

**August 2007**

**Walmsley Boulevard United Methodist Church  
2950 Walmsley Boulevard  
Richmond, VA 23234**

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The Reverend John A. Bright, Pastor Home (804) 275-6554

Pastor E-mail: [johnlynnbright@comcast.net](mailto:johnlynnbright@comcast.net)

To my brothers and sisters in Christ,

At the request of your faithful webmaster, the following has now appeared on the homepage of the church website:

The prophet, Isaiah, recorded these words of God...

Behold, I will do a new thing,

Now it shall spring forth;

Shall you not know it?

I will even make a road in the wilderness

And rivers in the desert.

The beast of the field will honor Me,

The jackals and the ostriches,

Because I give waters in the wilderness

And rivers in the desert,

To give drink to My people, My chosen.

Isa 43:19-20 NKJV

What a wonderful image for those who lived in the dry places of the earth-rivers in the desert to quench their thirst! Today, we are living in a world that is spiritually dry and there is only one way to the river of living water that will quench our dry spirits. His name is Jesus and he lived on this earth about 2,000 years ago. When he went back to his Heavenly Father, the way was opened for us-the road in the wilderness-to come home to God.

Maybe you are looking for where God is doing a new thing...a place where it is not "church as usual." We hope Walmsley Boulevard United Methodist Church can be that place for you.

(Cont'd)



Change can be a bit frightening- just ask my family. We have moved back to the city after nine years of serving country churches. There are new sights and sounds in Richmond and very soon our oldest son, Thomas, heads off for college at Emory & Henry. As you can see, things are different for my family.

I am also facing changes. It is a comfortable thing to know on Sunday morning that you will be looking out at a congregation you know. There sit the folks that lost their dear mother last year to cancer. In those pews are the folks from Bible study. Over there are the youth who have been friends with my kids for the past five years. Right there is the head of a committee with whom I don't always agree. Yes, I am looking out at a whole sea of new faces. Things are different...for a while.

I know all of you see the things I say and do as different...for a while.

Perhaps we can take the time to see what "new thing" God is planning to do in all of the changes that He has brought to pass at Walmsley Blvd. and in my ministry. I'm always excited to see God show off by doing a

mighty work that nobody ever expected! Will you wait on the Lord with me and see what He is going to do?

*Pastor John Bright*



# Youth Dinner

Would you like to be waited on hand and foot by our Youth? Eat delicious food? Help raise funds for Youth Group activities?

Then come to the Youth Dinner!

What: A formal occasion to support the Youth Group

When: Saturday August 18 at 6:30pm

Where: The Fellowship Hall

How Much: a minimum \$10 donation

Order your dinner(s) in advance:

Chicken Cordon Bleu \_\_\_\_\_

Marinated Pork Tenderloin \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Give order forms to John-Michael, Rhonda or Jessica.

## Message from the Lay Leader

What a blessing it has been for me to be able to serve on the Scholarship Committee these past few years. It is a joy to read the applications of these young people and to see how God is working in their lives. The committee members have been faithful and fair in their responsibilities and you have been generous in your giving. We always trust God to provide the scholarship funds and He continues to amaze us as evidenced recently through the funds raised during the golf tournament.

Thanks to Pam and Lonie for serving on the committee, thanks to all organizers of the Golf Tournament, thanks to all who support this fund so generously, thanks to our students for loving and serving God, and Praise be to God for blessing this effort so abundantly.

Peace and Joy,

*Gloria Lambert*

# The Bulletin Board

- The Choir and the Josephine Day Circle will not meet in August and will resume their regular schedule in September.
- Pastor John will be starting an evening Bible study in the fall. If you are interested please contact Pastor John at 275-6554 (home), 275-8508 (church), or johnlynnbright @ Comcast.net with a preference of Tuesday or Thursday evening.
- Pastor John has been providing e-mail newsletters via the internet for over 10 years. Grace\* e-mail seeks to share the grace and power of God. Each issue contains inspirational stories, clean humor, and prayer requests that reach over 900 believers around the world. Please consider letting it be a blessing for your In-box. To subscribe send a blank e-mail to [gracemail-subscribe@myinjesus.com](mailto:gracemail-subscribe@myinjesus.com) or you can join at <http://gracemail.injesus.com/Subscribe.cfm>.
- There will be a Staff/Parrish Relations Committee meeting on August 19th at 12:15pm. All members please plan on attending.

