

# Ridge Ramblings

The Monthly Newsletter of Chestnut Ridge UMC  
Efland, NC 27243



## Keeping Hope in a time of Helplessness

By: Dorothy Walker

Preparing for this issue in early January, my thoughts were on February events such as Valentine's Day and how we express love for our spouses, children, family and friends. The bouquet of hearts to illustrate our masthead had been put in place.

Then came January 12<sup>th</sup> and the terrible earthquake that devastated the small nation of Haiti. In view of the tremendous pain and suffering that our brothers and sisters are experiencing, how could I keep such a light hearted symbol on our newsletter and write of love?

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Keeping Hope in a time of Helplessness	1
Getting to know Joyce Clayton	2
Handbook for 2010	3
Prayer Requests, Birthdays and Celebrations	4
Community Bulletin Board, Leadership Event	5
Mission/Vision Statement, Contact Information	6

This symbol remains because how can I not write of love? We have seen examples of love and compassion that has swelled from the hearts of people from all over the world. We have seen a glimpse of the sacrifices that have been made in responding to the disaster.

Within our own United Methodist family we have learned of the deaths of two from the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries. Rev. Sam Dixon and Rev. Clint Rabb perished from injuries sustained in the earthquake. They were there in the process of doing God's work. Rev. Dixon was the pastor of the Swepsonville United Methodist Church from 1980-1984. There may be folks within our District who still remember him. We pray for the families of these men and everyone affected. Jesus' words in John Chapter 15 help bring a sense of comfort.

John 15.9-13

*As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. (NRSV)*

So, as February arrives, we can still celebrate love of one another, secure in the knowledge that God is in control and Hope springs eternal.

It is reassuring to know that our NC Conference has been quick to respond with specific plans to help in relief and recovery. There are many organizations we can choose to contribute to, but we have been alerted to be careful in our choices.

A Bulletin Board with information on Haiti Relief has been set up in the Narthex and handouts called "Hope with Haiti" that outline the Burlington District Plan have been distributed. Further plans for CRUMC involvement will be announced as developed.

PLEASE HELP AS YOU ARE ABLE

## Getting to Know Joyce Clayton

*(in her own words)*

□

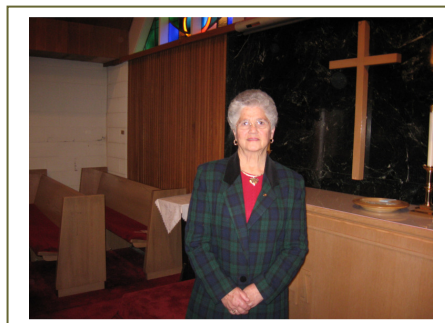
My life began in Greensboro in 1935. I was born on the (south side) of Elm Street during the middle of the depression. I was the sixth child of eight children. Four boys were born and then four girls. I always had plenty of protection from my brothers. We moved to my Grandfather's farm in Randolph County and we attended school at Liberty. When I was eleven years old my father bought a farm in Mebane which is now on what is called Stagecoach Road. We raised tobacco and did I ever hate it! We had to work all day and then after the crop was in, we would have to work at night to get it ready for market. I said then I would never marry a farmer. But you know what? I still like to have some sort of a garden, if it's only a few plants of something. "But not Tobacco." I attended Mebane Public School and graduated there. I played basketball and softball and continued to play Church softball at Oakgrove until I became a Grandmother. I thought it was time to give it up. I attended Lebanon Methodist Church where I was baptized by Rev. D.K. Christenberry when I was fifteen.

I married my childhood sweetheart and have been married fifty eight years in June. He used to come to our house pretending to visit my brothers but now I know better. We have four children: Lloyd, Carlton, Cheryl and Royce. We have five grandchildren, two step grandchildren and one great grandchild.

We moved to Efland in 1965 and started to attend Chestnut Ridge. Rev. Minnis was pastor and I remember one Easter at Sunrise Service it was so cold, frost was on the ground, and Rev. Minnis wrapped one of my children in his overcoat with him. Before the Fellowship Hall was built we ate Homecoming dinner on the grounds in the back of the church on a long table built between two trees. I enjoyed working with Gertrude Jones and Ruth Tapp to conduct Bible School. I am now teaching some of my former student's children. I have been teaching children Sunday School classes for forty five years. I have learned a lot from children, especially Geoffrey, when I do children's sermons. I have a life time membership pin from the United Methodist Women's Group.

Many changes have taken place over the last years. I, myself have grown spiritually with the help of many people and I have lots to learn. It has not all been smooth sailing but I have always kept in mind that God is with us. God has never let me down and it is my prayer that each and everyone would get to know him and lean not on our own understanding but on Him.

