

Big News From Littleton United Methodist Church



From The Pastor

Haley's Comment

Pastor David Haley

Dear LUMC family,

If you weren't in church on January 15, you missed a great sermon. Carlos Avalos from El Salvador was our guest preacher. He preached from the text in 1 Samuel 3.1-10 about the young boy, Samuel, hearing the voice of God calling to him in the Temple in the night. Carlos went on to share that in El Salvador, they have people who are called *las cucarachas de la iglesia*, "church roaches." They are the folks who are at church every time the door is open, the ones who are involved in everything at the church. Sometimes we get so busy in the church that we fail to listen for the voice of God speaking to us.

Carlos mentioned that in some churches we even say, "Look at everything we are doing for God!" But we fail to see the importance of hearing God speak to us. As I think back over the year 2005, I have often taken pride in all that we were doing for God, our busy-ness for the Kingdom. I'm not certain that I also emphasized the importance of listening to hear the voice of God. It's wonderful to be busy for God, to help a lot of people, and to be a mission-minded church. But let's don't overlook the fact that there are folks in our community who are desperate to hear God speak to them. There are folks who need to hear God telling them God loves them and forgives them. I am proud that we are known as a church that accomplishes great things for God. But let us also strive to be known as a church where folks can meet God, be in God's presence, and hear God speaking to them.

By the way, how does God speak to us? Young Samuel heard an audible voice calling out in the night. While possible, that sort of hearing God's voice was rare



even in Bible times. It is reasonable to assume that God will speak to us in other ways. For example, God speaks through the Bible. We ought to be the kind of church where the scriptures are read with the expectation that God has a message to communicate to us. God also speaks to us in worship, music, Holy Communion and preaching. God also speaks to us through the voices of the poor and needy, the suffering, and the oppressed. God speaks to us through the beauty and wonder of creation. God speaks to us in quiet moments of prayer. The wonder is that God desires to communicate with us. You would think that with all the problems in running the universe, God would be far too busy to notice us. Yet God loved the world so much that He gave His only begotten Son... To all those who believed in Him He gave the right to become children of God.

May God bless you, each and everyone, in the New Year!

Because of Him we serve,

Pastor David Haley

From Your Valentine



St. Valentine was a priest who was executed around 270 A.D. There are many things we don't know about this martyr, but there are numerous, sometimes conflicting, stories about his life and death. One says that he was slain for performing weddings in secret after the Roman Emperor, Claudius II, had outlawed them. Another legend

says it was because he helped Christians escape from brutal Roman prisons.

In 498 A.D., just over 200 years after Valentine's execution, Pope Gelasius declared February 14 as St. Valentine's Day. Valentine's love for God and humanity has made him "the patron of love" in the Roman Catholic Church and for people around the world.

By the mid-1700s it was common practice for friends and sweethearts to exchange trinkets made in the shape of hearts or to send handwritten notes of affection on February 14. It's believed that Valentine himself sent the first "valentine" while imprisoned. He is said to have written a letter to a young girl who visited him in prison just before his death. He signed the letter, "From your Valentine," a sentiment still used today.



Across the Miles

Long time member Shorty Bridges sends us her love. This picture was taken at a recent visit to her son Robbie's home in Richmond. Standing next to Shorty is her grandson Bobby.

Fill in the Bible verses below by using letters from the phrase:
BE MY VALENTINE.

1. "The _____ has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near." —Mark 1:15
2. "For where two or three come together in my _____, there am I with them." — Matthew 18:20
3. They will _____ their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. —Micah 4:3
4. "Peace I _____ with you." — John 14:27 **(Answers are on page 6)**

Just How Sincere Are You?

Just how sincere are you? How honest, how pure, how reliable, how trustworthy are you? Think about those important characteristics and consider the original meaning of the word "sincere."



Sincere is an old Latin word that meant "without wax." It originated when ancient Romans needed a word to verify that a piece of porcelain or pottery was whole, without cracks or flaws which had been covered over with hot wax.

Those wanting "sincere" pieces would hold the objects up to the sun to let the light shine through them to make certain they were not defective.

One suspects that the light of Christ shining through most of us might reveal embarrassing flaws in our character. Yet no doubt we would also discover that there was a lot of soundness as well. The goal is to move away from insincerity and hypocrisy and allow Christ to help us become completely whole and sincere.

UMW Circle Meetings

Beckham Ransom Circle meets Feb 13th at 10am at Irene O'Sullivan's house. (Contact Laine Parks 586-4254 for more information).



