

Good News

*From Darrtown / McGonigle-Millville Charge
United Methodist Churches
March / April, 2013*



Dear Friends,

Cathy Richardson distributed the following at the February United Methodist Women's meeting. It was part of the Oxford United Methodist Church's newsletter and written by then Associate Pastor, Rev. David Meredith. Please read this as something old, yet ever new!

The word "Lent" comes from the Old English "lencten," meaning "the lengthening" of the days in spring. Since the fourth century, this season of the church year has been observed beginning on Ash Wednesday, continuing for forty days prior to Easter and ending at noon the Saturday before Easter.

Ash Wednesday gets its name from Old Testament times when "sackcloth and ashes" were symbols of repentance. Others have suggested that since ashes were used in the making of soap, then ashes are a symbol of cleansing. Still others have suggested that since Genesis reminds us that we are "dust and to dust we shall return," then ashes are a symbol of our mortality. Regardless of the specific meaning, Ash Wednesday launches us into Lent – a period of repentance, cleansing and mortal reflection.

In the early church, Lent was used as a time for new member orientation. It was a time of rigorous training and preparation for the life of a disciple of Christ. It was a time for new converts and penitents to take on the image of Jesus Christ – to become like him. Lent continues to be a period of discipline, reflection and abstinence in imitation of Jesus' self-denial leading to the cross. The significance of Lent can be found in Romans 6:8, "Now if we die with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him." During Lent, we participate in Christ's suffering and death so that on Easter Day we may join him and rejoice with him in the joy of resurrection!

Therefore, Lent is a critical time of preparation in our lives. We turn our eyes to Jesus and try to be molded in his likeness. Albert Holl suggests that "whoever feels attracted to Jesus cannot adequately explain why. (one) must be prepared to be always correcting (one's) image of Jesus for (one) will never exhaust what there is to know. Jesus is full of surprises!" Consequently, all of us need to continue to be open to the surprises of Christ. The new images and visions of Christ which emerge in worship, in study, and in prayer will shape us and transform us during the preparatory time of Lent.

That is why there are so many new opportunities for study during the Lenten season. Consider ways to be involved so that your spiritual life might be transformed by the power of the image of Jesus Christ. Dr. Willis Elliott has described the power of Lent this way, "Lent is one of the Church Year's two special times for receiving the gift of the courage to turn from the merely manageable to the mysterious, the mystical, the Meaning that judges, purifies, redeems, transfigures our meaning, lest the present be only the shrine of the past and not the door to the future."

Lent is our preparation for the future. It is our hope in Jesus Christ. It is our confidence in the transforming power of God. So let it be done. Amen.

See YOU in church! **Pastor Ed Beck**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Watch for news each week in the weekly bulletins.

Each Sunday

Darrrtown (DT) – Worship 9:00, Sunday School 9:10 & 10:20

McGonigle (MG) – Worship 10:45, Sunday School 9:30 & 10:55

March, 2013

- March 3 (Sunday): Communion, Third Sunday in Lent; "I Was There: Pontius Pilate"
- March 4 (Monday): 10:30 am, women's Bible Study led by Shelee Webster at 3361 Stillwell-Beckett Road (phone 498-7214)
- March 4 (Monday): 7:00 pm, United Methodist Women's meeting at DT
- March 6 (Wednesday): Choir rehearsals – 6:00 pm DT; 6:30 MG; 7:30 Bible study MG
- March 9 (Saturday): Spaghetti dinner at MG – mission dinner and silent auction (mission project not yet named). All proceeds to missions.
- March 9 (Saturday): Cleaning day at DT; UMW
- March 10 (Sunday): Fourth Sunday in Lent; "I Was There: The Thief;" One Great Hour of Sharing
- March 10 (Sunday): 10:00 am Trustees at DT
- March 11 (Monday): 10:30 am, women's Bible Study led by Shelee Webster at 3361 Stillwell-Beckett Road
- March 11 (Monday): 5:00 pm DT Church Council
- March 13 (Wednesday): Choir rehearsals – 6:00 pm DT; 6:30 MG; 7:30 Bible study MG
- March 17 (Sunday): Fifth Sunday in Lent; "I Was There: The Other Thief"
- March 18 (Monday): 10:30 am, women's Bible Study led by Shelee Webster at 3361 Stillwell-Beckett Road
- March 18 (Monday): MG 6:30 Trustees; 7:00 Council
- March 20 (Wednesday): Choir rehearsals – 6:00 pm DT; 6:30 MG; 7:30 Bible study MG
- March 23 (Saturday): DT Bicentennial Fundraiser Dinner at Collinsville Community Center
- March 24 (Sunday): Palm/Passion Sunday; "I Was There: Joseph of Arimathea"
- March 24 (Sunday): Noon – Easter Egg Hunt, joint church event. In case of bad weather, inside DT
- March 25 (Monday): 10:30 am, women's Bible Study led by Shelee Webster at 3361 Stillwell-Beckett Road

