



First Things @ First

January 25, 2012
Vol. XVI No. 2

“Living that all may know Jesus”

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

"SOUPER BOWL" SUNDAY IS FEBRUARY 5th

Super Bowl Sunday will soon be here. You are invited to help the Food Center score a touchdown by donating canned soup for "Souper Bowl" Sunday on February 5th. The FUMC "Souper Bowl" Co-Chairs David Reader and Scott Reed have set a target goal of 9,000 cans of soup. Those who wish to make a monetary donation should make their check payable to FUMC with "Souper Bowl 2012" designated at the bottom. Your check (or cash) needs to be placed in the "Special Soup Wrappers" found in the pews and then dropped in the offering plate or taken to the office by Thursday, February 2nd. For every dollar donated, FUMC will be credited with two cans of soup. *Bi-Lo & Parkers* will hold soup purchased at their locations and deliver to the Food Center as required. Please turn in your receipt to the office to allow FUMC to determine our total. Your donations of cans or cases of soup need to be placed/stacked in the Atrium by noon on Sunday, February 5th.

Thank you to all sharing in this act of Christian love to help others in need.

FIFTH SUNDAY BREAKFAST ~ JANUARY 29th

CLT Class hopes everyone will come for fantastic food and fellowship at their Fifth Sunday Breakfast 9:00am—10:30am on January 29th in the Family Life Center. The menu includes biscuits & gravy, bacon, fruit, and beverages. The free will offering will be for missions

“FOOD OF THE MONTH”

The Keystone class “Food of the Month” for January is cake mixes. The February “Food of the Month” will be canned or dry beans. Leave your cake mix, beans, and/or other food donations in the Food Center cabinet located in the FLC hallway.

YOUTH SOUP & SALAD FUND RAISER ~ FEBRUARY 5th

The FUMC Youth invite everyone for New Orleans' Saintry Gumbo, Tebow Time Tomato Basil Soup, and Cheesehead Chili with Chicken at the Youth Soup & Salad Luncheon fund raiser on Sunday, February 5th starting at 11:45am. Root for your Super Bowl favorite and show your support as the Youth kick off their 2012 Mission Trip fund raising efforts by serving you some delicious homemade soups and salads. There is no charge, but all donations will be greatly appreciated.

FUMC RADIO MEDITATION

Tune in to 1450 KOKO radio Monday through Friday at 6:58am for Pastor Louie's daily scripture reading and meditation.

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

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.*

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.

**BABY "TABLE" SHOWER
FOR EVELYN GRACE MONTAMBEAULT**

Born: January 17, 2012

Mother: Melanie Montambeault

Location: In the office

– bring your gift by January 31st

Registered at:

Target and Burlington Coat Factory

Hostesses: Church Staff Women

PARENTING BY THE BOOK

Parents of all stages are invited to join the eight-week course, *Parenting by the Book*, on Sundays at 9:30am. This study is simple and practical as it illuminates the timeless wisdom of Scripture that has served generations in raising healthy, happy, obedient children. For information, call Susanna Pippel (580-402-4042) or email susannapippel@earthlink.net.

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

Any persons age "18-20 something" are invited to join us at the Wesley Super Bowl Party February 5th. The doors open at 4:45pm. Donations for the Super Bowl party (such as chips, dip, soda, etc.) are welcome. Contact Evelyn and she will pick them up from you.

We will be starting a new Sunday School series on February 5th in the Fellowship Hall during the 9:30am time slot. Any college-aged/young adult wanting to join a small group Bible Study is encouraged to contact Evelyn at evelyn@umcburg.org.

Children's Ministries | Melanie Montambeault, Director | melanie@umcburg.org

FriendsDay science supplies needed ... FriendsDay will have more amazing science lessons. Each child will need a dry, clean, empty soda can on February 8th.

"Shake It Up Café" VBS ... It's time to start thinking about volunteering for Vacation Bible School. The 2012 VBS will be held July 9th—13th from 3:00pm—5:30pm. "Shake It Up Café: Where Kids Carry Out God's Recipe" is this year's theme. Lots of help will be needed from the FUMC congregation to make this an outstanding VBS. It's a great way to get to know the children of FUMC and to grow a little closer to God!



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

We had a fun week "digging for dinosaurs!" We learned about carnivores and herbivores. And, of course, enjoyed snacks for each (meatballs for carnivore day and carrots for herbivore day!). The PreK kids even hatched baby dinosaurs out of eggs which they made with paper Mache. It was great fun seeing how many preschoolers fit in our dinosaur footprint.

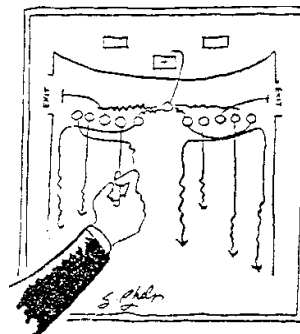
Next week we will be learning all about shadows and groundhogs. It would be nice if the sun was out so that we could see our shadows, but we will learn that we don't want the groundhog to see his shadow on February 2nd because we don't want 6 more weeks of winter!

