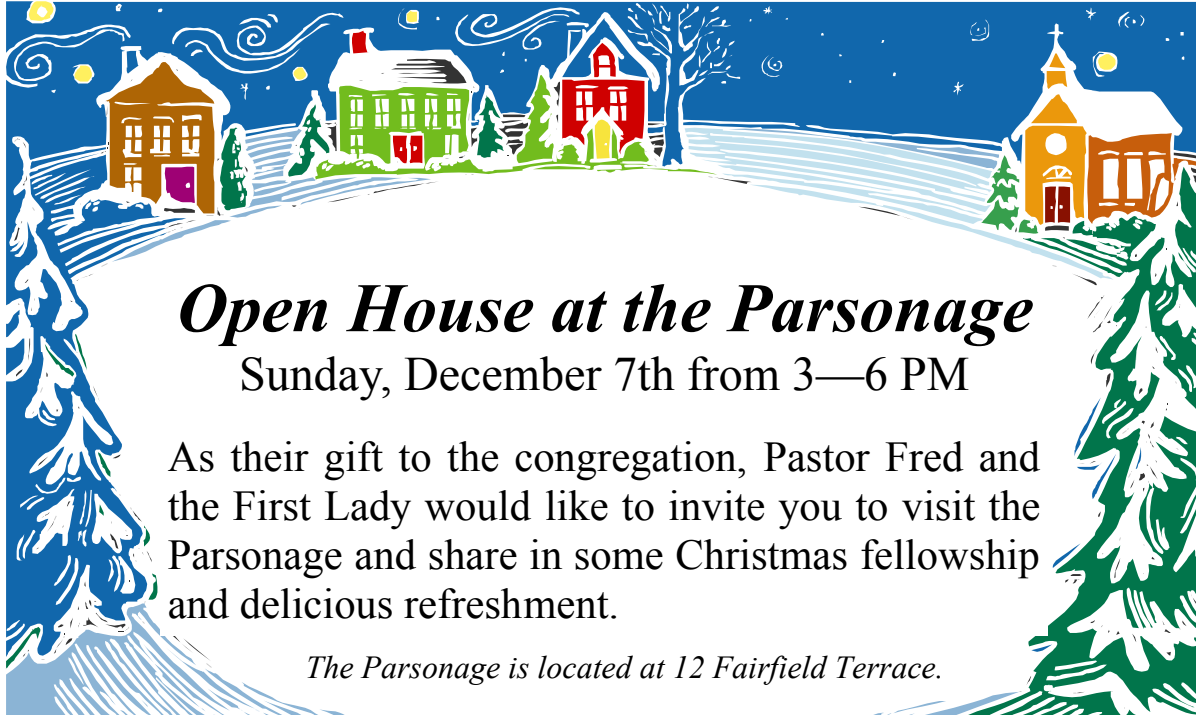


FRANCIS ASBURY
 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 725 ASBURY ROAD
 PO BOX 67
 CANDLER, NC 28715
 828.667.3950
 faumc1@bellsouth.net
 www.FAUMC.com

Merry Christmas to:



Open House at the Parsonage

Sunday, December 7th from 3—6 PM

As their gift to the congregation, Pastor Fred and the First Lady would like to invite you to visit the Parsonage and share in some Christmas fellowship and delicious refreshment.

The Parsonage is located at 12 Fairfield Terrace.

THE COMMUNICATOR



Francis Asbury United Methodist Church

December, 2008
 Volume XXVI Issue 12

*"For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building."
 1 Corinthians 3:9*

IN MINISTRY

Minister	Fred Carpenter
Music Director	Randy Cox
Accompanist	Jamie Bryson
Admin. Asst.	Danya Sellers
Custodian	Glenda Shook
Nursery	Sharon Lutz
	Jenny Shook
	Amy Dayton
Ushers	Melanie Hudson
	Rosie Kooles
	Brenda Rhinehart
	Christine Worley
Acolyte	Bryce Shook
Greeters	Leonard & Veronica Crook

District Super.— Dr. John S. Boggs
 Resident Bishop— Dr. Larry M. Goodpaster



The need for food in our area is so severe that in lieu of sponsoring families this Christmas, we will be collecting as much food as possible by *Sunday, Dec. 21st*. Please see Fred's article on page 3 for all the details.

HOMINY VALLEY ABCCM Needs:
 cooking oil, dry milk, self-rising flour, jelly, canned fruit, saltines, cookie mix, cereal, deodorant and bath soap.

Please take items to the new storage room or leave in the large basket in the Narthex. Help us fill this room to capacity and bless our neighbors here in Hominy Valley.

