



The Epistle

May 2010



The Brandermill Church Midlothian, VA



Another Brandermill Church Milestone!

It is 2010 and I know all of us have been awaiting word on our next Senior Pastor (#5 for our charter members). Starting July 1st at noon (officially) Burt Brooks becomes our newest United Methodist Senior Pastor, joining Sandra, in providing pastoral leadership. I have had the pleasure of meeting Burt and am certain the entire congregation will welcome him and his entire family back to the area. As a brief early introduction, Burt has sent us the following note:

Dear Friends,

I want to briefly introduce myself as your new senior pastor. My name is Burt Brooks, and I am a native of Lunenburg County, a graduate of Virginia Tech and Duke Divinity School. I am completing my 20th year of pastoral ministry, currently serving at Baylake UMC in Virginia Beach. My wife Florence, a Mississippi native, is also an ordained United Methodist Minister and serves as Chaplain at Virginia Wesleyan College.

We bring with us our five children: Ben 13, Clay 11, Sam 9, Kelli 5, and Mattie 8 weeks. Currently, we are in the "sports" stage of life with football and basketball occupying much of our family time and energy.

Needless to say, we are all very excited about arriving at Brandermill. We have had the opportunity to see the church and the beautiful setting overlooking the lake. One question we had was whether or not the church had its own pontoon boat for "church meetings?"

Brandermill is obviously a special place. In my brief encounters with leadership and staff, I can already feel the energy and enthusiasm that you have for your church. I am confident that these next few years together will be some of our very best. I look forward to meeting you and working with you. See you soon!

*Blessings,
Burt*

As you can see, Burt has gotten a taste of our church and is obviously anxious to jump right in (he did mention meetings on the water). If you happen to see Burt around our church between now and July 1st, please introduce yourself and show Burt our Brandermill Church family warmth - make he and his family welcome to our "Church by the Lake."

Peace,

Craig Moses

Craig Moses, Chair
Brandermill Church Council

Sermon Topics for May:

2 - 3 *Simple Rules: #3*
Stay in Love With God
John 21:15-22
Sandra Bottoms

9 - *YOUTH SUNDAY*

16 - *Re-Thinking Church:*
From a Unique
Perspective
Ephesians 2:11-22
Sandra Bottoms

23 - *Re-Thinking Church:*
What if?...
Acts 2:14-18, 36-47
Sandra Bottoms

30 - *Strength in Numbers*
Romans 5:1-5
Bill Harp

COUNCIL CORNER

The April council meeting was kicked off by council members sharing their many Easter and

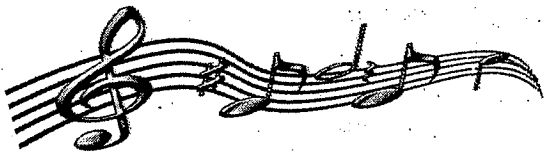
personal joys with each other. The Council also:

✓ Approved the request of Bob Van Horn to compile and publish an official history of the Brandermill Church (going back as far as the first inhabitants of the Brandermill site). The target completion is set for our 35th Church Anniversary in 2012.

✓ received committee reports from each of the 13 committees - important date to note is the May 9 Youth Sunday.

✓ Approved the finance committee recommendation to include Brandermill Preschool financial information within church council financial reporting.

The next Council meeting is Monday, May 10 at 7:00 pm.



HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING?

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long. (Psalm 146:2)

You've become aware of Wesley's 3 Simple Rules for Christian Living because we have been exploring them in worship and in Sunday School during April and May. But you may not be aware that John Wesley also published *Directions for Singing*. The next time you're sitting in church, and you become bored with one of my sermons (I know it happens...it has only been about eight years since I was sitting in the pews where you're sitting, so I know it happens)...and so, for entertainment, flip open your hymnal to page vii in the front, and there you will find Mr. Wesley's *Directions for Singing*. I say "for entertainment" because some of the rules are quite humorous. Take #IV, for example, "Sing lustily and with good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep..." And as humorous as some are, others are just as profound. #VII, for example, reminds us to, "Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye on God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing God more than yourself, or any other creature."

I believe that music is a gift to us from God...and not just

any gift. Martin Luther recognized "God's absolute and perfect wisdom in his wondrous work of music." Luther noted further that "next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise....for whether you wish to comfort the sad...to encourage the despairing, to humble the proud, to calm the passionate, or to appease those full of hate...what more effective means than music could you find?"

In other words, music has the ability to move us at a very deep level, and in ways that nothing else can. I tend to have a song in my heart most of the time. And when I visit folks in hospitals or nursing homes, I will always pray with them, and sometimes share scripture with them, and more often than not end up singing hymns. It is quite amazing, the effect music has on people. Folks who may otherwise be unresponsive, will upon hearing a familiar hymn begin to sing or mouth the words. Music has a way of triggering memories and reactions in us that are many times beyond our awareness.

I say all of this as a prelude (pun intended) of sorts to what I am about to share. I am so very grateful to God for the Music Ministry at The Brandermill Church - the leadership, the vocalists, the choirs, the accompanists, the instrumentalists...each one is a minister of music to me! From the wonderful music shared each Sunday by our Sanctuary Choir, and most recently the amazing offering of music during Holy Week; to the soloists, ensembles, and talented instrumentalists in our congregation who regularly share their gifts to God's glory; to our youngest musicians who recently led us in worship through drama and music, and then reached out to share their spring musical with our friends in the Brandermill Woods Healthcare Center...the gift of music in our midst never ceases to bless my soul. Perhaps another John put it best (John Sebastian Bach) when he wrote that "the aim and fundamental reason of all music is none other than to be the glory of God and the recreation of the spirit."

