

# Big News From Littleton United Methodist Church



## Haley's Comment

Dear LUMC family,

I want to address two issues in my column this month. The first issue is why we have so many international guest preachers coming in May. In fact, at Littleton UMC, we seem to have a steady stream of internationals throughout the year. Why? In May, it just so happens that we had the opportunity to have two very special guests with us. I believe these two guests, Juan de Dios and Esther, will be a great blessing for those who hear them. God is working in a marvelous way through both of their lives. It is a great privilege for me to know them and to rejoice because of their faithfulness and commitment. It helps us to be reminded that as Christians we do have a Great Commission to take the Gospel to the whole world. It also helps us to be reminded that God is at work in the world, around the world. What we do in the service of Christ in Littleton is not isolated, but rather is a part of a world-wide movement of God. It's all about connection.

Secondly, I want to address the issue of the new parsonage proposal. I suggested two years ago that we begin looking toward the eventual replacement of our parsonage. The present parsonage is showing its age and needing some major repairs. It is also inadequate by conference standards and in a poor location on a busy highway. When I suggested the idea of a new parsonage, I never dreamed that I might have the opportunity to live in it. The Trustees have carefully researched various options and have prepared a proposal for the consideration of the congregation. I appreciate their thoroughness and



diligence in seeking the best possible solution for the parsonage problem. On Sunday, May 7, there will be an informational meeting to present the proposal to the church, answer questions, and receive feedback. The parsonage replacement is a major step for our congregation, not to be taken lightly. The Trustees want to be certain that this is the direction we need to move for the good of the church. The next step would be presenting the proposal to the Administrative Council for approval. The Finance Committee will be involved in developing a plan to pay for the new parsonage. The District Committee on Church Building and Location will approve it. And finally, the District Superintendent will call for a Charge Conference to give final approval. Again I am grateful to our Trustees for their hard work and thoughtful planning in the development of this proposal.

May God bless you and help us to continue to work together for the Kingdom of Christ.

Because of Him we serve,

Pastor David Haley



## Easter Sunday



Pictured Above (Top): All children 11 years and under sit on the front row and listen intently to the Children's Sermon. After the sermon, Pastor David gave the children Easter candy.

Pictured Above (Bottom): After Sunday School, the teachers held an Easter Egg Hunt for the children. One parent joins in the fun of decorating a bag to collect eggs.



May Birthdays	Day
Brittany Smith	1
Cory Seigh	3
Pat Ziesmann	4
Marie Fields	5
Kaye Herman	24
Kathryn Clark	29

Anniversaries	Day
Marie & Lewis Fields	19
Liz & Greg Solovieff	25
Sherry & Barney Watson	26

## About the United Methodist Church

You will notice on the church calendar that May 24 is designated "Aldersgate Day." This is the day when we mark a very special day in the life on the history of the United Methodist Church. John Wesley was an 18th century Anglican clergyman. He founded the movement which eventually resulted in the United Methodist Church.

John Wesley was very serious about Christian discipleship. He and his followers emphasized a rigorous discipleship, a disciplined and methodical approach to living out the Christian faith that earned them the nickname, *Methodists*. However, for many years, their methodical approach lacked what we might call heart religion. Despite his best efforts at Christian discipleship, John Wesley lacked the assurance in his heart that he was really saved. He lacked a sense of a personal, intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

As he traveled to Georgia to do mission work, he was impressed by the faith of some Moravian Christians who were on the same ship. During a terrible storm they sang hymns and seemed not afraid. Later, after he returned to England, he stopped by a meeting of Moravians one night in London. In his journal John Wesley records what happened that night:

"In the evening I went unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther's Preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation, and an assurance was given me that he had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death."

The date was May 24, 1738. From that day on, the faith that Mr. Wesley preached was not only an outward discipline, but a transformation of the heart, as well. In the United Methodist Church we follow in the spiritual footsteps of John Wesley. We still emphasize Christian discipleship as both an outward commitment to and an inner relationship with Jesus Christ. And we mark the date of Mr. Wesley's transformation as Aldersgate Day.

