



# The *Asbury Messenger*

February 2008

## Words to Think About

We stand on the shoulders of others and we need to remember that we have feet upon ours. This means that we must walk in a way that will not cause others and ourselves to fall. Life is too short to stoop for anything and fall for everything.

Living so that others may reach higher than we, is displaying the love of Christ as he told his disciples that they will do greater works than he did.

*The Message* gives light to this point as seen in John 14:11-14

11-14"Believe me: I am in my Father and my Father is in me. If you can't believe that, believe what you see—these works. The person who trusts me will not only do what I'm doing but even greater things, because I, on my way to the Father, am giving you the same work to do that I've been doing. You can count on it. From now

on, whatever you request along the lines of who I am and what I am doing, I'll do it. That's how the Father will be seen for who he is in the Son. I mean it. Whatever you request in this way, I'll do."

It is our responsibility to walk so that others will have a firm foundation. This work is to be done with love that empowers all involved. Think about it!

Rev. Morton

## Black History Month Celebration

For 21 years, Asbury has celebrated Black History Month by inviting a variety of speakers to share their perspectives of issues related to the Black community. This year, the Church is pleased to have Dr. Hugh

Jenkins, Ms. Mekeisha Williams, Mrs. Rhonda Poindexter, and Rev. Keith Cummings, Sr. joining us. The Celebration of Black History will conclude on February 24 with a Soul Food potluck dinner following service.

Remember to invite your family and friends to hear these phenomenal speakers. Special thanks are given to Dr. Ben Dixon and Rev. Morton for their hard work in planning this year's series.

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*Season of Lent*

# Black History Month Speakers



**Carter G. Woodson,  
Historian**

*“One of the best things about being a lifelong member of the United Methodist Church is the feeling of inclusiveness that I sense. There is an unabashed enthusiasm about recognizing racial diversity. Whether one is red, yellow, brown, black or white, everyone has a place at United Methodism’s table. Each group comes to the table with its unique perspective and past, and all are honored, accepted and appreciated just as they are. This is one of our great denomination’s undeniable strengths.”*

- Rev. Sheron Patterson  
Pastor, Highland Hills UMC  
Dallas, Texas



**Dr. Hugh Jenkins, Medical Director**  
**Emergency Services, Montgomery Regional Hospital**

**February 3**

Dr. Hulan (Hugh) Jenkins, MD was born in Boston and grew up in West Palm Beach, Florida. He gives all credit for his success to God and his parents Hulon and Melanie Jenkins who encouraged him to at all times to be the best that he could be. He attended Florida State University and received a BS in Biology. He graduated from the University of Florida College of Medicine with the MD degree. He did

specialty training in Emergency Medicine at the University of Cincinnati and is Board certified in Emergency medicine. He also received an MBA in healthcare administration. He has been a department director for over 20 years of Emergency Departments in Florida, inner city Detroit and now Southwest Virginia. He currently is a regional medical director and Vice President of Client

Services for his company Emergency Physicians Medical Group based in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He is also currently on the Board of Trustees at Montgomery Regional Hospital. He has administrative medical responsibility for 5 hospital emergency departments at this time. He has lived in Blacksburg since 2000 with his two children Hulon 7 and Melorie 9, and his wife Kimberlyn Atherton a dentist.

**Ms. Mekeisha P. Williams, Director**  
**University Organizational Development, Virginia Tech**

**February 10**

Mekeisha received an undergraduate degree in Political Science with a minor in Spanish from UNC-Charlotte, and a master's degree in Public Administration from North Carolina Central University. She is a certified provider of the Meyers Briggs Type Indicator, Fundamental Interpersonal Relationships Organizations (FIRO-B), Discovery Leadership Profile (Decision Style Profile), and Press Time simulation for team building and strategic planning. Mekeisha is

also Development Dimensional International Certified (DDI) in courses such as Delegating for Productivity and Growth, Guiding Conflict Resolution, Preparing Others to Succeed, Core Skills for Building Commitment, Leadership: Facilitating Change, and the Empowering Leader. Mekeisha has written and received grants from the W.K. Kellogg foundation and Center for Disease control to create leadership development programs

that surround business planning and “Managing in times of crisis”. She has worked with various organizations such as the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Commission of Indian affairs, Minority Health Council, Blue cross and Blue Shield, Omaha Public Health Institute, UNC Chapel Hill Public Health Institute, Novant Healthcare systems, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and many more developing leadership institutes.

**Ms. Rhonda W. Poindexter, Principal**  
**Christiansburg High School, Montgomery County Schools**

**February 17**

Rhonda W. Poindexter is a native of Newport News, Virginia. After moving to the New River Valley in 1985, she began working at the Radford Army Ammunition Plant. Realizing that her true desire was to continue the Legacy of education as was her grandfather's wish for his descendents, Mrs. Poindexter enrolled at New River Community College after being laid off. She completed a two-year university program and enrolled at Virginia Tech where she earned a B.A. in Liberal Arts and Sciences. She continued her studies and earned a Masters of Arts in Education in Curriculum and Instruction.

Mrs. Poindexter was hired by Roanoke City Public

Schools and taught English and History at Lucy Addison Aerospace Magnet Middle School. Wanting to further her educational career, Mrs. Poindexter went back to Virginia Tech and obtained an Ed.S in Administration and Supervision. Mrs. Poindexter became an assistant principal at William Ruffner Middle School in Roanoke.

