

Good News

From Darrtown United Methodist Church
for March / April, 2005



By the time this arrives in your home, we will be in the midst of Lent. On the first Sunday of Lent, I spoke on changing from the clothing of sin and selfishness into the robes of faith, honesty and commitment.

Lent is a time of introspection, change, and preparation for Easter. The word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon "lencten", which means spring, the time of the lengthening of days.

In early Christian days, Lent was the time when new converts were prepared for Baptism on Easter Eve. They were taught the gospel message and the Lord's prayer. They prayed, fasted and did penance.

Eventually, Lent became a time of reflection and self-examination for all Christians. In our busy, secular world, Lent is a time of renewal, a time to remember Jesus – to walk with Him in study, prayer, and service to others. It is a time to participate in personal and family worship.

Though we are not having a special study during Lent, I will be looking at some of Jesus' parables in our Sunday morning worship. I hope you will plan to be present each Sunday that we might learn together.

See you in church,

Rev. Ed

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www.darrrtownumc.org

Upcoming Events

- Every Wednesday at 6:30 - Choir Practice. The Darrrtown Choir is looking for members. We need some men's voices to help carry the sound and tune. Join in helping the women sing during our Easter season. Please give this serious consideration. Contact Donna Gallagher at 523-2748.
- March 7 (Monday) - United Methodist Women's meeting at 7:00 pm
- March 14 (Monday) - Admin Board meeting at 7:00 pm
- March 20 (Sunday) - Noon on Palm Sunday, joint church Easter Egg Hunt at McGonigle-Millville UMC.
- March 24 (Thurs) - 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Communion Service at McGonigle-Millville UMC
- March 25 (Friday) - 7:00 pm Good Friday Service at Darrrtown
- March 27 - Easter Sunday
 - 7:00 am Sunrise Service and Breakfast
 - 9:00 am Easter Service
 - 10:30 am Sunday School
- Week of April 3rd - TV Turnoff Week(see article)
- April 4 (Monday) - United Methodist Women's meeting at 7:00 pm
- April 10 (Sunday) - Resurrection Sunday and Pancake Breakfast
- April 11 (Monday) - Admin Board meeting at 7:00 pm
- April 17 (Sunday) - Blanket Day Mission

HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE

March: Jane Jewell-Menke and
Tonya Cornthwaite
April: Karen Meador and Caren Hansel
* When a trade is needed, contact Etta Jean
at 524-2144.

GREETERS / USHERS

March: Bill Coombs and Kristi Coombs
April: Corby and Caren Hansel
* When a trade is needed, contact Helen and
Wayne Weber at 756-0021.



PRAYERS REQUESTS

Michael Lane (Iraq); Jill & Dave Morris (Iraq); Jessie Jones (Iraq); Mel Snider; Emma Shoker; Mary Pate; Ersia Coombs; Ron Brown; Ruth Bauer; Ralph Heil; JoAnn Coombs; Bob Jewell; Linda Maple; Ray Giffen; Sherry Scanlin; Ron Hansel; Chuck Hansel; Matt Hatfield; Robyn Beck; Bill Brown; family of Audrey Sheard; Shawn Hurley; Family of Lenora Albright; the Taylor family (AZ); Bob Corbin

UPDATE ON MEL SNIDER

(note from Lois)

Mel seems to be doing well after the fiasco of the nurse who thought he should go to the ER which resulted in a 24 hour EEG. The report was normal. The hall was quarantined from Thursday through Sunday because so many had upper respiratory infections but Mel never got it. No visitors for four days didn't please him too well, staying in that room with the door closed. I took him to the Valentine's Party which was music from Guys and Dolls which was very nice. I still hope to bring him home when the weather gets warmer. Plan to have a patio poured as soon as the weather breaks. His biggest obstacle is balance and weakness in his legs when walking. Someone always has to be with him. We have an appointment with Cincinnati Eye Institute March 3rd for an evaluation about his closed right eye.

UPDATE ON ROBYN BECK

(note from Rev. Ed)

Robyn and I would like to thank you for your love and concern during these last few months. Your calls, cards, food, and expressions of concern have been deeply appreciated. She is slowly gaining strength after a lengthy setback.

It has been difficult for her to step back from responsibilities because of her dedication and enthusiasm for the churches. She needs this time, however, to recuperate and that means slowing her pace considerably.

Many of you have been concerned for a long time about her pushing herself too hard and have encouraged her to slow down. Now she realizes that she should have listened to you! Robyn will attend services as she is able, but will have to relinquish committees and activities until she is stronger. (cont.)

