

November 2008

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

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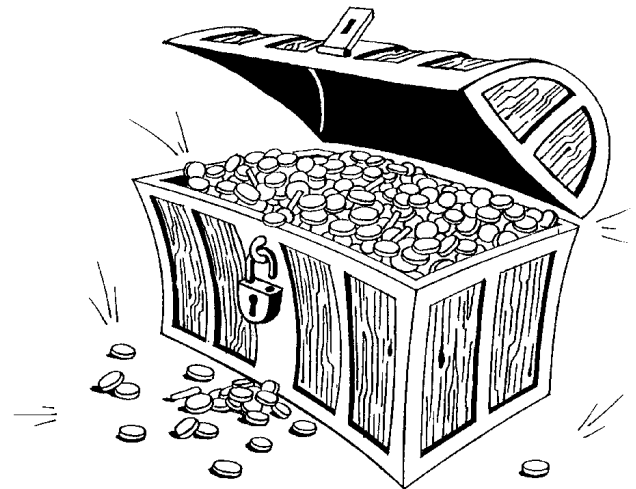
The Reverend John A. Bright, Pastor Home (804) 275-6554

Pastor E-mail: johnlynnbright@comcast.net

To my Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

This is what Jesus said:

¹⁹ "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." - Matthew 6:19-21 (NKJV)



When Jesus spoke to people in that day with this warning, He was dealing with those who did not have debit cards, 401K accounts, security alarms, and climate controlled homes. Money (consisting of metal coins) would be hidden in the home or buried in the yard. Clothing (a real measure of wealth) was kept in homes without windows or air conditioning. Rust and moths were real threats in those days, but not today.

The end of September and beginning of October produced wild swings in the stock market and unprecedented mergers/failures/bailouts in the banking system. We have been witness to "never before seen" events in the global and national financial markets. If Jesus was talking today, perhaps He would warn about the treasures that can be cut in half by a drop in the Dow and falling home values. In the last two months, many (including myself) have lost

(cont'd from first page)

Part of their retirement/pension account. Your home, the largest source of equity for most, is probably worth less than it was last year.

Since we live in a society that has most of its assets in the form of "paper", it can fly away—like the moth. And guess what—most of it is out of our control. All of this is a perfect storm for discouragement in the life of a believer.

Winston Churchill said, "You can measure a man by the size of the thing that discourages him."

Let's put that another way—you can measure a Christian by the size of his or her God!

Just a few verses later in Matthew chapter 6, we read Jesus' instructions that could not be any simpler—"do not worry" (v. 25, 28, 31, 34).

²⁵ "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?" ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?

²⁸ "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; ²⁹ and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

³⁰ Now if God so clothes the grass

of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more *clothe* you, O you of little faith?

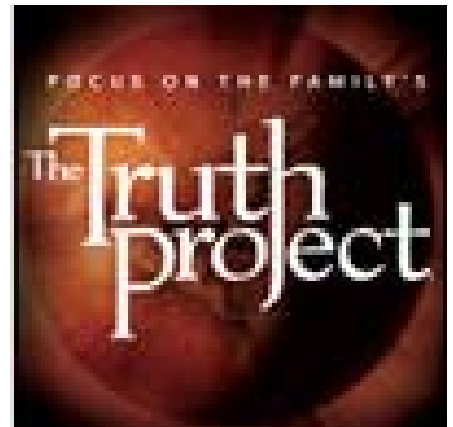
³¹ "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'" ³² For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day *is* its own trouble. —Matthew 6:25-34 (NKJV),

These verses convey the promise of God to meet our needs—today and tomorrow.

I would like to encourage you to commit these verses to prayer in the days, weeks, and months ahead. Let them build up your faith in a BIG God who can care for all of us—come what may.

In His grip and grace,

Pastor John



The Truth Project is a DVD-based small group curriculum comprised of 12 one-hour lessons taught by Dr. Del Tackett. This study is the starting point for looking at life from a biblical perspective. Each lesson discusses in great detail the relevance and importance of living the Christian worldview in daily life.

Dates/ Times

Sunday - after worship - approx. 12:30-2:00pm
Bring a bag lunch.

Thursday - 7:30-9:00

All are welcome to come to any sessions that you can. You do not have to attend all classes to follow or benefit from this study.



Mark you calendar!

Richmond District Leadership
Training Event



Creating Christian Community
Sunday, January 4, 2009
2:00-5:30 p.m.

