

# Silver Foxes Group

At the conclusion of the 2011 Lenten luncheons, a donation from the group was made to buy grocery cards for those requesting the church's assistance. \$86 was collected! Thank you to all who participated in this campaign!

The May 31st meeting will be the usual bring-your-own sandwich get-together at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall with drinks and dessert provided.

Come prepared to laugh as we lighten up with some comedy videos.

Before a break for the summer, Silver Foxes will conclude the year with its annual indoor picnic in Fellowship Hall on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Bring a salad or side dish to complement the hot dogs which will be supplied. Bring a friend to join in the food and fellowship!



Our loving sympathy and prayers go to the families of member Garnet Tusing (Middletown, VA) who died March 30, & of former member Betty Keys (Culpepper, VA) who died on April 9.

**Saturday**  
**May 21, 2011**  
**8 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**Church side-yard**  
**Refreshments**  
**Donate or buy**

**Point of Contact: Cliff Mauck 703-560-8745**



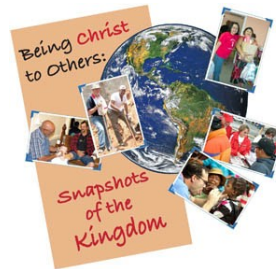
**Remember** you have the option of reading "The TeleGraham" on the church web site rather than receive a paper copy in the mail.



If you decide to follow this method of "going green," you'll be saving trees around the country and saving the church in time and money.

Contact Susan in the church office (703-573-4444, extension 201) if you'd like to discontinue receiving your *TeleGraham* in the mail and be notified by e-mail when a new one is on the church web site. If you change your mind, no problem — just let Susan know.

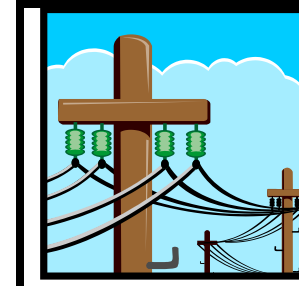
**KITS FOR**  
**CONFERENCE**  
**Due Sunday**  
**June 12**



The Church World Service kits will be consecrated at our worship service June 12, and then transported to the Virginia Annual Conference in Roanoke June 15. Please be sure yours is here!

## VCPC Awards (continued from page 1)

These achievement awards were presented at the VCPC Annual Outstanding Achievement Luncheon Thursday, April 28, 2011 at Providence Presbyterian Church in Fairfax, VA.



# The TeleGraham

May/June 2011

Volume 2 — No. 3

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## 60th Church Celebration

The Planning Committee has been preparing for this celebration on **Sunday, October 23, 2011**. Here's what we can tell you so far.

Our Virginia Conference Bishop, Charlene Kammerer, has graciously accepted our invitation to be in our pulpit that Sunday.



The church service is scheduled to start with a gathering of coffee/tea and donuts in the Narthex at 10 a.m. with the worship service beginning at 11 a.m.

Following the service we will have a catered luncheon in our social hall and in the choir room. Seating is limited to 150 occupants due to State Fire Marshal regulations. There will be a sign up chart across from the kitchen starting in August.

## VCPC Awards 2011

As some of you might know our preschool started in 1966 by the mothers of Graham Road U.M. Church. Well what you might not know is that we are members of Virginia Co-op Preschool Council (VCPC) along with many other preschools such as Dulin and Annandale United Methodist.

Every year the VCPC has a luncheon for its members. VCPC welcomes all of our member schools to recognize up to two (2) individuals - teachers, aides, and/or parents -- who made a significant difference in one particular area or in the school as a whole. Some examples are:

*Physical improvements to the building or playground / Extra time and energy spent to improve the school program / Led major school fun*

*raising effort to provide financial support to accomplish goals / Created a classroom environment of exceptional creativity / Celebrated a milestone such as a ten-year anniversary with the school or final year with the school before retirement / Helped make the Preschool a better place to be*

I am so happy to announce that this year's winners for Graham Road UMC Preschool are **Ella Mae Santino and Peggy Canody**. We are blessed having Peggy and Ella Mae in our daily preschool lives. They have been a wonderful example of what a "Co-op Volunteer" means. This recognition for these ladies is long overdue!

