

UNION CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

<http://www.gbgm-umc.org/ucumc>

umcgospel@aol.com

CHURCH OFFICE 748-6329

PASTOR BROWN 748-1358

April 20, 2008

8:30 AM

PRELUDE:

Betty Phinney

ANNOUNCEMENTS

8:25 AM

***GREETINGS & GATHERINGS:** “And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.” **Isaiah 35:10 RSV**

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** “In Thee, O LORD, do I seek refuge; let me never be put to shame; in Thy righteousness deliver me! Incline Thy ear to me, rescue me speedily! Be Thou a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me! Yea, Thou art my rock and my fortress; for Thy name's sake lead me and guide me, take me out of the net which is hidden for me, for Thou art my refuge. Into Thy hand I commit my spirit; Thou hast redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God. Thou hatest those who pay regard to vain idols; but I trust in the LORD. I will rejoice and be glad for Thy steadfast love, because Thou hast seen my affliction, Thou hast taken heed of my adversities, and hast not delivered me into the hand of the enemy; Thou hast set my feet in a broad place. Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye is wasted from grief, my soul and my body also. For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away. I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me. I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. Yea, I hear the whispering of many, terror on every side! as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life. But I trust in Thee, O LORD, I say, "Thou art my God." My times are in Thy hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors! Let Thy face shine on Thy servant; save me in Thy steadfast love!” **Psalms 31:1-16 RSV**

HYMNS OF PRAISE: “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” #110
”Ye Servants of God” #181

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** The Apostles' Creed #881

***GLORIA PATRI:** #70

UNISON PRAYER: O God, our Heavenly Father, we thank You and praise You for this day and for the opportunity You have given us in this good land to gather and to worship You without fear. Most Holy God, we pray that You would be with us in this place of praise

and prayer and that through the ministry of Your Holy Spirit You would form the minds of Your faithful people into the mind of Christ our Lord. Make us love what You command and desire what You promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found and that our every action might show forth the light of Your Son, Christ Jesus our Lord, He who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever and who has taught us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING IN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP: “Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also.”

John 14:1-3 RSV

Welcoming Our Visiting Friends

Sharing of Our Testimonies, Joy and Blessings

Sharing our Prayer Concerns

BAPTISMAL SERVICE: Cameron Tyler Cook

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: With God's help we will so order our lives after the example of Jesus Christ, our Lord, that Cameron Tyler Cook, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRAYER VERSE: “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to the Father. Whatever you ask in My name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son; if you ask anything in My name, I will do it.” **John 14:12-14**

PRAYER CHORUS: “He Knows Your Name”

OFFERTORY VERSE: “As the outcome of your faith you obtain the salvation of your souls. The prophets who prophesied of the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired about this salvation; they inquired what person or time was indicated by the Spirit of Christ within them when predicting the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glory.”

OFFERTORY CHORUS:

Presentations of Tithes and Offerings

1 Peter 1:9-11 RSV

CD Special

***DOXOLOGY:** #95

HYMN OF PREPARATION: “Fairest Lord Jesus” #189

SCRIPTURE: Acts 7:55-60 **Pew Bible #1063**

MESSAGE: “Stephen--Full Life, Good Death” **Pastor Brown**

***HYMN OF INVITATION:** “Stand Up and Bless the Lord” #662

PRAYER OF INVITATION:

God, our Heavenly Father, by Your grace and power, fill us with faith and the Holy Spirit. God, our Eternal Home, by Your grace and power, equip us to live and die without fear. By Your grace and power, equip us to forgive, truly forgive. By Your grace and power, equip us to keep our eyes focused squarely on Jesus. By Your grace and power, equip us to live and breathe scripture, so that we view the world through the lens of Scripture, and not Scripture through the lens of the world. By Your grace and power, fill us with faith and the Holy Spirit. Prepare us for a good death, that we might live a full life. We ask this in the Name Jesus our Lord, who conquered death and lives for evermore. He is the Alpha and Omega. In His Name Amen.

***ALLELUIA *BENEDICTION *POSTLUDE**

The flowers that grace our altar this morning are given in loving honor of Cameron Tyler Cook given by his parents Timothy and Terry Cook and his grandparents Lee and Eunice Sanford.

The Altar is open for prayer. You are welcome to come to the Altar, praying for someone or praying for self with commitment to Christ for the first time or for rededication of your life to Him. Someone will join you at the Altar to pray with you.