Mary Lucy Self Circle meets Feb 7th at 1:30pm in the conference room at church. This circle will meet the first Tues

of each month at 1:30pm in the conference room. November and December meetings are undecided, they will be announced later. (Contact Liz Solovieff for more information 586-2933).

The Cora P. Newsom Circle is dissolving. Members of that circle can choose between the two existing circles and a new circle forming under the leadership of Helen Burtchell. If you would like to join this circle contact Helen at 586-4682

Recent Additions to the Church Library

Loretta Woodburn, Church Librarian

1. Diary of Daily Prayer
2. Fortune's Kiss
3. How to Apply the Bible
4. Love's Enduring Promise
5. Praying in the Wesleyan Spirit: 52 Prayers for Today
6. Touching Hearts, Changing Lives: Becoming a Treasured Teacher



(These books were donated by Sherry Watson)

Book Reviews - This month Darla Angel reviewed "I Love Grandparenting But. . . .Devotional Prayers for Grandparents" By: Betty Steele Everett. Here's what Darla says about this book:

"This is an awesome read for all grandparents. As the author tells us grands are a joy most of the time but the road is not always a smooth one. Parents go to training classes to learn the skills required, but there are no such classes for "grandparenting". We think that if we survived being a parent we should find grandparenting a breeze and that we just need to enjoy these Blessings bestowed unto us. In this short book you will find a prayer for just about any situation. Prayers for not wanting to have favorites, the responsibility of baby-sitting, accepting the Special child, to taking care of the child we'll never know, when to offer advice, to please shorten the miles between us and there is even one for our friends who aren't grandparents.."

You can find this book in the Chapel on the top of the tall bookcase. I hope you will find a special peace and Blessing from reading this book.



"I'm surprised to see you here for counseling. You appear to have a storybook marriage."

Marriage Retreat - A Weekend to Remember

A community event hosted by Nashville United Methodist

Friday, February 17th – 7pm – 10pm
Saturday, February 18th – 8am – 3pm
Featuring Greg & Connie Brezina leading sessions on:

- ♥ ...knowing how to give and receive unconditional love
- ♥ ...knowing how male and female uniqueness contributes to oneness
- ♥ ...understanding how to better meet each other's sexual needs
- ♥ ...maintaining a love relationship that lasts a lifetime
- ♥ ...resolving conflicts quickly
- ♥ ...applying the four most important aspects of forgiveness

From premarital to seasoned veterans, come and share in this unique opportunity to be biblically strengthened and encouraged in your marital relationship. Special music, seminar book, food and fellowship included in the registration fee of \$60 per couple. For questions contact NUMC @ 459-7178 or e-mail to clarice@nashvilleumc.net Give the following information: Couples name, address, phone number, email address, home church name. Registration fee - \$60 per couple – includes Seminar materials, Friday evening refreshments, Saturday continental breakfast, lunch and refreshments and special music. Make check payable to NUMC, listing Marriage Retreat in memoline.



Briefly Noted

Pastor David

- Gail Workman will be presenting a special presentation in the Adult Bible study on Sunday morning, February 12. She will share pictures and testimony about her visit to Skellig Michael, site of Celtic Christian Monastery off the southern coast of Ireland.
- Nursery workers and Sunday School workers are still needed. Contact Martha Hayes or Darla Angel to sign up for Nursery duty and Jean Jarvis to sign up to be a Sunday School worker.
- Bob Workman continues to teach a Bible study on the Book of Genesis from a New Testament perspective on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM in the basement. Other interested persons are invited to join this study which is open to the community.
- "Loafing" for Missions: Shirley & Skip Anschutz and Susannah Sherman have been selling homemade bread with the proceeds going to support missions. They will have loaves of bread for sale on the third Sunday of each month.
- Help with the utility costs and safety of your church. Doors leading to the sanctuary should be kept closed whenever possible. This is especially important for the door leading to the educational wing from the sanctuary.
- UMW Annual Tea Feb. 18, at 10:00am in the fellowship hall, all women of the church and community are invited. UMW Sunday will be Feb. 26.

