



# The Grapevine

**Clarksbury United Methodist Church**  
**15924 General Puller Highway, Hardyville, Virginia June 2018**  
[www.clarksburyumc.com](http://www.clarksburyumc.com)

**Our Mission:**

**To receive and share God's love through worship, education, service and outreach.**

## Pastor Ken's Corner

*2 Corinthians 4:13-18 (NRSV)*

<sup>13</sup> *But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, <sup>14</sup> because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence.*

<sup>15</sup> *Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.*

<sup>16</sup> *So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, <sup>18</sup> because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.*

Are we already almost half way through this year???

Incredulous as it may seem, we are only a few short days away from Annual Conference in Hampton (June 15 thru 17). I urge all of you to redouble your prayers for our Annual Conference this year. We are always in need of prayer...but this year even more so. Most of you already know about the current issues before our denomination this year and next. Check out the Conference UMC webpage at [www.vaumc.org](http://www.vaumc.org) for more info on Praying our way Forward. Keep informed, and know God is still in Charge.

Next year the conference will be in Roanoke.

Summer is here, school will be out soon, vacations will be starting...there are all manner of distractions but also opportunities to serve our Lord and our community.

**Saturday, June 2**, is Mobile Food Pantry with the Cryer Center (Philippi has lead). There is always more than enough for many to do; stop by see what we're doing; lend a hand or just come and be part of this food ministry.

**Soup Kitchen...** Soupies are on as always for the first and third Monday of each month, and we have the highest praise for the leadership and servant attitude of all those who participate,

deliver, pray for or in any other way have this ministry in their hearts. See Kathy Wright for info on Soupies or Warren Wright for info on Mobile Food Pantry help.

We also have another awesome **Clarksbury FOOD PANTRY** scheduled for the **30<sup>th</sup> of June**. See Fran Miller for info on how you can help and other details.

<sup>16</sup> *So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day.* <sup>17</sup> *For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure,* <sup>18</sup> *because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.*

The Grapevine inputs from month to month are scriptures and preaching themes and ideas for the month. June's theme is **Faith**...our **Faith** specifically and how we live with and by our **Faith** in our daily lives and interactions.

<sup>18</sup> *because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.*

The world before us, what we can see, is temporary; the world we all hope to see at some time is eternal. Why do I mention this? Much of what Clarksbury members invest many hours and resources into **is service for others**. We may not SEE the return on our investment of time and resources in our community in OUR lifetime...but, even as we are temporary, the grace and mercy of God is eternal, and we are the instruments of His peace to this world through our selfless helping "Acts of Mercy" and each and every one of our prayers and other "Acts of Piety".

We demonstrate our faith in acts of mercy and acts of piety...these are not just good deeds or good thoughts alone. They are ways in which our service to God becomes a part of the fabric of our very lives and of those around us.

Find a way, whether in any one of our food ministries (See Fran or Warren) or any of the outreach and nurture efforts (See Jerry Dant for suggestions), to be the earthly, active presence of Jesus in our community.

<sup>13</sup> *But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak,*  
<sup>14</sup> *because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence.*

Out of an abundance of **Faith**, provided by God, we believe, we speak and we **DO** acts of mercy and acts of piety.

<sup>15</sup> *Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.*

All to the Glory of God! Amen!

Let us all be in an attitude of gratitude in our daily prayers and our daily meditations and readings and in all our interactions with our brothers and sisters.

We, together, have pledged OUR prayers, OUR presence, OUR gifts, OUR service and OUR witness for Christ and His Church.

