



The Grapevine

Clarksbury United Methodist Church
15924 General Puller Highway, Hardyville, Virginia
www.clarksburyumc.com

August 2018

Our Mission:

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

Pastor Ken's Corner

Ephesians 6:10-20 (NRSV)

¹⁰ *Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power.*

¹¹ *Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*

¹² *For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.* ¹³ *Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.* ¹⁴ *Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness.* ¹⁵ *As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace.* ¹⁶ *With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one.* ¹⁷ *Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.* ¹⁸ *Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.* ¹⁹ *Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,* ²⁰ *for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.*

Summer is here...let the vacations continue. We will be looking for school to start before we know it...summer never seems long enough. I do hope we get more days of sun after too many days of rain though. ☺ ☺

August 4 is another Cryer Center first Saturday Mobile Food Pantry and Zoar has the lead this month. As always there is plenty of work to go around so stop by and check things out and lend a hand if and where needed, or just visit.

¹¹ *Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.* ¹² *For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.*

When days get too long and there seems to always be more things to do than there is daylight to do them in, and when it seems that the world just wants to argue and complain, and people can't seem to agree about much of anything, we **NEED** the **whole armor** of God to aid us in the struggle that just getting through another day sometimes becomes. ☺ ☺

When you read about each piece of armor, understanding how people prepared themselves for the battles that were commonplace for them, you can see how God provides us with equipment for the struggle. However, most of the protection is worn on the front of the body...meaning, in order to be provided the greatest amount of protection, we **MUST** face forward and **stand firm** to encounter the challenge and threat, firmly rooted on a strong foundation.

¹⁴ Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵ As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The **belt of truth**, the **breastplate of righteousness**, **shoes** to prepare us to proclaim the gospel, the **shield of faith** and the **helmet of salvation**...each piece of equipment is a metaphor for how Jesus is with us and provides us all the gifts and talents we need to face every day and each encounter with faith and strength from our Creator.

And then there is the most powerful tool/instrument we have in our arsenal, PRAYER. You Prayer Warriors of Clarksbury are well prepared and experienced in prayer.

¹⁸ Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

Paul tells us to **Pray in the Spirit** at **ALL** times, and in every prayer and supplication, to stay alert and to persevere for all the saints. This is a very tough set of directions to follow consistently, day in and day out. But, Jesus is there with us and the Holy Spirit is there to strengthen us and to show us how to keep on struggling with whatever challenge we have. And one other note, sometimes as we stand firm, we need to have faith that the Lord has our back and that sometimes we need to **LET** God handle those challenges that are too tough.

This passage is a powerful list of equipment that we need to consciously take up each day with our daily devotions, and then practice throughout the day in all our interactions in the world.

We must remain alert and keep on persevering as we pray for ALL of God's children.

Keep our Soup Ministry, those who serve and are served, in your prayers for August.

Talk to Jerry Dant about cards or letters for our shut-ins or about contacting one or more of them. Volunteer for work at Dockside; see Jerry or Fred or David for more info. We are blessed **TO BE** a blessing.

By the way, our Saturday evening services have been blessed many times with the addition of LIVE Gospel music performed by Eileen, Randy and Alex Crittenden. We don't get them EVERY Saturday, but they do volunteer at the Rescue Squad often or are on call.

WE are planning on having a POT LUCK after the **Saturday service on August 25**, so plan on joining us, bring a “**special dish**” to share with a few others, and join the worship and the meal afterwards. The band will stay after dinner and we can listen to more Gospel/Bluegrass, etc., after the meal and make an evening of it. Bring/tell a friend.

We will look to our Social Committee to help with coordinating the food, etc. My hope is that we can invite our community and have a great evening of good music and good fellowship and good food.

Jesus is alive, and we're forgiven!

Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life!

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

Peace & Grace
Pastor Ken

Annual Budget for 2018 Operating Funds:	\$112,331.00
Total Received for Operating Funds as of June 30, 2018:	\$57,717.20*
Total Income Needed to Meet Budget:	\$57,165.50
*This includes proceeds from our barbecue dinner of \$2,644	

COFFEE HOUR FOR AUGUST

August	5	Cacky Guill
August	12	Betty Tate
August	19	Joyce Smith
August	26	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 be off the month of August, returning on Monday, September 24, at 7 p.m.

