

Good News

From Darrtown United Methodist Church
for October / November, 2004



Can you feel the change in life's rhythm?
School has begun. Football is in the air.
Baseball is heading for playoffs and nights
are cooling off.

Summer brought its changes; its joys and
disappointments. Tammy McCartney's
passing has left its mark on all of us, just as
her vibrant and positive personality lifted all
who met her.

Fall is the beautiful season that challenges
us to grow. It is not just the students who
grow as they return to school. It is all of us.
Life is our school. It is less protected than
the classroom, but it is a school,
nevertheless.

Your church family is a place of warmth and
comfort, even as it is a place to stretch our
minds and grow in faith. Never, ever, under-
estimate the importance of your church and
the relationship nurtured there!

See YOU in church!

In Jesus' Love,

Rev. Ed



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HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE

October: Laura Cohen, Connie Davis
November: Maxine & Bill Harris
December: Donna Gallagher, JoAnn & Bill Coombs

When a trade is needed, contact Etta Jean.



PRAYERS REQUESTS

Michael Lane (in Iraq); Michelle Dingleline (in Turkey); Mitch Voeke (in Iraq); Matt Malpin (POW); Jill & Dave Morris (in Iraq); Debbie & Terry Bowman; Tom Seal; Mel & Lois Snider; Fred Jackson; Murray Peters; Connie Davis; Ed Hartz; Jo Ann Lindsey; Robert Rahmes; Ersia Coombs; Cotty Cisle; Jim Ponder; Scott Handley; Connie Biggs; Wayne Weber; Chuck Hansel

CONVALESCENCE: Wayne Weber – surgery.

CONDOLENCES:

† To Mike McCartney and family in the loss of Tammy McCartney

Each soul is a beautiful flower that passes from this earth, only to bloom anew in heaven's garden.



MILITARY

Let us remember in prayer those who serve our country.

Updates:

1. Chuck Hansel, who served 6 years in the US armed forces, is now living in the area and is employed with UPS. He is Irene Hansel's grandson. Glad to have you home, Chuck!
2. Mitch Voeke, who has been on our prayer list and serving in Iraq, has been taken off the battlefield and sent home for goiter surgery. He is getting along well and has returned to base. Mitch is the fiancé of Ida Lemmon's great-granddaughter, Darci Bertsch.

- ★ *Matthew Ziglar*
- ★ *SSgt. Michael Eversole*
- ★ *Dale Wm. Baumann*
- ★ *Mitch Voeke*
- ★ *Kristopher Nelson*
- ★ *Robert Mills*



Church Directories

We are in the process of creating church directories for both Darrrtown and McGonigle-Millville UMC. Please make certain we have your correct address and phone number. We like to acknowledge special celebrations, so we will be including birthdays (month and day only) and anniversaries. E-mail addresses, if submitted will also be included.

We would like to make this as complete as possible. Please call Robyn Beck (896-4025) or e-mail her at robned2@yahoo.com with this information as soon as possible.

We hope to have the directories available to you soon. It has been suggested that we also make available to everyone a McGonigle-Millville directory. Since we have friends there that we pray for, it makes sense to have easy access to addresses for sending cards.

