

February 2012

First United Methodist Church — Hartford, WI

AT THE CROSS

TAKE A LOOK . . .

Free Rummage offered again, Mission News, Heifer project update, Hospitality potluck and more.....

February Themes P. 3
Christian Ed News P. 4
Milestones back page

CONTACT INFORMATION

First United Methodist Church

738 West Monroe Avenue
Hartford, 53027 262.673.3290
Www.fumchartford.com

Pastor

Paul Johnsen

Christian Education Director

Doreen VanMinsel
Doreen@fumchartford.com

Volunteer Assimilation Coordinator

Rachel Garza
rachel@fumchartford.com

Office Managers

Robin Pfothenhauer & Kari Staus
office@fumchartford.com

Little Lambs Preschool

Director/Teacher
Deb Justman
littl lambs@fumchartford.com

District Superintendent

Jorge Mayorga-Solis

Our Missionary

Paul Webster

Mission Statement We are God's people striving to become committed disciples of Jesus Christ. By nurturing our diverse gifts we desire to learn, care, support, pray and serve so that we may become a dynamic force of love in the world.

BIG MONEY Buys A Farm?



A heifer, goats, sheep, pigs, FLOCKS of chickens and a 'part' of a water buffalo is our 'farm'. When pooled together, the members of FUMC purchased it on behalf of the Mission Committee's FIRST Heifer International Christmas sale held in Fellowship Hall Sundays in December 2011. Committee members thank EVERYONE who donated a combined total of \$1280.00, asked questions, sported fun buttons and learned about this much supported program that strives to end hunger and poverty and care for the earth.

The program strives to raise the standard of living throughout targeted population centers by providing an ongoing income based food source that comes with an equal partnership between benefactor and recipient through 'pass-it-on'. A typical heifer recipient promises to 'pass-on' the gift of the first female born heifer to another equally deserving needy recipient. Additional information about Heifer International can be found at www.heifer.org

MISSION COMMITTEE UPDATE

There are five active mission groups in our church. They include our FUMC Mission Committee, United Methodist Women Mission

Coordinators, two Youth Mission Trip groups and the Volunteers in Mission (VIM) participants.

These groups fulfill Jesus' instructions to witness for him locally, nationally and world-wide. (Acts 1:8)

The Mission Committee selects four missions to support per year. In 2011 they were our covenant with Paul Webster (our Missionary in Africa), our two church camps (Lake Lucerne Camp and Retreat Center and Pine Lake), Volunteers in Mission (VIM) and the United Methodist Children's Services of Wisconsin, Inc. (UMCS). The UMCS of Wisconsin is a multi-faceted service agency, which serves the Washington Park neighborhood in Milwaukee. The VIM donate their time and talent to work on mission projects in the United States and globally.

Monies from the local Mission Committee coffee hours, the loose change in the offering plates on the second Sunday of the month and the special offerings of Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter, are distributed by our local Mission committee to the four above mentioned causes.

Please support our Mission Committee during the coming year by leaving loose offering in the offering plate on the 2nd Sunday, giving generously during our coffee hours, or by making gifts when our special offerings are taken at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter.

Continued on p. 2

FUMC News and Notes



Thank you!!

How do we thank our Church Family for all the wonderful prayers, cards, food, gifts, help and concern that people have shown us since Nov. when Jim had his first emergency surgery? We don't know. We just know we are truly blessed to be a part of First United Methodist Church Hartford, and we hope you know by this simple "THANK YOU" how much everything has meant to us. Thank you all so Much!

Sincerely, Jim & Doreen VanMinsel

"Souper Sunday!"



We invite you and your family to join us for some delicious soups and wonderful conversations as the Hospitality Committee hosts a "Souper Sunday" Potluck on Sunday, February 12, following the 2nd service.

The Hospitality Committee will be providing a variety of hearty soups that are sure to warm you up. **For those looking to bring an item to pass, we would appreciate contributions of hearty loafs of bread or rolls, or desserts.** All pass items can be brought to the kitchen prior to 2nd service. Drinks, plates, cups and flatware will be provided. So mark February 12th on your calendars and we look forward to seeing you for a "Souper" good time!

~ ~ ~ ~

Mission committee News cont'd from p. 1

Direct donations at any time to the Mission Committee are always welcome as well.

If you have questions about our group please contact one of the following representatives: Mitzi McLean, Rachel Garza, Doug Gordon, Bob McLean, Kim Morris, Bob Cleland, Melissa Spredemann, Lori VanderPas, Sharon Linstrom or Helen Robbe.

