

PERRYVILLE CIRCUIT NEWSLETTER

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Bro. David Baker, Pastor

April 2011

Vol. 10 No. 4



SUNSHINE, GLORIOUS SUNSHINE! Do you think that God is smiling when the sun is shining? Do you think that the best part of the year is the Spring? Do you think that we should be even more thankful when the earth is coming back to life after a long, hard winter?

I wrote about the dates for Easter last time. As the sun's brightness and warmth change our weather, we move closer to the time of year when we feel the presence of God's Springtime gift. Jesus gave everything he had—his life—for us.

And on the third day the women went to finish the burial ritual, only to find that the stone had already been rolled away and the tomb was empty.

"Where have you taken him?" she asked. "I must complete the burial ritual." "He is not here," the angel answered. "He has been raised from the dead. Go, tell the followers that he is alive."

That was not the answer that she could understand, or that she wanted to hear. This was a woman-thing. Women just have to com-



April 3—4th Sunday in Lent—Holy Communion—1 Samuel 16: 1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5: 8-14; John 9: 1-41. "First, Saul, then, David." Samuel, the priest, is sent to anoint the new king, even while King Saul is in power. Dangerous business.

April 10—5th Sunday in Lent—Ezekiel 37: 1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11: 1-45. "Lazarus and Thomas." As Jesus decides to go to the home of Lazarus, Mary, and Martha, the disciples choose to follow him even though that might be dangerous.

plete what they start, don't they? (Pardon my male-ness. I will get mine below.)

There is more to the story. When she told the others, they did not believe her. That is the man-thing. No matter how many times we hear the story, we have to see for ourselves before we believe it. Don't believe me. There was Thomas, one of the twelve. All of the other followers, except Thomas, were together in an upper room, when Jesus came to them. They told Thomas all about it. He said, "I will not believe until I see the print of the nails in his hands and put my hand in the wound in his side." Believe me now?

In those days following the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, lots of people had to be shown to believe. Lots of people wanted to finish what was already begun. Lots of people had to hear and see in order to believe. Lots of people kept thinking that if Jesus was dead and buried, then how could he be alive?

We prepare for this Easter with our hearts open. We are ready to finish the story. We are ready to see for ourselves. We are ready, Lord. Open our hearts and minds to see and believe. Open our lives to the unfinished business of faith and hope. Open your tomb one more time for us to enter into your glory. Amen.

Bro. David

April 17—Palm/Passion Sunday—Matthew 21: 1-11; Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29; Isaiah 50: 4-9a; Psalm 31: 9-16; Philippians 2: 5-11; Matthew 27: 11-54. "Beneath the Cross of Jesus." We sing the old hymn with the hurt and pain of the cross bearing down on us. What happens beneath that cross can amaze us.

April 24—Easter Day—Acts 10: 34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3: 1-4; John 20: 1-18. "Oh, What a Morning!" Christ the Lord is risen today. Alleluia.

— SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE—6:00 pm. Kate Cole to speak for Sunday Night Live.

VITAL SIGNS

Join us for a day of worship, training, and discussion centered around the vitality and effectiveness of our congregations."

Vital Signs will be held at First United Methodist Church in North Little Rock, on April 16. Registration starts at 8:30 am, and the cost is \$15 per person. The Registration deadline is the first week of April. The Keynote Speaker will be Dr. Gil Rendle, consultant for Imagine Ministry for our Conference.

This will be one of four reports to the Annual Conference on the work of the Imagine Ministries Team. There will be three others around the state and this will be the fourth.

Local church leaders are encouraged to attend. The first five workshops listed below will deal specifically with some of the issues raised by the team and our responses.

There will be five workshops from which we may choose two. 1. Stiving for Excellence and Accountability in Ministry. 2. Mission Field Ministry. 3. A Call to Action: Reordering the Life of the Church. 4. Revitalization and The United Methodist Way. 5. Addressing Our Unique Ministry Opportunities. 6. Who is our neighbor? Serving the needs of your unique community. 7. Funding your congregation's ministries through grant writing. 8. Older Adult Ministry: Identifying and meeting the needs of older adults. 9. Sound financial practices in the local church. More information on these will be shared through announcements.

Registration forms are available through the office.

Stewardship is HEART WORK

I will be loyal to U.M.C and support it by my prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness."