Thank you for your understanding. She will be asking for your help in covering some of her responsibilities. She has enjoyed playing such an active role in the church and, hopefully, in the near future, will do so again. We will trust God to let us know when the time is right.

With love, Ed

MILITARY

Let us remember in prayer those who serve our country.

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



LOOKING FORWARD



SUNDAY SCHOOL

To all Parents of Children and Youth:

It is time to get back to Sunday School so there can be learning and planning for the great time of Easter and Resurrection Sunday, coming up

soon - March 27th and April 10th. Sunday School begins at 10:30 am. Education Dept.

JOINT EASTER EGG HUNT

March 20th, Palm Sunday, the joint Family Fellowship Committees are sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt at 12:15 pm at McGonigle-Millville UMC. Cookies and punch will be served AND a surprise visit by the Easter Bunny. We would like to see carloads of Darrrtown children attend this event.

MAUNDY THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY

These two days are the highlights of Holy Week, leading us to Easter. At 7:00 pm each church will host a worship experience.

McGonigle-Millville will host Maundy Thursday on March 24th. Communion at the rail will take place. If you are unable to kneel, communion will be brought to you in the pew.

Darrrtown will host the Good Friday service at 7:00 pm on March 25th. This will feature the sound of the nails being driven through Jesus' feet and hands.

Plan to attend both of these services. We want to support our sister church as well as our own.

EASTER SUNDAY

Easter is early this year. It falls on March 27th. Easter is the high point of the Christian year. It marks the resurrection of Jesus from the grave. Easter tells us that God's love even conquers death. Easter symbolized the promise of eternal life through faith in Jesus' sacrifice.

Easter is too important to celebrate with only one service. It would be wonderful to see the church overflowing at each service. There will be a Sunrise Service at 7:00 am. That may not be exactly sunrise, but it works well for us. A special breakfast follows. This is a wonderful day of celebration. The regular Easter Service follows at 9:00 am with another fellowship time between 10 and 10:30. We hope you will stay for Sunday School at 10:30 am.

Bring your whole family and your friends and neighbors, too. Something special is happening here as God moves among us. Let's share God's love!

RESURRECTION SUNDAY

Our church will celebrate its second Resurrection Sunday on April 10th. Last year's service was a huge success as we extended the Easter theme of our Lord's resurrection. The children will be participating again in the worship service. A pancake breakfast will follow. Donna and Shawn Gallagher, Harry Ogle, and Sally Hansel will coordinate the breakfast. Everyone is invited. Bring your family, friends, and guests and let's fill the church again.

MISSION - TURNING OFF THE TV TV Turnoff Week - April 3 - 9

Following Jesus' model of withdrawing - to the hills, the lake, a rock in the desert, a friend's dinner table - is challenging today when TV claims to be a way to get away from it all. To provide opportunities for people to renew and reconnect with themselves and each other, a network of organizations promote an annual TV Turnoff Week. The event is not designed to ban TV watching altogether, but to encourage people to explore more participatory entertainment and education activities. The week has been set for the first week in April. The week also helps people get a handle on what they watch.

Mr. Vesper, a former teacher, says he sees negative impacts of too much TV on children's behavior. Teachers, doctors, parents and others increasingly voice concerns about TV - leading to decreased attention skills, lack of exercise, limited reading and reduced social interaction - many times, poor eating habits, inappropriate role models for attitude, speech and behavior.

The website, www.limitv.org shares statistics on TV's impact on children. The US Department of Education says grades drop sharply when children watch ten or more hours of TV. American Academy of Pediatrics says children ages two and younger should not watch TV because of its effect on brain development. The Journal of Pediatrics says for every hour of TV watching, children have a ten percent chance of developing Attention Deficit Disorder.

More than 80 organizations including the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries, the American Medical Association, the National Education Department and the American Hobby Shops are among the supporters. TV Turnoff Week is not only for kids, said teacher, Mr. Cara. He went on to say that TV has ways of desensitizing us to caring about people, about violence, even when we watch the news, because the news likes to emphasize the violence, dangerous side of society. We are led to believe that the world is much more dangerous than it is. "Limiting TV viewing changes perceptions of the world and other people," he said.

RESPONSE, The UMW Mission Magazine



OTTERBEIN "KEY PERSON"

Our church is happy to announce that we have a new "Key Person" for Otterbein Home, Lebanon. Her name is Maxine Harris. This will continue to be, as in past practice, an on-going mission for Otterbein. A box will be made available for the collection of their needs. Maxine will represent our church at the quarterly meetings, deliver our collections, and take part in their quarterly luncheons.

