter to any of these individuals I would appreciate hearing from you. Please let me know if you can take one or more.

If you would be willing to help, please contact Elva Monge immediately at (910) 864-6781 or Elva0426@aol.com Thank you!

THINGS LEARNED WITH TIME

- ~ I've learned that we should be glad God doesn't give us everything we ask for.
- ~ I've learned that the Lord didn't do it all in one day. What makes me think I can?

Worrying

Worrying does not empty tomorrow of its troubles.
However, it does empty today of its strength.

If something is wrong, fix it if you can.
But train yourself not to worry.
Worry never fixes anything. -- Mary Hemingway

New Communications Contacts

Bulletin Information

Jean Smith is preparing the bulletins for church service each week. If you have any items that you would like to have announced please be sure to have it to her by Thursday each week. She can be reached at 497-3133 or you can send her the material at cornerstonebulletin@nc.rr.com

Newsletter Information

Hello! My name is Julie Layton and I am very excited to have the opportunity to prepare the Cornerstone monthly newsletter. Many thanks to Beth Wiggs for handing it over to me and setting the standard so high! Also, thanks to all the readers for being so patient over the last month or so while the transition has been taking place. I would like to send out the newsletter the first week of every month, so if anyone has any material or stories they would like to see here-please have the information to me by the last day of each month. I sincerely welcome any comments, ideas and suggestions for this newsletter-so don't be shy! Feel free to call me at 875-7415 or you can email me at jlayton4@earthlink.net

Lava Lava Let Jesus' Love Flow!

This is the theme for this year's VBS program ... we need many helpers in order to run this program... I've only had four sign up to date.... I am in great need of people to step up and make the commitment to participate in this exciting opportunity to minister to our children.

Positions that still must be filled :

- VBS Director
- VBS Registration Coordinator
- VBS Food Director/ Coordinator
- Hot Bible Adventures Elementary Teacher
- Hot Bible Adventures Preschool Teacher
- Tropical Treats Leader
- Jungle Gym Games Leader
- Drama Team
- Two Crew Leaders

- Cleaning Up Teams for each evening
- And a bunch of pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters!

Can you see the big volcano yet?????

Please speak to Melinda this week and let her know what you would like to do. Crew Leaders / Drama Teams must be Sr. High students or older. Teaching / Coordinating positions need to be at least college age. Thank you.

Melinda Alleyne 764-9083 or you can email me at jalleyne@nc.rr.com

What Do Volcanoes and Missions have in Common?

This year they both need money! The VBS mission project will need loads of money ... so in order to participate, we will be filling up two team volcanoes with as much money as we can ... so start saving your pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and any other money you desire to give towards our project and when you see the volcanoes in the church, start bringing in your change to dump into them and see our love for others start overflowing Last year we raised over \$400.00 ... lets beat that this year! This deal has a twist though we are going to have a penny war between the boys and the girls! Whoever gets the most pennies in their team's volcano wins! Sounds easy eh you just need to fill up your team's volcano with pennies Not so easy, it has a catch Put all your pennies into your teams volcano, but you can put any other kind of money in the opposite team's volcano to count against their penny count So, if you are boy and you put 50 pennies into the boy's volcano ... the boys will be credited for 50 pennies. But if you are a girl and you put 2 quarters in the boy's volcano ... the boys will loose credit for 50 pennies during the final penny count Pretty tricky will be hard to know who is winning until the final count ... so lets everyone participate and have loads of fun causing our love to overflow! Remember whichever side gets the most *credited* pennies wins. So make sure you put all of your pennies in your own volcano, and all your other money in the opposite teams volcano! We will announce the winners in church! Missions will be the real winner ... all money collected will go directly to a mission project to be announced soon,

"Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs." Chrissy - age 6

"Love is what makes you smile when you're tired." Terri - age 4

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen." Bobby - age 7

"If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate." Nikka - age 6

"There are two kinds of love: our love and God's love. But God makes both kinds of them." Jenny - age 8

"You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget." Jessica - age 8

Children's Church Help Wanted!

Twelve Good Reasons to Volunteer for Children's Church

Hannah

Matthew

Amber

Noah

Jonathan

Elise

Megan

Jonathan

Allison

Galeah Renee

Your child

Jesus

The Bible says, "Train up a child in the way he should go and, when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6)

Children's Church Schedule for March and April

March 14 Laurie Harro

March 21 Sue Todd

March 28 Sharon Upchurch

April 4 David and Natalie Haskell

April 11 Easter Sunday

April 18 Insert your name here.

April 25 Insert your name here.

Nursery Help

Cornerstone UMC provides outstanding Nursery care during our services for children 0-2. We are in need of volunteers to help in the room. There is a sign-up sheet on the door to the nursery. Anyone is welcome to help, you do not have to have a child in the room to volunteer. Please sign up for a date today!

Will He Tell?

One day a mother was explaining to her young 6 year old son that you should never tell a lie. She told him that God saw everything and heard everything. She explained, "Even though your father and I may not know if you are telling a lie God will know." The young son replied, "But will He tell?"

Relay for Life

Let's get involved! Relay For Life is a celebration of cancer survivorship and community spirit. Each year in 3,600 communities worldwide, more than 2.25 million people (including 460,000 cancer survivors) take part in this overnight event. In addition to honoring survivors, Relay For Life raises much-needed funds for American Cancer Society research, education, advocacy and patient services.

The Relay For Life will be held at 71st High School on Friday, May 14 at 6:00 pm and end Saturday, May 15 at 9:30 am. The Relay begins with the Survivor Victory Lap where cancer survivors walk the initial lap, symbolizing the courage that survivors and their families display and sustain in their lives.

We would like to set up a team from Cornerstone United Methodist to help out with this wonderful event. The team could be made up of youth groups, small group studies, or friends. Each person needs collect donations for the event and walk the relay. The registration deadline for this event is April 5. If you are interested in joining this team, contact Danelle Petero at 867-9728.

Cornerstone Calendar

Ongoing Events

Mon Pastor's Day Off

Wed 10:00am Discipleship w/ Pastor Ben

Noon Intercessory prayer at the office

6:30pm Children's Ministry FW Friends

Bible Study w/ Richard Upchurch

Fruit of the Spirit Women's Group

Discovery w/ Pastor Ben

7:00 pm Early Service Praise Team Practice

Thu 7:00 pm Late Service Praise Team Practice

7:00 pm POINT Man, Men's Group

Fri 7:00 pm Friday Night Fellowship @ the

Ban's

Upcoming Events

March 19-21 Sr High "Acquire the Fire" Event
in Greensboro

March 21 5:00 pm St Patrick's Pot Luck

April 3 8:00 am Mission First Saturday
@ Salvation Army

April 4 Youth Sponsored Picnic and Easter
Egg Hunt

April 14 7:00 pm Mexican Youth Service

May 9 Youth-conducted Services

June 12 End of Year Pool Party