Carmon Anderson (*member*), Carol Allen (*member*), Opal Boshears (*member*), Marge Dickson (*member, nursing home*), Moose Griffith (Perryville resident, cancer), Tandy Jones (Perryville resident, cancer), Tom Kelley (*member*), Dona Laywell (*member*), Mike Martin (*member*), Danny & Carolyn Myers (*member*), Jane Northcross (Vicky Fletcher's Mother, *members*), Coach Taylor (Perryville resident, cancer), James Teel (cousin of Bob McCallister & Amy Chambers, *members*), Don Weiss (*member; needs visitors*), Walter West (husband of Heifer Ranch worker), Chick Williams (Perryville resident), David Womack (*member*), Lyman Womack (brother of David Womack)

CHURCH ATTENDANCE & FINANCES

PRESENCE: During the four week period of February 27 through March 20, 2011 we averaged 34 people in Sunday School and 75 in Worship Service.

Renewing Our Commitments for the Building Fund

First of all, thank you to everyone who has over that past four years made regular contributions to the Building Fund for The Connection Center. With the contributions for the Building Fund over the first three years, we were able to pay as we went approximately \$150,000 of the expenses of the construction. That meant that we had to finance a much lower amount. The three year commitments have ended. Several families have continued to give at the same rate as their original commitment. We thank you for your continued support.

As you have heard through the banquet presentation and during worship, we are asking for further commitment to continue to make the regular payments on The Connection Center. Our payment will be \$2,500 per month.

You may make your commitment on the form in this issue of the Newsletter, or additional copies of the form may be found in the office. Remember that you may make automatic drafts from your bank account to the church for either the General Fund or the Building Fund. For more information, see Suzanne. (form on back page)

We have a wonderful addition to our church, and we thank all of you for making this possible.



Our Mission Statement

The mission of the Perryville United Methodist Church is to make followers of Jesus Christ through Bible Study, Worship, Fellowship, Service, and Witness, and we are to serve as a Connection Center between God, Church, and Community.

GIFTS

Month of 2/27 - 3/20

Operating Fund

\$ 9,097.10

Building Fund

\$ 3,465.00

Designated Giving

\$1,667.00

CONFERENCE APPORTIONMENTS

The Conference Apportionments for 2011 have been set and are in our Church Budget. The Conference Apportionments are our fair share of the expenses of the ministries of the church.

The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church (BOD) is amended each four years by the work of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church. At this year's Annual Conference we will elect the delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference. Both of these are held every four years. There will be an equal number of lay and clergy delegates elected from each annual conference.

The BOD requires that each local church pay the Ministerial Support section of our Apportionments first. This includes the Pension and Benefit, District Superintendents, Ministerial Education, Equitable Compensation, and Episcopal Funds. Some interesting things about these funds: The Ministerial Education Fund helps provide for the support of our United Methodist seminary education, and the Equitable Compensation help provide salary support for clergy in small membership churches.

Let's plan to meet our Conference Apportionments at 100% for 2011.

Our giving is a joyful response to God's *extravagant* blessings!



Each of us should hold the offering plate in our hands every Sunday, in acknowledgement and praise of God's generosity.

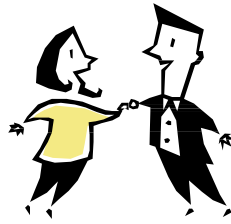
Even if we have an automatic bank draft for our pledge to the church budget, we should add something to the offering every week. An extra dollar or two added to everyone else's extra dollar or two will make *such* a difference in our church's mission and ministry.

Are *your* fingerprints on the offering plate?

Children's Sunday School

Do You Know What Hospitality Is?

After just a few weeks in our new study on lowers will! Some of you may be asked to "Yes!" The children need to know that they



Mary and Martha, the Followers and Little Fol-join us on the journey. If asked, please say, are important and welcome at PUMC.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR HYMNS?

