



Supporting Those in Need

With Love From Jesus

The F-V UMC team of volunteers needs your help from 9:00am to 12:30pm on Feb. 13. This ministry gives away food, clothing, used household items and furniture to about 800 families each week. This is an opportunity to share God's love through material items, smiles, and prayers. Contact Keith Strandtman at 621-1509 (kstrand@flash.net) or Annette Hall at 552-0663 (annettehall@nc.rr.com).

Food Pantry Foods of the Month

The F-V Emergency Food Pantry has requested that our church Collect the following food donations: **February: Oatmeal & Grits, March: Canned meats & canned or dry milk.** Other types of food items are appreciated as well. A collection container is in the church lobby.

Volunteer to Help your Community

More and more local residents are coming to Southern Wake Faith Community in Action (SWFCA) asking for help with utility bills, medications and rent. Many face eviction or power cut offs. SWFCA needs your help. Please attend a volunteer training session on Thursday, February 19 at 7:00pm at the Family Life Center of St. Augusta Missionary Baptist Church in Fuquay-Varina. You will receive training for intake and assessing client needs. Reserve space for this training by emailing: swfca@helpsouthwake.org or calling 567-1800.

Household Heating Assistance

The Crisis Intervention Program for Energy Assistance provides financial help to households in a heating-related emergency. To qualify, households must meet an income test; be in a heating-related emergency; and, contain a US citizen or a non-citizen meeting eligibility criteria. Contact the Wake County Dept. of Social Services at 212-7000 and make an appointment at the Southern Regional Center (across from the F-V Post Office). It is very possible that households that have not qualified for assistance in the past may meet the criteria for assistance through this program.

Items for the Ronald McDonald House

As part of a community service project, Girl Scout Troop 1564 has placed in the lobby a collection box for toiletry items to help out the Ronald McDonald House. Through Feb. 14, donate new toiletry items such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, dental floss, etc. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Olson at 661-6369.

Main Street Kitchen - Saturday, Feb. 21

This Ministry is a once monthly event where we prepare and deliver meals to those in need throughout the community. We would love to have you join us. The menu for the month on Feb. 21, will be Chicken Pot Pie, salad, fruit, dessert and bread. Donations needed are canned chunk chicken, mixed vegetables, potatoes, beans, corn, etc; large cans of fruit; Bisquick or other flour mixes; milk; bags of mixed salad; salad toppings, cheese/cROUTONS/bacon bits, etc. To make a cash donation, please deliver to the church office and designate for Main Street Kitchen. Contact Paula Cade (557-4347) with any questions.

Stuffed animals for rescue heroes



During the month of February, our congregation traditionally collects small stuffed animals to be shared with children during vulnerable times. "Rescue Heroes" serving in law enforcement, fire officials, EMTs and social services distribute animals throughout the year to children in need.

Stuffed animals are brought to worship; held and prayed over during our services; and remain in the Centrum throughout the week. At the end of the month, each animal is placed in a zip-lock bag and packaged for our "rescue heroes" who join us for worship on Feb. 24.

Coupons for Troops Update

The Quiet Care Ministry Team THANKS all who have continued to contribute to this wonderful program! The response has been overwhelming, and our team has been unable to keep up the volume of coupons to cut. A few of us who do it now have hand problems from all the scissor-work!

To help make the program run smoothly, we have several requests: If at all possible, PLEASE CUT OUT the coupons and sort them by Food and Non-Food before putting them in the tub. (Non-food includes all pet foods and medicines, paper goods, etc.) If cutting them out is not possible, please do not stop bringing in the coupons! Also, remember that we cannot take any coupons past the 2-month expiration date. Right now-we cannot take any coupons dated before the MIDDLE of December 2008. Please do not roll or fold the coupons. Note: The base cannot take any "local" coupons from restaurants, dollar stores, grocery stores and such places, as they do not have those places over there.

We greatly appreciate your contributions! God bless all of you for helping with this ever growing ministry. To join our team, contact Amy Hendrickson at 552-5483 or Lyn Matthews at 567-7563.

Building Bridges - You Can Help

We have an exciting opportunity to build connections with the Spanish-speaking congregation that meets at FVUMC on Sunday nights, Inglesia Monte de los Olivos.

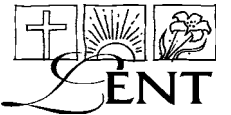
Already underway is a bridge activity that involves helping the Hispanic Sunday School for grades 1 through 5 that meets from 7 to 9 pm each Sunday. The children learn songs and Scriptures in English and Spanish. We are also in need of some caring people to help out with the younger children who are 2 to 5 years old.

Please call Kerry Vitkus at 740-6464 or Debra Murphy at the Church if you could see yourself as part of this ongoing mission as we work to become more connected to our Hispanic sisters and brothers in Christ.

Wednesday Night Lectionary Class

Pastor Richard's lectionary class is back in session. If you would like to read, study and discuss the text we use for music and preaching in worship on Sunday morning, come on Wednesday evening at 7:00pm. We are currently meeting in room 122. Come and enjoy our fellowship!

Lenten Reflections



If you'd be willing to write a brief reflection (250-500 words) on a Lenten theme (prayer, fasting, suffering, the cross, repentance, forgiveness, for example), please contact Debra Murphy. **Submissions are needed by Feb. 15.** Many contributors will be needed to fill a book for the 40 days of Lent. Scripture passages can be "assigned" or you can choose your own.

A special focus for this year's book will be the Bible's book of Psalms. Questions? dmurphy@fvumc.org or 552.4331.