**" An ounce of mother is worth a pound of clergy." --Old Spanish proverb**

## NATIONAL



## Day of PRAYER

## National Day of Prayer

The National Day of Prayer is observed annually on the first Thursday of May. This year's observance is hosted by the Enterprise Baptist Church, on Thursday, May 4, 2006. There will be a Pancake Supper from 6:00-6:45 PM in the Enterprise Baptist fellowship hall. There will be no charge, but love offerings will be accepted. The Prayer Service will begin at 7:00 PM in the Enterprise Baptist sanctuary. Clergy and members from Littleton/Lake Gaston community churches will lead the service. Our pastor has been invited to participate in the leadership of this important event. The National Day of

Prayer supper and service are open to the entire community. Everyone is encouraged to support this important observance, as our nation is surely in need of prayer.

## Summer Mission Trip

There will be a meeting for mission team members and interested persons on Saturday, May 6, at the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 PM. Juan de Dios Pena Gallegos from El Salvador will be meeting with the group. Our church is planning to send a mission team to El Salvador again this summer to build houses for the poor with Habitat for Humanity. 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. A medical team will be also be going to work with the Salvadoran Methodist Medical Clinic providing care for the poor. 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 (\$650-700). If you are interested in participating, let your pastor know.



The Beckham/Ransom Circle will meet on May 8<sup>th</sup> at the home of Elaine Parks. (Circle Leader: Elaine Parks 586-4254)

The Mary Lucy Self Circle will meet on Tuesday May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1:30 in the church board room. (Circle Leader: Liz Solovieff 586-2933)

The new circle, that Helen Burtchell is leading, will hold its first meeting on Monday May 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am in the church board room. This will be an organizational meeting, the group will name the circle and discuss what they will be doing the remainder of the year. This circle will keep its meetings to approximately one hour, making it easier for those with tight schedules to attend. (Circle Leader: Helen Burtchell 586-4682)

All women of the church are invited to attend circle meetings. Contact a circle leader for more information, or Sherry Watson UMW President 586-7733.



## New Parsonage Proposal

There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, May 7, during the Sunday School hour to hear information from the Trustees regarding a proposal for a new parsonage. This is not a Charge Conference to vote on the proposal, but rather a time to receive information and ask questions. All Littleton UMC members are urged to be present for this Question & Answer session.

## Briefly Noted

Pastor David



- There will be a baptism during the worship service on Sunday, May 7. Madison Brianna Jordon, daughter of Scotty and Meghan Jordon of Youngsville, NC, will be baptized. Madison's mother is a member of Pastor Haley's former church, and her brother, Dylan, was baptized last year at Littleton UMC.
- Congratulations to Elizabeth and Greg Solovieff whose granddaughter, Rachel Anne Rauth, was baptized at Littleton UMC on Saturday, April 29. Rachel is the daughter of Rob & Kristen Rauth of Raleigh.
- A meeting of the Committee on Lay Ministries is scheduled for May 22 to replace vacancies in our committees. Committee Chairs should advise the pastor if there are vacancies on your committee or if there are additional persons who need to be added to your committee.
- Nursery workers and Sunday School workers are still needed. Contact Martha Hayes to sign up for Nursery duty and Jean Jarvis to sign up to be a Sunday School worker.
- 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 May.
- The Christian Men at Work will meet Saturday, 5/13, at 7am at Weaver's Chapel United Methodist Church. Breakfast will be served, followed by a program. All men are encouraged to join this Christian fellowship meeting.



"We have a gift for you, it's a memento of our church, a great big thank you for all you do for us, and just to say we love you."

*Pastor Appreciation*

### A Special Gift for a Special Person

Sherry Watson

The congregation had a big surprise for Pastor David on Easter Sunday.

Several months ago Shirley Anschutz asked her friend, local artist Joanne Tripp, to do a portrait of the church. Joanne's canvas would be one of the original, slate roof tiles taken off the church years ago.

Joanne painted a similar slate, auctioned off at Homecoming, last October. That slate caught Binky Haley's eye, and had her thinking about how great it would be for Pastor David to have a treasured memento of LUMC. A few of us overheard Binky talking about David's keepsake pieces from all the churches he has served. ...well what can I say, "Be careful what you wish for around the ladies of LUMC! We have ways of making wishes come true!"

