

# RIDGE RAMBLINGS

The monthly newsletter of Chestnut Ridge UMC  
Efland, North Carolina



## Easter

By: *Dorothy Holmes Walker*

This year we have many opportunities to partake of Easter programs that help us glimpse the Passion of Christ. Each Sunday during Lent, a drama has been enacted that sets the stage for Jesus arrival in Jerusalem.

Growing up in the shadow of Chestnut Ridge during the 1940's and 50's, Easter was a time of confusion for me. I understood about Christmas and celebrating Jesus' birth with festivities and gifts. I could not wrap my mind around celebrating Easter, which in my mind meant the death of Jesus. I associated death with sadness and tears, yet Mama bustled around, sewing new clothes for my brothers and me. (Often using feed sack material during the war years.) I remember anticipating an Easter basket with those gritty sugary eggs and chocolate marshmallow rabbits (my favorite) and being roused up in early darkness to dress in our "Easter Parade" finery to attend sunrise service overlooking the cemetery. Oh how the cold stung my bare legs. Standing and watching the sun peep up over the cemetery was a solemn and holy occasion that I still did not understand. I would like to say that enlightenment eventually happened quickly for me in "why" Jesus died and "why" we celebrate his death and resurrection. In fact, it has taken me many years to appreciate God's love and the tremendous sacrifice that was made in order that even I can be saved. After many years, I again live in the shadow of Chestnut Ridge and still strive to learn, understand and grow...

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Easter	1
Interview with Pastor Sang	2
Kids of the Cross	3
Outreach, Mission and Evangelism	3
Prayer List, Birthdays & Anniversaries	4
Community Bulletin Board & Lighter Side	5
Mission/Vision Statement, Contact Information	6

With "The Paths to Calvary" dramas during Lent, we continue our Easter observances with:

April 5<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm Efland Community Easter Service @ Efland UMC  
(Sang will preach, Julie will lead the music and CRUMC youth and usher will participate)

April 9<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm Holy Thursday Service @ Clover Garden UMC

April 10<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm Good Friday Service @ Chestnut Ridge UMC

April 11<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm Kids of the Cross and All 4 Him Easter Egg Hunt @ Clover Garden UMC

April 12<sup>th</sup> 6:30am Easter Sunrise Service @ CRUMC  
7:00-8:00am Breakfast (by UMM)  
11:00am Easter Communion Service



## INTERVIEW WITH PASTOR SANG

By: Joyce Clayton

Sang was born in Seoul, the capital of South Korea in 1962. I can imagine Sang saying as he opened his eyes for the first time: A-A-A-H-H-H what a beautiful world. Sang has two older brothers and one older sister. Sang married Jane April 21, 1990. They have twin daughters, Lily and Grace who will be seventeen in September.

Sang came from a family with mother and father of Confucianism backgrounds, which was dominant in Chinese influence. His mother was led to Christianity by an aunt, as a first Christian in his family. Sang said he has always been in church: even in his mother's womb as she went to church. Jane came from a Buddhist family. She was introduced to Christianity when she was in kindergarten. Later in High School she was introduced to Methodist faith by her school, which was the first girls' school in Korea founded by Methodist Missionaries. Jane was baptized in the Methodist faith at that school; our thanks go out to missionaries all over the world.

Sang's favorite color is green and his favorite food is fish and pecan deserts. His favorite pastime is walking, hiking or reading. Jane says he loves to sleep but Sang says "not so". He likes to travel about the country side.

I asked Sang what prompted him to become a minister. He said as a life time Methodist he was always sensitive to the religious force or urge to be a minister of the gospel. He was influenced as a youth to further his faith and was led by a lifetime dream to be a minister. He says he is inspired by the love for Jesus and he is very happy in the church.

After High School, Sang went to a four year seminary school and then to a two year graduate school. He started his ministry in 1991 in South Korea. He was pastor of three churches before coming to the U.S. A professor had recommended that he come to the U.S. but at that time things didn't work out so he set out to work on social change in Korea. After twelve years he was recharged toward ministry in a new way. He then came to the U.S. in 2002, thinking it would not be a long stay. He says they like it here and the children are happy in school so who knows how long they will stay: only God knows.

I asked him what he saw as a great opportunity here at Chestnut Ridge. He sees our church as being faithful and loyal but we have the opportunity to move forward by embracing the "New Generation", the people in their 30's, 40's and 50's and their children. He said that re-commitment to God's mission will lead us to a new dimension. We are to be obedient and faithful and build on the strong foundation that we have and branch out into missions.

I asked him how trusting God had made a difference in his life. He said he grew up with few material things but was always blessed with God's loving care. He trusted God to be in all circumstances and will continue to do so.