February Book Club

Eat Pray Love by Elizabeth Gilbert

This bestselling, heartfelt memoir has touched a cultural nerve.

Elizabeth Gilbert tells how she made the difficult choice to leave behind all the trappings of modern American success and find, instead, what she truly wanted from her life. To join the dinner and discussion on Friday, February 20, contact Debra Murphy at dmurphy@fvumc.org or 552-4331.

Help with PowerPoint

The Power Point team needs substitutes to fill in for vacations and emergencies. Please contact Kristin Minor at 567-0353 or jkminor@embarqmail.com if you are interested.

An Invitation to You...

Covenant Community Garden is beginning its third growing season. Come grow with us - no experience is necessary! Garden membership is open to all people from the Fuquay-Varina community. Supporting memberships are also available for those who are not able to work in the garden but want to help us grow food to share with the community. Both types of membership are \$10. Work days will be Mondays from 9-11am, Wednesdays from 4:30-6pm (spring/fall) or 6:30-8pm (summer), and Saturdays from 9am-Noon. Visit our table in the lobby or contact Chris Burtner at 414-3273 or covenantcommunitygarden@mindspring.com.



Prime Timers February Event

The Prime Timers (senior adults of our church and community) will enjoy a lovely Valentine concert by the NC Master Chorale Chamber Choir at 4pm on Saturday, Feb. 14 at Peace College. We will leave the church at 2:30 pm and dine at Captain Stanley's after the show. To ride the church bus, contact Joan Kuhn at 557-3768. Ticket price for the concert is \$12.80.

Acolyte Training - Tuesday, Feb. 17

An acolyte by definition is a follower and a helper. In our 10:50 service, acolytes light and extinguish the candles and assist the pastor with other special duties. Acolytes rotate throughout the Sundays of the month. If you have a child interested in acolyting, he/she needs to attend one 30 minute training session.



Our next session will be Tuesday, Feb. 17 from 4:30-5:15pm. Please contact Stephanie Weeks at 552-4331 Ext. 113 or sweeks@fvumc.org for more information or to sign up for the training.

New Members' Class

Our next new members' class (known as "Connectings") will begin on Sunday, February 22 and conclude with a church-wide potluck luncheon on Palm Sunday, April 5. The class will join the church on Easter Sunday, April 12.

"Connectings" introduces potential members not only to the life and ministry of FVUMC but to our Methodist heritage and our connection (and responsibility) to global Christendom.

The class meets at 10:50 in room 117-119. Childcare is available. If you have questions and/or would like to register for the class, contact Debra Murphy at dmurphy@fvumc.org or 552.4331.



Youth News



TODAY: Youth Jam Session at Lifeline

Calling all youth in 7-12th grades: Come and join Lifeline on February 8! We will discuss Christian music and the role of music in our lives. Then, we will break out into a jam session! Bring your instrument or your voice. We will provide music and snacks. The youth CD library will be there too – so you can check out some of the latest Christian music.

NEXT WEEK: Lifeline Youth will be meeting on Sunday, February 15 at Casa Blanca from 4:45-6:15. Casa Blanca is located at 607 E. Academy Street.

Middle School Winter Retreat

Feb. 20-21 is the middle school retreat. Our program is called, "I Promise, They Don't Have Cooties." This is a program on human sexuality, specifically designed for middle school youth, 7-8th grades. The retreat starts Friday night. The youth will return home to sleep and come back all day Saturday. The cost is \$20 which covers all food and supplies. To register, contact Kristy Hochhalter at youth@fvumc.org or at the church office. The deadline for signing up is Wednesday, February 11.

High School Mission Opportunities

Teen Valley Ranch Retreat

This is a mission retreat, coming March 13-15. There will be time for play, but we will also work to make camp better for the summer with painting and landscaping. The cost is \$75 per person. A \$25 deposit is required to hold your spot by Feb. 22. There is limited space...so register now!!!

Florida Mission Team

On June 14-20, a high school mission team will go to Tampa Bay, Florida working at the Migrant Mission Center. Work may include roofing, painting and general maintenance. We will also work with migrant children through Vacation Bible School.

The total cost is \$300 per person, plus two lunches, all traveling meals and money for our free day activities. Register by turning in a deposit of \$50 by Feb. 22. We will hold fundraisers to help lower the final cost.

Fuquay-Varina UMC

Weekly Times

February 8, 2009

Return your blue Discipleship Survey today!

A few months ago, a Vision Committee was created to begin the process of evaluating where we as a congregation are in our mission to create disciples who create disciples...and where to focus attention in the coming years.



The Church Council has formally commissioned the committee as newly-renamed Catalyst Team and given the approval to distribute a series of three questionnaires in the coming weeks.

Please pick up a blue sheet in the lobby and return the questionnaire TODAY, Feb. 8. Your responses to these questionnaires will help guide us in our journeys to evaluate strengths and areas for focus.

Your feedback is critical! We need you to pray and then participate by completing these questionnaires. This isn't a job for a committee. This is a calling to the entire congregation.



Valentine's Banquet: Support the Youth Scholarship Fund

Tickets for the youth group's Valentine's Banquet fundraiser are on sale in the church lobby or by contacting the office. Support the youth by attending the banquet, because all proceeds go toward the youth scholarship fund. Last year over \$2,000 in scholarships were given and this year the need is even greater!

Tickets are \$35 per couple, \$20 for an individual. Childcare is an additional \$5 per family. Our entertainment will be the Newlywed Game, with our game show host Matt Harrenstein. The banquet will be Friday, Feb. 13 at 7:00pm.