

# Big News

## From Littleton United Methodist Church



### Haley's Comment

Dear LUMC family,



People sometimes wonder why I make mission trips. Why would I use my vacation time to travel to a poor country, sleep in "no-star" establishments, and interact with people I don't share a language with? During my January trip to El Salvador I had an experience that broke my heart. While visiting a new Methodist church under construction, I noticed a little girl hanging around what looked like a storage shed next door. My pastor friend informed me that the storage shed was actually the home of this little girl and her family.

She appeared to be home by herself. When she wasn't staring at us, she was doing laundry by hand. I began to talk to her and introduced myself. She told me her name is Carla. I asked how old she is, and she told me she is 9 years old. My pastor friend told me that her parents were working and her older brother was in school. For many years she has been staying at home by herself while the others were away. This year, for the first time in her life, she has begun to attend school for a few hours in the morning. In the afternoon she still does chores at home alone.

Her parents work long hours at low-paying jobs. They barely earn enough money to eat, and the shed where they live will soon be torn down. I asked my pastor friend where they would move? He didn't know. He said the church had offered to help them obtain a better place to live, but he didn't know if they would accept the offer. "Why not?" I asked. He told me that often people like them don't feel like they deserve anything better because they are so deeply mired in poverty. Carla's future probably holds ignorance,

pregnancy and marriage (maybe) in her middle teens unless the cycle is broken. Thank God for the Methodist Church in El Salvador which tries to help the poor and minister to them in Jesus' Name.

Experiences like this break my heart. I have seen many, many families in a deep rut of poverty that goes on for generation after generation. The children suffer and receive little encouragement to aspire to a better life. These experiences deepen my compassion for people living under a heavy burden of poverty. It also burdens my heart to share with these people the love of God and to demonstrate God's love through works of mercy. That's why I go on mission trips and encourage others to do so. God works through these experiences to teach us, to help others, and to transform our lives in discipleship to Jesus Christ.

May God bless you, each and everyone, and help us to be compassionate towards those in need!

Because of Him we serve,

Pastor David



Carla age 9

Below: Carla doing the family laundry in front of her house.



### Pastor on Mission Study

Pastor Haley is on a study trip the first 10 days of March. He and his wife will be visiting sites related to the 2nd & 3rd missionary journeys of St. Paul in Greece and Turkey. United Methodists from across our Conference are joining with Bishop Gwinn to make this journey. In the absence of the pastor any pastoral needs may be directed to one of the following: Ed Angel, Board Chairperson; Helen Burtchell, Lay Leader, or Greg Solovieff, PPR Chairperson. Pastor Stan Lewis (Calvary, Weaver's Chapel, & Corinth UMC's) and Pastor Mike Currin (Littleton Baptist Church) will be on call. Tim Townsend will be preaching on Sunday, March 5, in the pastor's absence.

### **A Family of Faith**

We are a family of faith.

We belong to Christ.

We strive to live as brothers and sisters of one another.

We are committed to Christian service and seek to love our neighbors as ourselves.

May God give us guidance and courage during all our days on earth. Everyone is invited to join our family.

## About the United Methodist Church

Each month in this space there will be an article explaining some aspect of who we are as United Methodists. We'll cover such topics as how we're organized, what we believe, and where we came from. If you have specific questions you would like to see addressed in this space, pass them along to the pastor.

United Methodists consider conferencing to be of the utmost importance. Our church is part of the North Carolina Annual Conference, comprised of more than 800 churches between Burlington and the coast. Our Conference meets every year in June, this year in Greenville. Ed Angel is our duly elected Lay Member of the Annual Conference. The North Carolina Conference is part of the Southeastern Jurisdiction. The Jurisdictional Conference meets every four years to elect bishops and organize the work of the churches within the jurisdiction.

