



# LYNCHBURG COVENANT FELLOWSHIP

## SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

# News

412 Madison Street P.O. Box 6016 Lynchburg, Virginia 24505-6016 (434) 847-9059 December 2010

### P.G. COSBY, III Introspective on LCF and Camp Kum-Ba-Yah

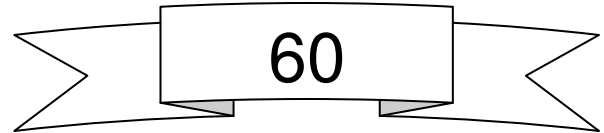


Lynchburg Covenant Fellowship along with Camp Kum-Ba-Yah, celebrated our sixtieth anniversary with a quiet picnic sharing food, fun and friendship. P.G. Cosby, III, one of our founding fathers, gave an interesting talk on the history of both organizations. The summary of this speech can be found on page two of this newsletter. Over the years, LCF has been the catalyst of many of the Lynchburg organizations centered around helping those in need, including Interfaith Outreach, New Land Samaritan Inns, The Gateway, New Land Jobs, Camp Kum-Ba-Yah and the list goes on. LCF's commitment to the community is evident in their works.

The vision of the founders of LCF carries on in the provision of safe, decent and affordable housing for those in need in our community. With the loss of jobs and the downturn in the economy more people than ever are finding themselves in need. Help us be there to provide services and meet those growing needs within our community.



Attention was held during the magical day, as we heard about the many accomplishments and sacrifices of the organization since its inception.



### FAITHFUL YEARS OF DEDICATION AND CARING...

#### An Attitude of Gratitude comes from Giving

Sixty years would not have happened had it not been for compassionate people like you. It will only be because of your prayers and generosity that we will be able to continue to make a difference to those we serve.

Perhaps this newsletter is your first introduction to LCF and the many ministries it has parented. If you would like to learn more about the commitment LCF has shown in making a difference in the quality of life for people within this community please visit our website at [www.LynchburgCovenantFellowship.org](http://www.LynchburgCovenantFellowship.org). Then join the rest of our faithful contributors and assist us in providing for the needs of those less fortunate. Our challenges have never been greater than they are now.

During this season of giving we express our gratitude for your unceasing willingness to bless others through your continued support of LCF. Thank you.

## LYNCHBURG COVENANT FELLOWSHIP, INC.

#### Vision Statement

Lynchburg Covenant Fellowship is guided by the Judeo-Christian ethic of compassionate commitment to and advocacy for the poor with a view to building an inclusive community in Central Virginia marked by diversity, equal opportunity, fairness, and social justice for all humanity and respect for God's creation. We are called to be a catalyst for emerging ministries, taking risks to address human need.

#### Mission Statement

The mission of Lynchburg Covenant Fellowship is to express the values of our respective faiths, helping to facilitate a diverse community by providing affordable housing, education, and advocacy for the poor, the disabled, and the disadvantaged, including children, youth, the mentally challenged and the elderly in Central Virginia.



Lynchburg Covenant Fellowship had its beginning in the basement of the Cosby home on Boonsboro Road, where the Cosby siblings gathered with friends for ping pong, table games, music around an old pump organ, and most of all discussions about life's problems and challenges, and the meaning of the Christian faith. They felt a need for a deeper understanding among the denominations, and were challenged by the growing ecumenical movement. They saw a need for recreational and social opportunities for youth of the community. They sought guidance as to what their place might be and what contribution they might make to their community and to their needy world.

Out of this came what was then called Lynchburg Christian Fellowship, incorporated in 1950 as a non-profit, tax exempt, charitable and educational organization, seeking the purpose of promoting Judeo-Christian fellowship and extending religious faith, witness and action on a non-denominational, ecumenical basis for persons of all age levels. It seeks to provide a channel for cooperative programs of community service and uplift, to establish task forces and nurture new groups working for constructive social change, and to serve as a catalyst to bring together congregations, groups, and individuals in shared and common undertakings that will transcend the usual and stubborn barriers of social and economic class, race and prejudice. Some years later the name was changed to Lynchburg Covenant Fellowship to better express the sharing of our friends of Jewish faith in the life goals and activities of LCF. Bev and Jack Cosby gave devoted leadership through all the early days and beyond, joined by family members and others who shared the vision through years of challenge and arduous endeavor. The first and major undertaking was the summer program for children, the forerunner of Camp Kum-Ba-Yah, which became a separate organization in 1983. The LCF pool and camp on Boonsboro Road welcomed all races during the tense period of integration in the sixties.