**Peace & Grace**  
**Pastor Ken**

<b>Annual Budget</b> for 2018 Operating Funds:	<b>\$112,331.00</b>
<b>Total Received</b> for Operating Funds as of May 27, 2018:	<b>46,677.10</b>
<b>Total Income Needed to Meet Budget:</b>	<b>46,805.00</b>

#### COFFEE HOUR FOR June

June	3	Kathy Wright
June	10	Val Bradley
June	17	Janis Slaughter
June	24	Polly Van Benschoten



*If you would like to be a part of this church ministry,  
please contact Polly Van Benschoten, 776-0569*

## United Methodist Men News

Warren Wright-UMM President



The UMM will hold their next regular monthly business meeting on Monday, June 25th at 7 PM. The UMM will be off the months of July and August, returning on Monday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

Remember that there are no membership or dues requirements to be a part of the United Methodist Men of Clarksbury, just a willingness to serve Jesus Christ within your church and community.

**Mission-To Help Men Grow In Christ, So Others May Know Christ.**

## A Message from Your Lay Leader

### What God really means to our American Heritage

By Warren Wright



In my Grapevine article next month, I will be reporting to you on the UMC annual conference in Hampton. So I wanted you to have something for July 4<sup>th</sup> this month. The 4th of July is a special day in our country but not just for the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Many special things have happened on this day.

Three American presidents died on the Fourth of July, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and James Monroe. And if you want to get down to it, Monroe was ready to die several days before but doctors kept him alive with drugs just long enough so that he could die on the fourth of July. Why did they do that? Because the fourth of July meant something. Calvin Coolidge was born on that day in 1872. West Point opened, July 4th 1802. Stephen Foster was born on July 4th.

The song "America" was sung for the first time on July 4th, 1832 in Boston. Alaska and Hawaii both became states on the fourth of July. Slavery was abolished in the state of New York on July the fourth 1845. **And in that great document delivered on July the 4th, 1776, we read of a belief that all people have rights given by the creator of Mankind.** The document only has 1321 words, it takes just eight minutes to read, **and God is mentioned four times, twice at the beginning and twice at the end.** And the purpose of the declaration was to separate us officially from the repression and authority of England. And the very act of signing the declaration said to the world that I am a traitor to my native country of England. I am a criminal, a fugitive from London's Justice.

Who were the men who were willing to sign? Of the 56 men who signed it two were twenty years of age, sixteen were in their thirties, twenty in their forties, eleven in their fifties, six in their sixties, and one, Benjamin Franklin, over 70.

All but two were married. Each had an average of 6 children. 24 were lawyers, 9 were merchants, 14 were farmers, 4 were doctors, **and one was a preacher.**

We're not talking about low life, drifters, and rebels. We're talking about educated, civilized men who were willing to sacrifice everything for a cause that they believed in. And history shows us that they paid the price for that bravery.

**John Adams said, "The general principles on which the Fathers achieved independence were the general principles of Christianity." Adams went on to say that in observing the 4th of July, "It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty."**

**And the trouble with America today, is that we stopped listening to our fathers, listening to what they told us God did in their lives long ago.**

**Psalm 44:1, says "We have heard with our ears Oh God, Our fathers have told us what you did in their day long ago."**

## **Summer Food Pantry**

**By Fran Miller**

The next Food Pantry Day will be Saturday, June 30 from 9-11 a.m. Thanks to the generous donations of our church family, the community and grant money we received through the hard work of Warren Wright, Clarksbury is able to purchase the food we need for this upcoming food pantry. However, we still need your help! We need volunteers to pack the bags on Thursday, June 28 and for that Saturday to meet, greet, serve coffee, distribute the groceries, and help people to their cars with their bags. There is plenty of work to go around so please sign up to volunteer. The sign-up sheet is by the organ in the sanctuary. Thanks for your help in advance! Yours In Christ, The Food Pantry Committee