Keynote Speaker: Virginia
Conference Director of
Connectional Ministries
Marc Brown

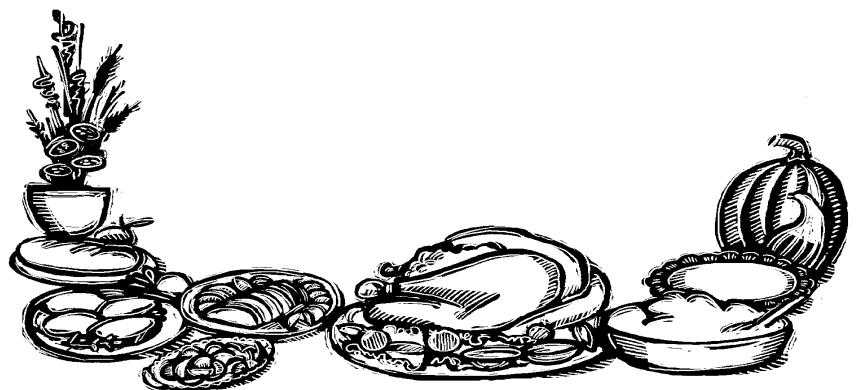
Breakout Sessions and
Workshops:

- ◆ Training for Church Leaders
- ◆ Forming Small Groups in the Wesleyan Tradition
- ◆ Discipling Families
- ◆ Building Bridges of Accessibility
- ◆ Making All Things New
- ◆ Moving Beyond Church Walls

Send an e-mail to
RichmondDistrict@vaumc.org
for registration information.

The Bulletin Board

- **Creating Christian Community, District Leadership Training, originally scheduled for October 11 at Ramsey Memorial has been moved to Sunday, January 4, 2:00-5:30 p.m. Watch for more details.**
- **The United Methodist Men's annual Brunswick Stew sale will be on Saturday, November 15. Don't forget to place your order on the sheet in the narthex!**
- **Youth Zone returns. Youth Zone will be held every Sunday, from 4:00-5:00 p.m. Be sure and invite your friends to join you in this youth centered worship experience.**
- **This month's Coffee Hour, on Sunday, November 30 will be sponsored by the United Methodist Men.**
- **Beulah UMC is having their annual bazaar on Saturday, November 8, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. There will be a bake sale, canned goods, children's items, Christmas Shop, jewelry, books, and collectibles. A silent auction will include Christmas items, restaurant meals, and original paintings. Call 275-2325 for more information.**
- **Mark your calendars for UM Day at the General Assembly, February 5, 2009. Call (504) 363-5905 or watch for more details.**



Dear Fellow Members of the Body of Christ,

We are approaching the end of another year of faithful work for our Lord. We, as his laborers, have so much for which to be thankful. I thank you for your continued support of our Church throughout 2008. Our Church has had a hard time meeting financial commitments this year due to the economy and a drop in our giving. Our Budget for 2008 had to be revised and the 2009 Budget has been cut in many areas. Our Food Pantry, Clothes Closet, Children's Festival and Vacation Bible School continue to be a blessing to our community and our Church family. We support many mission trips abroad, as well as the Kairos Prison Ministry. We benefit from our Church Library and our College Scholarship Program by our gifts. Along with improvements and upkeep of our Church property, our website continues to help reach God's people over the internet, and to be another means of information to our members. God will continue to bless us as long as we do our part.

The Budget for 2009 has been presented and part has been approved. Sunday, November 23, 2007 will be Dedication Sunday here at Walmsley Boulevard United Methodist Church. At this time we should be praying about our tithing, and listening to our Lord's response. In Malachi 3:10 our Lord challenges us to "prove" Him with our tithe and He will, "open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it." As Christians we are taught to live by faith and not as the "world" lives. Due to the drop in giving, we must wait this year until after Commitment Sunday to set the local church portions of the budget. It will be your response that makes the difference in doing ministry in 2009.

Please pray for our Church and how you might be able to help more in your giving. We should also remember Jesus' precious words in Luke 12:16-31 during our prayer time on tithing. Please take time to read this scripture. On the bottom of this page is a Commitment Card which you can fill out and bring to the altar on Dedication Sunday, or mail it to the Church and mark it to the attention of the Financial Secretary. There will also be Commitment Cards in the Narthex.

Our Lord has many great blessings awaiting us this coming year if we do our part as His faithful stewards. May our Lord continue to rain down His blessings on you and your family.

