

# Good News

*From Darrtown / McGonigle-Millville Charge  
United Methodist Churches  
March / April, 2011*



*Dear Friends,*

On February 20, 2011, I shared with both churches my latest miracle. After being diagnosed by two EKG's as having had a heart attack with damage, and only a year and a half after triple by-pass surgery, the cardiologist performed an angiogram. To his surprise he found that my heart had perfectly clear arteries as well as good heart function. He stood across my bed stating that "he couldn't explain it." He said, "Ed, I never would have put you through this procedure if I wasn't alarmed. I guess God is taking good care of you." This was the same week I was diagnosed with asthma, and my breathing has been fine since. Our God of healing is still at work!

Church is the place where we learn of this God of love. Church is the place that reminds us of the spark of God's love that gets and keeps our motors running. I am renewed and regenerated and I invite you to join me in this new journey of faith and service.

All this reminds me of a pastor friend who tells of the old car he uses as a second car. It is shabby and in need of repair. But he doesn't want to part with it. He, and I, can point out how similar our relationships to our old cars can be to our spiritual lives and our relationship with God.

Do you remember when you were a new Christian and how excited you were? Do you remember how much Christ meant to you? Do you remember the warm glow you had knowing that your sins were forgiven and God's grace was working in your life? Do you remember how much you enjoyed reading the Bible? Commitment wasn't hard because you were in love. So what happened? The "new Christian" smell has worn off. The manual, I mean the Bible, stays in the glove box. Maintenance has slipped, but hey, we're getting along. The attractiveness we had that drew others to Christ has faded. The excitement about hitting the road for Jesus has waned and we pretty much keep to the garage now.

How about it? Is it time to trade in, spiritually speaking? Join me in rediscovering the joy and peace and excitement that come in renewing your relationship with God. He is worth the commitment!

See you in church!

*Rev. Ed*

## **Calendar of Events**

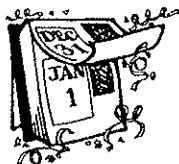
Watch for news each week  
in your weekly bulletin

### **March, 2011**

- March 6: Communion
- March 7: 7:00 pm, United Methodist Women
- March 9: Lent begins: Ash Wednesday, informal communion and distribution of ashes, 7:30 pm at Darrtown
- March 12: Spaghetti Dinner, 4:30-6:30, McGonigle
- March 13: First Sunday in Lent; Strength for Service Sunday; 6:30 pm, T.G.I.F.
- March 14: Darrtown Trustees at 7:00 pm; Church Council at 7:15
- March 19: Spring cleaning day at Darrtown
- March 20: Second Sunday in Lent
- March 21: McGonigle Trustees at 6:30; Church Council at 7:15
- March 27: Third Sunday in Lent; T.G.I.F. at Darrtown, 6:30 pm

### **April, 2011**

- April 3: Communion; Fourth Sunday in Lent
- April 4: UMW Ladies Night Out, 7:00 pm Bob Evans Restaurant in Hamilton
- April 10: Fifth Sunday in Lent; Love Offering; 6:30 pm T.G.I.F. at Darrtown
- April 17: Palm Sunday
- April 21: Maundy Thursday, 7:21 pm McGonigle
- April 22: Good Friday, 7:22 pm Darrtown
- April 23: Easter Egg Hunt
- April 24: Easter:
  - 7:24 am Sunrise Service, both churches
  - 8:15 am Breakfast, both churches
  - 9:00 am Darrtown Easter celebration;  
Sunday School at regular time
  - 10:45 am McGonigle Easter celebration



**HAPPY BIRTHDAYS  
& ANNIVERSARIES**

***Refer to our calendar pages.***

## **F Y I**

(For Your Information)

Please be sure to let the church know if you or a loved one will be entering the hospital. Also, in case of pastoral emergency and you are unable to reach Rev. Beck or Robyn at 513-896-4025, you may contact them by using their cell phone number, 513-226-1314.

### **LET US REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

Darrtown / McGonigle-Millville Prayer List  
(See your church's prayer list each Sunday)

Our military personnel	Cub Pack 937
Evelyn Kuhlmann	Ruth Wilson
Hannah Herbst & Mother Leslie	Rita Burns
Dawn Nickerson	Dave Lykins' Mother
Ruth Childers	John Reeves
Ron Hansel	Family of Ray Clark
Don Mayberry	Deaton Family
Heather Keller	Marge Leck
Family of David Lowe	Jennifer Jones
Thomas Richardson	Charles Sullivan
Mary Lou Pruden	Ron & Pam Hatten
Larry Richardson	Jack Coombs
Bev & James Wymer	David Foley and Sarah Myers
Rawn & Robbin Dillingham Family	Jonathan McCartney
Sabrina Smith & Family	Noah Grimes

### **CONDOLENCES**

† To Rawn Dillingham in the loss of his father.