Pastor David expressed his sincere appreciation stating, "It's beautiful and I will cherish this for many, many, years to come. Thank you all so much."



**Left: Pastor David holds up the picture painted on a slate roof tile. The slate roof tile was taken off the church many years ago.**

## How to Join Littleton United Methodist Church

The first step to becoming a member of LUMC is to talk with the pastor and let him know of your interest. He will gladly counsel with you about the ways we receive new members. Some persons transfer their membership from another United Methodist church or from a church of another denomination. Some persons who have been baptized and were previously church members may not be able to transfer membership because their membership records were lost or the church has closed or even because their previous church doesn't issue membership transfers to churches of a different denomination. In a case like that, the pastor will receive you into the membership of LUMC based on your statement of faith in Christ and previous baptism. Some persons may never have been baptized or never have made a profession of faith in Christ. In that case, you would be received into the membership of LUMC upon your baptism.

As United Methodists we typically baptize by "sprinkling", but can make arrangements for baptism by immersion if the candidate desires. The pastor will schedule a New Member Reception ceremony, and if necessary a baptism, to take place during a worship service. At that time you will become an official member of LUMC.

As United Methodists, we discourage "re-baptism" because it tends to minimize the work of grace which God extends to us in baptism. However, if you desire to recommit your life to Christ, rather than be rebaptized, the pastor will be happy to schedule a Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows ceremony for you during a worship service. Church membership is an expression of your commitment to Christ and a linking with other Christians for worship, study, witness and service.

### On the Lighter Side— of Mother's Day

**MY NAME IS ...** A teacher had just given her second-grade class a lesson on magnets. Now came the question session, and she asked a little boy, "My name starts with an *M* and I pick up things. What am I?" The boy replied instantly, "A mother."

**PRAY FOR OUR  
MILITARY**



I am writing this letter to let you know about an opportunity I have this summer. I have been asked to be a leader on Summer Training Project, an evangelism and discipleship training program put on by Campus Outreach, a ministry I have been involved with at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University for the past 3 years.

In case you did not know, Campus Outreach is a non-denominational college ministry on my campus, as well as others in the Southeast and around the world. They focus on lifestyle evangelism and 1-on-1 discipleship. Every year, Campus Outreach offers Summer Training Project (STP) to students that want to grow in their walk with the Lord and their vision for ministry. This summer, during the months of June and July, about 60 college students from the central Florida area will be living and working in Gatlinburg, Tennessee with a purpose. As a leader of the STP program, I will be responsible for 3 of the guys. We'll live and work together, and meet for discipleship, learning to better know God and to make Him known. Also, there will be training seminars covering topics such as sharing your faith, finding your mate, and world missions. I am looking forward to this time of growing in our relationships with God, other believers, and the lost.

Every student at Summer Training Project is required to work a full time job; the goal in doing this is to begin learning about what it looks like to share Christ in the secular workplace. Although I could possibly cover all of my summer's expenses with what I earn at my job, the Campus Outreach staff has challenged me to trust the Lord to provide for all of this summer's expenses. Would you all consider supporting me as I serve this summer? If this is something you would like to do, you can write a check to: **Campus Outreach Florida** and mail it to me at my home address, which is where I'll be from the end of school until STP starts.

I have also set a personal goal of gathering a prayer support team. Although it is mostly individuals that I am asking, I would like to ask you all to pray for me as well. If there are individuals, or possibly a weekly prayer meeting, that would like to pray for me, have them e-mail me at: [edwarfa5@erau.edu](mailto:edwarfa5@erau.edu) so that I can send them weekly prayer requests throughout the summer.

I am sending this letter to a small group of people and churches. I wanted to include Littleton United Methodist Church because I appreciate the way that you all have supported my family in the past. I pray that God will bless you as you serve according to the grace God has given you (Romans 12:6).

In Christ,

Stephen Edwards

# Mother's Day May 14



*Gospel Concert*  
by  
***Four By His Grace***

**Littleton Methodist Church**  
105 East South Main Street  
Littleton, NC 27850

**July 23, 2006 at 4:00 pm**



*Beverly Guthrie, Carlton McDaniel, Jr.,  
Bret Mangum, Tim Herman, Brooks Bristow,  
Robert Watson, Frank King*

A love offering will be accepted on behalf of **Able to Serve, Inc.**, a non-profit organization that provides services and opportunities to persons with physical and mental disabilities.

