

**UMVIM, SC
Leesville, SC
May 2, 2006**



United Methodist Volunteers in Mission

- Chair, Rev. Tony Rowell, opened the meeting and welcomed the 36 folks in attendance. Tony thanked everyone for their prayers during his recent surgery and recovery. Bob Sargent then had tonight's devotion. The devotion focused on the fact that we should not try to make deals with God. He knows what is best for us. Our prayers to God should include praise, thanksgiving, and lastly, petition. The group then prayed The Lord's Prayer together.
- Bob Sargent will be in charge of assembling folks to have a devotional for each meeting. Please let Bob know if you are interested in participating in this monthly effort. He can be reached at gunnersargent@aol.com.
- Tony reported that UMVIM, SC, still maintains a moratorium on teams traveling to Haiti for the travel warning is still in effect with the State Department.
- The annual UMVIM luncheon will be held at Claflin College on Monday, June 5, at 12:00 noon in the Orange and Maroon Room. A buffet lunch will be served at a cost of \$11 per person, payable at the door. This year's speaker will be Paul Dirdak. Please let Patty know if you will be attending so that she can get an accurate headcount.
- Team rosters need to be turned in to Bobby Oliver prior to the trip departure.
- Tony reported on the following items:
 - As of 6/1/06, all team fees are being reinstated. The per person fee for domestic teams is \$10, and for international teams is \$15. A suggestion was made that these fees be reconsidered due to the SEJ fees as well. This suggestion will be brought up at the next Core Group meeting.
 - A SLED background check will be performed on all UMVIM team members; the details surrounding this have not yet been finalized. However, this is being done to protect not only our organization but the children that our team members come in contact with.
 - Team leader training is being expanded to 2 days and the details of this will be discussed at the next Core Group meeting scheduled for July 18 at Virginia-Wingard UMC, Columbia, at 6:00pm.
 - Early Response training is being coordinated by Billy Robinson.
- Tony shared with the group a need for teams in the Bahamas. Sites are in Abaco and in Nassau. Needs are for disaster relief and vacation bible school. Please contact Tony if you are interested in these opportunities.

- The SEJ UMVIM rally will be held June 28-30 at Lake Junaluska. If you have never been, this is a wonderful retreat in a beautiful setting. The theme for this year's event is CONNECT. Featured speakers include Bishop Will Willimon, Bishop Hope Morgan-Ward, and Dr. Wilson Bonfim. You may register by visiting the website www.umvim.org.
- Bob and Joan Suda reported on their recent efforts in Costa Rica. They were successful in building a school room. Bob requested and received approval for 2 teams to return to Costa Rica in Jan., 2007. There will be 14 folks on each team and the cost per person is \$1500. The teams will continue construction on the education building. Bob has a few openings on the teams.
- An opportunity exists to restore a Gothic church on the island of St. Thomas, VI. The work will include intricate restoration of the interior of the church. Please see Tony for further information.
- Bethel AME in Summerville is hosting some California teams to help with the work that is needed there. If you would like information on the work and open dates, please see Tony.
- Tony received an email from Candy Benson of Central UMC. Needs are for work on the parsonage, including a new roof and kitchen. Please see Tony for the details of this work.
- Mt. Zion UMC in Timmonsville/Florence has been condemned and will need to be rebuilt. Tony has the details.
- Tony continues the work on the DVD of UMVIM. If you have good photos or videos, you may send them to Tony at lolobobo@alltel.net.
- Mary Carolyn Watson thanked everyone for the pictures and articles that she has received thus far but is in need of more. Please send your stories to her at mikewsr@pol.net. The deadline for the newsletter was extended to 5/8.
- Bobby Oliver reported on the following teams:
 - Bill Youngblood, Blackfoot Indian Reservation in MT, 7/24-30
 - Roland Hill, Van Cleave, MS, St. Mark UMC
- Bobby also noted that work has begun on the UMVIM website. Thanks to Barry Whitney of Grace UMC in North Augusta for sharing his talents on this work. Barry will connect with Lee McMillan to obtain the domain name and the site will have links to other sites.
- Bobby also mentioned the upcoming Core Group meeting to be held at Virginia-Wingard UMC on Broad River Road in Columbia. Meeting is 7/18 at 6:00pm. He welcomes suggestions and comments to be presented to the Core. You may contact Bobby at bobbyoliver@comcast.net.
- Billy Robinson reported that he is leading a team to Mexico this year. Billy is also in the process of coordinating the UMVIM trailers across the state. Two courses that are coming up are:
 - the chain saw safety course on 5/6, from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm; cost is \$10 per person

- the first aid & CPR class on 5/13, from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm; cost is \$20 per person which will provide each person with a training manual and certification card through the American Heart Association.
 - Both classes will be held at Virginia-Wingard UMC on 1500 Broad River Road in Columbia, SC. Payment for each class will be due on the date of the class. Please contact Billy at brpraisejesus@aol.com for further information.
- We received an email from Rev. Bruce Palmer in St. Vincent and he is welcoming teams to that area. He is looking for teams of about 12 folks each that could work on;
 - Foundation repair on existing Sunday School building (minimal cost)
 - Installation of siding on SS building (approx cost, \$6000)
 - Installation of interior wall materials on SS building (cost unknown at this time)
 - Installation of roof on newly constructed multi-purpose building; this can be split over several teams for the approx cost will be \$35,000
 - Begin construction on new church near Kingstown. Project has been approved and plans are approved.

