

First United Methodist Church
220 North Main Street
Trenton, Illinois 62293
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Ministry Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 1
Trenton, IL 62293



Begin Sunday, February 21, 2010
at 5:00 p.m. Come join us!

Worship Services 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School (Adults & Children) 9:30 a.m.
Childcare Provided

Website: www.trentonfumc.com
E mails: pastor@trentonfumc.com
office@trentonfumc.com
staff@trentonfumc.com



The Newsletter

First United Methodist Church
220 North Main Street
Trenton, Illinois 62293
(618) 224-7364

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

February 2010

Ramblings

Things are getting even more exciting around here! One of my favorite things to do is to design worship services and the Worship Design Team has been working on the Ground Breaking Service to be held Sunday, March 7. This event takes us to the next level of a process that began in the fall of 2001. That fall a "Spiritual Visioning Team" led the congregation in examining where we were at that time and where we believed God was calling us to go in the future.

In the spring of 2002, we held a series of small groups hosted by members of the congregation in which we discussed the dreams of the members, the goals lifted up from the Spiritual Visioning Team and the kind of facilities it would take to realize those dreams. As a result of those gatherings and after much prayer and study, we voted to build a new church on a new location on July 14, 2002. The fall of 2002 birthed our first capital campaign to begin raising money for property and a new building.

It seems like a long road that we've travelled together, but things happen in God's time and not ours. We have prayed, sacrificed, and worked hard.....but not just for a building. All that we've accomplished and all that God will continue to accomplish through us is for one purpose: to bring more people to Jesus Christ. If all that we've worked toward brings just ONE person to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, isn't that worth it? But my heart tells me that it won't just be one person...or two.....or three....it will be many lives transformed by Jesus Christ because you were willing to follow God's will rather than remain in your comfort zone. Praise God!! Fifty years from now, we won't miss the material things we've sacrificed in order to build a new church. Fifty years from now, we won't stress about what did or did not make it into the final building plans. Fifty years from now, all we'll care about is how we reach people for Jesus Christ. It's not about the building: it's about the ministry that springs from the people within that building.

Whose lives do you think will be transformed fifty years from now when they participate in worship or a youth group or a small group or other ministries we can't even imagine right now? Could it be a grandchild of one of our current babies? Could it be someone who's never entered a church? Could it be a person who society has shunned? Could it be ALL of the above?! Now THAT'S reason to celebrate!!!

In Christ,
Rev. Debbie

200 N. Tyler St., Trenton, IL 62293
cell # 978-1513

GROUNDBREAKING!!

It's finally time! Please join us on Sunday, March 7th at 3:30 p.m. as we break ground for our new building. Rather than using the traditional 'gold shovels' to break ground, we'd like for you to bring your own clean shovel or spade. We will be marking your shovel with a symbol of the day and invite you to participate in turning some dirt as individuals or families. You will then have your own memento of this very special celebration to keep as a reminder of what God is doing in our midst.

If you were in the church at the time of our first capital campaign in 2002-2003, you may have gotten a small rock with the name of someone who was in the church sometime throughout our history. We were asked to take home that rock, praise God for the person whose name was on it and for the foundation they built for us. If you still have that rock, please bring it to the ground-breaking and we will present them to the builders to use in the foundation of our new building. If you cannot find your 'rock', don't worry.....we will have extras available.



As we get closer to that date, we will evaluate the weather and determine how best to transport folks to the site to minimize traffic issues.

Following worship at the building site, we will return to the church fellowship hall for a meal. We ask that you respond with the number of people who will attend the service as well as the meal so that we can make adequate preparations. You may call or e-mail the church office to RSVP: office@trentonfumc.com or 224-7364. You may also fill out the opportunities for ministry in the bulletin on Sunday mornings to let us know that you'll be there.

If you have digital pictures of any church activities please put them on a CD or a thumb drive and bring them to the church by February 14th.