~ ~ ~ ~



LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday, February 22—FUMC 1:30 and 7:00 pm
Wednesday February 29—FUMC 7:00 PM
Wednesday March 7—St. Aidan's 7:00 PM
Wednesday Mary 14—St. Mary's of the Hill 7:00 PM
Wednesday March 21—Redeemer Lutheran 7:00 PM
Wednesday March 28—St. Kilian's 7:00 PM
Thursday April 5—Maundy Thursday —FUMC 7:00 PM
Friday April 6—Good Friday—FUMC 1:00 PM



UMW NEWS

Submitted by Cheryl Malko, president

Meetings:

Hope Circle
6:30 p.m. on Monday, February 13, at church
Hostess: Lisa DuPont
Program: Carla Kramoris

2012 Reading Program

For 140 years, members of United Methodist Women and predecessor organizations have been involved in mission that includes prayer, study and action. The Reading Program is not only a study opportunity, it also encourages us to take action and think critically about current issues through an annual selection of member-reviewed books. It offers an excellent opportunity to deepen your spirituality and to broaden your understanding of our mission work..

A variety of new books have been purchased for 2012 related to the five mission emphases of our Purpose -- Education for Mission, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, Spiritual Growth and Leadership Development. The new books are available in our Church library, along with numerous other books from past reading program selections. As we did last year, we'll be highlighting some of the 2012 reading program books in our newsletter articles. This year, in an effort to involve our Church youth in the reading program, we've purchased two books directed at youth readers; of course "older" readers can also enjoy them.

Education for Mission: Thunder Over Kandahar by Sharon E. McKay (for Youth)

Best friends Tamanna and Yasmine cannot believe their good fortune when a school is set up in their Afghan village; however, their dreams for the future are shattered when the Taliban burn down the school and threaten the teacher and students with death. With their future in jeopardy, the girls realize they must flee.

Social Action: Sold by Patricia McCormick (for Youth)

Though desperately poor, 13-year-old Lakshmi's life in a small village in Nepal is full of simple pleasures. But then a monsoon washes away the family's crops, and Lakshmi's stepfather says she must take a job to support her family. Thinking she has a job as a maid in the city, she is glad to help. But then she learns the unthinkable truth: she has been sold into prostitution.

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR PAUL

"The Scandal of Forgiveness"

Prior to the end of his second and final term, Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour ordered the pardons for certain prisoners across his state. Many governors, including the President, have this same privilege.

In Mississippi, however, did Governor Barbour go too far? During the final moments of his administration, the governor granted 215 pardons. Of the 215, 189 had been out of prison, many of them had been out for years. The governor argued that these pardons help these individuals get jobs, join the military, vote or just move on with their lives.

Also some of the pardoned prisoners, were set free for medical reasons, saving the state from covering the expensive medical bills.

Many of the pardons were conditional, meaning that if the former offender reoffended, they would lose their pardon and return to prison.

The most controversial part of the governor's actions included pardons for fourteen convicted murderers. The victims families, victim rights groups with many others were outraged. The state's attorneys labeled this a slap in the face to the legal system.

Supporters of the governor's pardons and the clemency laws in the United States argue that we are a country that believes in second chances. Everyone needs hope.

From where I sit, I am not at all surprised by all this debate. Forgiveness

is tough to swallow. Oh, if the forgiveness is for ourselves or those we love, we like it and accept it with open hearts. But if the forgiveness is given to an undeserving soul, someone who has wronged us, our family or those we care about, then we get angry and bitter. Forgiveness is the scandal of our faith.

Of all the topics I address in preaching, talking about forgiveness is the most challenging, by far. Forgiveness does not come easily to anyone.

Regardless of how difficult, Jesus challenges us to forgive and forgive and forgive. Forgiveness knows no limits. When we forgive, we extend the blessings of God. When we forgive people are changed—including ourselves.

Did Governor Barbour go too far? I don't know. I am not a resident of Mississippi. But, if I had been among those pardoned, I would be living each day with profound gratitude.

Just for the record, I believe that God is much more forgiving than former Governor Haley Barbour.

Paul Johnsen, Pastor

Worship Notes for February

February 5th

Scripture: Mark 1:29-39

Sermon Theme: Jesus the Healer 1

"As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them."

February 12th "Scout Sunday"

Scripture: Mark 1: 40-45

Sermon Theme: Jesus the Healer 2

"A leper came to Jesus begging him, and kneeling he said to him, "If you choose, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, "I do choose. Be made clean!" Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean."

February 19

Scripture: Mark 9: 2-9

Sermon Theme: Transfiguration

"Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them."

February 22nd Ash Wednesday (Services at 1:30 and 7:00)

Scripture: Matthew 6:1-6; 16-21

Sermon Theme: "Pray in Secret"

"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

February 26 "First Sunday in Lent"

Scripture: Genesis 9: 8-17 God's Covenant with Noah

Sermon Theme: "A New Covenant"

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth."