## **Soup Ministry**

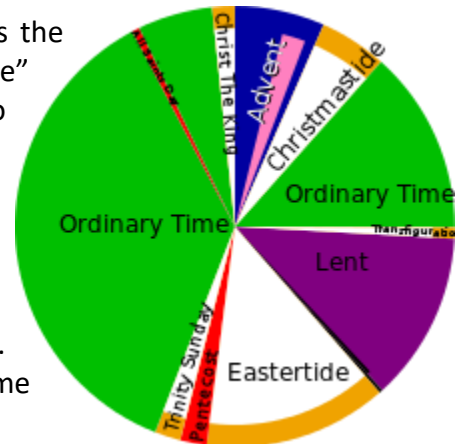
**By Kathy Wright**

The soup ministry again participated in the winter food pantry distribution which was held on Saturday, February 24, 2018, at Clarksbury United Methodist Church. More than fifty families received groceries and each of those families also received a bag containing a quart of homemade soup with crackers. Our soup ministry is an ongoing ministry. We distribute homemade soup with crackers twice-monthly the entire year. Our next food pantry distribution will be on Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to participate in this very important ministry of the church, please contact one of the committee members listed. I can be reached at 757-373-9166 or email [kdwright@va.metrocast.net](mailto:kdwright@va.metrocast.net). God Bless.

## Worship Committee

By Dave Dobson

I hope everyone has enjoyed attending service so far in 2018. As the liturgical calendar goes, we now move into “ordinary time” represented by the color green. FYI: Ordinary Time comprises two periods: the first period begins on Epiphany Day (in the Anglican Communion and Methodist churches) and ends on the day before Ash Wednesday; the second period begins on the Monday after Pentecost, the conclusion of the Easter season, and continues until the Saturday before the First Sunday of Advent. The first period is sometimes called Epiphanytide and the second Trinitytide. Combined, these periods of the church calendar are the longest time in the liturgical year.



I anticipate having a meeting on 25 June 2018, 6pm to discuss Summer and Fall events. Hopefully, we can have some surprises ahead for everyone.

Also of note: Vacation Bible School, Philippi Christian Church, July 8-13, 6pm-8:15pm. Contact Jerry Dant [JerryD1935@msn.com] for more information (she is coordinating the whole shebang).

As always, if you have any comment, concern, grievance, or praise, you can send me a note and I will bring it to the committee confidentially [ddobson67@gmail.com].

**Matthew 28:19:** *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*

## Community Outreach Box Tops for Education



Just another way Clarksbury UMC can reach out to our community. Simply cut out those little logos from cereal & snack boxes, cans & jars of food, paper goods, food & trash bags, a wide variety of things -- and bring them to church. A Big Jar in the social hall is awaiting them. With your donations St Clare Walker Middle School will gain the financial benefits schools can earn in this program.

# Throw kindness around like confetti.

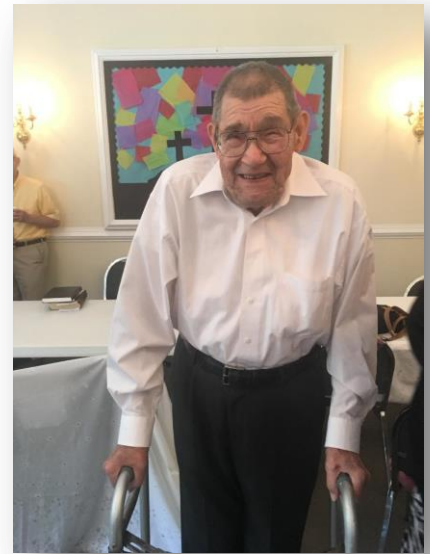


## Nurture and Outreach Committee

### Melvin Hawley

By Jerry Dant, Chairperson

We have featured 5 of our home bound members, who are at times home bound. We are featuring **Melvin Hawley**, who is often seen at church on Saturday evening or Sunday morning. Melvin was born in Richmond in November, 1929. He attended Bainbridge Junior High School in South Richmond. He married when he was 20 years old and his father had to sign for him to marry Mary and she was 22 years old. After marriage he was drafted in the military and served in the Korean War. After he returned home he became a boiler maker and worked at the trade for 37 years. They purchased a boat and became week-enders for twenty years. Then they sold the boat and started to spend week-ends in a home his father owned and that is where he resides now. Melvin has two lovely nieces who are the apple of his eyes. Now if you want an interesting afternoon, just call Melvin and ask to drop by and you will see his "friend", John Wayne with books and videos to share with you on your visit. We have all seen John Wayne in many war and western movies during our lifetime.



