



THE GOSPEL CHIMES

Jennifer Smith, Editor — May

FUMC GRADUATES FIRST FPU CLASS

The first Financial Peace University class is finished and from the evaluations, it seems that it was a big hit. Dr. Gary Brown commented, "This course, along with the fellowship that occurred during the weeks we spent learning from it, will change my relationship with Dawn, my children, and our "money" forever. This is a perfect 10, a double eagle, a gold medal..



From left, back row: Susan Greene, Scott Walker, Marty Osborne, Debbie Walker, Bob Beatty, Patty Beatty, Rev. Adams. Front row from left: Dawn & Gary Brown, Sharon Hobson, Joy Adams, Karen Salyer. Not pictured, David & Jennifer Smith.

.a true blessing from God" Sharon Hobson said, "The class was just wonderful. I think everyone could benefit by taking the class. The point that I keep remembering is that we are all just managers of money, we do not own it, therefore, we should take care of it and give

(continued pg 2)

First UMC
256 S. Arnold Ave.
Prestonsburg, KY 41653
Office: 886-8031
Parsonage 886-8431

Sunday

Sundav School 10 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
Beth Moore 6:00 p.m.
Sr. & Jr High Youth 6 p.m

Wednesday

Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.

Thursday

Quilting Circle 10:00 a.m.



BETH MOORE STUDY HAS BEGUN

It's tough being a woman. Life delivers it's share of knockout punches. You bob. You weave. You try to keep moving. But what do you do when you inevitably find yourself on the ropes?

Go into training with Beth Moore's newest study - *Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman*.

Facing heavyweights bent on her destruction, Esther trusted God and landed a blow that saved her people. Her destiny can be yours as you know more deeply the God who is in your corner.

On May 3rd , this fabulous study began, but there is still time to join. All are welcome!

Contact Nan Arnett at 886-2166 or narnett881@aol.com to register or order workbooks for \$14.95.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Church History	Pg 2
Upward Update	Pg 3
UMW News	Pg 3
Family Focus	Pg 5
Children's Ministry News	Pg 5
Music Ministry News	Back

(... FPU CONTINUED)

as the owner would want us to give ." FPU is the most important step to changing your financial future. It is your Total Money Makeover Program. It takes the knowledge from Scripture and turns it into real action in our lives through a step-by-step process taught by best-selling author and financial counselor Dave Ramsey. Not all the information has been gathered from participants, but what we do know is that this inaugural class was able to eliminate \$22,000 worth of debt and close 23 credit card accounts. And for those accounts that were not closed, the interest rates were renegotiated for lower fees. Better deals on insurance were experienced by all. Finally, all families established an Emergency Fund. A new class is starting very soon. Please contact Rev. Adams if interested. By *Rev. Adams*

OUR CHURCH HISTORY—LET THERE BE LIGHT

In 1904 the C & O Rail Road finally reached Floyd County, opening its rich coal reserves to the outside world. Operating on lands purchased and leased by John CC Mayo (with funding from church member W. S. Harkins of the Bank Josephine) the Consolidation Coal Company opened major mines in Van Lear and Auxier and built a medium-sized electrical generating station to power its coal operations. Rated with an output of approximately one megawatt, the plant's generating capacity was the greatest of any power plant then operating in Eastern Kentucky. Two years later the Consolidation Coal constructed a five megawatt turbine steam power plant at its operations in Jenkins, Kentucky and shortly thereafter the two plants were connected by transmission lines running along the Big Sandy. The combined capacity of these two plants, six megawatts, exceeded the needs of their mines and their associated camps so Consolidation Coal sold power to certain communities with access to the transmission line. Prestonsburg was among those communities.

Generating Plant at Van Lear, KY

Witt Layne, a Prestonsburg attorney and business man, formed a local electric company and purchased power from Consolidation Coal to be sold to his local community. His residence still stands and is straight across from our parking lot on Arnold Avenue...The former home of church members P. D. Harmison and his widow Josie (to become Josie Davidson). At first, power was limited and was available only at night when the demands of the coal mines were less. After the two power plants were connected more power became available, providing Prestonsburg with 'round-the-clock' electrical service. Developing and operating an electrical utility was and is very expensive so not all of Prestonsburg's neighborhoods were electrified immediately. Nancy Webb reports having used gas lights through the early part of her childhood despite electrical power having been available in some parts of Prestonsburg years earlier. Since Mr. Witt's home was on South Arnold Avenue, this street was among the first to be electrified after the business district.