- March 28 (Thursday): Holy Thursday Service, 7:30 at MG; The Sacrament of Communion; Sermon: "Betrayed"
- March 29 (Friday): Good Friday Service, 7:30 at DT – Service of Scripture, Candles and Music
- March 31 (Sunday): Early Easter Services at 7:30 am with breakfast following at each church; 9:00 and 10:45 worship – "I Was There: Mary Magdalene"
- No 5th Sunday potluck

April, 2013

- April 1 (Monday): 6:00 pm UMW Ladies Night Out at Bob Evans in Hamilton
- April 7 (Sunday): 1st Great Sunday After Easter; The Sacrament of Communion; Sermon "A Real Solution for Real Problems"
- April 8 (Monday): 10:30 am, women's Bible Study led by Shelee Webster at 3361 Stillwell-Beckett Road
- April 10 (Wednesday): Choir rehearsals – 6:00 pm DT; 6:30 MG; 7:30 Bible study MG
- April 14 (Sunday): 2nd Great Sunday After Easter; Native American Sunday
- April 17 (Wednesday): Choir rehearsals – 6:00 pm DT; 6:30 MG; 7:30 Bible study MG
- April 21 (Sunday): 3rd Great Sunday After Easter
- April 24 (Wednesday): Choir rehearsals – 6:00 pm DT; 6:30 MG; 7:30 Bible study MG
- April 26 (Friday): McGonigle UMC's famous yard sale, begins at 8:30 am
- April 27 (Saturday): McGonigle UMC's famous yard sale, begins at 8:30 am
- April 28 (Sunday): 4th Great Sunday After Easter
- April 28 (Sunday): 2:00 pm United Methodist Women's Spring Tea with music theme

Looking Ahead

- May 6: United Methodist Women's "Mother's Day"
- May 12: Mother's Day Worship
- May 13: Church Council, DT
- May 19: Pentecost
- May 20: MG Trustees and Church Council
- May 21: 8:00-5:15 Life Line Screening at MG
- June 7 & 8: Rummage sale at DT

You can never do a kindness too soon because you never know how soon it will be too late.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

BE ALERT...

Be alert for additional plans and events to come. A bimonthly newsletter means some events come after the current newsletter is published.

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.

See your church's prayer list each Sunday and remember those named in prayer.



**BIRTHDAYS
& ANNIVERSARIES**

Refer to our calendar pages.

LET US REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Darrtown / McGonigle-Millville Prayer List

(See your church's prayer list each Sunday)

Our military personnel	Unnamed persons / families
Rev. Robert Heiliger	Kim Newcomer
Irene & Carl Nutley	Rita Burns
Carol Beckett	Baby Landon Otto
Gene Blough	Ann & Jennifer Jones
Ron Hatten	Family of Jaret Philbeck
Fred Guiler	Pete & Jan Jewell
Mike Hawkins	Sarah Myers
Melba Gross	Pete Conrad
Fred & Betty Geisler	Phoebe & Homer Bolser
Angie Rose Gomez	Marion Ponder
Bob Keller	Noah Trumbull
Irene Young	Lois Messinger
Robbin Dillingham	David Foley
Helen Bruck	Cheryl Frost
Chuck Stenger	Charlotte & Wilbur Kreite
Becky Bee	Carlin Kallay
Guy & Marge Belew	Charles Sullivan & family
Beth Fulmer	Bernice & Lester Coleman
Mary Harrison	Don Jones
Eric Lykins	Clara Owen
Jim Reed	Dorothy Short
Dwayne Weber	Ruby Finkbine
Sam & Phyllis Jones	Ray Link
Glenn Owen	Lonnie Rieser
Bunny Snow	Jim Wells

NEXT NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE BY

APRIL 20, 2013

Give to Maxine Harris (maxakers03@aol.com)

Ida Mae Lemmons (idamae87@yahoo.com)

or Rita Burns (rburns38@cinci.rr.com)

JOINT CHURCH EVENTS

EASTER EGG HUNT

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held around noon on Palm/Passion Sunday, March 24th. McGonigle will host the egg hunt unless the weather is bad for outdoors. We will change the location to Darrtown church at noon if the weather is bad.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Holy Thursday service will be at McGonigle at 7:30 pm and Good Friday will be at Darrtown at 7:30 pm.