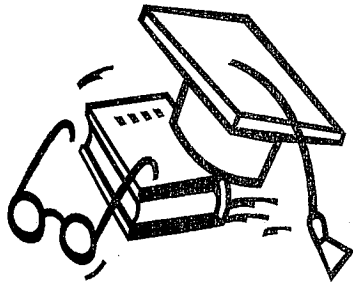
My spirit is indeed recreated through the music ministries of the Brandermill Church! And the effect of that recreation is perpetual... "My life flows on in endless song; I hear the music ringing. It finds an echo in my soul - How can I keep from singing?" (Words and music of hymn, *How Can I Keep from Singing* by Robert Lowry, 1860).

Grace and peace,

Sandra

ATTENTION PARENTS!!

We'll celebrate Graduate Sunday on May 16 and will honor our graduates in worship, and with a photo board in the entryway. Please submit your student's photo and a brief paragraph about what school they're graduating from, their upcoming plans and any awards or honors they may have received.



Deadline for submissions is May 10. Please mark your student's name on the back of their photos. Please turn this information into Rich Catlett's mailbox or email him at rich@brandermillchurch.org. Thanks!



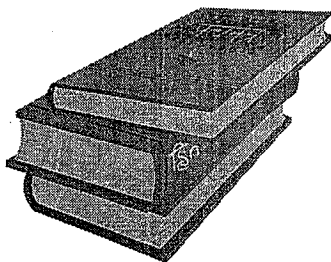
WOMEN'S CIRCLES

The Semi-Circle meets Monday, May 17. We welcome new members! For information, please contact Susan Clement - 748-5917.

The Lena Bartges Circle meets May 20 at 1:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Wanda Bissell for more information: 744-9070

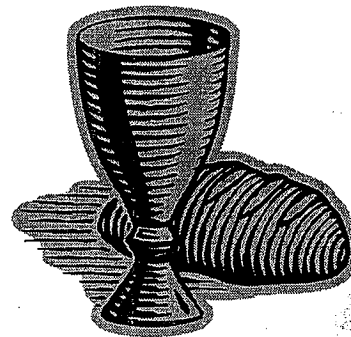
Yada Yada Book Club

The Yada Yada Book Club meets again on May 2, immediately after the 11:00 service. The group is open to anyone who would like to come and join in the discussions. Join us for a lively discussion of *What Women Said in the Bible*.



You Go Girl Book Club

Meets May 16 this month so that all of us girls can enjoy celebrating Mother's Day on May 9!



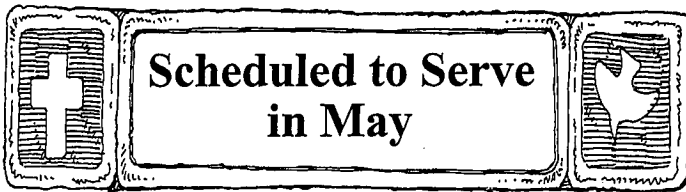
Attention current and potential Communion servers!

For years, church elders have experienced the privilege of serving Holy Communion to members of our congregation. And now, this opportunity is expanded such that any confirmed member of The Brandermill Church can assist the ministers in serving the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

A special training for all past, current and interested communion servers will be held in the Sanctuary June 6 immediately following the 11 a.m. service (beginning at approximately 12:15pm).

During the training, you will be given important information about the history of communion and the integral part it plays in our faith. You also will receive hands-on instruction on how to distribute the elements.

Can't make the training but still want to serve? That is not a problem. Simply contact one of the communion coordinators and they will get you all the information you will need. For the 8:30 a.m. service, contact Ginny Menninger at vtmenn@verizon.net or Jane Newsome at jen351@verizon.net. For 9:45, contact Rebecca Neas at rcneas@verizon.net or Claudia Lushch at clushch@comcast.net. For the 11 a.m. service, contact Kathy Dixon at kathymdixon139@gmail.com or Kelly Riggs at kellyriggs@mac.com.



5/30 - ONE SERVICE AT 10:00 AM!

Acolytes: Carly Ritter and Teresa Bricker

Greeter - 8:30: Erna van den Nieuwenhuizen

Greeter - 11:00: Sonja and Bill Turner

Grounds Team: Craig Edwards

Lay Leader - 8:30: Dolly Pakurar

Lay Leader - 11:00: Mike Clang

Ushers - 8:30: Wayne and Cathy Shotwell

Ushers - 11:00: Reg Waggoner, Greg Gardner, Gayla Gardner, Bud Gardner

Altar Guild for May:

Mary Ann McCole

Building Stewards for May:

Tom Mullen - opening steward

CLOSING STEWARD NEEDED!

5/2

Acolytes: Natalie Mullen and Connor Marsh

Greeter - 8:30: Ginny and Steve Menninger

Grounds Team: David Kohan

Lay Leader - 8:30: Brenda Bartges

Lay Leader - 11:00: Kathy Dixon

Ushers - 8:30: *usher team needed!*

Ushers - 9:45: *usher team needed!*

Ushers - 11:00: Robert Redmon, Gary Shepherd, Mark Lyons, Billy Pritchett, Mary Ann McCole

