



# The Prospector

Prospect United Methodist Church

Ebony Virginia

November 2009

<http://www.gbgm-umc.org/prospectatebony/index.html>

## From our Pastor

Dear brothers and sisters of Prospect United Methodist Church,

I am writing this from the Intensive Care Ward at Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse N.Y.

Some of you know that I got an emergency call to come home. My mother has had several seizures and a possible stroke. I had several hours to ponder as I drove home. My mind continued to consider all the things that I needed to prepare for this upcoming Sunday and for Thanksgiving. I saw my life as a time capsule. The past, present and future as I motored towards New York.

We are celebrating All saints this Sunday, the past. My thoughts rambled through the many people who have gone on or we moved away from that got us to today. We are to remember all the Saints that have graced our lives and helped us to deal with the struggles of life as well as keeping us connected to our faith. There have been many who are now living out eternity with Jesus. Jan, the boys, and I moved south in 1995.

I then thought of all the things that I have to be thankful for. I am not talking about the monetary things but the things that really matter, like family and friends, the things that last. May you remember the things that you have to be thankful for as you prepare for the work that must be done as family and friends prepare to come and celebrate with you at your house.

My thoughts then moved on to the future. I have had to think about getting my house in order. I am not talking about the superficial things, like cleaning my garage, raking leaves, and such. I

am talking about the things that really matter, relationship with Jesus, family, and friends. How have I left things? If I were to leave home today and never return would my kids, my wife, my friends, my family, and my Lord know how I feel about them? Is my house in order enough to meet Jesus face to face? I do not know what tomorrow holds, thank God! I do however know who holds tomorrow.

I drove to New York with the thought of having to say goodbye to my mother, until we meet again in heaven. I had packed my robe, my suit, my Methodist Book of Worship, and my thoughts. Does mom know how much she has meant to me in the past, today and tomorrow? Have I done all I can to foster our relationship. You see, the real treasures in life are not something you can hold in your hand, your bank account, park in your driveway or boat slip, or your retirement fund. The real treasures are how much you love and how much you are loved. The real joy in remembering Saints, giving Thanks, and thinking about tomorrow is LOVE. With great love I write these words to you. Celebrate each other with great exuberance and joy. Nurture your relationships and work to develop new ones. Give thanks for your past, love today, and be prepared spiritually for meeting Jesus when your day comes.

May God richly bless you.

Love  
Ken

*Ken Thrasher*

## **Is it you??**

As we start yet another school year, we are still looking for volunteers for Children's Church and Nursery. First of all, Children's Church is a learning time upstairs for Kindergarten through 4th graders, and Nursery is for all those younger than Kindergarten.

Children's Church does NOT mean you have to sit up front and do a children's sermon. That time is called Children's Moments, and if anyone is interested in taking part in this ministry, Pam would certainly welcome the help.

We do need Nursery and Children's Church helpers badly - we have already had to cancel either or both on a Sunday or two because no one had signed up. So, we are now going to try another approach in the hopes of attracting more volunteers. We would like to have a volunteer, or volunteers, take the youngest children to the nursery, and the K through 4th graders would then go up and join them after Children's Moments. This could be a time of fellowship for the children, with a planned art activity, DVD, or story that would involve minimal planning, if any.

Those children who can stay after the service then could be involved in Children's Sunday School during the time that the adults are meeting for their Sunday School in the sanctuary. We would, of course, need people to help with this, and curriculum would be provided.

The future of Prospect depends upon the children, and it's a ministry that is needed very much. Please prayerfully consider this ministry, pray earnestly and listen to God. I know someone is being called to touch the life of a child. Is it you??

## **.Is it you??**

## **From your Trustees:**

The church clean up was a great success. Thank you to all who helped.

Bob Wilson is heading up a work group whose function is to keep up with maintenance. We want to thank Bob Wilson, John Cox, Charles Jones, Hal Paxton, George Ferguson, Jim Gibbs, Bill Hoofnagle and Jim Ford for volunteering to do this work.

As you may know, we are working with a structural engineer who specializes in old buildings and old churches. His main concern is the roof rafter and ceiling joist construction. It was first thought that a queen post truss system would be constructed between the drop ceiling and the original wood ceiling (there is a 3-1/2 foot space in between). Happily, it now appears that all the corrective structural reinforcements can be done in the attic with no disturbance to the sanctuary ceiling. The engineer has been authorized to proceed with final detailed drawings which the trustees will use to get contractor bids in order to make our roof/ceiling joist system sound.