Each team will be assessed a small amount for room and board, transportation, and administrative feed through the local church. The community where teams will be working is English speaking. Food and water are safe for consumption. You may contact Bruce at hbp4family@yahoo.com.

- Tony reminded team leaders that we have lots of Strength for Service prayer books that he encouraged are taken on all team trips. Also, he showed an example of the teddy bears that the youth from his church had purchased for ERT teams. This is a wonderful way to get kids involved in UMVIM for most often, the teddy bear can be the only item a person may have after disaster strikes. Please consider doing this in your church.
- Dr. Hal Crosswell presented the UMVIM, SC Endowment instrument noting that:
 - The name of the Fund shall be The UMVIM, SC Endowment Fund
 - The Fund is created to receive, hold, and administer exclusively for the benefit of UMVIM, SC its program and ministries, endowment gifts, either current or deferred, of property in any form, whether real, personal or mixed, and whether consisting of cash, securities, or in any other form.
 - The Fund shall be administered by the Endowment Board of Directors and their successors in office. The investment of the Fund's principal and income shall be the responsibility of the Directors, but only the interest may be dispersed.
 - Hal opened the floor for discussion. A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously for adoption of the instrument.
 - A committee was selected to nominate persons for the position of Board of Directors. The committee consists of Bob Sargent, Terrilynn Robinson, and Walter Bowers. They are to meet and make a recommendation to the Core Group.
- Sudie Love brought pictures from Lee McDonald showing the progress that had been made at the Mexico mission site. Five teams of 74 folks from SC will be working at this site beginning 5/27 through 7/8. The goal is to complete the first floor.

- Walter Bowers just returned from Mexico after celebrating Easter with a family there. Walter told a lovely story about the meal he shared with the family and the opportunity to pray with a non-Christian that was visiting the family. The woman later joined the church at which our teams have been working.
- Earl Jeffcoat returned from a worksite in Walterboro where he helped work on 4 churches in the area.
- James Peavey recently returned from Pass Christian, MS, where his team spent 4/1-8. You can see the work done at this location by visiting www.passchristian.homestead.com .
- Ward Smith is now working for UMCOR in Texas.
- If anyone has the expertise to create DVDs from mission trips and are willing to share that talent, there are teams looking for this ability. Please let us know at the next meeting.
- There being no further business, the group joined hands and the meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Carson

Note to self: send as .doc and .rtf

Trip Date	Leader	Church	Destination	Other
2/26 - 3/4	K. C. Carter	Buncombe Street	Pass Christian, MS	
3/6 - 3/12	Bobby Oliver	Grace UMC	Jackson, AL	has openings
3/17 - 3/24	Kenneth Phelps	Bethel Park/Main Street	Louisiana	has openings
3/18 - 3/24	Alan Parker	Shiloh UMC	Van Cleave, MS	
4/1 - 4/8	James Peavey	Aldersgate UMC	Pass Christian, MS	
4/9 - 4/15	Danny Thompson & David Garrison		Pascagoula, MS	
4/8 - 4/12	Rev. Jerry Hill	Buncombe Street (youth)	Pass Christian, MS Ocean Springs, MS / St. Paul's UMC	
4/23 - 4/29	Jake Clark	Rock Hill UMC	Pass Christian, MS	
4/25 - 4/30	K. C. Carter	Buncombe Street	Van Cleave, MS	
5/13 - 5/19	Alan Parker	Shiloh UMC	Tlaxcala, Mexico	
5/22 - 7/4	Lee McDonald	Shandon UMC North UMC & Pond	Tlaxcala, Mexico	
6/5 - 6/14	Billy Robinson	Branch UMC	Tlaxcala, Mexico	
6/14 - ?	Lee McDonald	Andrews Chapel UMC	Tlaxcala, Mexico	
5/27 - 6/3	Arlene Andrews	Virginia Wingard UMC	Leon, Nicaragua	Salkehatchie team
6/4 - 6/17	Katrina Patton	Bethany UMC	Moss Point, MS	
6/9 - 6/24	Rev. Tony Rowell		Panama	
6/13 - ?	Jerry Washabau	Union UMC	Zimbabwe	

6/16 - ?	Jerry Washabau	Union UMC	Zimbabwe	
6/17 - 6/25	Rev. Michael Bingham Caroline Dennis & Rev. Noble		Ocean Springs, MS	has openings (\$2500)
6/19 - 6/26	Miller		Amazon - Evangemed	
6/23 - 7/1	David Essex	Herbert Memorial UMC	Tlaxcala, Mexico	
6/25 - 7/1	Dr. Bob Smoak	Pine Hill UMC	gulf coast	Has openings has medical openings
6/16 - 6/25	Janis Collins	Grace UMC	Bolivia	
7/1 - 7/8	David Essex	Herbert Memorial UMC	Tlaxcala, Mexico	
7/16 - 7/22	Dr. Robert Smoak	Pinehill UMC	D'I berville, MS	Has openings
7/24 - 7/30	Bill Youngblood	Mt. Hebron UMC	Blackfoot Indian Res, MT	
7/29 - 8/5	Rev. Jerry Hill	Buncombe Street	Mexico	
spring/summer	Carl Quickmire	Simpsonville UMC	UMC Relief Ctr (SC) or Merci	
ongoing	Ed Goodsen		Center (NC) Asbury Hills Camp	Has openings (\$1500/person)
1/2007	Bob & Joan Suda	Cateret Street UMC	Costa Rica	