## Speaking Training

A lay Speaking Ministry Training event for the Richmond District is scheduled for October 6-7 at New Life UMC in Midlothian. A Basic Course will be offered. Watch for more information.



## Bakin Babes News

Just wanted to say "Hi", let you know the Babes are still around, and fill you in on what we have been doing with your support.

In February, Walmsley opened its doors to the statewide Advisory Committee for Kairos. The Babes provided lunch for approximately 75 people. I want to thank all those who gave of their time to make this possible. We had good fellowship and added to our "purse."

The Easter egg sale was again successful. We earned about \$500 from the eggs and about \$80 from the food concession at the Mission's yard sale.

From the proceeds of these sales, we have been able to purchase 2 gazebo tents to be used in Bakin Babes and church functions. We have again given to Heart Havens and the Angel Fund at the Hermitage Home. We helped sponsor a table on the Kairos Weekend in May and gave funds for Cerena and Rose to use on the Honduras mission.

As I have said before, none of this would be possible without you. Thank you again for your continued support and for giving us the opportunity not only to have fellowship and fun, but to be able to give the money we earn to help other missions.

The Bakin Babes went on the road on July 26. We were privileged to make cookies for the residents at the Hermitage Home to purchase and to deliver and spend time with the residents at a coffee hour. The money made from the sale of the cookies stays at the Hermitage Home.

Stay tuned for further updates. We are in the process of gearing up for our Christmas baking. Look for the new revised list soon.

In Christ,

Debbie



**August Birthdays**

- 1 Lauren Morrow
- 3 Lisa Carter
- 3 Mac Tyler, Jr
- 3 Andy Townley
- 4 Lacy Martin, Jr
- 5 Ashley Bryant
- 6 Rosemary Bruce
- 6 Bessie Holmes
- 7 Stefanie Crooks
- 7 Roger Mackey
- 8 James Crooks
- 8 Amanda Seay
- 9 Krisren Harris
- 9 Stuart Charles
- 9 Linda Harold
- 9 David Tyree
- 10 Sam Waldron
- 10 Phil Swimelar, Jr
- 12 Nathaniel Elswick
- 13 Casey Morris
- 15 Mary Tyler
- 16 Alex Smith
- 16 Wanda Walker
- 18 Dora Ann Polly
- 19 Tyrone Cox
- 20 Shaun Cox
- 20 Juan Cox
- 21 Heather Campbell

- 21 Cathy Griffith
- 22 Ray Dixon
- 23 Barry Willis
- 24 Joey Simon
- 24 Janet Whetstone
- 25 Trevon Cox
- 26 Frank Armistead
- 26 Pat Griffith
- 26 James Bowyer
- 26 Diane Duke
- 27 Danny Satterwhite
- 27 Jean Stagg
- 29 Debbie Smith
- 30 Cliff Williams
- 31 Teresa Fuller
- 31 Cameron Williams
- 31 Brian Anderson
- 31 Cynthia Wasky
- 31 Chip Norton

**August Anniversaries**

- 2 Anna & Jimmy Anderson
- 14 John & Lynn Bright
- 24 Debbie & Blake Banton
- 26 Rosemary & Wayne Bruce
- 28 Kathy & Johnnie Adams

**First Week in September Birthdays**

- 1 Jennifer Morrow
- 2 John Thomas Campbell
- 2 Walter Williamson, Jr.
- 2 Don Foster
- 3 Julio Tasayco

- 4 Shawn Bradley
- 4 Norma Tatum
- 6 Rita Vogeleeer
- 6 Doug Stewart

**First Week in September Anniversaries**

- 3 Tammy & Kenny Luck
- 14 Doris & Jack Nelson

**Our August Helpers**

**Greeters**

- 5 Marie Barnett & Ella Stine
- 12 Virginia McConnell & Warren Ackiss
- 19 Marji & Edward Hanshaw
- 26 Margaret Fallen & Genevieve Whetstone

