



# Lakeview NEWS

*July 2008*

2624 East Parkview Drive

St. Albans, WV 25177

Richie McNeil, Pastor (304) 727-4681

Lakeviewunitedmethodistchurch.net



## In the Pastor's Mind

Wake up! Wake up! Lakeview church is wide awake and is not dead! There are people walking and talking and serving and praising God! I have seen the talent and gifts of the people of Lakeview church in just three weeks. And go figure, they told me that this church was dead. Well I see people praising God and walking around with smiles and with passion and with ideas to serve Jesus Christ! When I walked in church on Sunday July 6<sup>th</sup> I did not see tombstones, I saw hungry Christians. Praise the Lord Jesus Christ for all of you!

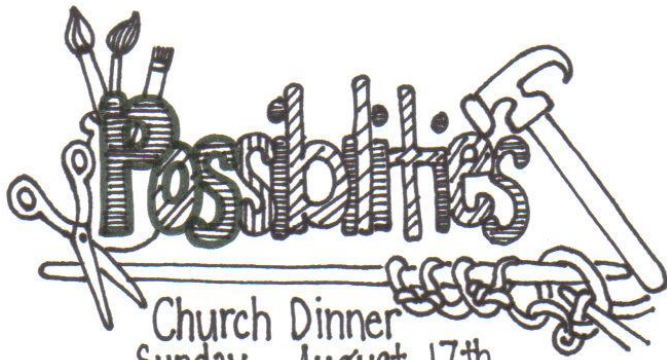
The United Methodist Church slogan states "Open Minds, Open Hearts, and Open Doors." You are not very open when you say a church is dead. Can I get an Amen? I think we need a new slogan that reads "You are never too old to do ministry and you are never too young to do ministry!" Brothers and sisters in Christ I believe we are on a new journey here and it is going to take a lot of effort and a lot of sacrifice. Let's face it we are getting older and in the next three to six decades a lot of Christians at Lakeview and many other UMC churches will lose a lot of elders of the church to the Kingdom of God. So, if you want your children and your children's children to have the UM church to go to then we need to start putting our thinking caps on. We need to seek the wisdom of God to figure out how to bring in all ages of people and then keep them here at Lakeview and other UM churches.

It's time that the old listen to the young and the young listen to the old! Both need to humble themselves and seek wisdom from each other. In other words let's shut up and stop complaining about "what the young does wrong and the old don't listen or relate to us." Let's start finding the good in people! Hey we were young once too! We have all had our moments of ignorance. Many generations to come are going to do stupid things but while they are doing stupid things let's give them a foundation in their lives that they can call upon and come to when they need help or a listening ear.

Here is some scripture to chew on. 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows. If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer. And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort." I think you get the idea.

From your bald pastor,

Rev. Rich



Church Dinner  
Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 pm

A pepperoni roll and salad dinner will be provided. Pastor Richie will lead a brief devotion followed by a hands-on chance to begin some crafts for our Possibilities craft show where all the money raised goes to charity. Come for good fellowship and a chance to ask questions. Children's activities provided.

Questions? Call....  
Pastor Richie  
Karen Kersey  
Linda Martin  
Marilyn Colby

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## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mary Ferguson and opened with a reading and prayer. Those present in addition to Mary were Pastor Richie, Marilyn Colby, Franki Noble, Karen Kersey, Robin Black, Bill Casto, Norma & Bud Newbrough, & Marilyn Morton. We welcomed Franki Noble to the meeting - she will replace Nicole Milam as chair of the Nurture Committee. Motion carried to accept the minutes of the June meeting as printed.

**Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer's report was distributed. Income for the month was average and we were not able to make a Conference Apportionment payment.

**Christian Education** - Programs are continuing as scheduled, with some concern because of the lack of helpers in our Sunday School/Children's Church/Nursery area. We still need volunteers for various jobs.

Kathi McCormick & Leslie Boden will move the furniture from the choir room to the room across the hall (the one with the phone) for children's church to be held there.

Vacation Bible School was a success with approximately 45 different children attending on some of the nights.

**Worship** - Committee met July 14<sup>th</sup> and decided the following:

- 1- We will continue with the flower delivery as it is currently set up.
- 2- Eric's paten has been misplaced, and we will continue to search for this.
- 3- A new prayer chain list will be attached to the newsletter.
- 4- The possibility of a Bible Study in the fall was discussed.
- 5- We will secure a liturgist to help with the service.
- 6- Youth acolytes will be used starting in September.
- 7- A cookout will be scheduled October 5<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 pm at the church in conjunction with St. Luke.

**Family Ministries/Outreach** - Thanks were expressed to all those who helped with Bible School.

In June when Riverlake Residents held their fishing tournament, we offered donuts, coffee & milk and the use of our restrooms for participants. The money earned (\$22) will be used for Apportionment.

