



First Things @ First

February 22, 2012
Vol. XVI No. 4

“Living that all may know Jesus”

660.747.8158 ~ FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WARRENSBURG ~ www.umcburg.org

INVITE OTHERS TO OUR LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Share the Good News! Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to one or more of our First United Methodist Lenten worship services. The 2012 Season of Lent is officially inaugurated with the 6:00pm Ash Wednesday Service on February 22nd as we remember the salvation that Jesus has brought to our imperfect lives. The First Sunday in Lent is February 26th.

THE EASTER EXPERIENCE LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Women’s Group will begin a six-week Lenten Bible Study series at 6:00pm on Sunday, February 26th. *The Easter Experience* is a truly spiritual experience. This unique, DVD-driven study brings the passion and resurrection of Jesus to life through dramatic storytelling and challenging teaching done in a highly cinematic style. To register email Liz Cassidy at liz@bpcmusic.com.

UMW LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

United Methodist Women invites everyone to their Unit Meeting at 9:30am on Saturday, February 25th. The program will be an legislative update presented by Senator David Pearce. Being informed about legislation affecting women and children is one of the mission criteria of the United Methodist Women.

CHILDREN’S CHOIR OPEN HOUSE

Interested kids and parents are invited to the Children's Choir Open House on Wednesday, February 29th from 5:45pm until 7:00pm. There will be singing, games, crafts, and snacks. *Littlest Angels* (grades K-2) meets from 5:45pm until 6:15pm. *Gabriel's Gang* (grades 3-5) meets from 6:15pm until 7:00pm. For more information call Caitlin Bird at 760-500-2474.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

9:30am Connection / *Connected* Band
10:45am Classical/Blended with choir
and “Kids Own Worship.”
*A nursery is available for children through
2 years of age.*



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
February 22nd @ 6:00pm

PALM SUNDAY SERVICES
April 1st @ 9:30am & 10:45am

TENEBRAE SERVICE OF DARKNESS
April 5th @ 7:00pm

A nursery is available during this service
for children through 2 years of age.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES
April 8th @ 9:30am & 10:45am

*Please notify the office of changes in your
address, phone number, or email.*

SUNDAY MORNING CHURCH BUS

Call the office **by noon on Friday** to arrange a
bus stop at your home. The FUMC bus is
handicap accessible.

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

The *draft* of our new Church Directory should be coming back to the church in the next couple of weeks. At that time we will be able to make corrections, additions, etc. If you would like to have your cell phone listed as your main phone number, or specifically do not want it in the roster, please contact Anita in the office. If you have a land line on file, that is the number that will be listed, unless you have advised us otherwise. Once the draft is proofed, it will possibly be two to three months before the final directories are sent to us. Thank you for your patience. ~ **Anita Ellis, Administrative Coordinator**

College-Age Ministry | Evelyn Howard, Staff Assistant | evelyn@umcburg.org

We will be traveling to do hurricane clean-up in North Carolina March 17th – March 24th. There are still spots open for people age 18-25 years to join us. A volunteer age 25+ who has building experience is also needed for this Spring Break mission trip.

Sunday School class for College-Aged persons meets at 9:30am in Fellowship hall. A small group meets at 7:00pm on Tuesday nights at Wesley (dinner is provided). For more information please contact Evelyn at evelyn@umcburg.org.

Youth Ministry | Mike Cassidy, Associate Pastor | mike@umcburg.org

SPF Worship! All youth are invited to worship with us Wednesday nights at 6:00pm starting February 29th! This new worship experience is for both junior and senior high youth at FUMC. Our youth praise band (Background Noise) has been leading us in song. They are doing a wonderful job bringing the Holy Spirit into the building. Come for dinner and stay for worship each and every Wednesday.

Senior High Mission Trip Meeting ... We will be holding a Mission Trip Meeting Sunday, February 26th at 7:00pm for our 2012 Senior High mission trip. The August 4th—12th trip will be to *Give Kids the World Village* in Kissimmee, Florida. *Give Kids the World Village* is a 70-acre resort with attractions, theme parties, and all kinds of fun designed especially for children with life-threatening illnesses. Volunteers staff their events and attractions year-round. The cost is \$25.00 to reserve your spot by March 11th. Additional funds will be provided through our fund raising efforts.



Preschool Doodlings | Colleen Reed, Preschool Director | preschool@umcburg.org

The preschoolers learned about Washington and Lincoln this week. We also learned about money. The Lincoln Logs came out of the basement and we even built our own Lincoln snack with pretzel logs! Next week our theme is "We Love Books!" We will be celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday and of course reading some Dr. Seuss books. I'm sure there will be a Cat in the Hat somewhere!

FUMC Preschool is now accepting enrollment for the 2012-2013 school year. We will again have M/W/F 3's and PreK, and T/Th 3's and PreK. Those classes will be from 8:30am-11:30am. Your child must be age 3 or 4 by August 1st. Please call if you are interested.

Jamaica Medical Mission | Steve Mills, Volunteers in Mission Chairperson | 441-8309

The Jamaica Medical Mission team leaves March 18th with plans to staff a medical clinic in Falmouth and several remote sites. Some of these remote sites only receive a nurse once per month and seldom have access to a physician. Typically, a patient receives a 3-month supply of 3-6 medicines at no charge. **Help the Jamaica Medical Team cover the costs of purchased medicines by donating \$10.00 each for a "Jamaican RX-card" which can be purchased in the church office.** Thanks to all who have supported previous fund raising efforts and helped with sorting donated medicines.