Every four years clergy and lay delegates meet with the bishops for the General Conference. This is the highest legislative authority in the United Methodist Church. In fact, no person, church, paper, or organization, has the authority to speak officially for the United Methodist Church except for the General Conference. It is the General Conference which issues *The Book of Discipline* every four years. We also have Central Conferences for the work of the Church outside the United States. And each local church or charge has a Charge Conference which is the connecting link between the local church and the general Church. The Charge Conference also has general oversight over matters pertaining to the local church program and operation.

One final level of organization is the district, comprised of churches in a geographic area within an annual conference. Littleton UMC is one of 84 churches in the Rocky Mount District.



Campbell.



"Don't worry. Jesus cast out the unclean spirits. Not the unclean."

## Finance Committee Notes

Mike Herman, Chairman

The LUMC Finance Committee will meet on Sunday, March 5th, at 3:00pm in the boardroom at church.



## Read All About It!

Loretta Woodburn, Church Librarian

*A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23* was recently donated to our church library by Marion Harries. Thanks Marion for this great book.

This month Pastor David reviews *Loving God* by Charles Colson, his review is found below. Thanks Pastor for sharing your thoughts.

## *Loving God* by Charles Colson

Reviewed by Pastor David Haley

Chuck Colson was a prominent figure in the time of the Nixon administration. He became a born-again Christian prior to going to prison for a Watergate-related offense. After his release from prison he founded Prison Fellowship Ministries, the prison ministry with which your pastor worked for nearly nine years. Colson also has become a leading prophetic voice for Christians. Of the many books written by Chuck, *Loving God* has always been my personal favorite. It is a collection of short accounts of individuals in various circumstances who demonstrated their love for God by their obedience to God. The individuals include such persons as Mother Theresa, a POW in North Vietnam, and a judge. Colson shows in each case a surprising way in which their love of God produces works of grace in their lives. The edition in our church library also contains a helpful study guide for individual and group study.



## Lenten Lunches

The annual Lenten Lunches in the Littleton community have been scheduled as follows:

Date	Place	Speaker
3-1	Littleton Baptist Church	/ Rev. David Smith, Littleton Presbyterian Church
3-8	at LUMC with Littleton Presbyterian as host	/ Rev. Will Tabron, St. Luke's Baptist Church
3-15	South Street Baptist Church	/ Rev. Mike Currin, Littleton Baptist Church
3-22	Littleton United Methodist Church	/ Rev. Timothy Edwards, Roanoke Chapel Baptist
3-29	St. Alban's Episcopal Church	/ Rev. Fred Eichner, Lakeside Lutheran Church
4-5	Roanoke Chapel Baptist Church	/ Rev. Paul Neuer, St. Alban's Episcopal Church



## Age Level & Family Ministries Committee

Martha Hayes, Chairperson

Family Movie Night will be March 3rd at 7pm in the fellowship hall, we will show "Spirit", it's about a wild young mustang horse, who tries against impossible odds to save his homeland and freedom. This movie is about discovering the hero inside yourself. The movie, popcorn and soda are free. This movie is suitable for all ages.

New this month: March 14th will be LUMC Family Game Night at Mordecai's Restaurant, beginning at 5:30pm. Julie Johnston will be cooking burgers. Dominoes, checkers, and other board games will be available for everyone to enjoy. Even if you don't like to play games just come and enjoy the fellowship. Bring your friends!



**Briefly Noted**

Pastor David

- The Christian Men at Work will be meeting Saturday, March 4, at 7:00 AM at Grandpa's Kitchen. All men are encouraged to join this Christian fellowship meeting.
- The Rocky Mount District Lay Rally is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, March 12, 3:00pm at First UMC Rocky Mount. Rev. George Jackson from Eastlawn UMC of Pascagoula, Mississippi will be our guest speaker. Eastlawn UMC has been RM District's partnered church in Mississippi since Hurricane Katrina. We usually have one of the larger groups present. Let's have a good group again this year!
- 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.
- The Bible study on the Book of Genesis from a New Testament perspective being taught by Bob Workman on Thursday evenings has been discontinued until late Spring.
- The Flower Calendar is located on the bulletin board outside the church offices. Sign up to place flowers in the sanctuary for a Sunday morning this Spring.
- "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.



