



# The Spotlight

Richmond United Methodist Church

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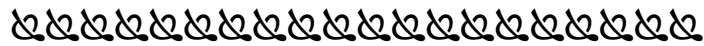
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June 2010

## Wesley Pilgrimage to England

Dear Friends,

As people belonging to God and our Lord Jesus Christ we have been shaped by different experiences, traditions and history. For us United Methodists, our heritage is part of our road and this heritage ties our mission and vision. As someone once said a tree stands open to the rays of the sun because it is held firmly under the ground. For the past ten days, Sarah and I had the opportunity to travel with forty clergy and laity from forty states from California to Pennsylvania on the Wesley Pilgrimage to England. This Pilgrimage was sponsored by the General Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn about the Wesleys and how the Methodist church started. We really feel that every United Methodist should experience some aspect of what we were able to see and learn in these sacred historical places we visited.

Our itinerary started at Sarum College in Salisbury (pronounced "Sauls-bree") here at the college we listened to lectures about characteristics of Methodism, John Wesley and the Church of England by Dr. Tim Macquiban, a professor from Cambridge University. In London we visited the Charter House School where John and Charles Wesley attended. The trip took us to Oxford and Christ Church Cathedral where they

attended college and were ordained as Anglican priests. We were very impressed to see the beginnings of Methodism at Oxford. We visited Lincoln College where John Wesley was a fellow and a tutor. It was here at Oxford that John and Charles and their friend George Whitfield formed the Holy Club, which was an observance of Christian disciplines such as fasting, prayer and acts of mercy and as a result they were nicknamed "Methodists."

We also visited the city of Bristol which was surrounded by the old and new. We were told that the city suffered a lot during the Second World War and was bombarded consistently leading to a lot of destruction. As a result we saw remnants of the old architecture as well as the new that was built. That was very wonderful to see. Bristol was the place where John was invited to preach in open places such as market squares in front of miners and sailors. It was believed that at first John Wesley was a little hesitant to do it, but he forged ahead not because he liked doing this kind of preaching but because he wanted to serve the Lord, which is a great lesson for all of us. Sometimes we all have to do something not because we like it but because it serves a greater purpose. We were so amazed to see the first Methodist building in the world, called "the New Room," in Bristol. This room was built

*Cont. on Page 2*

### **Wesley Pilgrimage to England cont.**

by John Wesley and members of the Methodist Societies and it was used for many purposes, a multi-faceted facility so to speak. It was used for preaching, teaching, and as a dispensary, and a place of residence. In addition, we got to visit Charles Wesley's home where he wrote most of his hymns, over 1000 of them.

We also visited Epworth, the birthplace of Charles and John Wesley. At Epworth we learned about the Reverend Samuel Wesley, an Anglican rector of Epworth, and his wife Susanna, who gave birth to 19 children in 20 years although only 10 of the kids survived including three sons: Samuel Junior, John, and Charles. We toured the room where Susanna fed and raised all these kids, teaching them the principles of strict regimen that characterized their approach in life and their faith later on. John returned to Epworth as an itinerant minister every other year to preach and teach at his father's parish from 1742-1790 but he was refused by the bishop at some point. This led to Wesley preaching outside the church on his father's tomb which is a famous preaching place or spot in Epworth. It is said that about three thousand people came out to listen.

We also visited the Methodist Central Hall right in the heart of London to learn about contemporary Methodism. From the lectures, the growth of Methodism in England is not trending well. Many people are not attending church because the society is becoming more and more secularized however the church in England is trying new ways to reach out to the unchurched with a new program called "Fresh Expressions." We visited many places including a stop at Stonehenge, which is the British form of the pyramids. We also visited and worshiped with the Methodist Church in Salisbury, and I have never heard a congregation sing like

this one. All in all it was a wonderful trip, learning the new and the old.

To top it all, I got the opportunity to meet my aunty who has lived in London for forty years and her husband. They treated us to the famous English fish and chips in a coastal town called Bournemouth. Thanks to all for your prayers and support during this pilgrimage. Special thanks go to Brian Mulrine who took us to the airport and to Wayne and Deanna Pysner who picked us up. We took a lot of pictures and brought materials to share. We hope to share more of our journey and trip with you in a PowerPoint presentation on June 13<sup>th</sup>, during the covered-dish meal after the service. This is the day we start our single summer worship services at 9:30 a.m. See you there on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June!