For more info contact: [fourbhisgrace@aol.com](mailto:fourbhisgrace@aol.com)

**It's Not Too Early To Think About This Put It On The Calendar and Invite Your Friends**



**Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> - 10:00am - 2:00pm**

**Littleton United Methodist Church**  
Fellowship Hall Next to the Post Office

## **India/Pakistan Mission Study**

**Taught by: Esther Jadhav**

Coordinator for Intercultural Programs - Asbury College

Esther Jadhav is currently serving at Asbury College in Wilmore, KY as the Coordinator for Intercultural Programs. Esther is from Mumbai, India. She has a BA in Anthropology and Sociology, and an M.Div. degree.

Esther received her invitation to study at Asbury Theological Seminary in the fall of 1999 while working on her Masters in Anthropology at the Mumbai University in Mumbai, India. Recently she was accepted by the Board of Ordained Ministry, of the Kentucky Annual Conference, for Commissioning as a probationary Elder in the Kentucky Annual Conference.

Esther received her call to ministry when she was five years old, her family not only allowed her to follow God's call upon her life but supported her graciously and prayerfully. Her father is a Methodist minister in India.

Esther has covered a lot of miles through preaching and teaching. She has preached in twenty-two states and done so in Uganda, Japan, and India as well. Her sincere desire is to serve God and to serve the people.

**A Light Lunch Will Be Served by the United Methodist Women**

**A count is needed to prepare enough food, please let Sherry Watson know by May 15<sup>th</sup> if you plan to attend.**

**Local: 586-7733 or  
Toll free 1-866-832-7831  
(leave a message)**

**Don't forget to bring a friend!**

**All Are Invited  
To Attend**



### Finance Report

Mike Herman, Chairman

#### Great News From the LUMC Finance Committee !!

The 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Score is in and.....

We are up and ahead of last year's giving. Last year during first quarter LUMC received \$22,119. Vs. \$24,642. for this year. That is a \$2,523. increase over last year and represents an 11.4% increase in funds.

I believe this is indicative of the "good works" that our church family is spearheading within our church as well as our community. The leadership that we have with David Haley, as well as our own laity, goes hand in hand in defining our church and how it is perceived in the community.

Everyone deserves a big pat on the back, for everything that each of you do to represent LUMC. As the time gets closer, the financial needs of our church will continue to need your prayers and participation as we prepare for the challenge of a new parsonage. I know we are up to the challenge, and I look forward to working with each of you as we go through the process.

As always, if anyone has any questions concerning your church finances please contact Marie Fields or myself.

#### Summer Early Service

The Early Casual Service will begin Memorial Day Weekend (Sunday, May 28) and continue through Labor Day Weekend. It will be at 9:00 AM and last about 1/2 hour, primarily consisting of music and preaching. This is offered as an outreach to vacationers in our area and also for our LUMC folks who want to participate. Dress is casual. The main worship service will follow at 10:00 AM.

#### Outreach Ministries Committee

Helen Burtchell, Chairperson

I would to thank the man who gave me money to buy hams for some of our food delivery families. One family stated, "Because of that ham we were able to give our children a wonderful Easter."

You see, we can make a difference in peoples lives.



### LUMC Folks Tour Greece & Turkey

In early March Bishop Al Gwinn of the NC Conference of the United Methodist Church led a tour to Greece and Turkey to visit sites from St. Paul's 2nd and 3rd missionary journey. From Littleton UMC Pastor David Haley, Binky Haley, Bob Workman, and Gail Workman joined the tour. Places visited included Corinth, Athens, Philippi, and Thessaloniki in Greece. In Turkey the group toured Pergammum, Sardis, and Ephesus. Before returning to Athens for the flight home, a stop was made on the island of Patmos where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation. In Corinth they saw the actual *Bema* (judgment seat) before which Paul appeared (Acts 18.12-17). In Athens they climbed up the acropolis and visited Mars Hill where Paul preached to the Athenians (Acts 17). They group had a service of Renewal of Baptismal Vows at Philippi where Lydia was baptized. They also saw the prison cell where Paul and Silas were imprisoned before God sent a earthquake to free them (Acts 16). While in Ephesus they visited the tomb of St. John. Then the entire group celebrated a service of Holy Communion in the amphtheater where Paul's traveling companions were dragged before an angry mob (Acts 19.23-41). During their travels they not only viewed many fascinating sights, but also found it to be a tremendous spiritual experience. At some future date, a visual presentation will prepared for sharing this adventure with others.



