

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MESSENGER

REV. WILLIAM T. JOWERS, MINISTER

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e-mail methodist777@bellsouth.net

500 South College Trenton, TN, 855-0561, -1494

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

A massive cleanup effort is slowly but surely restoring electrical power to thousands of homes and businesses throughout Northwest Tennessee and Western Kentucky due to the January ice storm of 2009. There are some wonderful spiritual stories and wisdom that have been literally produced through the context of this specific disaster. One minister said that he was talking to a utility worker about how difficult it was for everyone to be without electricity, especially the inconvenience. The utility worker made the following comment: "Reverend, we have plenty of electricity; we just need to get it reconnected."

As a Christian, I can only imagine that numerous church members need to get reconnected to the unlimited flow of God's love and grace. It's like electricity; we actually need this spiritual necessity in every moment of human life. God doesn't disconnect us because we have not paid our spiritual utility bill, but we do have the ability and freedom to disconnect ourselves! Perhaps you simply need reconnection back to God and the church family. Like the residents of Tennessee and Kentucky, we are just wondering how long it will be until God's power resumes flowing at full capacity again in your life?

In Christ's Service,

Rev. William T. Jowers

YOUTH NEWS by Jacob Ross

I have a praise report for the church: My brother, Paul Michael Ross, got back stateside on January 26. We are very glad to have him back in the states after 9 long hard months of deployment.

CONFIRMATION CLASS NEWS

We have officially begun our confirmation training program with a total of 9 young people during last Sunday's session. Our discussion involved getting ready to begin our spiritual journey by understanding the nature of God's presence, love, and grace. One mentor has been assigned to each youth, and every mentor has received some personal information provided by their individual confirmand, especially information about how to contact them and also their favorite colors, foods, music, etc. Please continue to keep all these confirmands, mentors, and Bro. Tommy in your daily prayers. The class members are Teagan Bartholomew, Blake Estes, Jake Hinson, Daniel Hodges, Sydney Phelan, Christian Roberts, Rachel Rollins, Logan Wallsmith, and Bailey Williams. Mentors are Carolyn Blankinship, Betty Denton, Glenna Helms, Marty Hinson, Barbara Jones, Sid Phelan, Betty Poteet, Judie Reasons, Larry Ridings. **Parents: Be sure that your**

child brings his or her Bible to class this Sunday at 4:30 sharp.

THANK YOU FOR THE VALENTINES PARTY FOR THE CHILDREN

Our children enjoyed a wonderful Valentines Party last Wednesday. They enjoyed a special Valentines Dinner and party happenings hosted by Mrs. Betty Denton and Mrs. Glenna Helms. We sincerely thank these two ladies for their wonderful work and their leadership.

DR. BARKER MEMORIAL DOOR PROJECT

We need more families and individuals to respond to the memorial door project. Last Sunday we received an additional \$26; thus, we only need \$949 to have met our replacement goal. The old door has served our church for many years, but it needs replacing because we are losing many dollars in heating and cooling expenses every day. We also need a more securely locking door, and a new door could easily provide a safer zone for our children, youth, staff, and adults. Please use a pew envelope; label it with the words "Door Memorial"; and place it into the offering, or mail your contribution to the church.

ASH WEDNESDAY \, FEBRUARY 25TH SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICE!

Everyone is invited to attend the Wonderific Wednesday Ash Wednesday Special Worship Service in the sanctuary on February 25th following the 5:30 p.m. meal. Bro. Tommy will celebrate the beginning of Lent, 40 days before the resurrection, not counting Sundays, with the imposition of ashes. Ash Wednesday is based on the Book of Job as he anointed himself with ashes as a sign of penitence and confession for his sins. The Church has observed Ash Wednesday throughout its spiritual outreach as a religious tradition.

SUNGLASSES SUNDAY

THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 15TH

Please bring your old sunglasses, prescription or non-prescription glasses to church this Sunday, February 15th. These glasses will be used to provide eye benefits to people throughout the world, especially in countries where blindness is most prevalent due to disease, intense sunlight, lack of proper hygiene, and other factors.

Call 855-0561. There is a prize of a golden dollar to the first person to identify this young man. The previous photo was of Donna Carr.

PRAYER AND CARE: Terry Agee, Elizabeth Bacon (16-year-old granddaughter of Barbara & Frank Parker), Mattie & Finis Carr, Erma Dollar, Pat Goodrich, Bill Goodrich, mother of John Maddox (a broken ankle), Terry Rivas (sister of Lori Michel), Janice Singleton (now at home), C.B. Singleton, Carl Wyatt.

IN SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY: Otto and Hans Bauer (nephews of Gina Williams), James Patrick Inman, Paul Michael Ross (brother of Jacob Ross), Chris Smith, Chais Milligan Wallsmith.