Blessings,

*Pastor Kofi*

### **Summer Worship Services Begin in June!**

On Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup> 2010 we start our summer worship hours with one service from 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. There will be no Sunday School. A covered-dish lunch follows immediately after the service, so please mark your calendars and join us in the Thomas Hall after service on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Kofi and Sarah will also be sharing pictures and video clips from their trip to England on the Wesley Pilgrimage.

See you there!

### **Ice Cream for Sale**

I scream, you scream,

We all scream for Ice Cream!

Chocolate, Strawberry, Vanilla, Peanut Butter & Pineapple.

Available for \$4.00 per qt.

## **Birthdays & Anniversaries**

### June Birthdays:



- 01 Lee DePue
- 03 Jacob Bush  
John Sellers
- 04 Nathan Medic  
Michael DeLorenzo
- 05 Adam Counterman  
James H. Beers  
Sherry Darr
- 09 Douglas Hock  
Wesley Hock  
Briemann Ohland  
Brian Brown
- 14 Harry Peck III  
Colin Dertinger
- 15 Sherry Miller
- 16 Wally Brigham
- 17 Ricky Frinzi  
Janean Fey
- 18 Andrew Howell
- 19 Jonathan Striba
- 21 Elena Clothier  
Joni Willever  
Susan Howell
- 22 Rosa Fritts  
John Schafer
- 23 T.J. Daly  
Chuck Evans
- 26 Emily Howell
- 28 Dan Josephson  
Heather Karner  
Jill Bush
- 29 Makayla Adams

### June Anniversaries:



- 06 Jim and Gina Adams
- 09 Willy and Candy Mann
- 25 Rodney and Sue Pensack
- 30 Scott and Sharon Embley

## **Birthday & Anniversaries List Changes**

If you see a name is missing from the Birthday & Anniversary lists published in the newsletter or see other corrections that need to be made, contact the church office and the newsletter editor with the changes.

## **Here's From Annual Conference**

As I write this, I am at the 224th Annual Conference of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the UMC held at the Convention Center in Lancaster, PA. The conference started this morning with a gathering of all the lay delegates, who were all accounted for. Dr. Mary White was re-elected for a second four-year term as Conference Lay Leader. The afternoon session opened with a communion worship service, but the evening really got things going with the introduction of the Reverend Adam Hamilton. The theme of the Annual Conference is "Leading beyond the Walls" which just happens to be the title of Pastor Adam's book. He started the Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City, Missouri, as a start up church twenty years ago. Today ten thousand worship at eleven services every weekend. He is a powerful, dynamic speaker. He said a successful church is willing to do the kind of things an unsuccessful church will not do. As an illustration, holding up a record album, an 8-track tape, a cassette tape, a CD and an iPod, he asked, "What kind of church is yours? Same Gospel message, but how do you communicate it?" Among the qualities of leadership, he noted innovation and adaptation. We will be using one of Adam's books in our small group discussions soon, and more of these issues and resolutions will be tackled tomorrow morning, so I will report more on those at a later time.

*Steve Hughes,  
Lay Leader*

### Calling New Members!

Our next new members' class will be held in the fall of 2010. Those who wish to join our Richmond Church family should please contact Pastor Kofi or the Church Office by phone at 610-588-7317, or by email at [richmondumc@epix.net](mailto:richmondumc@epix.net) or [kofifashley@hotmail.com](mailto:kofifashley@hotmail.com) to obtain the booklet on United Methodist teachings and other information about how to use your gifts to serve the Lord and the Richmond church. It is also important to contact Pastor Kofi so that plans can be made to schedule the first meeting date and time for the New Members' class. More information will be provided in the upcoming weeks.

### Vacation Bible School

VBS is scheduled for June 27th - July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Items needed: Empty paper towel and toilet paper rolls, large cardboard boxes (ex: appliance boxes), empty 2 liter plastic bottles.

#### Detailed snack donation list:

- 6 Boxes of Baked Stix Bread Sticks
- 3 Bags of Square Pretzels
- 6 Bags of Plain M&Ms
- 2 Boxes of Honey Nut Cheerios Cereal
- 5 Bags of Mini-Marshmallows
- 1 Box of 100 50oz paper cups
- 1 Box of sandwich plastic cups
- 8 13.5oz bags of Blue Bite-size corn chips
- 6 16oz containers of Sour Cream
- Boxes of Onion Soup Mix
- Packs of Mild Cheddar cheese
- Blue Paper Plates (100 needed)
- Plastic Spoons (100 needed)
- 25 3oz Boxes of Blue Jell-O
- 8 Tubs of Whipped Topping
- 2 Boxes of Vanilla-flavored Cookies (Nilla Wafers)
- 1 Pound bags of Gummy Worms

- 200 9oz plastic cups (clear)
- 3 Boxes of Chocolate Graham Crackers
- 8 Cans of Cherry Pie Filling
- 200 Plastic Coffee Stirrers
- 2 pounds of Green Grapes
- 1 large Seedless Watermelon
- 3 Fresh Pineapples
- 3 Cantaloupe

Donations to the Richmond church designated to VBS are also welcome. Thank you for your generosity.

