

CELEBRATION!



Celebrating Our Partnership in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

The Newsletter of the Farmville United Methodist Church, March 2009

Are You Satisfied? 3 Steps to Spiritual Fitness



Have you ever paused in front of the mirror and stepped back to see what you liked, and didn't like? Even when you've been pleased overall, was there something that just didn't look quite right? What about those times when you wanted to break the mirror? And what about those times when looking in the mirror was tough, and it had nothing to do

with how you looked on the outside?

I heard someone say once, "The most motivational exercise video I ever saw was simply a video with me in it. Not that I am buff- I simply saw myself in a video and thought, 'Man, you need some exercise!'"

Lent is a season of the Christian year where we stop and intentionally look deeper into our spirit, to see more honestly what is going on there. Are you satisfied with what you see? How can you "get fit" spiritually?

First, you have to stop and take that honest look at yourself. All too often, we get so wrapped up in our daily grind and the weekly schedule that we fail to stop and look to see where our life could be better. We don't like to face our failures, so we figure if we don't see them they don't exist- or they're not important enough to change. If we never look in the spiritual mirror, we can ignore our flaws.

Second, we have to name what we see that needs improving. How's your spirit? Are you as close to God as you could be? Are you reading your Bible like you should? Do you have some habits that are not under God's control? Does your heart ache for the people who don't know God enough? Is God getting your best in life, your first priority and most attention, or is God getting simply what is left of a hectic, pressed life? Discontent and conflict is the first step to change. If you are satisfied with where you are, you will stay there. Dissatisfaction with the status quo is the first step on the road to change, and the first step on the road to being where God wants you to be.

Third, and most importantly, name your power in fixing these things. Lent is not an exercise in personal goal setting, it is a time for spiritual renewal. This deeper reflection is not meant to depress us, but to energize us to go deeper

"I've been changed, re-arranged, not the same anymore. Things are different for me now. 'Cause I've been touched by the fire, by the light, by the love of the man with the nailed scarred hands."

From "I've Been Changed" in the Musical "The Third Day" by Scott Wilkinson and Curtis Campbell.

for God.

Scripture is clear: when you confess your sins before God, God is faithful and forgives them, and cleans you off and sets you back on the right road. This is not something we do for ourselves: self-help is what gets us into the messes we've got in the first place.

Lent is the season where we look at our failures, our frailties and our brokenness, all in the shadow of a cross. God sacrificed more than we can imagine. We go through this season of self-sacrifice and inner reflection only in the shadow of how much God gave for us.

This can be a time of great renewal, of strong spiritual growth, of real, practical, life-changing relationship transformation between where you are now and what God wants you to experience in your life. Don't let the urgent drown out the important, and don't let your current failures keep you from the freedom and fulfillment God is calling you to.

**YOU are
Invited!!**

Farmville UMC is dedicated to making Disciples of Christ! **We welcome all!** Come, see what God's touch can do in YOU! We have many ways to connect to the church, including our groups, missions and activities. See the details at FarmvilleUMC.com. We have 2 different worship experiences- an 8:45am contemporary worship (with praise band) in the Joyner Chapel, and the 11am worship (traditional style) in the Sanctuary.



after worship Sunday, March 22.



UMW NEWS

March is here and spring is around the corner. You will probably get tired of reading the same thing

over but I believe in keeping you informed on what is going on. So mark your calendars!

- March 6: "World Day of Prayer" – Say a prayer for everyone.
- March 9: UMW Mission Study "Native Americans". Ann Davis will be presenting the program at Salem UMC in Simpson with registration beginning at 9:30 AM. If anyone would like to attend please contact me. These are such good programs.
- March 16-20: "Meals on Wheels" with Circle III in charge of scheduling. If Willa Rae Bullock calls you, please help as this is for everyone not just circle members.
- March 21: "Nursing Home Birthday Party". Circle III in charge.
- March 16: Circle III meets at the home of Ann Joyner.
Circle IV meets at the home of Janet Clontz.
- April 20: "Girls' Night Out". Special guest Pat Montgomery of Wilson will be presenting the program. A meal will be served and I'll let you know more about it soon. Mark your calendar.
- April 23: Circle III serves students at the Wesley Foundation.
- April 25: UMW Mission Study "Israel and Palestine" given by Sandra Croom at Hookerton UMC with registration beginning at 9:30 AM.
- May 2: UMW Mission Study "I Believe in Jesus" presented by Kathryn Self. Our church is hosting this study so be sure to mark you calendar – we need to support our church.

I have registration forms for the "Mother-Child Retreat" which is Sept. 18-20 at Camp Don-Lee. Please contact me at 749-4816 and I'll be glad to tell you about it. You need to get your registration forms in as soon as possible because there are just so many they will take this year. Last year they also used Camp Caroline, but this year they will only be using Camp Don-Lee. This is a wonderful retreat and I really enjoyed it last year and will be going again this year.

