



The Coal Basket Bible

Spring is here and you know what that means? It means camping trips, Youth mission trip, garden planting, grass mowing, flower planting, shrub trimming, cookouts and swimming parties! Woo hoo!!!! I do not dislike winter I just think that it hangs around way to long for my liking. With spring now here, I have started several projects I have been planning to do when warmer weather came. One of those projects is to pressure wash and put sealer on our pressure treated picnic table. Last fall I put Thompson water sealer on the picnic table to help protect it from the winter weather. Just the other day I noticed that I had missed putting the sealer on a significant section of the table. How did I notice? Well the spot was noticeable because it looked dry, cracked and worn. The winter months really played its toll on that untreated, unprotected spot. I once again went through the process of preparing the picnic table for the summer sunshine and heat. I pulled out my pressure washer and washed the table off. I then began the process of applying the sealer to the entire table surface. A transformation has once again taken place with the grains of the wood on the table. The damage was still visible but the bench looked significantly better than prior to the treatment. The surface is not perfect but yet looks much better because care has been given to it!

Well, the preacher in me began to relate this imagery to our Christian walk. I believe that as we travel through life that our lives are damaged by particular events, or actions that impact the rest of our lives. These things do not come upon us all at once but develop over a period of time. Before you know it we are completely covered with stuff that limits our beauty potential. The key to staying beautiful in our Christian walk is to stay freshly connected to the One who gives us beauty. Jesus can be our sealer in that he covers us with his love and grace and restores to us the beauty of a life lived in relationship with Christ. This is how God wants us to be. Now how do we stay fresh and connected in our relationship with God? Staying in God's Word is a wonderful way of sealing ourselves to the damage that sin can bring upon us. Often times reading God's Word seems like it is not doing anything for us or to us. But I believe once you read the story about the coal basket you'll develop a better understanding as to what effect God's Word has upon each of our lives.

The story is told of an old man who lived on a farm in the mountains of Kentucky with his young grandson. Each morning, Grandpa was up early sitting at the kitchen table reading from his old worn-out Bible. His grandson who wanted to be just like him tried to imitate him in any way he could.

One day the grandson asked, "Papa, I try to read the Bible just like you but I don't understand it, and what I do understand I forget as soon as I close the book. What good does reading the Bible do?"

The Grandfather quietly turned from putting coal in the stove and said, "Take this coal basket down to the river and bring back a basket of water." The boy did as he was told, even though all the water leaked out before he could get back to the house. The grandfather laughed and said, "You will have to move a little faster next time," and sent him back to the river with the basket to try again.

This time the boy ran faster, but again the basket was empty before he returned home. Out of breath, he told his grandfather that it was "impossible to carry water in a basket," and he went to get a bucket instead.

The old man said, "I don't want a bucket of water; I want a basket of water. You can do this. You're just not trying hard enough," and he went out the door to watch the boy try again.

At this point, the boy knew it was impossible, but he wanted to show his grandfather that even if he ran as fast as he could, the water would leak out before he got far at all. The boy scooped the water and ran hard, but when he reached his grandfather the basket was again empty. Out of breath, he said, "See Papa, it's useless!"

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MAY 2010

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MOUNTAIN VIEW SMALL GROUPS ... CONTINUE YOUR JOURNEY!

Our small groups & short studies are going strong at Mountain View! Check out the opportunities Mountain View has to offer - all welcome you to join them! You can check out the bulletin board in the Narthex for updated information as well as the website

www.MountainViewUMC.org. If you know of a group that is meeting but is not included below

please send in the info and I will add it - smgroupcoordinator@mountainviewumc.com! If you have a study in mind, e-mail us and we will find a facilitator and make it happen. We welcome new ideas!!

Cookin' Club *BRAND NEW, JOIN NOW!!**

Have you ever wondered "What in the world am I making for dinner??" Well, you are not alone!!! We all think that from time to time! Why not get together with some girlfriends in a kitchen, share some recipes, learn a few tips and make some dinners together?! Thus, the idea for the Cookin' Club is formed! Cookin' Club is another way to be in a small group where a few women will get together to prepare meals to feed their families and possibly others too. Extra meals could be prepared to share with others who need some encouragement. If you are interested in joining a Cookin' Club small group or have any questions contact Pat Kuhland at 525-6612.

The Followers

Meet on the 1st & 3rd Sundays/In the Conference Room/11:30am after worship/Facilitator-Penny Waldmann

Studying: We continue our study of the book Joshua by Joseph Girzone. Anyone interested is invited to attend – IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN US! If you have any questions about this small group please contact Penny Waldmann or Kim Phillips 525-6612.