5/9

Acolytes: Sarah Nelson and Emily Martin

Greeters - 8:30: Loral and Roy Hoagland

Grounds Team: Bill Lyon

Lay Leader - 8:30: Steve Begg

Lay Leader - 11:00: Ray Holmes

Ushers - 8:30: Don Vorhis and Fred Carter

Ushers - 9:45: Bob Weatherford and Brad & Ann Coble

Ushers - 11:00: Maggie Buchanan, Maggie Maust

5/16

Acolytes: Kiki Inman and Eddie Acevedo

Greeters - 8:30: Nichole and Chad Vanderslice

Grounds Team: Tom and Marissa Mullen

Lay Leader - 8:30: Dave Thompson

Lay Leader - 11:00: Irene Carlisle

Ushers - 8:30: Jack Risendal and Fred Carter

Ushers - 9:45: Bruce Mason, Jim Allen, Ben D'Arrigo

Ushers - 11:00: Elizabeth Eisenhower, Edward Eisenhower

5/23

Acolytes: Cameron Mann and Griffin Claus

Greeter - 8:30: Joyce and Colon Rowe

Grounds Team: Colon Rowe

Lay Leader - 8:30: Roy Hoagland

Lay Leader - 11:00: Marty Kump

Ushers - 8:30: *usher team needed!*

Ushers - 9:45: Woody Lawman, Chris Remme, Warren Ragsdale

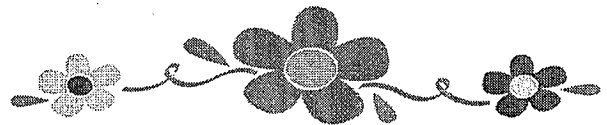
Ushers - 11:00: Bill Turner, Sonja Turner, Hugh Catlett, Victor Liu, Ken Braun

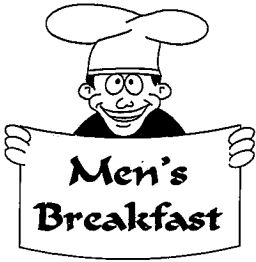
Around the Grounds

Happy Spring from the Grounds Committee! First, a big thanks to everyone involved with our March 27 Spring Cleanup - the grounds looked great for Gordon's Celebration/Palm Sunday, as well as for Easter. Thanks to the grounds committee members for their dedication and supplying their expertise (and for taking over to finish up after my run-in with the tree stump), and thanks to all of the volunteers who gave up a part of their Saturday morning to spruce up the grounds. A special thanks to Tim Koon for planning and leading this event on behalf of the grounds committee - your recruiting skills and excitement are a blessing for this event. See you again in the fall!

An early reminder that our summer Adopt-A-Garden program is coming up. For those who have done this in the past and have a favorite section, please contact Craig Moses (763-1759, or email at cchmoses@verizon.net) to secure the area of your choice. More information will be forthcoming during services and in the bulletins. Get outside and enjoy God's nature handiwork!

Craig Moses





**Saturday, May 8
8:00 AM**

Breakfast will be the usual fine fare prepared by Horst, Earl and Mark. Our speaker will be Roy Hoagland. Roy is Vice President for Environmental Protection and Restoration with the Chesapeake

Bay Foundation and is an active member of the Caring for Creation Committee at The Brandermill Church. Come on out for good food, a great talk and Christian fellowship. You can sign up on the red attendance pads in the sanctuary or with Marcie online or by phone. First-timers welcome. *Bring a friend!*



Brothers and sisters:

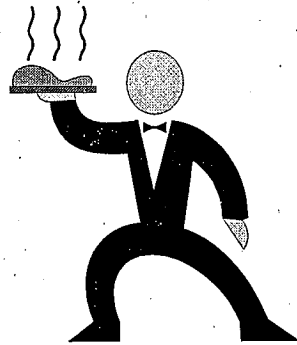
Thank you to everyone for your thoughts and prayers for Diana and me before, during and after my surgery. The steady flow of cards, calls and gifts has been a blessing and I know God is with us both as I continue my

recovery. It is very humbling and comforting to know so many people care. We are blessed to be part of such a wonderful church. Thank you to all. May all glory and praise be to God.

Bob Beatty

**Mother's Day Brunch
Sunday, May 9**

The men of the church invite all ladies of the church to brunch on Mother's Day. Brunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall between 9:00 and 10:00am and ladies are invited to dine at your convenience during that time. Please call the church office (744-3661, ext. 101) to let us know you're coming. Horst Arfert will oversee the hard task, cooking, but **MEN**, we still need volunteers to set-up, serve, run food, help care for mom's children, (so she can enjoy her meal!), etc. Call Marcie at the number above to volunteer to help.



**Leave a legacy through the
Brandermill Church
Endowment Fund**

As God, our Father, takes care of us, the Brandermill Church Endowment Fund allows us to take care of Christ's followers for generations to come. So if you want to leave a legacy for your church family, then don't delay. Make plans to give to the fund.

There are two ways you can contribute. Through the regular endowment fund, gifts of any size can be made at any time. These gifts could be in honor or in memory of someone's birthday, anniversary or retirement, or in lieu of flowers at the death of a friend or loved one. There is also an opportunity to establish a named endowment fund. Named funds are established in honor or in memory of an individual or individuals by a family member with a specific purpose in mind and with a minimum contribution of \$20,000. In consultation with the endowment committee, the family may specify the purpose of the named fund, such as a scholarship or special mission fund.

The Brandermill Church Endowment Fund enables you to contribute *legacy* gifts through your will, a fixed asset, or a life income annuity, among other things. Through the endowment fund, your gift will be properly invested and the principal will not be spent. Instead, investment earnings will be used for special funds or programs to benefit the ongoing mission of the church.

For more information, pick up a brochure in the narthex or contact a member of the endowment fund committee: chairman, Karen Catlett, Fred Carter, Kathy Dixon, Ted Lushch or Sheila Walters.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE
thru March 2010****

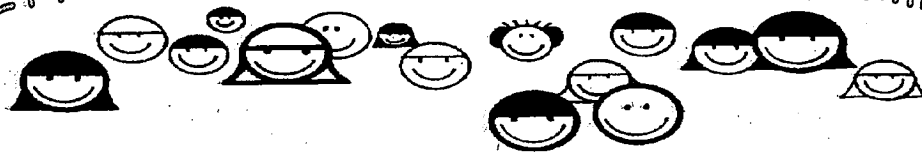
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
<u>REVENUES:</u>		
Giving	\$205,416	\$219,497
Other Income	\$6,700	\$8,285
<u>EXPENSES:</u>		
Budgeted	\$242,739	\$229,952

1ST Mortgage Balance: \$1,258,006.05

Thank you for your continuous giving!!