Thank you ladies for all you do for the church and remember it takes everyone.

In Christian Love,
Darlene Gaynor



UMMEN MEETING, Monday, March 9 at 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall. Bring a friend and enjoy good food and great fellowship.



The UMMEN will be serving Soup and SANDWICHES for lunch after worship on Sunday March 15.



FROM THE CHURCH LIBRARY.....

Did children in Bible times color? Does God have things to do at nighttime?

If you've got young children in your life, you know they can ask lots of hard to answer questions about a lot of hard subjects. And if we're honest, sometimes their questions are ones we'd like to know the answer to as well but we've outgrown the ability let our inquiring minds wonder like a child.

102 Questions Children Ask about the Bible (with answers for busy parents) is a great resource to help us give thoughtful answers to questions about the Bible. The questions are asked by real children and the authors provide key Bible verses as well as related verses to use as reference when discussing the Bible with children (and those adults with inquiring minds!).

So, if you've ever wondered if Samson was a good guy or a bad guy, or if you'll have a bedroom up in heaven, or if God has a sense of humor, then this is the book for you.

Nancy Wilson, Church Librarian



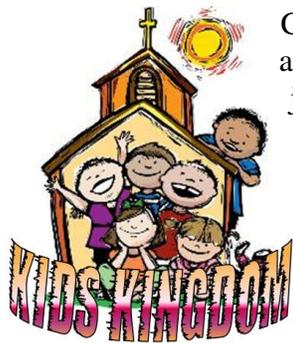
Unlike other mission programs, United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) receives no World Service or other apportionment money. This is why faithful support of the One Great Hour of Sharing offering is crucial. This offering

supports the administrative work of the UMCOR, which ensures that 100% of designated giving goes directly to specific projects. **One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday is one of the six Special Sundays designated in The Discipline that we give through our Advent offering.** Our congregation join with United Methodist worldwide by making this special offering to support humanitarian aid through UMCOR you can be assured that when catastrophes cause suffering, our church, impelled by Jesus' love and compassion, will be in the lead to ease the pain.

"The One Great Hour of Sharing offering provides for those basic needs that make the rest of UMCOR's work possible," says the Rev. Sam W. Dixon, Deputy General Secretary of UMCOR. "Without this offering so much of what UMCOR does to bring hope and healing to the world could not happen."

The compassion of Jesus makes all things new. As Christians we're called to do the same: to offer the hands, the heart and the hope of the church wherever people are suffering. Your gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing, channeled through UMCOR, enable the church to answer that call.

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS:



Children between the ages of 5 and pre-youth group age please join "Kids' Kingdom" beginning **Sunday, March 22 between 4 and 5pm.** We plan to meet once per month and each date will be announced in the monthly newsletter. This is a program that we hope will supplement families in laying a spiritual foundation in order to lead children into a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of Heaven." (Matthew 19:14) Look forward to seeing the children of the church for this special program!



SUMMER CAMP

Registration for NC United Methodist Summer Camps 2009 has begun. Information on the exciting programs for children and youth is available in the church office or from your computer at www.ncumcamps.org. There are a variety of programs options for children beginning as young as 7 and as old as 17 to choose from at each one of the three NC United Methodist Camps. UM Summer Camp experience has long been recognized as a significant milestone in the faith formation process of children and youth. Relationships with God are strengthened and Christian Community is built which as served as a life benchmark for thousands of campers over the years. UM Summer Camping is all of this and is also lots of fun. Information and registration forms are in the church office. **Scholarships are available.** Register Today!

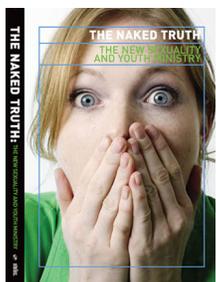


Meeting at 6pm on Sundays, we've been having great turnout for youth, and the group is really humming! We



have a concert on March 15th with the new band P.S. 151, which we are hosting for the community. We've been

doing a new series on youth and the sexual culture we live in. This material is fresh and youth-centered, faith-focused, honest & relevant. The youth have really gotten into this video-based material.



THE NAKED TRUTH: THE NEW SEXUALITY AND YOUTH MINISTRY



MARCH 16-20

The following is the schedule for meals-on-wheels for the week of March 16-20. If you are unable to carry meals on your assigned day, please get someone to do it for you.