*"God has never let me down and it is my prayer that each and everyone would get to know him and lean not on our own understanding but on Him."*



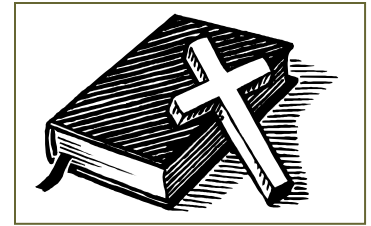
Joyce Clayton

## Handbook for 2010

(Received from Joyce Clayton/ Cheryl Clayton Borg)

### Health:

1. Make time to pray.
2. Sit in silence for at least 10 minutes each day.
3. Drink plenty of water.
4. Play more games.
5. Read more books than you did in 2009.
6. Sleep for 7–8 hours.
7. Eat more foods that grow on trees and plants and eat less food that is manufactured in \* plants.
8. Live with the 3 E's – Energy, Enthusiasm, and Empathy.
9. Take a 10–30 minute walk daily. And while you walk, smile.
10. Eat breakfast like a king, lunch like a prince and dinner like a beggar.



*The Ultimate Handbook*

### Personality:

11. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
12. Don't have negative thoughts or things you cannot control. Instead invest your energy \* in the positive present moment.
13. Don't overdo, Keep your limits.
14. Don't take yourself so seriously, No one else does.
15. Don't waste your precious energy on gossip.
16. Dream more while you are awake.
17. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
18. Forget issues of the past. Don't remind your partner with his/her mistakes of the past. \* That will ruin your present happiness.
19. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone. Don't hate others.
20. No one is in charge of your happiness except you.

### Society:

21. Call your family often.
22. Each day give something good to others.
23. Forgive everyone for everything.
24. Spend time with people over the age of 70 & under the age of 6.
25. What other people think of you is none of your business.

### Life:

26. Do the right thing!
27. GOD heals everything.
27. However good or bad a situation is—it will change.
28. The best is yet to come.
29. Your Inner most is always happy. So, be happy.
30. When you awake alive in the morning, thank GOD for it!

*Prayer List*

**Members**

Amber Ray Jones	Jonathan Ray	Allen Cates	Michael Elmore
Katelyn Elmore	Lambert Cates	Gordon and Lois Elmore	Unspoken Prayers
Kim Allen	Inez Shambley	Lynn Ray	Edna Dawkins
Sam Cates	Frances Thompson	Gertrude Jones	Jason Elmore
Sarah Copple	Marietta Ray	Tina Hooker	Jordan Elmore
Joyce Clayton	Denise Collins		

**Family and Friends**

Joyce Collins	Doris Lawrence	Ann Laura Turner	Jane Edwards	Frances Wall
Chris Scott	Jane Park	Ronald Collins	Chris Tapp	Emagrace Blanton
Hugh Eckerd	Jackie Shoffner	Jervey Huskey	Angela Ellis	Cecil Davis
Susie Wood	Connie Wood	Katelyn Johnson	Larry Jones	Mickey Elmore
Randy Clark	Ron Perry	Rev. Elaine Swett	Brenda Wall	
Family of Mr. Copeland		Families of Rev. Sam Dixon and Rev. Clint Rabb		

Those who are serving in the military at home and overseas:  
Marv Singer, Na Darius Whitfed, Wes Hughes, Justin Bobal

The Ministry and Mission of Chestnut Ridge UMC

Those affected by the economy

Those who are grieving

Special prayers for Pastor Sang, for his ministry of **two** congregations

The people of Haiti and those affected by the earthquake

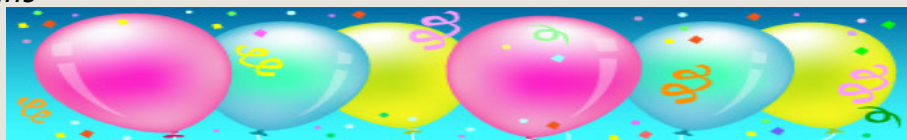


*Birthdays*

- 2/1 Missy Cecil*
- 2/2 Kate Allison*
- 2/4 Leigh Osburn*
- 2/13 Denise Collins*
- 2/21 Noah Collins*
- 2/22 Sally Ivey*
- 2/24 Debra Elmore*
- 2/26 Katie Ivey*
- 2/27 Debbie Clayton*
- 2/27 Neal Collins*

*NO ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH*

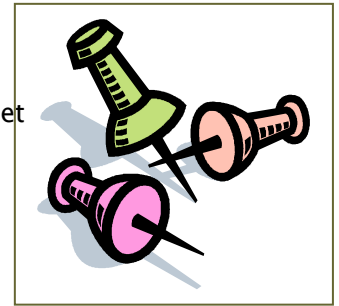
*HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY*