(continued page 8)

Sunday,  
June 12



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Deadline for the July/August 2011 Newsletter is Wednesday, June 15, 2011



Graham Road U.M.C.  
 Phone: 703-573-4444  
 Fax: 703-573-4445  
 E-mail: grumc@juno.com  
 On the web:  
 www.grahamroadchurch.org

**CHURCH STAFF:**

**Marable Southall-Vess,**  
 Senior Pastor, ext. 202  
 grumcpastor@yahoo.com

**Susan Hartley,**  
 Office Administrator &  
 TeleGraham Newsletter  
 Editor, ext. 201  
 grumc@juno.com

**Jon Lackey,**  
 Minister of Music & Programs,  
 ext. 207  
 jon@blacktiearts.com

**Mary Forcier,**  
 Preschool Director, ext. 206  
 grumcps@juno.com

**Judy Demasana,**  
 Child Care Center Director,  
 ext. 208  
 grumcchildcare@juno.com

**Peggy Canody**  
 Child Care Center  
 Administrative Assistant  
 ext. 204  
 grumcchildcare@juno.com

**Sue Gause**  
 Handbell Choirs Director  
 suegause@yahoo.com

## Preschool & Child Care Center

**Science Class** – Ms. Judy taught a Science Class to each class on Thursday, April 28. They learned about planting by planting a seed in a cup to take home and watch as it starts to grow.

**The Preschool** had a very successful fund raising project at The Dogfish Head Alehouse which donated 10% of each meal sold between 3-6 p.m. to the Preschool. The restaurant had a very brisk business so the project was very successful! Congratulations to the parents who worked so hard on this project.

**Achievement Ceremonies: Child Care Center** is on **Thursday, June 23, at 4:30 p.m.** in the sanctuary. This is a special time to say good-bye to our children entering kindergarten. The program will be in the sanctuary with refreshments in each child's classroom following the program.

**Preschool** 4-year olds to kindergarten is on **Thursday, May 26 at 7:30 p.m.** in the sanctuary with refreshments to follow in the fellowship hall.

**Both of these "graduation" activities** are open to any church folks who would like to attend.

**Children's Sabbath – May 1, 2011.** The preschool & child care children will sing at the Children's Sabbath. Following the service, the church will have a lunch in the fellowship hall. All the food will be provided. Everyone is invited to stay.

**Mother's Day is Sunday, May 8.** The preschool & childcare will honor mothers and grandmothers on Thursday, May 5 at 4:30. The children will perform some songs for their mothers, followed by refreshments for all.

**Memorial Day will be celebrated on Monday, May 30.** This holiday honors our soldiers. Both childcare & preschool will be closed that day. This is a nice weekend for the family to get together and enjoy the weather and family activities.

**Vacation Bible School will be July 11-14.** Our childcare & preschool children participate in this fun activity. The children love the stories, crafts, music and the special snacks.

## United Methodist Women

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- May 6 — CWU Friendship Day, Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, McLean, 10:00 a.m. (bring a bag lunch; drinks & dessert provided)
- May 13-15 — VA Conference Spiritual Life Retreat, VUMAC, Blackstone
- May 21 — UMM/UMW Yard Sale, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
- June 4 — UMW Day at Ferrum College
- June 11 — District Day Apart, Arlington Temple UMC
- June 15-19 — VA Annual Conference, Roanoke
- June 25 — Bake Sale (Ann Heath Circle)
- July 10 — Hot-dog/Chili Lunch (Fritzi Johnson/Ann Heath Circle)
- July 21-28 — School of Christian Mission, VUMAC, Blackstone
- Sept. 17 — District Annual Meeting, Friendship UMC, Falls Church
- Oct. 30 — Bean Soup Mix Sale (Julia Rose Circle)

### Thoughts

- ♦ If we don't want to be led into temptation, we'd better check to see who is leading.
- ♦ "Of all earthly music, that which reaches farthest into Heaven is the beating of a truly loving heart."  
 — Henry Ward Beecher

### "Giving Hope Credit"



Clef Sarepta is a microfinance bank established in 2001 by United Methodist Women in Cote d'Ivoire, Africa. The bank seeks to empower women by providing support for microenterprise and thus giving the women a means to make a living and become independent. UMW members in the United States support the programs through their Mission Giving.

Many women and young mothers in Cote d'Ivoire were asking for a means to start a trade or business. They were dependant on their husbands for everything.

Clef Sarepta Bank is making it possible for women to improve their lives, pay for the schooling of their children, and secure some financial stability for their families.

After giving out small loans with great success, the first branch of the bank was opened in Debou. Today the bank has about 3,000 members and 3 branches in Dabou, Abidjan, and Sikansee. Since 2006 the bank has been open to everyone, not just women, and now serves youth, men, corporations, pastors, and churches, regardless of religion.

(March 2011 Response)

### JAM Seeds

The United Methodist Women would like to thank all members of the congregation who contributed packages of vegetable and herb seeds to the *Green Thumb Gardening Project of the Jackson Area Ministries* in Jackson, Ohio. We collected a total of 143 packages of seeds (127 vegetable, 16 herb). This project is one of several annual missions the UMW provides with contributions of either money or materials.



# “The Scoop” from the

**JOIN ME IN MY FIGHT AGAINST BREAST CANCER! By Lisa George**

As a breast cancer survivor, I am embarking on an incredible journey walking 60 miles in 3 days in the *Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure*. The purpose of this Walk is to raise money to support local and global incentives to provide screening and treatment for women and men. I'm one of the lucky ones - my cancer was found early during a routine mammogram and was treated with surgery and radiation. Today I am cancer-free!