### Articles for July/August Newsletter

Articles for the July/August issue of The Spotlight are due by Friday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, to Chris Clark.



Articles can be submitted by phone (610-253-7008), by E-Mail ([Murdock@alumni.cmu.edu](mailto:Murdock@alumni.cmu.edu)), or by mail (15 Bunker Hill Court; Easton, PA 18040).

### Future Newsletter Due Dates!

Article submission due dates for the rest of 2010:

<u>Issue:</u>	<u>Articles due by:</u>
September	Friday, August 20 <sup>th</sup>
October	Friday, September 24 <sup>th</sup>
November	Friday, October 22 <sup>nd</sup>
December	Friday, November 19 <sup>th</sup>

### Summer Sermon Series

Over the course of the summer, beginning on June 13, 2010 when we switch to single services at 9:30 a.m., Pastor Kofi will be preaching a series on "The Ten Commandments." We will be exploring the Biblical perspectives of these laws given to us so long ago, and how they still speak to us today. Please come and join us for this summer series! Let's take a journey back in time and rediscover their relevance together!

## Congo Lights

You are watching your television set on a hot, humid, summer evening. Your relaxed state-of-mind can be gone in seconds when you hear that unmistakable beep, beep, beep, announcing “you are under a tornado watch until 10:00 P.M.!” Then they continue to name local communities and the exact minute it will be arriving in your area. If you are like me, the first thing you do is locate your flashlights and candles – just in case you lose your electricity. We don’t like to be in the dark!

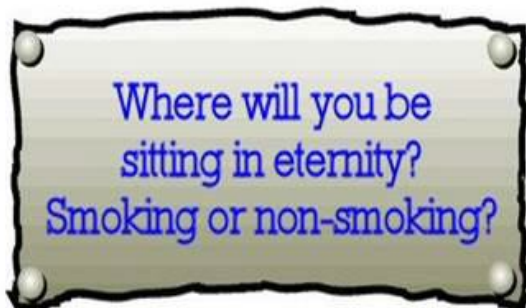
Our North Eastern Conference has chosen to become International Partners with the Congo in Africa. In June, there is a team of United Methodist planning on traveling to Kinshasa in the Congo. Since their country has abundant sunshine, our conference has set a goal to raise \$10,000.00 to purchase solar panels which will provide electricity for their hospital.

The doctors deliver babies, tend to the sick, and perform surgery. The reality of running a hospital without electricity is mind-boggling!

This gives Richmond the opportunity to play a small role in letting “our lights so shine before men.”

I’m asking for each family to give just a few dollars. Hopefully, we will be able to raise \$100.00 to send to the conference and share in raising the standards for those dedicated doctors and nurses.

*Submitted by Deanna Pysher*



## Baptism

A father is in church with three of his young children, including his five year old daughter.

As was customary, he sat in the very front row so that the children could properly witness the service.

During this particular service, the minister was performing the baptism of a tiny infant. The little five year old girl was taken by this, observing that he was saying something and pouring water over the infant's head.

With a quizzical look on her face, the little girl turned to her father and asked: "Daddy, why is he brainwashing that baby?"

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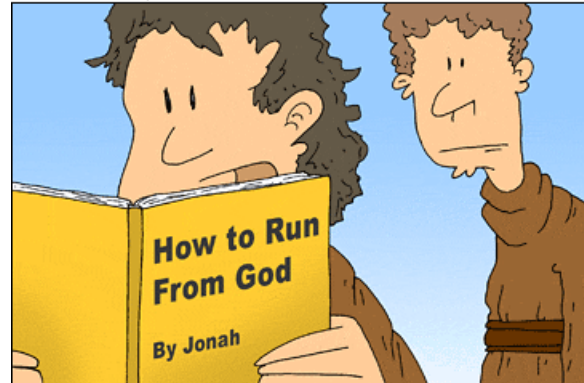


Thanks to Dan

12-03-2007

ANOTHER ESKIMO BAPTISM GONE BAD

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Thanks to Richard Germain (See Jonah 1-4)

09-19-2008

IT JUST SAYS "DON'T"