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LOOKING FORWARD

- **October 3:** World Communion Sunday
- **October 4:** Monday at 8:30 am – Noodle-making in preparation for the annual Turkey Dinner in November.
- **October 4:** United Methodist Women's meeting at 7:00 pm
- **October 5:** Nominating Committee (Lay Leadership Team) meeting at 7:00 pm
- **Each Wednesday:** Choir practice at 6:30 pm
- **October 10:** The Sacrament of Baptism
- **October 11:** 6:00-8:00 pm District Health Care Meeting at Mason UMC
- **October 11:** Administrative Council at 7:00 pm
- **October 13:** Singing at the Matrix – Everyone is invited to go to the Matrix on Wednesday, October 13th. We will meet at the church at 6:30 pm and sing at 7:00 pm (the Matrix is the new name for Oxford View Nursing Home)
- **October 21:** Women of the church are invited to Spirit Seekers at McGonigle-Millville UMC at 7:00 pm. Guest speaker is Barbara Cowen regarding Living Waters.
- **October 23:** Wilmington District UMW Annual Day at Williamsburg (see Ida Mae for details)
- **October 23:** Halloween Party (both churches) at Darrrtown: Join us for an evening of fun, food, and friends on Saturday evening, 6:30 – 8:30 pm. We are planning an evening of fun as both adults and children dress up in their favorite Halloween costumes. Let's all be children again and enjoy this opportunity for a fun-filled time together. We have invited the families of McGonigle-Millville UMC to join us. Sandwiches, snacks, desserts, and drinks will be provided. All you need to bring is yourself and invite a friend or family members to join you. Prizes for costumes in categories of funniest, cutest, and most original will be awarded. Games will be played and prizes given to winners. Come and support the first of our "Family Nights" at Darrrtown!
- **October 24:** New Members Luncheon and Orientation: If you are not a member of our church, we want you to consider making the next step in your spiritual life. Joining the church is a way of stepping forward and making a commitment to God that says "I'm open to You, Lord, in a way that I have not been ready to do before." Let Rev. Ed know as soon as possible if you want to explore that next step.
- **October 30:** McGonigle-Millville Ham & Turkey Dinner – 4:30-7:00 pm
- **October 31:** New members received
- **November 1:** United Methodist Women – 7:00
- **November 6:** Annual Turkey Dinner and Bazaar at Darrrtown – 4:30-7:00 pm
- **November 7:** 2:30 pm Charge Conference at Hamilton Grace UMC. 3:00 pm Special Training Session for Church Leaders: This is the Official Annual Conference meeting of the local church. The Charge Conference has changed a lot in the years of my ministry. It is essentially a time of reporting to the Wilmington District and the West Ohio Annual Conference. It is the time for setting the Pastor's salary and other benefits. The officers for 2005 are elected. The membership lists are reviewed and inactive members removed. Even though this meeting is brief, it is important. As per policy, another pastor will chair the meeting. The format for this year is for groups of churches to meet at central locations. Our group will meet at Hamilton Grace UMC. The Charge Conference will probably last half an hour. Then we will move to a training session on strategizing ministry. We will learn how to use the Percept Demographic reports for our areas. Insight will be given on how to interpret the material with the view of helping our churches grow. After this, our Pastor will chair a Charge Conference for another church. All officers need to be there. All members are encouraged to attend.
- **November 8:** Administrative Council at 7:00
- **November 25:** Thanksgiving
- **November 28:** First Sunday in Advent

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SUNDAY SCHOOL

A recent United Methodist leadership publication went into great length on the importance of the Sunday School. The Southern Baptist Church has always credited their Sunday School with their growth. We have Sunday School in place. At Darrtown, Sunday School, including adults, follows worship at 10:30 am. Nursery care is provided during the 9:00 am worship for those children under the age of five. The children will be learning songs in Sunday School and be singing as a children's choir during worship once a month. It is important that the children be in class in order to participate. The key is for our parents to realize how important Sunday School is to the full development of their children. Please take this responsibility seriously and see that YOUR children are present and accounted for each week!

Rev. Ed Beck

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

This quarter in Sunday School the children have been learning about The Book of God's Word, the Bible. The Bible is a book of history, stories, law, poetry, sayings, wisdom, prophecy and letters that tell who God is, what God has done, and what God expects. The Bible provides us the foundation of our faith. After learning about the Bible as a history of God's people, the children will learn stories of creation. God is not only the Creator of the universe, but the sustainer as well. Through these stories, the children will see God as the one who creates, the one who forgives, and eventually through the birth and death of God's only Son, the one who redeems.

Did your child bring home the Meguzah and place it on your refrigerator? It is to remind your family to honor God and to love God with your hearts, souls and minds. One week we made Bible scripture brownies. Ask your children about them. We are all enjoying the new songs, stories and crafts.

The children will be singing the third Sunday of each month in our 9:00 am worship service. Don't forget the Halloween Party and bring a friend on Saturday, October 23, 6:30-8:30 pm at the church. The Children's Christmas Program will be Sunday, December 12 at 9:00 am worship service.