Part of my fundraising effort is collecting used ink-jet printer cartridges and old cell phones. There is a box on the table outside of the kitchen for the printer cartridges and cell phone collection. There are also donation forms and pre-addressed, stamped envelopes on the box. You can look at my Participant Page at <http://www.the3day.org/goto/LisaGeorge>, check out my training blog and keep track of my progress. Please help me collect cartridges by asking your friends, families and co-workers to also donate them.

## Holy Cow!

**By Ruth Bucklin**

Dear Graham Road Friends,

Back in 1944, I was grazing in an Ohio pasture when Dan West returned home from non-combat related World War II service. He was worried about children there who had no milk. My farmer and Dan belonged to a Church of the Brethren. When Dan told the members of the church about his concern, my farmer said Dan could have me, *Faith!* At that meeting Dan was given 17 heifers (young girl cows).

I went by truck to Mobile, Alabama. Then on a ship - no grass or trees, and moving ground! It felt so good to land in Puerto Rico. My new family had 10 children and they were so

excited to have me. Dan told them to "Pass it on." The family gave my first heifer calf to their next door neighbor. I felt so proud!

Keep giving!



*Faith the Cow*

Dan West decided the project worked, so he shared the idea with all the Brethren Churches. It needed a short name — *Heifer Project* was good! "Pass it on" became their motto.

Heifer Project has grown in 66

years. Now international and ecumenical, the training of recipients and the gifts have grown. Many years ago a Graham Road Sunday school teacher suggested her class collect pennies for Heifer Project gifts. The children were so happy to learn they had collected enough money to buy the chickens.

Thank you for continuing the support of Heifer International.

*Faith the Cow*  
by Susan B. Hoover,  
is one of six books written for  
Pre-K through 6th graders.

# A Note from the Pastor



## Earthquakes and Daffodils

As I sat at the computer preparing some weeks ago preparing my sermon for Sunday, I was startled by seeing a large grouping of white flowers outside. They were daffodils in abundance in the bed where our tiger lilies bloom later in the summer. Somehow I had forgotten to watch for the daffodils. Their surprising presence and their beauty took me by surprise. Soon after that I began receiving the first e-mails from our many friends who live in Japan about the earthquake and tsunami that happened earlier that day, March 11, 2011. It was hard to take in what these e-mails were relating and also the T.V. news and photographs and eye-witness accounts that told the story all too well. Whenever I open my heart



to the terrible suffering of the people there in the land I called home for four years, I feel an overwhelming wave of pain and empathy.

All if us swing between these two polar experiences: the darkness and anguish of injustice that comes from all directions these days, and the delight of everyday pleasures and beauty such as bird song, or eating a good meal, or being touched lovingly by another human being.

Daily we swing between those two realities. I have found that what helps me stay sane and satisfied is not to shut out one and define the other as reality — which results in either depression or delusion — but to embrace both the joys and sorrows as necessary teachings and revelations in my life.

Another thing that helps is to do

everything I can do to diminish the pain and darkness and to expand the joy and justice. For example my husband, Mike, and I have been e-mailing many of our Japanese friends regularly to lend them our support and we have shared their e-mails in different settings with others because these e-mail accounts tell of this history making tragedy in a very personal way. These e-mails also make clear the faith, courage, and hope with which our friends face a very uncertain future.

In Luke 9:22 we read "*The Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.*"

Reflecting on this verse, Catholic Theologian, Henry Nouwen writes: "*The deep truth is that*

*(continued page 5)*

## Staffing Announcement

It is with a heavy heart that the Graham Road Staff-Parish Relations Committee announces the retirement of our Music & Programs Director, Jon Lackey. Jon has been on staff for 7 1/2 years but has decided it's time to move "home" - back to Seattle - to assist in caring for his parents. Jon and James are looking forward to their lives as they explore new adventures on the West coast. Jon has been an outstanding asset not only to the Music Ministry but the church as a whole!

Stay tuned to your weekly bulletin announcements for more details on Jon's farewell.

## Older Adults Workshops

"You Can! Live Well, Virginia" is a free workshop series developed by the Fairfax County Area Agency on Aging and ElderLink that encourage healthy, optimal living for older adults in Fairfax County. The workshops are two-hour sessions that are held each week.

Topics include overview of self-management and chronic health conditions, making an action plan, making treatment decisions, working with your health care professional, and more!

For more information about locations, how to register, or how these workshops can be hosted in your church, contact Rev. Martha Real (703-793-0026) or Colleen Turner, Fairfax County Program Coordinator (703-324-5489).

# Witness-Outreach Updates & Opportunities

During the month of May there will be three “food related” mission opportunities to support the work of others in this world.