## Outreach

### Jerry Dant

Our Nursing Home Ministry is going great at Dockside. David and Fred still have a service on the first and third Sunday of each month. I am sure they would enjoy it if you would like to share your talent with the residents by singing, Praying or just saying a few words to someone.



Now, for FUN. Think about joining the residents on a shopping trip to WalMart or \$Tree. It is so much FUN to watch the oldies with little money and lots of choices to pick out what they need with their coins.

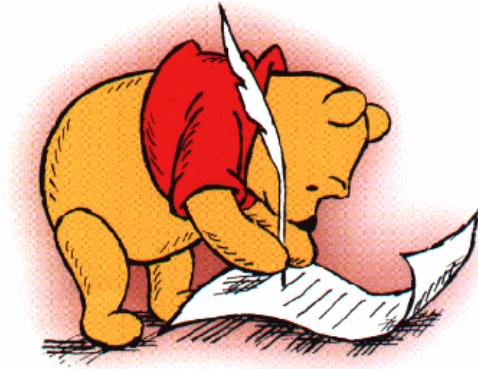
Just ask Terry as she is a regular on these trips and the bus ride is FUN as well as shopping. Please THINK about this as this is a new month and they will be going again. See you there.

## Mail a letter or card of happiness to our home bound members!

If your last name starts with the letter listed below, please send a card or note to the shut-ins listed.

### Birthdays are in bold type.

Why not make a home bound member smile by sending them a card often as well as on their birthday. If we all participate, our home bound members will get a card frequently from church members, and will have more great memories of Clarksbury.



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#### A-C

Roegean Speight **09/10**  
#208  
Commonwealth Sen Living  
460 South Main Street  
Kilmarnock, VA 22482

Ivey Huff **10/12**  
233 Mae Lane  
Wake, VA 23176

Jane Crittenden **8/22**  
P.O. 30  
Hardyville, VA 23070

#### D-G

Sue Myers **09/30**  
Westminster Canterbury  
132 Lancaster Drive  
Irvington, VA 22480

Reggie Jackson **7/12**  
Riverside Convalescent  
Ctr.  
P.O. Box 303  
Saluda, VA 23149

Melvin Hawley **11/25**  
17504 General Puller Hwy  
Deltaville, VA 23043

#### H-L

Betty Morris **9/27**  
221 Sturgeon Point Loop  
Deltaville, VA 23043

Myrtle Clark **10/2**  
P.O. Box 302  
Deltaville, VA 23043

Pastor Jim Salmon **5/24**  
26306 Mattaponi Trail  
Milford, VA 22524

#### M-Z

Annette Johnston **3/17**  
Dockside Rehab Center  
74 Mizpah Road  
Locust Hill, VA 23092

Jean Cree  
Georgia Manor #62  
651 Riverwalk Place  
Chesapeake, VA 23320

Joyce Mathews **8/27**  
451 Fishing Bay Estates  
Box 11  
Deltaville, VA 23043



# JUNE POP! (POWER OF PRAYER!)

Answers to Prayers

By

Connie Robertson

I have had recent experiences that most people would consider to be catastrophic, but have actually been filled with praise to our Lord.

My only child had a stroke on March 4. On March 5, I fell and broke my ankle in four places, also dislocating it so my foot was 90 degrees from the rest of my leg.

My first answers to prayer came while I was laying on the ground, waiting for the ambulance. I prayed to God to help me deal with the pain and take away my fear. My husband can verify the fact that I did not utter a sound. I was calm, quiet, and peaceful. Next, as a former driver in the MCVRS, I prayed for the crew that answered my call. The crew that came to my aid were professional, competent, and very gentle in their treatment of me. Other members of the rescue squad and even members of the fire department came to offer lifting assistance. From this point on until today, I have more of God's messengers than I can name. However, part of the wonderful crew that took me to the hospital was one of our church members, Eileen Crittenden. As a paramedic, she gave me pain medication before we got underway. My crew says that I was the happiest patient they have ever taken to the hospital.

