

RIDGE RAMBLINGS

The monthly newsletter of Chestnut Ridge UMC, Efland, NC



Ridge Garden Charge-wide Stewardship Workshop

When speaking about any church, how often have you heard, “all they ever want to talk about is money, money, money?” It helps to be informed of just what “Stewardship” is all about and what is expected. It’s not all about money.

Clarence Stoughton said, “Stewardship is everything you do after you say, “Yes’ to Jesus.” Stewardship is a lifestyle choice that recognizes everything is a gift from God. Our responsibility as Christian stewards is to **manage all the gifts that we have received from God.** God is the true owner of all that we have in life. Jesus consistently taught that our responsibility as his disciples is to recognize that God is the provider of all that we possess and that our call is to be generous givers of our financial resources. **A Christian steward contributes his or her time, talent, prayers, and financial resources with a willing and joyful spirit.** Being a generous giver is a spiritual response to God’s goodness.

Excerpt from an article on Christian Stewardship written by the Rev. David S. Bell, Director of the Center for Christian Stewardship, the General Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church. Copyright © 2005 The General Board of Discipleship of the UMC. Used with permission.

Keeping On Track with Our “MAP”

As outlined in the CRUMC **Ministry Action Plan** (MAP) the people of the church continue to act on their commitment to improve the spiritual health and effectiveness of the church. In order to strengthen CRUMC ministry, the *First Quarter goals are focused on education and training for all church leaders.* Opportunities are offered through several scheduled workshops that promote leadership, spiritual growth and stewardship. Look for future progress reports and updates in this newsletter.

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As part of our continuing Ministry Action Plan (MAP), Pastor Sang has arranged for Dr. Bob Kretzu, Pastor of Parkwood UMC in Durham to lead us in a Stewardship Workshop. This is designed to assist us in understanding and carrying out our year round stewardship in a spirit of abundance, not in the scarcity.

What? Stewardship Workshop

Where? Chestnut Ridge UMC

When? February 15, 2009 3:00-6:00 PM

Who Should Attend? Everyone is invited and Finance Committee is expected to attend
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED

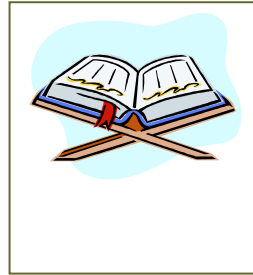
Churches by Size Seminar 1st UMC in Graham

The Burlington District has planned a seminar called “Churches by Size”, **February 19–21, 2009** at 1st UMC in Graham. This seminar is designed to: “help pastors and lay teams understand the unique and important ministry of hospitality and assimilation of newcomers to help them experience a life transforming encounter with Jesus Christ.” (From Rural Communities in Transition Initiative website: <http://churches.nccumc.org/rciti>) Specific dates/times for our size church (attendance <100) are listed on the Community Bulletin Board. (Pg 5)

BIBLE STUDY UPDATE

After returning from her exciting trip to Australia, Joyce Clayton hosted a group of six to set up the long awaited day time Bible Study. The group decided to meet on 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month at 10:00 AM and will initially meet at Joyce's home. They have chosen to study A Woman's Call to Prayer, "Making your desire to pray a reality" by Elizabeth George. This will be a series of 24 sessions. Other Bible Study groups are still in development and will be announced when completed.

Call or see Joyce (563-1012) for directions.
Please come—All are invited



CR Camp & Retreat Third Thursdays

3rd Thursdays for seniors will again be held at CR Camp & Retreat Center on Feb. 19th. The activities are educational and entertaining. Six people from CRUMC joined the Jan. group of about 17 attendees and enjoyed food, crafts, tips on de-cluttering and more. Rev. Judy Stephens and her helpers do a great service in promoting Christ centered fellowship. Be sure to sign up by Monday Feb. 16th, by contacting Joyce Clayton (563-1012)

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE—BEGINNING OF LENT

The Worship Committees of CRUMC and CGUMC have partnered in developing the 2009 Lenten Services, beginning with Ash Wednesday and completing with Easter Sunday Services. We give thanks for the spirit of cooperation that enables both churches to achieve common goals. A schedule of the coming events is posted now and will be on the Community Bulletin Board as appropriate.