In Christian Love,

John Holmes, Sr.

Stewardship Committee



November Birthdays

- 11 Ryan Ellington
- 1 Marjory Hinkle
- 3 Brenda Cooper
- 3 Calvin Holmes
- 3 Linda Justis
- 3 Larry Simpkins
- 3 Rose Woods
- 4 Clifton Robertson
- 5 Mack Tatum
- 6 Erin Powers
- 6 Erica Powers
- 6 Kimberly Rasnake
- 6 Gregory Wyland
- 8 Cecelia Brooks
- 9 Chris Akery
- 10 Ruby Garrett
- 11 Bryan Wasky
- 13 Sallie Bowles
- 13 Lawrence Kanak
- 14 Bradlee George Walker
- 15 Carolyn Scott
- 16 Maranda Cook
- 16 Karen Fry
- 16 Kelly Jarrell
- 16 Lovena Thore
- 18 Tracy Boone
- 19 Margie Huband
- 20 Wayne Holmes
- 21 James Ackiss
- 21 William Carter
- 23 Helen Vest
- 25 Isaac Dodson

- 26 Jean Shields
- 26 Teresa Stewart
- 27 Franklin Jenkins
- 29 Anne Campbell
- 30 Wilbur Ellington

November Anniversaries

- 8 Denise & Randall Burgess
- 11 Pam & Mack Tatum
- 20 Nancy & Ralph Bruce
- 21 Debbie & Eddie Detrick
- 23 Martha & Wilbur Ellington
- 26 Cathy & Rick Madison

First Week in December Birthdays

- 8 Denise & Randall Burgess
- 11 Pam & Mack Tatum
- 20 Nancy & Ralph Bruce
- 21 Debbie & Eddie Detrick
- 23 Martha & Wilbur Ellington
- 26 Cathy & Rick Madison

Greeters

- 2 Virginia McConnell
- 9 Lonie Kanak
- 16 Ella Stine
- 23 Pat Griffith
- 30 Martha Ellington



Acolytes

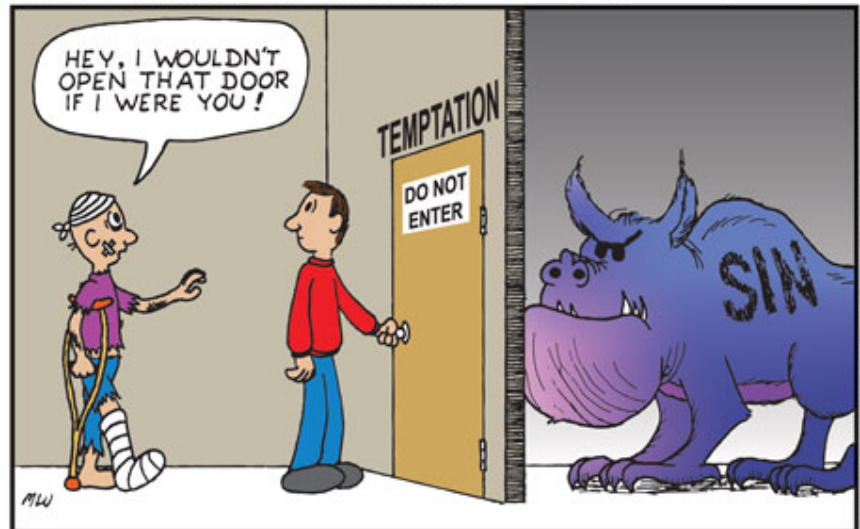
- 2 Mariah Cook & Kevin Kidd
- 9 Christopher Campbell & Tyler Thore
- 16 Haley & CJ Tyree
- 23 Samantha Bright & Jacob Thore
- 30 volunteer

Directory Changes

Shirley Thore
(804) 743-2822

DON'T OPEN THAT DOOR

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it. - GENESIS 4:6-7 MSG

www.joyfultoons.com © 2007 Michael D. Waters

Mission News

Walmsley’s Mission Fund is still receiving a penny for every time you search the internet using GoodSearch.com—powered by Yahoo—and a percentage of every online purchase made through GoodShop.com at great stores like Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy’s, Barnes & Noble and more. It’s easy and you get quality results!

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter Walmsley Blvd United Methodist Church (or just type in “Walmsley” and it will show up) as the charity you want to support.

As of October 15, the Mission Fund has raised \$15.28. Use it every time you search and add to the total!



