

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MESSENGER

REV. WILLIAM T. JOWERS, MINISTER
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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Everyone seems to be quite concerned about our failing economy and the loss of jobs. Let me share a true story of an individual and a widow mother whose struggle would make our recent crisis hardly worth as much attention and worry!

When I was a teenager at my home church, I heard my most elderly minister, Rev. J. E. Hopper, share a personal story about some difficult times while he was attending Lambuth College as a ministerial student. One day, when in downtown Jackson and standing in front of F.W. Woolworth's Dime Store, he spotted a penny postcard being blown down the sidewalk by the wind. He needed to write his mother a thank-you letter and really did not have the money for a regular envelope or even a cheap postcard. She had been doing her neighbors' laundry and ironing just to give her son what little spending money she could afford to send. This postcard was soiled, but he managed to clean it up fairly well. Then, he carefully wrote his words of heart-felt love and thanks to his beloved mother for her sacrifices and selfless devotion.

A few minutes after finding this penny postcard, young J. E. Hopper saw a man come out of Woolworth's eating a bag of freshly cooked popcorn, and he noticed that one kernel accidentally fell upon the sidewalk. Almost immediately, one hungry sparrow flew down and harvested that popcorn kernel. Brother Hopper felt the Holy Spirit revitalize and warm his faith during that awesome revelation. God was saying, "If I can feed a hungry sparrow—how much more I can supply your need!"

God speaks to us in many ways--through nature and its resurrective flowers and budding trees, through the little birds as they sing their songs of joy, and through events that happen at unexpected moments. Take some time, out of your busy schedule, and thank God for His personal acts of love and deep compassion.

In Christ's Service,

Rev. William T. Jowers

YOUTH NEWS by Jacob Ross

CHANGE OF PLANS: On **Sunday, March 15**, our UMYF will meet, after all, for their usual fellowship meal at 5:30 p.m. with meeting to follow at 6:00 p.m.

Also in March, **Breakfast Club at 6:45 a.m. at Cotton's Cafe will be moved to March 17** due to my being out of town for spring break on the usual date. All ages (children through adult) are invited to attend to eat breakfast and fellowship with our youth.

DR BARKER MEMORIAL DOOR PROJECT HAS REACHED IT GOAL!

Praise the Lord! Sincere thanks are expressed to the Barker family and everyone who contributed to this needful project. Our church trustees have approved all the door specifications during last Monday's meeting. We also appreciate the numerous hours of work by Alicia Estes, who presented the unique artistic design that will provide significant energy savings and attractiveness. Most of all, we will always cherish the love, professionalism, and dedication of Dr. Edward Barker, who served our community so very well for numerous years! The door has been ordered and will take approximately 6-8 weeks to be made and delivered.

YOUTH AND CHILDREN INTERESTED IN GOING TO LAKESHORE, please contact Alicia Estes for registration forms (home: 855-2002, cell: 571-0303).

CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT SATUR., APRIL 11 IN MEMBERS' YARDS ON ROSEMONT DRIVE

10 a.m. to noon, to include lunch in the backyard of Barbara and Frank Parker. All parents, please contact Alicia Estes (855-3002 or 571-0303) or Michele Phelan (855-1559) to help with providing the lunch. All who wish to support this activity, please bring plastic eggs filled with candy and/or "prize eggs" to the church office by Sunday, April 5.

LENTEN WORLD HUNGER OFFERING TO BE RECEIVED AND DEDICATED ON EASTER SUNDAY

Everyone is asked to be putting some daily and weekly offerings aside as we invest our best efforts to save hunger persons and families from dying of malnutrition across American and the world. Is there some food, pleasure, or habit that you could "give up" during Lent to provide such a life-giving benefit? Did you know that 16,000 children die every day from hunger-related causes?

PASTOR'S CONFIRMATION CLASS NEWS

We had a good session with our confirmation class on March 8. Please be in daily prayer for all those involved. The class members are Teagan Bartholomew, Blake Estes, Jake Hinson, Daniel Hodges, Sydney Phelan, Christian Roberts, Rachel Rollins, Logan Wallsmith, and Bailey Williams. Adult 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.**

MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Wednesday, April 8

Noon Luncheon at Trenton First United Methodist Church

Devotion by Joel Pigg, pastor of Salem Baptist Church

Thursday, April 9

Noon Luncheon at Salem Baptist Church

Devotion by Clyde Rose, pastor of Trenton First Assembly of God

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship Service at First Baptist Church

Sermon, John Singleton of Soul's Harbor Pentecostal Church

Friday, April 10

Noon Luncheon at Trenton First Presbyterian Church

Devotion by Wm. T. Jowers of Trenton First United Methodist

Give your photos from your childhood or youth to Carolyn or Gary Blankinship. The photo in the newsletter last week was of **Jim Holman and Bob Holman**. The person who won the golden dollar is **Barbara Jones**.

