



FARMVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"'SPRING FORWARD' INTO SERVING GOD"

March 2014



Lenten Greetings...and may God's grace and peace be with you!

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the Church's annual Lenten season is once again upon us!

As such, the Church begins a new cycle in our Christian Year calendar called the Easter Cycle! The Easter Cycle includes the seasons of Lent, Easter and Pentecost. Lent is the season to prepare for the celebration of Easter and begins on Ash Wednesday, which in 2014 is on Wednesday, March 5th. **We will hold our annual Ash Wednesday Service on the 5th at about 7:00 pm, following our Wednesday evening Fellowship Dinner and discussion on the movie "Son of God", which we hopefully will view together as a church on Sunday, March 2nd at 3:50 pm, at the Regal Enterprises theatre by the Cracker Barrel restaurant in Greenville, on Business Highway 264.**

So...with the beginning of Lent basically upon us—a thought to consider! Gods written word, the Bible, makes it clear that God the Father, through God the Son, in the guidance and power of God the Holy Spirit is at work in both the inner and outer details of our daily lives! Yet how do we stay alert to Gods workings...throughout our day?

An article in the Upper Room many years ago offered a suggestion that caught my attention...and hopefully may catch yours as well! The person talked about 2 ways in which they keep up with the business of their lives.

1—They of course, like many of us, used a **calendar** to keep track of what they needed to do and when. In today's time, calendars of old--pocket/desk-type paper calendars—have given way to calendars on our cell phones, I-pads, hand-held & desk-top computers and the list goes on! See, in this context, **the calendar represents our outer life**--mainly our work & social activity life! Additionally...

2—They utilized a **small notebook** to make very brief notes, of things that happened, ways the Lord spoke & revealed things to them (such as needing to say a prayer or call/visit someone), how God worked through others to touch their day, and the list can go on. In this context, **the notebook became a journal of brief reminders and represents our inner life**--mainly about our relationship with God and others!

Journaling for some can be very tedious, time consuming and discouraging. Yet how much time do we spend daily...checking out or inputting dates & times into our technological calendars for our outer life? If we might simply spend a few seconds to write/input a brief statement or comment into our cell phones/I-pad, etc. for our inner spiritual life—what a difference it may make in helping us to stay alert to Gods presence and workings throughout our daily life!

During this upcoming Lenten season, as we prepare to celebrate the joy of the Easter resurrection of life...maybe a part of our preparation could be striving to be more alert and aware of God and others working within our life—by not only calendaring like we do...but also brief note journaling, as well! Who knows...maybe come Easter and we look back at our journals, we may discover some new and additional blessings to celebrate, as well!

Please continue to stay warm...and be safe during this Lenten season! God bless!

Take Care....peace....

Pastor Bill

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March is Farmville UMC's opportunity to missionally participate in collecting can goods for Farmville Benevolent Ministries, an ecumenical organization of local churches which provide assistance for those within the Farmville School District in need. There are 6 different food categories bagged and distributed to approximately 50-60 families weekly. We especially need items 1, 2, & 3, though all items are needed.

- 1) Soup—Tomato; Chicken Noodle; Chicken w/Rice, Vegetable, etc.
 - 2) Canned Meat--Spaghetti & Meatballs; Ravioli; Tuna Fish, Vienna Sausage; Spam
 - 3) Fruit—Peaches; Pears; Fruit Cocktail
 - 4) Corn—Whole or Creamed
 - 5) Green Beans or Peas
 - 6) Baked Beans; Pork-N-Beans; Box of Macaroni & Cheese
- Please bring your mission items to Farmville UMC throughout March and place in the grocery cart in the hallway beside the Fellowship Hall.
- What a blessing to help our community in this way! Praise God!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

After much prayerful thought and consideration the SPR Committee is pleased to announce our new Children's Ministries Director, Player Eason. Player has been a lifelong member of Farmville UMC and we are pleased to welcome her in her new role! Player is currently a senior at East Carolina University, majoring in Special Education.

Player has amassed a wealth of experience working with young children in her young adult years. Some of her accomplishments consist of babysitting and being a full-time Nanny, teaching dance and etiquette to middle school children, as well as working with A Small Miracle which services children and adults with Autism and other special needs.

Player will begin during March and is already excited about a great Easter Activity with the children. Please join the SPRC in welcoming Player and envelope her in the love and support we always give at Farmville UMC.

In His Love,
Staff Parish Relations Committee



UMW NEWS....

Circle III has Meals on Wheels for March 10-14. Darlene Gaynor is in charge of the Nursing Home Birthday Party for Saturday, March 15. The next Circle III meeting is at the home of Nancy Harris on Monday, March 17 at 7:00, program is by Kay Crossan. Circle III has the Wednesday night fellowship dinner on March 26.

Circle IV met in the Chapel on February 18, 2014. Eloise had our program. The program was our Pledge Service for the coming year. We pledge to the budget of our local unit. As UMW, we assume a part in the support of its work through local, community, and global ministries of the Church. A portion of our pledges are sent to the District UMW, which then sends total collected to the Conference. On March 6, our Circle will serve the Thursday night meal at the Wesley Foundation in Greenville. Thanks to Janet Clontz and Joy Fields, it is always a delicious meal!



Remember to set you clock ahead one hour on Saturday night. Daylight Savings Time begins, Sunday, March 9.



UMMEN'S NEWS...

UMMEN'S Supper meeting

Monday, March 10 at 7:00pm. All men are welcome. Come join the fellowship and great cooking. The UMMen will have a BBQ Chicken dinner fundraiser and car show on Saturday, March 22 beginning at 11:00am-1:30pm Cost per plate \$8.00. All proceeds will go to mission projects.



