

# ST. MATTHEW'S BELLWETHER



**VOL II ISSUE 5**

**MAY 2000**

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

I once asked a mother whose children had turned out very well, the secret by which she prepared them for usefulness or to be a positive entity for the Christian life.

Without hesitation she said, "when in the morning I washed my children, I prayed that they might be cleansed by the Savior's precious blood.

When I put on their clothes, I prayed that they might be arrayed in the garments of salvation and in the robe of God's righteousness.

When I gave them food, I prayed that they might be fed with the Bread of Life.

When I started them on the road to school, I prayed that their faith might be as the shining light, brighter and brighter to the perfect day.

When I put them to sleep, I prayed that they might be enfolded in the Savior's everlasting arms."

No wonder her children were early led to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ; and became adornments to the doctrine of God our Savior in all things. Oh! By the way, this mother was the mother of 12 children, and every one of them attended and graduated from college.

She was a virtuous woman to which the writer of Proverbs speaks. (*Proverbs 31:10-31*).

Your Pastor & Friend,  
Larry

**"HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY"  
MAY 14TH!**



## TO OUR ST. MATTHEW'S FAMILY:

We will miss worshipping with you all! The last three years, you all have meant so much to us as we endured Company Command, Seminary and Childbirth! Everyone is invited to Vince's Change of Command on Thursday, May 4th at 11:00 a.m. at Discom Parade Field and to Cynthia's Graduation at Duke Chapel on Saturday, May 13, at 6:15 p.m.

May God bless you and encourage you through the love of one another.

Vince, Cynthia, & Carly Lindenmeyer

**Temporary Address:**

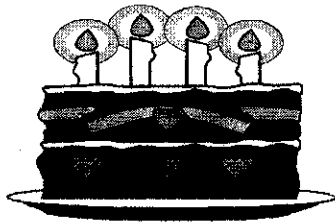
**CPT Vince Lindenmeyer  
General Delivery  
West Point, NY 10996**

## PREVENTING A HOLY TERROR

- ◆ Dress them comfortably. No kid in a necktie is going to be in it for long. Dress them in layers so you can adjust for the church's temperature.
- ◆ Make them focus. Tell them that after the service, they'll be asked one important thing the pastor said. Reward them for paying attention.
- ◆ Feed them well. Don't fill them with sugary breakfast foods or they'll be wound up. But don't make them go hungry either.
- ◆ Let them participate. Appoint them to help take the offering. They'll appreciate having "grown-up" responsibilities.
- ◆ Provide distractions. Bring crayons and coloring books, favorite dolls and other "quiet" toys.
- ◆ Work out sign language. Teach them that a finger to your lips means "be quiet," but agree on a signal to indicate they need to use the restroom.
- ◆ Set a good example. Pay attention yourself. Sing along with the choir. Don't start looking at your watch if the sermon runs long. If your children see you enjoying church, they'll learn to enjoy it, too.

(from "Church Etiquette: Spirited Kids in Spirited Places," by Michael Crook in *Christian Single*, June 1999)

## MAY BIRTHDAYS



**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

1 Mae Roberson  
Edgar Lineberger  
8 Thomas Gardiner  
9 Perry Smith  
10 Mary Couch  
11 Sarah Hawkins  
12 April Lewis  
14 Nick Unruh  
Heather Strub  
15 Ashton Scruggs  
16 Maria Strickland  
17 Lisa Gardiner  
18 Dawn Stone  
Angie Norton  
19 Connie Williams  
20 Dorothy Spakes  
27 Robert Parker  
29 Julie Griffin  
30 Doris Miles

### ONE-BY-ONE:

We finish the school year with one more session. Classes will meet **May 1, 8, 15 and 22**. If we decide to have a summer session, you will be notified. So much has been done. There is much yet to do.

**Thank you** to everyone who has helped and participated.

God bless you all,  
Amy



### SIXTY-FIVE ROSES

Isn't it pretty to think of 65 roses? Sadly, though, that is what little children suffering from Cystic Fibrosis (CF) call their deadly disease. The ugly fact is that CF remains the #1 genetic killer of children and young adults in the U.S. today.

May 21 is the annual **Great Strides Walk**. 100% of the proceeds from this 10K walk goes to the lab doctors doing the research for a cure. You can help in many ways. Sponsorship, donation, purchase of a T-Shirt...please consider, that with God's help, you could be the one that helps find a cure.

Please see me if you are interested.