- Dentist's Hymn..... Crown Him with Many Crown
- Weatherman's Hymn..... There Shall Be Showers of Blessings
- Contractor's Hymn..... The Church's One Foundation
- The Tailor's Hymn..... Holy, Holy, Holy
- The Golfer's Hymn..... There's a Green Hill Far Away
- The Politician's Hymn..... Standing on the Promises!
- Optometrist's Hymn..... Open My Eyes That I Might See
- The IRS Agent's Hymn..... I Surrender All
- The Gossip's Hymn..... Pass It On
- The Electrician's Hymn..... Send The Light
- The Shopper's Hymn..... Sweet Bye and Bye
- The Realtor's Hymn..... I've Got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop
- The Massage Therapist's Hymn..... He Touched Me
- The Doctor's Hymn..... The Great Physician

AND for those who speed on the highway - a few hymns:

- 55 mph God Will Take Care of You
- 75 mph Nearer My God To Thee
- 85 mph This World Is Not My Home
- 95 mph Lord, I'm Coming Home
- 100 mph Precious Memories



Just drop them in the box in the Narthex. Or, call the office 889-5314.



ANGEL FOOD

Last day to order - April 17th

Distribution Day - April 23rd

Bit O'Blessing Box	\$21.00
Bread of Life Signature Box	\$31.00
Bountiful Blessing Box	\$41.00
Just 4 Me After School Box	\$24.00
Just 4 Me Fruit&Veggie Box	\$16.00
Just 4 Me No Child w/o Box	\$24.00
Fast & Flavorful Cuisine	\$28.00
Special #1 Steak Box	\$25.00
Special #2 Chicken Box	\$17.00
Special #3 Fruit&Veggie	\$23.00

(plus tax)

THIS WILL BE THE LAST MONTH

Delivery Schedule-

Meals on Wheels

April 18	B. Hyatt
April 19	B. Hyatt
April 20	R.A. Smith
April 21	K. Keough
April 22	R.A. Smith
April 25	K. Keough
April 26	I. & L. Rose
April 27	I. & L. Rose
April 28	L. Wolf
April 29	L. Wolf

Food For Thought

Meals On Wheels

Perryville UMC is actively involved in delivering Meals on Wheels and we are in need of more volunteers. *If there is anyone interested in volunteering their time to this cause, please call Katherine Keough at 889-3271.*

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March's food offering - We donated 85 pounds of misc. items this month.

April Third Sunday Food Offering: Just pick up a bag in the Narthex - and Thanks!



FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Saturday, April 2nd

Activities for all ages!! 6:00-8:00pm

In the Connection Center.

FYI

• FOR YOUR INFORMATION •

The Office will be closed Friday, April 22nd in observance of Good Friday.

The Fellowship Club is going to **Garvin Gardens** in Hot Springs. **Saturday, April 2nd.** The azaleas are supposed to be in full bloom!! Everyone is welcome. Just meet at the Church at 9AM that morning. The cost will be \$8.00 for admission.



Perryville U.M.W.

A meeting will be held in the Connection Center - Saturday, April 9th



Sunday, April 17th (Palm Sunday)

2:00 PM

In the Perryville City Park

Open for the Community

DON'T FORGET

All you ladies----

Be sure to wear your Easter Bonnets on Easter Sunday Morning to Church!!!!!!



Sunrise Service

Easter Sunday -- 6:00 AM

Perryville City Park



Worship Service

7:00PM

Perryville

United

Methodist



Fellowship Group

Perryville United Methodist Church Fellowship Group met Saturday evening, February 5th in the Parlor for a wonderful evening of planning, playing games, and snacks. We had a great turnout of 16 people. Prizes were won for Valentine Bingo and events planned for the year. Host couples for the coming year are:

April	Steve & Melinda Collins	Garvin Gardens
June 11th	Jay Sprigg	Subiaco Abby & Academy
September	Bakers & Reeders	Cookout
October	Rick & Vicky Fletcher	Mt. View
December Group	H.P.I. Live Nativity	

We invite everyone to share in this fun time of fellowship with church friends. We have ideas of many other activities and if you have an activity you would like to host, please let us know. We meet on Saturday of each month at 7:00 pm, unless the activity dictates otherwise. **COME JOIN US!!**