I asked him what advice he could give to us to help us to share our faith. He said to reach out to our neighbors who have no ties to the church, be a good listener and reach them through a personal relationship. Get out of your own circle and step across the street.

He sums it up by saying life is a journey and his nature is to venture out. He said that a challenge is a blessing and exciting to him. He enjoys new things, enjoys going into unfamiliar places. He loves to stay busy and enjoys life. He feels very blessed and happy to be here at CRUMC in this stage of his life.

**May God truly bless him and keep him and his family in His care.**

## Kids of the Cross

By Kim Allen

Rain, rain, rain and more rain, but that didn't get the Kids of the Cross down. On Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> the KOC got their blankets and popcorn then settled in to watch Evan Almighty, a modern take on Noah's Ark. A timely show, given the weather and fun. Yet it was also a movie with a message: the best way to change the world is by doing one Act of Random Kindness ("ARK") at a time.

Normally though, the KOC are not couch potatoes. They meet at Orange Chapel UMC at 2:00 pm on the third Sunday of each month. Kathy Stewart and Kimberly Durham lead this group composed of children (grades 3-5) from three congregations: Chestnut Ridge, Clover Garden and Orange Chapel. Normally there is a lesson with crafts and then refreshments followed by active time on the jungle gym or on the basketball court. For example, February's lesson was about love. They read about love from 1 Corinthians 13 and on a handout beside each description of 'love', the children wrote

## Movie Time for Kids of the Cross



the names of people in their lives that demonstrates that type of love. They then used John 3:16 to decorate a Valentine. The KOC also get out of the class room. They have swim outings and many of them plan to participate in the upcoming Relay for Life. If you would like to meet the KOC or their partners All 4 Him (age 3-grade 2), join us at 2:00 pm on April the 11<sup>th</sup> for the Easter Egg hunt at Clover Garden UMC. You can also find out about us at:

<http://www.orangechapel.org/childrenspage.html>

## Outreach, Mission and Evangelism

By Dorothy Walker

On March 7<sup>th</sup>, several attended a workshop on Evangelism conducted by Rev. Vann Spivey. We came away with a better understanding of what it means to evangelize. It simply means "**sharing the gospel**". Why do we do it? That is also simple: **Christ commands it, so we obey.** *If there's no evangelism, there's no church.* Sharing the gospel is an expression of gratitude to God and an expression of love for others. *Church Growth, Inc.* tells us that 78% of people come to Christ from a relationship with a friend or relative. That is a powerful finding. It shows that you have the ability to be an influence on others. Rev. Spivey

said you must care enough about people to be willing to step out of your comfort zone. Develop friendships with non-Christians. Don't hide your faith, but don't wave it in someone's face either. Take time to discover their life stories and at the right time share both the gospel and your own faith story. This presupposes a certain level of spiritual maturity. Prayer and scripture are essential. And at all times, we as a church should create and sustain a *mission culture, a spiritual culture* and a *spirit of hospitality*. Get to know the physical and social justice issues of our community. *Know* and *be known* to people and learn to love them well.

## Prayer Requests

### Members

Amber Ray Jones  
 Winfred Hooker  
 Allen Cates  
 Gordon Elmore  
 Jennifer Hooker  
 Sam Cates  
 Joyce Clayton  
 Faydean Cannada  
 Merita Cheek  
 Hilda Sykes  
 Dana Clayton

Edna Dawkins  
 Frances Thompson  
 Jeff & Julie Perez  
 Katelyn Elmore  
 Chuck Collins  
 Gertrude Jones  
 Michael Elmore  
 Jordan Elmore  
 Jonathan Ray  
 Lambert Cates

### Military Service

Chris Collins, Iraq  
 Wes Hughes, SC  
 Erika Couturier, Tx  
 Siobhan Celusa, Germany  
 Marv Singer, Iraq  
 Na Darius Whitfed, Afghanistan  
 Michael Edwards, Iraq

Those who are grieving and those affected by the unstable economy

### Friends and Family

Joyce Collins  
 Beth Newton  
 Theresa Charity  
 Frances Wall  
 Jeff Waldo  
 Ricky & Sue Williams  
 Donald Hicks Family  
 Vickie Wynn  
 Joelle Ray  
 Barbara Adams

Aaron Westbrook  
 Joan Walsh  
 Jane Edward  
 Ann Laura Turner  
 Amber West  
 Neil Collins  
 Hunter Williams  
 Becky Bailey  
 Jeff Wald  
 Eddie Knighten

Joyce Bradshaw  
 Connie Hooker  
 Jackie Elmore  
 Birdie Williams  
 Gary Philpot Family  
 Ronnie Holloway  
 Rev. Ketzu's grandson, Joshia  
 Brad McPherson  
 Loyd Family

Ray de Friess  
 Victoria Frisch  
 Renae Hall  
 Connie Wood  
 Donna Simmons  
 Sarah Maxwell  
 Doris Lawrence  
 Ruth Flippin Family



### Birthdays

4/3 Joyce Clayton  
 4/4 Chuck Collins  
 4/7 Catherine Moore  
 4/21 Tammy Hicks Walker

### Anniversaries

4/19 Alex & Hilda Sykes

### Special Recognition

Dana Clayton's Mission to Kenya  
 Rev. Elaine Swett to be  
 admitted as "Elder in Full  
 Connection" to the NC Annual  
 Conference on June 10th.