PRAYER AND CARE: Terry Agee, Ryan Bennett (son of Ron Bennett, Trenton Police), Mattie & Finis Carr, Pat Goodrich, Bill Goodrich, Bob Jeton, Sophia Ragusa, daughter of Mike & Shannon Hawkins Ragusa, Terry Rivas (sister of Lori Michel), Janice Singleton, C.B. Singleton.

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, Jesse Vinson (grandson of Harold & Barbara Griggs), Chais Milligan Wallsmith (son of Michael 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 MARCH: Sammy Dickey

USHERS FOR MARCH

*Judie Estes	Judy Woods	Judie Reasons
Joyce Flack	Janice Dickey	Joseta Barker

MEALS FOR OUR YOUTH ON SUNDAY EVENINGS

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

March 15	Gloria Jones & Tim Jones
March 22	Judie & Roger Reasons
March 29	Jim & Debbie Grant
April 5	NO UMYF

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

March 15	Peggy & Fred Davis
March 22	Judie & Roger Reasons
March 29	Barbara & Harold Griggs
April 5	Debbie Grant & Michael Wallsmith

ACOLYTES

March 15	Josey Phelan & Tyson Bartholomew
March 22	Daniel Hodges & Blake Estes
March 29	Gracey Estes & Annie Bartholomew
April 5	Tyson Bartholomew & Josey Phelan

SUNDAY WORSHIP LAY READERS

March 15	Psalm 139:1-18	TBA
March 22	Romans 8:35-39	TBA
March 29	St. John 12:27-36	TBA
April 5	TBA	Charlotte Zarecor

CHILDREN'S SERMONS

March 15	Steve Mischke
March 22	Jane Maule
March 29	Sandy Hodges
April 5	Sherry Buchanan

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1-Franky Hodges. 2-Josephine Jackson. 3-Christy Wallsmith. 4-Leah Jean Rollins. 7-Sonny Lane. 7-Trent Helms. 12-Alex Jones. 13-Judy Woods. 14-MaryLauren Agee. 14-Josey Gail Phelan. 18-Bobby Moore. 20-Ken Holder. 20-Barbara Jones. 20-Glenda Lane. 20-Charlie Singleton. 25-Landon Jones. 31-Aaron Jowers. 31-Hunter Smith. 31-Jean Smith.

CALENDAR

Sunday, March 15

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
10:50 a.m. - Worship Service
Noon - Ribeye sandwiches for sale at First Presbyterian Church.
4:30 p.m. - Confirmation Training Class
5:30 p.m. - UMYF meal followed by UMYF meeting
7:00 p.m. - Love Notes Handbell Choir rehearsal

Tuesday, March 17

6:45 a.m. - Breakfast Club at Cotton's Café with our UMYF

Wednesday, March 18

No Wonderific Wednesday
No Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, March 21

5:00 to 6:30 p.m. - Our United Methodist Men's Fish Fry

Sunday, March 22

5:30 p.m. - Vacation Bible School Planning Mtg. of volunteer counselors, parents, & all others who would like to participate.

No Love Notes Handbell Choir rehearsal

Monday, March 23 - 7:00 p.m. - Loyal Workers meeting

Tuesday, March 24 - 7:00 p.m. - Sweet Spirits meeting

Friday, March 27

7:00 p.m. - Singing at Christ Chapel Church on Clay Farm Road to benefit Wanda Dyan Dorado and Rosa Dorado

COMING EVENTS

Sunday April 5--Palm Sunday Children's Choir and Children's Handchimers to perform in worship service at 10:50 a.m.

Saturday, April 11-Easter Egg Hunt 10 a.m. on Rosemont Drive

Sunday, April 12-Easter Sunday Love Notes Handbells perform. Reception and Dedication of Lenten Hunger Offerings.

2009 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL DATES

Vacation Bible School 6-8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, July 13-16. Theme: CAMP EDGE, "Experiencing God Anywhere"

ATTENDANCE MARCH 8, 2009

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 84 MORNING WORSHIP: 97

VISITORS IN WORSHIP MARCH 8: Jessica Gilpatrick, James Gilpatrick, Brandie Alford, Dayton Alford.

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.

MEMORIALS

TO THE DOOR FUND

Virginia & Thomas Cherry
Dorothy & Charlie Lancaster
Joe Hammonds

IN HONOR OF GLORIA JONES

The Fishermen Sunday School Class

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR MARCH 8

TO SANCTUARY DEBT ON MARCH 8	\$45
YEAR TO DATE FOR SANCTUARY DEBT:	\$573
TO YOUTH FUND ON MARCH 8	\$250
YEAR TO DATE FOR YOUTH FUND	\$570