build houses for the poor with Habitat for Humanity. This summer our folks will join 40-50 other United Methodists in a special joint project with the Methodist Church of El Salvador. There will also be other groups including a team from the Littleton Baptist Church. And we have been invited to send a medical team as well, so we are considering that possibility. The team will be working in the same general area as last year to build houses with families who lost their homes in the volcano eruption last Fall. Dates for the trip are approximately July 28/29 through August 5/6. Cost will be approximately \$850 plus the cost of airfare (\$500-600). The Pastor needs to know ASAP if you are interested in going. Also, feel free to talk to previous participants for more information on what the experience is like: Darla Angel, Ed Angel, Richard Sherman, Sue Merchant, and Laine Parks.

**Mission Committee**



**Mission Fundraiser**

Liz Solovieff  
Chairperson

Please remember to help support LUMC ongoing mission projects by your purchases of cookbooks, note-cards, and our newest item, a CD entitled "Thank You".

The CD was professionally produced by David Beamer, son of John and Wanda Beamer. David sings many familiar songs such as "Amazing Grace", "It is well with my soul", and "Thank you". The songs will truly uplift you and touch you spiritually. The CD will be playing prior to our Sunday morning service. Please see one of the following mission committee members to place your order: Elizabeth and Greg Solovieff, Richard and Susannah Sherman, Dick and Irene O'Sullivan, or Pastor David. 100% of your \$10 donation for the CD will go to our mission projects.

**Newsletter Deadline is the 15th**

If you have news to share  
email Sherry Watson

[www.watsonventures@earthlink.net](mailto:www.watsonventures@earthlink.net)



Note: Last month Sally King, Mike Herman, Lee Reinhardt, Gail Workman & Frances Howell were listed as Feb birthdays—that was incorrect—their correct birthday is below.

March Birthdays	Date
Jack May	3
Sally King	6
Keith Fishel	6
Mike Herman	27
Lee Reinhardt	28
Gail Workman	29
Frances Howell	30

March Anniversaries	Date
Ron & Melinda Johnson	20



**Summer Mission Trip**

Our church is planning to send a mission team to El Salvador again this summer to

**David & Goliath?**



## Administrative Council

Ed Angel, President

The next Administrative Council meeting will be March 19th at 6:30pm.

Last month I received two special emails that I want to share with you. Both emails are a tribute to Pastor David and his mission work.

----- Forwarded Message: -----

From: "Jose Villasenor"

<JVillasenor@habitat.org>

To: <ed.angel@lakegastoncc.org> ,

<bsimpson@nccumc.org>

Subject: Thank you for sharing Rev. David Haley

Date: Fri, 3 Feb 2006

Dear Mr. Ed Angel and Dr. Simpson

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On behalf of Habitat for Humanity International I want to thank you for sharing Rev. David Haley for the work of helping to eradicate poverty housing both locally and globally.

I first met David 7 years ago when he was a Church Relations staff with Habitat in the U.S. and I was working with Habitat in El Salvador coordinating the work with churches. Since then we have develop a wonderful friendship and have worked together in numerous efforts to build bridges of relationship and solidarity between peoples in North Carolina, El Salvador and beyond. David's compassion and personable skills have won him many friends in El Salvador. He has become an invaluable ally in the struggle against poverty there.

About a year ago David invited me to come to El Salvador with him to visit with our brothers and sister of the Iglesia Metodista de El Salvador and begin a conversation about bringing together Methodists from the U.S., Methodist in El Salvador and Habitat to improve the housing conditions of poor families in areas serve by both organization as well as for the churches to serve communities in other ways. Many good things have come out of that visit. Since then new relationships have been built and ministry opportunities are beginning to emerge. Iglesia Metodista and Habitat El Salvador have work together in two housing projects and are planning a big event for this year in August with the goal to host 50 volunteers from the U.S. and mobilize 100 or more local volunteers to build 10-15 houses.