Christian Ed News

Doreen VanMinsel, Director of Christian Education

Super Bowl Sunday Party Feb. 5th in the Youth Room downstairs. Bring a dish to share and your own N/A beverage. This party replaces Youth Group, however youth are welcome to attend.

Scout Sunday Feb. 12th Kyle Richards and the Scouts will be leading our services, as well as hosting Coffee Hour. We have many Scouts in our church, and we are so proud of them and their leaders. Adam VanderPas received his Eagle Scout award this past year, which is the highest reward a Scout can receive.

Celebrate Families at Washington County Fair Park Feb. 12th is a day of free activities and fun for all ages. Time is 11 am-4pm

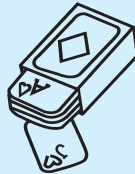
Youth Tubing at Sunburst Feb. 12th. Be at Church at 2:15pm, we will be taking a bus. Sunburst permission slips must be signed by a parent and presented before you will be able to join us on the bus. Cost is \$10. per person. We will return around 6pm.

Feeding the Homeless at Summerfield UMC in Milwaukee on Saturday Feb. 25th. Sign up to help make sandwiches here at church and/or to serve in Milwaukee from 4:30-6:00pm. (We will leave at 3pm and return around 7pm)

Thank you Sunday School Volunteers

We seem to be off to a good start again this year. I saw leadership with a positive attitude, caring spirit and enthusiasm! I also saw enthusiasm in our youth & children. The college youth were even full of enthusiasm and excitement. This is GREAT! These programs are wonderful and it's because of wonderful caring, spirited, loving people such as yourselves.

GIRL SCOUT COLLECTION FOR 100TH ANNIVERSARY!



This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Girl Scouts! In honor of that, the girls would like to give back to the community by asking the FUMC community to help us in collecting 100 new decks of playing cards and activity books for the children at Children's Hospital. The girls will be collecting them during the services & coffee hour on Sunday, February 12th, and then will continue to take donations through February 26. The girls will be making the donation to the hospital in March on the Girl Scout Anniversary - March 12. Help us celebrate! Please join us on Scout Sunday, February 12th.

FREE RUMMAGE TO BE HELD IN APRIL!

After a successful first free rummage, we will be organizing a free rummage again at our church April 13th from 4-7pm and April 14th from 8-noon. We will need volunteers for this as we did last time. Volunteer jobs will include setting up tables, putting donations on tables, helping advertise, a greeter at the door, help putting tables away, vacuuming, and cleaning the bathroom...and of course help getting the items to organizations that accept donations. If any youth need a signature for service hours, Elizabeth Sterman will be happy to sign for you! Starting in April we will start collecting bags and boxes for people to use that day. We will start collecting items April 10 after 11am, and all day on the 11th and 12th, and early on the 13th.

These are items that go over well: adult and children's clothes, baby items, toys, books, linens, purses, shoes, hats, gloves, coats, household items... the bed frames were gone.... TV was taken... it was a pleasure to see the excitement in people's faces when they found something they could use. If you have things like dressers in good condition, they will go also. Furniture always goes over well, but due to space, I would prefer a picture, and we will have a space for posting those items. We will also accept things like laundry detergent, which will be kept in the kitchen and handed out to families in need. I found at the first rummage that there is a huge need in Hartford for many families! May this one small act be a blessing to many.

Please spread the word. This free rummage is for everyone!
Elizabeth Sterman

LITTLE LAMBS NEWS

Here's What's Coming Up this Month at Little Lambs Preschool:

Jan. 30-Feb. 3 Super Senses
Feb. 6-10 Happy Healthy Teeth
Feb. 13-17 Valentines & Friends
Feb. 20-24 My Community
Feb. 27-Mar. 2 Silly Seuss



Be sure to check out our updated photos on the Little Lambs website www.fumchartford.com and click the Little Lambs tab.


I want to say thank you to my FUMC "family" for all their kind words, support, and prayers for my father and his battle with cancer. It is a journey we take one day at a time.

