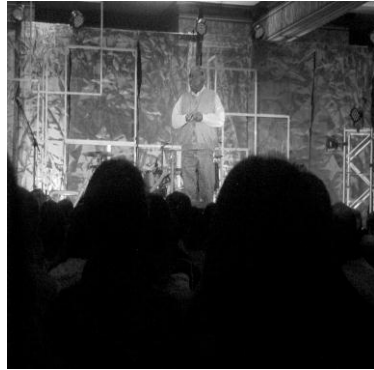


(Continued from cover)

Please remember that when you support the work of your church, it is not just Mountain View, but that through the Kingsport District and Holston Conference, we are able to touch the lives of others throughout the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Our father, John Wesley, famously said, 'the world is my parish,' and we continue that understanding to this day. We can be thankful that God has brought Bishop Swanson our way and that he has had and continues to have an impact on the proclamation of the gospel.



Bishop Swanson with some members of our Confirmation class last May.



Bishop Swanson speaking at Divine Rhythm in January.

Note from Eric Reagan

If I were to ever have a TV show, it would be one where I get to team up with folk and do myth busting concerning religion. As Methodists, we are keen on separating junk from the stuff that lasts and gives life. That may be why I'm always drawn to the debunking of things. In the process, there is Christian rich heritage to be celebrated!

Myth: Charles Wesley put his lyrics to old drinking songs... It is commonly said he used "bar songs" and folk assume that means these are songs originally from an establishment selling alcohol, a bar. I even heard once that the term came from music in jails. They also have bars.

However, "bar song" is a musical term from the Charles Wesley era. It's a name given to a certain type of music written out and put in hymnals where notes are set inside bar lines called measures. Used to, folk sang a tune and it wasn't set to a specific meter. Even in these days, the Episcopal hymnal uses bars sparingly because the church has a tradition of using tunes that are a little bit more free-style. Methodists have a tradition of singing a hymn with the same rhythm all the way through because our church's roots are worshiping out in a field. It is much easier to get a massive crowd in a field to sing together in a specific meter. When these tunes were put down for our use in hymnals, the bars lines showed how many beats there are in a measure. Using some purely Methodist hymns for example, Charles Wesley's "Maker In Whom We Live" has 4 and Fanny Crosby's "To God Be the Glory" has 3 beats between two bars. This is not to say that some of the folk tunes used for hymns haven't had other lyrics. Like "Jingle Bells" and "Batman smells," some tunes from antiquity may very well have had other text. Thankfully, the Church has always been able to use something of the people and direct it for the praise of Christ. One time, many Methodists used the well-known tune "Edelweiss" and putting benediction lyrics to it. Aren't we a cool crowd!

So, next time you use a hymnal, give thanks for those bars. Those bars help us stay together as we lift our spirits to the one who deserves all our praise from generation to generation. Our bar-singing goes with the Gospel whether it be preached in a field, a sanctuary, a home, a jail or even a bar.



Attention all Women of Mountain View

We encourage and invite each of you to take the opportunity to participate in any and/or all of the special upcoming United Methodist Women events. A part of our purpose is to be "a community of women to develop a creative, supportive fellowship." Circle #1 meets every 2nd Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.; Circle of Friends meets every 1st Thursday at 7 p.m. (childcare is provided); and Circle #3 meets every 2nd Monday at 7 p.m.

- February 22 Spaghetti Dinner hosted by Circle of Friends
- March 1 UMW General Meeting, 7 p.m., hosted by Circle of Friends. The program will be led by UMW Vice-President, Charlotte Hoover
- March 3-4 Sisters in Service Retreat, Pigeon Forge, TN – for ALL women of ALL ages (Registration deadline is February 20.)
- March 11 Lenten Time Apart Service, 2:30 p.m., Glen Alpine UMC
- March 14 Dinner hosted by Circle #3

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Gay Crawford or Pam Hager, UMW Co-Chairs.

ROOTS & SHOOTS – SPRING EVENT

Let's Put a Smile on Your Face!!

Rev. Ralph Kidd

John Powers – Song Leader

Mary Watterson - Guest Speaker

Thursday, March 22, 2012 at Colonial Heights UMC

10:30 a.m. Gathering

11:00 a.m. Program & Lunch

Cost \$11 per person

Call Martha Henderson or the church office for more details. Registration deadline is March 12.

Ash Wednesday Spaghetti Dinner

February 22 at 5:45 p.m.

Circle of Friends will host a Spaghetti Dinner on Ash Wednesday. We hope all of you will come out and enjoy a delicious meal and great fellowship.

This is a fundraiser for Circle of Friends with proceeds going to Buffalo Mountain Camp. Plan now to be a part of a special evening and show your support for a very worthy cause. Suggested Donation: \$7 per adult and \$3 per child (5th grade and under). (To Go orders available.)

Please make your reservations by calling the church office (245-8371) or by using the tear-off portion of the Sunday church bulletins. Reservations requested by noon, Monday, February 20.

TOP 40

TOP 40 will meet for a covered dish lunch at noon on Thursday, February 23.

THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you, Don Dinsmore and thank you, Kirk family. Don came to the rescue when the attendance computer's hard drive crashed. Unfortunately, even Don's expert efforts failed to revive the hard drive. But all was not lost; the Kirk family generously donated another computer. Don loaded the attendance program and files on to the new computer and attendance records are intact and current.

Thank you, David Patrick. David installed a coat hook rack for the children who attend the Club House. The children had been putting their coats on the hallway floor, but thanks to David, they now have coat hooks.

March Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Benny Collings (2) | Pat Steadman (17) |
| David Copenhaver (2) | Matt Peace (19) |
| Sharon Fults (2) | Joe White (21) |
| Mattie Spencer Hayes (4) | Amanda Countiss (22) |
| Brenda Simmons (5) | Kevin Kirk (23) |
| J. J. Fleenor (8) | Judy Moore (23) |
| Reese Copenhaver (11) | Andy Hall (26) |
| Shannon Holt (13) | Lisa Colosimo (29) |
| Peyton Clifton (17) | Sam Taylor (29) |
| Anna Dickison (17) | Martha Simmons (30) |