** detailed financial reports are available on request

GETTING TO KNOW OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Hello once again to my church family, and I hope all of you have survived this winter and are now enjoying the beautiful spring weather that has arrived!! I recently had a chance to sit down with Carol Beth Buchanan, and what a great time I had getting to know her. Carol Beth had a few surprises for me - like the fact that Don and Cissy Spivey are her parents (did most of you already know this?), she was born in Germany, she worked as the Director of Marketing for Ukrop's for 15 years, and she worked on the quilt which hangs in the back of the sanctuary.

I know, let me end the article here because your thinking what else can I say - stay with me. Carol Beth actually grew up in Virginia (moved here when she was about 2), she attended the College of William and Mary and earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Admin., and has an MBA from the University of Richmond. As I mentioned, she worked for Ukrop's (apologies - *Martin's*), and has been working for the last 10 years as a realtor, currently with Long & Foster. She and her husband John live in Woodlake, and have two children, Maggie, who is a junior at Cosby, and Matt, who is in 8th grade at Tomahawk.

In her spare time Carol Beth likes to read, quilt and plays tennis. Carol Beth has been attending The Brandermill Church for about 15 years, and it was her grandmother (Carrie Bess Smith) that introduced her to this church. Carol Beth loves this church, and truly sees it as her family - the people are what make the church and that, along with the fact that she loves to help people, is why she volunteers and is involved in so many areas of the church. To name a few, Carol Beth sings in the choir (apparently the choir loft is ideal to observe those who may not paying attention), she teaches small groups for youth, has helped with Vacation Bible School, teaches Adult Sunday school, has worked on a Habitat house, is on the Nurture committee, has headed up the Stewardship committee, was Chair of council, and is

planning to join the Outreach team's next trip to Guatemala with her daughter Maggie.

I'm exhausted just writing all this, but I am also inspired and find a kind of motivation to volunteer and help in the same way. One of the things that I have admired in Carol Beth is the fact that she has the energy and makes the time to do all this, besides raising two children (did I mention they are teenagers?!) and working outside the home. I asked her how she did it, and I found out that Carol Beth is the type of person that likes to stay busy, and through some of this volunteering, she is feeding her mind and soul, always learning, and enjoying what she is doing. I asked her how she came to be involved in so many areas - did she seek these opportunities or was she asked, and her answer was both. One of the things that I think is key in her success and consistency in volunteering is that she volunteers for the things she truly enjoys. There are so many areas to help at our church and beyond the community, I hope each of you will consider taking a cue from Carol Beth, and so many others like her, and make time to do something you're passionate about and at the same time possibly touching the soul of another person. If just a handful of people did this and created a chain reaction, to borrow from the song Imagine, "You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only, I hope someday you'll join us, and the world will live as one."

Wishing you all a beautiful spring, and peace and joy every day.

Blessings, Caroline Moses

Nurture News

♥ The next **Nurture meeting** is **Sunday, May 23** at 12:15 in the Multipurpose Room. Join us to learn all the ways you can serve creatively and care for our congregation through cards, meals ministry and much more. Bring your ideas too! Lunch provided.

♥ The next **Congregational Care Team** meeting will be Sunday, May 16 at 1:00 in the library. Join us to share and learn about visitation with homebound members.

♥ **Prayer Shawl Ministry** meets Thursdays from 2:00 – 4:00 in the back of the sanctuary for fellowship and for help learning to knit. Blessings abound here. Contact Carol Allen for more information 744-1221 or Cardinal14011@aol.com

♥ Upcoming surgery, unexpected fall, rehabilitation? If you have a need for **medical equipment** (wheelchair, walker, crutches, portable toilet, shower seat, etc.) contact Shelia Mullen or Marcie Murphy.

♥ **Note cards** adorned with Helen Sanders' painting of our church are available for purchase from Karen Catlett kpacatlett@aol.com or from Marcie in the church office.

♥ **Upper Room publications** are available in print in the entryway and also available online: www.upperroom.org/devotional/

♥ Be sure to check out the hallway **Nurture News board** for the latest news and prayer concerns.

Let's remember members of our church family who serve our country this upcoming Memorial Day by sending your own cards and letters of gratitude to:

Josh Ayers
102 Peach St.
Austin AR 72007

2nd Lt. Timothy Hichak
171 Everett Yopp Dr
Sneads Ferry, NC 28460

1st Lt. Benjamin Hichak
MASS-3 Det 1
Unit 42041
FPO AP 96427-2041

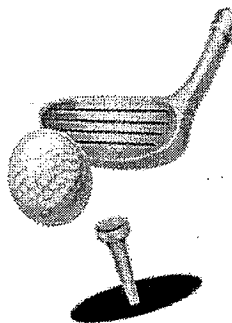
Will Meijer
DYNCORP/D3
Camp Phoenix
Zimmerman
APO AE 09320

(continued next column)

Stephen Price
HHC 1 HBCT 3 ID
FOB Falcon
APO, AE 09361

Daniel Van Horn
United States Air Force
8000 Eagle Circle
Oklahoma City OK
73135

For more information contact Shelia Mullen @ 590-3668 / mullenoaks@msn.com.



12th Annual CJH Peanut Bowl Classic Invitational

**Saturday June 12
Providence Golf Club**

Scott and Shelley Claus, hosts of this year's tournament, have selected The Brandermill Church Pastors' Discretionary Fund as the charity recipient of funds raised during the 12th annual PBC.