In 1916, very near the time of the transmission line's completion, a new church was proposed for Prestonsburg. The congregation of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South had experienced a major revival and the flood of money brought by timber, coal, rail, and natural gas

interests had lifted both the fortunes and aspirations of the community. The church chose five men to head the building committee: Frank A. Hopkins, B.F. (French) Combs, Walter S. Wells, George Archer, and J. W. Jackson. Of these five, at least two would have better understood the implications of electrification. B. F. Combs was the general counsel for Consolidation Coal (who supplied the power) and the C & O Rail Road (a major user of power); and Samuel Wells who was general manager of Middle Creek Coal Corporation (that operated its own generating plant). The others would certainly have been familiar with electric lights through their travels and educational experiences, but probably had no real experience in lighting large spaces or knowledge of the different types of lighting available. This resulted in their choosing lighting fixtures for the new Church that were beautiful but inadequate for the task of lighting the cavernous sanctuary.

Photographs of the Church taken prior to 1971 appear dark and shadowy. Those that do appear brighter are obviously being made with copious amounts of flash or supplemental light: A sign of how dark the sanctuary was. This was clearly alluded to in church records by Ms. Emma Wells May (daughter of building committee member Walter S. Wells) when she was chosen to head a "renovation" committee in 1949. She stated at that time that the amount of light was so inadequate as to make night services nearly impossible and pressed for replacements.

(continued on page 4)

UPWARD UPDATE VBS UPDATE

Many of our parents and others interested in our children's ministry programs met over lunch on Sunday, April 26, to discuss a number of items relating to our children's ministry.

This summer we will not be doing a traditional Vacation Bible School. We will be doing an Upward Sports Camp, focusing on basketball and cheerleading. However, along with the sports camps, we will have a traditional VBS component for children ages 2-5. Upward Sports Camps are tailored for K-6 grade children. So, don't worry no child will be left out.

Our children's ministry team believes that this summer camp may be the most important outreach to children in our community that we can do this year. So please join us by providing scholarships for children who can't afford to attend; volunteering your time to coach, referee, lead devotions and Bible studies, and work concessions throughout the camp. After this camp, the monies earned from the concessions, will pay for scholarships, purchase sports



equipment, and send Upward team members to other Upward-related trainings.

The tentative date for the Upward Summer Camps is July 6-9. However the exact format has not been established. A volunteer card will be in the worship bulletins over the next month so that you can let the team know how you can help with the camp and what format of camp works best for you.

Please help us to make Upward Sports an integral part of our recreational and out-reach ministries at FUMC.
By Rev. Jim

Recipe of the Month - Heath Bar Angel Food Cake

Ingredients:

- 1 Box - Angel Food Cake Mix
- 1 Pint - Whipping Cream
- 1 Cup - Powdered Sugar
- 4 Tbsp - Cocoa Powder
- 6 - Heath Bars

Putting it all together:

1. Bake Angel food cake as directed on the box, cool, and slice the cake into three layers
2. In a mixing bowl, beat whipping cream until it begins to get thick
3. Sift together the powdered sugar and cocoa
4. Add the sugar and cocoa to the whipped cream and beat until thick
5. Fold in six crushed Heath bars
6. Spread the mixture between the angel food cake layers and all over the whole cake.
7. Refrigerate for a few hours until whipped cream mixture is set.

Submitted by Mable Brown

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women met on April 19th for a regular monthly meeting. The decision was made to disperse the proceeds from the Dessert Auction by giving \$500 to the FUMC Building/Maintenance fund and the other \$500 to the Sandy Valley Abuse Center. Shyla Meece and I purchased many items for the Spouse Abuse center such as towels, washcloths, pajamas, and undergarments.

In other business, I presented information about a company I have joined named Thirty One. The name Thirty-One is derived from the Old

Testament, where Proverbs 31 describes a virtuous woman who exhibits hard work, wisdom, encouragement and care for others. Because of these qualities she is worthy of reward, honor and praise. It is my intention to celebrate, encourage and reward women for who they are as individuals. What better group of women, than those of First United Methodist Church.