Pies for Thanksgiving

The Babes are at it again! We are ready to do some serious baking in the newly painted kitchen. (Thanks to all you guys who helped with making the kitchen look so good!)

We want to bake pies for your Thanksgiving dinner.

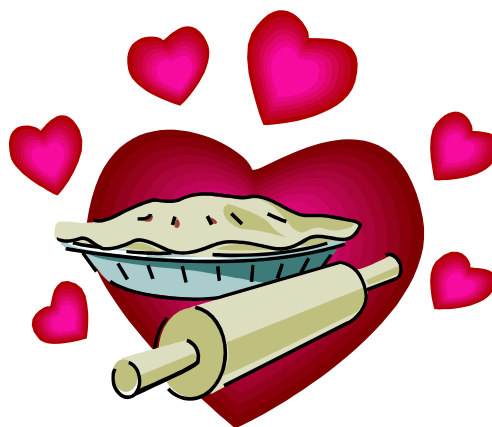
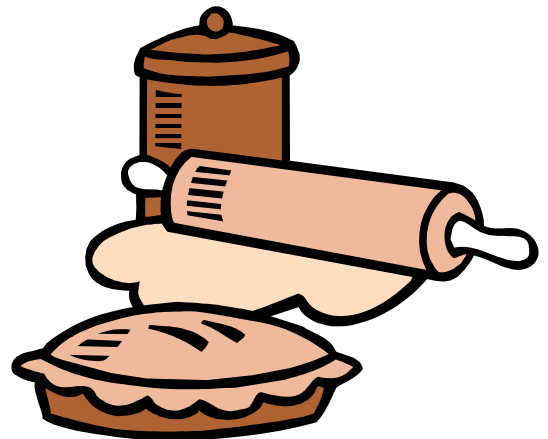
We are offering:

Item	Price	Amount	Total
Apple Crumb Pie	\$8.00 ea		
Pumpkin Pie	\$7.50 ea		
Sweet Potato Pie	\$7.50 ea		
Grand Total			

Orders must be in by November 16. Place your orders now! Just drop your **prepaid orders** in the offering plate. Make checks payable to Walmsley Blvd UMC with Bakin’ Babes noted in the memo section.

Pies will be ready for pick up in the Fellowship Hall after church on Sunday, November 23rd.

The Babes would like to take this time to thank you for all the fun and fellowship you provide by ordering our food items. If you want to join the fun and fellowship (and a little work of course) come join us. Just ask any Babe and she’ll give you the times we meet.



We would love to have you fellowship with us!

Administrative Council Meeting Minute Highlights

October 12, 2008

Children’s Ministries: Brandy Thore described a change in which kindergarten through second grade students are included in children’s church and plans for a Christmas activity with the Methodist Youth.

Stewardship: John Holmes, Sr. announced that Commitment Sunday will be November 23, and encouraged increased giving to meet budget needs.

New Business: Debbie Smith announced a Thanksgiving Day dinner will be prepared for people who would be spending the day alone. The rescue of the stolen stewpot, which was being repaired by a welder, was discussed. Jim Malone commented that in this time of financial hardships, church members should give much thought and prayer, and be more intentional in their giving.

Pastor’s Report: John Bright discussed the “Lord, Teach Us to Pray” event in January, 2009, which will be coordinated by Cerena Griffith, who will be making committee assignments and seeking volunteers. More information will appear in the November and December newsletters. He requested that the members consider participation in a Families First program, Ten Great Dates, occurring on Friday and Saturday nights throughout the year for couples. Pastor Bright planned to attend an introductory meeting. Possible partnership with another congregation was discussed.

UMW News

The Richmond District UMW will hold it’s Officers Training Event on November 15 at Welborne UMC, 920 Maybeury Drive. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m., and the program and training will be from 9:30-11:30 a.m. All UMW members are invited to attend this educational event where information will be disseminated to assist leaders in the local UMW. The theme will be “Publish Glad Tidings: Healing and Wholeness for All.” Rev. Lisa Sykes, the parent of a mercury-poisoned child, is an advocate for efforts to protect children from mercury containing drugs that many believe are associated with the high incidence of autism and neurological disorders in children.

The Mission Emphasis will be “Embrace Richmond,” a faith-based charitable organization that helps families exiting homeless shelters by providing basic furniture and household items . Such assistance improves the health and well-being of the household and prevents families from experiencing future episodes of homelessness. Participants are requested to contribute new or gently used pots, pans, silverware, paper towels, paper plates, plastic drinking cups for children and adults. For more information call 323-9134.