CHURCH CLOSING POLICY

When the Warrensburg public school district **cancel/closes early** due to bad weather or other imminent danger, our Preschool, Wednesday after-school children's programming, Wednesday Night Dinner and all non-church "outside groups" scheduled for the day will also be cancelled.

Church committee chairs/leaders/ministry coordinators will be responsible for advising the office, by 9:00 am, if you will be meeting or not on that day.

The church office may not necessarily be closed, but if it is, a notice **will be sent out on Kumbayah e-mail. (To sign up for Kumbayah, e-mail Jeffries@socket.net and type "Kumbayah Subscription" in the subject line.)**



Taking a cue from John Madden, Pastor Mel diagrams the morning offering for the ushers.

© Steve Phelps

INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER: The February 1st menu will be “Breakfast for Dinner” featuring cheesy egg & potato scramble, French toast sticks, biscuits & gravy, assorted juices, and beverages. The February 8th “Valentine’s Dinner” will feature chicken Parmesan with spaghetti, Italian blend vegetables, garlic bread sticks, salad, red velvet cake, 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.*

COMMUNITY CLOTHES CLOSET DONATIONS: The Community Clothes Closet will gladly accept your clothing donations for men, women, and children of all sizes. Bring your new or gently worn coats and/or warm winter clothing donations to the Clothes Closet (251C, SE Hwy 13) 8:00am—noon on Tuesdays, Thursdays, or Saturdays.

TAKE SUNDAY’S BULLETIN TO COUNTRY KITCHEN: Take your bulletin to Country Kitchen on Sundays, and 10% of your pre-tax guest check will be donated to FUMC.

CHECK-IN WITH THE OFFICE

For security, safety, and in case of emergency, everyone entering the building for unscheduled activity needs to check-in and check-out with the office, so that we know where you are located in the building.

In Our Prayers

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

Ill/Recovering: Debbie Brown, Sandy Culp, Judy Hicks, Jerry Holliday, Bill Mudd, Buck Sommerkamp, Clair Swan, Marion Woods. **Sympathy to:** the family and friends of Eleanor Drake, who passed away January 21, 2012; and to the family and friends of Doris Dickinson, who passed away January 25, 2012. **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.*

PRE-APPROVE PURCHASES

The Board of Trustees has requested that all purchases for church repairs and improvements be pre-approved through the FUMC Finance Office.



CONGRATULATIONS

Maisie Anne Combs, daughter of John & Margaret (Howard) Combs was born on January 10, 2012. Maisie is the granddaughter of Jim & Kathy Howard, and niece of Evelyn Howard.

Evelyn Grace Montambeault was born on January 17, 2012. Evelyn is the daughter of Joshua & Melanie Montambeault.

PICK UP YOUR OFFERING ENVELOPES

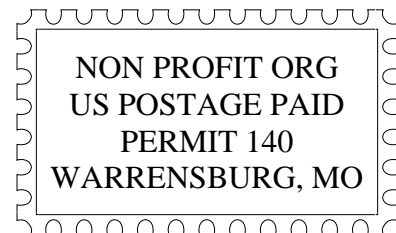
Please pick up your 2012 offering envelopes from the table in the Atrium. Having the money in your personally numbered envelope helps expedite the counting process and assures accurate credit to your pledge. For more information or to set up electronic giving on an automatic schedule, contact Marlene Larson, Financial Coordinator.

Attendance & Offerings

January 15th attendance at the two services was 317.
Operating Fund Contributions were \$12,597.00.
Capital Improvement Fund Contributions were \$1,292.00.
January 22nd attendance at the two services was 299.
Operating Fund Contributions were \$8,649.50.
Capital Improvement Fund Contributions were \$287.50.



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Return Service Requested

The next newsletter will be published on February 8th. Article submission deadline is noon on Monday, February 6th. Recent FUMC newsletters are on our web site at www.umcburg.org. Click on "About Us" and then choose "newsletter."

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

SUPER BOWL—THE SCORE?

Well it's that time of year again that sports fans so anxiously look forward to ... Super Bowl Sunday!

Athletic competitions are not a new phenomena. People for centuries have enjoyed the thrill of competitive sports.

In fact, even the Apostle Paul himself used numerous sports related illustrations in his writings. He spoke of such things as finishing the race, fighting the good fight, training, endurance, etc.

We can learn a lot about life and faith through the everyday experiences we have in the areas of personal hobbies and sports. The Bible teaches us about ...coming from behind ... finishing what you start ... living up to your potential ...

How do we score in the game of life and faith?

See you in Church,

Louie

Join Pastor Louie
 For A Special Study:
"The Seven Festivals Of Israel"
Prophetic Foreshadows
Of The Coming Messiah
 Monday mornings, 10:00am,
 In the Aldersgate Parlor

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).