February 25, 2009

Ash Wednesday Services 7:00 PM @ **CRUMC**

April 9, 2009

Holy Thursday Service 7:00 PM @ **CGUMC**
(Ministry Interns will design and lead)

April 10, 2009

Good Friday Service 7:00 PM @ **CRUMC**

April 11, 2009

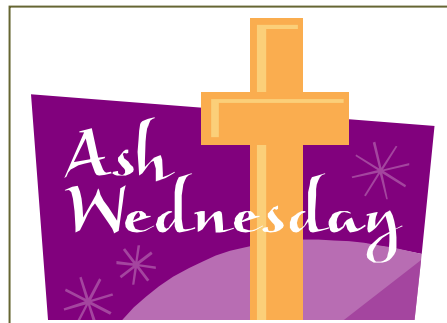
Easter Egg Hunt 2:00 PM @ **CGUMC**

April 12, 2009 **Easter Sunday**

Easter Sunrise Service 7:00 AM @ **CRUMC**
by Pastor Sang

Easter Sunrise Service 7:00 AM @ **CGUMC**
by John Kalz, Ministry Intern

"Mardi Gras" (Fat Tuesday), Fasching, Carnival, Shrove Tuesday are a few names given to the final day preceding Lent, when fasting or sacrifice is made by many in the 40 days before Easter



Youth News

2/1/09 'SOUPER BOWL' OF CARING

We are challenged to donate or collect food at "Souper Bowl" parties during Super Bowl XLIII. The Souper Bowl of Caring is a function of the Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC, of which OCIM is a partner agency. You don't need to have a "party" to donate! Let's fill the OCIM Samaritan Relief Ministry's pantry!



2/6-7/09 BURLINGTON DISTRICT YOUTH LOCK IN

Can you imagine the amount of positive energy a large group of teenagers would generate when they come together in Christian fellowship? This year youth and leaders from CRUMC will travel to the Burlington YMCA for the annual lock in. The event starts at 9:00PM on Friday the 6th and ends the morning of Sat. the 7th. They can expect a night of worship, skits, basketball, handball, volley ball, games, movies, music and just lots of congregating and probably not much sleep. One of the highlights is the pizza delivery about midway through the night. We look forward to some firsthand reports from the participants.

Other Youth Activities in February

February 13th "Valentine" Newly Wed

February 15th 2:00PM Youth Study

"Jesus Said It"

February 21st Winter Jam @
the Greensboro Coliseum

Congratulations to **Mackenzie Cates** for her Southern Alamance Sluggers 14U Fast pitch Softball Team's seven first-place honors in the 2008 season.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING EVENT JANUARY 25, 2009

CRUMC was well represented at the Burlington District Leadership Event. The attendees have brought back information from their workshops and are willing and able to share what they learned. The workshops and attendees are listed:

Legacy Giving and Endowment Building in the Local Church

(Johnny Cates & Kay Brown)

Understanding and Practicing Evangelism

(Joyce Clayton)

Creating Welcoming Congregations for Hispanic/Latinos

(Rick Moore)

Navigating the Whitewater of Change

(Pastor Sang Park, Jimmy Cheek, Karen Holmes, Dorothy Walker)

Music in the Small Church

(Merita Cheek)

Pastor/Staff Parish Relations Committee

(Peggy Cates, Nancy Holmes)

Practicing Spiritual Disciplines in Everyday Life

(Chuck Collins, Denise Collins)

Thank you for your commitment to strengthen the ministry of Chestnut Ridge UMC

PRAYER REQUESTS



MEMBERS

Amber Ray Jones
 Winfred Hooker
 Allen Cates
 Gordon Elmore
 Michael Elmore
 Jennifer Hooker
 Sam Cates
 Gertrude Jones

