

March 2012

First United Methodist Church — Hartford, WI

AT THE CROSS

TAKE A LOOK . . .

Read about 'Bits' News,
One Great Hour of Sharing,
Relay for Life and more!

March Themes & Pastor's Notes P. 3

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CONTACT INFORMATION

First United Methodist Church

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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.

UMCOR – WHAT IS IT?!

The United Methodist Committee on Relief or UMCOR, was formed in 1940 in response to the suffering of people during World War I. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the not-for-profit global humanitarian aid organization of the United Methodist Church. UMCOR is working in more than 80 countries worldwide, including the United States. Our mission, grounded in the teachings of Jesus, is to alleviate human suffering—whether caused by war, conflict or natural disaster, with open hearts and minds to all people. UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters that are interruptions of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own.

Partnership: We partner with local partner organizations and survivors to rebuild their livelihoods, health and homes. In times of acute crisis we mobilize emergency supplies, fresh water, and temporary shelter to stricken areas, and then stay as long as it takes to implement long-term recovery. Our workers are known all over the globe for their compassion, leadership, expertise and guidance in recovery efforts.

Connections: UMCOR works through programs that address hunger, poverty, sustainable agriculture, international and domestic emergencies, refugee and immigrant concerns, global health issues, and transitional development. United Methodist hearts and hands are part of every program implemented; school kits, seeds, health kits, fresh water and tools are distributed in the US and throughout the world; and every new house, well, clinic and school rebuilt after catastrophes of conflict or nature. Most importantly, our work connects us in a global network of generous donors and equally generous beneficiaries.

Funding Promise-100% Efficient Every dollar you give to UMCOR goes to the program you designate. UMCOR is 100% efficient. The One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering allows us to make—and to keep—this promise. OGHS funds the cost of doing business for UMCOR. We do not receive apportionment funds or any other world service funds.



FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE

In February we started our 2nd year of serving homeless families in Washington County by hosting two families: 3 adults and 6 children ranging in age from 6 months to 7 years. We want to thank everyone that supported our soup fundraiser on January 22nd! A special thanks to Victoria & Jay Triick and our helpers who made the soup, and thanks to those who served, cleaned, took in money and packed the "to go" containers. We raised \$1,065 with \$300 going to repairs for the new Day Center and the rest for gift cards to go to families as they leave the program. **Again, thanks again to all who faithfully volunteer each time our rotation comes around!**

Yours in Christ, Linda Fahey & Kim Morris

UMW News

Meetings and Special Events:

March 2: **Church Women United World Day of Prayer** at First UMC: Brown Bag Lunch begins at Noon, dessert and coffee will be provided by UMW; Program begins at 1:00 p.m.

March 6: **General Meeting** at Church 7:00 p.m.
Program: Cathryn Luse from Metro North District
Hostess: Hope Circle

March 8: **Hannah Circle** Meeting at Church at 1:00 p.m.
Program: Cheryl Malko
Hostess: Joyce Scadden

March 14: **Hope Circle** Meeting at Church at 8:00 a.m.
Program: Tina Collett
Hostess: Lori VanderPas

March 20: **Mary Circle** Meeting at home of Pat Lorenzen at 7:00 p.m.
Program: Joan Hove
Hostess: Pat Lorenzen

March 24: **UMW Social Action Day** in Tomah, WI
Topic: Human Trafficking

Reading Program Highlighted Books

I am Nujood, Age 10 and Divorced by Nujood Ali:

Nujood's childhood came to an abrupt end in 2008 when her father arranged for her to be married to a man three times her age. She tells of her married life, of her daring escape and how she obtained her freedom, an extraordinary achievement in Yemen, where almost half of all girls are married under the legal age. (Category: Nurturing for Community)

Laugh Your Way to Grace by Susan Sparks:

Laughter is the gift that you received at birth, one thing you were able to do freely as a child. It's a gift that may fade but never fully disappears. *Laugh Your Way to Grace* is intended to give you permission to reconnect with your own sense of joy and hope. (Category: Spiritual Growth)



BITS RECAP!