After we learn the scope of the roof project the trustees and building committee will meet and reorganize to work together on the new fellowship hall.

*Tony Barnette, Trustee  
Chairperson*

## **PPR Committee:**

Pastor appreciation was in October. The members and friends of Prospect United Methodist Church want to thank Rev. Ken and Jan for everything they do!

*Jean Barnette, PPR Chairperson*

## Homecoming for Prospect UMC

Prospect UMC will be hosting a grand, good old fashioned Homecoming on our church grounds, hopefully sometime in the Spring of 2010. We would love to get in touch with all members and friends of Prospect, both current and past, and get together for some praise, worship and fellowship - what a beautiful way to usher in Spring!!!

This will take lots of work and cooperation, so we are calling all people who are interested in helping so that we can get the most complete record of names and addresses as is possible. If you can help, in any way, please contact CiCi Carroll, either by phone at 434-636-3781 or e-mail at [cicireclog@buggs.net](mailto:cicireclog@buggs.net), or catch up with her after church.

We pray this will be a big event, and know that there will be something for everyone to take part in and/or help.

## Adult and Family Ministries

The Adult and Family Ministries sponsored the Family Fun Night on October 25. At 5:00 p.m. the costumed children began to arrive at church bringing their carved pumpkins. The pumpkins were really pretty and all participants received a prize. All the costumed participants received a prize as it was just too hard to judge.

Following this everyone enjoyed a wonderful covered dish supper. There were lots of different dishes and desserts to choose from.

Cake walks and bingo was a big hit. Almost everyone had a cake, cupcakes or cookies to take home. The bingo players had fun and all won a prize.

Charles and I would like to thank Patricia

Conner for her help decorating along with Larissa Conner. We also would like to thank everyone for coming, bringing food and cakes for the cake walks and also a very big thank you to those that made a big job of cleaning up a small job by helping. THANKS TO ALL!

*Charles and Annette Jones  
Chairpersons who love you all!*

## FINANCE

The monthly amount needed to meet our budget is \$8,133.00.

Following are the amounts received for the budget through October 25, 2009.

	Received	Difference
Jan	7,275.36	- 857.64
Feb	7,078.03	-1,054.97
Mar	8,805.65	+ 672.65
Apr	8,549.55	+ 416.55
May	8,476.59	+ 343.59
Jun	7,031.00	-1,102.00
Jul	6,392.50	-1,740.50
Aug	8,344.00	+ 211.00
Sep	6,442.50	-1,690.50
Oct	<u>6,685.40</u>	<u>-1,447.60</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>75,080.58</b>	<b>-6,249.42</b>

## Prayer and Bible Study

Communicate with God regularly! Thank him for the many gifts in your life. Remember to pray for the requests you hear while at church on Sunday and others you know which should be included.

Read and study your bible on a regular basis. If you are not in a regular bible study, join one here at the church or even start one for yourself and your friends. You will be blessed.

Have joy and share it. Faith is the key.

## United Methodist Women

The UMW had its regular meeting on October 26. Mrs. Rebecca Jones, LPN from Holly Haven Home in LaCrosse was our guest speaker. She explained to us about the residents and the needs of the home. The home is a for profit business so therefore she cannot receive help from a lot of service organizations as they can only donate to non-profit business or organizations. She will speak at Prospect worship service on November 15. Please plan to attend and if you have questions she will answer them the best that she can. The UMW members will be looking into some more ways to help with the home.

The UMW will be having a spaghetti supper on November 14 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the meeting hall of the Ebony Fire House. Donations of \$7.00 per plate. The meal includes spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert and beverage. All proceeds will help us to meet our mission goals for 2009. Thank you in advance for purchasing a ticket.

December 6, 2009 will be cookie day at Prospect. The UMW ladies will be selling homemade cookies for \$6.00 per can. This money as well will help with our mission goals.

The UMW ladies have made fifteen pillows to donate to the oncology department of Community Memorial Healthcenter, Halifax Regional Hospital and Southern Virginia Regional Medical Center. These pillows will be used by cancer patients. Thank you for helping us have the funds to accomplish this worthwhile project.

Our next meeting will be November 23 at 7:30 p.m. All ladies are welcome to join us.