**Nurture** - The committee will meet July 22, 7 pm at the church.

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL- CONTINUED

**Parsonage Committee** – The McNiels used some of the window treatments that they owned for the bedroom windows in the parsonage. Lakeview furnished new treatments for the LR/DR windows plus some paint. We owe the McNiels a special thank you for their work in purchasing and installing the window treatments.

**PS/PRC** – PS/PRC had a farewell for Pastor Eric on June 29 following church service and presented him with luggage plus some “traveling money” and wished him well in his next assignment.

PS/PRC also had a welcome breakfast for Pastor Richie & Leslie on July 6<sup>th</sup> before the worship service.

Moving and associated costs came to \$741.99, considerably less than the \$1,500 expected. This is a shared cost; Lakeview’s share will be \$525.33.

On Sunday, July 13, a joint Charge Conference was held at Lakeview to approve Pastor Richie’s salary and the share for each church.

**Trustees** – The remaining item to be installed in the new bathroom is the cabinets and we are currently working on completing this.

In checking with the roofer, plans are to work on Lakeview’s roof the week of July 28. We currently have \$10,742 in the roof fund, but total cost will be \$14,600.

**Pastor’s Report** – Plans are to have an open house at the parsonage later this fall.

One of the priorities is to visit parishioners (especially those who are unable to attend the worship services).

Plans are to spend some hours in Lakeview’s office; some in St. Luke’s office, some days to visit, some time to

prepare for Sunday’s Service and Friday is the pastor’s day off. When we are able to move back in to the pastor’s office, a clearer schedule will be made available. Also, everyone is encouraged to leave a message if they don’t reach him, and he will return the call.

Some events on Pastor Richie’s schedule: Residency at Jackson Mills, September 17 & 18 and October 23 & 24, and Pastor’s School October 1-4.

**Miscellaneous** - Pastor Richie met with Karen Kersey about a program “Possibilities” and after discussing this, it was decided to have a dinner August 17, 5:30 pm at the church to help people understand this concept. The program involves sharing your talents, evangelism, and giving to those less fortunate. More information will be available shortly.

The Pastor’s pictures which have been on display in the hall have faded with time. Bud Newbrough is planning to replace these with copies (details to be worked out-because of digital photography, pictures are no longer printed from negatives, etc., these can be done in sepia tones or black and white, etc.) and is working with Don Morton to accomplish this. Also, to obtain Pastor Eric’s photo we have to secure this from Olan Mills and there will be a charge which will be billed to the church. Council unanimously approved this venture.

Someone in the church has volunteered to cook a dinner for which we can sell tickets to help make our Apportionment payments. Plans are to schedule this shortly.

Reminder: Our fall yard sale – September 20.

Next Administrative Council meeting will be Tuesday, August 5, 7 pm.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Pastor Richie.

## NOTES FROM THE UNKNOWN REPORTER

Here we go, **Lakeview!** We are pleased to have **Pastor Richie McNeil** and his wife **Leslie** as our new clergy family and they have expressed thanks for the warm welcome they have received. On July 6, **Pastor Richie's** first Sunday with us, a breakfast was held to welcome them to our congregation. We thank those members of the **PSPR Committee** that provided the breakfast. I know they included **Linda Martin, Carol Fry, Carol Davis** and **Dot Hamon**. Perhaps there were others whose names this reporter was unaware of and we thank them also.

You may have noticed that the church has taken on a new appearance with many beach murals in evidence. Of course, these murals and other decorations are for the **Beach Party Vacation Bible School** that was held from July 6 to July 10. **Robin Black** and her team of volunteers Surfed' the Scriptures during the week of VBS. We thank and praise God for the leadership and their hard work, but most of all, we thank God for the 40+ children who came and participated throughout the week. We thank the congregation for supporting this important ministry in the church, especially for the sponsoring of the t-shirts for the children.

On June 29 we bid a fond farewell to **Pastor Eric, Nicole, Caleb** and the new baby. We were saddened to learn that they were victims of an auto accident. **Nicole's** car hydroplaned and she spun around three times and then Eric ran into **Nicole's** car. One of the cars was totaled, the other sustained \$4,000.00 damages. We thank and praise God that none of them (including their gestating new baby girl), was injured. We send love and

prayers that they will soon be able to be back on their feet ready to serve God and their new congregation. Should you wish to send them a note or a card, their new address is:

**Pastor Eric and Nicole Milam**  
**P.O. Box 2051**  
**Shady Springs, WV 25918**  
**Phone 304-763-2266**

We thank the **Pastor/Staff Parish Relations Committee** who hosted the reception after **Eric's** last Sunday. The congregation presented a gift of luggage to the **Milams**. We especially thank **Marilyn Morton** for the delicious goodies she provided for the reception.

