Orems Beacon

Orems United Methodist Church

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FEBRUARY 2012

**Coming in Lent**

 “The most important task in life is not what you do but who you become.” So writes teacher and author John Ortberg. “Becoming God’s best version of you is both God’s desire and the greatest task of your life … as you move toward becoming the unique, fully alive, flourishing people God intended” Ortberg continues.

During Lent, Pastor Lynn is offering a short-term study of John Ortberg’s work called *Me: the me I want to be – becoming God’s best version of you.* Two different times will be offered:

Tuesday mornings at 10am, and Tuesday evenings, beginning with a light meal at 5:30 pm. There will be short video segments each week during class, along with some work in a participants guide. It is most helpful if each participant has his/her own study guide. In addition, there is a hard covered book of additional material for those interested in digging deeper. This second book is not required but available. We can get the books through Amazon but will need an advance count if you’d like one or both.



**LOG CABIN EASTER CANDY**

The Orems United Methodist Women will be selling Log Cabin Easter Candy beginning on United Methodist Women Sunday  (February 12, 2012). The final dates for orders will be February 26, 2012. When you support our fundraisers you help to fund our missions and ministries within Orems UMC and beyond.

 **EVENTS IN FEBRUARY**

**February 4th 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon**

The Hall Closet Thrift Shop open

**February 12th – 10 a.m.** United

 Methodist Women Sunday—Wear Red

 to Worship Service.

 **6 pm CrossFire Worship service**

 ROCK youth lead/share

**February 22 Ash Wednesday 7:00 p.m.**

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NEW EYES FOR THE NEEDY PROGRAM

Thank you to all who donated eyeglasses to the New Eyes for the Needy Program. We have collected a total of 64 pairs of glasses during 2011. Keep up the good work! We will continue to collect eyeglasses during 2012. This is a wonderful way to recycle your old, unused glasses. Thank you. Margaret Eney President, UMW

**Orems United Methodist Women**

We hope you had a Merry Christmas and a

Happy New Year! Let us recap the year of 2011.

The United Methodist Women celebrated our 2nd UMW Sunday on February 13. We recognized Mike Walters, Kathy Cunningham and Cathy Horst with Lifetime Membership pins. UMW members participated in worship as ushers and greeters. A coffee Fellowship was hosted by the UMW in honor of Heart Month.

During the Spring we continued to sell the UMW Cookbooks.

We started collecting eye glasses for the New Eyes for the Needy Program. During 2011 we collected a total of 64 pairs of eyeglasses for the program.

In August we held a successful Peach Bake Fundraiser to raise funds for our missions. Peach cake, Peach pie and Peach cobbler. Yummy!

A Membership Drive was held in September.

In October we held the 3rd Annual Pink Bag luncheon. This event is designed for Breast Cancer Awareness. We collected $250 thru donations and the sale of items. This was donated to the Breast Cancer Center Bosom Buddies Program.

At our December meeting we collected over 200 Christmas Balls for the Franklin Square Breast Cancer Center Patients. We donated many dozens of cookies to the Homeless Mission. Girl Scout Troop 1983 made 11 dozen cookies to donate to our Homeless Mission Collection and attended our December meeting.

What a fantastic year! Thank you to everyone for enabling us to make 2011 such a wonderful year of giving to others. Our fundraisers make it possible to fund our missions and ministries and we thank you.

**2012 Officers**

Margaret Eney- President

Charlotte West- Vice President

Annette Falkenhan- Treasurer

Dottie Daiger -Secretary

**Circle Chairs Circle Chairs**

Rachel Circle- Elaine Masson

Mary Circle- Tammy Brown

Sarah Circle- Jean Milavec

Esther Circle- Donna Winner

**Coming up in 2012**

The UMW will meet on Wed **Feb 1, 2012** at 7:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. United Methodist Women Sunday will be **February 12**, **2012,** don’t forget to wear Red to church that Sunday.