One year ago, I came to Prestonsburg with not much hope or heart. I attended First United Methodist Church and was touched instantly. The ladies of this church raised me up,

dusted me off, and held me up until I was able to go on my own. I celebrate you. On May 3rd, after the UMW meeting, I displayed items from my business such as

(continued on page 4)

CHURCH HISTORY (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

Tempting though it may be to put such an error down to ignorance by the original designers, it must be remembered that the standards of lighting were very different in 1916 than they are today.

Compared to oil lamps, gas lights, and candles, the electric lights probably seemed to be very bright indeed. What Ms. May described as an "error" in the construction of the church in 1949 might more likely have been thirty-three years of changing expectations.

Unfortunately, there do not appear to be any examples of the original chandeliers that hung in the sanctuary and the single picture this author has been able to view is of very poor quality. They appear to have been multi-light chandeliers with a central fixed globe that resembled the light fixture pictured above with six glass globes hanging down around it. They have been described as having possibly blue or with bluish decoration, and very beautiful. They hung in a single row end-to-end through the center of the sanctuary. Given that very few lighting sockets are rated to handle more than a sixty watt bulb, the total output of each chandelier would have been limited to 360 watts. This is a fraction of total output of the lights we are using today.

The 1960's ushered in a decade of change and discontent. The old became unfashionable and institutions of all kinds felt pressured to update and become more "modern". The generation that had built the new church was largely gone and its children and "new" members of the congregation had less attachment to the fixtures of the church. This was a time when function became more important than form. If something did not work or did not work well, then it should be replaced with something that did. The church's lamps at last yielded under the pressure of these forces of change. Records are inadequate to pinpoint the exact date the lights were changed, but according to Debbie Hicks and others, it was probably about 1971. The fixtures we now use are much more adequate for the space being lit. They are more numerous, they are more powerful, they can be dimmed, and they are buffered to extend bulb life. Gothic in style, they match the design of the sanctuary almost perfectly. They have done their job so well that the congregation has come to think of them as having always existed. A notion that is not true, but is reflective of a truth that good function often results in a certain amount of architectural amnesia.

Events usually come at us in a rush; rapid, unilinear, singular, and seemingly unrelated. In truth even the seemingly simple is interrelated and complex; arising from the times and events in which it is experienced. In our story, the humble lighting of a Church required the coalescence of many personalities, social movements, and economic forces to produce an outcome that has worked so well for so long that we have forgotten how singular and remarkable it all was. By Floyd Davis



This is an example of the original lights surviving in private homes. Carlos Haywood purchased one of the old fixtures when they were removed and had it restored for use in her dining room. These are the lights that were used along the

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

purses, bags, totes, spa items, and kid collection from Thirty One. If you did not make it on May 3, I will have an event set up on my web page. There you can look through the catalog and shop at your convenience. I will be donating to the UMW 10% of the total sales! What better way to earn money for all of our many needs and to help others.

www.mythirtyone.com/8175

By Jennifer Smith

FOCUS ON A FAMILY—ROSLYN & ROBERT BURCHETT

Robert and I started attending FUMC at Prestonsburg when we married in 1954 and have attended there continuously since then. We will be celebrating our 55th wedding anniversary September 3rd of this year. We did not change our membership until the early 60's. We raised our two children in FUMC and our daughter Diana (Turner), her husband Neil, and two sons, Josh and Matt, are still very active in the church. Our son, Harry, lives in Nicholasville and he and his family attend Southside Christian Church in Lexington. His son is presently attending Cincinnati Christian College where he is aspiring to become a minister in the Christian Church. Both Diana and Harry were baptized by emersion on 4/10/66, after attending Confirmation classes under the then present minister.

Through the years, Robert has been Chairman of Trustees, a member of the Administrative Council, attended Sunday School, and for several years sang with the Chancel Choir.

I taught Sunday School here for 16 years, was chairman of our Circle, for several years was Secretary for both the United Methodist Women and the Administrative council, at one time was a member of our Women's bowling team and the "Golden Girls" softball team. I also assisted with the Kindergarten classes for a couple of years, which we had in our Church in the 60's. I am presently a member of the Methodist Sewing Circle.

We have always enjoyed our Church family. We have welcomed several ministers and experienced many changes over the years. And we still enjoy all the activities afforded by the Church. I don't know

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

We now have a new ministry available for our two and three year old children. Wee Worship! During the month of March we started trying it out with the nursery kids. It was a huge success and the toddlers loved participating. When the older children go down for Children's Church, the toddlers will gather in the "Noah's Ark" room. They will have a lesson from Cokesbury's Live B.I.G. curriculum, a craft or coloring, and a light snack. It has been a fun and exciting opportunity for our children. If you would like to volunteer to help with this new ministry you can contact Amy Burchett at 886-3325 or make a note on the back of you attendance sheet.