Ministry Schedule for February 2012

DATE	TIME	GREETERS	LITURGISTS	USHERS	ACOLYTES	NURSERY
February 5	8:30 am	Dave & Lisa Bohovsky	Lisa Bohovsky	Bryzek Family	Sarah Alsum	Gloria & Bretttny Dantuma
	10:45 am	Larry & Ruth Redeker	Larry Redeker	Joyce Lackas, Cheryl Malko, Dawn Schauer		Gloria & Bretttny Dantuma
February 12 Scout Sunday	8:30 am	Scouts	Scouts	Scouts	Skylar Garza	Anna Hirsch April Alsum
	10:45 am	Scouts	Scouts	Scouts	Jason Richards	Anna Hirsch April Alsum
February 19	8:30 am	Mike & Patti Bertling	Mike Bertling	Fred Weiss, Bob & Becky Cleland	Natalie Cleland	Lindsay Wesner Anna Hirsch
	10:45 am		Helen Robbe	Jane Riedel, Larry & Ruth Redeker		Lindsay Wesner Anna Hirsch
February 22 Ash Wednesday	1:30 pm	- - - -	- - - -	Dawn Schauer Joyce Lackas		Doreen VanMinssel
	7:00 pm	- - - -	- - - -	Brian & Becky Swenson, Ruth & Larry Redeker		Lindsay Wesner Stephanie Lane
February 26	8:30 am	Ned & Carolyn Lepien	Casey McDermott	Clayt Oosterhuis Dave & Gail Kainz	Carlynn Tuxhorn	Gloria & Bretttny Dantuma
	10:45 am	Roy & Karen Squires Family	Roy Squires	Dale Tietz, RoGene McKeithen	Taylor Schultz	Gloria & Bretttny Dantuma
February 29 Lenten Worship here	7:00 pm	- - - -	- - - -	Jane Hoffmann, Cheryl Malko, Pam Roggenbauer		Anna Hirsch

First United Methodist Church
738 W. Monroe Avenue
Hartford, WI 53027

FEBRUARY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 1pm Staff Mtg. 6:30 Trustees 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Sr. Choir	2	3	4
5 8:30 Worship, 9:35 Fellowship, 9:40 Sun. School, 10 Men's Choir, 10:45 Worship & Teen Choir, 4 Family Super Bowl Party	6 6:15 Scouts 6:00 Little Lambs Board Meeting 6:30 Confirmation	7 7 SPRC	8	9 7:30 Worship Committee	10	11
12 8:30 Worship, 9:35 Coffee, 9:40 Sun School, 9:45 New member class, 10 Men's Choir, 10:45 Worship & Teen Choir, 11:45 Soup potluck, 2:15 Youth tubing Family Promise week	13 6:30 Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30 Confirmation	14 6:30 Scouts 7 Ad Council	15 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Sr. Choir	16	17	18
19 8:30 Worship, 9:35 Coffee, 9:40 Sun School, 9:45 New member class, 10 Men's Choir, 10:45 Worship & Teen Choir, 3 CHAOS, 5:30 Riptide	20 6:30 Confirmation	21	22 1:30 and 7 PM Ash Wednesday Worship, Sr Choir to follow	23	24	25 3:00 PM Feed the homeless, Summerfield UMC
26 8:30 Worship, 9:35 Coffee, 9:40 Sun School, 10 Men's Choir, 10:45 Worship & Teen Choir, 5:30 Youth pizza & a movie night	27 6:30 Confirmation	28 6:30 Scouts 7 Hospitality	29 7 Ecumenical Lenten worship here Sr. Choir to follow			

738 West Monroe
Hartford, WI 53027
262-673-3290

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Hartford, WI
53027
Permit 151

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church™

First United Methodist Church – Hartford, Wisconsin

First United Methodist Church • Hartford, Wisconsin

FEBRUARY 2012 NEWSLETTER

BIRTHDAYS

02/01 Jamie Argue
Nick Mantz
Samantha Precord
Trevor Lang
02/02 Joey Bertling
Kelsey Squires
Abby Lewek
02/04 Jean Bell
Beulah Carlson
02/05 Adam Hahn
02/06 Liz Johnson
02/07 Gene Lepien
Sue Proebsting
Roy Squires
02/08 Arnie Wickland
Barb Hahn
Kari Staus
02/09 Gerry Ueble
Joel Roemer
Diane Kaminiski

Autumn Berndt
02/10 Elizabeth Sterman
02/12 Genevieve Jambura
Mark Martin
Malaika Roemer
Brenna Kramoris
Dave Schlotthauer
Allison Spredemann
Mackenzie Lewek
02/13 Andrew Schultz
02/14 Fay Paine
Warren Sauer
02/15 Norm Akin
Adam Endres
02/16 Bob McLean
Sheila Kissel
02/17 Abby Sterman
02/18 Doug Gordon
Mitch Kramoris
Amanda Raynor
Raleigh Lubbert
02/19 Nancy O'Kroy
John Dixon

Jake Olson
02/21 Clayton Oosterhuis
02/22 Pam Lindner
William Klockow
02/22 Greg Pfothenauer
02/23 Lisa DuPont
Mark Paine
Delynn McDermott
02/25 Mike Bertling
Mike Kaminski
02/26 Wally Newman
Paris Kamholz
Madeline Argue
02/27 Karen Bidwell
Julie Lubbert
02/29 Robin Pfothenauer

ANNIVERSARIES

02/25 Doug & Kate Carroll

CONGRATULATIONS!