Richmond Emmaus

20 Years

Anniversary Celebration

November 1, 2008

3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

St. Mark’s UMC

11551 Lucks Lane

Midlothian, Virginia

Events include:

Children’s Activities

Music

Former Weekend Lay Directors and Community Lay Directors

Introduction of the Pilgrims R-91

Special Guest Speaker: James

McClung

Covered dish dinner (please bring a dish to share)

For More Information:

Call Sandy Livingston—271-6937 or visit www.richmondemmaus.com



Coming to Walmsley Boulevard UMC!

Lord, Teach Us To Pray seminar

DATES: January 9-10, 2009

We read in the Gospels of Jesus teaching the disciples many things. We only read of one instance where the disciples *asked* Jesus to teach them about something. In Luke 11:1 we read *One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."* In observing the prayer life of Jesus the disciples sensed that they had a lot more to learn about prayer, and that Jesus' prayer life was the key to the powerful ministry that he had.

- ◆ Do you have the sense that your prayer life needs improvement?
- ◆ Do you need to learn how to pray more effectively?
- ◆ Do you sense that improving your prayer life would improve your ministry for Jesus?
- ◆ Is your personal prayer life a duty, a discipline, or a delight?
- ◆ Does your personal prayer life reflect an intimate relationship with the Lord that is growing and maturing?
- ◆ Do you yearn to have a closer walk with the Lord through prayer?
- ◆ Do you use the tools for personal prayer that can make your prayer life exciting and vibrant?
- ◆ Do you experience obstacles or hindrances to intimacy with God through prayer?

Then come to the *Lord, Teach Us To Pray* seminar. This seminar will help you:

- ◆ Understand that prayer is a relationship with our Heavenly Father that grows and matures over time.
- ◆ Experience the victory of a Spirit-filled prayer life.
- ◆ Apply lessons from the prayer life of Jesus.
- ◆ Put into practice tools for personal prayer.
- ◆ Identify and find healing for obstacles and hindrances to intimacy with God.

The seminar is sponsored by Aldersgate Renewal Ministries, an affiliate of the General Board Of Discipleship.

There will be a fee to be determined later. This fee will cover the seminar, your participant's manual, and lunch on Saturday. Don't let the cost keep you from attending. Scholarships will be available.

Call or email the church to register: PHONE: 804-275-8508 or email: walmsleyblvdumc@verizon.net

Christmas Mother

For sixty-two years the Chesterfield-Colonial Heights Christmas Mother program has made sure local children and elderly residents can celebrate the holidays with gifts and food. Volunteers work during the year collecting donations and purchasing food, clothing, toys, and books. In 2007, 1,706 families consisting of 5,331 individuals were assisted. This is truly the picture of neighbors sharing in the holiday spirit.

While a committee of dedicated volunteers coordinates the Christmas Mother program, it is only the help of individuals, businesses, churches, civic groups, and schools in the community that makes the joy of the holiday season possible for so many children and elderly in the Chesterfield-Colonial Heights area. Please consider supporting Christmas Mother by volunteering your time at the Christmas Center. The Center is open December 2 – 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

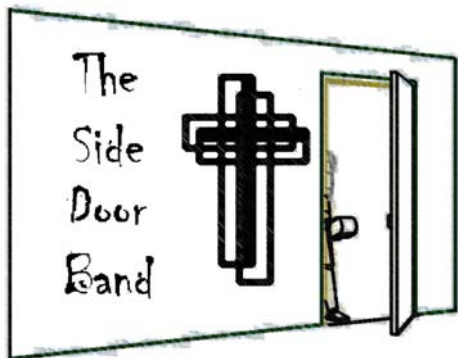
Please contact the office at 748-1183 or 751-4657 to volunteer.

It is the generosity and kindness of those in the community that makes the Christmas Mother program a success.

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

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



(With your very own church secretary, Marlene Otto)

@ Friday Nite LIVE!

Bring your friends and neighbors!

Friday, November 7th,
6-8 p.m. Centenary UMC
411 E. Grace Street

*Family Friendly!
Bring the Kids!*

Friday Nite LIVE is Centenary's monthly (the first Friday of every month) outreach ministry to provide an alternative Happy Hour with a Gospel message to the downtown community. It's a place where people can meet after work or school for fair-trade coffee, light snacks, and great Christian music, all for free!