On **Sunday, May 1**, here at church is our *Children’s Sabbath Service*, emphasizing one of our newer mission projects, “*King’s Palace*.” This is a ministry in El Salvador reaching out to the less fortunate children of that area. Following the service a *special luncheon* featuring some El Salvadoran foods prepared by Ed & Bursa Maldonado will be served. A free-will offering will be taken during the lunch for *King’s Palace*. We hope you will join us!

Here’s another project involving food! *Pizza Hut* is partnering with us and with Wesley Housing, a United Methodist organization which goes beyond providing affordable housing by offering a

range of supportive services for the children, adults, seniors, and disabled individuals it serves. On Wednesday, **May 11**, *Pizza Hut* will donate a percentage of sales between 4-10 p.m. to GRUMC and Wesley Housing when you dine in at or carry out from the *Pizza Hut* at 8707 Little River Tnpk. in Fairfax. You must bring a “Fundraiser Ticket” which will be available at the church.



Lastly, the Witness/Outreach Committee will sponsor “Sundae Sunday” on **May 15** during the fellowship time after worship service in Fellowship Hall. It will be a “Fix-Your-Own Sundae” event for a donation of \$2 or more. Proceeds will benefit the ministry efforts of our Witness/Outreach Committee.



## Graham Road United Methodist Church

A community of God where all are welcomed

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 11 - 14 9:00a.m.-11:30a.m.

**VBS**

Vacation Bible School for Ages 3 - 12

We hope that you will be able to join us for four fun-filled days when we will be learning about how God loves us and works in our lives. The children will enjoy Bible classes, music, crafts, snacks, and recreation!!

*PandaMania* VBS is designed to connect kids to God, create change in their hearts, and give them opportunities to share God's love with others.

Please call the Church Office  
703.573.4444, ext. 201 with any questions.

**BRING YOUR NEIGHBORS!!**

**Registration available at 8:30 a.m. the first two mornings or by calling in advance for a registration form. Vacation Bible School is free of charge.**



## New Address

*Fred & Edna Carrington* moved Saturday, April 2 to The Heritage of Raleigh, 1200 Carlos Dr., Apt. 542, Raleigh, NC 27609-4046, phone 919-500-8066. Jot this down in your church member directory.

Drop them a line some time; we’re sure they’d love to hear from you.

## Youth Activities



Here’s *some* of what the combined Youth Groups of Graham Road, Calvary & Friendship UMC are up to the next few months:

- \* Kings Dominion ~ Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>
- \* YouthFest at Camp Highroad ~ Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>
- \* Car Wash at Friendship UMC ~ Saturday, June 4
- \* Creation Festival ~ June 28<sup>th</sup> - July 3<sup>rd</sup>
- \* Project SPY Mission Trip ~ July 16<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>



## Summer, Children & A New Ministry at Graham Road UMC

During the school year school children get plenty to eat but what about during the summer? The truth is many children do not get enough to eat during the summer months. In answer to this problem the U.S. Department of Agriculture sets up **meal sites in the community** where children can come and have a healthy meal.



The children of our Graham Road neighborhoods will be coming to our church for lunch Monday through Friday, August 15 – September 2. The food will be delivered at 11 a.m. and the children will be here for lunch from 11:30 – 1:30.



How can you help? **By volunteering!** Each day we serve we will need *at least two people* to help from 11:30 – 1:30. Training for *Summer Feeding Program* volunteers is scheduled for Wednesday, June 1, 10 a.m. to noon at the James Lee Community Center on Annandale Road in Falls Church. A sign-up sheet is available in the fellowship hall.

## A Note from the Pastor

(continued from pg. 3)

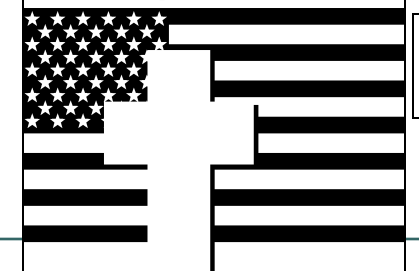
*our human sufferings need not be an obstacle to the joy and peace we so desire, but can become, instead, the means to it. The great secret of the spiritual life, the life of the beloved sons and daughters of God, is that everything we live, be it gladness or sadness, joy or pain, health or illness, can all be part of the journey towards the full self realization of our humanity. It is not hard to say to one another: “All that is good and beautiful leads us to the glory of the children of God:” But it is very hard to say: “But don’t you know that we all have to suffer to enter into our glory?” Nonetheless, real care means the willingness to help each other in making our broken-*

*ness into gateways of joy.”*

*May God richly bless you in and through all the joys and challenges of your lives this Easter season,*

*Sincerely, Pastor Marable*

### MEMORIAL DAY



Monday,  
May 30, 2011