Edna Dawkins
 Frances Thompson
 Jeff & Julie Perez
 Katelyn Elmore
 Chuck Collins
 Those who are grieving

MILITARY SERVICE

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

FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Joyce Collins
 Ray de Friess
 Teresa Charity and Family
 Jane Edward
 Frances Wall
 Rev. Bob Kretzu's grandson, Joshua
 Birdie Williams,

Aaron Westbrook
 Beth Newton
 Connie Hooker
 Jackie Elmore
 Ann Laura Turner
 Connie Wood

Joyce Bradshaw
 Joan Walsh
 Mrs. Victoria Frisch
 Renae Hall
 Lawrence Slippin
 Family of Laura Whimbish

No Anniversaries in Feb.

Birthdays

2/1 Missy Cecil
 2/2 Kate Allison
 2/13 Denise Collins
 2/16 Aaron Westbrook
 2/21 Noah Collins
 2/22 Sally Ivey
 2/24 Debra Elmore
 2/26 Katie Ivey
 2/27 Debbie Clayton
 2/27 Neal Collins

Welcome New Members

Marjorie Dodson (Associate)
 Rev. Min Seok Kim
 Eunyoung Im Kim
 Yedam Kim

Community Bulletin Board

2/1 TICKETS GO ON SALE FOR BRUNSWICK STEW FUND RAISER 'SOUPER' BOWL SUNDAY

12:00 Noon Fellowship Meal following Worship Service

2/2 10:00 AM Bible Study @ Joyce Clayton's home

5:30 PM Food for All Delivery

2/6-2/7 District Youth Lock In @ YMCA (Burlington)

2/8 11:00 AM Healing Service

2/9 7:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting

2/15 3-6:00 PM Charge-wide Stewardship Seminar @ CRUMC

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE NEEDED

2/16 10:00 AM Bible Study @ Joyce Clayton's home

5:30 PM Food for All Delivery

2/19 9:30-3:30 PM Third Thursday @ CR Camp & Retreat Center

Reservations to Joyce C. by 2/16 (563-1012)

2/19-21st Church by Size Seminar @ 1st UMC in Graham

2/19 7-9 PM Lay Leaders with Pastor

2/20 7-9 PM Lay Leaders with Pastor

2/21 9-11:30 AM Lay Leaders with Pastor

2/22 Sunday Worship—Pulpit Exchange CR & CG Lay Leaders

Chuck Collins will preach @ CG-Jimmy Bradshaw will preach @ CR

2/24 7:00 PM Outreach and Witness Committee

2/25 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service @ Clover Garden UMC

Lent in 2009 starts

2/27 Potato Peeling and Brunswick stew Preparation Day

2/28 Brunswick Stew Fund Raiser Time for pick up tbd

OCIM FOOD FOR FEBRUARY. SOUP & CRACKERS

JUST FOR KIDS - FAVORITE SOUP



The Lighter Side

(Courtesy of Crosswalk.com)

BIG GIVER

One Sunday a teenager was in church. When the collection plate was passed, he pulled a dollar bill from his pocket and dropped it in. Just at that moment the man behind him tapped him on the shoulder and handed him a \$20.00 bill. Secretly admiring the man's generosity, the boy placed the \$20.00 in the plate and passed it on.

Then the boy felt another tap from behind and heard a whisper, "Son that was your \$20.00 bill that fell out of your own pocket."



Pastor
Rev. Sang Seon Park
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Efland, NC 27243
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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
1st & 3rd Wednesdays

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.crumc-nc.org

Communication Team

Webmaster:

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cheshire_cat@unc.edu

Youth Contact:

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uncarolinagrl86@excite.com

Coordinator:

Dorothy Walker 563-3092
DWalker805@aol.com

Volunteers:

Joyce Clayton
Sarah Copple
Joan Elmore
Hilda Elmore

Deadline for March 2009 Issue Submissions:
February 23, 2009

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

Chestnut Ridge UMC
Box 8
Efland, NC 27243