In 2005, Mrs. Poindexter was employed by Montgomery County Public Schools as an assistant principal at Blacksburg High School. During second semester of the same school year, Mrs. Poindexter became Supervisor of Secondary Education.

In 2006, Mrs. Poindexter became interim and eventually the permanent principal of Christiansburg High School. Her goal is to affect change on a larger scale.

Mrs. Poindexter attends Radford Church of God In Christ where she serves as the Program Developer for the Heads-Up Tutorial program. She is also a member of the Tau Mu Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and the Roanoke Chapter of The Links, Inc.

Her husband Ronald is her constant supporter. She has a son, Ronald Andre' Watson III.



*To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*

I Corinthians  
12:7 (NRSV)

**Rev. Kenneth W. Cummings, Sr. District Superintendent**      **February 24**  
**Frankfort District, Kentucky Conference of the United Methodist Church**



Rev. Kenneth Cummings, Sr. received his Bachelor of Arts from Paine College in Augusta, GA. He then pursued his

Master of Religious Education from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta which he received in 1980. And in 1993, Rev. Cummings received his Doctor of Ministry from the United Theological Seminary in

Dayton, Ohio. His study context was *Economic and Social Justice Issues: The Role of the Church and Pastor*. Rev. Cummings began his career in the United Methodist Church at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Ripley, Mississippi. During his career, he has been the pastor of churches in Mississippi, Ohio and Kentucky. He has also taught classes at the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, and is currently an instructor in

Homiletics at Lexington Theological Seminary. And in 2004, Rev. Cummings was appointed District Superintendent of the Frankfort District in the Kentucky Conference of the United Methodist Church. Rev. Cummings has traveled extensively with the Church and serves on the Board of Church World Service and Witness. He is a member of the Black Methodist for Church Renewal, NAACP and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc the Psi Rho Chapter.

# Asbury and Community Calendar

|             |  |         |
|-------------|--|---------|
| February 1  | NAACP Youth  | 10 am   |
|             | The Montgomery-County Radford City-Floyd County Youth Council meets at Asbury this month.  |         |
| February 4  | Finance Committee  | 6 pm    |
|             | Administrative Council   | 7 pm    |
| February 6  | Ash Wednesday  |         |
|             | Ash Wednesday Service will begin at 7 pm.  |         |
| February 6  | United Methodism 101   | online  |
|             | This basic course is an online class designed for new United Methodists and anyone wanting to know more about the denomination, as well as long-time United Methodists who would like to check their basic knowledge of the Church. This completely online course takes about 4 hours to complete at the participant's leisure and includes many interactive features, including: discussion forums, quizzes, Flash animation, video and audio clips. The next session of UM 101 will begin February 6, 2008 and run through March 19, 2008. Visit <a href="http://www.umcom.com">www.umcom.com</a> to learn more. |         |
| February 7  | National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day  |         |
| February 9  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Black History Month Gospel Concert  |         |
|             | Fred Hammond with special guests Zie'L and featuring the winner of the You Tube gospel singing contest. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the UUSA Ticket Office or online at <a href="http://www.uusa.vt.edu">www.uusa.vt.edu</a> . The concert will be in Burruss Auditorium and begins at 4:30 pm. This concert is sponsored by the Office for Equal Opportunity, Office of Multicultural Affairs and Virginia Tech.   |         |
| February 10 | UM Men's Breakfast   | 7 am    |
| February 10 | UM Youth   | 12:30pm |
| February 10 | "A Servant Leader"   |         |
|             | Rev. Morton and the choir have been invited to First Missionary Baptist Church. Please join us on this day at 3 pm.  |         |
| February 12 | Democratic and Republican Primaries  |         |
|             | Remember to vote for the candidate of your choice.   |         |
| February 16 | Ecumenical Alliance  | 7:30 am |
| February 17 | UM Women   | 12:30pm |
| February 18 | Pastor-Parish Relations Committee  | 6:30 pm |
| February 21 | Asbury Messenger Deadline  |         |
|             | If you have information, an article to submit, celebrations or suggestions, please submit those to Karen Jones at <a href="mailto:karenj1908@hotmail.com">karenj1908@hotmail.com</a> .   |         |
| February 24 | Soul Food Dinner   |         |
|             | The delicious conclusion to our Celebration of Black History.  |         |
| February 24 | NAACP General Body Meeting   | 3:30 pm |
|             | The Montgomery County-Radford City-Floyd County Branch of the NAACP meets each month at the Christiansburg Community Center.   |         |
| February 25 | Trustee Committee  | 6 pm    |

## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday

Sunday School 9:45 am

Worship 11 am

### Wednesday

Choir 6:30 pm

Rehearsal

Prayer Meeting & Bible Study (Schaeffer) 7 pm

### Thursday

Senior Bible Study 10:30 am

## 2008 Community Lenten Worship

Lunch 11:30 am

Worship

February 15

Our Savior Lutheran Church

February 22

St. Paul United Methodist Church

February 29

First Church of God

Sponsored by the Christiansburg Ministerial Alliance

*Season of Lent*