In 1966 LCF purchased the building at 412 Madison St. which housed the inner city program, an extension of the Boonsboro summer activities. This grew out of a vision to love and serve those in less advantaged areas of our community. The building was named Kum-Ba-Yah and soon became the office of LCF. Affordable housing for lower-income persons and families was recognized as a pressing need and LCF's efforts soon turned in that direction. Today The Fellowship owns and manages units of affordable housing in Lynchburg and surrounding areas.

LCF has sought to serve Lynchburg and nearby communities through new and innovative ventures, with special emphasis upon experimental ministries, giving priority to its mission among those excluded from the usual opportunities of cultural and economic advancement. LCF believes in the dignity and infinite value of every person and the need to understand, care for, and help one another.

## *Day of Caring – A Day of Giving*

This year's United Way Day of Caring theme was "Caring Hearts Live United" and no truer words can be spoken about this wonderful day of fellowship and caring individuals giving back. On a beautiful, sunny day in May, volunteers were once again out in full force working all around the City of Lynchburg. Lynchburg Covenant Fellowship was once again blessed with many hard-working volunteers. This year we had a total of forty-four volunteers working at seven of our properties. They included the LCF Management Office, Shalom Apartments, Lynchburg High Apartments, Frank Roane Apartments, 700 Federal Street Apartments, Rockbridge Apartments and The Carey House.

The properties all received much needed yard work from the harsh winter months and a few got new flowers planted compliments of the companies and their generous employees that were working at the property. We wish to extend our thankfulness once again to the following companies: AREVA (two properties), Columbia Gas, Genworth, HCI-EBS, Inc., Liberty University, and Scott Insurance. We look forward each and every year to meeting new friends and forming lasting relationships in the community.

***"We make a living by what we get.  
We make a life by what we give."***

***Winston Churchill***



## HOPE II

### Is off to another great start...

We always start slow with a few children and then they bring their friends and off we go! Because of the range of ages, we are trying to keep some division of meetings and have increased the number of times we meet and with which age and gender group we meet with. I had lost track of the number of years I have been leading HOPE II, but in going through some old albums for pictures for the recent camp picnic, I found pictures of my youngest grandson as a baby being held by a former participant-my grandson is now 8 years old, so it's been at least that many years! So many of the children have grown up and gone on.

So far this year we are offering opportunities on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Wednesday remains the day for children 5-12 with creative play activities, crafts and of course, snacks. Thursdays is for older boys to play basketball with Mr. Bob and the older girls to meet with Ms. Sandy for movie, discussion, and knitting in the Penthouse. It's hard to strictly stick to the age restrictions but we do our best.

Our partnership with the Legacy Museum continues on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. This month Sylvia Hobson shared information through reading and demonstration of Kente cloth produced by the Ashanti people of Ghana, Africa. Seventeen children attended and made their own designs which they transferred to material that will be put together on a display board.

Out of this association with The Legacy Museum, came an opportunity for girls 13 and older to form a drumming team in conjunction with the YWCA's Y Teens. Ed McKenna is leading the class and Terri Miller is the Y Teens coordinator. I have been able to encourage about 5 girls to attend.

We have about 15-20 children attending on Wednesdays with Mr. Bob offering basketball to older boys from 3:30 to 4:30. Then the boys must leave as the younger children start arriving around 4:30. The Wednesday program lasts about 1 ½ hours with crafts and free play, basketball with younger boys, and snacks. We try to provide a fruit, grain, protein and sometimes, veggies, for snack. We have the kids identify what food group each item comes from.

Every child in the Wednesday group has a cubby with a jump rope, markers, journal, pencil, and basket to hold things. Because we have so many books, I have been allowing children to take them home for keeps, anything to encourage and keep them reading.

### Lynchburg High Gets a Facelift



Our entire staff has been working very diligently on all of the planning stages for the renovations of Lynchburg High Apartments.

We were awarded Low Income Housing Tax Credits and have partnered with Virginia Housing Development Authority in securing funds to make possible the renovations of this beautiful 100 year old building located at 1301 Park Avenue. With the help of VHDA the building was originally converted from the formally known EC Glass High School in 1980 into seventy apartments to create affordable housing in the downtown area. Our plan is to complete construction and have all residents moved back into their lovely, new apartments by the end of 2011.

### The LCF Staff Wishes You A Happy Holiday Season



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*The Lynchburg Covenant News 2010 Edition was written and edited by staff with the much appreciated assistance of the following contributors.*

**Contributors:** P.G. Cosby III, Diana Coleman, Deborah Dudley, Sandy Knodel and special thanks to Miriam Gaines for editing this edition.

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