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INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER: The February 29th menu will feature catfish nuggets, hushpuppies, French fries, Cole slaw, salad, assorted cookies, and beverages. The March 7th menu will be BBQ chicken, pasta salad, corn on the cob, rolls, peach cobbler, and beverages. The cost is \$6/adult, \$3/student and children age three and older, \$16 max./family. Guests are invited to dine-in with us. *Help us be more accurate in purchasing the amount of food needed. Please call the office or email receptionist@umcburg.org to make your reservation, cancel your reservation, or ask to be added to the standing list by noon on MONDAY. Walk-ins will be served starting at 5:45pm.*

“FOOD OF THE MONTH” DONATIONS FOR THE FOOD CENTER: The Keystone class “Food of the Month” for February is canned or dry beans. Green beans are not needed at this time. The March “Food of the Month” is kraut, spinach and/or tomatoes. Leave your food donations in the Food Center cabinet located in the FLC hallway.

MOZAMBIQUE SUNDAY: FUMC will celebrate Mozambique Sunday on February 26th. The special offering will go towards FUMC’s financial commitment of \$900.00 per year for Maxixe UMC in Mozambique, Africa. Keep the congregation of Maxixe UMC and Pastor Geraldo Nataniel Matsinhe in prayer throughout the year.

DONATE USED SHEETS AND TOWELS: The United Methodist Women are collecting used sheets and towels for *Project Patricia*, an outreach of the Master's Community Church in Kansas City. The sheets and towels will be used to make feminine hygiene products for women and girls in Africa. As you start your spring cleaning of closets, remember how useful those worn sheets and towels can be. Bring your donations to the church office by April 1st.

MISSION SAFARI HOG ROAST: Mark your calendars and plan to attend the exciting 2012 *Mission Safari Hog Roast* fund raiser for missions on April 21st.

Please pick up your 2012 offering envelopes from Marlene’s office.

In Our Prayers

In Our Prayers: Maxixe UMC (our sister church in Mozambique) & its pastor Geraldo Nataniel Matsinhe, shut-ins, care givers.

Ill/Recovering: Sandy Culp, Judy Hicks, Ernest Lackey, Linda Medaris, Rose Merle, Lolly Morrow, Buck Sommerkamp, Clair Swan.

Military: Brad Adams, Brian Bilbruck, William Eaton, Christopher Lozo, John Rodgers.

Pastoral Care: If you have a death in the family, are sick or hospitalized, please let the church office know so we can arrange for spiritual care. *If you or a loved one is admitted to a local hospital, please call us, as the hospitals do not notify us.*



CONGRATULATIONS

Mason Alexander Krupa, son of Ben & Stephanie Krupa was born February 16, 2012. Proud grandparents are Garry & Cheryl Landers; proud great-grandmother is Mary Stevens; and proud aunt is Marissa Bralick.

THANK YOU

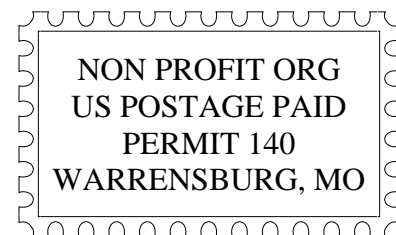
SOUPER JOB!!!! FUMC donated over 7,100 cans of soup ... almost 1,500 more than last year. Although we came in second place in the church competition, the real winner is the Food Center. Again, a huge thanks for all your CAN-do support ~ **David Reader and Scott Reed, FUMC “Souper Bowl” Coordinators**

Attendance & Offerings

February 12th attendance at the two services was 306. Operating Fund Contributions were \$10,877.86. Capital Improvement Fund Contributions were \$597.00. February 19th attendance at the two services was 367. Operating Fund Contributions were \$3,759.89. Capital Improvement Fund Contributions were \$765.00.



First Things @ First
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Return Service Requested

The next newsletter will be published on March 7th. Article submission deadline is noon on Monday, March 5th.

Pastor's Corner... | Rev. Louie Lowe, Senior Pastor | llowe@umcburg.org

A father was spending the afternoon with his six year old son, teaching him the art of fishing. Over and over the boy found himself hung up, with his lure caught up on a rock or a stick.

Suddenly the boy called again to his father, "Daddy, help me." But this time, as the father began to move towards the boy, he noticed the pole was bouncing around. "Daddy, Daddy," the boy cried out, "I caught a fish!"

In an instant, the young boy's struggle was suddenly turned into an exciting adventure.

The same is true in life. How so very often God brings surprises and blessings out of our struggles.

Lent is a time to look for those blessings.

See you in Church,

Louie

First Things @ First is published every other Wednesday by the First United Methodist Church of Warrensburg. Newsletter submissions are due Monday at noon for the upcoming Wednesday's newsletter. Submissions may be communicated to **Marge Ballew**, Publications Editor (660-747-8158; receptionist@umcburg.org). Calendar updates, prayer requests and address changes may be communicated to **Anita Ellis**, Administrative Coordinator (660-747-8158; office@umcburg.org).