Our 2011 show, "Bits of Broadway....and the beat goes on" was another big success! Thank you to everyone who helped out. Without the help of so many folks in our congregation, it would not be possible to do this show at all. It is definitely more than the people on the stage—it is an endeavor of our entire church family.

With the profits from the show, we were able to give \$1,000 to the youth of our church, \$1,000 for tech equipment, \$150 towards the repair of the large refrigerator in the prep room, and \$500 towards the lower parking lot. We would like to give the parking lot money in memory of Kevin Conroy. Kevin was a big part of our tech crew since the onset of the show and he is and will be greatly missed!

Mark your calendars for this year's show which will be on **September 21st, 22nd, and 23rd**. If you would like to sing along, speak to Ruth Knoll or Ken French. Rehearsal will be on Monday nights and will get started the beginning of July.

Once again, thank you to everyone who played a part in making this year's show another success!



ONE Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Takes Place March 18th

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) has a business 'arm' that is funded through the contributions we make during our congregation's annual 'ONE GREAT Hour of Sharing' special offering. Contributions directed toward this particular special offering allows ALL other contributions for disaster relief to be used for....**DISASTER RELIEF!** Donate to the organization business 'arm' in the special envelope on **Sunday, March 18th** or designate a portion of your offering for 'One Great Hour' on your weekly offertory envelope. The other 364 days of the year, money is then able to be directed toward those who have lost their homes to a tornado, or flood. Additional information about 'ONE Great Hour' can be found by visiting www.umcgiving.org.

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR PAUL

"Politics and the Pulpit"

Now that we are knee deep in the political season, I want you to know that I have many insightful, well-reasoned and consistent political opinions. I could do well as a political conversationalist at the local diner or as a talking head on one of the twenty-four hour, low-rated cable news political channels. But, I have a different calling.

As much as I enjoy the challenge of a respectful political discussion, that is not my job. The bishop did not send me to Hartford to talk politics or to tell us how to vote. We can figure that out on our own. Rather, I am here to do what I can to help us live as faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

There are pastors who get involved in politics. I know pastors who have been elected to serve on the school board. I had a clergy friend who left the active ministry to represent a northern Wisconsin area in the state legislature. Many years ago, a Catholic Priest was elected to the House of Representatives out of Green Bay. As much as I respect these clergy, that is not my job.

None of us have all the answers. Through Bible study, discussion, worship and preaching, we long to hear God's word and God's claim on our lives. We need God's guidance and direction. Finding our way as faithful Christians is tough. I am reminded of the words in I Corinthians 13: "For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part, then I will know fully even as I have been fully known." Finding our way is not easy.

Certainly, we must pay attention to the issues of the day. We cannot ignore that there are wars and poverty, hatred and hurt. Injustices abound and, in some ways, our country is di-

vided. But our ultimate hope will not be voted on in Washington or in Madison. Our hope comes from Jesus who invites us to follow.

As your pastor, I look forward to walking with you through these difficult days. I will listen for what the Gospel calls us to do. Each week I will do my best helping us to hear and be challenged by God's Word.

As for my insightful political opinions, you will just have to wait until I retire, which I don't anticipate happening any time soon.

Paul Johnsen, Pastor

Worship Notes for March

March 4th "2nd Sunday in Lent"

Sermon Theme: "Following Jesus"

Paul Johnsen, preaching

Scripture: Mark 8:31-38

"...If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves, take up the cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it and those who lose their life for my sake and the sake of the gospel, will save it."

March 11 "3rd Sunday in Lent"

Sermon Theme : "Keeping Focused"

Jay Triick, preaching

Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour the night before!

Scripture: Philippians 3:17-4:1 "... But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved."

March 18 "The 4th Sunday in Lent"

Sermon Theme: "On Giving Thanks"

Paul Johnsen, preaching
Scripture: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
"O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever..."