IN RETIREMENT HOMES: Agnes Evans, Greenbriar Meadows, 436 Hannings Lane, Martin, TN 38237; Dorothy Hardaway, Room 5, Harlan Morris Home, 400 Harlan Morris Drive, Trenton, TN.

IN NURSING HOMES: Finis & Mattie Carr, Dyer Nursing Home, 1124 North Main Street; Vivian Hight, Humboldt Manor, 2031 Avondale Road., Humboldt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY: Peggy Davis

USHERS FOR FEBRUARY

*Franky Hodges	Gary Blankinship	Gary Buchanan
Bob Holman	Bobby Moore	Murray Jones

MEALS FOR OUR YOUTH ON SUNDAY EVENINGS

To volunteer to feed the youth, call Glenna Helms 692-3531

February 8	Gloria Jones & Tim Jones
February 15	Barbara & Harold Griggs
February 22	Sandy & Franky Hodges
March 1	Alicia & Jonathan Estes

Supper volunteers need to be present from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. The meal is served at 5:30. If you are unable to come at 5:30 or to stay after the meal until 7:00, contact Glenna Helms at 692-3531.

GREETERS

February 15	Virginia & Thomas Cherry
February 22	Barbara & Frank Parker
March 1	Cicily & Clint Buchanan
March 8	Sherry & Gary Buchanan

ACOLYTES

February 15	Josey Phelan & Sydney Phelan
February 22	Bailey Williams & Gracie Williams
March 1	Gracey Estes & Annie Bartholomew
March 8	Logan Wallsmith & Blake Estes

SUNDAY WORSHIP LAY READERS

February 15	I Corinthians 9:19-27	Alicia Estes
February 22	St. Mark 9:2-9	Jacob Ross
March 1	I Peter 3:18-22	Beth Thompson
March 8	TBA	TBA

CHILDREN'S SERMONS

February 15	R.B. Hodges
February 22	Andrea Joyner
March 1	Kari Alexander

March 8 Barbara Griggs

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1-Bettye Jackson. 3-Corinne Wade Holman. 4-Catherine Maule. 6-Frances Taylor. 6-Jeff Jowers. 7-Harold Griggs. 9-Gary Blankinship, Frank Maule. 13-Jay Avery. 14-Delores Smith, Sally Wyatt. 17-Barbara Parker. 19-Billy Woods. 20-Jim Grant. 26-Luther Coble, Gloria Jones, Cathryn Lane, Sydney Phelan. 27-Pat Goodrich.

CALENDAR

Sunday, February 15--SUNGLASSES SUNDAY

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School

10:50 a.m. - Worship Service. Bring all kinds of glasses: Prescription and sunglasses needed.

4:30 p.m. - Confirmation Training Class

5:30 p.m. - UMYF meal

6:00 p.m. - UMYF meeting

7:00 p.m. - Handbell Choir rehearsal

Wednesday, February 18

5:30 p.m. - Wonderific Wednesday meal -- by Young Christians

6:00 p.m. - Children's Music Time

6:00 p.m. - UMYF meeting upstairs, in UMYF Room

6:30 p.m. - Children's Crafts Time

7:00 p.m. - Choir Practice in the sanctuary

Monday, February 23

6:30 p.m. - United Methodist Men

7:00 p.m. - Sweet Spirits

7:00 p.m. - Loyal Workers

COMING EVENTS

SPECIAL ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE FEBRUARY 25TH, FOLLOWING THE WONDERIFIC WEDNESDAY DINNER.

Sunday, March 1

Love Notes Handbell Choir to perform during worship: "Largo" and "Gift of Love" with Annie Williams soloist.

Sunday April 5--Palm Sunday

Children's Choir and Children's Handchimers to perform in worship service at 10:50 a.m.

Sunday, April 12--Easter Sunday

10:50 a.m. - Love Notes Handbell Choir to perform

ATTENDANCE FEBRUARY 8, 2009

SUNDAY SCHOOL 88 MORNING WORSHIP 93

VISITORS IN WORSHIP FEBRUARY 8: Glenda Criswell, 66 Will Orr Road, Dyer, TN.

PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NUMBER on the attendance pad every Sunday morning during worship, so that our visitors will do that, too.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 8

TO DEBT ON FEBRUARY 8:	\$10
YEAR DATE FOR SANCTUARY DEBT:	\$508
TO YOUTH FUND ON FEBRUARY 25:	none
YOUTH FUND 2009 TO DATE:	\$320

TO MEMORIAL DOOR FEBRUARY 8 \$26

MEMORIALS

IN HONOR OF BETTYE JACKSON ON HER BIRTHDAY

Barbara & Murray Jones

UMYF NEWS *by Jacob Ross*

Second Tuesday of every month, we will have **Breakfast Club** at Cotton's. All ages are invited to join us at 6:45 a.m. (next one is March 10).