Notes from the Sexton's Corner

Darla Angel, Sexton

During the past several months I've been asked by different individuals what they could do to help make my job easier. So, as I started out this New Year, I purposefully paid extra attention to each area as I cleaned. The biggest way to help is when we have an event that requires extra dishes, trays, candles etc. from either kitchen area, please return these items to there original location and in the condition they were found. Leftover food needs to be placed in "air tight" bags or containers, not just left on plates covered with napkins or loose plastic wrap, thus causing food to be wasted. Also, coffee pots/carafes need to be emptied and washed.



I appreciate your thoughtfulness and by the same token when you see something in a specific area that needs more attention, please let me know. You can catch me after church or leave a note in my cleaning cabinet down stairs.

Blessings,
Darla



Heartfelt Thanks

during this past year. I appreciate the many ways you look out for and take care of anything that is needed from building me my very own supply cabinet, finding smiley faces, hearts and books tucked inside to helping "pick up" when I've been way. I sincerely appreciate and feel blessed to be able to continue to serve you and our Lord. Love, Darla

From Trudi and Sue: Thank you for the financial love gift from our loving church family. It is a pleasure to serve this

thoughtful congregation who also offer to us many kind words of encouragement. Love, Trudi and Sue

From David and Binky: Thank you so much for your kind and generous Christmas gifts to us and to the other church staff. It is a great joy to serve with you and we look forward to continuing to work together for the glory of God in the new year.

Gabrielle Pamer was formally received as a new member on Sunday, January 29, during the worship service. She lives in Littleton and joins on statement of faith and previous church membership. (Pictured below: Pastor David and Gabrielle, Jan 29th)



David Beamer's CD's

Our church has been blessed a number of times by the singing and testimony of David Beamer, son of our beloved John and Wanda Beamer. David recently spent two days in a recording studio in Nashville, TN, recording a CD of Christian songs. On some of the songs he is accompanied by his daughter, Michelle, on the piano. He has generously made some available to Littleton UMC to raise funds for our missions projects. The Mission Committee will be taking requests for these CD's in exchange for a donation to our Missions Fund.

Possible Summer Intern

Pastor David

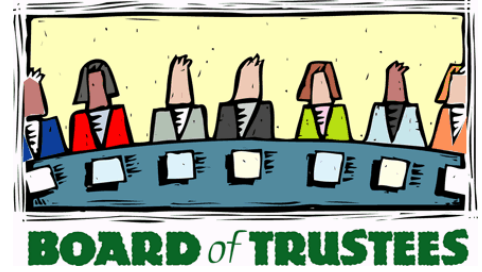
In November 2005 we had as a guest in worship, Joey Shelton, Co-Director of Field Education/Church Relations for Duke Divinity School. He invited our church to consider hosting a Divinity School student as a summer intern. The Duke Endowment would pay the student a stipend. The church would be responsible for providing lodging, meals, and mileage. The student would then serve as a summer staff member of the church, assisting in the worship, program, and ministry of the church. What a wonderful opportunity for a great church to invest itself in the practical education of a minister!



Trustee Notes

Barney Watson, Chairman

The procedures for leasing the LUMC Fellowship Hall have changed slightly. There is a supply of booking applications in the church office for everyone to use. Fill out the application and deliver it to Tim Townsend, our 2006 Fellowship Hall Director. Tim will notify you when your application has been approved. He will make sure your name is put on the booking calendar in the church office, and Tim will go over the LUMC Fellowship Hall Rules & Regulations with you.



The fellowship hall will be available on a first come basis. The rental fee has increased to \$100.00 per event. This rental is very competitive with others in our area. We will charge a \$50.00 cleaning deposit, to be refunded if the fellowship hall is left clean. We have also added a small charge for the use of our tablecloths. Please refer to the form below for specifics. Feel free to contact either Barney Watson (Chairman) 586-7733, or Tim Townsend (2006 Fellowship Hall Director) 586-2959, if you have any questions.

The fresh air machine in the choir room, chapel, and downstairs have been set according to the manufacture guidelines. Please do not adjust them, the Trustees are responsible for them. If you feel they need adjusting please ask one of us to do it.

We are waiting on Halifax County to test and issue a septic permit for our proposed parsonage lot in Timber Creek. At the time of this article we have received verbal approval, but we have not received a written approval.



Age-Level & Family Ministries Committee

Martha Hayes, Chairperson

We are busy planning spring and summer events for you. We need your "Wish List"! Please write down a few things you would like to see us host in the coming months. We will work hard and try our best to make your "Wish List" come true. Give your list to a committee member before February 20th. Committee members for 2006: Martha Hayes, Sherry Watson, Darla & Ed Angel, Laine Parks, Julie Johnston, Carol Townsend.