**Did you know…? By Pastor Lynn**

 Last month I began a series of articles on the organization of the local church in the United Methodist family. This month I’d like to share about programming ministries. We do not exist solely to maintain an institution or a building. Rather, in words found in our *Book of* Discipline and elsewhere, we exist to “make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” Transformation occurs when the Holy Spirit works with our spirit to transform – to change – who we are from the inside out. Our spirit uses all of our senses and experiences for this transformation. Programs of the church are great avenues for these experiences.

 What are the programs of the church? Education, worship, mission, fellowship, evangelism, and scouting are the primary avenues for programming. Let me give a couple of examples.

* Choir is a program under worship. When the choir meets to rehearse, the group shares prayer requests, and when we gather for worship, we pray together for the worship service and those who come. Singing is prayer. The words are often scripture.
* Under education, CrossTraining – small groups that are age and content appropriate - meet each Sunday. Throughout the year, additional short-term groups meet. For example, during Lent this year, I’ll be offering a simple meal and study time based on John Ortberg’s book *Me: The me I want to be: becoming God’s best version of you.*
* A caregiving group meets monthly for support and education. This group bridges evangelism (sharing the good news through mutual support) and education.
* Scouting is also a program of the United Methodist Church (Book of Discipline, ¶256.2 and 256.4) providing ministry settings for children, youth, and adults. The Girl Scout program here is growing! They now offer opportunities for girls on multiple evenings.
* Youth group, the United Methodist Women’s circles, the United Methodist Men … we are rich in programming opportunities!

Programming is the very life-blood of the church! Without programming, we are merely a shell, a building, an institution. Finances (or lack thereof) should not drive our task – living our faith through programming should! Worship doesn’t have to ask Council’s permission to be held; scouting doesn’t have to ask Council’s permission to expand into different times or locations within the church. As a courtesy to others who may want the same time and space, both DO check the calendar to be sure there isn’t another activity already scheduled for the time and space involved.

Chairs of each programming area also serve on Council. This gives voice and vote to all of the different programming areas of the church, allows Council to best allocate resources, and keeps communication flowing. For example, our Mission area has many different sub-groups. Members of the different mission areas are not Council members, so the Mission chair remains in communication with all the different sub-groups and reports on all of the mission areas at Council. If a programming chair isn’t available to attend Council, s/he can send a representative from the committee who then assumes voice and vote for that programming area.

Chairs of the different programming areas are changed at least every 3 years, not because they have been ineffective but so new leaders can be mentored, equipped, and built up to strengthen the entire church. Chair people who have served for 3 years or more as a leader have been invited to remain on the different programming committees to continue sharing their expertise and knowledge. Contrary to some comments I’ve been hearing, none of the former chairs or committee members have been “fired!” If they were not listed on this year’s leadership list it is because *they* asked to be removed as a member of the committee.

Any small group which has Jesus at the center and disciple-making as its goal can be considered a program of the United Methodist church. Each small group has accountability to Council through one of the established programming committees. For example, Vacation Bible School doesn’t act in a vacuum; VBS is accountable to Council through the Education committee.

Under the Call to Action goals, Orems has committed to develop at least one new small group activity for the purpose of making disciples every year for the next 5 years. Whether fellowship, mission, education, worship or evangelism/sharing/caring – if you have an idea for a small group, let us know. If you are not presently involved in a small group activity, now is the time to explore what is offered and join in the one you are most drawn to.

Wednesday, Feb. 22 – Ash Wednesday service – 7pm

**Do You Know Where They Are?**

 We continue to search for people listed in the past as members, but for whom we have lost contact. If you recognize any of these people and can shed light on where they might be, who they are related to, or if they are deceased, please call or email the church office.

James Derst John Herriek

Russell Dick, Jr Alva Heyatt

Burt Dickerson Paul Hill, Jr.