Opportunities abound for players and sponsors. Check out the flyer on the bulletin board near the reception desk or contact Scott and Shelley for more information: 748-4718.

These funds will be used to support people in our congregation and community with unfulfilled emergency needs such as food or shelter. We hope you will join us for a great afternoon of golf, food, drink, and fellowship to support this very worthy cause.

CAMP HANOVER June 21 - June 25

This day camp is for rising 1st - 5th graders, and will meet Monday - Friday, 9am - 3pm each day. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to enjoy a camp-like experience, including a cook out, field trip, bible stories, nature study, games, and many more fun activities planned for each day. The theme for this year is, "Be A Hero."

This camp is open to everyone, so be sure to invite your friends to share in the fun. Brochure/Registration forms are available in the display rack in the entryway, or you can get an electronic copy. Please contact Caroline Moses, 763-1759 or cchmoses@verizon.net if you have any questions, would like an electronic form or would like more detailed information. We hope to see many returning campers as well as new ones this June!!!

Worship Arts

BIBLE QUEST

Thanks to all who attended the 9:45 service on April 18 to hear the Cherubs and QuarterNotes choirs presentation of "Bible Quest." This musical was a compilation of ideas from all of the children in the choirs. They have very vivid imaginations and lots of great ideas! I would like to thank the children for working so hard to learn their music and lines, since we lost 3 rehearsals this spring due to snow cancellations. And as always, thanks to their parents and families for getting them to rehearsals every week and for their support of the music ministry!

I'd especially like to recognize our two "graduating" fifth graders. It has been my pleasure to work with these two fine young ladies and will miss their humor, their dedication and their leadership during choir when they move on at the end of this spring. They are Cameron Mann and Natalie Mullen. These two were notably involved in leadership roles in our service on April 18. Natalie was our game show host for "Bible Quest" and Cameron was our worship leader and lead two contestant teams in "Bible Quest." These girls are on their way to becoming wonderful leaders in our church and we will miss them in choir!

THE LENTEN SKETCHES

We had an especially meaningful Lenten season this year at The Brandermill Church, due in no small part to the congregational support we received on Good Friday when the Sanctuary Choir presented "The Lenten Sketches." Beginning with "A Portrait of Grace" and ending with the "Pieta," Sandra Bottoms' narration provided many grace-filled moments. The sketches in the slide presentation were very powerful and helped focus our attention on the message in each piece of music. In addition to the fine vocals of our choir and soloists (Kate Rancka, Robin Yohe and Lois Rodgers), we were thrilled to have the instrumental talents of community musicians providing the accompaniment, lead by our own pianist, Kim Peachy.

Thank you to all who were able to attend this presentation. We thank you for your kind words of appreciation and for your continued support of the music ministry. In a line taken from "A Portrait of Grace," we hope that you will . . . "Come and remember" . . . each and every time you are here at church.

SO WHAT'S NEXT? PENTECOST!

In the 2010 liturgical calendar, we have observed Epiphany and Lent. We are now in the season following Easter, leading up to Pentecost, with its culmination coming on May 23. So why, you may wonder, is Pentecost referred to as the birthday of the church? Good question. When Jesus' spirit appeared to the Disciples on the 50th day after Easter, they preached to all the people present and over 3000 people were baptized that day. So that is why we call it the birthday of the church.

So what's different in our Sanctuary on Pentecost Sunday — it's the red Paraments! The color red, signifying love and power, is the color of blood, and therefore also of martyrdom - the color for any service that commemorates the death of a martyr. It is also an alternative color for the last week of Lent, which is called Holy Week (though here at The Brandermill Church, we use purple). Red is the liturgical color for Pentecost Sunday and for ordinations and installations, because it is the color of fire and therefore also of the Holy Spirit (see Acts 2:3).

CAN GOD HEAR YOU?

Of course! In our special relationship with God, he hears us even when we don't speak out loud, but the real question is 'Can your congregation hear you'? When you are called upon to speak to the congregation, perhaps as a Lay Leader, a Committee or Council Chair making an announcement or a Sunday School teacher introducing a mission project, you need to be heard by a whole Sanctuary full of people. So, here is the most important practice to keep in mind about the microphones that are used for speaking in our Sanctuary (specifically the pulpit mic, or any of the handhelds — wired or wireless): All of the microphones require that you speak in a strong clear voice, directly into the microphone. Position the microphone in front of your mouth (not to the side or below your mouth) no more than two inches away from your mouth and speak clearly. Do not turn your head away while speaking. These microphones do not amplify an "area", they just amplify the sound that is spoken "directly" into them. This will insure that your voice travels throughout the Sanctuary and can be understood by all! For anyone wishing additional instruction on using our microphones most effectively, please feel free to talk with Dawn or Jamie!

Jamie Barrack, Director of Music

Dawn Rancka, Assistant Director of Music

Kim Peachy, Accompanist

Tonya Cory, Accompanist

Marty Kump, Chair, Worship Committee

MOPS

Mothers of Preschoolers

MOPS is winding down this year with two final meetings on May 7 and Annual Tea for the May 21 meeting. If you are interested in joining a mom's group next year, we would be please to have you visit one of these meetings to learn more about our organization. Childcare would be provided, please contact Candy Wolf 307-4845 for childcare reservation or for more information.

We have done well with our fundraising efforts - Brandermill Church Consignment Sale, Mabel's Labels and Hot Tamales. Our last Hot Tamale event will be Wednesday, May 12, let them know you are there to support The Brandermill Church MOPS any time that day or meet us for Mom's Night Out for dinner at 7pm.