### **NEXT NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE BY APRIL 20, 2011**

Give to Maxine Harris ( [maxakers03@aol.com](mailto:maxakers03@aol.com) )  
Ida Mae Lemmons ( [idamae87@yahoo.com](mailto:idamae87@yahoo.com) )  
or Rita Burns ( [rburns38@cinci.rr.com](mailto:rburns38@cinci.rr.com) )

### **CHURCH COUNCIL FOR 2011**

<u>McGonigle</u>	<u>Darrtown</u>
March 14	March 21
May 9	May 16
July 11	July 18
September 12	September 19
November 14	November 21

Each church Board of Trustees meets before their church council on the same evening.

## Joint Church Events

### LENT AND EASTER

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends the Saturday before Easter. The word Lent comes from the Angle-Saxon word *lencten* which means "spring." Lent lasts 40 days, not counting the six Sundays. In scripture, forty days or forty years often represents a time of repentance, fasting, or vigil. Sundays are not counted in Lent because Sunday is always a celebration of Jesus' victory over death.

Years ago Lent was a more solemn season. Christians ate no meat, fish, cheese, butter, eggs, milk, or lard. Games, parties, festivities, and brightly colored clothes were also forbidden.

The three or four days before Lent were called Shrovetide. That name comes from the word *shrive*, to confess one's sins and receive absolution. Christians were expected to prepare for Lent by being shriven. Shrovetide was also a time to clear the home of foods forbidden during Lent.

Monday before Ash Wednesday was Collop Monday when people ate the last small pieces, or collops, or meat. On Shrove Tuesday pancake meals and pancake contests used up butter, eggs and milk. In Olney, England, custom started in 1445, women raced from the town square to the church flipping pancakes as they ran. The Pennsylvania Dutch celebrated *Fastnacht* (Shrove Tuesday) by serving donuts. New Orleans developed Mardi Gras as the last day to have fun before Lent began.

Lent reminds us of the journey of Jesus to Jerusalem where He knew He would be crucified. He tried to prepare His disciples for what was ahead but they did not listen. Peter strongly disagreed with Jesus saying that such a thing would never happen. Jesus rebuked him saying that he was speaking for Satan.

The struggle that Jesus went through was tremendous. He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane and sweat flowed down His face like great drops of blood. He wanted this cup to pass from Him but He also wanted God's will to be done and not His own. That is the way Jesus lived and died. To live in the name and spirit of Jesus means to have as our prayer through Lent, "Thy will be done and not mine."

The special days of Lent are:

Ash Wednesday – March 9

Palm Sunday – April 17

Maunder Thursday – April 21

Good Friday – April 22

Easter – April 24

### EASTER EGG HUNT

The Easter Egg Hunt is being planned for Saturday, March 23 at 11:00 am. It is a joint church event and we invite all families and friends to join us for a fun time. There will even be a surprise visit from the Easter Bunny! Bring your camera for some cute photo memories.

### STRENGTH FOR SERVICE TO GOD AND COUNTRY

We have an opportunity to step up to the plate and thank our men and women in the Armed Forces!

On March 13, 2011, there will be a special offering received to purchase the daily devotional for Military and Public Service Professionals. Ours will be going to the military!

There are brochures at each church, though only a few. We also have a copy of one of the books, Strength for Service to God and Country in each church.

Look through these materials and come on March 13<sup>th</sup> prepared to share generously with those in the Armed Forces of the United States.

Captain Daniel Knaup (Whitehall, OH) says, "I greatly appreciate these wonderful books. My soldiers cannot get enough of them – every deployment briefing that I give, I get an overwhelming request from soldiers for these."

### LOVE SUNDAY OFFERING UPDATE

On the second Sunday of each month, each church takes a second offering for others that we call the Love Offering. The money collected is used to help needy persons in our area. Typically, this is done by the purchase and distribution of gift cards. So far in 2011, two \$25.00 gift cards have been given, one from each church to one family.