The next day, I had surgery performed by Dr. Perez. I prayed for a Christian surgeon. I got a Christian surgeon who did an excellent job. My scars are arrow straight. Ken and Terry stayed with Johnny in the waiting room for a long time. I was the last patient of the day. Again, my prayers were abundantly answered.

If I name everyone who has touched and impacted my life, this will be the longest article that has ever been in the Grapevine. Isn't that a tremendous blessing? One of the highlights has been the love shown by my husband, Johnny. He spent the nights with me while I was in the hospital. After my move to rehab, he was there faithfully every day. He brought me everything I asked for and did everything he could to make me comfortable. He also had a tremendous amount of help from his brother, Larry and an extended family member, Alice Dix. They have all remained very supportive and do everything they can to help me get well.

The folks at the rehab center, Heron Cove, were all very kind and helpful. Some of them even prayed with me if I was having a rough night. My therapists equipped me with exercises I am faithfully completing each day to help hasten my healing.

The EMTs on my rescue squad crew, Sandy and Frank Murphy, bought a hospital bed from the Cryer Center and met Johnny at home to help him set it up. When I got back home, members of the squad were there to offer help getting me in the house and everything was all set up and ready for me. I had no worries! Again, my prayers were answered in a powerful way.

I always knew I had good friends, but my friends have helped feed my son's dog, cleaned my house, brought food and plants, watered my plants, and done everything they could to make me comfortable and know that I am loved.

Also, I realized that there is a blessing in the fact that I am injured. Had I not been hurt, I would have tried to care for my son on my own when he was released from the hospital. This stroke was extensive enough that he has needed help of a more professional level than I can reasonably provide. Therefore, he has received better care as a result of my injury. God is always working, although we don't always understand the "how."

Lastly, what a tremendous blessing our beautiful church family has been. With your cards, visits, reading material, presents, meals and phone calls, you have answered my prayers before I even had time to utter them.

From my recent experiences, I hope I have learned to trust God more and question Him less. My belief in the fantastic power of prayer to bring hope and healing has been greatly reinforced. God continues to strengthen me through the power of prayer. Just this week, my son, Beck, actually made a joke. That is a sign that his brain is finally beginning to heal. Praise God!

# Friends and Family of Jesus

**July 8-13, 2018**

**PHILIPPI CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

**6:00pm to 8:15pm**

Vacation Bible School

Join us for a week of fun while we learn about the  
Friends and Family of Jesus.

Age appropriate lessons, Snacks, and  
Activities will be provided.

Registration forms may be found at  
[www.philippichristianchurch.com](http://www.philippichristianchurch.com)





# The Grapevine

## June 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> Jennifer Shults Tamara Ramirez	<b>2</b> Mobile Food Pantry 9-11(Philippi) 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
<b>3</b> 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Communion	<b>4</b> Becky Wilhite Summer Clark Soup Ministry 11 a.m.	<b>5</b> Polly Van Benschoten Kyle Mears Trustees Meeting 7pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Carl Tate 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
<b>10</b> 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	<b>11</b> EYC Dinner 6pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Father's Day Breakfast 9am	<b>14</b> Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
<b>17</b> 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	<b>18</b> Jackie Sibley Soup Ministry 11 a.m.	<b>19</b> Finance & Church Council 7 p.m	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
<b>24</b> Jeanne Duke 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	<b>25</b> UMM Meeting 7 p.m.	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Pack-Bags 11am Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Mike Tullos Food Pantry Day 9-11am

The deadline for the July 2018 Grapevine will be **Wednesday, June 27.**

Send items to [pwalian2@gmail.com](mailto:pwalian2@gmail.com)

**June Birthdays** (If you know of any additions, deletions or corrections that should be made to the birthday calendar, please let the newsletter editor know.)

**Scripture reader** for **June** is Suzanne Ramsburg

**Counters** for **June** are Nevin Ramsburg and Don Bartz

Phil and Joyce Smith will serve as **ushers** for **June**