Above: Gail & Bob Workman leave the Ephesus amphtheater the communion service



Above: Gail Workman tries eating ostrich.



Above: David & Binky in Ephesus




**Births in the Church Family**  
Congratulations to Frankie and Lane (Alston) Harris on the birth of a son, April 25, in Raleigh. George & Sylvia Alston are the proud grandparents.

Date	Nursery Schedule
May 7	10am Sherry & Barney Watson
	11am CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
May 14	10am <b>NEED 2 PEOPLE PLEASE</b>
	11am Shirley A. & Anne Smith
May 21	10am <b>NEED 2 PEOPLE PLEASE</b>
	11am Marj Prescott & <b>NEED 1</b>
May 28	10am <b>NEED 2 PEOPLE PLEASE</b>
	11am <b>NEED 2 PEOPLE PLEASE</b>

**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	Child & Youth Sunday School
Apr -	Pre-K: To Be Announced
Jun	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.

Date	Lay Reader	Scripture
May 7	Greg Solovieff	Psalms 23; 1 John 3:16-18
May 14	Matt Johnston	Psalms 22:25-31; John 15:1-8
May 21	Mike Herman	Psalms 98; John 15:9-17
May 28	Don Beazley	Psalms 1; John 17:6-19

Date	Greeters • East Narthex	Greeters • West Narthex
May 7	Susannah Sherman	Gabrielle Pamer
May 14	Murlean Boswell	Erma Martin
May 21	Barbara Reinhardt	Sherry Watson
May 28	Marie Fields	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.

**May Ushers - East = Harry Bingham & West = Matt Johnston** (See Weekly Bulletin For Additional Ushers) **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.



Date	Flowers
May 7	Communion
May 14	Marie Fields
May 21	Irene & Dick
May 28	Sherry W.

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, 5/7	Dick & Irene O'Sullivan
Sun, 6/11	Greg & Liz Solovieff
Sun, Jul 2	Ed & Darla

### Special Guest Preachers

On Sunday, May 7, the guest preacher will be Juan de Dios Pena Gallegos. He is a pastoral candidate in the Evangelical Methodist Church of El Salvador. Juan de Dios serves the Salvadoran Methodists as Volunteers in Missions Coordinator. In that capacity he organizes mission teams from Salvadoran churches and also works with and coordinates international mission teams coming into El Salvador from the USA and Canada. He was a tremendous help to our team last summer.

On Sunday, May 21, the guest preacher will be Esther Jadhav, originally from India. Esther is a graduate of Asbury Theological Seminary in Kentucky. She is a long-time friend of the Haleys and currently works as Coordinator of Intercultural Programs at Asbury College. Her father is a Methodist pastor in India, near Bombay. Esther will be in Littleton to teach the UMW mission study on India/Pakistan on Saturday, May 20.

**All in a Word:** Goat-ee (An old English word from the older German word Goatenzee, meaning "Having the appearance of the hair of the goat," not to be confused with "The hair of the dog.")

### Age Level & Family Ministries Committee

Martha Hayes, Chairperson

Get ready. . . . another great Game Night is almost here! Mark your calendar, May 16<sup>th</sup>, starting at 6pm, at Mordecai's. We will have lots of board games to play, but come even if you don't like to play games, everyone will enjoy the fellowship. Just ask a few of the folks who came to the first Game Night, they will tell you IT WAS A BLAST! Don't forget—don't eat before you come, Julie will be cooking her famous burgers for us!



May 5<sup>th</sup> is Family Movie Night at the fellowship hall, beginning at 7pm, we will show Robin Hood. Popcorn & soda for all!

**Workers are needed** to help with our movie nights and keeping the nursery during the 10am Worship on Sundays. If you can help with either of these please let me know 586-6241.