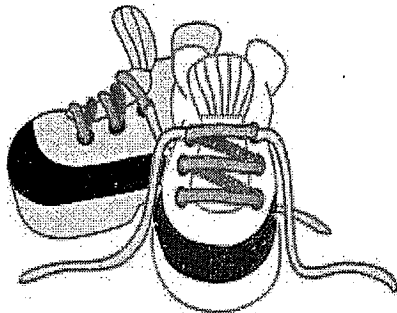
We have had a wonderful year. Some of our families continue to struggle, and we pray that things will improve for all families in the coming months.

Great Strides - Cystic Fibrosis Fundraiser

Sunday, May 16
1:30PM
Chester Library

This is a leisurely 30 minute walk and Catherine and David Hopkins are sponsoring a team for their infant son Philip, who has cystic fibrosis. To join their team or make a donation, go to <http://www.cff.org/>

[great_strides/](http://www.cff.org/great_strides/). Go to the "find a walker/ team" link on the left hand edge and type in *Footsteps for Philip*. That will take right to Philip's page.



Yoga with Olivette

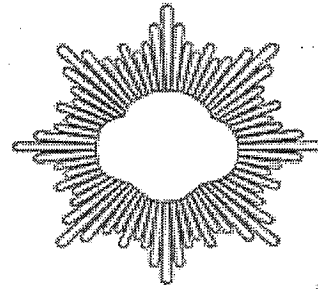
Wednesdays:

Chair yoga-2:00PM

Yoga-5:15PM.

Chair yoga is a class designed for seniors and people with physical limitations. It is the most relaxing of all exercise classes. Yoga classes focus on flexibility and relaxation.

These classes will conclude on May 26. No need to signup, just show up. All classes are free. Please call Olivette Robinson at 897-1531 if you have any questions.



Girl Scout Silver Award project

Danielle Lane is working on her Silver Award by collecting new baby items (diapers, wipes, clothing, bottles, etc) for women who face unplanned pregnancies and have contacted Bethany Christian Services for assistance. Please place your donations in the box in the entryway.

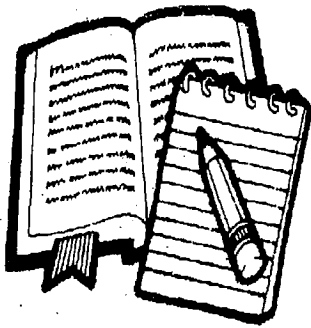
FEMALE CHAPERONES NEEDED

The youth need a couple more female chaperones for their mission trips. If you are interested in investing in the lives of young people this summer, please call Rich Catlett - 744-3661, ext.104.

Editor's Corner

The Epistle is published monthly by The Brandermill Church. We welcome submissions for *The Epistle* that pertain to the life and ministries of The Brandermill Church. The deadline for publication is the 15th of the month. All articles or notices must be approved by staff, and will be included on a space-available basis. They may be edited for length and content.

We kindly request that articles be submitted via email to marcie@brandermillchurch.org or on computer disk.



From the Educator's Cubby,

During this just finished season of Lent, I have found myself deeply immersed in the life of Richmond Hill as I participate in *SOZO*. 'SOZO' is Greek for healing; the class I have been and still am a

part of, is a class in Christian Healing Prayer. It is wonderfully appropriate that the opportunity to participate in this five month long class arose during this holy time in our Christian calendar. Lent is a meditative season that calls us to reflect on the life and teachings of Jesus the Christ, and much of his life was spent in healing. Thus Lent becomes a meaningful time of reflecting upon our own lives to examine where healing has taken place in our past, and where healing is currently taking place in our present.

Now we enter into Eastertide or the Easter season. We have the opportunity to walk along side Jesus during the 40 days that he walks upon the earth after his resurrection, teaching the disciples what they need to know as they go forward to proclaim the gospel "to the ends of the earth." Jesus asks Peter not once, or twice, but three times, "Do you love me?" Three times Peter answers yes, to which Jesus says, "Feed my lambs," "Tend my sheep," "Feed my sheep," in other words, *care* for my people. In caring for others, we engage in the ministry of healing. We are directed to notice that Jesus' ministry *was all about healing*, particularly of relationships. Jesus was concerned about healing the relationship between God and humanity, healing of relationships between human beings, and the healing of humanity with all of creation. Thus we now come to the opportunity to reflect upon where healing is going to take place in our future - our personal future as believers, and our corporate future as the Body of Christ, the church universal, and of the church particular here at Brandermill.

Healing is a gift from God - a free gift. It is available to all who desire to participate in God's desire for the world. If you feel called to learn more about the ministry of healing prayer and would like to participate in a healing ministry, please call or come by my office to chat. I'd love to continue the conversation!

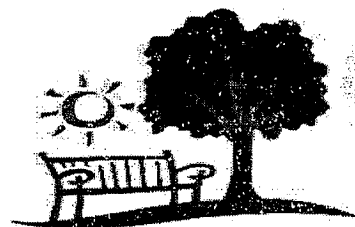
*Blessings,
Val*



☺ **Camp Hanover Day camp** — June 21-25 for rising 1st through 5th graders contact Caroline Moses - 763-1759, or cchmoses@verizon.net.

☺ **Helping Hands Mission trip, Waynesboro, VA** July 8-9 , for Rising 4th-6th graders, registration forms are now available. **The deadline to register is May 16.** Contact Cori Begg - 639-4577 or southernbeggs@verizon.net

☺ **Vacation Bible School (VBS)** — July 26-30 *Recruiting and registration have started!* contact Kristy Marsh (595-0727) or Jennifer Booker (739-0836)



WOMENS' Retreat

**October 1-2
at Richmond Hill**

Our theme this year is "*A Lineage of Grace*", from the book by the same name by Christian author Francine Rivers. We will explore the lives of the five women who are named in the lineage of Jesus Christ as recorded in the first chapter of the gospel of Matthew: Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and Mary. We will encounter these women in their own stories and learn what they have to teach us for our own lives today. As this book is longer than last year's, I want to give everyone plenty of time to purchase a copy and start reading! You may find the book at Lifeway, Barnes and Noble and Amazon.