THOSE WHO ARE SERVING TODAY: 8:30 AM

WORSHIP LEADER:

GREETERS: Gary & Jan Avery

NURSERY: Betsy Shumaker

USHER: Dave Ring

AUDIO: Bob Deuel

JR. CHURCH:

RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS & STEWARDSHIP FOR April 13, 2008

ATTENDANCE:(64/58,122)

TOTAL OFFERING:\$2843.25

GENERAL:\$2327.35

DESIGNATED:\$515.90

CHURCH CALENDAR**WEEK of April 20, 2008**

TODAY: 8:30 AM First Worship Service
9:50 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Second Worship Service
9:30 AM Wesley United Methodist Church Service

WED: 6:00 PM Soup/Supper
6:30 PM Bible Study

FRI: 7:00 PM TV Ministry – Cable Channel 4

PRAISE THE LORD FOR: Our Nation and for the Church of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
“The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Thy faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in Him."
Lamentation 3:22-24 RSV

CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR: Michelle Rucker (cancer going through chemo), Ray Fowler, Bill Jubin(he is at home recovering from a stroke), Katherine Collins (in rehabilitation at Hilltop), Harry Phillips (prostrate cancer), Guil Woodward (back at Hilltop), Lamani (Pastor Brown’s sister-in-law in India), Mr. DiGal (Prasant’s father in India), Paulette (colon cancer, going through heavy chemo), Karen Raponi, Bud Lee, Gary McFadden (cancer, going through chemo), Baby Liam Ewing, Sarah Deuel, Ethel Hower, Francis Potter (Betty Fowler’s sister-in-law), Jane Loeffler, Kathleen Budnovitch (Millie Rood’s friend), George Cameron, Irving Rosenbarker, Pamela Jean (Jack and Alice Black’s niece), Jack Black, Jonathan (Nate Young’s grandson), Orin White, Jeffery Sibley, Diane Ryans, Ralph Kocik, June Smith, Chad Grindel (Ray & Betty Fowler’s grandson), Dorothy Sedlacek, Ruth Ross, Alana Otis, Don Eckler, Andy & Ann, Mahlon Tewksbury, Paul Carpenter, Alan VanWormer, Alex Madison, Kim Soundararaj and Jack Hoppes.

THOSE SERVING IN IRAQ: Ryan Warner (Jean Warfield’s granddaughter’s husband), Alan Votakpa, Frank Simser, Kyle Chanitz, Scott McPherson (back in US), Christopher Simser Jr.(back in US), Adam Tatusko and Nicholas Tokos. Please pray for our Nation, Kenya and Orissa, India.

PRAYING FOR OUR MISSIONARIES: Doug/Karen (Frisch) Lehman (Africa), Jim /Shawn Ramsay (Georgia/Mission Society), Peter/Esther Pereira (India), Dave/Jean Coles (Indonesia), Neal/Mari Hicks (Japan), Guido/Kim (Warren) Orellana (Ecuador), Dr. Jeff/Marilyn Lester (Medics International), Dr.Terry/Renee Wortz, Elizabeth Salisbury(USA), Gary/Rebecca Mink (Africa), Leroy/Peg Jones (USA), Larry/Marian Byrnes (Indiana/OMS), Christopher/Rashaell Jones (Ecuador).

UNION CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

<http://www.gbgm-umc.org/ucumc>

umcgospel@aol.com

CHURCH OFFICE 748-6329

PASTOR BROWN 748-1358

April 20, 2008

11:00 AM

PRELUDE:

Betty Phinney

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

11:00 AM

***GREETINGS & GATHERINGS:** “And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.” **Isaiah 35:10 RSV**

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** “In Thee, O LORD, do I seek refuge; let me never be put to shame; in Thy righteousness deliver me! Incline Thy ear to me, rescue me speedily! Be Thou a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me! Yea, Thou art my rock and my fortress; for Thy name's sake lead me and guide me, take me out of the net which is hidden for me, for Thou art my refuge. Into Thy hand I commit my spirit; Thou hast redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God. Thou hatest those who pay regard to vain idols; but I trust in the LORD. I will rejoice and be glad for Thy steadfast love, because Thou hast seen my affliction, Thou hast taken heed of my adversities, and hast not delivered me into the hand of the enemy; Thou hast set my feet in a broad place. Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye is wasted from grief, my soul and my body also. For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away. I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me. I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. Yea, I hear the whispering of many, terror on every side! as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life. But I trust in Thee, O LORD, I say, "Thou art my God." My times are in Thy hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors! Let Thy face shine on Thy servant; save me in Thy steadfast love!” **Psalms 31:1-16 RSV**