NEW PARKING LOT

Our big capital improvement for 2005 will be enlarging and paving the parking lot. Drawings are posted at the church and our thermometer is up to show our progress. This work was researched and approved by the Board of Trustees and the Administrative Council at their February meeting. Please plan a generous gift above and beyond your regular gifts and offerings so that we can complete this project this summer. Mark your gifts for the "parking lot".

BOOK FOR SALE

"Are Not My People Worthy, the Matthew 25 Ministries," by Wendell Metty, is a wonderful read. This ministry has been sending many important items from the Cincinnati area to the Tsunami area. If you are interested in purchasing a book, the cost is \$20, which can be given to Tonya Cornthwaite, Jack Davis, Sally Hansel or Jane Menke.

ADMIN BOARD MEETINGS

We would like to invite everyone whose names are on the officers list to join us for the monthly Administrative Board meetings and become an active part of the planning process. The Board meets the second Monday of each month. We need your input!



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LOOKING BACK

YEAR END REPORT

We ended the year of 2004 in the black, with all bills paid and a good balance to begin the year of 2005. We replaced the windows in our fellowship hall and are free of all debt. What a celebration!

We had four baptisms and added twelve new members. There were three deaths. Our membership at the end of 2004 was 102. There was an average attendance at worship of 54. Our average attendance at Sunday School was 12.

It was a good year! Can we work together to make 2005 even better? Remember, parents, your children are the future of Darrrtown UMC. Encourage them to attend both Sunday School and worship. Families that pray together, stay together.

NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME!

In spite of snow and cold, a good crowd was present at worship on January 16, 2005, to welcome these persons into membership:

Christy Heinrich
4244 Shannon Drive, Oxford, OH 45056
523-2977
By Profession of Faith

Kathy Menke
3890 Darrrtown Road, Oxford, OH 45056
523-2957
By Profession of Faith

Tara Menke
3890 Darrrtown Road, Oxford, OH 45056
523-2957
By Profession of Faith

Mary Pate
2655 Frazee Road, Somerville, OH 45064
726-6022
By Profession of Faith

Mary Pate was also given the Sacrament of Baptism that morning. Many family members braved the snowy roads to witness her Baptism.

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP TALENT NIGHT

I would like to thank everyone who came together to make our talent night a huge success. Also, the talent that came out to share with everyone! It was such an enjoyable night to share with our church family, and our extended family of McGonigle-Millville. Thank you all so much.

Christy Heinrich

TALENT NIGHT - JANUARY 29, 2005

At the McGonigle church, a delicious supper of homemade soup, sandwiches and fruit cobblers was served at 6:30, followed by the presentation of a talent show. This family night activity was successful and well attended in spite of inclement weather. Donna Gallagher did a great job as MC, with her "Knock-Knock" jokes and introductions. The musical, poetry, and other kinds of talent that is available in our two churches is amazing. Sharing our talents is one of our promises to being a United Methodist. One of the outstanding feats was the "Scarf Dance" led by Tara Menke (our miracle child) with the children joining in. We also know that we have a wonderful "Dancing Reverend" and partner! Thanks to the committee who worked to make this happen. There is a tape available. It is being circulated to anyone who may wish to view it.

Ida Mae Lemmons

MISSION NIGHT

A Mission Night was sponsored by the United Methodist Women on January 17, 2005. After a supper of soup and sandwiches was served, our group was led on a trip to Thailand by Linda Brate with her slide presentation. Her point of focus was the northern section of Thailand, which is several hundred miles from the area of the recent Tsunami disaster. We realized that even our small amount of support can help others in need around the world. Thanks to Linda for a wonderful evening. Linda is a senior at Taylor University in Indiana.

MISSIONARY WORK

Fred Guiler's granddaughter, Amanda Nelson, will be going to China for four years. During the first two years, she cannot have any contact with family or others in this country. Amanda has been supported by this United Methodist Women's local unit. Our prayers are with her as she pursues her new adventure.

THANK YOU

☺ Horace Akeley sends a "thank you" to Bill Coombs for delivering the donuts!

CONGRATULATIONS

- ★ To **Bill and JoAnn Coombs** on their 50th wedding anniversary!
- ★ To **Tara Menke** for making the President's List at Miami!
- ★ To **Megan Beckemeier** for making the Honor Roll at Talawanda High School!
- ★ To **Cassie Cohen** for making the Honor Roll at Talawanda High School!