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

By Warren Wright



In the next few months your elected Church Council and Finance Committee will be meeting to discuss and prepare a budget for 2019.

Like any other entity, your church needs capital to operate and that money comes directly from you the members and other affiliated persons of Clarksbury. In the coming months, I want us to begin a prayerful process as we individually decide what we will give to the ministry of our church. In the scriptures, God has a plan for us and it's not what we hear on the economic news each day. You hear about the stock market and its ups and downs, the rising and falling prices of oil and the problems faced by the banks and S&L institutions. You're well aware of the world's economic plan or the lack of it. But I want to tell you about God's economic plan. In **1 Timothy 6:17-19**, is a passage that may explain God's economic plan better than any other.

"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

"Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life."

One of the greatest mistakes, I think, that we make when we talk about money in the church is that we often do it in the context of a special appeal or in a crisis situation.

If we are told that there are thousands of starving people who need our help and a special offering is taken, if that strikes your fancy, you'll probably give and maybe even give sacrificially to help meet that need. Or if you are reminded that the church needs your gift for the building fund, and you feel that that's a legitimate need, then you will give generously in response to that need, too.

And the result is that too often Christian people have been conditioned to think that the only time they really need to get serious about giving is when there is a need that appeals to their particular emotion. And some needs are just more appealing than others, aren't they?

But the problem actually starts with us, with people who don't recognize that the **teaching of Scripture is not to give to needs but to give to the glory of God**. We are stewards of God's wealth. God provides it to us, and He says, "Here you are, you are all stewards." We don't have a choice in that. Our God is a giving God. He has given all to us, and He wants His people to learn how to be generous, too, and willing to share.

We are like the people in the parable of the talents. God gives us something to use for a while, and then finally He comes back, like the master in the parable, and He says, "Now give me an accounting. What have you done with what I have given you to use during your time on the face of the earth?" The Day of Judgment will be the day of accounting.

On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income.—1 Corinthians 16:2 NIV

SUMMER FOOD PANTRY A SUCCESS!

The Food Pantry Committee

We would like to thank all the people who made the Summer Food Pantry such a huge success—the volunteers who helped sort our food, pack our grocery bags, and give up their day to help distribute the food. As always, our families received a bag of toiletries and grocery bags filled to the brim. Thanks to the Soup Ministry we were also able to distribute a quart of soup to each family. But that is not all this day was about. We had 4 people ask for someone to prayer with them. We think the families felt the caring and welcoming attitudes of our volunteers that day. We, as a group, felt that we were doing what God meant us to do – reach out and help our neighbor. We truly felt the Spirit!



Now don't think your job is done. We will be seeking your help for our Fall Food Pantry. So keep your eyes open for articles appearing in upcoming newsletters. Again, thank you for all you have done.

Nothing proves that you love someone more than mentioning them in your prayers.

SOUP MINISTRY

By Kathy Wright, Chairperson

Lucy Blevins, Val Bradley, Diane Faulkner



Once again, the soup ministry provided homemade soup and a sleeve of crackers to each family who came to the Clarksbury food distribution which was held Saturday, June 30, 2018. The soup ministry also delivers a quart of homemade soup with crackers the first and third Monday of **each** month to recipients in the Deltaville community.

If you would like to be a part of this very important ministry of our church, or know of someone who might benefit from this ministry, please contact me (Kathy Wright) at 757-373-9166 or email kdwright@va.metrocast.net. God Bless.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Clarksbury United Methodist, Zoar Baptist and Philippi Christian Church held VBS hosted by Philippi in July. The theme was "Friends and Family of Jesus" with music, crafts, snacks and recreation enjoyed by the children and adults as well. Thirty nine children were registered with an average of 34 attending per night. The grand finale showed the family and friends of

the children the stories they heard during the week. The stories were about Mary and Martha, Peter, Jesus and the children, John the Baptist and Zacchaeus, with the children, Dr. John and Pastor Ken portraying the stories. In 2019 Vacation Bible School will be hosted by Clarksbury United Methodist Church.

Outreach

By Jerry Dant

The Nurture and Outreach Committee is lucky to have an RN on our committee who will be checking blood pressure on the 4th Saturday and Sunday after the worship service. We were fortunate in July as she had a friend assisting, and we had lots of members taking advantage of this opportunity. Be sure to stop by after the worship services in August.