EASTER

Early Easter service will be at 7:30 am at both churches, with a breakfast immediately following.

The regular services will be at 9:00 am at Darrtown and 10:45 at McGonigle. Sunday School will be as usual.

MCGONIGLE-MILLVILLE NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

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 the list will be in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. See Sherri to place your order by Sunday, March 24th.

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 our regular Easter Sunday Service. We look forward to cooking for a full sanctuary of worshippers.

PAST EVENTS AND NEWS

LOVE OFFERING IN ACTION

Through the Love Offering, we recently helped a person in need of lodging and another person in need of help to purchase eye glasses. Our church also made a contribution to the central conference pension initiative through the tithe account.

TRUSTEES

The Trustee Committee is asking for your help when exiting the building. When it appears you are the last few people to leave the building, ask each other "did you turn off the lights?" After the door closes, take a minute and pull on the handle to make sure the door is locked. THANK YOU!

PERPETUAL FOOD DRIVE

On January 27th we delivered over six pounds to the local food pantry. People are still in need so please continue to bring nonperishable food items and place them in the food drive barrel at the entrances to the building. THANK YOU!

FIRST FRUITS CAUGHT RESTING

Since the previous newsletter, some of the tasks completed are:

- Collected and put trash to curb as needed
- Picked up yard sale items as needed
- Arranged tables and chairs in fellowship hall
- Removed snow from parking lot and sidewalk and spread salt when needed
- Opened annex to receive yard sale donations
- Sorted yard sale donations
- Opened building for carpet cleaning company
- Repaired three tables in annex
- Picked up supplies at Baker Hardware
- Replaced furnace air filters

DARRTOWN NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

EASTER FLOWERS

Easter is drawing near. Anyone wanting to purchase flowers for the altar in memory of honor of a loved one, call Cathy Richardson at 523-4350.

FOR TAX PURPOSES

Anyone who needs a Statement of Giving for 2012 donations to the church, contact Cathy Richardson at 523-4350.

PAST EVENTS AND NEWS

A GREAT CELEBRATION

On Saturday, February 9th, many family and friends of Ida Mae Lemmons gathered at the church to help her celebrate her 90th birthday.

Her special birthday was also a highlight at our Sunday morning worship service with her 90-plus cans of food shaped to look like a cake. The can-cake was so tall she could not blow out the candle on top. Ida Mae's family was there to continue the celebration of the previous afternoon.

IN HONOR

The Darrrtown United Methodist Women honored our past-president and beloved friend, Ida Mae Lemmons, on her 90th birthday by collecting 90 canned goods to be delivered to the Oxford Food Pantry in her honor. (These cans are referred to above as the "can-cake" at Sunday worship service.) We actually pulled off a surprise!!!!!!

A CONTINUATION OF "THE SURPRISE"

Ida Mae remembered when Fred Guiler celebrated his 90th birthday by donating 90 cans of food to the food pantry mission, and said that she wanted to do the same on her 90th. She mentioned this to her children and grandchildren, and they took it upon themselves to collect 90 cans of food to donate as well!!!!

CUB SCOUT PACK 937 UPDATE

We started our 2012-2013 scouting program in August with 50 scouts. Twenty of them are 1st grade Tiger scouts. We had a tremendous recruitment this year with 23 new scouts. They have been busy with campouts, meetings, and community field trips to fire houses, police stations, restaurants, etc.

The fall started off with the popcorn sale which is the only fundraiser for the cub scouts. We had another successful sale surpassing last year's record. We also camped out at Hueston Woods.

In December, we had our Christmas party where Pastor Ed shared the story of Jesus with the scouts and their families. Over 50 pairs of gloves, at least a dozen hats and scarves, and over 100 cans of food were donated and included with our church's mission for area needy families.

In January, we had our annual pinewood derby where the scouts showed off their car-building skills and raced them down the track. This is an exciting event and the scouts showed great sportsmanship during the race.

Trophies were awarded to the top racers and ribbons were awarded to all racers.