At the meal following the service, we will announce the suggested names for our broadened ministry and have fun voting on these suggestions.

This is an historical day in the life of our church. Please mark your calendars today and plan to be a part of this incredible celebration!



ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

On Wednesday, February 24, we will hold an Ash Wednesday worship service. The time is 6:45-7:15 and all are welcome as we enter into this season of Lent. We will have imposition of ashes as well as Holy Communion. Please put this on your calendar and join us as we look ourselves in the mirror and see Jesus looking back.

LENTEN SUPPERS

Beginning Sunday, February 21st at 5:00 p.m., we will gather in the Fellowship Hall downstairs to have a meal together and then engage in a study entitled “Amazing Love” which is based on the hymn, “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross.” This study will be led by Rob Blinn. During this study, Liz Blinn will be doing a parallel study with all children in 1st – 6th grades.

Childcare will be provided. Please sign up for each week on the opportunities for service in your bulletins, the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Area, or by e-mailing the church at:

office@trentonfumc.com. Donations will be accepted for the cost of the meals.



Haiti Relief

There are many ways to help in the ongoing support of the disaster relief following the devastating earthquake in Haiti. We will continue to receive any money you ear-mark for Haiti and get it to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) that week. You may also go to: umc.org and follow the instructions online to give electronically.

We are also collecting items for health kits to be taken to the Midwest Distribution Center in Springfield where they will be shipped to Haiti as needed. The following are instructions from UMCOR about what is needed:

“UMCOR requests that the following NEW items be placed in a sealed one-gallon plastic bag.

- 1 hand towel (15” x 25” up to 17” x 27”). No kitchen towels.
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- 1 nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, no child-size brushes)
- 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages
- \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste

(NOTE: Toothpaste is purchased in bulk to be added to health kits to ensure that the product does not expire before they are sent.)

Because the emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations and strict rules govern product entry into international countries, UMCOR requires that the kits contain only the requested items – nothing more.”

WHAT'S IN A NAME?



As we move from the heart of Trenton to our new property and from being a 'Trenton' church to a regional church for Western Clinton County, it's important that we reflect our openness with a name that is broader than 'Trenton First United Methodist Church.' If we expect to share Christ with people from Aviston, Albers, Breese, Damiansville, Germantown, St. Rose, etc., we need to embrace a name which reflects that desire.

Would you pray about that and offer your suggestions? There is a box in the Fellowship Area for your suggestions. Please write your name, your suggestion, and why you believe your suggested name would be appropriate for us as we move forward.

Let's see how creative we can get as we make ourselves more and more open and inviting to the unchurched folks of Western Clinton County.

WISDOM SEEKERS

Wisdom Seekers will meet Tuesday, February 2nd and 16th at 10:00 a.m. in the Moses Room. We will continue our new series, "Have You Ever Seen a Hearse Pulling a Trailer?" by James Moore. Please join us for this "uplifting" series. Any questions, please call Yvonne Jackson at 224-9065.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The U.M.W. held their annual soup and chili event on Sunday January 10, 2010. The luncheon was well attended as the weather was very cold. We want to "Thank" everyone who contributed desserts. We would also like to "Thank" the ladies who helped in the preparation of the food and the people who helped in the cleanup after the event. We are truly blessed with so many wonderful church members.

Mark your calendars for the U.M.W. "Valentine Tea Party" to be held on Sunday February 14, 2010 after the 8:30am service. Silent Tea letters were distributed in January. If you haven't made a "pledge" and wish to, baskets will be available at the tea.

The regular U.M.W. meeting will be held on Monday February 8, 2010 at 7:00pm in the Moses Room. The guest speaker will be Lynn Brown, presenting "Puppet Ministry". The hostess will be Bonita Lang.

The U.M.W. encourage all women of the church to come and attend our meetings. We have an exciting program for 2010. Please join us!

MISSIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Midwest Mission Distribution Center needs supplies for layette and health kits. Please see the specific items need by looking at the post on the bulletin board by the front door. We will collect these items through the first part of February. Please put your donations in the boxes marked for Midwest Missions Distribution Center.

Our January offering for Haiti was \$1470. Thank you all for this effort.

Your Missions Committee has planned exciting events for this year. Please look at our Goals for 2010 posted on the bulletin board in the upstairs Fellowship Area.

February: Green Bean Pantry will be our focus.

March: Heifer International will be highlighted. Theme, "Pajamas for Llamas".

April: Collect funds for mosquito nets for Global Malaria Action Plan.

May: Mission Trip to Midwest Mission Distribution Center, Springfield, Illinois.

May 14-15. Must be 18 or older to come on this mission.

This Center is one of few across the country where supplies are warehoused and distributed to United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), to Catholic Charities and other relief organizations. It was built by Methodists and several of the Board members are Methodists, but this is a separate entity from UMCOR.

June: VIM (Volunteers in Mission) with Kaskaskia District to rebuild flooded homes in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Cost: \$150 approx. Time: 8 days June 12-19.

Habitat for Humanity in Highland, Illinois, for youth and adults. Day Mission.

September: Rice and bean life boat for Haiti. Fill a boat with these staples.

Men's Mission in Trenton: prepare kits for medicine chests and desks for Haiti. Take to Midwest Mission Distribution Center.

October: VIM Mission to Gulf Coast to rebuild homes damaged by Katrina. Sponsored by Kaskaskia District.

December: Angel Tree and Walk to Manger.

We will be supporting Amy Moorhead in her venture to Africa.

We hope you, as a congregation will get as excited about supporting Missions as we did in making these plans. Give us your ideas, questions and feedback.

Thank you,
Missions Committee
Linda Medley, Chair
Kay Ahaus, Mentor
Jean Ellis
Jean Ritchie

MISSION STUDY ON THE SUDAN

Lebanon First UMC has invited our church worshipers to attend a mission study on “The Sudan”, Sunday, February 21st, from 2:00 to 7:00 pm. at the church. A light supper will be served. Marlene Sims will lead the study.

If you plan to go, please let the FUMC office know by Wednesday, February 17th, so the information can be given to Lebanon staff. The Sudan was the geographical study at the summer '09 School of Christian Mission and was a very interesting class. We have much to learn about folks in other parts of the world than our own.

A Night You WON'T Want to Miss!

If you have been to the Miniature Ministers' Black Light Puppet Performance in the past, you know how powerful it is! If you haven't yet attended one of these shows, you'll want this year to be your first.

New this year will be a special performance specifically for the folks of Trenton First UMC. That show will be Wednesday, February 24th at 7:00 p.m.

Public performances will be Thursday and Friday, February 25-26, at 7:00 p.m. These shows are wonderful opportunities for outreach to those who don't attend a church—both children and adults. Our Miniature Ministers continue to grow in their creativity and talented ways in which they share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



These shows are free! However, there will be opportunities for people to donate to the ministry if they so desire.

Start telling your friends, neighbors, family, and acquaintances about these remarkable shows!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Church photographers – people willing to take pictures of the various events within the life of the church and/or people willing to donate copies of their personal photos from church events.
- Sorting pictures and putting them into albums and writing a brief description on the back of the photos.

If you are interested or have further questions about either of these opportunities, please contact Lynn Brown or the church office.

VITAL STATISTICS

Jan. 3 Off: \$ 5553	Jan. 10 Off: \$ 3039	Jan. 17 Off: \$ 2715	Jan. 24 Off: \$ 2088
Att: 175	Att: 112	Att: 168	Att: 132

Trenton First United Methodist to Offer Scholarship

The Jeff Campbell Family has established the J.A.M. Scholarship – A Celebration of the Life and Music of Justin Andrew Melzer.