For further information, please call Lester or Ida Rose at 889-5493

SOUND SYSTEM COMPLETED Our new sound system has been completed and it sounds wonderful! Praise the Lord! On behalf of the Sound System Committee, I want to thank each one of you that prayed and gave generously to upgrade and improve our sound system for our church. We were also blessed with a grant of \$500 from the Kate Nelson Endowment Fund from the district. A beautifully raised sound booth was built and supplied in the back corner of the sanctuary which allows system operators to adjust the sound and projector correctly during our services. The church service is also transmitted into the Nursery for their worship. We are so excited to have Carillons ringing again. Billy Reeder, who installed our new sound system, installed a wonderful Carillons program with our new sound system and you can hear them ring again all over town. We have had so many nice compliments about them. Now we are ready to finish the second part of this sound system in the Connection Center. Most of the existing equipment from the church was moved into the center and needs to be installed and updated. As soon as we receive enough love offerings, Billy will finish the system in there. Donations may be made payable to Perryville United Methodist Church with "Sound System" noted at bottom of check. Again, we thank each and every one for their prayers and gifts as we all work together to serve our Lord.

Blessings, Ida Rose, Greg Spinks, Steve Collins, and Bro. David



Birthdays This Month

Stacey Belk	4 - 6
Mike Martin	4 - 6
Vicki Gill	4 - 10
Jake Trotter	4 - 10
Liz Lee	4 - 12
Dona Laywell	4 - 13
Darlene Spinks	4 - 18
Cindy Langston	4 - 19



Anniversaries This Month

Jerry & Kate Cole	4 - 4
Bill & Dona Laywell	4 - 30

APRIL ACTIVITIES

Sat. Apr. 2	6:00 pm - Family Fun Nite
Sun. Apr. 3	9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship Service
Tue. Apr. 5	1:30 pm - Intercessory Prayer
Wed. Apr. 6	6:00 pm - Handbells 7:00pm - Choir Practice
Thurs. Apr 7	9:00 am - U.M.M. Coffee
Sat. Apr. 9	UMW
Sun. Apr 10	9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship Service
Tue. Apr. 12	1:30 pm - Intercessory Prayer-
Wed. Apr 13	6:00 pm - Handbells 7:00 pm - Choir Practice
Thurs. Apr 14	9:00 am - U.M.M. Coffee
Sun. Apr. 17	<i>Palm Sunday</i> 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship Service 2:00 PM - <i>Easter Egg Hunt</i>
Tue. Apr. 19	1:30 pm - Intercessory Prayer
Wed. Apr. 20	6:00 pm - Handbells 7:00 pm - Choir Practice
Thurs. Apr 21	9:00 am - U.M.M. Coffee
Fri. Apr 22	Red Cross Blood Drive
Sun. April 24	<i>Easter Day</i> 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship Service 6:00pm - Sunday Night Live
Mon. Apr. 25	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

P.O. Box 645
123 Cross Street
Perryville AR 72126

Phone 501-889-5314
Email: perumc@windstream.net
Web Site: www.perryvilleumcarkansas.org

Non-Profit Org.

Permit # 3

Perryville, AR 72126

U.S. Postage Paid

Our Staff:

Pastor..... Rev. David E. Baker
Minister of Music..... Steve Collins
Pianist..... Lee Kelm
Secretary..... Becky Camp
Custodian..... Nate Spinks

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship service 11:00 AM

APRIL WORKERS ARE:

MOWERS: Week beginning: 3rd - Robert Lee, 10th Steve Collins
17th - Jay Langston, 24th Troy Denn

C.H.I.M.E.S

LITURGIST

3rd Rick Fletcher
10th Linda Musselman
17th Kate Cole
24th Melinda Collins

USHERS

John Hopper Charlie Kelley
Linda Musselman Arnie Jester

COMMUNION WORKERS

Dixie Martin, Carolyn Myers,
Nancy O'Such

GREETERS

Ruth Ann Smith & Company *April Bread Angel is Patsy Womack*

Snacks for April - 3rd Wyatt 10th Martin 17th Lee 24th Lee



FRIDAY, APRIL 22ND
IN THE CONNECTION CENTER

9:00AM - 2:00PM

If you can't give -- send someone that can!

PERRYVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - CONNECTION CENTER - PLEDGE FORM - 2011

Donor Information (Please Print) - Name (s) _____

Pledge Information - I (we) pledge a total of \$ _____ to be paid in _____ years. -- Now ___ Monthly ___ Quarterly ___ Yearly ___

I (we) plan to make this contribution in the form of: cash ___ check ___ direct deposit ___ (see Suzanne Whitener for forms)

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____