March 25 "The 5th Sunday in Lent"

Sermon Theme: "A Clean Heart"

Paul Johnsen, preaching

Scripture: Psalm 51:1-12 "...Let me

hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me."

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## **Relay For Life of Hartford-Slinger**

**June 15 & 16, 2012**

**Slinger High School**

**Opening Ceremony: 6:00 PM**

Relay For Life of Hartford-Slinger 2011 was the 5<sup>th</sup> largest Relay For Life in Wisconsin, having raised over \$181,000 and celebrated with 95 Cancer Survivors! These remarkable accomplishments would not have been possible without each and every participant. So, join the First UMC Team - Spirit Driven - and change lives for years to come! The First UMC Endowment Board has agreed to once again sponsor a Relay for Life Team for First UMC. Contact Lori Vander Pas at 262-573-2250 or at [vanderpas@netwurx.net](mailto:vanderpas@netwurx.net) to join Spirit Driven! THANK YOU First UMC Endowment Board for sponsoring our team! [www.relayforlife.org/hartford-slingerwi](http://www.relayforlife.org/hartford-slingerwi). Survivors who would like to be invited to Relay for Life events, please also contact Lori Vander Pas.

# Christian Ed News



**CAMP SUNDAY** March 11th (Daylight Saving Time begins turn clocks ahead 1 hour) this is our kick off day to get the new camp books, sign up for Family Camp and hear the words from Fellow Campers. Remember Scholarships are available, talk with Doreen.

**YOUTH GROUPS DANCE SOCIAL** (6th-12th grade) **March 11th** Pizza (5:30pm) DJ (6pm-8pm)

**YOUTH (6th-12th grade)** A lot is happening this month SO PLEASE be prepared for these special events, dates, and times, and be available to help. Thank you.

**FAMILY Christian ROLLERSKATING at Skate-land** March 18th. We will take a bus 3pm from Church and return at 6:45pm. Cost is \$5.00 for children and \$10.00 for adults.



**This includes** Skating, skates, pizza, soda, ice cream and transportation. Sign-up today so this event doesn't get cancelled.

**VEGGIE MOVIE Event & Pizza Night** Friday March 2nd at 5:30pm, the movie is "Robin Good and His Not So Merry Men" this will be held in the Youth Room downstairs. All are WELCOME!

**SR. HIGH YOUTH LOCK-IN** Friday March 23 here at Church. Youth will be preparing for Youth Sunday Service, designing the bulletin, making chili and more. Dinner, snacks and breakfast all provided. Youth will need to bring Sleeping bags, pillows and ?

**YOUTH SUNDAY** March 25th come join our Youth in the wonderful service they will provide for you with the help of our wonderful Youth Leaders.

**YOUTH Chili Luncheon** March 25th **11:30am - 1pm**. Free will offerings excepted for the Paving of the Lower Parking Lot. We will have Chicken Chili, Veggie Chili & Regular Chili.



**PIE AUCTION** March 25th, come bid on your favorite pie to help support our Youth for their Mission Trip. Auction starts at 8:30am and ends at 12noon.

**UPDATE on LOWER PARKING Lot:** the light pole is almost done and we are all set to go for the paving in spring EXCEPT for the funds. **We will need an additional \$18,000** yet to get this paved. We also need six 3ft. arborvitae so the neighbor's property is blocked (per City of Hartford). Please prayerfully consider helping with this project. It will really help so we can use the lot year round and keep our youth and church safer, by not having the

upstairs doors open while we are all downstairs. Thank you.

**FREE MOVIE Night for Sr. High - Adult** Sat. March 10th. "**Courageous**" is the movie with popcorn and beverages provided. Movie starts at 6pm in the Youth room downstairs. Guests WELCOME!

**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS are NEEDED** 6th grade and older may volunteer their time, sign-up in the nursery anytime for the first service or second service. You will not miss Sunday School by helping your church out. Thank you.