The mission of this scholarship is to honor the memory of Justin Melzer and his ministry through music and to encourage participation in church music ministries. It is our prayer and intention that this scholarship will cultivate and stimulate a future generation of church musicians.

\$500 will be awarded annually to a qualified recipient.

Applicants for this scholarship must be a member of a United Methodist Church in the Illinois Great Rivers Conference.

These persons may either be graduating high school seniors, college undergraduates, or students attending a tech or trade school. A requirement for award selection is that the applicant is an active participant in a music ministry within their church.



Deadline to apply is April 1. Award will be announced in May. To obtain an application for this scholarship, you can go to the church's website at www.trentonfumc.com and click on the link to the scholarship. Copies are also available in the church office.

It is our hope and prayer that each year funds will allow more than one scholarship to be awarded. If you would like to make a donation to the J.A.M. Scholarship, please make your check out to the First United Methodist Church with "J.A.M. Scholarship" written in the memo. All scholarships will be awarded from the First United Methodist Church in Trenton.

True Love Waits 2010



What: The annual True Love Waits program is ready to begin!

When: Every Sunday in February (Feb. 7 - Feb. 28) from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. (Don't worry.....the Superbowl doesn't begin until 5:00 p.m., so we have you covered there. ☺)

The Commitment Ceremony will be held Saturday, March 6, 2010 with details to follow.

Where: First United Methodist Church - Sr. High Youth room

Who is Invited: Any Senior High Youth willing to learn and laugh. Anyone willing to explore God's amazing love, and His intended purpose for dating and sex.

Curriculum: Introduction to True Love Waits by Lifeway Press. (This material was used about 4 years ago.)

Cost: FREE to our youth! Any youth outside the church who would like to attend is asked to pay a nominal fee of \$10.00.

Leaders: Karmin Moorhead and Jackie Van Gorkom

If you have any questions regarding the program, please contact Lynn Brown or Karmin Moorhead.

TRUE LOVE WAITS CELEBRATION

Saturday, March 6, 2010 is the date. 6:30 p.m. is the time. And First United Methodist Church in Trenton is the place. The True Love Waits Commitment Ceremony and Celebration is the event.

All of the Sr. High youth who participate in this year's program or have previously participated, will have the opportunity on March 6th to make their personal commitment or recommitment to God and to themselves to remain sexually abstinent until marriage. This is a huge step for them and many prayers are needed.

This is where our church family comes in to play. We invite you, our church family, to attend this event. Parents are highly encouraged to attend and show their support. (A nursery will be provided).

If you are a Sr. High student but haven't gone through this program at all or just this year, you are welcome and encouraged to come as well. Bring your friends! We want to impact as many Sr. High youth as we can! You are encouraged to help us with your personal invitations to others.

We are still in the process of making plans for the wonderful event but we do know that our theme will revolve around a pizzeria setting. Tim Price and Harvest Ministry will lead us in worship and song.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- 1) Loan us your card table for the event (12 needed)
- 2) Help with the set up and decorations
- 3) Host during the celebration (mainly keep food filled and serve drinks)
- 4) Help clean up immediately following the event
- 5) Financially - money to go towards costs for the ceremony and celebration.

If you can help in any of these areas, please inform the church office or call Lynn Brown at 224-7015.

Whether you attend the Ceremony or help in any of the ways listed--your support means a great deal to our youth! Thank you.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

February 3 Lynn & Stephen Brown 14 Sue & Lee Steverson
 15 Yvonne & Jeff Jackson 27 Babs & Keith Cunningham

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

February 2 Ricky Jenkins 4 Nicholas Bottom
 5 Michelle Griesbaum 5 Jack Gouy
 9 Bruce McLaughlin 12 Natalia Trimble
 13 Bob Brown 15 Yvonne Jackson
 15 Carole Richardson 15 Carol Metzger
 16 Tom Buckles 20 Gary Trimble
 27 Logan Miller 28 Brandon James



Lent begins

FEBRUARY 17, 2010