Don't miss out - registrations are already coming in. Last year's retreat was a wonderful fun experience with fabulous food! We have room for 39 women to attend. This year's cost increased by only \$5.00 – for a cost of \$55.00 each. Registration forms are available on Val's office door. Sign up early and reserve your spot!

MEDICAL SUPPLIES NEEDED!

For Haiti and Honduras

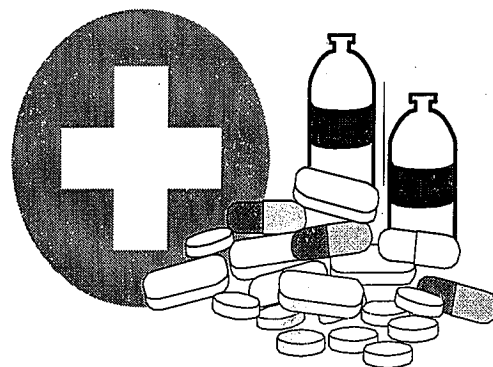
Medical supplies need to be replenished for BOTH Haiti and Honduras.

Please be especially mindful of the expiration dates for all medications which you may donate. Expiration dates should be well beyond the departure dates for each mission. Members of The Brandermill Church will serve on Haiti Outreach Ministry (HOM) teams which depart on **May 8** and also on **June 19**. A Honduras Mission team will depart in **late August**.

There are bins for each collection effort (marked accordingly) in the Fellowship Hall.

Especially needed for both Haiti and Honduras:

Clotrimazole Cream (antifungal)
Hydrocortisone cream (any strength)
Anti-infection ointment (such as Bacitracin or Neosporin)
Eye drops or moisturizing eye drops (HOM emphasized this need)
Infant vitamin drops with iron



Also needed by Haiti Outreach Ministries:

Baby Tylenol	Tylenol 325 mg
Advil 200 mg	Multi-Vitamins w/iron
Children's chewable vitamins	Band-aids
Prenatal vitamins	Ace bandages
Gauze wraps	Empty Rx bottles
Famotidine 20 mg (such as <i>Pepcid</i>)	

Also needed by Friends of Barnabas for Honduras:

Tylenol 325 and 500 mg	Tylenol infant drops 80 mg
Tylenol child liquid 160 mg bottles	Tylenol Jr chewable 80 and 160 mg
Ibuprofen 200 mg (such as Motrin/Advil)	Ibuprofen infant drop 50 mg
Ibuprofen child suspension 100 mg	Wart remover
Benadryl cream	Benadryl tablets 25 mg
Miconazole nitrate (such as Monistat)	Saline nasal spray
Sudafed tablets	Antacids - (such as Tums or Rolaids)
Milk of Magnesia	Imodium tablets
Imodium suspension	Infant gas drops
Adult cough syrup	

May Schedule

Sunday, May 2nd

-Confirmation Class - 10:45AM
(Last Class)
-Youth Group Meeting (Fear
Factor Challenge!) 6PM

Thursday, May 6th

-National Day of Prayer

Friday, May 7th

-Practice for Youth Sunday

Sunday, May 9th

-Youth Sunday! (And Mother's
Day!) All 3 services
-No Youth Group Meeting

Sunday, May 16th

-Graduate Recognition - 11AM
-Graduate Brunch - noon
-End of Year Bash! 6PM (Last
Youth Group meeting of year)

Saturday, May 22nd

-Confirmation Dinner 6PM

Sunday, May 23rd

-Confirmation Sunday - 11AM

Monday, May 31st

-Memorial Day Holiday!

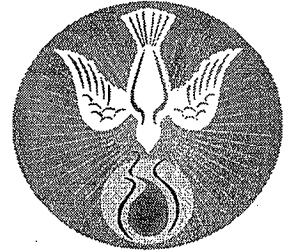
*Sunday School for Middle
School youth on Sunday
mornings at 9:45AM in
Youth Room. Dave Daniels
will be teaching!

The Brandermill Church Youth Page

Hey everyone! You are about to wrap up another school year and I know that a lot of you can't wait for summer to start. But before summer can begin school must wrap-up. And it is important to end on a good note. Sometimes the school year can seem like a marathon and that may be a good way to look at it. When you run a long race like a marathon it is important to pace yourself so that you do not burn out early and fade towards the end. The apostle Paul looked at his ministry that same way. As he looked back at all that he had done for God he said, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Timothy 4:7) As the school year winds down and you find yourself feeling unmotivated to finish your school work, remember this verse. Remember that it is just as important how you finish as how you start. The finish line is in sight so don't let up now. And when you cross the finish line at the end of the school year, you will feel so much better about yourself and all that you accomplished throughout the year. Your Friend, RJch

Upcoming Dinners

We are soon going to be having meals for some of our students who are being recognized. On Sunday, May 16th, we are having our graduate recognition brunch and need 11th grade students and their parents to participate in preparing and serving that meal. Please see Carol Beth Buchanan if you can help. On Saturday, May 22nd, we are having our Confirmation Dinner and need 7th grade students and their parents to participate in preparing and serving that meal. Please see Linda Reid if you can help. Thank You!



CONFIRMATION

*Please be in prayer for our
Confirmands for this year
as well as their Mentors.
Classes started February
14th and end with a
Confirmation Service on
Sunday May 23rd.*

Youth Sunday May 9th

We need ALL youth to participate!