**ACOLYTE VOLUNTEERS are NEEDED** especially for 2nd service. This is for anyone in 4th grade and up. Contact Karen Raynor at 670-5235 or email [raynork911@aol.com](mailto:raynork911@aol.com)

**CAMP COORDINATOR needed as soon as possible.** If you like to go to family camp or may be interested in trying it, plus organizing a few other things, contact Doreen to learn more about this wonderful volunteer opportunity.



**"If you make my word your home, you will indeed be my disciples."**

~John 8:31 The New Jerusalem Bible

DISCIPLE Bible Study can help transform your church into a biblically nourished congregation that nurtures and encourages people to live as disciples of Christ.

The **DISCIPLE Bible Study** program is designed to develop strong local churches through the in-depth study of Scripture. Through DISCIPLE, persons are strengthened in their faith and guided into service and ministry. Strong, biblically nourished leadership will help your church grow in vitality and Christian discipleship.

Many in our congregation have experienced Disciple Bible Study. If you would be interested in this experience, please talk to Pastor Paul.

# Ministry Schedule for MARCH 2012

| DATE                                                                                                                                                                       | TIME     | GREETERS                     | LITURGISTS        | USHERS                                                 | ACOLYTES | NURSERY                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                            |          |                              |                   |                                                        |          | Volunteers needed each week!    |
| <b>March 5<br/>COMMUNION</b>                                                                                                                                               | 8:30 am  | Gerald & Carol Staus         | Carol Staus       | Dennis Carroll, Ken Heder, Eric Lepien, Arnie Wickland |          | Lindsay Wesner                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                            | 10:45 am | Marvin & Jane Riedel         | Joyce Kautz       | Joyce Lackas, Dawn Schauer, Ann Conroy                 |          | Lindsay Wesner                  |
| <b>March 11<br/>CAMP SUNDAY</b>                                                                                                                                            | 8:30 am  | CAMP SUNDAY                  | CAMP SUNDAY       | CAMP SUNDAY                                            |          | Anna Hirsch                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                            | 10:45 am | CAMP SUNDAY                  | CAMP SUNDAY       | CAMP SUNDAY                                            |          | Anna Hirsch                     |
| <b>March 18</b>                                                                                                                                                            | 8:30 am  | Fred & Kelly Weiss Family    | Joe Bryzek        | Bill Dow, Tom Lepien, Arnie Wickland                   |          | Lindsay Wesner                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                            | 10:45 am | Cheryl Malko & Arde Nicolaus | Elizabeth Sterman | Mitzi McLean, Bob McLean                               |          | Lindsay Wesner                  |
| <b>March 25<br/>YOUTH SUNDAY</b>                                                                                                                                           | 8:30 am  | YOUTH                        | YOUTH             | YOUTH                                                  | YOUTH    | Gloria Dantuma<br>Emma Kaminski |
|                                                                                                                                                                            | 10:45    | YOUTH                        | YOUTH             | YOUTH                                                  | YOUTH    | Gloria Dantuma                  |
| <p><b>Become an Usher:</b> This is for 6th graders and up. Training will take place in between services on March 11th, meet in the <u>Sanctuary</u> with Cheryl Malko.</p> |          |                              |                   |                                                        |          |                                 |