Sample Application

Corrected Recipe

Was in our Dec. issue
Gail Workman's Egg Nog Cookies

2 cups sifted flour, 2 tsp. nutmeg, 1/4 tsp. salt, 1 cup butter, 3/4 cup sugar, 2 tsp. vanilla, 2 tsp. rum extract, 1 egg

Mix & sift flour, nutmeg and salt. Cream butter, add sugar and cream until fluffy. Add extracts and mix. Add egg & mix well. Add sifted ingredients gradually & mix. Chill thoroughly. Allowing 1 tbsp. dough for each cookie, shape into balls and bake on ungreased baking sheet in preheated 350 degree oven 12 to 15 min. Cool & frost with (Rum Frosting - 1/4 cup butter, 1 tsp. rum extract, 1/2 tsp. vanilla, 2-1/4 cups sifted conf. sugar, 2 tbsp. milk). Cream butter, add extracts & mix. Add conf. sugar gradually and mix well, add milk and mix.

LITTLETON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
APPLICATION FOR THE USE OF FELLOWSHIP HALL

I, _____ REQUEST THE USE OF THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR THE PERSON AND/OR ORGANIZATION LISTED BELOW FOR THE FOLLOWING DATES AND TIMES.

NAME OF USER: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY, STATE & ZIP: _____
 TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

FUNCTION/EVENT TO BE HELD: _____
 DATE AND TIME OF FUNCTION: _____

FACILITIES REQUESTED:	CHARGES
FELLOWSHIP HALL	\$ 100.00 _____
CLEANING DEPOSIT	\$ 50.00 _____ 50.00 _____
FELLOWSHIP HALL KITCHEN	\$ 50.00 _____
TABLE CLOTH \$5.00 EACH WITH OVERLAY \$7.50 EACH	_____
DISHES & FLATWARE \$ 0.50 PER PLACE SETTING	_____
TOTAL CHARGES TO BE PAID IN ADVANCE AT THE TIME THE FELLOWSHIP HALL IS BOOKED & APPROVED	

NOTE: THE ABOVE NAMED PERSON(S) AND/OR ORGANIZATION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL CLEAN-UP AND DAMAGES INCLUDING BROKEN DISHES AND GLASSES.

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF PERSON ATTENDING THE FUNCTION: ADULTS _____ CHILDREN: _____

IF TEENAGE OR YOUTH FUNCTION LIST CHAPERONES: _____

IF DIGITAL PIANO IS USED PLEASE LIST PLAYERS: _____

BY SIGNING BELOW, I HAVE READ & AGREE TO FOLLOW THE RULES & REGULATIONS OF THE LUMC FELLOWSHIP HALL LISTED ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM.

SIGNATURE OF REQUESTING USER: _____

APPROVAL - TRUSTEE FH DIRECTOR: _____ DATE: _____
 CHURCH PASTOR: _____ DATE: _____

Rules & Regulations are on the Next Page

LITTLETON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL RULES & REGULATIONS

1. No smoking permitted in the building
2. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the building or on the church property.
3. Teenage or youth functions must be chaperoned by two or more mature adults with one for every five youths.
4. Do not place any nails, or tacks in the walls, doors, window sills or furniture. Same applies to tape on walls.
5. All trash must be removed from premises (inside and outside).
6. Floors must be cleaned, tile floors mopped & carpet vacuumed (vacuum in closet).
7. Dishes, flatware, pots & pans, if used must be left clean and put away.
8. Kitchen counter tops and refrigerator must be returned to the original place.
9. Any furniture that has been moved must be returned to the original place.
10. Any decorative candles used must be enclosed in a suitable protective glass chimney and placed on a protective base in order to catch any wax drippings.
11. No rice or birdseed may be thrown inside of buildings. Confetti may not be used on property (inside or outside).
12. No furniture or furnishings are to be removed from buildings.
13. The digital piano is to be used by a qualified player only.
14. Dishwasher may only be used a qualified person.
15. Linens may be furnished by the church at an additional cost.
16. Damage to the property, equipment, and/or furnishings is the responsibility of the renter and must be reported to the church as soon as possible.
17. Renters are responsible to make sure all lights are cut off and all doors are locked.
18. Children are not permitted in the kitchen area at any time.