Thank you
Willa Bullock

Monday, March 16 –
Darlene Gaynor and Maxine Gaynor
Diane and Bert Warren
Tuesday, March 17-
Connie Mozingo and Anita Powell
Joyce Hardy and Minnie Lee Winborn
Wednesday, March 18 –
Ann Joyner and Anne McGaughey
Ann Cleveland and Heidie Wilson
Thursday, March 19 –
Janet Clontz and Ashley Sutton
Pat Sumrell and Sandy Tugwell
Friday, March 20 –
Dewey Fuquay, Jr. and David Monroe
Mary Leah Williamson and Margaret Morgan



Thank You
Note

Dear Pastor Paul,
We would like to "Thank Each and Everyone" for the beautiful flowers, cards, telephone calls, and visits from everyone. Mother is doing well I think so far. The past two weeks she has not had chemotherapy which is a plus in its self so that her body can adjust. The third week she will start back with three types of medicine, it will be a little stronger this time, this will be the deciding factor in keeping on with the therapy or not. With prayers and the Lord's help, and with a little more faith in her Doctor, she will do fine. She's been sick a couple of times but in all, I think she has done great. Will keep you up to date by email or phone call. Thank you again for your help, and prayers.
Bless you,
Judi Williams and Lewis T. Williams Jr.



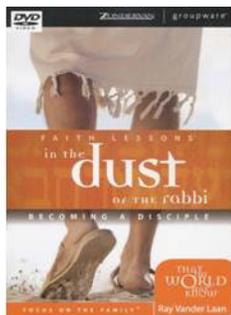
.....Iris Roebuck, Lola Joyner, Tracey Smith, Sylvia Paschal, David Parker, Tommy Bullock, Ruth Teel, Lois Tyson, Etna Lewis, Alfred Lewis, Horace Allen, Rufus and Evangeline Cochran, Perry Harper, Clark Blackburn, Brenda and Daniel Purser, Delaney Hudson, Linda Gayhardt, Margaret Wilson, Nandra Talton, Dorothy Talton, Michael Thigpen, Louise

Lewis, Jean Ross, Donna Howard, Billy Modlin, Larry Cochran, Gerald Brown, Lewis Clark, Bonnie Burch Hicks, Blake McKeel, Ken Wainwright, Mildred Wainwright, Bailiegh Carlene, Donnie Holloman, Lula B. Bush, Nick Luper, Carlton Teel, Clifton Manning, Blaney Parker, Gina Langston, Kathryn Leggett, Jo Manning, Lynette Williams, Haley Hiatt, Pam Adams, Peggy Harrell, Aubrey Lewis, Melissa Thomason, Daisy Williams, David Newton, Lewis Muldrow, Owen Joyner, Joe Koe, Dylan Moore, Henry Mills, Noel Baucom, Eloise Carraway, Michael Lovic, Lucille Waters, Hunter Walters, Martin Simonds, Devon Phillips, unspoken prayer request.



March 1 – Jo Ann Lang
 March 2 – Rufus Cochran
 March 5 – Dan Lauderdale, Reide Simonds
 March 8 – Charlotte Baker
 March 12 – Pat Sumrell
 March 13 – Patti Talton
 March 16 – Martha Wilson
 March 17 – Hilda Medlin
 March 18 – Lori Henry, Sandra Parker
 March 23 – Martin Simonds
 March 24 – Lola Joyner
 March 25 – Jessica Heath, Randy Walters, Julie Warren,
 March 26 – Paul Ellis, Zane Mozingo
 March 28 – Margo Sherman
 March 30 – Suzanne Edwards
 March 31 – Stacey B. Pattie

**The Mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
 for the transformation of the world.**



**The Farmville UMC Lenten Study:
 In The Dust of the Rabbi by Ray Vander Laan**

Discover what it means to have a relationship with Jesus so close that you take on his ways and character. "Follow a rabbi, drink in his words, and be covered in the dust of his feet." So says an ancient Jewish proverb, encouraging disciples to follow right on the heels of their teacher. In this powerful DVD study, journey on-location to Israel and Turkey. Discover the first-century practice of a Jewish rabbi and his disciples, and gain new insight into the message of Christ. "Nothing has opened and illuminated the Scriptures for me quite like the Faith Lessons series." - Dr. James Dobson
 These five interactive sessions take you on a journey to the land and culture in which the disciples

learned to follow Jesus, their Rabbi, so closely that they were covered by the dust kicked up by his feet.

We are planning to offer the study at different times. You choose which time works best for you:

- Sundays from 7-8:15pm (like last year, except youth finished now at 7pm).
- Wed. 11am-noon, plus Pastor Paul serves lunch.
- Sundays, from 12:30-1:30, with lunch served at the church from 12-12:30pm.
- Tuesday night, 7-8:15pm.

We are called to study God's Word together, and this time of Lent (see page 1) is a traditional time to add more to our time of reflection and renewal. Contact the church office to sign up for this study today.