***A TIME OF PRAISE:** “Better Is One Day In Your House”
“Once Again”
“In Christ Alone”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** The Apostles' Creed

#881

UNISON PRAYER: O God, our Heavenly Father, we thank You and praise You for this day and for the opportunity You have given us in this good land to gather and to worship You without fear. Most Holy God, we pray that You would be with us in this place of praise and prayer and that through the ministry of Your Holy Spirit You would form the minds of Your faithful people into the mind of Christ our Lord. Make us love what You command and desire what You promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found and that our every action might show forth the light of Your Son, Christ Jesus our Lord, He who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever and who has taught us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

A TIME OF PRAYER

A TIME OF WORSHIPPING WITH OUR TITHES, OFFERINGS AND SPECIAL

MUSIC: “When the Saints Go Marching In”

***A TIME OF WORSHIP:** “Here I Am To Worship”

“This Is My Desire”

“You Are My All In All”

“We Fall Down”

SCRIPTURE: Acts 7:55-60

Pew Bible #1063

MESSAGE: “Stephen--Full Life, Good Death”

Pastor Brown

***HYMN OF INVITATION:** “Stand Up and Bless the Lord”

#662

***ALLELUIA *BENEDICTION *POSTLUDE**

Altar is open for prayer. You are welcome to come to the Altar, praying for someone or praying for self with commitment to Christ for the first time or for rededication of your life to Him. Someone will join you at the Altar to pray with you.

RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS & STEWARDSHIP FOR April 13, 2008

ATTENDANCE:(64/58,122)

TOTAL OFFERING:\$2843.25

GENERAL:\$2327.35

DESIGNATED:\$515.90

THOSE WHO ARE SERVING TODAY:

11:00 AM

WORSHIP LEADER: Debbie Haines

GREETERS: Al and Evvie Binder

NURSERY: Sandhya Naik

USHER: Rich Henry

AUDIO: Jim Cogswell

JR. CHURCH: Alice Naik

CHURCH CALENDAR**WEEK of April 20, 2008**

TODAY: 8:30 AM First Worship Service
9:50 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Second Worship Service
9:30 AM Wesley United Methodist Church Service

WED: 6:00 PM Soup/Supper
6:30 PM Bible Study

FRI: 7:00 PM TV Ministry – Cable Channel 4

PRAISE THE LORD FOR: Our Nation and for the Church of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

“The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Thy faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in Him."

Lamentation 3:22-24 RSV

CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR: Katherine Collins (in rehabilitation at Hilltop), Harry Phillips (prostrate cancer), Guil Woodward (back at Hilltop), Lamani (Pastor Brown’s sister-in-law in India), Mr. DiGal (Prasant’s father in India), Paulette (colon cancer, going through heavy chemo), Jessica Burelle, Sarah Deuel, Ethel Hower, Francis Potter (Betty Fowler’s sister-in-law), Christopher Fowler (Vivian Perkin’s son), Jane Loeffler, Kathleen Budnovitch (Millie Rood’s friend), George Cameron, Irving Rosenbarker, Connie Perry, Pamela Jean (Jack and Alice Black’s niece), Bob English, Jack Black, Jonathan (Nate Young’s grandson), Orin White, Jeffery Sibley, Diane Ryans, Ralph Kocik, June Smith, Chad Grindel (Ray & Betty Fowler’s grandson), Dorothy Sedlacek, Ruth Ross, Alana Otis, Don Eckler, Andy & Ann, Mahlon Tewksbury, Paul Carpenter, Alan VanWormer, Alex Madison, Kim Soundararaj and Jack Hoppes. We extend a Christian sympathy to the family of Ray and Robin Bartholomew, Robin’s mom, Lillian Eckler, went home to be with the Lord on April 8, 2008.

THOSE SERVING IN IRAQ: Ryan Warner (Jean Warfield’s granddaughter’s husband), Alan Votakpa, Frank Simser, Kyle Chanitz, Scott McPherson, Christopher Simser, Jr., Adam Tatusko and Nicholas Tokos. Please pray for our Nation, Kenya and Orissa, India.

PRAYING FOR OUR MISSIONARIES: Doug/Karen (Frisch) Lehman (Africa), Jim /Shawn Ramsay (Georgia/Mission Society), Peter/Esther Pereira (India), Dave/Jean Coles (Indonesia), Neal/Mari Hicks (Japan), Guido/Kim (Warren) Orellana (Ecuador), Dr. Jeff/Marilyn Lester (Medics International), Dr. Terry/Renee Wortz, Elizabeth Salisbury(USA), Gary/Rebecca Mink (Africa), Leroy/Peg Jones (USA), Larry/Marian Byrnes (Indiana/OMS), Christopher/Rashaell Jones (Ecuador).