*Congratulations to Dana Clayton for making ACC President's List for 2009 Fall Semester!!!  
Thank You CR for contributing \$567.40 to the annual Mission Seed Drive during Advent*

## Community Bulletin Board

- 2/1 10 am Morning Bible Study @ Joyce Clayton's home  
 \* 5 pm Food for All Delivery to HUMC (Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays) see signup sheet  
 \* 7 pm Outreach and Witness Committee
- 2/2 7 pm Finance Committee Meeting
- 2/4 7 pm Evening Bible Study (meets every other Thursday)
- 2/7 Souper Bowl of Caring—Suggest everyone donate \$1 when exiting the  
 \* sanctuary  
 \* 12 pm Fellowship Meal following Worship Service  
 \* 1 pm Administrative Church Council following meal
- 7/13 Youth Lay Speaker Training (Methodist Building in Raleigh) 8–12G (For Registration see Ben,  
 \* until January 31<sup>st</sup>)
- 2/15 10 am Morning Bible Study @ Joyce Clayton's home  
 \* Registration for 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays to Joyce Clayton by today  
 \* 5 pm Food for All Delivery to HUMC
- 2/16 7 pm Education and Nurture Committee Meeting (rescheduled from 2/9)
- 2/17 7 pm Ash Wednesday CR–CG Charge Service @ Clover Garden UMC (Lent starts)
- 2/18 Third Thursdays for Seniors @ Camp CR (9:30am–2:30 pm)
- 2/21 6 pm UMM (New President: Rick Moore)
- 2/22–2/26<sup>th</sup> Prayer Week for Pastor Sang Park
- 2/28 11 am Camp Sunday—Special offering for Chestnut Ridge Camp and Retreat Center



## Burlington District 2010 Leadership Training Event

Along with Pastor Sang, ten CRUMC leaders took part in the annual Leadership Training Event. There were a variety of workshops to choose from. One of the workshops strikes to issues close to home that you may not be aware of: *Recovery Ministries: Radical Hospitality to the Marginalized*. This Workshop was hosted by Pastor Rich Greenway of Union Grove UMC, whose church is involved in this Ministry. Most of you are aware of the NC Dept. of Corrections Facility in Hillsborough. It is a Minimal Security unit that houses 176 adult male offenders. But did you know there is an active ministry going on there and has been since 1982? *Yokefellow Prison Ministry meets* every Tuesday evening from 7:30–8:30 pm. This ministry consists of volunteers, many from local churches with attendance of 75–80 inmates and around 70 volunteers. They meet in an informal setting; develop relationships with the inmates by listening, encouraging and helping them understand themselves better. By doing these things they help the inmate move forward in becoming the individual God intended for them to be. Yokefellow Ministry needs volunteers. There are many other needs ranging from providing refreshments to the group to donating ethnic cards for the inmates to send to family or friends. Local churches provide worship services on Sunday nights. The State does not provide chaplains at minimum security facilities. The facility Chaplain is “church funded” and financial support is always a need. Adult males are needed to take inmates on community passes. Copies of information from the Workshop are available in the Narthex. Chaplain Ken Barker can be contacted at 919–732–9301 for more information.

**Chestnut Ridge  
 Responds!!  
 Burlington  
 District  
 EMBRACE  
 Hispanic  
 Ministry goal:  
 1,000 Blue Jeans  
 CRUMC  
 donated 39  
 towards that  
 goal  
 Plus 8 Health  
 Kits for Haiti  
 Relief  
 Thank you!!**

Pastor  
Rev. Sang Seon Park  
3505 Chestnut Ridge Church Rd.  
Efland, NC 27243

Phone:  
(Cell) 919-428-5512

E-Mail:  
Sangseon.Park@gmail.com  
CRUMC Office Hours:  
Tuesdays 3-6 pm  
Pastor's Sabbath:  
Mondays until 2 pm & Fridays

Sunday Schedule:  
Sunday School 9:45 am  
Worship Service 11:00 am  
Choir Practice:  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm

*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 to GO and make passionate disciples for Jesus Christ.

-----  
February Food Needs for OCIM are:  
Fruit & Applesauce\* (Regular/Low Sugar)

Just for Kids:  
Soup (Favorite Kind)

February 2010 Newsletter Deadline: February 21, 2010

-----  
Communication Team:

Webmaster: Kim Allen 304-2054  
cheshire\_cat@unc.edu  
Coordinator: Dorothy Walker 563-3092  
DWalker805@aol.com  
Youth Contact: Jordan Elmore 563-1607  
Uncarolinagrl86@excite.com  
Volunteers:  
Joan Cecil            Joyce Clayton  
Sarah Copple        Hilda Sykes

Chestnut Ridge UMC  
Box 8  
Efland, NC 27243