STORAGE BINS

Several storage bins were purchased, and our Fall and Christmas decorations were packed away, identified, and stored in the barn, as well as in the basement, under the Annex floor.

A NEED FOR OUR CHURCH

Our supply of paper toweling has dwindled considerably and there is a need for restocking. Please lend your generosity to this need.

We Manage What God Has Given Us

A steward is defined as: An administrator or supervisor; a manager. As people of faith, we manage what God has given us. We are accountable to Him for how we use His gifts. We have both an individual and community obligation as stewards. We need to personally decide how to develop and commit the abilities and possessions we have. We must respond to our faith community, the Church, which provides us with opportunities to heighten the effect of our stewardship.

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.

JANUARY MEETING: Our first meeting of the new year began with the installation of officers for 2005. Our theme for the year is "At the Water's Edge." The planning for Mission Night was completed. Refreshments were served by Carolyn Sadler and Sally Hansel.

FEBRUARY MEETING: During our February meeting, our program was a study of Mary and Martha, the "doer" and the "hearer". We are concentrating on "visitation" of the ill this year, either by phone or in person. A Valentine refreshment was served by Sandy Beckemeier and Rhonda Knight.

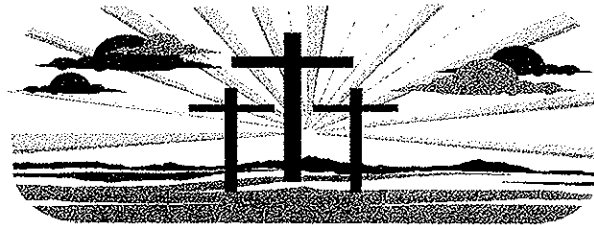
MARCH MEETING: Monday the 7th at 7:00 pm. Cathy Richardson will conduct the "Prayer and Self-Denial" program. Hostesses will be Caren Hansel and Lora Richardson.

APRIL MEETING: Monday the 4th at 7:00 pm. Discussion - TV "Turn off week". Hostesses will be Robyn Beck and Ida Mae Lemmons.

TREASURER'S REPORT: As of February 7, 2005, the balance was \$307.03. Our mission for 2004 has been met, totaling \$500.

BLANKET DAY: Sunday, April 17th is Blanket Day Mission Sunday, a catastrophic world mission. \$5.00 will purchase a blanket.

Rejoice in *EASTER*



Darrtown United Methodist Church March, 2005

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Hospitality: Jane Jewell-Menke & Tonya Cornthwaite Greeters: Bill & Kristi Coombs | | 1 | 2 6:30 pm Choir Practice Fred Guiler's birthday | 3 Barney Beckemeier's birthday | 4 | 5 Shelby Cook's birthday |
| 6 | 7 7:00 pm UMW Irene Hansel's birthday | 8 | 9 6:30 pm Choir Practice | 10 | 11 | 12 Debi Bowman's birthday |
| 13 Kathy Menke's birthday | 14 7:00 pm Admin Board | 15 Pam Russell's birthday Tonya Cornthwaite's birthday | 16 6:30 pm Choir Practice | 17 St. Patrick's Day | 18 | 19 |
| 20 Joint Easter Egg Hunt at 12:15 at McGonigle Karen Meador's birthday | 21 Lois Ann Snider's birthday | 22 | 23 6:30 pm Choir Practice | 24 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service at McGonigle | 25 7:00 pm Good Friday Service at Darrtown | 26 |
| 27 7:00 am Easter Sunrise & Breakfast; 9:00 am Easter Service; 10:30 Sun. School | 28 | 29 Taylor Cook's birthday | 30 6:30 pm Choir Practice | 31 | | |
| | | | | | | |

Darrrtown United Methodist Church



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| Hospitality: Karen Meador & Caren Hansel Greeters: Corby & Caren Hansel | | | | | 1 | 2 Cameron Hansel's Birthday |
| 3 TV Turnoff Week | 4 7:00 pm UMW | 5 | 6 6:30 pm Choir Practice | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Resurrection Sunday Service & Pancake Breakfast | 11 7:00 pm Admin Board Meeting | 12 | 13 6:30 pm Choir Practice | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Blanket Day | 18 | 19 | 20 6:30 pm Choir Practice | 21 Jim & Karen Meador's Anniversary | 22 | 23 Claire Cohen's Birthday |
| 24 | 25 | 26 Danny Meador's Birthday | 27 6:30 pm Choir Practice Ron Otto's Birthday | 28 | 29 | 30 Sally Hansel's Birthday |
| | | | | | | |