If you're looking to become a more active member of our church community, Children's Church is a great place to volunteer your time! We have a very successful program for ages 4-9. Each Sunday during the regular church service our children participate in a Bible lesson, a prayer, Bible crafts and activities. We are always in need of more volunteers!! If you are interested in volunteering as a Children's Church instructor or would like to donate snack or craft items please call the church office 886-8031 or Erin Burchett 874-4395 for more details. We look forward to seeing you there! Upcoming Children's Church volunteers are:

May 3 Julie Paxton	June 7 Erin Burchett
10. Robin Smith	14. Amy Burchett
17. Diane Turner	21. Julie Paxton
24. Kristin Garrett	27. Robin Smith
31. Brad and Jenny Burchett	

A Record of our Faithfulness for April 2009

Average Attendance : Sunday School—36, Morning
Worship—120

What makes good mothers?

It is a pertinent question whose answer cannot be contained within a few words. Mothers comprise of a bundle of emotions that sometimes defy reason. So this goes out to all the mothers who have kept awake all night with their sick toddlers in their arms, constantly uttering those compassionate words, "It's OK honey, Mommy's here."

For all the mothers who run carpools and make cookies and sew Halloween costumes. And all the mothers who don't

For those who show up at work with milk stains on their dress and diapers in their handbags.

For those mothers who cannot restrain tears from trickling down their cheeks when they hold their babies for the first time in their arms; and for the mothers who give birth to babies they'll never see.

For the mothers who gave homes to babies and gifted them a family.

For the mothers who yell at their kids who clamor for ice cream before dinner.

For the mothers who defy all odds just to watch kids perform and repeat to themselves "That's my child!"

For all the mothers who read "Goodnight, Moon" twice a night for a year, and then read it again. "Just one more time."

For the mothers who taught their children to tie the shoelaces even before they started going to school.

For the mothers who incontinently turn their heads when they hear the word "Mom", even though they know that their kids are nowhere around.

For the mothers who silently shed tears for their children who have gone astray.

For all those mothers whose heart aches to watch her son or daughter disappear down the street, walking to school alone for the very first time.

For all the mothers of the victims of all these school shootings, and the mothers of those who were involved in the shooting.

For the mothers of the Survivors, and the mothers who sat in front of their TVs in horror, clinging to their child who just arrived from school safely.

**So, this is meant for all the young and aged mothers, working m
housewives, married mothers, and the single mothers, those with
without and for those without whom life would have been insuffe
you a very Happy Mother's Day!!**



MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

Children to Sing for Mothers' Day

It has become a beautiful tradition for our children to sing during morning worship on Mothers' Day. This Mothers' Day (May 10) they will sing The Butterfly Song. Practices will be during Wee Church and Children's Church. Parents, please see Rebecca for more information.

His Eye Is On the Sparrow

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow, And I know He cares
for me.

This old hymn of the faith was written by Mrs. William Stillman (Civilla) Martin. Mrs. Stillman had already written the hymn God Will Take Care of You following an illness. Mrs. Martin said this about her inspiration to the write the song based in the scriptures outlined below.

Early in the spring of 1905, my husband and I were sojourning in Elmira, New York. We contracted a deep friendship for a couple by the name of Mr. And

Mrs. Doolittle--true saints of God. Mrs. Doolittle had been bedridden for nigh twenty years. Her husband was an incurable cripple who had to propel himself to and from his business in a wheel chair. Despite their afflictions, they lived happy Christian lives, bringing inspiration and comfort to all who know them. One day while we were visiting with the Doolittles, my husband commented on their bright hopefulness and asked them for the secret of it. Mrs. Doolittle's reply was simple: "His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me." The beauty of this simple expression of boundless faith gripped the hearts and fired the imagination of Dr. Martin and me. The hymn "His Eye Is on the Sparrow" was the outcome of that experience.

Matthew 10:29-31

Not one sparrow (What do they cost? Two for a penny?) can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. And the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't worry! You are more valuable to him than many sparrows. (The Living Bible)

By *Rebecca Haywood*

ON THE WEB

[HTTP://FUMC-PRESTONSBURG.ORG](http://fumc-prestonsburg.org)