Sunday Night Small Group

Meet on the nights that PEAKS meets/in the Parlor/5:30-6:30/Facilitator-

Our goal is to provide a small group opportunity for parents of the PEAKS/YOUTH participants but ALL ARE WELCOME!! It will be designed to be one-time lessons so you can come when you are able! We are currently looking for a facilitator so contact the small group coordinator at the e-mail address above if you are interested.

Discerning the Voice of God *BRAND NEW, JOIN NOW!!**

Start Monday, April 19/Church Parlor/7pm/Facilitator - Jan Bryant

New Women's Bible Study beginning!! All ladies are invited.

Having a hard time knowing what God is saying versus what others are saying? This Bible study helps participants know the voice of God: His language, character, and tone of voice. By growing closer to God through His Word, participants will be able to discern God's voice from the voice of strangers.

The book contains about 30 minutes of personal study for five days each week for a total of six weeks, and will be available for purchase that night (\$11.00). Any questions? Contact Jan at 525-6612.

SALT (Senior Adult Learning Together)

For our May meeting we will meet at Mountain View on Tuesday, May 18, at a time to be announced. We will once again be traveling; to Rocky Mount this time. Watch your bulletins for more information as the date gets closer. If you have any questions, please contact Gayle at 525-6612.

Tuesday Night Small Group

We meet on first and third Tuesdays in the church parlor at 7:00pm. Facilitator - Liz Jarvis

Join us in prayer, and then pull up a chair to watch an episode of Joan of Arcadia, the Emmy-nominated, People's Choice Award-winning TV series about a typical teenage girl whose life becomes particularly interesting when she receives visits and instructions from God. No homework is required, and lively discussion of God-sightings we see both in the film and in our own lives is guaranteed.

Moms in Touch

We meet every Wednesday that Bedford Co Schools are in session at 8:30 am in the parlor. Facilitator - Patty Grier

This group meets for intercessory prayer with our focus on our school, teachers, and children. We welcome all women who want to "stand in the gap" in this way. If you have any questions please contact Patty Grier 525-6612.

Purdys' Pals

2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month/Meeting in the Church conference room/5:30pm/Facilitator – Bill Purdy

Bring sandwich and drink. Group will be facilitated by Joe Heins in the absence of Bill Purdy. Study is on the book "Let the Redeemed of the Lord Say So!" Two of our members recently moved away – we welcome anyone who would like to join us.

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Redeem Your Bible Bucks!



Hey kids, come to Sunday School on May 16th or May 23rd during Sunday school and pick out some goodies from our Bible bucks table from the Bible bucks you've earned during the past few months! New things, so come check it out! Our table will be set up in the Story Room.



Mountain Men

**Mountain View
United Methodist Men**

Come fellowship and have fun with the Mountain Men! We meet at Carol's every Thursday morning at 7:00 am for breakfast, fellowship, devotions, prayer, and lively discussions. We are the "Go To" group and make things happen for our Church ...and always in a fun way! Come join us before work as we can usually get you in and out by 7:45!

If you have any questions please contact Ron Boyer or Dave Shaw @ (434) 525-6612.



PEAKS Calendar

May 2 - We'll try out the new Buzz! Curriculum. Look for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. We'll need 6 teachers!

May 16 - Bikes, Trikes, Scooters, and Skates night! Bring your favorite wheeled toy and your helmet. We'll have games and free time to just ride and play!



VBS is Coming Soon!

Be sure to mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School! We are going on a cosmic adventure that praises our wonderful, incredible, amazing, magnificent, and awesome God! Storytelling, crafts, games, snacks, and science are all included in this Galactic Blast! Guess who will be leading us on our journey through space?! That's right, Space Cadet Crowder will be co-piloting next to God on the starship Galactic Praise! Three, Two, One, Blast Off!

Dates:

Sunday, July 18th - Thursday, July 22nd

Times:

Dinner - 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.
VBS - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Volunteers are needed - activity leaders, guides, decorators, cooks, musicians, science geeks, bakers, the list goes on. If you are interested in helping create this memory-filled week of fun, please contact:

Christy Burger



The Coal Basket Bible ... continued from page 1

"So you think it is useless?" The old man said, "Look at the basket." The boy looked at the basket and for the first time he realized that the basket looked different. Instead of a dirty old coal basket, it was clean.

"Son, that's what happens when you read the Bible. You might not understand or remember everything, but when you read it, it will change you from the inside out that is the work of God in our lives--to change us from the inside out and to slowly transform us into the image of His son."