Occasionally, a larger gift may be needed. These larger gifts are either approved by the entire church council or by a selected group of members designated by the council. All distributions are confidential. This is necessary as many times the families in need are from one of our churches. As you can imagine, if you were the one facing financial need, you would want to remain anonymous. We want our church families to turn to us if a need arises, knowing that their request would be kept confidential. The Love Offering is designed as an emergency fund and that is the way it is carefully used.

The church council has designated that March's Love Offering be used for our military service men and women through the Strength for Service Sunday. (For more information, see additional article about Strength for Service.)

## **McGONIGLE-MILLVILLE NEWS**

### **ANNUAL SPRING YARD SALE**

It's that time again to clean out your closet and garage to help us have a successful yard sale this spring. Plan to come and join us for some of the best food in town and great bargains! If you need items picked up, please call Kenny Coleman, Jim Keller, or the church office. We look forward to seeing you.

### **SPAGHETTI DINNER BENEFIT & SILENT AUCTION**

**Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-6:30 pm**

**\$7.00 Adults; \$3.00, 3-12 years; under 3 is free**

For our benefit to be successful, we need YOUR help! This event and silent auction will benefit our church and a portion of the proceeds will benefit Campus Ministry, 16 S. Campus Avenue, Oxford, Ohio. Their funding has been cut from \$50,000 to \$5,000 this year. The Center receives their funding from The West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church. They have been in Oxford since 1918. The Center provides ministry to Miami University students through its Lights on Campus group.

You can help our benefit be successful by planning to attend and by donating items for the silent auction. If you would like to help set up, clean up, or work at the dinner and/or auction, please contact Brenda Graham, Kenny Coleman or Ann Jones.

### **EASTER LILIES**

The McGonigle Millville Choir will be selling lilies at \$9.00 each to decorate our church altar for Easter Sunday services. You may purchase them in honor or memory of a loved one and we will list it in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. See Sherri by Sunday, April 17, to place your order.

### **EASTER SUNRISE BREAKFAST**

The choir will be providing breakfast immediately following our Sunrise Service. Please join our early service followed by breakfast, Sunday School and regular Easter Sunday Service. We look forward to cooking for a full sanctuary of worshippers.

### **ALTAR FLOWERS DONATED IN JAN. & FEB.**

- ❖ In honor of Bernice Coleman, Peggy Sue, Jim and Sue Keller's birthdays
- ❖ In memory of Brackney and Beckett parents and John Beckett, son, by John & Carol Beckett
- ❖ In memory of Bill and Margaret Corbin and son, Bill (Pewee), by Rita Burns

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

To Shannon and David Guenther on the birth of their son, **Wyatt Joseph Guenther**, on November 23, 2010.

### **LOVE SUNDAY CELEBRATION – "PASS IT ON"**

February 20<sup>th</sup>: A huge thank you goes to Nevie Halcomb who for many years has been spearheading and implementing with great success the Love Sunday Celebrations as well as many other events. Her personal attention to detail, coupled with her generous donations has enabled us to celebrate many successes and enjoy so many fond memories with her fliers, favors, decorations, time and follow-through. We love and appreciate you so much, Nevie, we want to "Pass It On!"

A huge thank you also goes to Robyn Beck for her organizational skills, along with Brenda Graham and her planning expertise, Sherri Berger, Sheila Mayberry, Jennifer Jones, and Bernice Coleman, all of whom we couldn't do without, as well as our wonderful First Fruits. The help does not stop here. There are many people who are not mentioned but are not unnoticed. We are so blessed. We love you and thank you all so much. Your continued support always enables us to enjoy a successful endeavor.

1 Corinthians 10:31 says, "So, whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all to the Glory of God."

### **LOVE OFFERING IN ACTION**

Because of your hard work and generosity, through the Love Offering we were able to help a needy family pay their rent in November.

In January, through the Love Offering we were blessed with an opportunity to help another family pay some of their household expenses.

### **PERPETUAL FOOD DRIVE**

During January and February, over 35 pounds of food was donated and delivered to the Oxford Food Pantry.

### **FIRST FRUITS CAUGHT RESTING**

During the days that have passed since our last newsletter, First Fruits completed these various tasks: collected and put trash to the curb 3 times; removed snow from sidewalk and parking lot 4 times; spread salt on parking lot and sidewalk 3 times; delivered food to food pantry 2 times; opened building for workers to insulate bell tower ceiling; opened building for fire department to perform annual inspection; performed monthly fire extinguisher visual inspection 2 times; installed mounting hardware securing valance over six windows in sanctuary; opened

Our challenge continues to bring one canned good every Sunday and collect Campbell's labels, barcodes only. Hope to see you sometime this spring!!