**Acolytes**

- 5 Christopher Campbell & Jacob Thore
- 12 Cierra Swann & Rachel Moran
- 19 Russell Vaughn & Rachel Moran
- 26 Kristen Harris & Jessica Hood

**Nursery**

- 5 Rhonda Scott & Haley Tyree
- 12 Tammy Robinson
- 19 volunteer needed
- 26 Robert Swinson & Mariah Cook

**Sunday School Nursery**

- 5 Volunteer needed
- 12 Ronda Scott
- 19 Shirley Thore
- 26 Volunteer needed

**Directory Changes**

John-Michael & Rhonda Holmes  
1003F N. Hamilton Street  
Richmond, VA 23221  
(804) 447-1790

DJ Lewis  
5203 Lakefront Drive  
Bullock, NC 27507

Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Stanley C. Pigue  
1117 Holly Meadow Drive  
Holly Springs, NC 27540

Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Dick Daily  
4171 Roaring Run Road  
Goode, VA 2455

Karen Fry  
3905 Terrence Bay Ct, Apt 15  
Richmond, VA 23233

Scott Campbell  
6335 Euclid Ave.  
Elkridge, MD 21075

**If You Can Read This  
You Can Change the Life  
of a Child**

The ability to read is an essential skill for educational, economic, and social success in our country, yet many children reach middle school grades having failed to achieve proficiency in reading. One of the most productive ways to resolve this need is to establish a one-on-one reading partnership with an older reader.

Now you can help. We need a minimum of 15 adults and young people from our congregation and from among our neighbors who will volunteer at least one hour a week to read with waiting fourth and fifth graders at Summer Hill Elementary School beginning this September.

This is an initiative of the Amphill Community of Shalom. Your contribution would be your time, your ability to read and your love. If you are moved to serve in this capacity, please tell Rose Henshaw (763-2875) or David Henderson (402-8829) at church or by telephone. Invite a friend, relative, or a neighbor to do it, too. You'll change the life of a child (and perhaps your own as well).

**Bible "Listening" Challenge****Did You Know?**

- 65% of Bible-believing Christians have never read the entire New Testament.
- 43% of American adults function at or below basic literacy levels, making them incapable of meaningful Bible reading.
- In a survey of more than 500 pastors, 47% cited "lack of time" as the main reason more Christians don't read the Bible.
- 58% of the U.S. adult population will never read another book after high school.
- 42% of U.S. university graduates never read another book.



## Administrative Council Meeting Highlights

July 8, 2007

**Education**– Pat Griffith, chairperson, said that some Sunday School classes have become overcrowded, and there is a continuing need for teachers and more classroom space. Anyone willing to teach is invited to tell the committee. Plans include an evening Bible study for people who work in the daytime, a confirmation class, and beginning on Sundays in September, an opening exercise for all children’s classes together.

**Family ministries**– Rhonda Holmes reported the annual church picnic is scheduled on September 15, at 5:00 p.m., on the church property.

**United Methodist Men**–John Michael Holmes gave thanks and praise for the devoted work of Bee and Jim Malone on the annual golf tourney, which netted \$2,500 this year.

**United Methodist Youth**–The new 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Friday evening gatherings of the congregation’s youth were described by John Michael Holmes as profitable times consisting of games, praise and worship, a scripture message, and Bible study.

**Finance**–John Holmes, Sr. asked committee chairpersons to begin preparing budget proposals for submission by September 2, 2007.

**Pastor**–Pastor John urged anyone aware of a member needing a visit to let him know.

He requested that a committee be started to study offers for producing a new pictorial directory of the congregation.

He announced the Charge Conference scheduled on November 18 this year immediately following the worship service. The pastor issued two challenges to the council: Every 30 seconds a child in Africa dies from malaria. “Nothing But Net” is a Conference initiative to send protective sleeping nets which kill the disease-bearing mosquitoes. Every \$10 donation buys a net. He challenged every group in the congregation to develop inventive ways to purchase at least one net.

The Annual Conference sponsors camps for children of incarcerated mothers: “All God’s Children Camps”. Each child requires a mentor for the entire camp day. Women have abundantly volunteered as mentors, but there has been a scarcity of men as mentors. He challenged the men of the congregation to prayerfully consider this opportunity.