AN
EVENING
IN DECEMBER
CHOIR CANTATA
SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 14
5PM
*A CHURCHWIDE
CHRISTMAS DINNER
TO FOLLOW.*

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight
Service**
5PM

Children's Christmas Program
"Toy Shop"

Wed, December 17th
6:30PM Performance
*A Hot Dog & Chili Supper
will be served from 5:30 – 6:30 PM.*

*Carols by
Candlelight*
Sunday, Dec. 21st
6PM


**Return
to
Bethlehem**

A Journey of the Heart
Experience the exotic Bethlehem marketplace as it might have been on the day Jesus was born
Groce United Methodist Church
954 Tunnel Road
Thursday, December 11: 6—8:30 PM
Friday, December 12: 6—8:30 PM
Saturday, December 13: 2—8:30 PM
Sunday, December 14: 2—6:00 PM

Christmas Remembrances
Remember your loved ones during this advent season by giving a gift in their memory or honor. The proceeds from the remembrances will help defray the cost of the new altar cloths. Please return completed forms and payment to the office by Dec. 14th. Forms are available in the Narthex or online. The Christmas Remembrance booklet will be available on Sunday, Dec. 21. Please consider a gift to the church that will be enjoyed for many Advent Seasons to come. Your support is greatly appreciated!

CHILDREN'S

CHOIR
The Children's Choir will practice at 9:45AM on Nov. 30, Dec. 7, Dec. 14 and Dec. 21. They will be performing during morning worship on Sun, Dec. 21st
Children's Christmas Play Practices
on Wed, Dec. 3rd and Wed, Dec. 10th at 5:30PM, and on Sun, Dec. 7th and Sun, Dec. 14th at 10AM.


CHILDREN'S CHURCH TEACHERS

12/7: Glenda Shook & Betty Wilson
12/14: Amy Dayton & Emily Malloy
12/21: Veronica Crook & Sandy
12/28: Shelly Cloud & Mollie Scott

Weaverville Christmas Parade
Saturday,
Dec. 6th
from
1-3:30 PM

The 2008 float theme is **Toy Shop**. Please dress as some type of toy. If you are interested in going you need to contact Jenny Shook at 667-2667 by Dec. 5th.

**Our Deepest
Sympathy and
Christian love
to the family of
Hubert
Phelps.**

Snip-it from Sandy:

I moved to Buncombe County after Tim and I were married in 1993. But for a while, we had a "long-distance" relationship. There were no cell phones and no internet.

Tim had made a few new friends and they had invited us over for an early Christmas supper. So after work, I traveled up the mountain. I was wearing cream colored pants and a sweater that had large shoulder pads and was encrusted with jewels and beads. My hair was long, permed, quite fluffy and adorned with a cream colored bow. A full length cream-colored coat finished off my ensemble! I'm sure you can picture it...I really had the "Winter Wonderland Princess" of the 80's look going on.

I was to meet Tim in the Ingles parking lot on Brevard Road. I knew where that was since it was near the mall. So, I'm driving up the mountain on I-40 when the whole car starts jumping and wobbling. It felt like my tire was coming off. I pulled over in the emergency strip and sure enough my rear wheel was missing 3 lug nuts and the last 2 were barely hanging on! I had just had my tires rotated...and wouldn't you know it, some grease monkey forgot to use his torque wrench! Yes, I do know what that is!

Remember, there were no cell phones and my car was now parked on the side of the road next to a somewhat unsafe area. So, I stared at the sky, "God, protect me and show me what to do" I pleaded.



There was an 8 foot chain link fence separating me from the housing projects. God showed me a small tree near the fence. So I scaled that fence, jeweled sweater and all! I jumped down on the other side but my big hair got hung up on the fence. I'm sure I was a lovely vision in my winter white ensemble, frailling about trying to free my hair from the fence. Once free, God led me to the messiest house in the county. Children were there, so that made me feel better. I was trying to get the phone number to Ingles so I could get in touch with Tim and tell him of my troubles. I had to call information

because the owner of the messiest house in the county couldn't locate their phone book or even a pencil or paper. I finally got a hold of Tim, and he and his friend came and were able to get me to safety.

The moral of the story....God is watching over us always, in our best, our worst or even when wearing a jeweled sweater!
Stay Safe! :) Sandy

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. Proverbs 3:5-7

Our last meeting was held at the



home of Mollie Scott and we had the honor of welcoming a new FAB sister, Sharla

Turner. Veronica led us in a devotion about the privilege of praying for others and the responsibility we have of keeping those prayers in the strictest confidence unless we are given permission to share them with others. We also finalized Advent Tea plans and discussed the First Step Farm Meet & Greet and our FAB Christmas party.

FAB Christmas Party: Friday, December 5th at 6PM at the home of Veronica Crook. Glenda Faye will be leading our Christmas devotion. Bring a wrapped ornament for our ornament exchange, a card for your secret sister and a covered dish. There is a sign-up sheet in the FAB room for meats, veggies, dessert & appetizers. Please call Veronica at 667-8580 if you need directions. All ladies are invited to join us!