- Cathy Richardson

### **Happy Birthday UMW!**

#### **March**

3/07 - Irene Hansel  
3/13 - Kathy Menke  
3/15 - Pam Russell  
3/21 - Lois Ann Snider

#### **April**

4/11 - Debbie Sansone  
4/19 - Phyllis Flick  
4/30 - Sally Hansel

### **FIRST TALENT SHARING TUESDAY**

Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, with some sunshine glistening on the snow and with biting cold temperatures, the United Methodist Women's first "Talent Sharing Tuesday" took place with four members attending. The plant seeds were there, the craft items were there, the dessert was there, and so were the shears. This event turned into an interesting and accomplished gathering.

Etta Jean came with her disinfected containers and tools and soil mix. She taught us how to plant seeds in the tiny containers, and each one was marked in preparation for going under the light at her home. Soon, the seeds will be transplanted into larger containers and placed in the correct setting. After that, a plant exchange will take place, ushering in springtime with color!

As time allowed, we enjoyed Sandy's cheese and crackers snack, followed a little later with a pineapple-coconut cake.

Cathy showed patterns and fabric brought from her shop to be used for items for our November Bazaar.

It was fun playing in the dirt - another sign of Spring!!

- Ida Mae Lemmons

*Happy moments, praise God.  
Difficult moments, seek God.  
Quiet moments, worship God.  
Painful moments, trust God.  
Every moment, thank God.*

## **T.G.I.F. News**

### **Darrrtown/McGonigle UMC Youth Group**

#### **Past Events:**

- T.G.I.F. did an info-commercial that helped raise cans for our annual canned food drive on February 6.
- T.G.I.F. helped out at the Boy Scout pancake breakfast on February 13.
- T.G.I.F. sang "Unfailing Love" by Chris Tomlin for McGonigle's Love Sunday.

#### **Lessons:**

Over the next several weeks the youth will be having lessons on community service. These are provided by Blue Fish Christian Lessons.

#### **Thank You!**

T.G.I.F. would like to thank the entire church congregation for their support in our annual Soup-or-Bowl canned food drive.

#### **Dates to Remember:**

- March 12: McGonigle Spaghetti Dinner, 4:15 pm; service project
- March 13: Youth meeting 6:30 pm at Darrrtown; new study material
- March 27: Youth meeting 6:30 pm at Darrrtown; taco salad night and music practice
- April 10: Youth meeting 6:30 pm at Darrrtown; music practice
- April 23: Easter Egg Hunt; service project; 11:00 am McGonigle
- April 24: 8:45 am Easter Sunday; singing at both churches

building for HVAC technicians 3 times; filled tractor fuel tank; opened building for electrician to install sound equipment switch; opened building for fire extinguisher company to perform annual inspection; installed new batteries in smoke alarms; set up drop cloth for spaghetti dinner sign painting; change furnace filters; sorted mail 2 times; conducted emergency safety light performance test; visual inspection of defibrillator.

-- Ken Coleman

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

►► To Mallory Hollister for being accepted into Miami University.

## **BICENTENNIAL COOKBOOK**

We have ordered 200 books. There are still a few left. They are \$10 each and have entries from past and present members. Contact any UMW member if you are interested in purchasing books.

## **UMW CHALLENGE CONTINUES**

The United Methodist Women are challenging the entire congregation to bring one item for the food pantry **EVERY** Sunday. When you grab your tithing envelope, just grab one can of soup, can of tuna, or box of pasta, and drop it in the basket in the fellowship hall. We could fill the basket weekly by giving one item each Sunday morning. Remember, our own abundance should be shared with those less fortunate.

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## **DARRTOWN NEWS**

### **EASTER LILIES**

For those of you who wish to order altar flowers for Easter in memory or honor of a loved one, please contact Penny Webster at 513-868-6221, or e-mail at [pennywebster@zoomtown.com](mailto:pennywebster@zoomtown.com)

### **RUMMAGE SALE**

The annual church rummage sale and community yard sales have been scheduled for June 10 and 11. This is a change from previous years because our church will be the site of a wedding ceremony and rehearsal dinner on June 3 and 4. Please keep our church in mind as you begin spring cleaning. We will accept donations beginning the first week of June and start setting up for the sale on June 5<sup>th</sup> following the church service and social time. Please consider volunteering some time to help set up, serve lunch or work the hours of the sale.