YOUTH NEWS....

Spring is in the air! Well...at least hope it is, very soon. The snow has been fun

and beautiful, but I am ready for the blossoms and green grass to return. With that being said, there is beauty in everything, even the winter. The Youth will have a very busy March. By the time this newsletter reaches you, I hope that our BBQ fundraiser went off without a hitch, as it is happening on March 1st. A big thanks to all who helped make it possible from baking baked goods for the bake sale to buying a ticket and making donations. Your support is appreciated. A special thank you to Chuck Johnson for heading this event up. Farmville UMC Youth program would not be possible without the help and support of the parents. On March 7-8 the youth will be having a "in house" retreat and lock-in. And lastly, on March 30th Farmville UMC will be having Youth Sunday. The Youth will be in charge of the service, followed by a soup and sandwich fundraiser. All of our Fundraisers will be in effort to raise funds for the Youth's summer mission trip to the Appalachian Mountains. They will be assisting with various construction and ministry projects while there. Please begin praying with me for a successful and God filled trip. The trip is July 27th-August 2nd. Have a blessed March!

Jonathan Lemmon



SUPPORT OUR YOUTH "PIG PICKIN" SAT, MARCH 1

Farmville UMC Youth is hosting a **Pig Pickin' March 1st:11:30-1:30, \$7.00 per plate**. Please see a youth to purchase tickets. There will also be a bake sale. All proceeds go to the youth mission trip fund.



Women's Breakfast

SATURDAY MORNING

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST ~ MARCH 8

AT 9:00 Marlboro OFWBC will have a "Women's Breakfast" on Saturday, March 8 at 9:00. Guest speaker will be our Jean Price. All women of this church are invited. They need to know how many will be attending so they will know how to prepare. Please call the church office or Jean on Monday, Feb. 24.



World Day of Prayer is a global, ecumenical movement of Christian women joined together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday of March. Our motto of "Informed Prayer & Prayerful Action " signifies that prayer and action are inseparable. Take time to for prayer today.

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SPECIAL OFFERING MARCH 30

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of the six church wide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church. One Great Hour of Sharing enables the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to live out its mission to alleviate human suffering. UMCOR responds to natural or human-made disasters - those interruptions of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. If you would like the opportunity to be a part of this global recovery and healing ministry by contributing, just mark you check or envelope "One Great Hour" and drop it in the offering plate.



25 Joyful Hearts gathered recently and had a joyful time! Sandy Tugwell provided delicious vegetable soup and Darlene Gaynor provided the great game of Bingo. Pastor Bill was the first to yell "Bingo" (false alarm). Louise Thomas, our "McDonald's Queen" won the Mac gift certificate grand prize for which, one year ago, Horace Allen and Dick Crossan had tied. Afterwards the Seniors collected money for missions and will soon "Spring into Serving God."



March 1: Jo Ann Lang
 March 2: Rufus Cochran
 March 5: Vickie Herring, Dan
 Lauderdale
 March 12: Pat Sumrell

March 17: Hilda Medlin
 March 18: Sandra Parker, Laura Powell
 March 24: Jessica Heath, Julie Warren
 March 27: J. C. Brock
 March 28: Margo Sherman
 March 30: Suzanne Edwards

Community Men's Study Group each Tues, 7pm in Parlor



WELCOMING MINISTRY – FELLOWSHIP FRIENDS

FUMC has recently revived a committee whose sole purpose will be to make visitors and prospective new members feel welcome and at ease when worshipping with our congregation. Our goal is to have visitors experience the love of Christ through us and to have them desire to return for worship again. We need your help with this. We would like to compile a list of members from both services, who would be willing to make contact with visitors after they visit us. We hope to match visitors with FUMC member of similar interest, ages, same age children, and other common links. The FUMC members would figuratively “adopt” the visitor, informing them of any programs and opportunities offered by our church, such as Sunday School, choir, UMM, UMW, Youth, etc. **If you would be willing to help our church in this very important ministry or have any questions, please call the church office, Janet Clontz, or Ann Rogers. There is a sign-up sheet and guidelines on the credenzas in the hallway. We hope you will prayerfully consider how you can help all who enter FUMC experience God’s love.**



PLEASE BE IN PRAYER FOR... **Rufus & Evangeline Cochran**

(health), **Tracey Smith** (health), **Minnie Lee Winborn** (health), **Kirsten Baker** (healing), **Alex Alvarez, Jr.** (healing), **Billy and Gray Baker** (health), **Kailey Eaton** (healing), **Jeff Albritton** (healing), **Graceleigh Harper Hood & Family** (healing), **Lynnette Williams** (healing), **John Sherman** (recovery), **Jaxson McLawhorn** (healing), **Victims of Disasters, Carroll Oakes** (recovery), **Jesse Braxton** (recover), **Gladys Dail** (healing), **Connie Smith** (recovery), **Frank and Jeane Hemmingway** (healing). **Frank Powell** (recovery) **Diane Speight Rhue** (recovery). **Kay Edwards** (health, friend of Diane Warren), **Jean Price, Young men, women and adult Christian witnesses in the Holy Land** (safety and courage), **Pam S. Adams** (healing, sister of Janet Clontz). **Students and Teachers of West Green Elementary School** (grief, death of one of their teachers), **family of Sam Corbett** (grief), **family of Larry Woods** (grief)

To keep our prayer list up to date, please let the church office know, if a person may be removed. Thank you. Reminder – Prayer Journal is at the back of the church.