Take time to read a portion of God's word each day. You will be amazed at how much an impact those ancient words of Truth can have upon your modern day lives.

Hope to see you in church on Sunday!

Pastor Steve



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church™

Mountain View United Methodist Church

1077 Viewpoint Lane

P.O. Box 543 - Forest, VA 24551

(434) 525-6612 - Phone - (434) 525-1336 - Fax

Worship Services

10:00 a.m.

Sunday School

9:00 a.m.

Nursery Provided

Office Hours: Mon.- Fri. 8:30 am -4:30 pm

www.mountainviewumc.org

Office Staff

Rev. Steve Propst

Pastor

Joy Pantana

Music Director

Gayle Saunders

Administrative Assistant

Pat Hubbard and Melissa Nelson

Child Care

Tammy Carter

The Knight's Club After School Program

Our Missionary

Jacques Umembudi Akasa

E-mail: ujacques1@juno.com



CLUSTER GROUP SOFTBALL



WHAT

There will be a community clean up with a Hot Dog Cookout and Softball Game

WHERE

At the ball field
Behind Owens' Market
On Rt. 460 west of New London

WHEN

May 16, 4:00 – 7:00 pm



11th Annual Church Yard Sale Saturday, June 19 7am



Time for Spring Cleaning!

Go through your attics, basements and other storage areas for all the treasures you feel you can part with. We will take everything including the kitchen sink.

This year we will also be accepting clothes.

Watch your bulletins and future newsletters for drop off dates closer to June 19.

If you have any questions, please contact Gayle in the church office 525-6612.



MOUNTAIN VIEW SMALL GROUPS ... *continued from page 2*

Not So Small Group

Usually meet on Wednesday/in the church parlor/around 7:30pm/Facilitator - Kathy Janky

Although we normally meet on Wednesday, we are flexible and proceed with a schedule that works with the group. Our next meeting is at 7pm in the parlor on May 12-- final session of the Lucy series. Please check the bulletin and/or bulletin board in the Narthex for updates. If you think this time will work for you, contact Kathy or the small group coordinator at the e-mail address above.

10 Great Dates

Don't miss **Friday, May 14th**, (note, this is the 2nd Friday) at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall for our short session before going on a date with your spouse to top off the evening! Learn how to "Become an Encourager" in a marriage relationship and concentrate on each other's strengths. Choose any one of the area's fine restaurants, play putt-putt or take a moonlit walk. Re-energize your marriage with "God as our glue"! Questions?? e-mail Ellen Bohn at ebbohn@verizon.net or call the church office.

Mountain View Women United Also fondly known as the Flamingos (Fabulous Ladies At MountainView IN God's Ongoing Service)

All women of Mountain View Church are considered a part of this lively and fun group! We meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month to plot and scheme our activities. We support many activities within the Church and participate in a lot of outreach to the community. Come and see what we are up to and join in on the fun and laughter!! For more information please contact Catherine Goetz (525-6612).

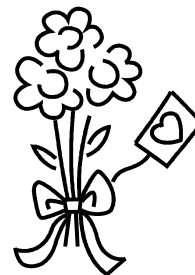
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May 2010

Mountain View UMYF

WHUZZZ UP?



- | | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| May 2 | UMYF | 5-6:30 |
| May 9 | NO UMYF due to Mother's Day | |
| May 16 | UMYF | 5-6:30 |
| May 23 | UMYF | 5-6:30 (last regular meeting) |
| May 30 | NO UMYF due to Memorial Day | |

Our mission is to go on a mission this summer! Watch the web and bulletin for fundraiser opportunities. Please let a leader know if you are interested in attending ASAP

Dates July 11-17 @ Louisa County Impact VA

Check out Mt.View UMC Youth on Facebook!

Thanks

The YOUTH would like to THANK YOU for your support!

Our raffle baskets were a success-we raised over \$500!! Thanks to Bill Leach for his great idea and everyone who donated items for the baskets! So far, the Youth have raised \$2500 with their fundraisers, thanks to the support of our great congregation. We have not quite reached our goal but we will take a break (we ALL need it!). We hope you ;have enjoyed participating in our events-the following is a list of our basket winners:

- 1 (Pokemon) - Walker Stebbings
- 2 (His and Hers) The Shaws
- 3 (Music) Bill Leach

Future Flamingos basket winners were:

Phyllis Gary, Mickie Middleton, Liz Jarvis, Earl Doyle, Barbara Heins, Catherine Goetz, The Castles, Esther Hammond, Anna Muszynski, Pat Kuhland, Hariett Peffley