Love,  
Amy, Austin's Nana

### WHAT IS CONSIDERED A DISASTER?

The following conditions are designated as disasters: *Hurricane, Flash Flood, Fire, Hazardous Material Spill, Earthquake, Tornado and Winter Storm*. Guess what, folks? We have had **ALL OF THE ABOVE** happen right here in Fayetteville. Disasters can strike quickly, without warning. You may have to leave your home or your neighborhood, or you may be confined to your home. Remember, relief workers can help only after a  
(Continued in right column)

## SPECIAL OFFERINGS

### DONATIONS GIVEN TO:

- ◆ Power Bill from the Thrift Shop.
- ◆ Emergency Fund ...
  - ...from Paul & Jewel Sharpe
  - ...in honor of Bob & Adella Pray
  - ...from the Boyd Snyder Class
  - ...from the Ruth/Ethel Smith Circle
  - ...in honor of Lola Smith's birthday from her Secret Prayer Partner
  - ...from James & Joyce DeBruhl

disaster strikes, and it could be quite some time before you get any help at all.

Too many people think disaster will never affect them. Even one of those people could be wrong. Have you picked up your disaster booklets from the foyer? We cannot stress too strongly that each family in our church get and reads them, and acts upon expert advice.

### FACT-OF-THE-MONTH

There is a **Fault Line** about 60 miles west of Fayetteville. There is a **Major Fault Line** just inland from Wilmington down to Charleston, S.C.



Yours in Christ's Service,  
Amy & Dan, Disaster Response

### BLESSED ASSURANCE

God is spirit and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth *John 4:24*.

Some years ago I read an article, that a lady wrote about her father who had Alzheimer's. There came a time when he could not recognize her or any of the family. What was so amazing was that as long as he was able to speak, he would quote Scripture. When I read this, I thought of a little lady named Mrs. Tims. She was in Cape Fear Nursing home where Jewel Sharpe, Judy Gallimore and I use to go every week. Judy would play hymns on the piano. This little lady would never speak and always seemed to be asleep until Judy started playing. Up her head would come and she would sing every verse. When Judy stopped playing down her little head would go.

I thought of all this the morning of March 5th at the 8:30 Worship Service when Rev. Patrick told us that Frances Bagley had gone to be with the Lord. I remembered how Frank would bring her to church as long as she was able to come, and how she would always go to the altar. I knew she was praying, for the spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. *Romans 8:26*

My thoughts were "yes Lord" salvation is not of head, but of the spirit. Alzheimer may have taken everything away from Frances, but it could never touch her spirit. Jesus said, "My Father who has given them to me is greater than all. No one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. *John 10:29*. I believe that no sickness could ever touch her spirit for it was the Spirit of God.

God said, "Never will I leave you or forsake you". *Hebrew 13:5b*. John tells us that this is how we know that he lives in us. We know it by the Spirit he gave us. *1 John 3:24b*.

All of us have witnessed this Blessed Assurance in the life of Frances Bagley.

Dorothy Taylor



**THRIFT  
SHOP  
NEWS**

We stand amazed as we view the work of the Thrift Shop. We have grown so much in our outreach to the community.

The sales in March topped all records as of this date, and we thank God for it. We have much to do yet! The following, I would like to share with you. It's especially from our hearts.

Eva Smith, Chairman

**A PRAYER FOR RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILDREN**

**We pray for children**

who put chocolate fingers everywhere,  
who like to be tickled,  
who stomp in puddles and ruin their new pants,  
who sneak popsicles before supper,  
who erase holes in math workbooks,  
who can never find their shoes.

**And we pray for those**

who stare at photographers from behind barbed wire,  
who can't bound down the street in a new pair of snickers,  
who never "counted potatoes,"  
who are born in places we wouldn't be caught dead,  
who never go to the circus,  
who live in an X-rated world.

**We pray for children**

who bring us sticky kisses and fistfuls of dandelions,  
who sleep with the dog and bury the goldfish,  
who hug us in a hurry and forget their lunch money,  
who cover themselves with Band-Aids and sing off-key,  
who squeeze toothpaste all over the sink,  
who slurp their soup.

**And we pray for those**

who never get dessert,  
who have no safe blanket to drag behind them,  
who watch their parents watch them die,  
who can't find any bread to steal,  
who don't have any rooms to clean up,  
whose pictures aren't on anybody's dresser,  
whose monsters are real.

**We pray for children**

who spend all their allowance before Tuesday,  
who throw tantrums in the grocery store and pick at their food,  
who like ghost stories,  
who shove dirty clothes under the bed,  
and never rinse out the tub,  
who get visits from the tooth fairy,  
who don't like to be kissed in front of the carpool,  
who squirm in church or temple and scream in the phone,  
whose tears we sometimes laugh at,  
whose smiles can make us cry.