Scout Sunday was February 10th where current and former scouts were recognized. Scouts performed several parts of the service. Afterward, a pancake breakfast was enjoyed by all. The Blue and Gold banquet was also held in February where scouts were recognized for their hard work towards advancement. A magician entertained everyone with an amazing show.

Events scheduled over the next few months are a dessert auction, a spring campout, and a rocket launch. God has blessed us with many new scouts and great leaders to guide them!

- Mike Hawkins

THANK YOU

- ☺ From Mike Hawkins: Thank you to my church family for the cards and prayers during my hand surgeries. My physical therapy continues and continued prayers are appreciated.
- ☺ From Rev. Ed: We want to thank Mike Hawkins for organizing the Scouts for Scout Sunday. Many of the leaders and Cub Scouts participated. A very special pancake breakfast was served after the service. Etta Jean Crawford, Rhonda Knight, Phyllis Flick, Cathy Richardson, Carolyn Sadler, Sharon and Penny Webster, and Debbie Hawkins all helped. Will Hawkins and some of his friends and fellow Boy Scouts operated the dishwasher.
- ☺ From Ida Mae: Thanks to everyone who came to my birthday party and helped make it what it was – A HAPPY OCCASION FOR ME! Thanks also for all the many cards, flowers and gifts.
- ☺ The UMW Project Linus continues to flourish. Thanks to Penny Webster and Nadia Long for the new supply of fleece!
- ☺ Thanks to Shawn and Penny Webster for delivering the food items to the Oxford Food Pantry.
- ☺ Thanks to all who contributed to the Souper Bowl mission. The \$30 collected was also given to the Oxford Food Pantry.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT DARRTOWN UMC

We did a series of lessons on Samuel last fall starting with Hannah praying for a son at the temple and Eli the priest listening to her. Eli said by this time next year she would have a son. This prophesy came true and Hannah dedicated him to the Lord. When Samuel was three years old, she took him to Eli to be raised in the temple. When he was about seven or eight years old, Samuel heard Eli calling him in the middle of the night. He ran to Eli but Eli said no one called him and to go back to bed.

This happened several times and Eli told him God must be calling him. The next time God said "Samuel, Samuel," Samuel bowed down and said, "Here I am Lord, your servant." It was the start of a great relationship with God. Let's learn a little about Samuel's relationship with God.

Samuel was a praying prophet; he would pray for the people of Israel and God would tell him what was going to happen. At that time, Israel was ruled by judges such as Eli. They would make a circuit around Israel going from Bethel, to Gilgal, to Mizpah, and to Ramah where Samuel lived. Samuel became a judge and when he was old, appointed his two sons as judges. The elders of Israel came to Samuel at Ramah and said, "You are old and your sons have not followed in your way. Appoint us a king to govern us like other nations."

Samuel prayed to God and He answered him. God said, "Listen to the voice of the people, they have not rejected you but they have rejected me from being king over them. You will warn them about the ways of a king who would rule over them." Samuel warned the people but they did not listen. They wanted a king. God told Samuel to appoint Saul as king over Israel.

King Saul obeyed God and won many battles over the Philistines. But at some point King Saul turned away and did things his own way. He kept riches from the conquered nations, allowed one of their kings to live and presented the sacrifice to God before battle without waiting for Samuel. Samuel warned King Saul time and time again. Finally, God appointed a new king, a young shepherd boy named David. But that is a story for another time.

So what can we learn from Samuel's life? 1) Prayer is so important to our relationship with God. We need to be in prayer about the direction of our lives, about our sinful nature and repentance, about help with problems we deal with, about those we love, and about our nation and the government. 2) Like Samuel, we need to listen to what God says. How? Read the Bible, pray and listen, and hear what God says from our Pastor. 3) We need to obey God in all areas of our lives. Israel and King Saul kept relearning this lesson. God requires us to be obedient. And when we are not, confess and repent. Pray, listen and obey. Jesus came to light our way, to give hope to us, to give us the gift of salvation. May God bless you.

- Debra Steger

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

From Our President:

The January meeting of the Darrtown United Methodist Women was held in the sanctuary. The program was Installation of Officers for 2013: President, Cathy Richardson; Vice President, Rhonda Knight; Secretary, Maxine Harris; Treasurer, Etta Jean Crawford. We reminded everyone of ongoing missions. We thanked everyone for their help with all the holiday events and we

began preparations for the new year. Thanks to Sally Hansel and Mickey Pate for being our hostesses.