**Julie Simon's Community Sing** was a lot of fun. She brought along her husband, **Reverend Paul Romine**, and he brought his banjo and guitar. Round up your friends and neighbors to come to the next one to be held on July 27 at 7:00 pm!

**Julie** invited **Flutist Betty King** to participate in our Worship service recently and it was a joy to hear her! We thank them both for a lovely morning of worship music.

The **Lakeview Choir** is on summer hiatus for a few weeks and we wish those folks a welcome respite from the rigors of choir practice and performance each week. **Seriously, though we welcome the break, it is a joy to be in the choir and some of the rest of you should consider joining in the fun when the choir reconvenes in August. I know you will feel welcomed.**

**Doris Herscher** reports that the gymnasium in the **Ayash Sport Complex** in Saint Albans has been renamed in memory of her son, **Bill Herscher**. We

## NOTES FROM THE UNKNOWN REPORTER - CONTINUED

know it will be a fitting memorial for a fine young man who lost his life to cancer at too early an age.

We thought by now that our roof would have been repaired. Maybe the Lord is waiting until we have ALL the money donated before He sees fit to send the roofers our way. We are still about **\$4,000.00** short of our goal, and with all of the rain we have been having, it is a wonder that we have been spared damage.

We congratulate our **Rick Whitman** who was named **Coach of the Year in Kanawha County** for having an outstanding baseball team this year. Wife **Jessica** and children **Drew and Avery** are duly proud of their husband and daddy.

We are proud to announce the graduation of one of our former members who moved to **Franklin, WV**. **Justin Dale Dahmer** is a recent graduate of Pendleton County High School. He is the son of **Pam and Roger Dahmer**, brother of **Erin and Ryan** and the grandson of our **Macie Dahmer**. Congratulations, Justin!

It was a pleasure to meet our new **District Superintendent, Ed Grant**, at the recent **Charge Conference** held at **Lakeview**. Several members of both **Lakeview and St. Luke's** were present for the meeting that was called to conduct the business of approving the pastor's salary. **Marilyn Morton** provided refreshments. Thanks, **Marilyn**.

## Pastor Richie Thumbnail Interview

In a brief conversation with our Pastor Richie, the unknown reporter has learned these things, some of which you may already know.

Pastor Richie McNeil and wife Leslie Frye McNeil reside at 358 Parkview Drive, Saint Albans. They have recently acquired a new puppy, a Boston Terrier named Roxy. Someone told me that Roxy was a gift for Leslie's birthday (June 10). Richie and Leslie have been married three years and their anniversary date is June 4. Pastor Richie's birthday is October 21.

Other interesting facts gleaned from Pastor Richie are:

He is allergic to mold, Leslie is allergic to cats.

Favorite Color is-- you guessed it--black.

Favorite Food -- Italian in general and pizza in particular.

Favorite Treat -- an all-encompassing SWEETS!

Pet Peeve -- waiting for food in restaurants, though he was hard pressed to come up with one.

Favorite Teams--Marshall and Notre Dame.

Favorite Sports--Basketball, Track and Golf and then, all the others, probably.

### The Finance Corner

	Income	Expense	Conf. Pmt*	Gnrl Fnd Bal
Jun-08	\$8,616.71	\$8,057.60	\$0.00	\$342.80
Year-to-Date	\$53,656.21	\$53,329.82	\$2,988.01	

\*Lakeview has made almost 2 conference apportionment payments in 2008.

## Lakeview United Methodist Church Prayer Chain 2008

### Call for the Prayer

**Fran Casto**  
727-9570



**Marilyn Morton**  
727-5077



**Charlie Fry**  
727-9861

**Ron & Marilyn Colby**  
727-2667  
550-6866-c

**Pastor Richie**  
553-3661-c  
722-4451-h

**Dick & Linda Thompson**  
727-3723

**Dave & Barbara Koontz**  
727-6556

**Norma Newbrough**  
727-7739

**Sis Bailey**  
722-3584

**Jim Rose**  
722-5566  
553-6516-c

**Kathi McCormick**  
722-3659

**Dot Hamon**  
727-7186

**Jim & Francis Paxton**  
727-3755

**Karen Wilson**  
722-5477  
859-533-7859-c

**Mary Ferguson**  
727-2817  
549-1588-c

**Ruth Anderson**  
727-8229

**Doris Herscher**  
727-8169

**Vanessa Goodwin**  
722-3840

**Helen Cherry**  
722-3642

**Georgeann McKinney**  
727-4037

**Matt Goodwin**  
304-415-0246

When someone wants to start a new prayer chain request, please call one of the folks whose name is listed at the top of the page. Either Fran, Marilyn or Charlie will then inform the other two leaders and then each will call the list below his or her name.