**And we pray for those**

whose nightmares come in the daytime,  
who will eat anything,  
who have never seen a dentist,  
who aren't spoiled by anyone,  
who go to bed hungry and cry themselves to sleep,  
who live and move but have no being.

**We pray for children**

who want to be carried and for those who must,  
for those we never give up on and for those who don't get a second chance.

For those we smother...and for those who will grab the hand of anyone kind enough to offer it.

**We pray...AMEN**

—Anonymous



**RUTH/ETHEL SMITH CIRCLE**

On April 12th, our Circle met in the fellowship hall. Our attendance was great. We always look forward to these meetings of fellowship and lending a helping hand whenever and wherever we can.

We had two ladies from *HOSPICE* to give us a very informative talk. That is such a tremendous organization.

I want to thank you all for your support in purchasing the Lenten Booklets. As you read this booklet, I hope you received a blessing from them. The Easter story is one which should never leave our hearts. The cross should be with us everyday that God gives us life. I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter with your family, sharing love and laughter.

We chose for our *MAY PROJECT* to collect Children's Books for ages 3-5. These books are to be used to build a small library at each of the 16 Head Start Chapters in Cumberland County.

A young lady by the name of Joanna is in charge of distributing the books. This is a project she is doing in order for her to achieve her Girl Scout Silver Award. Thank you all for getting the books in by May 1.

Don't forget the *MOTHER/DAUGHTER BANQUET* on May 6th at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

We placed a *PLAQUE* on the door of the Peggy Pullman Class in memory of *FRANCES BAGLEY*. When Frances taught the 5th & 6th Grade Sunday School Class, they met in that room. So those of you who happen to be the lucky ones she taught, might want to go by and view the plaque and remember the difference she made in your life.

Until next month, let's keep on praying and enjoying the life God has given us.

God Bless Everyone!  
Catherine Morgan



**HELP'N HANDS**

A fun time was on tap for us seniors at our April meeting. Our Special Guest was "Frank the Wizard", who had us all laughing at his tricks. We had to have a helper and Candice Wagoner was the volunteer. Imagine her surprise on donning the helpers hat to discover she had a plunger on her head for the whole show. Trick after trick was enjoyed as he pulled tricks on the Pastor and Bett. Frank is a junior at South View High School, and we wish him well as he enters the entertainment field.

The "Geriatric Gems" enjoyed singing and look forward to singing in the future. Join us for fun, food and music!  
Eva Smith, Adult Coordinator

As the long, beautiful days of May entice us outside, we revel in the wonderful works of nature. God's hand in nature is evident everywhere this time of year. Who can resist the great display of colorful bedding plants on display at the Garden centers? Just one yellow Marigold plant in a clay pot, sitting on our doorstep, is a cheery welcome for our visitors.

Speaking of being welcome, the Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle and the Night Owl Circle would love to welcome you to their monthly meetings. Each member is expected to attend (some have been lax with attendance) and guests are always welcome. Each circle has unique qualities to offer; I am sure there will be something for every lady interested in becoming a part of this organization.

Some important information to remember: The United Methodist Women's calendar year goes from October to October - not January to December. That is why all the new officers, for year 2001, have to be elected by October 2000. Names of the new officers are given to the District President and she in turn uses the names to put together information packets concerning Officer Training sessions that are held, in the district, in January. The names go into district directories for mail-outs of information. The Nominations Committee will begin their work to bring a slate of names to our October General Meeting where we will elect officers for 2001. Why are we to be so organized? An excuse "I just don't have time to do that" is heard less and less. Let us make our time count for God's will - not our will. And God's will is wrapped up in the "Purpose" - the pledge of the UMW. If you are a United Methodist Woman and you can not explain or repeat this pledge, I encourage each circle leader to include this pledge in their monthly programming. You will find our "Purpose" on page 1 of the 2000 UMW Directory. This pledge is who and what we are as United Methodist Women.

Our Lenten Booklet sale was a great success because of the great support we found in the congregation of St. Matthew's. We hope the one that received your "Easter gift" was just as pleased with their "different" Easter card. Thanks again.

The UMW - Mother/Daughter Banquet will be May 6th in the church fellowship hall at 6:00 p.m. It is a covered dish event with entertainment provided. We hope to see all of you there.

Also, our Mother's Day Booklet is being compiled. If you would like to be a part, please fill out the form inside the church bulletin and turn into Mary Rozier, Betty Patrick, or the church office. Please place the form and your money in an envelope.

Until next time, keep planting those Marigold plants and the great seeds of mission projects; they both make beautiful bouquets.