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHURCH OFFICE (785-5349) OR 748-6329

PASTOR BROWN 748-1358

April 20, 2008

9:30 AM

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

9:25 AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

***GREETINGS & GATHERINGS:** “And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.” **Isaiah 35:10 RSV**

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** “In Thee, O LORD, do I seek refuge; let me never be put to shame; in Thy righteousness deliver me! Incline Thy ear to me, rescue me speedily! Be Thou a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me! Yea, Thou art my rock and my fortress; for Thy name's sake lead me and guide me, take me out of the net which is hidden for me, for Thou art my refuge. Into Thy hand I commit my spirit; Thou hast redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God. Thou hatest those who pay regard to vain idols; but I trust in the LORD. I will rejoice and be glad for Thy steadfast love, because Thou hast seen my affliction, Thou hast taken heed of my adversities, and hast not delivered me into the hand of the enemy; Thou hast set my feet in a broad place. Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye is wasted from grief, my soul and my body also. For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away. I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me. I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. Yea, I hear the whispering of many, terror on every side! as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life. But I trust in Thee, O LORD, I say, "Thou art my God." My times are in Thy hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors! Let Thy face shine on Thy servant; save me in Thy steadfast love!” **Psalms 31:1-16 RSV**

***HYMN OF PRAISE:** “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” #110
”Ye Servants of God” #181

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** The Apostles’ Creed #881

UNISON PRAYER: O God, our Heavenly Father, we thank You and praise You for this day and for the opportunity You have given us in this good land to gather and to worship You without fear. Most Holy God, we pray that You would be with us in this place of praise and prayer and that through the ministry of Your Holy Spirit You would form the minds of Your faithful people into the mind of Christ our Lord. Make us love what You command and desire what You promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found and that our every action might show forth the light of Your Son, Christ Jesus our Lord, He who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever and who has taught us to pray:

LORD’S PRAYER

SHARING IN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP: “Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also.”

John 14:1-3 RSV

Welcoming Each Other into the House of the Lord

Sharing Of Our joys and blessings

Sharing our Prayer Concerns

PRAYER VERSE: “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to the Father. Whatever you ask in My name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son; if you ask anything in My name, I will do it.” **John 14:12-14**

MORNING PRAYER

SPECIAL MUSIC:

Grant, Mary and Ruth

Presentations of Tithes and Offerings

***DOXOLOGY** #95

***HYMN OF PREPARATION:** “Fairest Lord Jesus” #189

SCRIPTURE: Acts 7:55-60 Pew Bible #1063

MESSAGE: “Stephen--Full Life, Good Death” Pastor Brown

***HYMN OF INVITATION:** “Stand Up and Bless the Lord” #662

***BENEDICTION**

It is wonderful that you came to worship today at the Wesley UMC. We welcome you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, whom we serve as our Lord. We pray and trust that you received the rich blessings of the Lord today. May the Lord bless you and keep you as you go into the world to live, serve, and witness. Please plan to join in a time of fellowship and sharing soon after the Worship Service. Please join us next Sunday at 9:30 AM for worship and praise. Invite your friends, family, and neighbors to join us.

LASAGNA DINNER-April 25, 2008. Serving at 5:00 p.m.

The Relay For Life of Western Broome is coming soon, June 14 and 15 at Sammon Field, Vestal. Please help us to promote the Relay in our Western Broome community by including the following announcement (or facsimile) in your church bulletin in the coming weeks. Thank you in advance for your support! Relay For Life of Western Broome will be held June 14 and 15 at Sammon Field, Vestal. Relay For Life is an overnight celebration of life and cancer survivorship. Teams of people from the community have fun while raising much needed funds to fight cancer. Contributions to the Relay For Life help the American Cancer Society fight cancer in four ways: research, education, advocacy and patient services. If you are interested in joining a team, volunteering your time or making a donation to support the Relay For Life of Western Broome, contact Gina Chapman, (607) 766-6907 or call 1-800-ACS-2345.

SPRING CLEANING TIME !—On Saturday, May 3, 2008 we will have Spring cleaning day at the Church. Please plan to come and make our Church beautiful. We will be providing lunch.