- Phyllis Flick

### **BOY SCOUT SUNDAY (2-13-2011)**

On this early, cold, winter Sunday morning, many young families and children attended worship services. Cub Scouts Pack 937 presented the colors and took part in the service. They did it with honor and boldness. For completing the "God and Family" program, four scouts were honored. Congratulations to: **Will Hawkins, Alex Cieslak, Brandon Welch and Zachary Mienhard Dowd.**

In the absence of Rev. Beck, Rev. Robert Klingel delivered the message on "Salt of the Earth."

Afterwards, a delicious pancake brunch was served. The dining room was full of aroma and happy people. We say "Thank You" to Mike Hawkins for his leadership and to other Scout leaders for making this happen, and to remind our congregation of our church's sponsorship for this Pack. Thank you also to the women and youth who made the brunch most enjoyable.

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## **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

### **From our President:**

What a miserable winter. We are thankful for the chance to socialize with United Methodist Women.

Our January meeting centered around installation of officers and covering the programs for the coming year. Sue Stephenson from Butler County Department of Environmental Services sent information concerning recycling and helping to "go green." Thanks to hostess, Cathy Richardson.

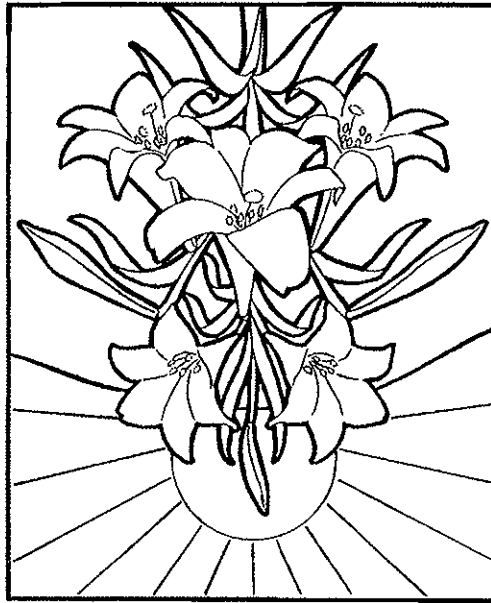
The weather was too bad to meet in February, but we were able to have our first "Talent Sharing Tuesday" get-together. Etta Jean instructed us on how to start new seeds for transplanting later this spring. We planted flowers and herbs. Thanks to Etta Jean and Sandy Beckemeier for the snacks.

Our March 7 meeting will be "Call to Prayer and Self-Denial" and preparation for Lent. Hostesses will be Cathy and Lora Richardson. The planned "White Elephant Auction" will benefit the Oxford Women's Care Center. The March "Talent Sharing Tuesday" will be held on Tuesday, March 8 at the church. We will transplant the seedlings and cut out some more projects for the Fall Bazaar.

The April meeting will be a "Ladies Night Out." We will meet at Bob Evans in Hamilton for an evening meal. Our April "Talent Sharing Tuesday" will be announced later.

DARRTOWN & MCGONIGLE-MILLVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES  
2011 BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b><u>April</u></b>						
					1 Jean Hansel	2 Cameron Hansel
3 Richard Roemer	4 Penny Webster	5	6 Phyllis & Mike Flick (Anniv)	7	8	9 Justin & Angela Baldwin (Anniv) Logan J. Rice
10 Dan Burkholder	11 Shelee Webster Debbie Sansone	12 Kathy & Ken Menke (Anniv)	13	14 Myra Krauth	15 <u>Good Friday</u>	16 Nathan Weingartner
17 <u>Palm Sunday</u> Bob Coleman	18	19 Phyllis Flick	20	21 Karen & Jim Meador (Anniv)	22	23 Claire Cohen
24 <u>Easter Sunday</u>	25	26 Danny Meador	27 Sherri Berger Ron Otto	28	29	30 Mike & Pam Lindley (Anniv) Sally Hansel



**NEWS**  
**From Dartown and McGonigle-Milville**  
**United Methodist Churches**

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**Newsletter of the Darttown /  
McGonigle-Milville UMC Charge /  
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**GOOD NEWS**