Submitted in the grace of God,

*David J. Henderson*

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**Mini School of Mission: "Sing Across the Walls"**

The Richmond District will hold a Mini School of Christian Mission on Friday, September 14, 5:15-8:30 pm at Trinity UMC, 903 Forest Avenue. The school is a District-wide event with leadership provided by the District United Methodist Women and the Board of Mission. Men, women and youth are invited to participate.

The District School, a mini version of the Virginia Conference School of Christian Mission, will provide participants with an overview of the mission studies for the current year. With the all-over theme, "Sing Across the Walls," the following studies and workshops will be offered:

- Geographic Study: Israel & Palestine-The history and complex relationships between Israel and Palestine
- Issue Study: Globalization-Contemporary issues of economic justice and how they touch our lives
- Spiritual Growth Study: Music and Mission-Study and sing the worldwide songs of mission
- Nurturing Mission Kids: How to provide meaningful mission experiences for children in your church; Study Leader: Ann Davis, Conference Director, Children's Ministries and Discipleship.

The Food Pantry Ministry of United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond (UMUMR) has been designated as the special mission emphasis for the event. Participants are asked to bring canned goods for the six UMUMR Food Pantries to create a "Wall of Caring." David Cooper, UMUMR Executive Director, will show a DVD about UMUMR.

The Mini School begins with registration at 5:15, followed by dinner and a hymn sing at 5:45, and study groups from 7:00-8:30. Child care and meals for children will be available at no cost. The registration fee is \$10 per person for supper and class materials. The registration deadline is August 31.

For more information contact 784-4370.

**All God's Children Camps**

We extend our gratitude for your support of the Virginia Conference All God's Children Camp. Because churches have shared their time, talents and financial resources, we continue to be able to provide week-long overnight summer camps for our children whose mothers are incarcerated.

We want to share the schedule for the remainder of the summer and solicit your support:

- August 5-10 at Camp Highroad in Middleburg
- August 12-17 at Westview on the James in Goochland
- August 19-24 at Occohannock on the Bay in Belle Haven

We have many needs that you and your church can help fill:

- Mentors are needed. Male and female mentors (age 17 and up) are now being recruited.
- Supplies are needed. Sleeping bags, pillows and pillowcases, twin flat sheets, rain ponchos, towels, toiletries and laundry bags are needed for all campers.
- Transportation is needed. Members of your church could help transport several children to the closest camp location.
- We need you! Share your time and resources with children who desperately need the love and grace of the church.

Call 521-1138 for questions or further information. Thank you for all that you are doing for all God's children.

Blessings,

Ann Davis, Director

Conference Children's Ministry

and Discipleship

**United Methodist Women—Silent Auction**

The UMW (United Methodist Women) will be having a silent auction before the brunch and meeting on Saturday, September 8, 2007.

If you have any items for sale, please bring them to Genevieve Whetstone. Proceeds from this sale go towards the purchase of mosquito nets for Africa.



**KAIROS NEWS....**

*Matthew 25:36b...  
"sick and in prison and you visited me."*

Hello Body of Christ,

Hope everyone is enjoying or enduring the summer! Some weather huh!

Seems like it's early to be thinking of Kairos but it will soon be here.

Jim Smith is weekend leader for Kairos 21 in November, "the good Lord willing and the creek don't rise" as they say. If you remember, he was to lead #19, but on a routine vehicle search they found some old ammo that had been hiding in his vehicle and was banned from the prison for 90 days. So he served Nottoway 19 on the cook team. He was reinstated and was able to go in on Nottoway 20 and is now leading #21.

I want to share a letter with you that was sent by a Greenville resident after he walked on the April Greenville Kairos. It is a little long, but I think it embodies why Kairos exists.

To: All who make Kairos possible

From: Jarrett Hite # 345729

I attended Kairos # 9 at Greenville correctional center and I sat at the proud table of St. John. I would like to briefly tell you a little about my life. I was raised up in church by two loving parents. I gave my life to Christ at a young age. As I got older and went to high school, I stopped attending church. I began to experiment with drugs and alcohol.