The February meeting had to be postponed because of weather, but we were able to meet on Monday, February 11th. The program was Call to Prayer and Self-Denial and Lent to prepare ourselves for the season. We have a lot of planning to do for the April Tea Party and our first annual Women's Retreat in September. More information to come. Thanks to hostesses Sue Snider and Rhonda Knight for great decorations and food, and to Debra Steger for her fun Valentine craft!!!

Our March 4 meeting will have a speaker. Peggy Lewis, a volunteer in mission from the Oxford United Methodist Church has just visited the McCurdy School in New Mexico and will tell us about the church's mission there. Also we will have an Easter party. Hostesses are Cathy and Etta Jean

Put Saturday, March 9th on your calendar. We will meet and clean the hall in preparation for the Easter breakfast.

No meeting in April. The ladies will meet at Bob Evans on Monday, April 1st at 6:00 for dinner and fellowship, and that's no "April Fools!"
- Cathy Richardson

MISSIONS: On-going missions include:

- o Canned food and/or boxes (in Annex)
- o Fellowship of the Least Coin (pennies to be placed in oversized jar at rear of sanctuary)
- o Project Linus blankets for children in local hospitals
- o Love Packages: any left-over Christian material to pass on to others (box in rear of sanctuary)
- o Recipe Books (on table at entrance to Annex)
- o World Thank Offering Boxes for 2013
- o Monthly Love Offering
- o Matthew 25 Ministries

Happy Birthday UMW!

March

03/01 – Sue Snider
03/13 – Kathy Menke
03/15 – Pam Russell
03/21 – Lois Ann Snider

April

04/11 – Debbie Sansone
04/19 – Phyllis Flick
04/30 – Sally Hansel

When April Comes

Such joy is ours when April comes
And all the earth is new;
The hills are gowned in green once more,
The skies are fairest blue.

The scent of lilacs fills the air
And rides on gentle breeze;
And robins sing in symphony
From yonder cherry trees.

The daffodils are wearing frills,
The dogwood's dressed in lace,
And violets from shady nooks
Peer out with purple face.

How beautiful Your world, O Lord,
When April comes to bless
Our hearts and lives with renewed hope,
And springtime happiness.

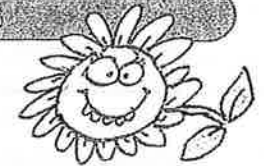
- Beverly J. Anderson

Riddles

1. What does a musician feed her cat?



2. What is the silliest flower?



3. What cuddly bear complains all the time?



4. Why does a mouse like the letter s?

Chris Sharp

Answers: 1. Tender fiddles. 2. Daffydill. 3. Whiney-the-Pooh. 4. It makes the cat scat.

Always pray to have eyes that see the best in people, a heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad, and a soul that never loses faith in God!



DARRTOWN & MCGONIGLE-MILLVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES
2013 BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>March</u>					1 Justin Baldwin Sue Snider	2 Erika Cole Fred Guiler
3 Robbin Dillingham Scott Lykins Barney Beckemeier	4	5 Shelby Cook Karen Binegar Roma Lowe	6	7	8 Will Hawkins	9
10 <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i>	11	12	13 Nikki Baker Pam Lyons Kathy Menke	14	15 Pam Russell	16
17 Fred Campbell Pam Stephenson	18	19 Charles & Elizabeth Foley (Anniv)	20 Jim & Malka Mertes (Anniv) Karen Meador	21 Lois Snider Jodi Richardson	22 Dave Lykins	23 Brenda Johnson
24	25 Belinda Kern	26	27 Mike & Brenda Graham (Anniv)	28 Nevie Halcomb	29 Evelyn Kuhlmann Taylor Cook Debbie Hawkins	30
31 <i>Easter Sunday</i> David Guenther						

DARRTOWN & MCGONIGLE-MILLVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES
2013 BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>April</u>	1 Jean Hansel	2 Cameron Hansel Penny Webster	3 Richard Roemer	4	5	6 Phyllis & Mike Flick (Anniv)
7	8	9 Justin & Angela Baldwin (Anniv) Logan Rice	10 Dan Burkholder	11 Shelee Webster Debbie Sansone	12 Kathy & Ken Menke (Anniv)	13
14 Myra Krauth	15	16 Nathan Weingartner	17 Bob Coleman	18	19 Phyllis Flick	20
21 Jim & Karen Meador (Anniv)	22	23	24	25	26 Danny Meador	27 Sherri Berger Ron Otto
28	29	30 Sally Hansel	31			