HEALING SERVICE-Sunday, April 27, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

WOMEN'S BANQUET-Saturday, May 17, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. Guest speaker will be Jane Divine, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church.

MEN'S BANQUET-Saturday, June 7, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. Guest speaker will be Bishop Larry Simpson.

ALUMNI CHOIR-Will be sharing a special worship service on Sunday, June 16, 2008 during both services. Those who have sang in the choir in the past and those who sing at present are invited to join us for a special rehearsal. Please contact Aric Phinney at 786-8812 for more information.

THE CONTINENTALS- Will be in concert on July 11 and November 14, 2008.

VBS-July 25-August 1, 2008. Shannan Meilunas is the coordinating this VBS program.

CHICKEN BBQ/TENT MEETING-FUND RAISING FOR THE BUILDING-August 9, 2008.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED—Will meet on Friday, May 2, 2008. “May Fellowship Day-Plant a seed of hospitality, reap bouquets of friendships,” for a Luncheon at 1:00 P.M. at St. Ambrose Church, Washington Avenue, Endicott. Lunch reservations are required by Sunday, April 27th!! Please call Millie Rood at 862-9947 or Jean Warfield at 785-1167. Thanks! Come & bring a friend or more than one!

UPCOMING 2008 WEDDINGS: May 10, Dusty and Sarah
May 24, Robby and Ashley
July 12, LeAnna and Billy
July 19, Mike and Amber

The Relay For Life of Western Broome is coming soon, June 14 and 15 at Sammon Field, Vestal. Please help us to promote the Relay in our Western Broome community by including the following announcement (or facsimile) in your church bulletin in the coming weeks. Thank you in advance for your support! Relay For Life of Western Broome will be held June 14 and 15 at Sammon Field, Vestal. Relay For Life is an overnight celebration of life and cancer survivorship. Teams of people from the community have fun while raising much needed funds to fight cancer. Contributions to the Relay For Life help the American Cancer Society fight cancer in four ways: research, education, advocacy and patient services. If you are interested in joining a team, volunteering your time or making a donation to support the Relay For Life of Western Broome, contact Gina Chapman, (607) 766-6907 or call 1-800-ACS-2345.

I. St. Stephen

St. Stephen suffered the next in order. His death was occasioned by the faithful manner in which he preached the Gospel to the betrayers and murderers of Christ. To such a degree of madness were they excited, that they cast him out of the city and stoned him to death. The time when he suffered is generally supposed to have been at the passover which succeeded to that of our Lord's crucifixion, and to the era of his ascension, in the following spring.

Upon this a great persecution was raised against all who professed their belief in Christ as the Messiah, or as a prophet. We are immediately told by St. Luke, that "there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem;" and that "they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles."

About two thousand Christians, with Nicanor, one of the seven deacons, suffered martyrdom during the "persecution that arose about Stephen."

II. James the Great

The next martyr we meet with, according to St. Luke, in the History of the Apostles' Acts, was James the son of Zebedee, the elder brother of John, and a relative of our Lord; for his mother Salome was cousin-german to the Virgin Mary. It was not until ten years after the death of Stephen that the second martyrdom took place; for no sooner had Herod Agrippa been appointed governor of Judea, than, with a view to ingratiate himself with them, he raised a sharp persecution against the Christians, and determined to make an effectual blow, by striking at their leaders. The account given us by an eminent primitive writer, Clemens Alexandrinus, ought not to be overlooked; that, as James was led to the place of martyrdom, his accuser was brought to repent of his conduct by the apostle's extraordinary courage and undauntedness, and fell down at his feet to request his pardon, professing himself a Christian, and resolving that James should not receive the crown of martyrdom alone. Hence they were both beheaded at the same time. Thus did the first apostolic martyr cheerfully and resolutely receive that cup, which he had told our Savior he was ready to drink. Timon and Parmenas suffered martyrdom about the same time; the one at Philippi, and the other in Macedonia. These events took place A.D. 44.

III. Philip

Was born at Bethsaida, in Galilee and was first called by the name of "disciple." He labored diligently in Upper Asia, and suffered martyrdom at Heliopolis, in Phrygia. He was scourged, thrown into prison, and afterwards crucified, A.D. 54.

IV. Matthew

Whose occupation was that of a toll-gatherer, was born at Nazareth. He wrote his gospel in Hebrew, which was afterwards translated into Greek by James the Less. The scene of his labors was Parthia, and Ethiopia, in which latter country he suffered martyrdom, being slain with a halberd in the city of Nadabah, A.D. 60.