Connie Dickerson Claire Hirsch

Virginia Dickerson James Hoffman

Jill Dillion Beverly Holden

Ann Drumm Elizabeth Hollock

Mary Earp John Honnas

Hilda Elliott Dorothy Honnas

Carl Emerick Kenneth Honnas

Vera Mae Emerick

Ruth Finneyfrock

Wade Finneyfrock

Wanda Fitzgerald

Dorsey Flynn

Agnes Francis

Gerry Freeman

Victor Fruhlin

Bill Futwilen

Earl Gaelaher

Mary C. Gibbons

Michael Gleason

Charles Grindle

Margaret Grindle

Deborah Gura

Harry Haag

Thomas Haller

Barbara Haller

Jane Hands

William Hanssen

Evelyn Hardesty

Michelle Harrison

Jerry Harrison

Nina Harrison

Edwin Hart

Patricia Haught

Ann Haynes

Dorothy Healthcoll

Pamela Heck

Pam Heck

Linda Hedrick

Homer Heeter

Mary Heeter

Jerry Hendrix

Missions Reports

The Food Pantry Mission is looking for help. Fran Frank is the Food Pantry Coordinator and is looking for someone to help with organizing and caring for the Pantry. If you are interested in helping contact Fran or Kathy Cunningham- Missions Chair.

Disciples of Yarn

As we begin a new year, it is time to reflect and thank our dedicated crocheters for the time and love they continue to give to this mission. Each of you are a blessing. This mission continues only because of your work.

This year we had two Blessing Sundays. It included 118 regular shawls, 20 pink prayer shawls and 3 Chemo hats for our cancer survivors. We took care of our preemie babies with hats made by our friends in Joppatowne. Our hats were distributed among four of our hospitals. We gave shawls to Franklin Square Hospital to be distributed to the cancer floor and 4 lap robes to our disabled Veterans Hospital. We had two Christenings of infants. Each baby was given a handmade blanket. I find a need for everything you make.

We started making our snowflakes with our Girl Scouts. It is not too late to join us.

Continue to ask for prayer shawls as your need arises. Our sick and troubled always need a “Hug from God” May your New Year be blessed with good health and happiness.

 God’s Blessings

 Mildred Shephard

Thank you Disciples of Yarn,

I wanted to acknowledge a wonderful gift I recently received from the disciples of yarn. My daughter, Brandee Thompson is a teacher at Seneca Elementary School where Mrs. Lisa Schenning also works. When Lisa heard about my recent illness, she presented my daughter with a handmade prayer shawl that she brought home to me. I can’t tell you how much I appreciate the thoughtfulness and kindness of this precious gift. I wrapped it around me and felt the warmth right away!

Please know how special I hold the prayer shawl, and always will. Thank you so much.

 Warm Regards, Susan Moore



Angel Tree Thanks

*Dear Orems Church*

*Thank you so much for sponsoring one of our families here at Martin Boulevard Elementary School through the Angel Tree program!*

*We appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity, especially at such a busy time of year. It is always wonderful for us to see the difference these gifts make in the families with which we work, and in these difficult economic times, we continue to be grateful.*

*Have a wonderful 2012*

 *Karen Donoho, Principle*

 *Linda Peterson, School Counselor*

 *Ann Riddleberger School Social Worker*

Dear Orems Church Congregation,

On behalf of Glenmar Elementary School we would like to thank you for your wonderful donations during the holiday season. The family you helped benefited from your kindness, and we are sure that your gifts brought smiles to their faces on Christmas morning. Glenmar really appreciates this service that you extend to our students. The family you assisted was very appreciative of your generosity and so are we. We hope you have a healthy and happy New Year.