UMW President,  
Betty Patrick

#### 6 WEEK BRAN MUFFINS

In a large bowl mix: (do not use a mixer)

5 cups plain flour	15 oz. box Raisin Bran Cereal
5 t. baking soda	3 cups sugar
2 t. salt	2 t. Allspice

Then add:

4 eggs (beaten)	2 t. vanilla flavoring
1 cup Oil	1 quart Buttermilk



Fill muffin tins 1/2 full and bake about 20 minutes or until done at 375 degrees in a preheated oven.

Note: The remaining batter can be kept in a covered container in the refrigerator for 6 weeks. Do not stir batter again because of the buttermilk and baking soda reaction in the batter.

Good, hot muffins anytime of the week! Yum!!

## UNITED METHODIST MEN

The United Methodist Men held their monthly breakfast on the 16th of April. Ike Huffman prepared a wonderful breakfast that was enjoyed by 21 men. Jack Spakes had his hand in the pot too...that ol' boy can flip some eggs now!

Well, with Spring finally here, the Methodist Men got right to work. We held a clean-up day on the 8th of April, and we've dusted off the lawn mowers so the outside of our church will reflect the true beauty one can experience inside our church. Thanks to all those that have helped and continued to help maintain our church grounds.

After breakfast, we began our discussions. We voted on cash contributions in support of Sunday School and the Lancaster Christian Appalachian Project. We also discussed preparing breakfast for Sunrise Service and volunteers to work in the Thrift Shop. We still couldn't find a volunteer to become the BBQ Chairman. If you're interested, please see any of the Methodist Men.

Finally, you may notice something a little different about the Ushers this month. That's right, the women are doing it! The women have volunteered to usher in respect of Mother's Day. For the sake of advanced notice, Mother's Day is May 14th.

Ken Shackelford will prepare a "Surprise Breakfast" on May 21 at 7:30 a.m. It is open to all males, so come on down and share concerns, suggestions, and most importantly fellowship.

There will be an invitation for the wives to share breakfast with their husbands on "Father's Day", June 18th.

Matt Jamison,  
UMM Secretary

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### WHERE IS GOD?

*He was just a little boy, on a week's first day.  
He was wandering home from Sunday School, and dawdling on the way.  
He scuffed his shoes into the grass; he found a caterpillar.  
He found a fluffy milkweed pod, and blew out all the "filler".*

*A bird's nest in a tree overhead, so wisely placed on high,  
Was just another wonder that caught his eager eye.  
A neighbor watched his zig zag course, and hailed him from the lawn,  
Asked him where he'd been that day and what was going on.*

*"I've been to Bible School," he said and turned a piece of sod.  
He picked up a wiggly worm replying, "I've learned a lot of God."  
"M'm very fine way," the neighbor said, "for a boy to spend his time."  
"If you'll tell me where God is, I'll give you a brand new dime."*

*Quick as a flash the answer came! Nor were his accents faint.  
"I'll give you a dollar, Mister, if you can tell me where God ain't"*

-Author Unknown



MAY

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2000

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	4	6
	One-By-One-7pm	Prayer Mtg.-7pm	Card Ministry-5pm WNA & Bible Study-6:30pm Choir Practice-7:30pm	Bible Study-9am Grace Bible Study-7pm		Mother/Daughter Banquet-6pm
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
SUNDAY SCHOOL CRAM-A-CLASS DAY	One-By-One-7pm	Prayer Mtg.-7pm Trustees Mtg.-7:30pm	Ruth-Ebel Smith Circle - 10:30am in F.H. Card Ministry-5pm WNA & Bible Study-6:30pm Choir Practice-7:30pm	Bible Study-9am Grace Bible Study-7pm Night Owl Circle-7pm		Grace Church Picnic 11:00 am
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	←		Home Extensions-9:30am PASTOR Card Ministry-5pm WNA & Bible Study-6:30pm Choir Practice-7:30pm	NO BIBLE STUDY ON	VACATION	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
WOMEN'S DAY UMM Breakfast-7:30am	One-By-One-7pm	Prayer Mtg.-7pm	Card Ministry-5pm WNA & Bible Study-6:30pm Choir Practice-7:30pm	Bible Study-9am Help 'N Hands-11am Grace Bible Study-7pm		
UMM District Mtg.-3:00pm In fellowship hall	Last One-By-One - 7pm	Prayer Mtg.-7pm Finance Committee Mtg.-7:30pm	→			
28	29	30	31			
		Prayer Mtg.-7pm Worship Com.-7:30pm				

EVERY  
SUNDAY  
SCHEDULE:

8:30AM  
EARLY  
WORSHIP  
SERVICE  
(NO)

NURSERY  
PROVIDED

9:45AM  
SUNDAY  
SCHOOL  
(ALL AGES)

11:00AM  
WORSHIP  
SERVICE  
(NURSERY  
PROVIDED)