Return Service Requested

P. O. Box 153, Farmville, NC 27828-0153
 Phone 252-753-4803 E-Mail – church@farmvilleumc.com
 Webpage: www.FarmvilleUMC.com

Pastor: Paul Dunham-pdunham@nccumc.org
Admin. Assist.: Nan Walston-nan.farmumc@embarqmail.com
Admin. Council: Mr. & Mrs. Mike Tugwell
Organist/Music Director: Drucilla Lamm

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From the BOARD of TRUSTEES

Dear fellow members,

I hope all of you have enjoyed the refurbished landscape beds as much as I have. This is the kick-off we've been waiting for concerning the Adopt-a-Bed campaign. For those of you that have volunteered, the intent, from this point forward, is for you to help fill gaps in between the bi-annual professional refurbishing (once in winter and once in the summer). Your goal should be fairly regular check to ensure your area is free of trash, downed limbs and weeds. As you can see by the current effort, all of the real heavy lifting will be done by the professionals. If any of the required work is beyond your ability to take care of it, please call the church office, and let them know so word can get to the right parties. For those of you that have not yet volunteered, and feel led to do so, there are opportunities still available. Please see the list below for volunteer opportunities:

- **Small landscaped** island in the rear parking lot
 - **Bed from Kitchen door** around to the entry door to Chapel (against the building)
 - **Bed from door to Chapel** around to the side of Chapel facing the Bell Tower
 - **Beds away from building** that encompasses area between two walkways to Chapel door
 - **Large bed surrounded** by back of Chapel and glass hallway (outside Church office).
 - **Bed from Church Street** up to, and including around base of Bell Tower
 - **Same Bed as above**, from Bell Tower, down the side of the Sanctuary and around to the front of the Sanctuary (by the Choir room entry).
 - **Enclosed garden** on the North Side of the Church.
 - **Tree patrol** – Occasional trimming of low hanging limbs and light storm or broken limb clean-up.
Larger clean-up after hurricanes or ice storms can be handled by professionals. Water stressed trees during extreme drought situations.
 - **Rear parking lot** – Check for trash, excess weeds, and seasonal debris.
 - **Handicap** parking lot Choir entry
- Nellie Lang
Benfield family
Women's Circle III
Available
Edwards Family
Available
Available

Lauderdale Family
Available

Available
McGaughy Family

In other business, we are pleased to announce that the church will soon have a new medium sized group meeting space option. It has been discussed for years, the need for a meeting space for groups of 12-20 people. We are well covered for group sizes 12 or less and more than 20. It has long been accepted that the Parlor would be the most appropriate space to fill this need. The difficulty came in determining how to make the space convertible. As currently planned, the Parlor will remain as is for the majority of the time, with convertible furnishings added to, or stored near the Parlor. These furnishings will be appropriately matched to the existing décor and will be of such a design that they can be broken down and/or stored when not in use for meetings. Last year, the church received a generous gift of (2) mahogany folding tables. Most recently, a generous monetary gift, in an amount appropriate to purchase stackable chairs, was made, that will help complete a usable set that should suffice for up to (18) people. The chairs were recently approved by the Trustees and will be ordered soon. Once they are here, we will need to perform a little closet clean up to make room for them to be stored in the Parlor closet. If you have an upcoming meeting of that size, please make plans to use the parlor.

We recently had our first Trustees meeting of this year. As in the past, each Trustee will be assigned an "area of focus" around the church. The idea is that they review these areas prior to meetings and create and keep a list of concerns or needs for those respective areas. Please see the Trustees listed below and their respective areas. If you have any concerns in those areas, please feel free to address those concerns with the responsible Trustee. They will then bring those concerns to next Trustees meeting.

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|----------------|
| SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS WING | Anne McGaughy |
| KITCHEN/ FELLOWSHIP HALL | Bill Hall |
| PARSONAGE | Stacie Clontz |
| CHAPEL/LIBRARY/OFFICES | Gray Baker |
| CHOIR ROOM/ PARLOR/ BRIDE'S ROOM | Hunter Walters |
| SANCTUARY | Horace Allen |
| EXTERIOR ENVELOPE OF BUILDING | David Baker |
| OUTSIDE STORAGE / MECHANICAL ROOM | Chuck Johnson |
| LAWN | Todd Edwards |

Finally, the Trustees have agreed to help "tighten the belt" along with the rest of the Church family. Over the coming months, the Trustees are going to look into policies and systems that, with some tweaking, can hopefully save us some money. In particular, we are going to look at energy efficiency efforts to undertake. We are also open to any ideas or policies that may save our church money. So, if you have any ideas, please share them. The sooner we can all work to get our Church's financial situation in good order, the sooner we can put all of our efforts into being fully focused on spreading the word of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

God Bless,
Todd Edwards, Board of Trustees