Last week, I traveled with David, Joey Shelton and John Benson to El Salvador to explore the option of having Duke Divinity students (future pastors) come to El Salvador to immerse themselves in another culture to better respond to the challenges of serving the growing Spanish speaking population in North Carolina (I commend John Benson for having the vision and Joey for pushing forward with this new opportunity). As a graduate from Duke Divinity and a native of El Salvador now living in North Carolina I see the need for this and anticipate that this effort will create powerful ministry opportunities for all those involved. As always, David was very instrumental in providing advice and helping to connect the different stakeholders for this new venture before and during our visit.

Habitat is very thankful for the different gifts and power to help God has given our "hermano" David Haley. I look forward to continue working with him and with members of the Methodist family to help transform lives and communities.

In Christian Partnership,

*GO UNTO ALL NATIONS*

Visit the Global Church Partnership Web Site

<http://www.habitat.org/cr/gcpdefault.aspx>

**José Luis Villaseñor**

([JVillasenor@habitat.org](mailto:JVillasenor@habitat.org))

International Program Manager,  
Church Relations

Habitat For Humanity International

[www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org)

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**Email Sent:** Thursday, February 02, 2006

**Subject:** Guatemala/El Salvador

To: Mr. Ed Angel, Administrative Board  
Chair, Littleton UMC

Dr. William C. Simpson, Jr., Rocky Mount  
District Superintendent

From: Joseph Shelton, Office of Field  
Education, Duke Divinity School

Re: Rev. David Haley

Dear Mr. Angel and Dr. Simpson,

Please accept my gratitude on behalf of Duke Divinity School for sharing Rev. David Haley with me for a recent trip to Central America. The Divinity School recognizes that people from Spanish speaking countries are continuing to populate North Carolina in growing numbers. As we form future leaders for

The United Methodist Church to serve in North Carolina, it is crucial that our students are equipped to offer the love of Christ to this segment of North Carolina's population. Rev. Haley has proved to be an invaluable resource in this conversation and our future educational efforts.

The Duke Endowment has recognized this need and has offered its resources to help students engage the culture and learn the Spanish language. There is an emerging Methodist Church in Guatemala and El Salvador that is doing amazing ministry with limited human and economic resources. We have much to learn from our Central American brothers and sisters in Christ. Rev. Haley is a pioneer in U. S. United Methodist relations with the Methodist Church of El Salvador. His repeated mission trips to El Salvador have birthed a high admiration and trust with the Salvadoran Methodist Church and the Salvadoran Habitat for Humanity staff.

Rev. Haley has made it possible for Duke Divinity School to establish what we hope to be a long and fruitful relationship with the Salvadoran Methodist Church. Rev. Haley's interpersonal skills, capacity to share God's love, and keen eye for detail has expedited the process for our field education initiative in Central America. His hard work on our behalf is sure to bear much fruit.

Again, please accept our thanks,  
Grace and Peace,  
jjs / Joseph 'Joey' Shelton  
Co-Director  
Office of Field Education/Church Relations  
Duke Divinity School



**Mission Team  
Coming to  
Littleton**

A group of 22 high school students and chaperones from Ontario, Canada, are coming to our area to work on Habitat for Humanity projects. They will be arriving March 11 and work the following week with Habitat in Gaston and Rocky Mount. Local churches will be helping to feed them. We expect many of the group will be worshipping at LUMC on Sunday, March 12. Let's help give these Canadian students a warm welcome.