Carolyn Russell, Education Chair

A SURPRISE GET-TOGETHER

On Wednesday, August 18th at least 20 of our church friends met at the Cracker Barrel to surprise Lois Snider with a dinner get-together, and at the same time give her a break from her daily care-giving with Mel. Lots of pictures were taken and some were placed on the web site. Be sure to check it out – www.darrtownumc.org

After dinner, several of us went to Otterbein to pay a visit to Mel, and to take dinner to Rev. Beck. We found out that Rev. Beck had already enjoyed a meal with Mel. Nevertheless, he enjoyed the blackberry cobbler that Robyn brought him. Below is a thank you note from Lois. Below that is a thank you note from their daughter, Kathy.

♥ *Thank you – Thanks to everyone for the great surprise and dinner at Cracker Barrel – it was overwhelming. Mel enjoyed your visit, too, but the next day he told me HE went to Darrtown! I guess he couldn't fathom all those people being over here. He fell again Friday (8/20), hit and cut his head on the floor and jammed his ring finger. It swelled and turned purple and we thought we were going to have to cut the ring but managed not to have to cut it. Thanks to everyone again for all your thoughts, prayers and deeds.....
Love, Lois Ann*

♥ *Thank you – Mom sent me the site for the Darrtown church web page. Very nice! I also want to say thank you for the dinner and visit you all had with mom and dad. That was such a surprise and spirit lift for both of them. She has not missed a day of helping take care of him and your plan sure made her day special. We appreciate your prayers and concern for both of them through this very difficult time. Thank you again.
Kathy Wilder (Lois' daughter)*

Christian One-Liners

- God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.
- The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL RECOGNITION

Sunday, September 12th was a special Sunday School Recognition day. Many children participated in the service, some being greeters, ushers, leading the Call to Worship and reading the scriptures. Our attendance was 85! A Bible was presented to Tori Heinrich. Carolyn Russell, Chairman of Education, presented the students and teachers. Check out our web site for pictures! www.darrrtownumc.org

♥ *Thank you, to Jack and Connie Davis for maintaining the web site!*

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

We did it again! On Sunday, September 19th we had a wonderful and gentle event. We also blessed the newly renovated picnic shelter at McGonigle-Millville church. We drew from both churches and the community on a beautiful day. Also present was a photographer from The Journal News. A huge picture was in Monday's edition Local front page of Rev. Ed, Karen Conklin and her puppy, Tutti.

We had dogs, cats, guinea pigs, and a rabbit. Don't miss next year, even if you have to adopt a pet between now and then!

CHOIR - WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30 PM

On Wednesday, September 22, choir practice was a special time. Tara and Dawn Gross attended and shared their old stand-by duet, learned in Sunday School during their very early childhood years. What a joy to hear their joy expressed, which was learned in this church. The young is our hope and mainstay. May God continue to bless them as they share God's word in their musical talent with others.

Come and be a part of our choir. This helps us relax and enjoy the end of a busy day.

A Choir Member

NEW ANNEX WINDOWS

♥ *Thank you - We are happy to announce that our new windows are paid for!*

Finance Committee

TRUSTEE UPDATE

I would like to reflect on what has been accomplished at our church and church grounds this spring and summer. In late winter and early spring we had problems with a soft parking area. Gravel was brought in and graded level. We had new front doors put on the church. We then tried to repair the windows in the Annex, but it was decided it would be more economical to replace the windows. We have had painting done on the inside and outside of the Annex. The baseboard was repaired in the men's restroom and a children's table was made to look like new again. The shrubs and weeds have been trimmed and the lawn has been mowed. A special thanks goes out to the trustees and church angels that have made all this possible.

Ken Russell, Trustee

CLEANING THURSDAYS

After several "cleaning Thursdays" took place, what a difference! The classrooms were sorted, cleaned and painted:

- Sandy Beckemeier and Sharon Blalock as handi-women
- Donna and Shawn Gallagher as carpenters and arrangers
- Etta Jean Crawford and Ida Mae Lemmons as paint trimmers
- Carolyn and Ken Russell as paint finishers
- Bill Coombs and Tom Clark as outside painters
- Sharon Blalock as classroom table refinisher.