First Step Farm Meet & Greet: Monday, December 8th at 6:30PM. We are putting together Christmas boxes to take with us for the ladies that reside at the farm. Please bring 15 of each item you will be supplying for the boxes. Bring in your gifts by Sunday, Dec. 7th so we can assemble the gift boxes. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting to show our support of these special ladies.



It has been our custom for the past few years to "adopt a family" or two or three at Christmas and help those families with Christmas gifts and food. That has been a great success because of your generosity. So why not do it again this year, right? Somehow that just doesn't seem to be what God is leading us to do. Two families that we were planning to sponsor declined help. God bless

them for being honest and not taking advantage of people's kindness and generosity. In the meantime we have been encouraging our people to support ABCCM with food donations. Once again you have responded. Monday, Dot and Ross delivered what we had collected and the Food Pantry at Hominy Valley ABCCM was empty when they arrived.

With the current economic situation, I believe our giving this year would be most effective if we put all our efforts to supporting Hominy Valley ABCCM Food Pantry. I talked this over with our Mission's Chair, Peggy Milroy, and she agrees. Rather than helping two or three families this Christmas we can help dozens of families have food on the table during these difficult economic times.

God willing, by the time you read this article our new building will be completed! We have talked and prayed about how it should be used. *My challenge to you is this:*

Let's make the first use of this new facility be a collection of food for ABCCM. Not just our normal collection but an extravagantly generous collection of food. As you go from the Fellowship Hall into the new building, on your left is a storage room. **LET'S FILL THAT STORAGE ROOM WITH FOOD!** In that room there are 1250 cubic feet. If each person or family would fill a box three feet square, three feet high, we would have enough food to over fill that room.

Think about how much food was available to you over your Thanksgiving weekend. Think about how much you will spend on gifts and decorations during Christmas. Isn't God calling you and me to respond to the needs of our neighbors? I know that in times like these the tendency is to tighten our belts because we don't know what is going to happen with our economy. The question is who are we trusting?

The people of ancient Israel faced a similar situation. They were hoarding all they had and were not giving out of fear of the future. God spoke to them through the prophet Malachi and said, *"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this, Says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it."* (Malachi 3:10) Who are we trusting? God challenges each of us to trust him.

As we open the doors of our new building, may it also be that we open our hearts and trust God. Let's fill the storehouse, God says, "Try me now in this."

May the richest blessing's of God abide with you and in your homes this Christmas.

Love, Fred

DECEMBER

2008

Francis Asbury
United Methodist
Church
667-3950



Happy Birthday to..

- 1 Glenda Faye Shook
- 2 Peggy Milroy
- 10 Joyce Horn
- 15 Doug Sluder
- 19 DeeAnn Henderson
- 21 Kathy Brown
- 21 Christopher Davis
- 25 Lily Deel
- 26 Joan Shuford
- 30 Brandi Turner

Happy Anniversary to..

- 7 Dewey & Paula Davis
- 15 Dale & Shelly Cloud
- 28 Dick & Connie Greene

Blood DRIVE

FRANCIS ASBURY UMC
Thursday, Dec. 11th
2PM — 6:30 PM
Call 667.3950

SUNDAY	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SATURDAY																																																	
	1 7AM Mondays @ Mosaic for Youth 	2 11:30 AM WOW Christmas Luncheon at Café on the Rock 12:30 HV Welcome Table Meeting	3 5:30 Christmas Play Practice 6:30 Choir Practice	4	5 6:30 FAB Women Christmas Party at the home of Veronica Crook	6 1-3:30 PM Weaverville Christmas Parade																																																	
7 Holy Communion 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Children's Choir 10AM Play Practice 11:00 Worship & Holy Communion 3-6PM Open House at the Parsonage	8 7AM Mondays @ Mosaic for Youth 6:30 First Step Farm Meet & Greet 	9	10 5:30 Christmas Play Practice 6:30 Choir Practice	11 2-6:30 PM FAUMC Blood Drive 6-8:30 Return to Bethlehem	12 6-8:30 Return to Bethlehem	13 2-8:30 Return to Bethlehem																																																	
14 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Children's Choir 10AM Play Practice 11:00 Worship 5PM Choir Cantata and Churchwide Christmas Dinner	15 7AM Mondays @ Mosaic for Youth 	16	17 5:30 Hot Dog & Chili Supper 6:30 Children's Christmas Play	18	19	20																																																	
21 7:30 UMM Breakfast 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Children's Choir 11:00 Worship 6PM Carols by Candlelight	22	23	24 5:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 He is Born 	26 	27																																																	
28 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Every 4th Sunday is ABCCM SUNDAY at FAUMC	29 	30	31 New Year's Eve	 HOLY COMMUNION	Our Communion Offering on Dec. 7th will be for "The Pastor's Discretionary Fund"																																																		
						<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">January 2009</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	January 2009							S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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