Nurture and Outreach Committee

By Jerry Dant, Chairperson

Well friends, we are glad to know that Roegean Speight is back in the area. Roegean lived in the Tidewater area most of her life and raised her family. While there she attended business school and worked in the Tidewater School Office. In 2009 she and her husband moved to Deltaville, and at that time she joined Clarksbury. After the passing of her husband in 2013 she moved to Chesapeake to live with her son and daughter-in-law. Roegean has 6 children, 4 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. She loves to read, and you may have seen her in the Deltaville library checking out books. She, also, liked to do “seek and find puzzles” and sew. She was in charge of making sure 100 ladies were served their drinks for luncheons at the Ladies Club.



She is currently residing at Commonwealth Assistant Living in Kilmarnock and is involved with activities, exercises, games and going out for lunch. She especially loves shopping, having lunch with her daughter and "yacking" on the phone. Why don't you stop in to visit with her and have a great visit with a member we have not seen for a long time.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Box Tops for Education

This is 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.



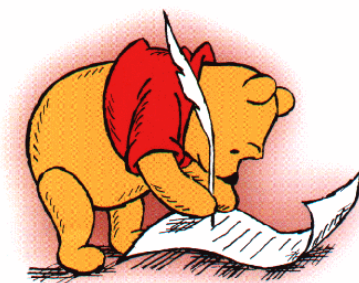
*Lord, I thank you for the joy you bring me
each day.
For the trials that test my joy,
For the comfort you give me when I'm tested,
For the love you show when you comfort me,
For the joy I feel, knowing I'm loved by you.
Lord, I thank you.
Amen*

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.



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

AUGUST POP! (POWER OF PRAYER!)S

Submitted by Cacky Guill

A.C.T.S. is an easy way to remember key elements of prayer. It's simply prayer in four parts:

Adoration – *"Praise be to God!" - Psalms 68:35*

Tell God how much you appreciate Him. Express your love for Him. Praise His power and majesty. This is a great way to begin your prayer time. Sometimes I watch the sun rise, and praise God for the beauty of His creation. You should never run out of praise. *"How awesome are your deeds!" - Psalms 66:3*

Confession – *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just, and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." - 1 John 1:9*

Tell Him where you have fallen short. Be specific. I thank Him for the forgiveness I have in Christ, and ask for help and strength to turn away from future temptations.

Thanksgiving – Always *"glorify him with thanksgiving." - Psalms 69:30*

You have plenty of reasons to be thankful. Thank God for His love, His faithfulness, His patience and a million other things. Express gratitude for what He's doing in your life. Thank Jesus for dying on the cross for you. Thank the Holy Spirit for indwelling you, and never leaving. Thank Him for being your conscience, your counselor and that "still small voice."

Supplication – *"Make your requests known to God." - Philippians 4:6*

Tell God what you want, no matter how small it seems to you. Do you really think any of your requests are big to God the Creator? You should have lots of intercessory prayer here. Remember: As a Promise Keeper, you are committed to pray for your pastor and your church every day.





The Grapevine

August 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	3 Suzie Dunaway Powell Helen Johnson	4 Mobile Food Pantry 9-11 a.m. 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship Victoria Forrest
5 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Communion	6 Soup Ministry 11 a.m. Marion Miller	7 Trustees Meeting 7 p.m.	8	9 Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	10	11 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship Gayle Gilliland Donald Wilhite
12 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	13 Jordan Tullos	14 Ken Wilt	15	16 Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	17	18 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
19 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	20 Soup Ministry 11 a.m.	21 Finance & Church Council 7 p.m.	22 Jane Crittenden	23 Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	24	25 5-5:45 p.m. Contemporary Worship
26 10-10:40 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	27 Betty Ann Tabler Jim Chenowith	28	29 Lynn Bisogno	30 Choir Rehearsal 7 p.m.	31 Jade Tullos	

The deadline for the September 2018 Grapevine will be Wednesday, August 27.

Send items to vanben@va.metrocast.net

August 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 August is David Dobson

Counters for August are Alan Miller and David Dobson

Linda Bartz and Linda Dobbins will serve as ushers for August