Thanks to all who helped!!!

Tree of Life: The congregation may still purchase leaves in honor or in memory of a loved one, or to add your family name to the tree. Anyone who is interested can contact Joanne Coombs or Carolyn Russell.

REMEMBER - FAMILY NIGHT

OCTOBER 23RD 6:30 - 8:30 PM

HALLOWEEN PARTY

BRING YOUR FRIENDS!



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UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



Women's Fellowship

All women of the church and community are invited to be a part of this caring and sharing group, locally and globally. Our reason is to be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the local and global ministries of the church.

UMW WILL BE 135 YEARS OLD IN 2004

Still Celebrating: UMW's 135 years – don't forget your \$1.35 in celebration (a one-time giving) to be donated at the end of the year to the District Pledge to Mission. Give to Treasurer, Etta Jean Crawford.

Noodle-Making: We will meet on Monday, October 4th at 8:30 am for noodle-making.

October Meeting: Monday, October 4th at 7:00 pm. Hostesses will be Donna Gallagher and Etta Jean Crawford. Reminder to all Mission Committees: Report at the October meeting for our fall and December activities.

Wilmington District Annual Day: UMW Annual Day will be held on October 23rd at Williamsburg UMC, 11:30 am – 3:00 pm. Let's get a group together to enjoy this special day.

November Meeting: Monday, November 1st at 7:00 pm. Hostesses will be Sarah Jane Nichol and Elsie Nichol.

December: No meeting. Annual Family Christmas Party, Saturday, December 4th.

Treasurer's Report: As of September 7, 2004, the balance was \$339.56.

Two-Year Date Books: 2005-2006 Two-Year Date Books will go on sale soon for \$2.00. Proceeds will go to the UMW for mission.

An Honor for West Ohio Conference UMW: At the Upper Atlantic Regional School of Mission in June, our Conference received a Silver Award from the Women's Division for organizing three or more new units in one year.

Mission Field: Amanda Nelson, Fred Guiler's granddaughter, is preparing to join the mission field. Our UMW unit has donated \$50 toward her support. She is currently teaching in Kentucky. She has shared her singing talents with us at the New Year's Eve service.

A Martha Scholarship Winner: This was my first time to attend the West Ohio Conference School of Mission during the week of July 26-30, 2004. I have had a hard time coming down from my "high" after that week! It was greatly satisfying being with all of God's people and sharing His love and teachings. At my age, it was surprising the new insights I have gained in God's name. I have been busy sharing with friends and other UMW and church family. I felt the school was well worth the time and energy. The school was well organized to accomplish so many availabilities in a Godly, relaxed atmosphere. The music and food were most enjoyable, too. New friendships were gained. If you have a chance to attend in future years, please do. You will be glad you did. We thank God for all of this and I'm proud to be part of the UMW.

Ida Mae Lemmons

Missionaries: After writing letters to missionaries, two responses were received and read at our September meeting. One letter came from Macedonia and one came from Pennsylvania.

Personals: Rhonda, Mark and Danielle Davis have returned from their three-year term living in Hong Kong, with Mark working in China. They now reside in Nashville, Tennessee. Their son Ryan lives in Cincinnati and son Brandon lives in Fairfield. Rhonda worked in the Education Department in earlier years and they attended church here. We wish them well in their new home.

MISSIONS

An Update: The Blanket Project in April – A note of thanks is posted on the bulletin board for \$250 donated by the congregation. That amount purchased 50 blankets for the catastrophics nationally and internationally. We thank God for our gift of giving.

September: Festival of Sharing – Everyone celebrated a ministry together, people of God, who made a commitment to alleviate physical and spiritual hunger. The collection of paper products and health articles were donated to the Oxford Family Resource Center.

Christmas Season 2004: As our Christian Mission Project this year, we are asking for donations for the elementary schools in the Talawanda District for kindergarten through sixth grades. Items needed are winter hats (skull caps), mittens or gloves of any kind, but water-proof preferred, and sweat pants sizes: 6-8 (small), 8-10 (medium), 10-12 (large), 12-14 (x-large), all children's sizes (not adults). A box will be placed in the Fellowship Hall after Thanksgiving. We will let you know if different clothing pieces are needed. Thank you for your help.

