



**PRAY. GIVE. GO.**

**ISSUE 2, FEBRUARY 2012**

**A HOME FOR ALL**

**REV. JUDY FENDER, MINISTER OF MISSIONS**

**Home** is the theme for our February mission emphasis at BUMC. A common definition of home is “a place where one lives or a dwelling place together”. Apartments, single family homes, condos, trailers or motels serve as homes for single persons or some type of family grouping. We know that for some it may be their cars or tents in the woods. For persons with intellectual disabilities, injuries, physical limitations or mental illness it could be an institutional settings. I am so blessed and relieved that I and my loved ones have a home. Almost everyone has the innate desire to call some place home and belong to a family or group that cares about their well-being. BUMC has two opportunities to help others enjoy the blessing of “home”. Through your generosity, during our Lenten of-

fering, our B5 ministry will continue to fight poverty and offer a helping hand to those who need a home. We are glad to have a new family to mentor. Likewise our February 12 offering for Heart Haven will allow intellectually disabled adults to live in loving, secure group homes forming a family unit.

The familiar biblical passage on the next page speaks to me of a time when the path to God will be equal and fair with no obstacles. It also reminds me that it is our Good Shepherd’s perfect will that all of God’s children have a place to call home. As the “work of Christmas” continues I pray that burke UMC will continue to advocate for the homeless and those with disabilities...wishing the same blessings for them that we enjoy.



**HUNGRY KIDS MINISTRY**

Many children that attend Burke Elementary do not have sufficient food resources to carry them through the weekend. Last fall, a local Girl Scout Troop in conjunction with BUMC began assembling food bags for kids to take home each Friday. These bags include microwavable meals, oatmeal, fruit cups and juice boxes, and other nutritional snacks to help bridge the gap until they return to school on Monday.

Want to help? Food donations are collected in the entry hall all month long and bags are assembled the 4th Wednesday of every month!



### JANUARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 120 hot breakfasts
- 80 Sunday lunches for Rising Hope
- Coats, gloves and mittens for Bailey Elementary School
- 80 lunches for the Lamb Center
- 80 weekend food bags for Burke Elementary School
- Gift cards and Kids Coats to Wesley Housing
- Financial assistance to Interfaith Housing families

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## B5

### Brick by Brick by Burke

For several years, BUMC has been a partner with FACETS, a non-profit organization working to break the cycle of poverty in Fairfax County. Two of the programs BUMC participates in are:

#### **Hypothermia Prevention.**

BUMC hosted about 40 homeless people overnight for a week in December

**Linda's Gateway.** BUMC has provided operating funds and mentoring for families in the program who have been recently homeless and are striving for economic sufficiency.

BUMC has recently taken on the mentoring of another family at Linda's Gateway. We look forward to working with this family, a mother with two small children, as she works on her job search and other things needed to get settled in a new part of the country.

Our Lenten offering this year will be for BUMC's B5 Project, as we work with FACETS to provide both financial support and loving, caring volunteers and mentors. By serving both this family and others in our county, we can help to break the cycle of poverty. Look for more information as Lent approaches

## BUMC MISSIONS

## PRAY. GIVE. GO.

### FEBRUARY IS HEART HAVEN MONTH

Currently in Virginia, there are more than 17,000 adults with intellectual disabilities living with parents who are over the age of 60. In 1996 the United Methodist Church established Heart Havens to provide group homes for these adults.

On Sunday, Feb. 12, BUMC is taking up a special collection to help this worthwhile ministry. There is also a collection box, located on the Missions Table, during the rest of the month. Your contribution will help one of the 5,600 adults now on a waiting list for services from Heart Haven.

*Isaiah 40:3-5*

*A voice cries out: "in the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken*



#### **SAVE THE DATE**

Volunteers in Mission (VIM) trip to the Dominican Republic. Late May or early June.

Rebuilding Together. Saturday, April 28. Join us in doing hands-on repair work for someone who needs a helping hand.

Change the World. Saturday May 19. Fill "Stop Hunger Now" food bags and do other mission activities.

Call Church Office for contact information.