**Darla & Ed Angel's
New Grandson
Davis Carrington Angel
Born 11-25**



**Mike & Kay Herman's
New Granddaughter
Claire Margaret Herman
Born 11-4**



February Birthdays	Date
Kay Newsom	Feb 4
Harry Bingman	Feb 8
Barney Watson	Feb 8
Bobby L. Smith	Feb 9
Ed Angel	Feb 11
Jean Houston	Feb 12
Clifton Shearin	Feb 19
Alan Burtchell	Feb 23
Carol Guidry	Feb 24
Sue Beazley	Feb 25
Sally King	Feb 6
Keith Fishel	Feb 6
Mike Herman	Feb 27
Lee Reinhardt	Feb 28
Gail Workman	Feb 29
Frances Howell	Feb 30

February Anniversaries	Date
Pat & Donald Ziesman	February 4

**Newsletter Deadline
Is the 15th**

If you have news to share
email Sherry Watson
www.watsonventures@earthlink.net

Date	Nursery Schedule
Feb 5	Need Someone for 10am & 11am
Feb 12	10am Susannah & Need Someone
Feb 19	Need Someone for 10am & 11am
Feb 26	10am Sherry & Barney Watson 11am Sherry W. & Irene O'Sullivan

Nursery workers for 10:00 and 11:00: If you can not be there, please call **Martha Hayes 586-6241** as soon as you know so she can find someone to fill the position. Please be in the nursery by 9:45am

You can sign up to help in the nursery by filling in your name on the calendar located on the wall just outside of Pastor David's office. If you have not worked in the nursery before please see Greg Solovieff to fill out volunteer forms.

Date	Child & Youth Sunday School
Jan -	Pre-K: Martha & Bob Hayes
Mar	Elementary: A.J. Lunde Middle School: Carol & Tim Townsend

Sunday School Teachers: If you can not be there, please call **Jean Jarvis 533-0200** as soon as you know so she can find someone to fill the position.

Mary Lucy Self Circle Meets Feb 7th, 1:30 in the conference room at church. The Blanket Bee Is Every 4th Wed at 1:30pm at Marj Prescott's

Date	Lay Reader	Scripture
Feb 5	Marie Fields	Isaiah 40:28-31; Mark 1:29-39
Feb 12	Liz Solovieff	Psalm 30:1-5; Mark 1:40-45
Feb 19	Bob Workman	Psalm 41:1-4; Mark 2:1-12
Feb 26	Gail Workman	Psalm 50:1-6; Mark 9:2-9

Date	Greeters • East Narthex	Greeters • West Narthex
Feb 5	Louise Owen	Rachael Ricks
Feb 12	Marj Prescott	Marie Fields
Feb 19	Loretta Woodburn	Sally King
Feb 26	Betsy Medlin	Wanda Beamer

Note/Don't forget: After the service greeters should stand at the narthex doors and tell everyone goodbye. If you are unable to greet, please call someone to take your place.

February Ushers

Skip Anschutz & Jack May • additional ushers as needed
(watch bulletin for names)

Note/Don't forget: Ushers will make a head count/attendance and give the number to Pastor David. After church they will stand at the narthex doors and speak to the congregation as they leave. Ushers should straighten the pews and replace hymnals. If you are unable to usher please call someone to take your place.

The following will prepare Communion for the next several months. If you cannot be here on your assigned Sunday to set up and clean up, you may trade with someone else, but please notify the Pastor.

Sun, Feb 5	Ed & Darla Angel
Sun, Feb 12	Dick & Irene O'Sullivan
Sun, Apr 2	Greg & Liz Solovieff

Date	Flowers
Feb 5	Communion
Feb 12	Sherry & Barney Watson
Feb 19	Macon & Duane White
Feb 26	Anna Brown

Beckham Ransom Circle meets Feb 13th at 10am at Irene O'Sullivan's house.

Editor's Notes

Sherry Watson

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The LUMC "Big News" newsletter is now available by email as a pdf file attachment. If you would like to receive the newsletter by

email just let me know. If you receive it by email you will not get a copy in the mail. You will be able to print the newsletter on your own printer if you want a hard copy.

Making the newsletter available by email will cut postage cost for the church and production time for me. You do not have to make this change, it is just an option for you. You can elect to try it by email first. I can send you this month, Feb issue, to see what it is like and decide if you want to make the switch. Email me at watsonventures@earthlink.net or call me at 586-7733 to discuss.

Answers to Bible Quiz on page 2: 1. time 2. name 3. beat 4. leave