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

# MARCH 2012

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                               | Monday                                                                                           | Tuesday                                                   | Wednesday                                                                                                             | Thursday                                                                   | Friday                                                | Saturday                                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Usher training in the Sanctuary between services on the 11th. 6th grade thru adult!                                                                                |                                                                                                  | Trustee of the month:<br>Chad Baumgartner                 |                                                                                                                       | 1                                                                          | 2<br>12 noon here:<br><b>World Day of Prayer</b>      | 3<br>                       |
| 4 8:30 Worship, 9:35 Fellowship, 9:40 Education Hour, 10 Men's Choir, 10:45 Teen Choir & Worship, 3 CHAOS, 5:30 Riptide                                              | 5<br>6:15 Scouts<br>6:30 Confirmation                                                            | 6<br>9 TOPS<br>7 SPRC                                     | 7 <b>Newsletter Articles due early!</b><br>6:15 Bells & Trustees<br>7 Worship @ St. Aidan's<br>Senior Choir to follow | 8<br>1 Hannah circle<br>7:00 Worship<br>Committee ( <b>note new time</b> ) | 9                                                     | 10 <b>SET YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD!</b><br>Daylight savings begins<br>4:15 Volunteer Appreciation dinner and movie |
| 11 8:30 Worship, 9:35 Fellowship, 9:40 Education Hour & usher training, 9:45 New member classes, 10 Men's choir, 10:45 Worship & Teen Choir, 5:30 Youth Dance Social | 12 <b>Newsletter to be sent to LPI TODAY!</b><br>6:30 Prayer Shawl Ministry<br>6:30 Confirmation | 13<br>9 TOPS<br>6:30 Scouts<br>7 Ad Council               | 14<br>6:15 Bells<br>7 Worship @ St. Mary's of the Hill<br>Choir to follow                                             | 15                                                                         | 16                                                    | 17                                                                                                          |
| 18 8:30 Worship, 9:35 Fellowship, 9:40 Ed Hour, 9:45 New member class, 10 Men's choir, 10:45 Worship & Teen Choir, 3 Family Roller skating, 3 CHAOS, 5:30 Riptide    | 19<br>6:30 Confirmation                                                                          | 20<br>9 TOPS                                              | 21<br>6:15 Bells<br>7 Worship at Redeemer Lutheran<br>Sr. Choir follows                                               | 22                                                                         | 23<br><b>Senior High Youth Lock-in here at church</b> | 24                                                                                                          |
| 25 8:30 Worship, 9:35 Fellowship & Pie Auction, 9:40 Ed Hour, 10 Men's choir, 10:45 Worship & Teen Choir, noon Chili lunch                                           | 26<br>6:30 Confirmation                                                                          | 27<br>9 TOPS<br>6:30 Scouts<br>7 Hospitality<br>Committee | 28<br>6:15 Bells<br>7 Worship @ St. Killian's<br>Sr. Choir to follow                                                  | 29                                                                         | 30                                                    | 31                                                                                                          |

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Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

**The people of The United Methodist Church™**

First United Methodist Church – Hartford, Wisconsin

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# MARCH NEWSLETTER 2012

## **BIRTHDAYS**

03/01 Rob Bush  
Brianna Wesner  
03/02 Sydney Daw  
03/03 Carla Kramoris  
03/05 Tom Guenther  
Becky Cleland  
Toby Pein  
03/06 Dave Kainz  
April Wald  
03/07 Leila Tscharnack  
Allison Morris  
03/08 Susan Endres  
Nicholas Higley  
Kaitlyn Spredemann  
03/09 Joe Bryzek  
Christine Hoxworth  
Jason Lindner  
Bryan Moran  
Holden Bartel

03/10 David Trick  
03/11 Nicole Dohnal  
Matt Garlock  
03/12 Michael VanderJagt  
03/13 Amber Schauer  
Elaine Zuern  
Judy Sterman  
Ned Lepien  
Deb Wickland  
03/17 Rosemary Heder  
03/18 Ruth Uebele  
Lisa Schmidt  
Nick Schlotthauer  
03/19 Doris Kienast  
03/20 Michael Wilson  
03/21 Glenn Lepien  
Otis Lubbert  
03/22 Holly Olm  
Laura Marx  
03/23 Joyce Trueblood

Perry Hahn  
Crystal Odenwald  
Kody McKinnon  
03/24 George Roemer  
Rachel Johnson  
Finley Dummer  
03/25 Anthony Secola  
03/26 Sharon Lackas  
03/28 Josh Lubbert  
03/29 Gail Kainz  
Bill VanderPas  
03/30 Austin Collett  
03/31 Bill Bumgarner  
**ANNIVERSARIES**  
03/01 Neil & Dorothy Park  
03/18 Kim & Scott Peters  
03/23 Dan & Kathy Kempen  
03/29 Allen & Maxine Cooper  
Don & Linda Fahey  
**Congratulations!**