*Annette Jones, President*

## United Methodist Men

The UMM have been busy helping with different projects around the church. On cleanup day there were many of the UMM members helping and they helped in any way needed for the Fall Festival.

All men are invited to join the UMM. The meetings are on the third Thursday night of each month at 6:30 p.m. except July and December. They enjoy a meal, fellowship and a meeting after the meal.

*Charles Jones, President*

## Recycling for the Scouts

**Anything that is aluminum can be recycled.** We have a collection bin in Ebony across the road from the Ebony Post Office adjacent to the big oak tree.

If you have any questions about recycling aluminum; or need to have the aluminum you have on hand picked up please give Jim Gibbs a call at (434) 636-3007.

## Prospector

The Prospector schedule has been changed to a quarterly document. Issues are published around the first of the month for the following months: February, May, August, and November. All articles need to reach Harold by the deadline at the following e-mail address: [prospectnewsletter@embarqmail.com](mailto:prospectnewsletter@embarqmail.com)

To receive your Prospector via e-mail contact Harold at the above email address. There will be a hard deadline for each edition of the Prospector. As such, the PROSPECTOR DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST ISSUE IS NOON TUESDAY, JANUARY 26th.

## Church activities

Nov 1	Communion Sunday	9:15 am
	Communion Breakfast	10:30 am
	Sunday School	10:30 am
	Fall Day Apart for UMW	3:00 pm
Nov 3	Peggy's Cleaning Team	9:00 am
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Nov 8	Worship Service	9:15 am
	Sunday School	10:30 am
Nov 10	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Nov 14	UMW Spaghetti Supper	
	Ebony Fire House 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	
Nov 15	Worship Service	9:15 am
	Sunday School	10:30 am
Nov 16	Administrative council	7:30 pm
Nov 17	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Nov 19	UMM	6:30 pm
Nov 22	Worship Service	9:15 am
	Sunday School	10:30 am
Nov 23	UMW	7:30 pm
Nov 24	Choir Practice	7:00 pm
Nov 25	Thanksgiving Eve Service	8:00 pm
Nov 29	First Sunday of Advent	
	Worship Service	9:15 am
	Sunday School	10:30 am
Dec 1	Choir Practice	9:15 am
Dec 4	UMW Pack Cookies	9:00 am
Dec 5	UMW Retreat VUMAC	8:30 am
Dec 6	Worship Service	9:15 am
	Communion Breakfast	10:30 am
	UMW Cookie Sale	
	Sunday School	10:30 am
Dec 8	Choir Practice	7:00 pm
Dec 13	Worship Service which will be Christmas Program, Adults, Children and Congregation	10:00 am
	Covered Dish lunch to follow	
Dec 15	Choir Practice	7:00 pm
Dec 17	NO UMM	
Dec 20	Worship Service	9:15 am
	Sunday School	10:30 am
	Poinsettias placed on the Altar today	
Dec 21	NO Administrative Council meeting	
Dec 24	Christmas Even Service	8:00 pm
Dec 25	JESUS BIRTHDAY	
Dec 28	NO UMW	

## Jan, 2010

Choir Practice will be all Tuesdays at 7:00 pm		
Jan 18	Administrative Council	7:30 pm
Jan 21	UMM	6:30 pm
Jan 25	UMW	7:30 pm

## Birthdays

November 1	Amaya Thrasher
November 5	Richard Beville
November 13	Robert Pickens
November 17	Calvin Lynch
November 23	Don Broome
November 25	Robert Wilson
November 26	Dell Conner
December 2	Charles Jones
December 5	Neveah Morels
December 11	Christine Ferguson
	Ashton Carroll
December 15	Mary Lynch
December 16	Gina Pickens
December 17	Carol Carlson
December 18	Wanda Beville
	Mary Ann Johnson
December 22	Annette Jones
December 23	A. J. Conner
December 25	Jesus
December 28	Rudy Conner
January 12	Bev Hill
	Dicki Parrish
January 13	Pam Pickard
	Marilyn Reed
January 20	Betty Keeney
January 29	Clara Dell Mills
<b>Anniversaries</b>	
November 21	Aubrey and Betsy Baird
December 19	Calvin and Mary Lynch
January 2	Jim and Judy Bartran
January 21	Dan and Peggy Donochod

**Prospect United Methodist Church**

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