 Sincerely,

 Kathleen Leishear, School Counselor

 Romina Gaddy, School Social Worker

Thrift Shop Annual Report

*It has been a good year! We had lots of new customers. Thanks to all of you.*

*During 2011, we made $7,370.00. Thanks to our crew of workers, if we need supplies we buy them, and never take from the income.*

*We enjoy our work and look forward to seeing our customers. God has blessed our work and each of us: Nikki Hart, Dottie Lay, Pat Robertson, Linda Hall and Nora Hall. Many Thanks to all those who help us set up and take down on the days we are open.*

 *Dear Friends*

*On behalf of the staff, volunteers and victims of domestic violence, we want to thank you for your generous contribution of clothing totaling $300.00. We truly believe when someone somewhere cares, then someone somewhere survives.*

*Thank you Orems Church for Caring*

*Douglas Murphy*

*Exec Director of Family Crisis Center*



The Rachel Circle would like to share this with you:

 **VOICE MAIL**

Thank the Lord that He doesn’t have voice mail. Most of us have learned to live with “voice mail’ now as a necessary part of our daily lives. But have you ever wondered what it would be like if God decided to install voice mail?

Imagine praying and hearing the following:

Thank you for calling heaven. Please select one of the following options:

Press 1 for Requests

Press 2 for Thanksgiving

Press 3 for Complaints

Press 4 for all other inquiries

I am sorry all of our angels and saints are busy helping other sinners right now. However, your prayer is important to us and we will answer it in the order it was received. Please stay on the line.

 If you would like to speak to

God, press 1

Jesus, presss2

Holy Spirit, press 3

If you would like to hear King David sing a Psalm while you are holding, press 4

To find a loved one that has been assigned to Heaven, press 5, then enter his or her Social Security Number, followed by the pound sign (#). If you get a negative response, please hang up and try again.

For reservations at Heaven, please enter J-O-H-N followed by the numbers 3-1-6.

For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, the age of the earth, life on other planets, and where Noah’s Ark is, please wait until you arrive.

Our computers show that you have already prayed once today. Please hang up and try again tomorrow.

This office is now closed for the weekend to observe a religious holiday. Please pray again on Monday after 9:30 a.m.

If you are calling after hours and need emergency assistance, please contact your local pastor.



MEMORIALS

The following memorial has been given in memory of a loved one:

**Russell Dick** given by Virginia Dick

Many thanks for your thoughtfulness.

Donna Winner,

Memorial Fund Treasurer

**NOTES FROM FOLKS**

Dear Orems Church

Our lifestyle this year has been low key in Florida. Anne lives in Wrights Healthcare and Rehab center where she receives excellent care and I live only a mile away in Largo where my backyard is a citrus grove. Recently, I learned that one of the prescribed medications I had taken for years has caused damage to my kidneys. VA stopped the medication but not soon enough. I keep busy with a group of retired pilots in Clearwater and attend a church nearby with my 95 year old Aunt Janelle. I have plans for more aviation books and look forward to visits from family. We miss Orems Church and Baltimore.

 Love Jack and Anne King

*Orems Church*

*Thank you for all the cards, calls and visits and for all the love and concern you have shown me. God Bless you All! I hope that you had a Merry Christmas and a great New Year. Your prayers mean the most of all.*

 *Love,*

 *Rufus Wallace*



FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Proposed date for our annual Family Fun Night with Bingo, is Sunday evening February 26th from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p,m. this is always a great evening of fellowship and everyone gets a prize. Watch your weekly bulletin for details of this event.

 

WANTED …..WANTED….WANTED

 **Immediate Opening Available:**

“Techie” to help design and develop CrossFire

Celebration Computer Programs

**Skills needed**: Willingness to learn and work with an amazing team

**Benefits**: Helping to make disciples for Christ and spreading the Gospel

**Contact:** Pastor Lynn or Donna Sfikas



 Winter Weather

 Our inclement winter weather policy is that if the roads seem unsafe for you to travel then you should stay home. If worship or a meeting or activity is cancelled or delayed we will send out a ONE CALL to inform you of the change. If you miss the one call message, you can retrieve the message by calling 1-877-698-3261