# Rocky Mount District

## Spring Fast Track — March 25-26 and April 1, 2006

### *Basic and Advanced Lay Speaker Training Courses*

#### PLUS — Encore Advanced Class, "Ministering to the Mentally Ill," April 8, 2006

Interested in becoming a lay speaker but could not attend training in the fall? The Rocky Mount District now has spring training just for you. Over a two-week period, the district is offering "fast track" basic and advanced lay speaker courses for those who want to become a local church lay speaker, a certified lay speaker, or eventually a certified lay minister. *The Book of Discipline also urges that all lay leader be certified lay speakers.*

For current lay speakers, we're also offering again the highly regarded, one-day "Ministering to the Mentally Ill" advanced class taught by Dr. Vickie C. Ripley, a clinical pharmacist practitioner at Coastal Plain Hospital in Rocky Mount who is board certified in psychiatric pharmacy, and Ken Ripley. This is the only approved advanced class on this subject in the North Carolina Conference.

Local church lay speakers fill pulpits and serve in many other ways, such as lay leader or teacher, in their own churches. Certified lay speakers are authorized to fill pulpits and serve in churches other than their own. Candidates for the denomination's new Certified Lay Ministers are expected to be certified lay speakers.

**All prospective lay speakers, local church and certified, must take the 12-hour basic lay speakers course and be recommended by his/her pastor and charge conference or administrative council.** To become certified or renew a lapsed certification, the lay speaker must also complete the 10-hour advanced course. Candidates who complete the training must also be approved by the district committee on lay speaking ministries. For the district Fast Track, those who take the course(s) must have their candidacy approved in advance by their church and the course registration form signed by the pastor.

**BASIC COURSE** — The 12-hour basic course will be held **Saturday and Sunday, March 25-26, 2006** at Englewood United Methodist Church in Rocky Mount. It will be held on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6

p.m. and continue on Sunday from 2-5 p.m. Attendance both days is mandatory. The nonrefundable registration fee is \$35, which includes refreshments and book. **Registration deadline is March 17.** Late registrants may not receive a book.

Participants should bring a notebook, pen, and Bible. Participants should also bring a 2004 Book of Discipline and a Book of Worship. Read through the Discipline's section on Social Principles in advance. Participants should expect to prepare a short (five-minute) presentation on Saturday night for delivery on Sunday afternoon.

**REQUIRED ADVANCED COURSE** — For basic class graduates who wish to become certified lay speakers, a **10-hour, one-day advanced class** on "How to Share Your Faith" will be held on **Saturday, April 1, 2006**, also at Englewood UMC, from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost is \$25, which includes refreshments and materials. This course is *required* of all our district certified lay speakers. Bring notebook, pen, and Bible. This class is also open to non-lay speakers who want to learn how to share their faith with others. **The deadline to register for this course is March 27.**

**COMBINATION DISCOUNT** — Save \$15 by registering in advance for both "fast track" classes. Fill out the form below and return it by the **March 17 deadline** with your registration fee to: Ken Ripley, P.O. Box 185, Spring Hope, NC 27882. For more information, you can also call (252) 478-3877 (cell: 252-314-5731 in daytime) or send an email to "ripleykv@earthlink.net."

**ENCORE ADVANCED CLASS** — The Advanced Class on "Ministering to the Mentally Ill" will be held April 8, 2006, from 8:30 to 6 p.m. at Englewood UMC. Cost is \$25, which includes refreshments and materials. No advanced approval is required and non-lay speakers are also encouraged to attend. **The deadline for registration is April 3.**

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## REGISTRATION FORM FOR BASIC/ADVANCED LAY SPEAKING COURSES

\_\_\_ I will attend the **Basic Lay Speakers Course** on Saturday and Sunday, March 25-26, 2006, at Englewood UMC in Rocky Mount. Enclosed is the \$35 registration fee, made out to "Lay Speakers Program."

\_\_\_ I will attend the **Advanced Lay Speakers Course** on Saturday, April 1, 2006, at Englewood UMC. Enclosed is the \$25 registration fee, made out to "Lay Speakers Program."

\_\_\_ Sign me up for **both classes**. Enclosed is \$45, made out to "Lay Speakers Program."

\_\_\_ I will attend the **"Ministering to the Mentally Ill" Advanced Class** on April 8, 2006 at Englewood UMC in Rocky Mount. Enclosed is the \$25 registration fee, made out to "Lay Speakers Program."