## Community Bulletin Board



- 4/1 7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 4/2 7:00 pm Evening Bible Study @ CRUMC
- 4/4 6-9:00 am Country Ham Breakfast @ Clover Garden UMC  
8-12 Noon Spring Cleaning @ Chestnut Ridge UMC
- 4/5 12 Noon Fellowship Meal following Worship Service  
6:00 pm Efland Community Easter Service (participants need to be there by 5:15PM)
- 4/6 10:00 am Morning Bible Study @ Dorothy Walkers' home  
5:00 pm Food For All ( Won't you help? See sign up sheet )
- 4/9 7:00 pm Holy Thursday Service @ Clover Garden UMC
- 4/10 7:00 pm Good Friday Service @ CRUMC
- 4/11 2:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt @ Clover Garden UMC
- 4/12 7:00 am Easter Sunrise Service @ CRUMC: 7-8 am (Breakfast sponsored by UMC)  
11:00 am Easter Communion Service (Special offering for UMCOR)
- 4/13 7:00 pm Lay Leadership Committee Meeting
- 4/14-15 Sang to attend Cross-Racial Appointment Pastor's Retreat at Camp Rockfish
- 4/16 7 :00 pm Sang to attend Asian Ministry & Multicultural Team Meeting in Raleigh  
Evening Bible Study @ CRUMC
- 4/18 1-4:00 pm Efland School Alumni Renunion (Refreshments will be provided)
- 4/19 5:00 pm Farewell Party/Bridal Shower for Loletuth Flener, our Ministry Intern (she and John Kalz, Ministry Intern will wed in May)
- 4/20 10:00 am Morning Bible Study (location to be announced)  
5:00 pm Food for All (Help needed, see sign up sheet)
- 4/20-23 Sang will attend Korean Caucus of the UMC @ LAKUMC in Los Angeles, Ca
- 4.24-25 30 Hours Famine to Support African Children in Hunger
- 4/26 1:30 pm OCIM benefit, Walk For Hunger @ Little River Park (see Dorothy for directions)
- 4/27 7:00 pm Trustees Meeting
- 4/30 7:00 pm Evening Bible Study @ CRUMC

## Flowers For the Altar

By Joyce Clayton

Our gratitude goes out to Gertrude Jones for being responsible for fresh flowers on the altar each Sunday. If anyone has flowers they would like to share, please contact Gertrude (563-1090) or Joyce (563-1012).

## The Lighter Side

(Our thanks to Charlie Baker)

- Don't let your worries get the best of you: Remember, Moses started out as a basket case
  - Many folks want to serve God, But only as advisers
  - It is easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one
    - Peace starts with a smile
    - God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage
      - He who angers you, controls you
      - If God is your Co-pilot, swap seats!
    - The best mathematical equation I have ever seen:  
1 Cross + 3 Nails = 4 Given
- Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning to dance in the rain.



**Pastor**

**Rev. Sang Seon Park**  
3505 Chestnut Ridge Church Rd  
Efland, NC 27243  
Phone:  
(Cell) 919-428-5512  
E-Mail:  
Sangseon.park@gmail.com  
Pastor Sang's CRUMC Office Hours  
Tuesdays 3:00-6:00 PM  
Pastor Sang's Sabbath  
Mondays until 2 PM  
Fridays  
Sunday Schedule  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
11:00 AM Worship Service  
7:00 PM Choir Practice  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays

---

*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

***[www.crumc-nc.org](http://www.crumc-nc.org)***

---

**As a community of believers in Jesus  
Christ,  
our vision is to  
be a "Beacon of God's love reaching out  
and growing!" Our mission is Go and Make  
passionate disciples for Jesus Christ**

Deadline for May Issue: April 19, 2009

**Communication Team Contacts:**

**Webmaster:**

Kim Allen 304-2054

cheshire\_cat@unc.edu

**Coordinator:**

Dorothy Walker 563-3092

DWalker805@aol.com

**Youth Contact:**

Jordan Elmore 563-1607

Uncarolinagr186@excite.com

**Volunteers:**

Joyce Clayton, Sarah Copple,

Joan Elmore, Hilda Elmore

**Chestnut Ridge UMC  
Box 8  
Efland, NC 27243**