Cathy Richardson

World Thank Offering: Boxes are available in the back of the sanctuary. They hold 464 pennies, pennies that can be dropped in the box spontaneously, when we feel that we have been blessed. The boxes will be collected at the Thanksgiving worship service.

Packing for Jesus: Saturday, February 5, 2005 at the Goshen UMC. We could take part if there could be a place for storage. Let Ida Mae Lemmons know if you are interested. Last February, 22 tons of clothing was shipped to the Ukraine. This announcement comes from Cathy Hanover of our District.

Reminder – Campbell Labels:

Please continue to save your labels and place them in the pink shoebox in the Annex. These are sent to The Henderson Settlement in Kentucky.

FROM OXFORD SENIOR CITIZENS

1. The Oxford Caregivers' Support Group – contact Cynthia Kelley at 523-8646
2. The Oxford Parkinson's Disease Support Group – contact Emilie Ratterman at 523-8100 Monday thru Friday, 1:00 – 4:30 pm
3. If interested, you can take part in a cognitive aging study. You must be over 60 years of age. The study will be held at the Miami University Cognition & Perception Lab, Room 209, Benton Hall, corner of Talawanda & High Streets. Ask for Jeff at 529-2437. Cost is \$50.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY THERAPY



*The person you are today
is a prism reflecting a unique spectrum
of heredity, heritage, upbringing, and
personal choices. Show your true
colors with pride!*

October 8 – Cathy Richardson
October 18 – Caren Hansel
November 29 – Christy Heinrich

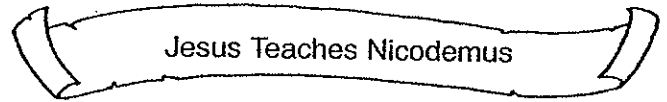


Ye Olde Christmas Shoppe 2004

It is time to prepare for the 2004 “Ye Olde Christmas Shoppe.” This is the sixth year for this outreach program of Hamilton’s Living Water Ministry and partner churches and organizations. On December 11, registered adult shoppers will enjoy breakfast, a play of the story of the birth of Jesus, music and crafts. Elves will help each shopper select new toys, high quality used toys, books, and hats/gloves for each of their children. Each child will also receive a stocking filled with goodies. After their shopping is complete, wrapper elves will help parents wrap their gifts. Runner elves will carry the packages to our vans, and drive the parents home. We offer child care for children 4th grade and under at Living Water. The actual shop is held at First UMC, 225 Ludlow in downtown Hamilton. Each year, over ten organizations and churches help us provide gifts to over 200 children. That is about 65 families. It takes approximately 150 individuals and \$7,500 to make the shop a success. Any organization or church can become a sponsor organization. Churches can help collect funds, acquire toys and supplies, and recruit volunteers. Help is needed throughout the week of December 5-9 at various times, and a large crew is needed on December 11 to run the shop. If you can help make the 2004 “Ye Olde Christmas Shoppe” another community outreach success through your donations or volunteers, please contact Tracy or Rod Taylor at 363-0310, or Living Water Ministry at 894-1188.



Word Game



Find out about Nicodemus.



Code:			
♥ = A	■ = H	⊕ = O	* = V
⊕ = B	☆ = I	▷ = P	◇ = W
⇨ = C	→ = J	☞ = Q	● = X
⊗ = D	✓ = K	! = R	○ = Y
× = E	× = L	▲ = S	* = Z
□ = F	☆ = M	† = T	
▼ = G	♣ = N	* = U	

Nicodemus was a _____ . He was a
 _____ of the _____ .
 He went to _____ at _____ . He said
 he _____ Jesus was _____ .

**** Notice ** Deadline for Newsletter Articles**

The next deadline date for submitting articles for the newsletter is **November 15, 2004**. Items can be given to Maxine Harris or Ida Mae Lemmons. We will be including monthly calendars and we need your help to keep upcoming events, birthdays, anniversaries, etc. noted on these calendars. You may also send information via e-mail to Maxine at: maxakers03@aol.com.