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**I certify that this applicant has been recommended by me and his/her local church to become a lay speaker.**

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Return form by March 17 to Ken Ripley, P.O. Box 185, Spring Hope, NC 27882 or call (252) 478-3877.  
Fax number is (252) 478-3075; e-mail is "ripleykv@earthlink.net"**

Date	Nursery Schedule
Mar 5	10am <b>Need 2 people please</b>
	11am Loretta W. & <b>Need someone</b>
Mar 12	10am Ed Angel & Mike Herman
	11am Shirley A. & Anna Brown
Mar 19	10am Jean Houston & Martha Hayes
	11am Sherry Watson & Darla Angel
Mar 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 bulletin board, outside the church office. If you have not worked in the nursery before please see Greg Solovieff to fill out volunteer forms.



Date	Lay Reader	Scripture
Mar 5	Mike Herman	Psalm 25:1-8; Mark 1:9-15
Mar 12	Darla Angel	Genesis 17:1-7; Mark 8:31-38
Mar 19	Greg Solovieff	Exodus 20:1-17; 1Corinthians 1:18-25
Mar 26	Matt Johnston	Numbers 21:4-9; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

Date	Greeters • East Narthex	Greeters • West Narthex
Mar 5	Murlean Boswell	Sherry Watson
Mar 12	Erma Martin	Mary Margaret Reilly
Mar 19	Barbara Reinhardt	Marie Fields
Mar 26	Jean Houston	Marj Prescott

**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.

**March Ushers**  
 1st two weeks: East = George Alston & West = **Need Somone Please**  
 Contact Jean Houston at 257-1807  
 Last two weeks: East = George Alston & West = Ed Angel  
**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.



**Is Back March 5th!!**

Date	Flowers
Mar 5	Anna Brown
Mar 12	Communion
Mar 19	Trudi May
Mar 26	Kaye Herman



**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, 3/12	Dick & Irene O'Sullivan
Sun, 4/2	Greg & Liz Solovieff
Thurs, 4/13	(Maundy Thursday) Ed & Darla Angel
Sun, 5/7	Dick & Irene O'Sullivan

Date	Child & Youth Sunday School	Sunday School Teachers: If you can not be there, please call <b>Jean Jarvis 533-0200</b> as soon as you know so she can find someone to fill the position.
Jan -	Pre-K: Martha & Bob Hayes	
Mar	Elementary: A.J. Lunde	
	Middle School: Carol & Tim Townsend	



**Margie Drescher Reporting for Mary Lucy Self Circle**

The Mary Lucy Self Circle held their monthly meeting on Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> in the conference room at church. The meeting opened with prayer. Our first task was to send cards out to several church members that we needed to be in touch with. Next we discussed bringing in recipes for our March meeting and putting together a standard menu to be ready for church family needs. Our meeting ended with a discussion of sharing, reminding us to be thankful for the **many** SMALL things around us in life which are many times overlooked or taken for granted. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 3/7, at 1:30pm in the conference room. Blanket Bee is every 4<sup>th</sup> Wed, 1:30pm at Marj Prescott's house.

**A.J. Lunde Reporting for Beckham-Ransom Circle**

The Beckham-Ransom Circle met Monday Feb 13<sup>th</sup> at the home of Irene O'Sullivan. Including the hostess there were 9 women in attendance. Coffee and refreshments were served followed by the business portion of our meeting. The group decided to make a monthly donation to an anonymous needy family, through Helen's outreach program, we also discussed needs for the North Tri-County Sub-District Meeting, which will be held on March 18<sup>th</sup> in our fellowship hall, get well cards for LUMC members were circulated and signed by all. Barbara Reinhardt gave a very meaningful devotion on prayer from a Billy Graham book, and closed the meeting with prayer. Our next meeting will be held on 3/13 at 10am at Lois Weaver's house.

**We want to invite any women who wants to see what the UMW Circles are all about to join us next month!**