All 3 services

Help make Mother's Day special

Sign-up on Youth Bulletin Board

End of the Year Bash!!!

Our last Youth Group of the School Year
BYOB (Bring Your Own Balloons)

Yes you will get wet!

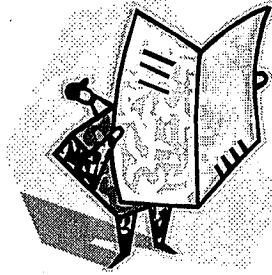
Sunday, May 16th

5PM until 7PM



- May 1 - Travis Lane, Kim Livingston, Jacob Mastro, Melissa Radtke
- May 2 - Benson Howard
- May 3 - Rick Higbie, Stephen Manden, Cameron Mann, Ren Murray, Susan Williams
- May 4 - Bentley Garner
- May 5 - Juan Cumpston, Bill Harp, Susan Hartzler, Case Meijer, Ann Milam, Steven Sanville
- May 6 - Charles Gardner
- May 7 - Eddie Acevedo, Eric Capek, Charlie Powell, Jenna Thomas
- May 8 - Issac Hannon
- May 9 - Susan Eisenhower, Sherri Ingram, Maddie McElfresh
- May 10 - Joe Covolo, Sue Greene, Melanee Lawman,
- May 11 - Jack Aden, Lily O'Day, Susan Wyman
- May 12 - Larrie Dean, Debbie Hickey, Worth Longest, Marissa Mullen, Tina Williams
- May 13 - Mike Bachmann, Sara Bachouros, Jamie Barrack, Barbara Wagner
- May 15 - Mark Elemendorf
- May 16 - Lil Bier-Tucker, Hal Downing, Jane Evans, Heather Hannon, Cathy Hinton, Amy Kirkland, Don Peachy, Cissy Spivey
- May 17 - Ben Anderson, Ray Johnson, Delaney Miller, Bob Redmon
- May 18 - Ginny Brenner
- May 19 - Jeremy Hellman, Elena Van Horn
- May 20 - Alia Hicks, Jonathan Miutz, Alec Watkins, Mike Zitzow
- May 21 - Cathy Krikland, Nancy Phillips, Michael Rosser, Tina Vetter
- May 22 - Elizabeth Eisenhower, Kenneth Inman, Judy Stewart
- May 23 - Charles Baker, Jackson Bartholomew, Kyle Cook
- May 24 - Cindy Calhoun, Joe Cullings, Ernie Earle, Logan Miller, Nicholas Roeber, Claire Zitzow
- May 25 - Sandra Ferguson, Grace Godfrey, Bill Julian, Trevor Rackley
- May 26 - David Williams, Jr.
- May 27 - Nancy Capek, Mike Rancka, Joseph Rioux VII, Liz Squitieri
- May 28 - Corrine Dantzler, Conner Edson, Jim Hare, Nan Johnson, Marshall Purvis, Pat Striker

- May 29 - Carol Kirchoff
- May 30 - Tara Godfrey, Keith Hickey, Kaley Remme, Molly Scott, Peyton Scott, Kayla Upadhyaya
- May 31 - Kristin Bannister, Joan Bernick, Tami Chalker, Alyssa Daniel, Sydney Elam, Jane Marshall, Phil Spiegel



Church Family News

New Members:

Marcia and Ted Dixon

Mark and Jessica Elmendorf
Vivienne

Lara and Chase Hill
Anna

Laura and Greg Mason
Ben

Baptisms:

Thomas McCormick King, son of Mary Helen and Eric
Anna Monroe Hill, daughter of Lara & Chase

Condolences to:

JoAnn Saxton, on the death of her husband, Bob.

Contact Us

The Brandermill Church
 4500 Millridge Parkway
 Midlothian, VA 23112
 (804) 744-3661
 (804) 744-9105 fax

www.brandermillchurch.org
 info@brandermillchurch.org

WORSHIP SERVICES AT

8:30, 9:45, 11:00 A.M.

Sunday School for all ages at 9:40 a.m.

Staff

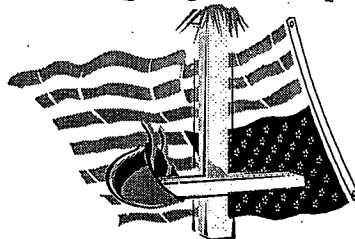
<i>Gordon Mapes, ext. 105</i>	<i>Pastor</i>
<i>Sandra Bottoms, ext. 108</i>	<i>Associate Pastor</i>
<i>Val White, ext. 103</i>	<i>Director of Adult & Children's Ministries</i>
<i>Rich Catlett, ext. 104</i>	<i>Director of Youth Ministries</i>
<i>Jamie Barrack, ext. 107</i>	<i>Director of Music Ministries</i>
<i>Dawn Rancka</i>	<i>Assistant Director of Music Ministries</i>
<i>Marcie Murphy, ext. 101</i>	<i>Administrator</i>
<i>Robin Johnson, ext. 113</i>	<i>Financial Administrator</i>
<i>Kim Peachy, Tonya Cory</i>	<i>Accompanists</i>
<i>Dawn Rancka, Jamie Barrack</i>	<i>Choir Directors</i>
<i>Debbie Ellison, ext. 106</i>	<i>Preschool Director</i>
<i>Ron Coleman, ext. 109</i>	<i>Preschool Treasurer</i>
<i>Robert Dunford</i>	<i>Custodian</i>



Sunday, May 30
ONE SERVICE
ONLY AT 10:00 AM

May God bless:

God Bless Our Troops



Address Service Requested

The Brandermill Church
 4500 Millridge Parkway
 Midlothian, VA 23112

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