I got married right out of high school to a wonderful girl whom I loved very much. She later divorced me because of my drug and alcohol abuse. This abuse escalated through my twenties. I even started selling drugs as well as using them. This ultimately landed me here in prison.

I have almost finished my sentence now with only a few months to go and the closer I get to my release the more worried and scared I get about making it on the outside. I talked to some Christian friends I met here at CRCC about it and they suggested I attend a Kairos weekend before I went home. So I signed up and I was chosen to go. On opening night I wasn't sure what to expect. I was told by the team members to come back and if I did I would experience something wonderful. I came back the next day and the whole weekend I experienced only one thing. That was the love of Jesus Christ from every team member there. Everyone involved treated me with nothing but dignity and respect.

Never once was I looked at like I was a criminal or as if I was no good. Instead, the look on their faces was nothing more than the love of Jesus working in their lives. By the end of day three I knew that I too wanted that look on my face, the look of true peace and happiness that only Jesus can give you. So I decided that night back in my cell to re-dedicate my life to Christ. I have asked the team leader of Kairos #9 to make copies of this letter and give them to all the churches and people who make Kairos possible.

I want to say first and foremost I thank Jesus for making this happen, but also I want to thank the team leaders who sacrifice their time and

to all the people in the churches behind the scenes who prayed for us, gave time and money, to the ones who showed their love by baking the cookies and even to the little ones who made the place mats that were at the tables.

I want you all to know how you touched my heart and my life by showing me that you love and care about me. I am no longer worried about making it on the outside because I now know that with Jesus on my side and in my heart there is nothing I can't do! The greatest reward I can receive is to spend eternity in heaven with our Lord and Savior. I can't wait until my beautiful mother looks upon me and sees in me what I saw in the team members at Kairos #9 at GRCC.

Please continue to do what it is you do to make Kairos possible no matter how small the contribution. Because if what you do helps to only lead one person to Christ on a Kairos weekend, **it is all worth it!**

I hope to one day join all of you in some way to lead other prisoners to Christ. Thanks again and may God bless you all.

Your new friend in Christ,

Jarrett Hite #345729

Next month I will tell you some of the ways you can be involved in the Kairos ministry.

In His Love,  
*Debbie Smith*

**Walmsley Boulevard United Methodist Church**  
**2950 Walmsley Boulevard**  
**Richmond, VA 23234**

**NON-PROFIT ORG**

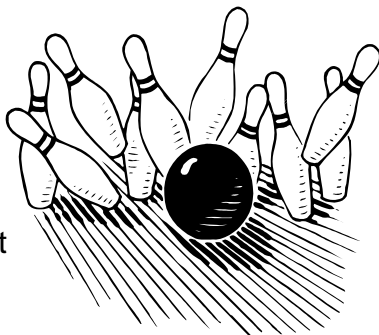
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**RICHMOND, VA**  
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**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Bowlers Needed!**

Meals on Wheels are having their 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Hunger Strike and Walmsley Blvd UMC would like to get a team or teams together to help!



The event is on two days in two locations:

**Sat. Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> at AMF Hanover,  
Mechanicsville or**

**Sat Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> at AMF Walnut Hill Lane,  
Petersburg**

If you would like to participate please contact  
Pastor John at:

Church – 275-8508

Home – 275-6554 or

johnlynnbright@comcast.net

**The Way of Companionship**

On Saturday, September 8, Craig Rennebohm, the founder of the Mental Health Chaplaincy, will lead a training event called The Way of Companionship. The event will be held at Centenary UMC, 411 E. Grace Street in downtown Richmond from 9am to noon.

Sponsored by United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond (UMUMR), this event will seek to help laity and clergy grow in their capacity to serve our neighbors—especially those who are homeless, isolated, alone and ill. The training will seek to help participants recognize the gifts of sensitivity, compassion and concern; understand the techniques of serving another person side by side; and learn seven basic companionship practices.

The cost of registration is \$10 and may be made by contacting UMUMR at 231-9285. This training is open especially to those involved in CARITAS ministries, Stephen Ministries and Mental Health Ministries. For more information call 231-9285 or e-mail <cooperd@umumr.org>.